

22 March 2017

Mr. Gregory So, GBS, JP
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau
21/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar
Hong Kong

Mr. Ambrose Ho Chairman, Communications Authority Office of the Communications Authority 29/F, Wu Chung House 213 Queen's Road East Wanchai Hong Kong

Dear Mr. So and Mr. Ho,

## Concerns regarding Mobile Spectrum and Services of Hong Kong (Second Consultation Paper)

Based on the World Bank's update, in average, each Hong Kong citizen has over 2 phones. The data implied the fact that our customers and employees are relying on mobile services for business and for personal activities. Our company, as a corporate user of mobile services in Hong Kong, is transforming our business models and deploying more mobile solutions in our communications and operations. Mobile services and solutions are now critical to our company's operations. As such, we seriously count on access to reasonably priced and effective mobile telecommunications services to increase our productivity and drive our competitiveness. We, therefore, read with great concern the open letters and white papers which HKT has sent to the HKSAR Government since December 2016. In the Second Consultation Paper published in February 2017, we understand that the HKSAR Government offers additional options for public's comments.

Our company is particularly concerned that:

• The Government has not released enough spectrum to enable the development of advanced mobile telecommunications services and solutions, such as 5G and Internet of Things (IoT). This will have a devastating effect on consumers and businesses.

Having access to fast, state-of-the-art mobile services and solutions is extremely important for consumers and for enterprises in Hong Kong. In addition, we believe the availability of more spectrums can encourage creative entrepreneurs and technology gurus to leverage such platforms for exciting technology development. We are positive that we can take advantage of these developments in our businesses and/or operations. Given other countries are far ahead of Hong Kong in terms of making more spectrum available for mobile services development, we would here urge the HKSAR Government to find ways of releasing more spectrum to mobile operators immediately.

• We will be paying higher prices for mobile services in the future if the HKSAR Government increases spectrum charges when the spectrum currently used by the mobile operators is re-assigned in 2020/2021.

Higher mobile prices will increase our operating expenses, making us less competitive locally and across the region. Furthermore, we understand that the spectrum charges proposed by the HKSAR Government are much higher than the charges levied by governments in other countries. We believe the extra revenues received by the HKSAR Government are not going to be re-allocated and directly benefit the local business community immediately. In view of the volatility of local and global economy, we believe any financial resources should be managed cautiously and stay within the business community. We would urge the HKSAR Government not to increase the spectrum charges.

Certainly, your policies will have a significant impact on us as local investors, local employers and local businesses. Our company would be grateful if you, as the leaders of the HKSAR Government, can seriously take into account our views as you formulate the plans regarding the forthcoming spectrum re-assignment exercise and the release of future spectrum.

Thank you for your kind attention. We look forward to your positive response.

Yours sincerely,

Vera Chang

Operation Manager