



Information Note on the Advisory Committee on
Code of Practice
for Recognized Certification Authorities

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The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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Introduction

1. The information contained in this information note does not form part of the Code of Practice for Recognized Certification Authorities and it is not intended to affect your rights and obligations. It is not intended to be relied upon as a statement of the legal position and you should consult your legal adviser before acting upon the information.
2. The Director of Information Technology Services (the Director) may from time to time amend the Code of Practice for Recognized Certification Authorities (Code of Practice) issued under section 33 of the Electronic Transactions Ordinance (Cap. 553) (the Ordinance). The Director may consult the industry, including certification authorities (CA) recognized under sections 21 and 34 of the Ordinance, in respect of the amendments to be made to the Code of Practice. The primary channel of consultation with the industry will be through the Advisory Committee on Code of Practice for Recognized Certification Authorities (the Advisory Committee) that will be set up and chaired by the Director. The terms of reference and membership of the Advisory Committee are set out in the following paragraphs.

Terms of Reference

3. The terms of reference of the Advisory Committee are as follows -

To advise the Director of Information Technology Services on matters relating to the Code of Practice for Recognized Certification Authorities issued under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance (Cap. 553), in particular in respect of –

- (a) the review of the principles, technical standards and procedures set out in the Code of Practice for the operation of recognized CAs to take account of operational experience as well as technological and other relevant developments;
- (b) the consideration of amendments to the Code of Practice in the light of the outcome of the review referred to in (a) above and the related consultation arrangements; and
- (c) any other matters which are conducive to improving the operation of the voluntary recognition scheme for CAs in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Membership

4. The membership of the Advisory Committee is as follows –

Chairman

Director of Information Technology Services

Members

A Legislative Councillor

Selected representative(s) of recognized certification authorities

Selected representative(s) of business users of certification services

Selected representative(s) from the related professions (e.g. information technology, legal, accounting, etc.)

Selected representative(s) from academic institutions

Selected representative(s) from other related bodies

Representative of Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau