

HKTV Responds to Free TV Program Service Licence

(Hong Kong , 16th October 2013) Hong Kong Television Network Limited (“HKTV”) today responds to the Government’s announcement of Free TV Program Service Licence yesterday.

HKTV submitted its application on 31 December 2009, putting our trust on the Government and the system, as well as being treated on fair, open and transparent basis. During these 3 years and 10 months, we have been devoted fully to create and produce a variety of programs, determined to reform the local TV market. Up to 28 February 2013, HKTV has invested around HK\$200 million on programs production and HK\$206 million on operating expenses, as well as HK\$520 million on capital expenditure for the construction of Multimedia Production Centre in Tseung Kwan O, purchases of movie-grade equipment and office properties. Until now, we have completed the shooting of 200 hours’ drama, 100 hours’ variety and infotainment programs, and 800 hours purchased contents.

We established HKTV with the aim to bring Hong Kong people happiness, and to offer more choices on entertainment programs, as well as rejuvenating the local creativity industry.

It has be a shocking news to us that the Government rejected the application from HKTV. We are absolutely disappointed about this unreasonable decision. According to the proposals submitted by the three applicants, HKTV meets all requirements including financial capability and commitment, program investment, program strategy, production capability and technical standard, and is most capable among the three applicants. Up to now, we are still not informed about the reasons for the application being rejected. Besides, HKTV and all the Hong Kong people are not informed on the change of policy from “no limit on the number of licence” to “beauty contest” and the evaluation criteria. All were done under no transparency.

Currently, HKTV has about 500 talents. Facing business and operation challenges, we have to retain our competitiveness. We will layoff around 320 talents who do not

have time-bounded contracts and will maintain part of our creative and production talents. In future, HKTV will persist to strike for the betterment of local creative industry.

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For more information of HKTV, please visit : www.hktv.com.hk.

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