

Telecommunications Regulatory Affairs Advisory Committee

Minutes of the Thirtieth Meeting Held on Thursday, 3 February 2026 at 3:00 p.m. in OFCA Conference Room, 20/F Wu Chung House

Members Present

Mr Esmond Chiu	Office of the Communications Authority ("OFCA") ("Chairman")
Mr Sidney Tsan	OFCA ("Secretary")
Ir George Chan	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Mr Ben Li	The Institution of Engineering and Technology Hong Kong
Mr Alex Wong	Communications Association of Hong Kong
Mr Francis Fong	Hong Kong Information Technology Federation
Ms Rosita Cheng	China Mobile Hong Kong Company Limited ("CMHK")
Mr Karson Ng	China Telecom Global Limited
Mr Dickson Ip	ComNet Telecom (HK) Limited ("ComNet")
Mr Law Jia	Easy Tone Network Limited ("Easy Tone")
Miss Katherine Kwok	HGC Global Communications Limited
Mr Raymond Chan	Hong Kong Cable Television Limited
Mr Kevin Chu	Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited / PCCW-HKT Telephone Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited / PCCW Global (HK) Limited / Genius Brand Limited ("HKT")
Ms Sarah Hui	Hutchison Telephone Company Limited
Mr Tin-Lun Or	SmarTone Communications Limited / SmarTone Mobile Communications Limited ("SmarTone")
Mr Patrick Ng	NTT Com Asia Limited
Mr Tony Chan	Unified Carrier (External Fixed Services) Licensees as a group
Mr Tony Lam	External Telecommunications Services

Mr Derek So	Operators as a group Localised Wireless Broadband Service / Localised Wireless Broadband System (Private) / Public Radiocommunications Service / Wireless Internet of Things Licensees as a group
Ir Chi-Wah Tang	Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”)
Dr Ivan Ho	Ad Personam
Ms Katy Lau	Ad Personam

In Attendance

Ms Clara Chan	CMHK
Mr Kenneth Kwok	ComNet
Mr Kit Chan	Easy Tone
Ms Abbie Lo	Hong Kong Broadband Network Limited / HKBN Enterprise Solutions Limited / HKBN Enterprise Solutions HK Limited (“HKBN”)
Miss Edith Wong	Towngas Telecommunications Fixed Network Limited (“Towngas”)
Miss Shelley Ng	Village Telephone Limited (“VTL”)
Mr Tian Xinguo	Unified Carrier (External Fixed Services) Licensees as a group
Ir Angus Chung	HKPF
Mr Ken Sit	OFCA
Mr Desmond Young	OFCA
Mr Roger Chan	OFCA
Ms Vera Chung	OFCA
Ms Gladys Ng	OFCA
Mr Penny Lo	OFCA
Mr Allen Tin	OFCA
Mr Alex Lam	OFCA
Ms Sherrine Lo	OFCA
Ms Draco Liang	OFCA
Mr Ivan Ling	OFCA

Observers

Ms Alison Wong	Consumer Council
Mr Felix Kan	HKT
Mr Ricky Siu	HKT
Mr Sunny Lau	HKT
Mr Andy Chan	SmarTone
Mr Kenny Yu	SmarTone

Members Absent

Mr Michael Kan	Consumer Council
Ms Lillian Liu	China Unicom (Hong Kong) Operations Limited
Ms Sophia Yap	HKBN
Mr Hing-Wah Ngan	Towngas
Mr Terence Ho	TraxComm Limited
Ms Clio Ip	VTL
Mr Tong Tsang	VNET Group Limited
Mr Haining Hu	Vodafone Enterprise Hong Kong Limited
Mr David Ong	Xenith IG Hong Kong Limited
Mr Yu Yang	Services-based Operator Licensees as a group
Mr Ricky Chong	Ad Personam
Dr Yaru Fu	Ad Personam

The Chairman welcomed all participants to the meeting.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

2. The Chairman said that the draft minutes of the 29th meeting were circulated to Members for comment on 26 September 2025. As no comment was received from Members, the minutes of the 29th meeting were confirmed.

Item 2 Matters Arising

3. Regarding the Use of Spectrum in the 1.4 GHz Band in Support of the Development of Low-altitude Economy (“LAE”) (TRAAC Paper No. 5/2025), the Secretary reported that following the allocation of the 1.4 GHz band to mobile service for use by Unmanned Aircraft System (“UAS”) in Hong Kong effective from June 2025, the new UAS (Private) Licence was launched and open for application from October 2025. The relevant details would be reported under agenda item 3.

4. As regards the Review of the Real Name Registration (“RNR”) Programme and Proposed Legislative Amendments to the RNR Regulation in Hong Kong (TRAAC Paper No. 6/2025), the Secretary reported that the relevant legislative amendments were under preparation with an aim to introducing the amendments into the Legislative Council in 2026.

5. Regarding the Subsidy Scheme to Extend 5G Coverage in Rural and Remote Areas (TRAAC Paper No. 7/2025), the Secretary reported that OFCA had been proactively coordinating with mobile network operators (“MNOs”) on their submissions of applications under the Scheme and their planning and installation of radio base stations at the proposed sites. The Scheme would subsidise MNOs’ installation of radio base stations at about 50 sites, which were expected to be put into service progressively within four years (i.e. from 2026 to 2029).

6. Mr Francis Fong shared experience on the pitfalls of verifying customer identities through eKYC (“electronic Know Your Customer”) as found in other industries. The Chairman invited the telecommunications service providers to take note of Mr Francis Fong’s advice and added that “iAM Smart” would be adopted as the default registration method for the RNR Programme for Hong Kong Identity Card holders in future, or else users not using iAM Smart would be required to complete the RNR in person.

Item 3 Launch of the New Unmanned Aircraft System (Private) Licence (TRAAC Paper No. 1/2026)

7. The Chairman invited Ms Vera Chung to brief Members on the launch of the new UAS (Private) Licence.

8. Ir George Chan enquired whether there were any recognised testing centres in Hong Kong that could certify and test equipment operating in the 1.4 GHz band in accordance with the relevant technical standards. The Chairman replied that equipment for UAS operating in the 1.4 GHz band was required to comply with the technical requirements set out in the Type Acceptance Criteria (TAC 013) issued by the Communications Authority (“CA”) based on the same technical standard promulgated by relevant authority of the Chinese Mainland, including frequency band plan and transmit power limits. Several testing centres in Hong Kong could support the certification and OFCA would supplement the information of these testing centres after the meeting.

[Post meeting note: OFCA had provided Ir George Chan with the relevant information of the testing centres in Hong Kong.]

9. In response to Mr Ricky Siu’s enquiry, the Chairman said that the UAS (Private) Licence would enable data transmission including images. The Chairman added that most of the UAS operations in Hong Kong were currently using Wi-Fi connections or 4G/5G public mobile services, and a dedicated spectrum in 1.4 GHz band for UAS would provide eligible UAS operators with an additional choice of radiocommunications means to support LAE activities.

10. In response to Mr Kevin Chu’s enquiry about obtaining approvals from government departments, the Chairman replied that all projects under the LAE Regulatory Sandbox (“Sandbox”) would be considered by the Working Group on Developing Low-altitude Economy (“WG”), which comprised representatives from all relevant government departments. For members’ information, the names of all successful applicants under the Sandbox were published on the WG’s webpage.

Item 4 Safeguarding Computer-system Security of Critical Infrastructures (TRAAC Paper No. 2/2026)

11. The Chairman invited Ms Gladys Ng to brief Members on the new legislation for safeguarding computer-system security of critical infrastructures.

12. Mr Ben Li enquired whether the list of Critical Infrastructure (“CI”) operators under the purview of CA would be published to enhance transparency, and whether it was prohibited to disclose an organization being designated as a CI operator. The Chairman said that for minimising the chance of being targets of cyberattacks, CA would not publish the list of CI operators in the telecommunications and broadcasting services sector, which was consistent with the approach adopted by the Commissioner of Critical Infrastructure (Computer-system Security) (“Commissioner”) and other jurisdictions. CI operators however might at their own volition disclose their designation.

13. Ms Rosita Cheng enquired about the definition of “material changes” to certain critical computer systems (“CCSs”). Ms Gladys Ng advised that CI operators should make reference to Annex D of the Generic Code of Practice (“CoP”) issued by the Commissioner.

14. Ms Shelley Ng said that telecommunications operators might not possess the relevant competence and qualifications to comply with the new obligations under the law and the CoP. The Chairman replied that those statutory obligations under the new law would only apply to designated CI operators, who were typically large organizations rather than small and medium-sized enterprises.

15. Mr Patrick Ng enquired about the timeframe for designating CI operators and the preparation time prior to the designation. Ms Gladys Ng replied that consistent with the Commissioner’s schedule, CA would target to complete the first phase of designation by the first half of 2026. Mr Desmond Young added that reasonable time would be afforded to the potential CI operators for preparation prior to official designation.

16. Ms Sarah Hui enquired about the incident reporting requirements regarding service outages and computer-system security attacks. Ms Gladys Ng said that the relevant reporting requirements were already stipulated in the CoP. In general, CI operators would be required to report service outages to OFCA as per the existing practice, and to report computer-system security incidents directly to the Commissioner under the new law. Ms Sarah Hui asked about OFCA’s role on the computer-system security incident reporting obligation. Mr Desmond Young said that the Commissioner was wholly responsible for overseeing and regulating compliance on computer-system security incident reporting obligation for

all eight sectors, including the telecommunications and broadcasting services sector under the purview of CA.

17. Mr Ben Li asked if data centres were under the purview of CA pursuant to the new law. The Chairman replied that CA was responsible for regulating CI operators in the telecommunications and broadcasting services sector, whereas data centres would fall under the purview of the Commissioner.

18. Mr Felix Kan enquired whether a CI operator should report a computer-system security incident according to Annex E of the CoP when being aware of a machine being attacked with phishing, spoofing techniques, etc. Mr Desmond Young replied that if the machine concerned was a CCS and essential services were disrupted by a cybersecurity attack, the CI operator concerned was required to report the incident to the Commissioner.

Item 5 Licensing Arrangement for Provision of Broadband Access Services via Satellites (TRAAC Paper No. 3/2026)

19. The Chairman invited Mr Roger Chan and Mr Penny Lo to brief Members on licensing arrangement for provision of broadband access services via satellites.

20. Mr Ricky Siu enquired whether a holder of Unified Carrier Licence (“UCL”) was required to hold a Space Station Carrier Licence (“SSCL”) for establishing a new earth station in Hong Kong. Mr Ken Sit said that a UCL would be required to establish an earth station for provision of public telecommunications services in Hong Kong, whereas a SSCL would be required for setting up an earth station in Hong Kong for telemetry, tracking and control of a satellite in orbit (“TT&C function”). The Chairman said that the holder of the UCL was required to follow the existing procedures to submit technical particulars, such as the frequencies to be used, of earth stations to CA for assessment and approval.

21. Mr Francis Fong asked whether Starlink’s satellite services could be used in Hong Kong. The Chairman said that Starlink satellite services were not available in Hong Kong. However, other direct-to-device satellite services, such as Tiantong satellite service offered by

MNOs, were available in Hong Kong.

Item 6 Any Other Business

22. The Chairman advised that the next TRAAC meeting would tentatively be held in third quarter of 2026. Members would be informed of the meeting arrangement nearer the time.

23. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

**Office of the Communications Authority
February 2026**