7 Information Technology

(formerly under the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau)

Detailed Progress

1 Enhance our world-class e-business environment

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below —

Initiative *	Target #	Present Position †
To promote the Digital 21 Strategy so as to enhance Hong Kong's position as a leading digital city in the globally connected world *(the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau (ITBB)/Information Technology Services Department (ITSD))*	To implement an on-going publicity programme from end-2001 to promote the Digital 21 Strategy overseas so as to enhance Hong Kong's position as a leading digital city in the globally connected world *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To promote the development of Chinese Internet domain name registration in Hong Kong *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To encourage and facilitate the introduction of the registration of Chinese Internet domain name in Hong Kong in 2002 *(2001)*	An international standard for Chinese Internet domain names has yet to emerge. The Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation, which is responsible for the administration of Internet domain names in Hong Kong, is examining the subject. *(Action in Progress : Under Review)*

* the bracketed information denotes the agency with lead responsibility for the initiative

the bracketed information denotes the year in which the target was set

† the bracketed information denotes the status of the target

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To review the Electronic Transactions Ordinance *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To conduct the review in 2001 and, where necessary, introduce a bill to amend the legislation in 2002 *(2001)*	As diverse views had been received during the public consultation on the review, it has taken a longer time to consider the comments received and finalise the proposed amendments to the Ordinance. A bill will be introduced in the 2002-03 legislative session. *(Action in Progress : Behind Schedule)*
To promote the adoption of e-business in the private sector *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To implement sector-specific promotional programmes starting from end-2001/early 2002 to encourage the adoption of e-business in the private sector, targeting especially SMEs *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To enhance the accessibility of government websites to Chinese communities outside Hong Kong so as to help facilitate cross-border e-business with these communities *(ITBB/Information Services Department/ ITSD)*	To develop a simplified character version for government websites in 2002 to enhance their accessibility to Chinese communities outside Hong Kong, in particular the people in Mainland, thus helping to facilitate the development of e-business with these communities *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To keep the administration and assignment of Internet domain names and Internet protocol addresses in line with international development trends so as to promote the extensive use of the Internet *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To facilitate the establishment of the new arrangements in 2001 *(2000)*	*(Action Completed)*
To collect the relevant statistics to assess the usage of IT in business and the development of the IT industry locally *(ITBB/ITSD/Census & Statistics Department)*	To conduct annual surveys on the use of IT in the business community starting from 2000 *(2000)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To oversee and co-ordinate the development of the Cyberport at Telegraph Bay *(ITBB)*	To ensure the timely completion of the Cyberport by phases from late 2001/early 2002 to end-2003, and to put in place the institutional arrangements for the selection of tenants and for the future management of the Cyberport *(1999)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

2 Ensure that the Government leads by example

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To introduce new medium for delivery of public services online under the ESD Scheme *(the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau (ITBB)/Information Technology Services Department (ITSD))*	To provide ESD services through the mobile medium in 2002 in addition to personal computers and public kiosks *(2001)*	*(Action Completed)*
To facilitate the community in obtaining public services electronically *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To provide e-option for 90% of public services which are amenable to the electronic mode of delivery by end-2003 *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To drive e-procurement within the Government *(ITBB/Government Supplies Department (GSD)/ITSD)*	To commence in 2002 the development of an electronic marketplace for carrying out e-procurement of lower value purchases for various departments *(2001)*	GSD is conducting a trial use of e-Marketplace/ e-Shops with a view to determining the way forward for the development of a Government Electronic Marketplace System. A review will be conducted after completion of trial in September 2002. *(Action in Progress : Under Review)*

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To use IT to provide a new channel for the Government to communicate interactively with the community *(ITBB/Information Services Department (ISD)/ITSD)*	To launch in 2002 an online news bulletin to put out government news, interviews and information through multi-media and to communicate interactively with the community in an innovative manner *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To revamp the Government Information Centre (GIC) website for development into a one-stop Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government online portal *(ITBB/ISD/ITSD/the then Management Services Agency)*	To revamp the GIC website in 2002 to provide user-friendly access to government information and services *(2001)*	*(Action Completed)*
To provide IT facilities to civil servants and drive G2E and G2G applications *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To implement an accessibility programme to provide IT facilities to civil servants from 2002 to facilitate access to information and G2E/G2G applications *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To promote a paperless, electronic government *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To extend the coverage of the Government Office Automation (GOA) Programme from the original target of 10 000 officers to 23 000 officers by April 2004 *(2000)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To enhance government IT infrastructure to support the wider adoption of electronic transactions *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To complete the enhancement by April 2003 *(2000)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To co-ordinate and implement a phased programme for adopting inter-departmental and intra-departmental electronic transactions to promote the use of IT within the Government *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To implement several common inter-departmental and intra-departmental electronic transactions by April 2002 *(2000)*	*(Action Completed)*
To co-ordinate and implement the Confidential Mail Programme within government so that confidential materials can be transmitted electronically *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To complete the implementation of the Confidential Mail Programme by end-2002 *(2000)*	*(Action Completed)*

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To provide more government services online through the implementation of the Electronic Service Delivery (ESD) Scheme *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To implement additional ESD applications in 2001-2002 and in subsequent years *(2000)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

3 Develop our workforce for the information economy

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past year. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To provide professional IT training for secondary students *(Information Technology Services Department/ Education Department)*	To collaborate in 2002 with world-renowned IT companies to provide professional IT training to secondary students *(2001)*	*(Action Completed)*
To organise exchange/ internship programmes focusing on IT for local students and IT-related employees to enhance their exposure and international outlook *(the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau (ITBB))*	To work together with local bodies and universities as well as overseas renowned IT companies and prestigious universities to launch a pilot exchange/internship programme focusing on IT in 2002 for local students and IT-related employees *(2001)*	*(Action Completed)*
To encourage overseas Hong Kong students and professionals in IT field to return to work in Hong Kong *(ITBB)*	To implement a structured programme starting from end-2001 to attract overseas Hong Kong students and professionals in IT field to return to work in Hong Kong, thus strengthening IT manpower supply *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

4 Strengthen our community for digital exploitation

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To enhance the accessibility of government websites *(the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau (ITBB)/Information Technology Services Department (ITSD))*	To explore the development of text-to-speech translation services and a sound version for government websites in 2002 in order to facilitate the blind, the visually impaired, and senior citizens to access government online information *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To support professional bodies in the IT industry to organise activities to help address the issue of digital divide *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To collaborate with professional bodies in the IT industry in 2002 and 2003 to promote the adoption of web accessibility guidelines in private sector websites so as to facilitate access by the blind and the visually impaired *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To provide basic IT training to the general public to enhance their IT awareness so as to help address the issue of digital divide *(ITBB/ITSD/Home Affairs Department)*	To organise an IT awareness programme in 2002 *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To collect the relevant statistics to assess the usage and development of IT in the community *(ITBB/ITSD/Census & Statistics Department)*	To conduct annual household surveys on the use of IT in the community starting from 2000 *(2000)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

5 Leverage our strengths in exploitation of enabling technologies

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below —

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To exploit smart card technology *(the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau (ITBB)/Information Technology Services Department (ITSD))*	To develop value-added applications for riding on smart identity cards to be issued in 2003 *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*
To exploit mobile computing technologies in enhancing off-site operations of departments *(ITBB/ITSD/the then Management Services Agency)*	To roll out a series of pilot projects in 2002 *(2001)*	*(Action Completed)*
To exploit public key technology in driving the development of mobile commerce *(ITBB/Hongkong Post)*	To roll out mobile digital certificates for secure mobile commerce by end-2001 *(2001)*	*(Action Completed)*
To exploit voice recognition technology in the delivery of public services *(ITBB/ITSD)*	To implement a pilot scheme in 2002 for providing public services using voice recognition technology *(2001)*	*(Action in Progress : On Schedule)*

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To encourage and support the establishment of a link between Hong Kong and the Internet2 network to promote research and development work on the Internet and to develop Hong Kong into an Internet hub in the region *(ITBB/ITSD/University Grants Committee)*	To help set up the link in 2001 *(2000)*	*(Action Completed)*