



News release

Feedback on the Policy Address by the Chief Executive of HK *Hong Kong Computer Society*

HONG KONG – 14 October 2009 – Referring to the Policy Address today by the CE of HKSAR, Mr. Sunny Lee, President of the Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS), said: " While we are happy to see the continuing focus in developing the new six knowledge-based industries, we feel that the role of ICT (Information and Communications Technology), and ICT-based initiatives should be taken into more prominent consideration", and he further elaborated that "It is undeniable that ICT as an enabling technology, and as an innovative industry, is essential to the successful development of these new knowledge-based industries ".

In anticipation of the Policy Address with the six new industries as one of its key areas of focus, the HKCS on September 30 2009 organised a Forum entitled "The New Economy - Enhancing our New Key Industries with ICT" with a panel of relevant senior government officers, IT and domain knowledge experts to encourage the ICT industry to identify and provide ICT applications/services to support our key new industries (Innovation and Technology, Testing and Certification, Cultural and Creative Industries, Medical Services and Educational Services) as promulgated in the HK Government economic policy. The Forum aims to reinforce the importance of ICT in enhancing the economic successes of these new industries and garner industries' voices to effectively communicate with the HK Government.

Ms Cally Chan who, as HKCS's Director of Industry Policy organised the New Economy Forum, confirmed: "The recommendations by the experts at this Forum are being consolidated by the HKCS in a positive response to the Policy Address for further consideration by the HKSAR Government."

The major recommendations include the following:

Cultural and Creative Industry

"In the transformation of HK from a service-based economy to knowledge-based economy, our new creative industries help to generate and monetize intellectual property rights (IPRs). Knowledge-based economy thrives on IPRs.

Creative industries need the right eco-system to develop and grow. Likewise, creative talents need the right community to nurture and attract. Development of the appropriate clusters of digital community, will encourage member citizens to discover and embrace a community-centric value system to develop the right creative culture which then drives the growth of our knowledge based economy."

-Mr. Nick Yang, Chief Executive Officer, Hong Kong Cyberport Management Limited

Innovation and Technology

“In the era of creative economy, the intellectual property rights (IPRs) play a vital role for enterprises to keep sustainable competitiveness. Establishment of a global IP valuation and patent trading/exchange platform could provide an efficient channel for IP providers and IP users to search and exchange under a common platform.

A global IP valuation and patent trading platform would require sophisticated integration of knowledge of technology, legal system and business environment. In case of Hong Kong, it has a creditable legal framework and a good financial and trading infrastructure to support the establishment of this global platform. Therefore, Hong Kong can be a logical place to establish a global IP valuation and patent trading platform to accelerate the development of innovation technology in the area of commercialization, marketization and globalization. Furthermore, the development of an IP valuation and patent trading platform in HK can also help upgrade the industry's competitiveness PRD Region.”

- Mr. Ken Fong, Chairman of Hong Kong Wireless Technology Industry Association (HKWTIA)

Testing and Certification

“In addition to our focus on products and organizations, the development and recognition of our human capital is also essential to our planned knowledge economy. Professional certification of our ICT professionals in specialized areas is key to deserving national and international recognition, and encourages continuing developmental education, mobility and gainful employment.”

- Mrs. Agnes Mak, MH, JP, Director In-charge, HKITPC

Educational Services

“There are enormous business opportunities to further develop HK as the Research , Development and Application center for digitizing teaching resources and materials , particular for the markets with Chinese language as the teaching medium.”

“The Incentive Schedule for ICT in Education, operated by the Education Bureau should support more innovative companies in the private sector through adequate sponsorship, and the role of HKEDCITY, which has financial and administrative support from the HKSAR Government, needs to be clarified, such that it should be complementary to and not perceived to be unfairly competing with the private sector in developing e-educational applications”

-Mr. Joseph Siu, Sales Manager for International and Electronic Publishing, Hong Kong University Press

Medical Services

“Development of human resources in Health IT should be accelerated for the effective implementation of the territory-wide strategic e-HR initiative (Electronic Health Records), with which the IT industry in HK should be given ample opportunities to participate.”

“HK should establish itself as a centre of excellence for food and drug labeling given our recognized experience in quality control and well-perceived service quality”

- Mr. Charles Mok, Hospital Authority Board Member and Honorary President of Hong Kong Information Technology Federation (HKITF)

Mr. Peter Yan, Vice President (Policy and Communication) of HKCS, further added, "All the experts at the Forum recognize that HK should promote more internationally the branding of its uniqueness as a well proven site to pilot or soft launch of knowledge-based products and services, particular those using mobile technology, given our compact area, dense population, high mobile device penetration, mature telecommunications and legal infrastructure, and high expectation of quality from our sophisticated citizenry."

About Hong Kong Computer Society

The Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS) is a well-established non-profit organisation which strives to improve and develop Hong Kong's information Technology (IT) industry since its founding in 1970. Dedicated to the promotion of the highest professional standards for the industry, HKCS is the well recognised and the largest professional association in the Hong Kong's IT industry. HKCS draws members from a broad spectrum of Hong Kong's IT users, from corporations to individuals, all coming together to work for the benefit and raise the profile of the industry.

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