

9

Telecommunications

**(formerly under the then Information
Technology and Broadcasting Bureau)**

Detailed Progress

I Provide the necessary regulatory framework and set standards for telecommunications in Hong Kong

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 take an active part in the development of new standards in multilateral fora with Hong Kong's requirement in mind <i>(Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA))</i>	To implement Phase II of the APEC Mutual Recognition Arrangement for telecommunications equipment by 2002 <i>(2001)</i>	<i>(Action in Progress : On Schedule)</i>
To implement the improved regulatory framework provided under the Telecommunication (Amendment) Ordinance 2000 <i>(OFTA)</i>	To issue in 2000-2001 the guidelines as required under various provisions of the Telecommunication (Amendment) Ordinance 2000, including those for licence applications under the streamlined licensing regime <i>(2000)</i>	<i>(Action Completed)</i>
To establish and implement the licensing framework for third generation mobile communication services <i>(OFTA)</i>	To issue in 2001 licences for the provision of third generation mobile communication services <i>(2000)</i>	<i>(Action Completed)</i>

* 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
<p>To set quality standards for metering and billing accuracy for public telecommunications operators</p> <p><i>(OFTA)</i></p>	<p>To stipulate the required standards and implement a quality control system in 2001 with support and input from licensees through an industry forum</p> <p><i>(2000)</i></p>	<p><i>(Action Completed)</i></p>
<p>To develop and implement standards appropriate to Hong Kong so that the industry can adopt the most modern technology to improve services</p> <p><i>(OFTA)</i></p>	<p>To implement the APEC Mutual Recognition Arrangement for telecommunications equipment by 2000</p> <p><i>(1999)</i></p>	<p><i>(Action Completed)</i></p>

2 Create an open and competitive telecommunications market

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

Initiative	Target	Present Position
<p>To introduce further competition in the local wireline-based Fixed Telecommunications Network Services (FTNS) market</p> <p><i>(Office of the Telecommunications Authority)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To complete in 2002 the licensing exercise for new local wireline-based FTNS for operation from 1 January 2003 <p><i>(2001)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To invite in 2001 licence applications for operation of local wireline-based FTNS from 1 January 2003 <p><i>(2000)</i></p>	<p><i>(Action Completed)</i></p>
<p>To promote fair competition in the telecommunications sector</p> <p><i>(the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau)</i></p>	<p>To implement the regulatory framework on effective competition, and provide support for the new independent appeal channel under the Telecommunications (Competition Provisions) Appeal Board</p> <p><i>(2001)</i></p>	<p><i>(Action Completed)</i></p>

3 Facilitate the development of an open, integrated broadband telecommunications network

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 set up new industry fora and prepare industry/statutory code of practice for broadband network roll-out <i>(Office of the Telecommunications Authority(OFTA))</i>	To complete in 2002 the implementation of all measures identified in the 2000 “broadband interconnection” review <i>(2001)</i>	<i>(Action Completed)</i>
To improve access to buildings for the extension of coverage of the broadband telecommunications network <i>(OFTA)</i>	To step up publicity and liaison efforts in 2000-2001 to facilitate the wireline and wireless broadband network operators to have access to buildings to extend the coverage of their networks <i>(2000)</i>	<i>(Action Completed)</i>

4 Establish Hong Kong as a world-class telecommunications centre

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

Initiative	Target	Present Position
<p>To host an international telecommunications exhibition cum conference ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002 organised by the International Telecommunication Union</p> <p><i>(the then Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau)</i></p>	<p>To facilitate the staging of “ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002” in end-2002</p> <p><i>(2001)</i></p>	<p><i>(Action in Progress : On Schedule)</i></p>
<p>To improve the radio communication environment</p> <p><i>(Office of the Telecommunications Authority)</i></p>	<p>In 2001, to implement an automated Direction Finding (DF) system to enhance the efficiency of interference investigation activities and to establish an information database on radio stations in Hong Kong and Guangdong to more effectively handle cross-boundary interference</p> <p><i>(2000)</i></p>	<p><i>(Action Completed)</i></p>