

Comments and Suggestions in response to Public Consultation Paper
2004 Digital 21 Strategy - by Julia Leung of QOKK.com Limited

Instead of integrating ITSD with CITB, as suggested in Digital 21 strategy draft, it is recommended that ITSD be privatized. A certain internal reward scheme might be helpful in encouraging government workers a statutory body to work with the public on such issue as privatization. As a privatized entity, ITSD will be more cost efficient and better able to integrate and balance the different commercial and government interests. The Head of the ITSD will take up the leadership and visionary role in propelling the full evolvement, integration and development processes.

The case for a unified regulatory body is also recommended, as tasks and responsibility differentiation are getting blurred because of the convergence of telecommunications and broadcasting industries. A unified regulatory body avoids the redundancy of resources and eliminates gray overlapping areas.

Funding for R&D for reporting is also recommended. In Mainland China, Microsoft, and Intel have set up their lab facilities in major cities. Hong Kong IT industry cannot only complete on low cost and low value added services, where we do not have any competitive advantage. We must continue to move up the value claim and provide the high end spectrum of IT service. To sustain the vibrancy of the IT industry in Hong Kong, we look forward to seeing the emergency of a privatised ITSD to actively monitor the local outsourcing market and take the necessary initiated to foster innovation and collaboration with our counterparts in the Mainland on cross-border IT projects.