On behalf of Cyberport, I would like to congratulate the Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK) on the publication of the 2023 Official Guide to ICT Industry in Hong Kong. The guide has always been a trusted resource for the ICT industry, offering timely and insightful analyses of emerging trends.

The Metaverse, as the theme of the 2023 edition, is without a doubt one of the most transformative technological developments in recent years. It underlines the concept of an immersive digital future in which people can use avatars to explore an infinite virtual reality online. The Metaverse presents profound new ways for people to communicate, interact, and engage with the world. It exhibits the potential to revolutionise everything from finance, business, education, architecture, art, sports, entertainment – to so much more.

All these are actually made possible thanks to the metaverse technology and ICT infrastructure that enable multimodal interactions across different layers at the metaverse, which is a combination of advanced communications technologies such as 5G, Blockchain, AI, cloud, AR, VR, spatial and edge computing. The emergence of the metaverse is poised to drive the upgrade of digital experience, and accelerate evolutionary development of ICT industry in web 3.0.

Even though the Metaverse is just starting to take shape, its vast potential has already attracted much attention globally, from the public, engineers, and developers to business leaders, investors, and governments. New business models and strategies are being developed, as well as technologies, standards, policies, and regulations—all with the metaverse in mind. The metaverse is simply a new frontier that must not be overlooked.

This is echoed by the rapid growth of Animoca Brands, Cyberport's fifth unicorn, a metaverse pioneer and major player in the burgeoning metaverse space. Their leading metaverse platform, The Sandbox, has been fueling the recent growth of virtual land demand having partnered with global IPs and brands across variety of industries including major communications companies.

Success stories are accumulating. Cyberport, as the digital technology flagship of Hong Kong and a State-level Scientific and Technological Enterprise Incubator, is eager to help Hong Kong make the most of the Metaverse's compelling prospects. We strive to cultivate tech talent and entrepreneurs, foster industry development, and integrate new and traditional economies to accelerate the city's digital transformation. Our community, with over 1,800 start-ups and tech companies, is increasingly involved in Metaverse or NFT-related projects, spanning clusters including Blockchain, FinTech, Digital Entertainment and Esports, and other emerging domains such as ArtTech and EdTech. We will continue to strengthen Hong Kong's vibrant tech ecosystem, nurture a steady stream of innovators and trailblazers, and help them shape a brighter future for us all.

The newness of the Metaverse means that not everyone readily recognises its values. For this reason, Cyberport hosts and supports a variety of events to promote understanding, awareness, and education. For example, our annual signature event, Digital Entertainment Leadership Forum (DELF) 2022, featured a metaverse experience zone that allowed visitors to try out the latest VR and haptic innovations for an immersive Metaverse experience. DELF also partnered with our incubatee, Virtrix, to enable overseas and local attendees to take part virtually in DELF on Decentraland. Furthermore, we spotlighted the Metaverse and invited speakers to shed light on its prospects, use cases, business models, and strategies to illuminate its panorama of possibilities. Cyberport is committed to creating more rewarding events to acquaint more people with the myriad possibilities in the Metaverse.

The Metaverse is upon us. I look forward to collaborating closely and on a bigger scale with CAHK and other strategic partners to foster the technological growth and competitiveness of Hong Kong. Together, we will voyage into the Metaverse and thrive.

Mr. Peter Yan, JP

Chief Executive Officer

Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited

我謹代表數碼港，衷心祝賀香港通訊業聯會出版《2023年香港通訊業概覽》，概覽一直是通訊業界賴以信任的資訊來源，提供適時、精闢的新興趨勢及分析。

作為2023年主題，元宇宙毋庸置疑，是近年最具變革性的科技發展之一。元宇宙展示了數碼世代下，沉浸式體驗大行其道的未來，人人都可以透過虛擬化身，恣意遨遊無遠弗屆的虛擬世界。這股科技旋風，為我們提供嶄新的溝通、互動，以及與世界產生連結的方式，影響力足以顛覆金融、商業、教育、建築、藝術、運動以至娛樂等各個範疇。這些嶄新的變革及發展，都歸功於相關的科技及資訊和通訊科技基建，在元宇宙不同層面結合，以實現多元互動 —— 包括5G、區塊鏈、人工智能、雲端、擴充實境、虛擬實境、空間計算和邊緣運算等。元宇宙的崛起，勢將提升用戶的數碼體驗，並加快資訊及通訊科技業在Web 3.0時代的演變進程。

雖然元宇宙發展仍處於起步階段，但它的巨大潛力已引起全球大眾、工程師和開發人員、企業領袖、投資者和政府等關注。嶄新的商業模式和策略逐步成形，隨之而來還有圍繞著元宇宙的科技、標準、政策和規管等。簡單而言，元宇宙是不容我們忽視的全新疆界。

事實上，數碼港社群的第五家「獨角獸」初創Animoca Brands，其快速成長正好響應這點。元宇宙業界百花齊放，Animoca Brands作為行業先驅及領軍者，其研發的區塊鏈沙盒遊戲The Sandbox獨佔鰲頭，更與全球流行知識產權產品及標誌品牌、包括多間主要電訊公司合作，推動虛擬土地需求增長。

我相信成功例子將陸續有來。數碼港作為香港數碼科技旗艦以及國家級科技企業孵化器，將積極貢獻，以助本港把握元宇宙帶來的龐大機遇。數碼港一直致力培育創科人才和企業家，促進行業發展，並推動新興和傳統經濟融合、加速本地數碼轉型。數碼港社群現已匯聚超過1,800間初創企業和科技公司，並有越來越多初創參與元宇宙及NFT（非同質化代幣）相關項目，橫跨區塊鏈、金融科技、數碼娛樂及電競，以及其他新興領域如藝術科技和教育科技。數碼港將繼續鞏固香港蓬勃的創科生態圈，持續孕育敢於創新的業界精英，攜手開闢更光明前景。

元宇宙概念崛起，但並非每個人都能輕易認識其潛在價值，數碼港舉辦和推出多元化活動，以促進大眾的理解、認知和教育。以數碼港年度盛事「數碼娛樂領袖論壇2022」為例，便設有元宇宙體驗區，讓訪客試用虛擬實境和觸感裝置，獲得有如親臨其境的沉浸式體驗。論壇亦與數碼港培育公司Virtrix聯手，讓海外或本地訪客，透過虛擬元宇宙平台Decentraland遙距參與活動。不僅如此，我們聚焦元宇宙，廣邀專家，分享元宇宙的前景、應用例子、商業模式和策略等，發掘其無窮無盡的可能性。數碼港將不遺餘力推出更多活動，引領社會掌握元宇宙的無限機遇。

元宇宙近在咫尺，數碼港期待與香港通訊業聯會和其他夥伴，進行更緊密及更大規模合作，以推動香港科技進步、提升本地競爭力，並肩在浩瀚的元宇宙中乘風破浪。

任景信先生, JP

行政總裁

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