

**Public Hearing on the Renewal of the  
Analogue Sound Broadcasting Licences of  
Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company  
Limited (“CRHK”) and  
Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited (“Metro”)**

**Venue: Mei Foo Community Hall**

**Date: 30 October 2014**

**Summary of Views**

**Programme Diversity**

1. The current English channels mainly broadcast music and were not actual English broadcasting services.
2. CRHK should broadcast fewer programmes on political issues and more programmes on professional knowledge like medicine and law.

**Accuracy, Impartiality and Fairness**

3. A broadcaster should be fair, open and impartial.
4. The broadcasters were responsible for the polarisation of society and young persons’ participation in illegal activities. They should not continuously criticise the Hong Kong Government and the Mainland Government and instigate the listeners to participate in the Occupy Central Movement.
5. There were views that the students participating in the Occupy Central Movement were not swayed by radio as they usually obtained information from online social media.
6. CRHK’s programme “Summit” (光明頂) always criticised the Government. A proper balance should be struck by inviting guests from both the pan-democratic camp and the

pro-establishment camp. The broadcasters should be made responsible for the remarks made in their programmes.

7. CRHK abused the airwave to promote the interests of the pan-democratic camp.
8. CRHK was biased against the Government and the pro-establishment camp. It did not remain neutral in interviews about the Occupy Central Movement.
9. CRHK encouraged listeners to participate in the online voting on constitutional reform on 22 June. It also instigated the audience to participate in illegal activities such as the Occupy Central Movement.
10. CRHK's phone-in programmes rejected opposing voices and screened out callers of opposing views. Only guests or audience holding political views similar to those of the programme hosts would be invited to express their views. CRHK should exercise control on its programme hosts.
11. Metro should provide more discussion fora or phone-in programmes so that different views could be voiced.

### **Programme Standards**

12. The comments on a strike by dock workers in 2013 in CRHK's programme "On a Clear Day" (在晴朗的一天出發) were biased. The programme appealed for donation to an organisation without prior approval of the CA and was sanctioned by the CA.

### **Programme Quality**

13. Metro's programmes, such as the programmes by Mr Barry Ip (葉文輝) and Ms Nancy Sit (薛家燕), were made for Hong Kong people.

14. Metro's programme host Mr Barry Ip allowed different views to be presented in his programme.
15. The spoken English of the hosts of Metro's English programmes was incomprehensible.

### **Advertising**

16. CRHK violated the codes of practice by broadcasting an advertisement for "March for Universal Suffrage" which was of political nature in 2010, and was fined \$30,000.

### **Management and Operation of the Licensees**

17. The licensees should inform the public whether they had provided any guidance to their staff on striking a balance between preserving impartiality and truly reflecting the current polarisation of the society.

### **Overall Performance of the Licensees**

18. Whether CRHK was impartial should be taken into consideration in the assessment of licence renewal.
19. Some speakers disagreed with the renewal of licence of CRHK. Reasons included:
  - CRHK was biased against the pro-establishment camp. It suppressed their freedom of expression. CRHK instigated young persons to engage in political activities and oppose the Government.
  - CRHK took no action on the biased comments made by one of its programme hosts Mr Poon Siu To (潘小濤) against the Mainland Government.
  - CRHK had not operated the station in a responsible manner and was responsible for the polarisation of society.

- The programme hosts of CRHK's phone-in programmes often argued with the callers.

### **Other Comments and Suggestions**

20. The CA should explain whether and how it would assess the licensees' past breaches of regulations during the licence renewal exercise.
21. The CA should relay to the Chief Executive the public's views against CRHK's licence renewal.
22. It was a waste of time to allow the licensees to promote their services in the public hearings.