

# 立法會

## *Legislative Council*

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### **Report of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting for submission to the Legislative Council**

#### **Purpose**

This report gives an account of the work of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting during the 2013-2014 session of the Legislative Council. It will be tabled at the Council meeting on 9 July 2014 in accordance with Rule 77(14) of the Rules of Procedure of the Council.

#### **The Panel**

2. The Panel was formed by a resolution passed by the Council on 8 July 1998 and as amended on 20 December 2000, 9 October 2002, 11 July 2007 and 2 July 2008 for the purpose of monitoring and examining Government policies and issues of public concern relating to information technology (IT), telecommunications, broadcasting, film services and creative industry. The terms of reference of the Panel are in **Appendix I**.

3. The Panel comprises 22 members. Hon WONG Yuk-man and Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT were elected Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel respectively. The membership list of the Panel is in **Appendix II**.

#### **Major work**

##### Radio Television Hong Kong

4. During the session, the Panel followed up the development of the new Broadcasting House ("BH") of Radio Television Hong Kong ("RTHK"), the proposal to extend a supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff

Grade B ("AOSGB"), designated as Deputy Director of Broadcasting (Developments) ("DD of B/D"), in RTHK for five years, and the proposal to establish 22 digital terrestrial television ("DTT") fill-in stations by RTHK.

5. On the development of the new BH, the Panel noted that the current estimated cost of the proposed project was \$6.056 billion in money-of-the-day prices, compared to an estimate of \$1.6 billion made in 2009 which had not taken into account the provision and planning for new services as well as facilities to fully support RTHK's development as the public service broadcaster as announced by the Administration in September 2009. The proposed scope of the project comprised the provision of sound broadcasting facilities, DTT broadcasting facilities, news centre, miscellaneous areas for engineering and media asset management ("MAM"), office accommodation for staff, departmental common facilities, IT and new media technical facilities, specialist facilities, and parking spaces for departmental vehicles, staff, guests and artists. The Panel also noted that the net operational floor area ("NOFA") of the new BH would amount to almost 77% more than the total operational usable area of RTHK's existing premises.

6. While the Panel supported in principle the proposed construction of the new BH, some members expressed concern about the substantial increase in the estimated cost of the project and a possible further increase in the actual construction cost in the subsequent years before its commissioning. These members urged the Administration to reduce the construction cost for the new BH which was attributable to the huge increase in NOFA for the facilities for news centre, DTT broadcasting, engineering and MAM, and IT and new media technical facilities. Some other members suggested that the additional areas required for the new BH could be reduced with more efficient use of office accommodation. The funding proposal of the new BH was submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") for consideration but was not supported by Members.

7. The Panel was consulted on the proposal to extend the supernumerary post of AOSGB, designated as DD of B/D, for five years from 27 May 2014 to 26 May 2019. Members noted that the post of DD of B/D would be required for the entire period of the proposed extension for re-planning the new BH project taking into account PWSC's concerns, including the review of the delivery mode of the project, the scope of the project and the project cost.

8. The majority of Panel members supported in principle the Administration's proposal in view of the long-term service needs of the post of DD of B/D to provide new services, including developments relating to the new BH, digital audio broadcasting, DTT and MAM project. Some

members considered that the post should be filled by a technical expert who possessed the relevant knowledge in related fields.

9. According to the Administration, the post of DD of B/D was more appropriate to continue to be filled by an officer from the Administrative Officer grade who possessed strong background and capability in government administration. While there were technical and professional staff in RTHK to provide the necessary technical support, RTHK would require a senior directorate officer to steer the work and tackle various critical tasks, which were vital for the re-planning of the new BH project and the provision of new services including MAM and DTT.

10. The Panel was also consulted on the Administration's proposal to establish 22 DTT fill-in stations to extend the network coverage of the service from about 75% to around 99% of Hong Kong's population. Members noted that the establishment of 22 DTT fill-in stations was not related to the construction of the new BH. Irrespective of the progress of the new BH project, RTHK was duty bound to implement its DTT service as promulgated in the RTHK Charter.

11. The majority of Panel members supported in principle the Administration's proposal. Some members opined that the Administration should step up measures to improve the DTT take-up rate. The Administration advised that RTHK would further promote the signal reception methods, build more fill-in stations to improve the transmission of DTT signals, and enhance its publicity effort and promotion strategies to tie in with the progress of the network rollout of the service.

#### Domestic free television programme service

##### *Applications for domestic free television programme service licences*

12. The Panel followed up closely the progress of the Administration's processing of the three applications for domestic free television ("TV") programme service licences received by the former Broadcasting Authority ("BA") (replaced by CA on 1 April 2012). Members noted that the former BA had recommended that free TV licences be granted to the three applicants. However, the Administration advised that having considered holistically all relevant factors and the overall development of the local free TV market, the Chief Executive ("CE") in Council decided that a gradual and orderly approach should be adopted in introducing competition into the market. On this basis, the CE in Council approved in principle the applications of Fantastic Television Limited ("Fantastic TV") and HK Television Entertainment Company Limited ("HKTVE") for a free TV licence, whereas

the application submitted by Hong Kong Television Network Limited ("HKTV") was rejected.

13. As the recommendation of the former BA to grant free TV licences to the three applicants was not adopted by the CE in Council, some Panel members considered that the CE in Council should have referred the applications back to the former BA or the CA for reconsideration, in particular when CE in Council had made a change in policy by adopting the gradual and orderly approach in considering the free TV licence applications subsequent to the former BA's recommendations. These members also considered that procedural justice had been compromised in the CE in Council's handling of the applications. Some other members expressed concern that the Administration had not been able to explain clearly with strong grounds the CE in Council's decision to adopt the gradual and orderly approach and select only two out of the three applicants for granting of approvals-in-principle ("AIPs"). These members also opined that the CE in Council's decision was contradictory to the stated policy of introducing more competition to the free TV market.

14. The Administration advised that based on the business plans and estimation submitted by the applicants, the consultant's findings indicated that the local free TV market could hardly sustain a total of five players, including Asia Television Limited ("ATV") and Television Broadcasts Limited ("TVB"). In considering public interest, the CE in Council was of the view that a gradual and orderly approach should be adopted in introducing competition, lest an adverse impact be brought about by a sharp increase in the number of free TV operators. Having considered the three free TV licence applications against 11 factors and four assessment criteria as explained in its press releases, the CE in Council had formed the view that Fantastic TV and HKTVE outperformed HKTV in overall terms, and on this basis decided to grant AIPs to Fantastic TV's and HKTVE's applications. The Administration considered that the decision was prudent and in line with the gradual and orderly principle, and that the requirement of procedural fairness was strictly adhered to throughout the process.

#### *Renewal of the domestic free television programme service licences*

15. The Panel was briefed on the procedure and criteria by which the CA would process the licence renewal applications of ATV and TVB. Members noted that the existing licences of ATV and TVB, which commenced on 1 December 2003, would expire after 30 November 2015. Following the submissions by ATV and TVB on applications for renewal of their licences to the CA in November 2013, the Panel met with deputations and members of the public to receive views on the issue. Members noted that the majority of

the deputations attending the meeting expressed concern about the poor quality of the programmes broadcast by ATV and TVB, and the frequent re-run of programmes by ATV, as well as the lack of competition in the free TV market.

16. Some Panel members opined that ATV's performance did not measure up to the CA's standards in respect of the three major factors to be considered in assessing the performance of the two licensees, namely compliance with regulatory requirements, financial commitment of the licensee and public views on the performance of the licensees. They also opined that the CA should take into account the persistent loss and low audience rate sustained by ATV. Requirements for local productions should be applied to the two licensees when considering their renewal applications, so as to widen programming choice for the audience. A penalty points system for non-compliance with licence conditions and/or the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562) ("BO") should also be introduced. Some other members were of the view that consideration should be given to retrieving certain transmission capacity from the radio spectrum assigned to ATV and TVB, and redistributing such transmission capacity to other prospective free TV licensees. Competition should also be introduced in the free TV market by putting up the TV spectrum to auction so that all interested parties would be allowed to bid for the spectrum on a level playing field.

17. Some Panel members were concerned that the CA's recommendations on renewal of the domestic free TV licences would be overruled, similar to the case of granting additional free TV licences. These members urged the Administration to take measures to avoid a recurrence of the incident. Noting that the CA would collate the views collected during the public consultation and make its recommendations to the CE in Council for consideration by the third quarter of 2014, the Panel passed a motion to urge the CE in Council, before making a final decision on the renewal of the licences of ATV and TVB, to prudently consider the professional integrity and conduct of the licensees, including whether they had in any manner abused the use of TV spectrum and public resources for private purposes.

#### *Anti-competitive conducts by Television Broadcasts Limited*

18. The Panel was briefed on the findings of the CA's investigation into ATV's complaint about anti-competitive conducts by TVB, and the remedies imposed on TVB, including the imposition of a fine of \$900,000 on TVB. Members noted that certain conducts of TVB were found to be in violation of certain sections of the BO. Such conducts included, inter alia, prohibiting artistes or singers who had serial-based, one-show or singer contracts with TVB from, or requiring such artistes or singers to seek consent from or notify

TVB for, appearing on or providing services to other TV stations in Hong Kong, prohibiting artistes who had serial-based or one-show contracts with TVB from appearing on other TV stations in their original voices or attending promotional activities, and requiring its singers and artistes to refrain from speaking Cantonese on other TV stations in Hong Kong. Members also noted that apart from financial penalty, TVB was required to take a series of remedial measures and to provide a report within four months describing the steps taken by it to comply with the CA's direction.

19. Some Panel members expressed concern that the fine of \$900,000 was too low to have any deterrent effect as TVB had filed an appeal to the CE in Council against the decision of the CA after paying the fine. These members considered that the penalty imposed by the CA had no effect on the change of market dominance of TVB. The CA advised that the fine imposed on TVB was close to the statutory maximum fine of \$1 million in order to reflect the severity of the contravention. TVB had the statutory right to file the appeal after paying the fine. Until and unless the CE in Council overruled the CA's decision, TVB must comply with the CA's decision.

#### *Control and management of Asia Television Limited*

20. The Panel was briefed on the findings of the CA's investigation into the role played by Mr WONG Ching in the control and management of ATV. The Panel noted that Mr WONG was the investor of ATV but not a shareholder, a director or a principal officer of ATV. He therefore did not have any capacity or rights under the BO to exercise control over ATV. In the course of the investigation, Mr WONG was found by the CA to have exercised control in the control and management of ATV, in breach of Condition 10.1 of ATV's licence which provided that, "unless otherwise approved by the Authority (i.e. the CA), the licensee shall comply with the Licensee's Proposal, including statements and representations regarding the control of the licensee".

21. The Panel also noted that the CA had imposed a maximum fine of \$1 million on ATV for breaching Condition 10.1 of its licence regarding the control of the licensee. ATV was also required to take immediate action to ensure that its management should not be performed by any persons other than its directors and principal officers and duly authorized persons. In this regard, Mr James SHING, Executive Director of ATV, was required to cease exercising control of ATV as he was no longer a "fit and proper person", and Mr WONG Ching was required to refrain from exercising de facto control of ATV. Moreover, ATV had to submit a proposal setting out the steps that it should take to improve its corporate governance standards, and submit annual

progress reports until the CA was satisfied that the proposed improvement measures had been fully implemented. Meanwhile, the CA would continue to monitor the progress of ATV in implementing measures to improve its corporate governance.

22. Some Panel members urged the CA to introduce measures to prevent the recurrence of similar breaches by ATV in future. These members also expressed grave concern over the corporate governance of ATV, and considered that more stringent punishment, such as suspension or even revocation of licence, should be considered.

*Unequal sharing of the transmission capacity in the Multiple Frequency Network for digital terrestrial television services*

23. The Panel followed up issues relating to the unequal sharing of the transmission capacity in the Multiple Frequency Network ("MFN") for DTT services by ATV and TVB. Members noted that pursuant to the "Implementation Framework for Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting" announced by the Administration in 2004, ATV and TVB were assigned a total of three digital multiplexes to provide DTT services to the viewing public. They were required to share one MFN multiplex for the digital simulcast of their four analogue free-to-air television programmes. Following the policy decision, the former Telecommunications Authority (replaced by the Office of the Communications Authority ("OFCA") on 1 April 2012) assigned the MFN multiplex to ATV and TVB on an equal sharing basis for digital simulcast of the four analogue free-to-air television programmes in 2007. In March 2013, OFCA found the transmission capacity in the MFN to have been unequally shared between ATV and TVB in a regular monitoring of the DTT broadcast network. OFCA completed its investigation and submitted its findings to the CA on 6 July 2013. Having considered the findings of OFCA's investigation, and having been satisfied that ATV and TVB had been afforded a reasonable opportunity to make representations, the CA concluded that ATV and TVB had failed to comply with the relevant special condition and schedules of their Fixed Carrier Licences, by unequally sharing the capacity in the MFN without obtaining the prior approval of the CA. The CA considered the breach a serious one and decided to impose a financial penalty of HK\$200,000 each on both ATV and TVB for the contravention.

24. Some Panel members considered it inappropriate for the CA to have sanctioned ATV and TVB for contravention of the license requirement on their equal sharing of MFN transmission capacity on the one hand, and allowed them to formalize the unequal sharing arrangement on the MFN through licence amendments on the other. Some other members considered

the unequal sharing of the transmission capacity in the MFN by ATV and TVB without the CA's prior approval a very serious contravention of the licence conditions of the two licensees. These members opined that the sanctions imposed on the two licensees were too lenient to have any deterrent effect. As such, the CA should consider imposing heavier penalties on the licensees, including non-renewal of licence. The CA advised that past performance, including records of non-compliance with licence conditions, as well as public opinion on the broadcasting services provided by the free TV licensees would be taken into account when the CA considered their applications for renewal of licence.

#### Public consultation on the review of the regulation of editorial programmes and personal views programmes

25. On 17 December 2013, the CA launched a two-month public consultation on the review of relevant provisions of the Generic Code of Practice on Television Programme Standards, Radio Code of Practice on Programme Standards and Radio Code of Practice on Ancillary Visual Service Standards (collectively referred to as the "Programme Codes") governing editorial programmes and personal views programmes ("PVPs"). The current review of the CA sought to identify how the Programme Codes could be amended so as to strike a proper balance between licensees' right to freedom of expression and a more responsible use of their broadcast right which met the aspiration of the community as a whole. One of the major proposals of the CA in the review was that editorial programmes (i.e. programmes which contained a broadcasting licensee's views or perspective on matters of public policy or controversial issues of public importance in Hong Kong) should be regarded as one type of PVPs. The existing ground rules on PVPs viz. accuracy, fairness, suitable opportunity for response and sufficiently broad range of views should apply to editorial programmes.

26. Some Panel members expressed opposition to the proposed amendments to the relevant provisions of the Programme Codes. These members were gravely concerned that the proposals, such as the requirement to provide a suitable opportunity for response to a PVP, would provide a shield for certain free TV licensees to make use of their pervasive free-to-air services to criticize those organizations which had different political views. In this regard, there should be sufficient checks and balances against misuse or abuse of the airwaves for political purposes.

27. Some Panel members opined that the proposed amendments on the regulation of editorial programmes and PVPs were a double-edged sword in that they could provide a safeguard against abuse of the freedom of expression on the one hand, and be used to sanction the more vocal licensees



for broadcasting programmes on matters of controversy on the other. Some other members considered that the proposed amendments were an expedient solution, albeit not an ideal one, to address the public concerns over programmes presenting a licensee's views in the form of PVPs. Care should also be exercised to strike a balance between safeguarding the freedom of expression and safeguarding against abuse of such freedom by the licensees.

28. The CA advised the Panel that the Broadcast Codes of Practice Committee ("BCPC") of the CA would consider all the views collected during the public consultation and formulate its recommendation on the proposed amendments to the Programme Codes to the CA. The CA would then make a final decision on the proposed amendments taking into account the recommendations of the BCPC.

#### Arrangements for the frequency spectrum in the 1.9 – 2.2 GHz Band upon expiry of the existing frequency assignments for 3G mobile services

29. In January 2014, the Administration briefed the Panel on the CA's decision to adopt a hybrid administratively-assigned cum market-based approach to re-assign a total of 118.4 MHz of paired spectrum in the 1.9 – 2.2GHz band in the 3G Spectrum ("the relevant 3G Spectrum") upon expiry of the existing assignments. The Panel was also briefed on the considerations given by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development to the setting of spectrum utilization fee ("SUF") for the relevant 3G Spectrum as announced on 15 November 2013.

30. Some Panel members expressed concern about the mitigation measures to be undertaken by the mobile network operators ("MNOs") to cope with any service degradation that might ensue from a reduction in the relevant 3G Spectrum holding. The Administration advised that in order for any MNOs which had a smaller relevant 3G Spectrum holding than before to stay competitive, it might need to consider further refarming 2G spectrum to provide 3G services and postponing the refarming of spectrum currently deployed for 3G services to 4G, such that more spectrum, and hence more capacity would be available for the provision of its 3G services. The MNOs might also employ various strategies to maximize customer retention, including actively encouraging 3G customers to take up 4G services through, for example, price promotion, integrated data plans and handset subsidization.

31. Some Panel members expressed concern that the spectrum charging arrangements under the hybrid approach could make Hong Kong's SUF amongst the highest in the world. This could affect consumers either through higher prices or less innovation or investment. The Administration

advised that SUF in Hong Kong was determined by auction and it would therefore reflect the full market value of the spectrum. There existed no direct relationship between the levels of SUF and service charges. Despite the continuous upward trend of the level of SUF, mobile service charges in Hong Kong remained highly affordable and competitive by international standards.

### Establishing the Innovation and Technology Bureau

32. Following the announcement of the Chief Executive in his 2014 Policy Address to re-initiate the setting up of the Innovation and Technology Bureau ("ITB") to provide dedicated high level leadership on the development of innovation and technology, the Administration briefed the Panel on the proposal to establish the ITB. Members noted that the proposed ITB would be led by the future Secretary for Innovation and Technology ("S for IT"). The new bureau would be responsible for formulating policies and promoting the development of innovation and technology as well as IT in Hong Kong, and coordinating relevant efforts within the Government. The new bureau would take up the policy responsibilities in innovation and technology from the existing Commerce and Economic Development Bureau ("CEDB"). The two government departments that were responsible for innovation and technology matters, namely the Innovation and Technology Commission ("ITC") and the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer ("OGCIO"), would report to the ITB upon its establishment.

33. Some Panel members expressed objection to the establishment of the ITB and opined that the Administration should consider other alternatives such as internal redeployment, or creating a new Permanent Secretary post under the CEDB to oversee the technology portfolio. Some other members expressed support for the creation of the proposed ITB to sustain the development of innovation and technology of Hong Kong in the long run. These members suggested that Create Hong Kong ("CreateHK"), which was responsible for the development of creative industry, should also be transferred from the CEDB to the proposed ITB along with OGCIO and ITC. The candidates to be considered for the post of S for IT should be familiar with the industry and possessed vision and foresight on the development of innovation and technology.

34. The Panel further held a special meeting to receive views from members of the public and representatives of relevant stakeholders on the proposed ITB. Most of the deputations/individuals attending the meeting expressed support for the Administration's proposal. The Panel passed two motions moved by individual Members urging the Government to establish

the ITB as soon as possible.

### Establishing a unified information and communications technology professional recognition framework in Hong Kong

35. In April 2014, the Administration consulted the Panel on the proposal to establish a unified information and communications technology ("ICT") professional recognition framework in Hong Kong. Members expressed support in principle for the establishment of the proposed framework which had been advocated by the ICT industry for a long time. Some members considered that the proposed framework would be beneficial to the industry in the long run by raising the professional profile of the industry and paving the way for mutual recognition with comparable international frameworks. These members also urged the Administration to explore the possibility of mutual recognition of ICT professional qualifications with the Mainland as a matter of urgency.

36. The Panel noted that establishing a non-statutory Awarding Body incorporated under the Companies Ordinance (Cap.622) without having to enact legislation could provide more flexibility and streamline the process of the operational arrangement under the proposed framework. Some members were in favour of establishing a statutory Awarding Body as in other professions, which would provide statutory backing and ensure the authorized professional status of the Awarding Body. The Administration advised that the establishment of a statutory Awarding Body in future in response to changing market needs had not been ruled out and would be subject to further study and consultation.

37. The Panel further held a special meeting to receive views from members of the public and representatives of relevant stakeholders on the proposed framework. Although the majority of the deputations/ individuals attending supported the proposal, many questioned the need for the hasty implementation of and lack of details about the proposal. Noting that the Administration would conduct a two-month public consultation on the proposed framework from May to June 2014, the Panel passed a motion urging the Government to extend the consultation period to make way for a more comprehensive and consultation exercise.

### E-Government and Enriched IT Programme

38. On the development of E-Government, Some Panel members urged the Administration to formulate a set of "Green Data Centre Standards" for data centres in Hong Kong and adopt green ICT practices in the Government. As the Administration had completed the relevant technical feasibility study

for the consolidated data centre complex which was expected to commence operation in 2019, these members urged the Administration to expedite the migration of the new government data centre complex and provide details of the migration arrangement.

39. As regards the development of Government Wi-Fi ("GovWiFi") service, the Panel urged the Administration to improve the efficiency and increase the coverage of the service. Some members considered that the Administration should extend the hotspots of GovWiFi, in particular, to privately-owned shopping malls and premises managed by The Link Real Estate Investment Trust ("the Link"). The Administration advised that it would explore the possibility of extending the coverage of GovWiFi to premises managed by the Link and consider extending the service to more Government premises such as outdoor areas.

40. In June 2014, the Panel discussed the proposed Enriched IT Programme in Secondary Schools from school year 2015-2016 to 2022-2023. Members noted that the Programme would comprise enriched IT classes in up to eight selected secondary schools to provide intensive IT training to students who were interested and talented in IT, and enriched IT activities organized by other secondary schools to foster a pro-IT atmosphere in the school community. While members supported in principle the Administration's proposal, some members opined that the Programme would promote elitism by branding the eight selected partners schools as elite IT schools. These members also opined that in order to provide equal opportunities for all schools, the scope of the Programme should be extended to cover more than eight schools, and to cater for cross-district students and underprivileged students. The Administration assured members that it would review the performance of the Programme two years after its implementation, and would consider extending the Programme to other schools.

### Digital inclusion

41. On the Government's digital inclusion initiatives, the Panel noted that funding support would be provided to successful applicants for the development of mobile applications ("apps") for underprivileged groups. Some members opined that there should be on-going monitoring of the performance of the developers in maintaining the apps after the approval of the funding. The Administration should also step up the promotion for the apps to encourage the use of such apps.

42. As regards the Internet Learning Support Programme ("ILSP"), the Panel noted that the Administration had engaged the Boys' & Girls' Clubs

Association of Hong Kong ("BGCA") and WebOrganic to implement the ILSP in the eastern and western parts of Hong Kong. The ILSP aimed to help eligible low-income families acquire affordable computers and Internet access service, and to provide them with technical and social support. As at 31 March 2014, the cumulative potential doubtful debts and write-offs arising from delinquent installment payments from hire purchase of computer equipment and broadband services under the ILSP amounted to \$683,000 and \$211,000 respectively. Noting that the potential doubtful debts relating to WebOrganic amounted to \$317,000 involving 259 cases and the potential doubtful debts relating to the BGCA was \$1,000 involving four cases, some members opined that the Administration should strengthen programme monitoring and take remedial measures to rectify the problem.

43. The Administration assured members that both WebOrganic and the BGCA had put in place appropriate measures and processes to handle such cases and minimize similar occurrences. The Programme Steering Committee, led by the Government Chief Information Officer and comprising representatives from the Education Bureau and the Social Welfare Department, maintained oversight of the delivery and performance of the Implementers, including the delinquent cases. At Members' request, the Administration agreed to provide information on doubtful debt and write-offs under the ILSP and the Administration's follow up actions.

#### Cyberport Project

44. The Panel followed up closely the progress of the Cyberport Project which was launched since 2004. Members noted that as at January 2014, the Government had received a total of about \$19.2 billion in surplus proceeds. This exceeded the Government's capital contribution of \$7.93 billion to the Project in the form of land grant for the residential development and the associated essential infrastructure development. There was also an increase in the operating revenue of \$407 million for the year 2012-2013, as compared with \$388 million in 2011-2012.

45. Some Panel members expressed concern about the limited support provided by the Cyberport management to foster the development of ICT industry and nurture ICT startups. These members were of the view that measures should be taken to ensure that the Cyberport Project could meet its public missions, i.e. to create a strategic cluster and critical mass of leading IT companies. At the Panel's request, the Administration undertook to provide quantifiable information such as the extent of achievement for each of the public missions for members' evaluation when reporting on the progress of the Cyberport Project in future.

## Creative industries

### *Create Hong Kong*

46. On the work of Create HK, some Panel members considered that the Administration should carry out on-going assessment of the effectiveness of the various initiatives of CreateHK in promoting the creative industry, and draw reference from overseas countries in promoting their creative industries. Information on concrete performance indicators such as the actual benefits brought to the local creative industry in terms of income as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product of Hong Kong, and the number of jobs and companies created in the industry over the past five years, should be made available to evaluate the effectiveness of the initiatives.

47. On nurturing talents, some Panel members opined that CreateHK should work with the Education Bureau in the design of the curriculum to better meet the needs of the creative industry of Hong Kong. The CEDB should foster coordination among various Bureaux and parties engaging in nurturing talents for the creative industry so as to achieve synergy of the various initiatives and avoid overlapping of resources. In addition, there should be closer coordination among the different incubation programmes organized by the various parties.

48. Some Panel members urged the Administration to step up effort in facilitating the local film and publishing industries in tapping the Mainland market, including effort undertaken under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement, and help nurture independent television production houses in Hong Kong. Some other members opined that the Administration should provide assistance to start-ups in the creative industry in the commercialization of inventions and tapping new markets outside Hong Kong. The Administration assured members that CreateHK would continue to facilitate the various sectors of Hong Kong's creative industry in tapping the Mainland market.

### *Hong Kong Design Centre*

49. Some Panel members were of the view that the Administration should carry out various initiatives to promote design on a continuous and ongoing basis rather than as one-off events. These members suggested that focal points in the format of design workshops could be set up in collaboration with other related organizations such as tertiary institutions and PMQ so as to gather, promote and nurture young talents in the design sector.

50. Some Panel members pointed out that usability study and user behaviour research could facilitate successful commercialization of design deliverables as usability in product design was a critical success factor. These members suggested that the Government should make reference from Singapore to set up user laboratory to carry out studies on products' usability and user experience. The Administration should also step up efforts in facilitating scientific researches and analyses which could provide useful data for the design process.

51. From October 2013 to June 2014, the Panel held a total of 16 meetings. Another meeting has been scheduled for July 2014.

Council Business Division 4  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
2 July 2014

**Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting**

**Terms of Reference**

1. To monitor and examine Government policies and issues of public concern relating to information technology, telecommunications, broadcasting, film services and creative industry.
2. To provide a forum for the exchange and dissemination of views on the above policy matters.
3. To receive briefings and to formulate views on any major legislative or financial proposals in respect of the above policy areas prior to their formal introduction to the Council or Finance Committee.
4. To monitor and examine, to the extent it considers necessary, the above policy matters referred to it by a member of the Panel or by the House Committee.
5. To make reports to the Council or to the House Committee as required by the Rules of Procedure.



**Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting**

**Membership list for 2013 - 2014 session**

<b>Chairman</b>	Hon WONG Yuk-man
<b>Deputy Chairman</b>	Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
<b>Members</b>	Hon James TO Kun-sun
	Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
	Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
	Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
	Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
	Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yea, GBS, JP
	Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
	Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
	Hon Claudia MO
	Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP
	Hon Steven HO Chun-yin
	Hon YIU Si-wing
	Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
	Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
	Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
	Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
	Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP
	Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
	Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, BBS, MH, JP
	Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
	(Total: 22 members)
<b>Clerk</b>	Ms YUE Tin-po
<b>Legal Adviser</b>	Mr Bonny LOO