

Dedicated team to start review on RTHK's governance and management in mid-July

The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) announced today (July 6) that the dedicated team to review the governance and management of Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) will start its work on July 15. The objective of the review is to ensure that RTHK's public broadcasting services fully abide by the Charter of RTHK (the Charter).

Mrs Jessie Ting Yip Yin-mei, a directorate administrative officer, has been appointed as the director of the dedicated team. Other team members include Assistant Director of Broadcasting, RTHK, Mr Albert Cheung Kin-wah, as well as serving civil servants or post-retirement service contract staff from the executive officer, treasury accountant and management services officer grades. They have knowledge and experience on broadcasting services, administration, resources management as well as organisation management consulting.

The scope of the review is as follows:

(1) to review RTHK's administration, including financial control, human resources management and procurement matters to ensure that its manpower and resource deployment complies with all applicable Government rules and regulations, and that such deployment is made for the effective delivery of services under programme areas as set out in paragraphs 17 to 20 of the Charter, and where necessary, to identify scope for improvement;

(2) to review RTHK's progress of implementing the recommendations of the Report No. 71 of the Director of Audit, including the need for a transparent and objective system for setting performance targets and benchmarks for measuring results; and

(3) to review RTHK's overall management systems, processes and practices, making reference to best practices of other public service broadcasters, to ensure full compliance with the Charter and the codes of practice on programming standards issued by the Communications Authority.

A spokesman for the CEDB said that the dedicated team will communicate with RTHK personnel in the course of the review to understand the department's operational needs. The dedicated team will not take part in any programme production or editorial decisions of RTHK. The review is expected to be completed in about six months, and the dedicated team will submit a report to the CEDB.