Feedback on Consultation Paper on 2004 Digital 21 Strategy by ESRI China (Hong Kong):

- We would like to add Geographic Information handling and dissemination under the heading of "Sustainable e-government programme". We think that much information will have spatial component and GIS technology should be used to handle and disseminate those information via Internet to the public.

- We would also suggest to add GIS technology under the "Technological Development - Focus area: wireless technologies and services". Since GIS is a technology which can facilitate wireless applications, services and solutions, especially those related to Location Based Services, it should be mentioned.

- Regarding OSS technologies and solutions, we think that the best way to promote this is to let research institutions, like universities and industrial associations, to develop OSS technologies and solutions using public funding and then let commercial vendors and companies to commercialize and enhance it to a product which can be put on market with appropriate technical support and maintenance. So we suggest that the OSS should be between research institutions and commercial vendors. Otherwise, no one will invest in R&D; no one will support the OSS technologies and no one will continually improve and enhance the technologies.

- For the heading of Mainland/Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), we think that HK Government should help IT services industry of HK more on this. In China, most of the IT projects will be from Government. However, most of the Government IT projects in China will put very strict commercial requirements on the company which wants to bid for the project. The most straight forward way to help HK company is to let all HK IT companies, with certain number of year of history in HK, to bid for China government IT projects tenders.