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## **i-CABLE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED**

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability) (Stock Code: 1097)

### INSIDE INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENT AND RESUMPTION OF TRADING

Reference is made to the announcement of i-CABLE Communications Limited (the "**Company**", together with its subsidiaries and consolidated structured entities, the "**Group**") dated 14 February 2023 in relation to the trading halt of the Company's shares (the "**Shares**") on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "**Stock Exchange**") pending release of an announcement in relation to inside information of the Company.

This announcement is made by the Company pursuant to Rule 13.09 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") and the Inside Information Provisions (as defined in the Listing Rules) under Part XIVA of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong).

The board of directors of the Company (collectively, the "**Board**", and each, a "**Director**") wishes to update the shareholders and potential investors of the Company on the latest developments of the business of the Group as follows.

#### Latest development of the Group's media business

The Group's media business includes operations related to the television subscription business ("Pay TV"), domestic free television programme service ("Free TV"), advertising, channel carriage, television relay service, programme licensing, theatrical release and other related businesses.

As of the date of this announcement, the Group has successfully launched a new Free TV channel, "HOY Infotainment Channel" (Channel 78), joining the Group's well-received "Hong Kong International Business Channel" (Channel 76) and "HOY TV" (Channel 77) (previously known as Hong Kong Open TV) in the Free TV market. The Group has also taken efforts to improve its Free TV spectrum coverage so that its Free TV programme service is now available for reception by not less than 99% of the population of Hong Kong.

The Group will continue to strengthen Free TV content offered to audiences, and aim to seek suitable opportunities for international cooperation, as well as commencing production of a new television series. Following the Group's broadcast of the 2020 Summer Olympics held in Tokyo, Japan in 2021, the Group will also provide coverage of the 19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022 to be held in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, the People's Republic of China in 2023.

Further, the Group will continue to invest in its digital assets to support its Free TV business. The Group recorded monthly active users of 1.67 million and 0.187 million on its *i-cable.com* and *hoy.tv* websites in December 2022, representing year-to-year growth of 203% and 80% respectively. With over a million followers on the Group's social platforms, the Group intends to leverage developing viewing habits and continue to optimise content delivery over the internet.

In view of the rapidly changing media landscape in Hong Kong, and fierce competition among global Pay TV content providers and Pay TV operators, Hong Kong Cable Television Limited ("**HKCTV**"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, has submitted an application for the termination of its Domestic Pay Television Programme Service Licence to the Government and has been granted approval today. The Group will continue to drive for strategic transformation by increasing investment on Free TV channels and multimedia business to capitalise on the opportunities from the structural changes in the local market. The Group is also committed to focus its resources on media business more effectively, to enhance the quality, competitiveness and influence of our Free TV channels and multimedia services as well as to construct an open media platform for the Hong Kong's public.

Following the approval, HKCTV remains bound by the terms and conditions of its Domestic Pay Television Programme Service Licence until the termination of the licence with effect from Thursday, 1 June 2023, and thereafter HKCTV will remain and the Group will continue to provide Free TV programme services and other businesses as usual, including without limitations broadband telecommunications services, telephony services, network construction and mobile services, allowing a more flexible utilisation and investment of HKCTV's talents and resources.

#### **Resumption of trading**

At the request of the Company, trading of Shares was halted with effect from 1:16 p.m. on Tuesday, 14 February 2023. Application has been made by the Company to the Stock Exchange for the resumption of trading of the Shares with effect from 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 15 February 2023.

# Shareholders and potential investors of the Company are advised to exercise caution in dealing in the shares of the Company.

By Order of the Board **i-CABLE Communications Limited Kwok Chi Kin** *Company Secretary* 

Hong Kong, 14 February 2023

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises eleven Directors, namely Dr. Cheng Kar-Shun, Henry (Chairman) and Tan Sri Dato' David Chiu (Vice-chairman) as non-executive Directors; Mr. Tsang On Yip, Patrick (Vice-chairman) and Mr. Lie Ken Jie Remy Anthony Ket Heng as executive Directors; Mr. Andrew Wah Wai Chiu, Mr. Hoong Cheong Thard and Ms. Ng Yuk Mui Jessica as non-executive Directors; and Mr. Lam Kin Fung Jeffrey, Dr. Hu Shao Ming Herman, Mr. Luk Koon Hoo, Roger and Mr. Tang Sing Ming Sherman as independent non-executive Directors.