

RADIO SPECTRUM AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Proposed Revisions to Standardization Guides
HKCA 3201, HKCA 3202 and HKCA 3203**

Purpose

This paper proposes revisions to the Standardization Guides HKCA 3201, HKCA 3202 and HKCA 3203.

Background

2. Standardization Guides HKCA 3201, HKCA 3202 and HKCA 3203 (these Guides) are guidelines issued by the Communications Authority (the CA) concerning the setting of telecommunications standards. HKCA 3201 describes the general procedure for setting telecommunications standards and related policies, HKCA 3202 describes the classification of standards and HKCA 3203 describes the general principles and scope of standardization for public telecommunications services.

3. The current version of these Guides was issued in June 2001. It is necessary to revise these Guides to reflect the following latest development -

- a) the establishment of the CA and OFCA;
- b) the arrangement of setting up ad hoc SSAC Working Groups; and
- c) the licensing regime of public telecommunications services.

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4. Pursuant to the Communications Authority Ordinance (Cap. 616), with effect from 1 April 2012, all duties and powers of the Telecommunications Authority (TA) are conferred on the Communications Authority (CA), and all duties and powers of the Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA) are conferred on the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA), the executive arm of the CA. In this connection, it is proposed that consequential amendments to these Guides be made by replacing the terms

“Telecommunications Authority (TA)” and “Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA)” by “Communications Authority (CA)” and “Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA)” respectively.

5. There had been two working groups (the Common Connection Standards Working Group and the New Standards and Policy Working Group) operating under the ex-Telecommunications Standards Advisory Committee. Having reviewed the workload of standardization at the first SSAC meeting held in June 2012, OFCA considered and proposed that there was no concrete need to create a standing working group under the SSAC at that moment. Instead, ad hoc working group could be created if necessary. In this connection, it is proposed that HKCA 3201 be revised to reflect the arrangement for the setting up ad hoc SSAC working groups.

6. In HKCA 3202 and 3203, public telecommunications networks (PTNs) operators are specified to include operators of Fixed Telecommunication Network Services (FTNS) and Public Mobile Radiotelephone Service (PMRS) / Personal Communications Service (PCS) as well as holders of fixed carrier licence and mobile carrier licence. Following the introduction of Unified Carrier Licence regime as well as the launch of new mobile services such as 3G and 4G services, it is necessary to update scope of PTN. In order to cope with the future development of licensing regime and launch of new telecommunications services, it is proposed that generic terms "fixed services" and "mobile services" should be used in the revised Guides, where appropriate. In addition, it is also proposed that Schedule A and B of HKCA 3202 be updated to include the latest HKCA specifications.

7. The proposed revisions to HKCA 3201, HKCA 3202 and HKCA 3203 are attached in Annex. For ease of reference, the revised Guides are based on the current version with proposed revision in strikethrough and coloured text mode.

Recommendation

8. It is recommended that proposed revisions to HKCA 3201, HKCA 3202 and HKCA 3203 in Annex be adopted by the CA.

Advice sought

9. Members are invited to give comment on the recommendation above.

**Office of the Communications Authority
January 2014**