Chairman's Statement
主席報告

Chairman　主席

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Empowering Secure and Inclusive Digital Future for Hong Kong
Driving Innovation and Cybersecurity in Digital Landscape
賦能香港數字未來，致力推動安全共融；
引領創新網絡安全，雕琢香港創科藍圖。

Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation (HKIRC) is dedicated to establishing Hong Kong as a leader in internet inclusivity, security, and innovation, positioning as a world-class technology hub. The elevation of awareness regarding internet usage is placed at the core of our mission. In response to the rapidly evolving digital landscape, we have adopted a proactive approach, implementing a multifaceted array of strategies to tackle emerging challenges and seize new opportunities. We recognise that digital transformation and advancements in internet technology are vital for sustaining competitiveness in the digital marketplace and driving economic growth. HKIRC is committed to empowering SMEs to cultivate their digital identities, highlighting the unique narrative of Hong Kong while enhancing its global brand presence. We prioritise our efforts on providing a robust internet ecosystem and driving continuous improvements to ensure stability and reliability of ".hk" domain.

In our pursuit of excellence, HKIRC acts as a pivotal role in enhancing Hong Kong's position as a global digital hub. We actively participate in esteemed international conferences, such as ICANN and APTLD, enables us to exchange invaluable insights with international stakeholders, and enhance our capabilities. These engagements reaffirm our commitment to fostering a secure and innovative digital environment, allowing us to forge robust connections with other domain management authorities and elevate the visibility of the ".hk" domain name on the global stage.

香港互聯網註冊管理有限公司（HKIRC）致力將香港塑造成互聯網中具包容性、安全及創新的推動者，進一步鞏固其作為世界級創科樞紐的地位。我們的核心使命在於提升全港市民對互聯網普及應用的認知。面對瞬息萬變的數字環境，我們採取積極主動的策略，透過深化措施以應對新興挑戰，並從中把握機遇。我們深知，數碼轉型與互聯網技術的進步，對於維持在數碼市場的競爭力及推動經濟增長至關重要。HKIRC 矢志助力中小企業打造其數碼身份，讓他們說好每個獨特的香港故事，同時提升其全球品牌形象。我們將聚焦在構建全面的互聯網生態的工作上，並持續改善「.hk」域名服務的穩定性與可靠性。

HKIRC 在提升香港作為全球數碼樞紐的地位中扮演關鍵角色，我們積極參與如 ICANN 和 APTLD 等享有盛譽的國際會議，與國際間不同持份者交流寶貴經驗，並提升自身能力，力求卓越。藉此亦回應我們致力構建安全、創新數碼環境的承諾，促使與其他域名管理機構能建立更穩固的聯繫，並在國際舞台上提升「.hk」域名的知名度。

Aligned with the national "14th Five-Year Plan," we are amplifying our promotional efforts for the ".hk" and ". 香 港 " domain names across diverse regions and sectors, with a particular emphasis on enhancing the prominence of Chinese domain names in the digital landscape. We are strategically exploring potential in the Greater Bay Area and the Middle East to drive ".hk" domain adoption among businesses in these regions. Through these strategic initiatives, we are dedicated to reinforcing Hong Kong's standing as a competitive and innovative digital marketplace.

The internet enhances commerce and connectivity through technological advancements including artificial intelligence, it simultaneously poses significant challenges as these technologies evolve at an unprecedented pace. The landscape of cyber threats is constantly evolving, necessitating businesses and individuals to strengthen their security awareness and protective measures. HKIRC is firmly dedicated to elevating cybersecurity awareness and has developed customised strategies for diverse industries, emphasising the vital importance of cybersecurity through robust collaboration with government entities, quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisations (QUANGOs), academia, and industry specialists. A cornerstone of our initiatives is the introduction of comprehensive cyber attack and defense training, which incorporates simulations of real-world attack scenarios. These practical exercises empower businesses and organisations to strengthen their overall cybersecurity posture, enabling them to more effectively safeguard their data and assets. Our outreach efforts have significantly expanded, integrating more technical content while engaging a broader audience. Through these initiatives, we strive to cultivate a robust digital environment that proactively mitigates emerging cyber threats.

Another significant challenge confronting the information industry is the lack of practical experience among employees in effectively responding to and managing cyberattacks. To address this critical issue, it is essential to enhance hands-on experience for personnel. This year, HKIRC was privileged to co-organise the Hong Kong Cybersecurity Attack and Defence Drill, led by the Digital Policy Office. In this initiative, we partnered with various government departments and QUANGOs to conduct practical defense drills aligned with current needs, effectively addressing the gaps. Moving forward, we are keen on our commitment to organising larger-scale exercises aimed at strengthening protective measures and enhancing our understanding of diverse cyber risks. Through these initiatives, we aspire to cultivate a more resilient workforce equipped to navigate the complexities of the evolving cybersecurity landscape.

配合國家《十四五規劃》，我們正加大力度推廣「.hk」及「. 香港」域名，拓展至不同地域與行業，重點提升中文域名在數字領域的地位；同時在大灣區及中東市場積極探索機遇，推動當地企業採用「.hk」域名，透過各項策略性部署，致力提升香港作為一個具競爭力及創新性的數碼市場的形象。

互聯網在人工智能等技術的飛躍發展環境下，繼續負起商貿溝通橋樑的重要角色，迅速發展的技術同時亦伴隨重大的挑戰。網絡威脅形勢不斷演變，企業和個人必須提升安全意識並加強防禦措施。HKIRC 堅定致力提高網絡安全意識，並為不同行業制定了度身定制的策略，通過與政府、機構、學界及業界專家的緊密合作，強調網絡安全的重要。我們的其中一項核心舉措是推出全面的網絡攻防精英培訓，當中包含模擬真實攻擊場景的實踐練習，讓企業與組織通過實戰攻防，改善和強化整體的網絡安全，從而有效地保護數據和資產。我們的推廣工作已大幅擴展，引入更多技術內容並觸及更廣泛受眾。由此培育出更具韌性的數碼環境，主動應對新興網絡威脅。

資訊行業正面臨另一個迫在眉睫的挑戰，員工缺乏實戰經驗，難以有效應對和處理網絡攻擊，為解決這個痛點，必須加強對員工的實戰培訓。今年，HKIRC 有幸與數字政策辦公室（DPO）合作舉辦首屆的香港網絡安全攻防演練——以攻築防，邀請到多個政府部門和公營機構參與演練，通過演練加強實戰經驗。未來，我們計劃舉辦更大規模的演練，加深對各類網絡風險的認識，以強化防護措施。冀培育出更優秀的團隊以應對日益複雜的網絡安全挑戰。

Cultivating a secure online environment necessitates the active involvement and collaboration of diverse stakeholders. In recent years, HKIRC has engaged with the Government to co-organise cybersecurity-related initiatives and develop platforms that connects users with service providers. Building on the success of last year's inaugural Cybersecurity Symposium, which garnered positive feedback from the industry and has become a significant annual event, we were proud to uphold this tradition. This year, we invited experts from both Mainland China and Hong Kong to share insights and discuss challenges, joined by various service providers showcasing their solutions. Attendance at this year's forum surpassed that of the previous year, with nearly 1,000 cybersecurity professionals and business leaders participating in exchange activities, fostering collaboration among diverse entities to strengthen our collective defensive capabilities.

National security forms a cornerstone of a nation's stability, and the China Cybersecurity Week stands as a pivotal national event highlighting its significant. HKIRC was honoured to organise the 2024 China Cybersecurity Week – Hong Kong Sub-forum, marking our first endeavor to facilitate a dialogue between experts from the Mainland China and Hong Kong. This event drew a diverse group of local business and organisational leaders eager to explore the latest cybersecurity trends and engage in substantive discussion with industry specialists. Such initiatives are vital as they align with national and governmental development strategies, aimed at fortifying cybersecurity in the face of amid rising threats and challenges in the digital landscape. A secure online environment is vital for sustained socio-economic progress and technological advancement. We assert that Hong Kong's digital economy can thrive within a secure and stable cyber framework, ultimately enhancing the quality of life for citizens. HKIRC is committed to advancing cybersecurity and fostering comprehensive societal development, reflecting President Xi's assertion that "Without cybersecurity, there is no national security." Through our continuous endeavors, we aspire to cultivate a safer and more resilient internet ecosystem, thereby bolstering national security.

As society grapples with a growing shortage of cybersecurity talent, it is steadfast to prioritise education and training. HKIRC remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing a range of cybersecurity initiatives while promoting awareness and educational programs aimed at elevating public awareness regarding cybersecurity. Our sustained efforts to educate diverse stakeholders prioritise the cultivation of interest from an early age as part of a comprehensive long-term training strategy. Additionally, we are continuously enhancing our training programmes to enhance their effectiveness. In partnership with the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD), we are incorporating content focused on personal data protection to strengthen organisations' internal defensive capabilities. Our goal is to elevate awareness through education, reduce the risk of cyberattacks, and minimise the impact.

構建安全的網絡環境,需要不同持份者的積極參與和通力合作。近年,HKIRC 與政府攜手舉辦多項網絡安全相關的活動,主動搭建用戶與服務供應商之間的溝通橋樑。繼去年成功舉辦首屆網絡安全技術論壇,獲得業界廣泛好評,成為業界重要的年度盛事。為延續過去的成功,今年我們再次邀得中國內地和香港的業界專家聚首一堂,向與會者分享獨到見解和探討各式挑戰,同時請來多家服務供應商展示最新解決方案。在各方積極響應與支持下,有近千名網絡安全專家與商界領袖參與交流活動,參與人數更勝去年,樂見業界協力合作,共同提升防禦能力。

國家安全是維護國家穩定的核心基礎,國家網絡安全宣傳周作為一項重要的全國性活動,突顯其重要性。今年,HKIRC 榮幸能協辦首次在港舉行的 2024 年國家網絡安全宣傳周——香港分論壇,促進中港專家之間的交流,吸引本地企業及組織領袖參與,與專家共同探討最新的網絡安全趨勢並深入交流。活動作為國家網絡安全宣傳周的延伸,這項活動與國家及政府的發展策略一致,旨在應對數碼領域日益嚴峻的威脅與挑戰,進一步強化網絡安全。我們堅信一個安全的網絡環境對於社會經濟的持續進步和技術發展至關重要。只有在安全穩定的網絡環境下,香港的數字經濟才能蓬勃發展,進而提升市民生活質量。HKIRC 致力於推動網絡安全及整體社會發展,這正呼應了習近平主席所言:「沒有網絡安全就沒有國家安全」。通過持續努力,我們期望構築更安全、可靠的互聯網生態,從而為國家安全作出貢獻。

隨著社會面臨網絡安全人才日益短缺的挑戰,優先提供教育和培訓為重中之重。因此 HKIRC 積極推行多項計劃,通過提供培訓和普及教育,提升公眾對網絡安全的重視。在中小學的階段實行長遠培訓策略,啟發不同層級學生的學習興趣,提供相應程度的培訓。同時,我們持續優化針對中小企及機構的現有培訓課程,以提升其成效。今年,我們與個人資料私隱專員公署(PCPD)合作,特別制定了個人數據保護相關內容,幫助機構強化內部防禦能力。我們希望通過教育提升各界對網絡安全的意識,從而降低網絡攻擊的風險並減輕其潛在影響。

With the internet now an integral part of daily life, there is a growing demand for digital inclusion. HKIRC is committed to promoting digital inclusion by proactively addressing the needs of the elderly and working to mitigate the digital divide. Businesses and organisations must consider the needs of diverse individuals in their development to prevent the marginalisation of these groups. Application numbers for the Digital Accessibility Recognition Scheme have reached a record high, reflecting the success of our collaborative. We anticipate that the recognition scheme will inspire more companies to adopt digital accessibility practices, ultimately benefiting a larger segment of the populations. By recognising organisations that prioritise inclusive design, the scheme aims to establish a benchmark for others to emulate. HKIRC will continue to support businesses in optimising their website designs, fostering a mutually beneficial cooperation model that serves both service providers and the broader public.

In the 2024 Policy Address, the Chief Executive outlined a visionary framework of "Reform for Enhancing Development and Building Our Future Together," emphasising the necessity to adapt to the dynamic landscape. HKIRC is positioned to serve as a catalyst by rolling out initiatives that enhance the competitiveness and defensive capabilities of the internet community. This encompasses the provision of comprehensive training programmes on cybersecurity, fostering collaboration among businesses to exchange best practices, and advocating practices that promote digital innovation. Together, we aim to shape a brighter future for the evolving digital era, ensuring that Hong Kong remains at the forefront of technological advancement and cybersecurity resilience. Through these coordinated efforts, we aim to cultivate an environment that address current challenges and seizing the opportunities of the future.

I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to all board members, Consultative and Advisory Panel members and colleagues for their invaluable contributions over the past year. I also express my sincere appreciation to the Government for its unwavering guidance, and to all sectors for their steadfast support. As we look ahead to the coming year, we are eager to explore new opportunities and to amplify our contributions to the ".hk" users and the broader Hong Kong internet community. Together, we aspire to foster an environment of innovation and growth that will elevate our shared digital landscape.

隨著互聯網成為日常生活不可或缺的一部分，數碼共融的需求亦日益增加。HKIRC 在推動數碼共融方面不遺餘力，積極回應不同群體的需求，包括長者的需要，致力縮窄數碼鴻溝。我們一直倡導企業和組織在發展過程中，優先考慮各群體的需求，以避免邊緣化群體。本年度數碼無障礙嘉許計劃的報名數量創下歷年新高，反映各界的積極迴響。我們期望這項計劃能鼓勵並表彰採用數碼無障礙實踐的機構，樹立行業典範，帶動更多企業參與，惠及廣大市民。HKIRC 將繼續推動企業優化其網站設計，實現社會與企業雙贏的局面。

2024 年《施政報告》中，行政長官提出了「齊改革同發展惠民生建未來」的願景，強調適應環境變化的重要性。HKIRC 將積極擔當推動者的角色，提升互聯網社群的競爭力與防禦能力，具體措施包括提供全面的網絡安全培訓項目、鼓勵企業之間分享最佳實踐，以及倡導推動數碼創新。我們期望與各方攜手打造一個更創新的互聯網未來，確保香港在技術與安全領域保持領先地位，創造一個既能應對當前挑戰，又能把握未來機遇的環境。

在此，我謹向全體董事會成員、諮詢委員會成員及同事致以衷心感謝，感謝你們在過去一年中的寶貴貢獻。同時，我也誠摯感謝政府一如既往的堅定指導，以及各界持份者的不懈支持。展望未來一年，我們期待開拓新的機遇，進一步擴大對「.hk」用戶及香港互聯網社群的貢獻。讓我們攜手培育一個充滿創新與進步的環境，共同打造更美好的數字化時代。