# Minutes of the 77th Meeting of RTHK Board of Advisors held at 10:00 am, 16 June 2025

## at Conference Room 7, G/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

#### Present

Dr LAM Tai-fai, GBS, JP (Chairman)

Mr Ivan CHAN Chi-kin

Ms Kitty CHAU Shuk-king

Professor Ronald CHIU Ying-chun, MH

Mr Stanley CHOI Tak-shing, JP

Mr HSU Hoi-shan, MH

Mr Geoffrey Edward KAO

Mr Robert Andrew LUI Chi-wang

Dr Jim LUK Tze-chung

Dr Thomas SO Shiu-tsung, JP

Dr TSE Wai-lok

Ms Angelina KWAN Yuen-yee, JP, Director of Broadcasting

#### In Attendance from RTHK

Ms Christine WAI, Deputy Director of Broadcasting

Mr Vincent LEE, Assistant Director (Radio & Corporate Programming)

Ms Amy KWONG, Assistant Director (TV & Corporate Business)

Mr Ricky LEE, Controller (TV)

Ms Angel CHENG, Controller (Radio)

Ms Jackie CHAN, Departmental Secretary

Mr Johnathan YIP, Head/Corporate Communications & Standards

#### **Absent With Apologies**

Ms Meggy CHENG Hei-yee

Mr Hendrick SIN, MH, JP

### **Secretary**

Ms Olivia YAU (Board Secretariat)

### Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had circulated the draft minutes of the 76th meeting held on 24 March 2025 to Members for perusal, and no comments were received. The minutes concerned were therefore confirmed.

### **Agenda Item 2: Matters Arising**

- 2. RTHK reported to the Board on the arrangements for human resources and training. Since April 2023, RTHK had conducted nine recruitment exercises for the Programme Officer grade and one exercise for the Technical Officer grade. In the future, RTHK would continue to review its manpower situation, and engage civil servants or non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff in a timely manner to meet operational needs.
- 3. In addition to the courses offered by the Civil Service College (CSC), RTHK also arranged department-based training for newly recruited civil servants and full-time NCSC staff, covering the "Charter of Radio Television Hong Kong", the "Editorial Policies and Processes of Radio Television Hong Kong", risk assessment during editorial processes, departmental policies, administrative rules and regulations, etc. RTHK would also provide professional and in-depth training for serving civil servants and full-time NCSC staff to strengthen their soft skills, as well as their professional and work-related knowledge.
- 4. A Member suggested that RTHK enhance its training arrangements to enable its staff to keep abreast of the trends and technological developments in the broadcasting industry more comprehensively, and incorporate national developments in the broadcasting sector into training materials, so that RTHK's programme production could advance with the times and better cater for the needs of audience. RTHK responded that its staff members would participate from time to time in broadcasting industry exchanges and events both in the Mainland and overseas, such as TV festivals in Beijing and Shanghai, as well as meetings organised by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union. Topics such as the developments of artificial intelligence and media convergence had been explored in the events, helping the staff to broaden their horizons and understand the developments of the industry. The related expenses would be subsumed under the item of duty visits. Several Members agreed that, given the limited resources, RTHK could allocate resources based on the actual job-related needs of the staff to

cover beneficial training areas.

- 5. The Chairman and a Member suggested that RTHK could consider providing more comprehensive training for full-time NCSC staff, and enquired about the arrangements for in-depth training. RTHK responded that CSC's basic training courses were mainly designed for civil servants, while departments would arrange relevant skill and professional training according to the actual job-related needs of the staff. To support the long-term development of staff, RTHK would also recommend promising staff members to enrol for local and non-local study programmes in management and other subjects, and encourage staff to expand their knowledge in different areas through the "Cyber Learning Centre Plus".
- 6. The Chairman and several Members enquired about the manpower situation and the related recruitment arrangements. RTHK said that civil service recruitment and promotion exercises had been withheld from 2020 to 2023, and due to staff wastage during the period, the vacancy situation remained. Since the resumption of civil service recruitment exercises, RTHK had actively replenished the manpower for different levels and work types, and the vacancy rate had gradually dropped from the peak of 24.1% to 18.7% in June 2025. To meet operational needs, RTHK had engaged 154 full-time NCSC staff at the moment. RTHK would continue to monitor the manpower situation and provide suitable training for staff to further explore their potential and open up their career development opportunities.

## Agenda Item 3: Programmes for the 80th Anniversary of the Victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War

- 7. RTHK reported to the Board on the programmes for the 80th Anniversary of the Victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, which covered highlight events, special programmes and news features.
- 8. The Chairman and a number of Members thanked RTHK staff for their efforts, and praised the programmes for being diverse in ideas and covering different aspects. However, due to change in the viewing habits of audience nowadays, it was suggested that RTHK consolidate its strategies and conduct publicity through

diverse channels, such as promoting programmes on a thematic basis; collaborating with web content creators for enhancing topicality; providing edited versions for schools to broadcast; as well as actively cooperating with other government departments in strengthening promotional efforts. Besides, a Member suggested that RTHK use technology to assist in reviving historical scenes, so as to enhance the attractiveness of programmes.

- 9. A Member praised the production of English programmes, and suggested that content with international outlook be suitably included in Chinese programmes, such as China's role in the World Anti-Fascist War; and English highlight versions be produced for promotion in schools on a themed event basis. Another Member suggested that Chinese subtitles be added to English programmes to extend their reach, and the programmes be broadcast in schools through collaboration with schools. Besides, a Member suggested that elements related to Hong Kong be included in programmes, such as introducing local landmarks for resistance against Japanese aggression.
- 10. RTHK thanked the Chairman and Members for providing valuable suggestions, and said that apart from co-producing programmes with the Information Services Department and producing its in-house programmes, RTHK would jointly produce programmes with GuangZhou Broadcasting Network. RTHK also responded that it had made reference to the views of the Working Group on Patriotic Education, and invited Professor LAU Chi-pang to be the advisor, so as to ensure that programmes were produced in accordance with historical facts. Moreover, RTHK would seek to bring more programmes to schools, so as to deepen the understanding of history among the younger generation. Besides, RTHK would actively use online platforms and social media (such as Xiaohongshu) to release short videos, so as to expand the audience base.
- 11. Several Members were concerned about the accuracy of programme content, and reminded RTHK to perform its gate-keeping role stringently in the production process, so as to ensure the authenticity and credibility of content. RTHK expressed agreement and would perform its gate-keeping role stringently, in order to ensure that the programme content was consistent with historical facts.

- 12. RTHK introduced the paper to the Board.
- 13. A Member considered that RTHK's news programmes were credible and well received. He suggested that RTHK provide data on some programmes with relatively high and low viewership and give a presentation on it, so that Members could make follow-up proposals. RTHK said that it would follow up on the suggestion, and provide data on the listenership/viewership of some radio and television programmes on different platforms at the next meeting for reference.
- 14. A Member enquired about the arrangements for watching acquired dramas on applications. RTHK responded that given the copyright restriction, not all acquired programmes could be reviewed on applications, and the viewership of programmes through applications would be included in the statistical data on the overall traffic.
- 15. Several Members opined that RTHK could consider producing more programmes with international elements, as well as short films introducing the current situation of Hong Kong (such as the culture and tourism information) in English, so as to tell the good stories of Hong Kong. RTHK thanked the Board for its views again, and said that under limited resources, it would continue to enhance publicity, broaden the audience reach, as well as actively produce more short videos suitable for broadcast on the new media platforms.

### Agenda Item 4(b): Updates on Public Feedback (BOA Paper 4/2025)

- 16. RTHK introduced the paper to the Board.
- 17. Several Members enquired about the details of receiving feedback and the relevant handling mechanism, and suggested that RTHK properly handle public feedback. RTHK said that it had always attached great importance to all feedback and complaints received, and the programme staff and senior management would be notified of the situation. They would seek to understand and review each case, provide an appropriate reply, and make reference to the relevant feedback in programme production in the future. A Member gave comments on the presentation of the report, and RTHK said that suitable adjustments would be made.

18. A Member suggested that RTHK formulate a clear internal mechanism for handling complaint cases. RTHK responded that a handling mechanism was in place, and

a simplified version for the mechanism was provided on the website for public

information.

19. A Member enquired about RTHK's arrangements for monitoring comments on the

platforms. RTHK said that it had been paying attention to comments on its social

media accounts and other platforms. While members of the public were welcome to express their views on programmes, comments involving foul language, personal

attacks, etc., would be deleted.

20. A Member enquired about cases involving breaches of the Telecommunications

Ordinance. RTHK said that relevant non-compliance cases, if any, would be

reflected in the paper.

**Agenda Item 5: Any Other Business** 

21. The Board had not raised any item for discussion.

**Agenda Item 6: Date of Next Meeting** 

22. The next meeting was scheduled for 15 September 2025.

23. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

The Secretariat

**RTHK Board of Advisors** 

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