



## **Submission to the Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting**

### **Proposal to Establish the Innovation and Technology Bureau**

**Nicholas Brooke, Chairman, Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation**

I write in support of the Proposal to establish the Innovation and Technology Bureau to be responsible for the formulation of policies and promotion of the development of innovation and technologies in Hong Kong and the coordination of the relevant initiatives within Government.

As a member of the Board of Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, and the Chairman for the last six years, I have direct knowledge of how such a Bureau could provide leadership in our continued efforts to consolidate Hong Kong's position as a regional centre in innovation and the development of a range of technologies which will underpin our ongoing competitiveness.

Innovation is fundamental to economic growth and is equally relevant across all aspects of the economy. Similarly, technology (i.e. the development of new approaches/processes) helps to deliver innovative and creative ideas. However, for each to flourish there needs to be clear policy support to building and maintaining the appropriate ecosystem from applied research and R&D to the hard and soft infrastructure to support commercialisation to all levels of funding to pilot and testing schemes to the necessary interface and interaction with industry.

I believe the existence of a champion in the form of the new Bureau will foster a more innovative and creative business environment and provide strategic leadership to a sector the importance of which is not broadly understood.



Working with Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and the Innovation and Technology Commission considerable progress has been made in developing various elements of the ecosystem but it will need far greater focus and commitment on the part of Government to reach the next stage. The world of innovation and technological change is fast moving and Hong Kong needs to be in a position not only to react but proactively to seize opportunities where we clearly have particular strengths and advantages. It is important that this need is understood at the highest level of Government and given the priority necessary to secure timely decisions and outcomes and the allocation of relevant resources.

It is for the above reasons that I strongly support the Proposal to establish the Innovation and Technology Bureau.

*Nicholas Brooke*

---

Nicholas Brooke  
Chairman

*2nd May, 2014.*

---

Date