

**Minutes of the 28th meeting of
RTHK Board of Advisors
held at 9:15 am, 29 January 2016
at Conference Room, G/F, Broadcasting House
30 Broadcast Drive, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon**

Present

Mr Lester G. HUANG, JP (Chairman)
Mr Walter CHAN Kar-lok, SBS, JP
Ms Mimi CHEUNG Yee-may
Mr Robert CHUA Wah-peng
Mr Mohan DATWANI
Miss Lisa Marie DJENG Kar-yee
Mr C.K. LAU, JP
Mr Maurice LEE Wai-man, BBS, JP
Mr Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP
Ms Marisa YIU
Mr LEUNG Ka-wing, Director of Broadcasting

In attendance from RTHK

Miss Leonia TAI, Deputy Director of Broadcasting (Developments)
Ms Lisa LIU, Deputy Director of Broadcasting (Programmes)
Mr CHAN Yiu-wah, Assistant Director (Radio & Corporate Programming)
Miss CHAN Man-kuen, Assistant Director (TV & Corporate Businesses)
Miss Jace AU, Controller (Radio) (Agenda item 3)
Ms Liane CHENG, Controller (TV)
Ms Amen NG, Head/Corporate Communications & Standards
Ms Viola LAU, Head/Public and Current Affairs (Agenda item 3)
Ms Mayella CHEUNG (Board Secretariat)

Absent with apologies

Dr Eugene CHAN Kin-keung, JP
Ms Anna HUNG Wing-chee
Mr Ringo LAM Wing-kwan
Dr Carol MA Hok-ka

Secretary

Ms Priscilla HO (Board Secretariat)

Agenda Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting

1. The Chairman welcomed Ms Lisa LIU, Deputy Director of Broadcasting (Programmes), and Ms Mayella CHEUNG, member of the Secretariat, to attend the meeting, and thanked Mr TAI Keen-man, former Deputy Director of Broadcasting (Programmes) and Ms Amy KWONG, former member of the Secretariat, for their past contributions.
2. Dr Eugene CHAN, Ms Anna HUNG, Mr Ringo LAM and Dr Carol MA sent apologies for not being able to join this meeting.
3. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had circulated the draft minutes of the last meeting held on 20 November 2015 for Members' comments on 6 January 2016 and Members had made no comments. The minutes of the last meeting were therefore confirmed without amendment.

Agenda Item 2 : Matters arising

4. On the provision of analogue television service on the two analogue television channels to be vacated by Asia Television Limited (ATV) from 2 April 2016, Miss Leonia TAI updated Members that RTHK would procure the analogue television transmission service from a third party service provider. The open tender was issued on 8 January 2016 with closing date of submission of tender on 22 January 2016. RTHK was now processing the procurement procedures as quickly as possible. On the programming side, Ms Lisa LIU and Miss CHAN Man-kuen informed Members that programmes of RTHK's digital terrestrial television (DTT) channels would be simulcast on the two analogue channels, and the broadcasting hours of RTHK TV 31 would be advanced to the early morning with enriched genres from 2 April 2016. They also briefed members on the plan to schedule the broad bands of programmes targeted at different audience groups during the day.
5. Members expressed their views on TV news production, publicity, contingency plan, and how to manage public's expectation of provision of the analogue service. Mr LEUNG Ka-wing and Ms Lisa LIU explained the difficulties encountered under the constraints of resources and technical arrangements. While the signal coverage would have to be extended in stages from the start of the service, and

RTHK did not have an integrated news centre at the moment, RTHK would strive to ensure a smooth commencement of the service, and endeavour to maintain the high standard of news programmes which would be produced in a new format. The public would be informed in advance of the related arrangements.

6. For the information of members on the free television services, Miss Leonia TAI mentioned that Hong Kong Television Entertainment Company Limited (HKTVE) was assigned half of the transmission capacity of a multiplex to be withdrawn from ATV from 2 April 2016 for the provision of free digital television service. As a free television licensee, HKTVE was required to broadcast RTHK programmes by April 2017.
7. Members raised no other item for discussion.

Agenda Item 3: Programmes on Policy Address and Budget Speech

8. Miss Jace AU and Ms Viola LAU presented programmes on the Policy Address and Budget Speech produced by Radio and Television divisions respectively.
9. A Member remarked that presenters of some public and current affairs programmes were young and energetic, and could bring out the voices of the young generation. With RTHK's credibility in news and public and current affairs programmes, the Member suggested to cultivate more young talents and more resources to be allocated to news section to build up the brand of RTHK.
10. A Member considered that the usual presentation of programmes on the Policy Address and Budget Speech on television was uneventful. He suggested that RTHK should explore a more interesting and innovative format for these programmes while discussion forum with the government officials could be conducted in a more relaxing way. Miss CHAN Man-kuen thanked the Member for the feedback and would relay his suggestion to the production consortium.

Agenda Item 4: RTHK Annual Plan 2016-17 (BOA Paper 1/2016)

11. Ms Lisa LIU, Mr CHAN Yiu-wah and Miss CHAN Man-kuen introduced the

paper. Members expressed views on the draft Annual Plan.

12. Members proposed some topics for consideration, including programmes on public health, history and culture through the Belt and Road Initiative, programmes for young professionals, innovative science and technology issues, and programmes that can reflect the good deeds and positive side of human relationship etc.
13. In response to enquiries from Members, Miss CHAN Man-kuen replied that there were English subtitling programmes for ethnic minorities and also sign language programmes for the hearing impaired audience.
14. Members supported the recent production of a TV programme on Hong Kong culture iconic figures with a view to preserving the Hong Kong culture legacy.
15. In response to the suggestion of producing daily long running sitcom drama series to attract audience after the provision of analogue television service on 2 April 2016, Miss CHAN Man-kuen said that such idea had been discussed internally but was being shelved at the moment having regard to current limited resources and other technical considerations. However, sitcom production was always under Television Division's production plan when the required conditions were in place. Miss Leonia TAI added that RTHK was invited to provide the analogue television service as a stop gap service for the interim period from April 2016 to the analogue switch off which was currently targeted at 2020. As such, resources should rather be invested in the long term development of the DTT service with the same set of programmes of the DTT channels to be simulcast on the analogue channels.
16. Regarding the New Broadcasting House project, Miss Leonia TAI said that RTHK was reviewing the scale of the re-provisioning and the re-planning work was underway.

Agenda Item 5(a) : Updates on programmes (BOA Paper 2/2016)

17. Ms Lisa LIU introduced the paper. Members had no comment on the paper.

Agenda Item 5(b) : Updates on complaints (BOA Paper 3/2016)

18. Ms Lisa LIU introduced the paper. In response to an enquiry on a case of minor breach, Miss CHAN Man-kuen replied that while RTHK was not a licensee, it agreed to comply with the codes of practices issued by the Communications Authority (CA). As such, while the CA would not levy any penalty on RTHK for any breach, RTHK would take the advice as reference in its future programme production.

Any other business

19. Ms Amen NG reported to the meeting that the biennial opinion survey initiated by the Board of Advisors would be conducted in April 2016. Members were invited to comment on a proposed question in the survey about how to build up public trust.
20. Some Members expressed concern on this survey question which might confuse the respondents and that the responses obtained might not serve much substantial meaning for RTHK to take reference. To meet the objective of the survey which was on the performance of RTHK in fulfilling its public purposes and mission, it was suggested that it would be more practicable to ask questions on operational aspects. A Member remarked that the survey could also provide some qualitative references besides merely giving a quantitative result.
21. Ms Amen NG would relay Members' comments to the contractor of the survey to re-design the question and report to Members at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting

22. The Chairman informed the meeting that the next meeting was scheduled on 11 March 2016.
23. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Secretariat

RTHK Board of Advisors