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IT Sector Petition for Immediate Establishment of Innovation and Technology Bureau

Innovation and technology are the keys to sustainable and diversified economic development, and essential in enhancing Hong Kong's competitiveness as a knowledge-based economy, as well as improving people's livelihood and benefiting our society as a whole. Our neighboring economies highly value the innovation and technology development by formulating comprehensive and long-term strategy, and setting up designated departments to facilitate implementations. Establishing the new Bureau not only helps to promote local research & development, but also brings about more career opportunities to our next generation.

Until now, we have achieved 43 IT organizations and about 700 practitioners joining our petition, showing collective consensus among the sector over the need for the establishment of Innovation and Technology Bureau.

Hon Mok believes if the establishment of the bureau will continually be postponed, it will give publics, overseas investors and local sectors a negative impression: Hong Kong is not concerned about innovation and technology development. It will definitely affect the development of the sector and the youth.

Some sector representatives also wonder that Hong Kong will lag behind our neighboring competitors, such as Singapore and Korean, unless there is advance action by Hong Kong Government. Hon Mok wishes to show the expectation of the sector to Hong Kong Government and Chief Executive, and urge the support of all Legislative Council members.

List of supporting organizations (In alphabetical order)

1. AAMA Pearl River Delta Chapter (AAMA PRD)
2. Asia Cloud Computing Association
3. Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong (BPF)
4. Chamber of Hong Kong Computer Industry (CHKCI)
5. Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK)
6. Data Center Professional Association (DCPA)
7. DotAsia Organisation
8. e-Learning Consortium (eLC)
9. GS1 Hong Kong



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10. HKCSS Information Technology Resource Centre (ITRC)
11. Hong Kong Association of Interactive Marketing (HKAIM)
12. Hong Kong Civic Association (HKCA)
13. Hong Kong Computer Association (HKCA)
14. Hong Kong Computer Society (HKCS)
15. Hong Kong Consumer Electronics Alliance (HKCEA)
16. Hong Kong Electronics & Technologies Association (HKETA)
17. Hong Kong Game Industry Association (HKGIA)
18. Hong Kong Information Technology Federation (HKITF)
19. Hong Kong Innovative Technology Preferred (HKITP)
20. Hong Kong Institution of Engineers Information Technology Division (HKIE-ITD)
21. Hong Kong Internet Service Providers Association (HKISPA)
22. Hong Kong Management Association IT Management Club
23. Hong Kong Retail Technology Industry Association (RTIA)
24. Hong Kong Society of Medical Informatics (HKSMI)
25. Hong Kong Wireless Technology Industry Association (WTIA)
26. IEEE Hong Kong Section Computer Society Chapter (IEEE HK Comp)
27. Innovation and Technology Association (ITA)
28. Institute of Systematic Innovation, Hong Kong
29. International Federation of Creativity and Technology (IFOCAT)
30. Internet Society Hong Kong (ISOC HK)
31. Invotech
32. IT Service Management Forum (itSMF) Hong Kong Chapter
33. IT Voice
34. Open Computing Alliance
35. Open Data Hong Kong (ODHK)
36. Open Source Hong Kong (OSHK)
37. Professional Commons
38. Professional Information Security Association (PISA)
39. Project Management Institute Hong Kong Chapter (PMI HK)
40. Society of Hong Kong External Telecommunications Services Providers (HKETS)
41. Technology Incubation Network (TIN)



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- 42. Valkyrie-X Security Research Group
- 43. VTC IT Alumni Association

Individual List :

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/tech-bureau-now>

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/supportITBnoFilibusterPress>



創科局宜兼顧科研及資訊科技

2014.2.24 刊於信報

政府正着手成立「創新及科技局」，不少人關注它的架構和政策範疇為何、工作優先次序、由誰領導、新政策局能否真的提升商界投資研發、促進技術轉移、培育人才和創業文化？

當前發展趨勢是「創新經濟」，下一波經濟發展將以知識和科技推動。無可置疑，香港須要提升技術研發和創新能力，強化學術研究與產業接軌。區內的新加坡、南韓、台灣、日本等地均積極提升科技研發地位，通過高層次部門進行規劃，並視之為國策執行。政府成立創新及科技局，應就人才發展、科研規劃及鼓勵企業投入研發等各方面提出政策。在籌備創新及科技局的同時，不妨參考其他地區的經驗。

【新加坡經驗】新加坡政府九十年代初成立國家科技局，以政策促進科技產業化發展，並開始實施第一個「國家科技五年計劃」，集中國家資源引進國際資源，培育人才，以配合經濟多元化及發展知識經濟，至今成績斐然。1999年該局改組為新加坡科技研究局，加強整合和支持科研、人才和產業；2006年新加坡國家研究基金會（NRF）成立，直屬新加坡總理辦公室，管理50億坡元的新加坡國家研究基金，支持科研、創新和企業發展。

【台灣經驗】台灣早於1959年設立國家長期發展科學委員會，至1967年更名為行政院國家科學委員會（國科會）。國科會是推動科學技術發展的最高專責機構，推動全國整體科技發展。台灣當局剛通過改組，將在本年3月把國科會正式升格為科技部，掌管科技發展政策、推動重大科技研發計劃、支持學術研究及前瞻技術研發等。

【南韓經驗】南韓政府早就有專責科技發展的高層次部門。2001年將「韓國科技評估及計劃研究院」職能擴大，協助制訂國家科技政策。掌管科技的部門隨2013年新政府上場已易名為「科學、資訊及通訊科技及未來規劃部」，把以往兼顧工業貿易的部門分拆重組，以提升創新能力為目標，2014年部門預算增至120億美元，更有法例規定南韓政府必須每五年為科技界制訂基本計劃。

【日本經驗】2013年6月，日本內閣會議通過《科學技術創新綜合戰略》作為創新科技發展的藍圖，視科技創新為日本經濟再生的引擎，勾劃出未來社會經濟



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發展的應有面貌和科技創新需解決的挑戰。日本政府將強化綜合科學技術會議的指揮作用，日本國會亦在 2013 年 12 月通過旨在提高產業競爭力、促進企業投資和技術開發的「產業競爭力強化法案」。

以上例子說明科技政策均由上而下制訂和推動。據報道，香港政府傾向把創新科技署和政府資訊科技總監辦公室納入創新及科技局。政府資訊科技總監辦公室的工作涵蓋產業促進、政府資訊科技策略、營運和項目管理等，而創新科技署主要管理各項資助計劃、研發中心和科技基建等。政府應說服社會，成立創新及科技局不只是將創新科技署「局署合一」，而該局的使命、工作計劃和架構須反映政府有心預留足夠人力和資源推動高層次、跨界別、中長期的科技政策規劃。其實，通訊及廣播事務亦與科技應用和發展息息相關，例如無線電頻譜管理政策便關係到新一代無線網絡科技應用。通訊局雖屬於監管機構，但關乎法規制度，故將之納入創新及科技局亦有道理。

除了支援應用研究及科技轉移外，政府也不應忽視資訊及通訊科技。政府資訊科技總監辦公室負責多項重要工作，推動政府和社會應用資訊科技、促進業界發展等，如何透過新政策局與其他政策局協調，以落實 2014 年「數碼 21 策略」提出的願景便十分值得探討。科研和資訊科技互通互補，方有望成為香港未來經濟成長的「雙引擎」，增進創新和競爭力。

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創科局欲辦實事 棄官僚交貨思維

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<http://www.hket.com/eti/article/8e9b543c-e58c-474d-881d-e63f1d714f24-874054>

業界努力游說社會支持的「創新及科技局」終於有機會成真。

創新及科技局任重道遠，我們希望為香港經濟注入動力，改善生活質素，為年輕人開拓出路。這只是漫長工作的開始，因為推動科技產業不是改個名字、調動一下架構便大功告成。

須有執行力 莫「雷聲大雨點小」

政府要成功得到立法會各黨派支持，交甚麼功課才最重要。若政府在毫無執行細節之下就期望立法會齊心支持，亦未免妙想天開。所以與其說「成功爭取」，倒不如思考如何令創新及科技局達到其目標，而不是枉花公帑和人力資源。

政府高調推動科技業已非首次，但雷聲大雨點小。政府過去十多年多次推動科技產業，然而至今本港經濟繼續由傳統行業支撐。董建華年代提出發展知識型經濟，成立創新科技委員會，1998年起設立創新科技署，並投資科研基建；事實證明，今日不少對業界有用的措施和計劃，都在「資訊科技及廣播局」時期奠定。曾蔭權政府則重新包裝，推動包括創新科技的所謂六大優勢產業，錢用了不少，但未見實際成效。

創新及科技局只是方法，不是最終目標。謹藉本文提出我對創新及科技局的三個期望、兩個關注和一個要求。

三個期望：規劃制度化、突破官僚思維、促進跨界別創新

「執位」、「重新洗牌」並不足夠，重要的是以甚麼思維推動科技。我們需要一個從大局着眼、有執行力的政策局，而不是另一個官僚架構。

效星日韓台 設中長期規劃機制



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有人覺得設立創新及科技局只為業界利益，又有人認為現屆政府能力低下，對新政策局成效存疑。我理解這些看法，推動科技短期未必看到成果，亦不及派福利吸引。不過，全球向創新經濟方向競爭，香港沒有條件浪費時間，亦不宜因短期的政治考慮而卻步。

新加坡、日、韓、台等地都展開國家級的科技業規劃，並設中長期規劃機制，規定政府需定期評估未來需求，制定科技產業政策，並撥出資源執行。希望未來政府能商界、學者等參與規劃，將政府資訊科技總監辦公室制定的「數碼 21 策略」升格，有系統地探索香港科技業與其他範疇的合作，創造更多機會。

衡工量值計績效 難鼓勵科研

過往不少從事科研人士反映，政府雖然撥出資源，但資助制度煩瑣僵化，事事以行政和會計考慮為先。政府制定科技政策時，應加強靈活性讓研究人員靈活運用資源，重視跨界別創新，除推動技術研發亦不要忽視資訊及通訊科技，善用雲端運算、物聯網等的科技，助業界拓展本地和海外市場，創造就業和社會效益。

兩個關注：評估績效、維護網絡自由

過往不少推動科技產業的計劃分散不同部門執行，加上官僚「交貨思維」，結果空說推動科技，但卻不肯承擔長遠投資的風險，例如應用研究基金成立幾年便因為項目無法回本而被開刀。審計署主要以衡工量值方式量度績效，未必完全適合科研工作性質。希望政府衡量產業政策時能增加更多指標，定期檢討科技政策。

另外，新政策局亦不可以任何方式影響網絡表達自由。今次施政報告中較少人提及的一項新措施是警隊的科技罪案組將升格為「網絡安全及科技罪案調查科」。我關注政府會否藉預防罪案為名監控網絡，這點必須多加留意，斷不能為資訊安全而藉故打壓網上言論。

一個要求：局長不能只找梁粉

對於局長人選，我只有一個要求，就是由一位有長遠目光、熟悉科技的業界人士出任，有能力調動資源，協調現有的相關政府部門，並得業界廣泛認同，可以與大學及研究機構合作。當然絕對不能只找「梁粉」出任。



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今次政府願意成立創新及科技局發展科技產業，至少方向正確，但我希望政府今次落實重視科技，盡快制定具前瞻性的產業政策，並改善僵化煩瑣的執行和評估績效，靈活地推動科學、技術和創新，為香港經濟、社會和下一代發展創造效益。

雖然我們擔憂特首空有願景但力有不逮，但香港總不能繼續空等，競爭力不斷下降。若然擔心是否做得到，惟有多加監察和鞭策，幫助香港把握創新及資訊科技帶來的機遇。

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創新科技須勇往直前

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香港的創新之路

創新及科技局的政府文件即將提交立法會，梁振英一直隻字未提科技局的願景和策略，但每每對外稱希望建議能夠在立法會『順風順水』。若以航海冒險來比喻特區政府發展創新和科技的過程，香港的『創新及科技號』十幾年前已經決定尋找寶藏，但下海之後幾年海面風高浪急，其後為求安穩，少有冒險勇進。到了今天，我們的創新和科技產業尚在海上漂浮打轉。

政府即將換上新的船長重新起航，但我擔心若船長出海前方向未明，繼續因循舊航道，或者『只見大陸，不見全球』，香港的創新及科技產業不知何時才可追上全速發展創新經濟的地區。

我曾經多次撰文提倡制訂長遠的科技產業政策，適逢政府與財政預算案提出多項科技相關措施，本文參考其他國家政府對創新的視野，制訂、推動和量度創新的方式，以及提出本港可借鑒之處。

創新：不斷演變的概念

一直以來創新多數指將發明本身商品化，或將研究成果或創意轉為產品或服務。環視全球，各地政府都有定義創新定義和制訂可量度的指標，進行系統化的『創新審核』(Innovation Audit)，將創新表現化成可衡量和追蹤的指標，監察政府投入在創新方面所創造的效益。

歐盟委員會自 2000 年起量度有關 27 個歐盟國家的研究和創新表現，以及各國制度的相對優劣。最近公佈的 2014 年《歐盟創新計分牌》報告(Innovation Union Scoreboard indicators) 以 25 項指標評價各成員國的表現。指標分為三大類：驅動因素、企業活動和產出。指標共涵蓋八個範圍：人力資源、開放和吸引的研究體系、財務資源和資源、企業投資、串連與創業活動、知識產權、創新、經濟效果。

香港有關研發的統計數字主要來自政府統計署定期進行的《香港創新活動統計》，當中包括工商界、高等教育界和公營機構進行的技術創新和非技術創新活動的資料。創新及科技局成立後，是否應該檢視現有的統計，和研究一套更全面的創新活動指標？整合和追蹤創新活動各環節的進展之餘，也方便和外國進行比較。



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全球趨勢：重視非技術創新

不少科技界朋友殷殷企盼創新及科技局能打破困局，開創新景象。觀察所得，政府成立的新政策局傾向從經濟、技術、科研、產業的角度看待創新活動。但值得留意創新不能局限於科技，而應該是推動全社會發展。提高創新和競爭力的關鍵，還有非技術層面的創新。

各國經濟體系的創新活動已經不再只集中於科技和技術，逐漸注重社會創新和以更開放的方式進行、注重創新方向多於速度的『需求方創新』。根據《奧斯陸手冊》，技術性創新包括產品與服務的創新、流程與製作過程的創新，而非技術性創新則包括組織創新和營銷創新。經濟合作與發展組織(OECD)於2011年出版《需求方創新政策》，則將需求方創新政策分為六類：政府採購、法規、標準、消費者政策、用戶導向型創新計劃和領先市場的行動計劃。

歐盟各國對於創新的官方定義各有不同，而對創新的理解直接影響政府的政策和措施。例如歐盟在的創新方面的領先地區如丹麥、芬蘭、德國和瑞典，政策近年從注重科技改變為重視政府、公共領域和社會創新活動。

丹麥政府正在公共採購領域大力推動創新，頒發政策規則，促使公共部門節省開支和購買更多環保產品。芬蘭的十大創新策略中包括以『提高創新解決方案需求』為指導制定公共採購的原則和慣例等。流動電視風波已經揭示電訊條例和廣播條例的落伍過時。政府的角色除了資助技術研發，更重要是認真檢討一些明顯地落後的法例和引入獎勵創造社會效益的創新政策，而不是在法例局限創新的時候辯說法例『有前瞻性』。

創新及科技局的視野

在香港，政府投資科技基建、資助大學和研發中心、資助各種研發項目、促進大學與產業合作等，但自從成立創新及科技基金和不同的研發中心，政府較少檢討政府介入產業研發創新活動的原則、效益。至於政策是否達到產業發展的目的，亦沒有一套完整的指標能夠展示和追蹤成果。缺乏恆常的創新政策研究和調查，靠多年才檢討資助計劃小修小補，在科技發展迅速的環境下，難以支持制訂和改良政策。

創新及科技局應促進多元化、跨行業和非技術層面的創新，為香港各項各業注入創新的文化，而不是只用硬件和資金繼續過去十幾年的模式。政府在鼓勵創業的



莫乃光 Charles Mok
立法會議員 (資訊科技界)
Legislative Council Member
Information Technology Functional Constituency



同時，不妨亦借鑒成功企業為服務和產品不斷進行測試，透過有系統的方式偵測錯誤，重視反饋和全面量度成效，累計經驗並加快改良政策措施的週期。

撰文:莫乃光 立法會（資訊科技界）議員

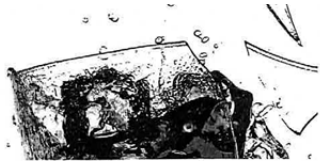


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Legislative Council Member

Information Technology Functional Constituency



Chris Yeung
The return of 23?



Diplomat
Woman, nation:
transformed.
South Africa's 20th
Freedom Day

港報 Harbour Times

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INSIDE HONG KONG POLITICS, GOVERNMENT
AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
在香港政治政府及國際關係前沿

The time for the ITB is now Charles Mok defends the government's decision to create an Innovation and Technology Bureau as a move long overdue.

The government has presented a proposal of establishing the Innovation and Technology Bureau (ITB). Do we really need an ITB?

LegCo member contribution

CHARLES MOK 莫乃光

First of all, let's ask ourselves, are we satisfied with the state of our economy and its outlook in the long run?

In LegCo debates, most of the members speak in support of promoting innovation and technology industries as a means to make Hong Kong's economy more balanced and less reliant on the so-called '4 pillar industries'. Over the years, the government has introduced numerous funding schemes and technology infrastructure projects to boost the technology sector. Yet today our economic structure has hardly changed and the innovation and technology industry still remains nascent (generating only 0.7% of GDP in 2012, with no increase in the past 4 years at all).

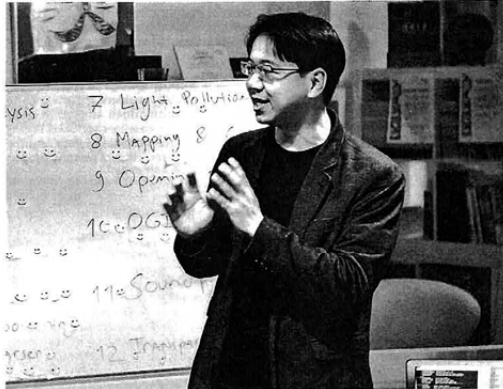
Our neighbouring economies have grasped the opportunity of the technology-driven economy to generate growth and transform, thanks to having top-level organisation that focuses on strategy and policy-making, as well as ensuring the follow-through is done properly.

Our neighbouring economies have grasped the opportunity of the technology-driven economy to generate growth and transform, thanks to having top-level organisation

Singapore has a National Research Foundation directly reporting to the Prime Minister's Office and a research board, A*STAR, that executes policies. Taiwan has established a board to oversee technology and scientific development since 1960s and has recently upgraded it to ministry level. South Korea's Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning devises national strategy for technology development and is mandated to review and upgrade its strategy every 5 years.

In Hong Kong, technology is only one of the policy areas under one of the branches of a policy bureau. The CEDB simply has too much on its plate to give technology the attention that matches its importance.

Even since the replacement of the Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau in 1998, and subsequently the Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) in 2007, the information technology (IT) sector has been calling for the establishment of a technology bureau responsible for policy issues on IT, inno-



MOK SAYS LET THE ITB RISE. Long time campaigner for an Innovation and Technology Bureau encourages his colleagues to get on board the ITB train. Photo: Vaughn Hew

vation and technology, and broadcasting. The existing Communications and Technology Branch of the CEDB handles a whole range of heavy-weight policies such as telecommunications, broadcasting and creative industry, not to mention the SCED already needs to take care of commerce, industry and tourism. What we need is someone to be accountable, to look at the big picture, to work with different departments together and to be the champion of technology at the top level. Under the current structure, this initiative has to compete with loads of other equally important policies, and I would argue that insufficient attention results in slow implementation and lack of priority.

Part of the underlying reasons why we lag behind has to do with our manpower and education policy, our society's culture and other systemic factors. I am not saying that having a Secretary and a bureau will change everything; but taking a first step is what we need right now to make progress.

What we need is someone to be accountable

The government's current proposal is relatively modest compared to the 2012 re-organisation proposal, which included the Technology and Communications Bureau. The government now suggests adding 8 new posts and reshuffling 26 existing posts from CEDB, Innovation and Technology Commission and Office of the Government Chief Information Officer. The ITB will cost over \$32 million in its first year. I have previously proposed including the OFCA as part

of ITB after the amendment of the Telecommunications Ordinance and Broadcasting Ordinance, and I still think it is best to put these policy areas under the same roof.

Investment in innovation and technology must be long term and persistent

One might think it is this new bureau just going to do more of the same from the past. Many doubt what the new ITB can actually achieve. But the crucial thing is, do we want to let the current CEDB continue to waste our time and effort or take advantage of the government's initiative to turn technology into a boost for our economy, a medium to improve standard of living for citizens, and most importantly, and better jobs for our young people. I choose the latter.

Colleagues in the LegCo often talk about the lack of upward mobility or types of jobs for young people. We debate this over and over again. Hong Kong cannot only rely on the graces of the Mainland government to survive and must look to the next wave of 'innovative economy'.

From a pragmatic point of view, investment in innovation and technology must be long term and persistent. What society gets with the new ITB is a confirmation that our government is willing to take technology seriously, a Secretary to be charged with making progress, and a chance to get something done properly. Let us focus on making sure how this bureau will meet the needs of the industry as well as public expectation, instead of treating it with suspicion.

Drone Zone: Regulating drones



Pierre Andrieu/AFP

Drones are already in the skies above Hong Kong. The city is quietly becoming a global centre of drone related companies. When the drone wave explodes, Harbour Times asks if Hong Kong will kill or create with legislation.

Leader

CALVIN LAM 林焯權

A century after Wright brothers made a successful attempt to fly the first powered airplane in 1903, flying machines have come to another watershed. Unmanned Aircraft Vehicles (UAVs), also known as drones, could bring us immense benefits, if only we can regulate them properly.

A prompt response by the Hong Kong government will stem future conflicts and shape our city as a hub for UAV development.

They fly among us

Already we are spotting UAVs over the Hong Kong metropolitan area (IIT spotted one in Central close to PLA headquarters) and we will be seeing more. The uses of UAVs for aerial photography and film-shooting are on the rise. Richard Kimber, an aerial cinematographer based in Hong Kong says: "the big benefit of the drones is we can take it anywhere [...] it is much more affordable than hiring a helicopter which you might only have one or two hours. So it gives you more flexibility to get exactly what you want, knowing that you can take off and land from pretty much anywhere." Some countries have also used UAVs for security purposes, including Israel. Mr Eric Fruitman, a Herwin New Energy executive specialising in lithium polymer energy technology for UAV operators, says the UAVs "save them [Israeli gov-

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