Hong Kong's Growth Strategy in the Information Age

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The Information World of Tomorrow

- Expansion of cyber space

- Global connectivity by digital networks

- Convergence of media

Expansion of Cyber Space

- 100 million people world-wide are using the Internet today. More and more will join this connected community.

- Phenomenal growth predicted for sales on the Internet.

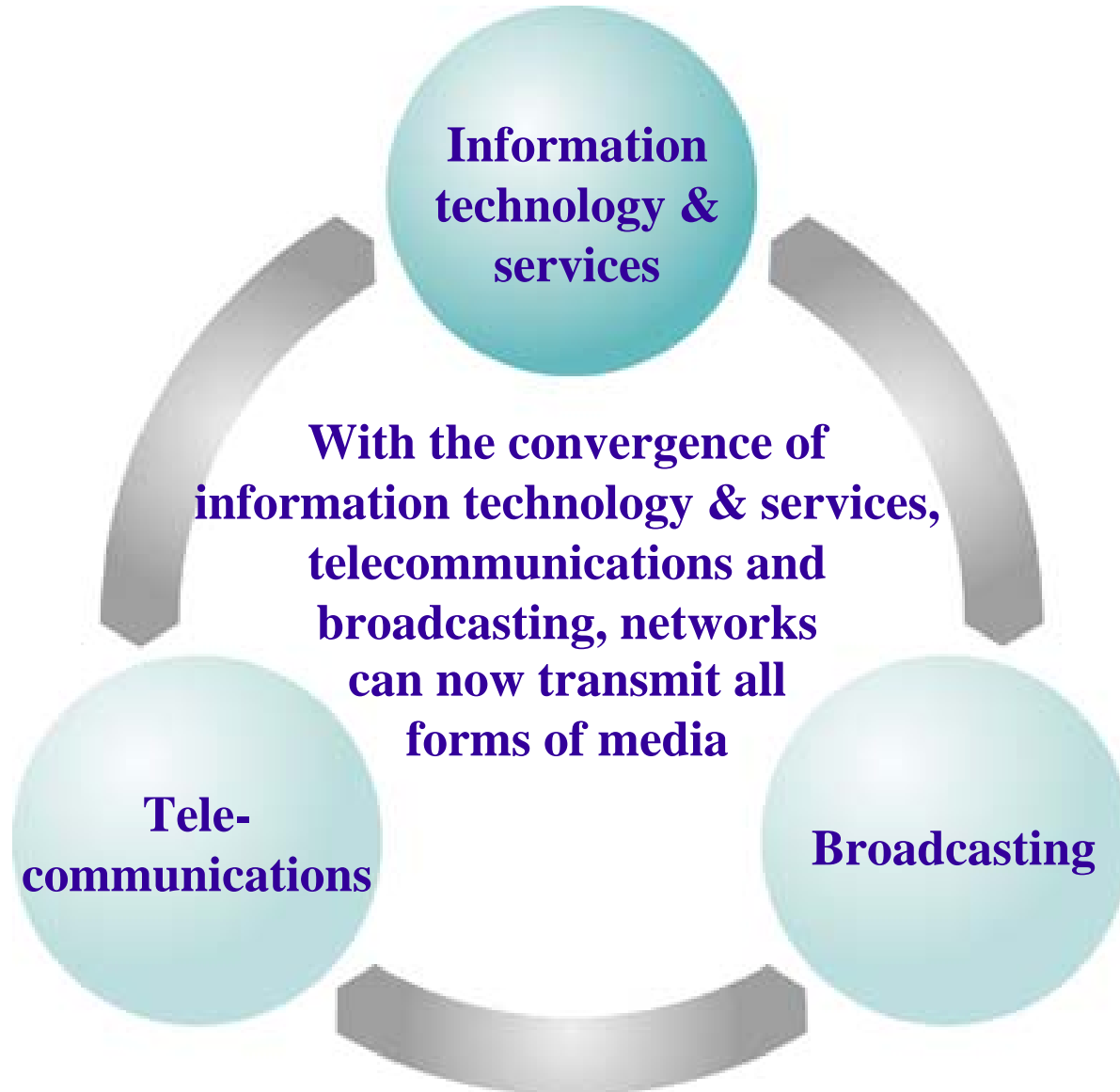- Traffic on the Internet has been doubling every 100 days.

Global Connectivity by Digital Networks

- High-speed connections regardless of geographical distance and time difference

- Global competition as well as cooperation

- New markets and business opportunities

Convergence of Media

Information technology & services

With the convergence of information technology & services, telecommunications and broadcasting, networks can now transmit all forms of media

Tele-communications

Broadcasting

Hong Kong Today

Telecommunications

- Over 388,000 km of optical fibre

- 108 residential lines per 100 households

- 38% mobile phone penetration

- 43% households within broadband network coverage

Hong Kong Today

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IT Usage

- 640 000 Internet subscription accounts

- 12 Internet users per 100 people

- 34% PC home penetration

Hong Kong's Advantages

- Language : bilingual capability

- Institutional arrangement : free economy

- Culture : metropolitan

HKSAR Chief Executive's Vision

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"To make Hong Kong a leader, not a follower, in the information world of tomorrow..."

1997 Policy Address

"IT to help us to retain our competitive edge and to drive our overall economic expansion..."

1998 Policy Address

Action Agenda
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- Connectivity and access

- Promotion of electronic commerce

- Investment in human capital

- Development of the local IT industry

Connectivity and Access

- Progressively liberalise the telecommunications market

- Optimise use of telecommunications and cable TV networks

- Strengthen competition safeguards

- Construct a world-class teleport

Promotion of Electronic Commerce

- Introduce Electronic Service Delivery for government services

- Establishment of certification authorities

- Legal framework to facilitate e-commerce

- Information and e-commerce gateway to the Mainland of China

Investment in Human Capital

- 5-year strategy on IT in education

- Network infrastructure for the sharing of information among schools, teachers, students and parents

- Strengthen IT manpower planning and development

Development of Local IT Industry

- Outsourcing of government IT projects

- Support facilities for IT industry

- Promote IT investment

- Technology collaboration between industry and academia

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