

## **DIGITAL 21 STRATEGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the Meeting held  
on 21 March 2013 at 2:30 p.m.  
in Communal Conference Room 3, Ground Floor,  
Central Government Offices, Tamar, Hong Kong**

Present : Chairman

Mr Gregory SO, JP

Secretary for Commerce and Economic  
Development

Members

Ms Cally CHAN

Dr Andy CHUN

Dr George FOK

Ms Shirley HA

Mr Herman LAM

Ms Agnes NARDI

Hon Charles MOK

Ms Susanna SHEN

Dr Charleston SIN

Mr Justin TSANG

Mr Kelly SZE

Prof Norman TIEN

Prof WONG Kam-fai

Mr Pindar WONG

Ms Waltraut RITTER

Miss Susie HO, JP

Permanent Secretary for Commerce and  
Economic Development  
(Communications and Technology)

Mr Daniel LAI, BBS, JP

Mr Chaucer LEUNG

Government Chief Information Officer  
Assistant Director (Support), Office of  
the Communications Authority (on behalf  
of Director-General of Communications)

Prof YUE On-Ching	Science Advisor, Innovation and Technology Commission (on behalf of Commissioner for Innovation and Technology)
<u>In attendance</u>	
Mr Victor LAM	Deputy Government Chief Information Officer (Consulting and Operations)
Miss Joey LAM, JP	Deputy Government Chief Information Officer (Policy and Customer Service)
Mr Andrew TSANG	Administrative Assistant to Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development
Dr Bernard CHAN	Political Assistant to Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development
Mr Damian LEE	Assistant Government Chief Information Officer (E-government Service Delivery)
Mr Bernard LO	Senior Administrative Officer (E-government Service Delivery)

For item 2 only

Mr Steven DAVIDSON	Partner, Strategy & Transformation Leader, IBM
Mr Chun Yin MAK	Partner, Overall Sector Leader, IBM
Mr Timothy JONES	Associate Partner, Public Sector & Programme Management Services Leader, IBM

Secretary

Mr Gary TSANG	Administrative Officer (E-government Service Delivery)
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Absent with Apologies

Prof David CHEUNG	
Mr William LEUNG	
Mr Joe LOCANDRO	
Ms Susanna CHIU	
Miss Eliza LEE, JP	Director-General of Communications
Miss Janet WONG, JP	Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

## **Agenda Item I: Confirmation of Minutes**

The draft minutes of the 26th D21SAC meeting held on 22 November 2012 were confirmed without amendment.

## **Agenda Item II: Review of Digital 21 Strategy**

2. **Mr Steven DAVIDSON** and **Mr Timothy JONES** briefed Members on the progress in ICT development in Hong Kong since the 2008 Digital 21 Strategy was promulgated and the possible initiatives to be featured in the new ICT blueprint. The proposed initiatives were categorised under three themes, namely e-Community, e-Economy and e-Government.

3. **Members** made the following comments —

(a) Overall:

- the objective or benefits of each theme should be stated upfront and in a succinct and easily comprehensible way (e.g. improving quality of life), so as to secure public support for the new strategy;
- while it would be important to leverage global trends in further driving Hong Kong's ICT development, the new strategy should focus on how to capitalise on our competitive edges, such as proximity to the Mainland, free flow of information, sound ICT infrastructure, liberalised regulatory regime for the telecommunications industry, etc;
- given the rising public expectations for further improvement in government services, particularly with regard to the dissemination of information, the new strategy should study ways for the Government to provide more timely and secure information to citizens; and
- given the increasing role of the Mainland in Hong Kong's ICT development, collaboration with the Mainland should be properly featured in the new strategy.

(b) e-Community:

- as most people already had their personal e-mail accounts and some even had multiple accounts for different purposes, the proposed “e-Citizen” account would have to encompass a wide range of services requiring identity authentication to make it attractive;
- it would be necessary to address the possible privacy concerns over the proposed “e-Citizen” account which would store the information of a wide range of activities of an individual; moreover, in order to encourage more people to make use of the account, the Government could consider providing discount to transactions made through the account;
- as the initiative of incorporating more ICT elements, such as programming and coding into the school curriculum was worth pursuing, it would be necessary to engage stakeholders in explaining its merits as there might be some concern given the fact that the new senior secondary school curriculum had not been in place for long; and
- opening up more public sector information would be conducive to the overall ICT development in Hong Kong.

(c) On e-Economy:

- given the benefits of cloud computing to businesses, SMEs should be encouraged to capitalise on the technology; to this end, the Government could consider providing appropriate facilitation;
- the strategy should examine how technologies embedded in electronic transactions could be made as user-friendly as possible in order to encourage wider adoption; and
- the strategy should look into how the economy could be better supported by secure, timely and accurate delivery of information by ICT.

(d) On e-Government:

- the Government should be a forerunner in the usage of ICT. For instance, it could consider putting all of its data onto the cloud platform;
- while the proposal to extend mobile and Wi-Fi coverage should be supported as it would be conducive to the overall ICT development, it should fall within “e-Community” instead; and
- the Government should consider providing free data, services and infrastructure to the public.

4. In response to Members’ comments, the **Chairman** remarked that the new ICT blueprint should include high-level strategic directions to lead Hong Kong ahead of our peers in the next few years. He also advised the consultant to spell out in what ways each cluster of initiatives could bring benefits to citizens and businesses. The consultant noted the comments and undertook to incorporate them in revising the blueprint.

5. The **Chairman** thanked Members for their comments and invited the consultant to meet with Members again to present the revised draft new strategy. In the meantime, it was agreed that the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) would set up an online discussion forum for Members to discuss and exchange ideas and the consultant would act as the facilitator. (*Post-meeting note: The online discussion forum was set up on 3 April.*)

### **Agenda Item III: Proposed themes for OGCIO's sponsorship projects for 2013-14**

6. **Mr Bernard LO** updated Members on the progress of OGCIO’s sponsorship projects in 2012-13 and introduced the proposed themes for 2013-14. Among the four themes for 2012-13, the projects under two themes (namely Development of mobile apps / websites for underprivileged groups and ICT manpower development – promotion to secondary students) were still on-going and would continue in 2013-14. New projects would be started under the other two themes (namely the Smart Elderly Recognition

Scheme and Enhancing ICT adoption among SMEs). A total of \$9 million would be allocated to these four themes in 2013-14.

7. A **Member** noted that only 7 out of 45 proposals were selected under the theme of Development of Mobile Applications/Websites for Underprivileged Groups, and asked if this was due to budget constraint. **Miss Joey LAM** explained that some of the proposals were very similar to one another or existing applications, while some others were found lacking in technical feasibility.

8. In response to a **Member's** enquiry on funding for professional recognition programmes, the **Government Chief Information Officer (GCIO)** said that the Task Force on ICT Professional Development and Recognition was established last year and was examining the need to establish an ICT professional recognition framework in Hong Kong.

9. A **Member** enquired about the intellectual property for products produced under the sponsored projects. **Miss Joey LAM** confirmed that according to the sponsorship agreement, these products would be available for free use by the public.

10. **The Chairman** thanked **Members** for their comments.

#### **Agenda Item IV – Members' exchange on industry's latest development**

11. **Mr Pindar WONG** briefed Members on the three-dimensional (3D) printing and 3D scanning technologies. He opined that 3D technologies would play an important role in future ICT development, therefore it would be necessary to explore the opportunities these technologies could bring.

12. **The Chairman** thanked Mr Pindar WONG.

#### **Agenda Item V: Report on the Progress of the Task Forces**

13. **GCIO** reported on the progress of the Task Forces. At the last meeting of the Task Force on ICT Professional Development and Recognition held on 30 January, Members of the Task Force suggested the Task Force to

take into account the existing schemes of various professional bodies in developing the framework on professional development and recognition. Members of the Task Force also deliberated on the intended benefits, perceived barriers and desired outcomes in establishing the recognition and registration scheme. The Task Force aimed to make recommendations by the end of this year.

14. At the Task Force on E-government Service Delivery held on 31 January, Members of the Task Force were briefed on the Planning Department's Geographic Information System (GIS)-based Site Search Tool, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department's collaboration with Google's Art Project; and the Building Information Modelling technology of the Housing Department.

15. At the Task Force on Industry Facilitation held on 1 February, Members of the Task Force were briefed on the copyright issue related to cloud computing, the "Consumer Connect" project and the International IT Fest 2013. They were also briefed on two initiatives of OGCIO aimed at driving further development of ICT manpower and talents in Hong Kong, namely, the Workshop of IT manpower Development in Hong Kong and the iCity Project, which was co-organised by the OGCIO and Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong.

16. At the Task Force on Digital Inclusion held on 6 February, Members of the Task Force were briefed on the Smart Elderly Award Scheme, the Webmaster Security Campaign and the progress of the Web Accessibility Recognition Scheme. Members of the Task Force also noted the accomplishments made in different digital inclusion programmes in 2012-13 and OGCIO's work plan on Digital Inclusion for 2013-14.

17. **The Chairman** thanked GCIO for the report.

#### **Agenda Item VI: Any Other Business**

18. There was no other business.

**Office of the Government Chief Information Officer  
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
April 2013**