

Government News and Media Information System

Introduction

The Government News and Media Information System (GNMIS) is an online portal operated by the Information Services Department (ISD), which provides a platform integrating all government press releases, broadcasts, photographs and video clips for media. Subscribers of GNMIS will receive media invitations from ISD and government bureaux/departments through GNMIS.

GNMIS Subscription Requirements

2. GNMIS subscribers must be mass news media organisations whose principal business is the regular reporting of original news for dissemination to the general public.

3. The mass news media organisations that are generally accepted as GNMIS subscribers include the following:

- (a) Printed newspapers, news magazines and news agencies registered under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance (Cap. 268), and their affiliated or associated online platforms; or
- (b) Government-funded radio broadcasters, and radio organisations licensed under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106); or
- (c) Government-funded TV broadcasters, and commercial TV broadcasters licensed under the Broadcasting Ordinance (Cap. 562); or
- (d) Internationally recognised and reputable non-local news agencies, newspapers, magazines, radio and television broadcasters; or
- (e) Online-only media which meets the following requirements:
 - (i) provide proof of regular online news reports in the past three months immediately preceding the application;
 - (ii) have been updating its news platform at least five days a week;

- (iii) staffed by at least an editor and a reporter; and
- (iv) registered under the Registration of Local Newspaper Ordinance (Cap. 268).

4. The following media organisations are not regarded as mass news media organisations and hence not accepted for GNMIS registration:

- (a) media which primarily produce content not related to current news such as tabloid newspapers, gossip magazines, horse racing news or tips;
- (b) media which do not produce in-house/original content or mainly reproduce news of other media organisations; and
- (c) publications and websites that are communications outreach or advocacy publications of non-governmental or non-profit organisations, think tanks or interest groups.

5. Failure to provide supporting information or misrepresentation of such information may result in refusal or revocation of subscription approval. ISD reserves the right to revoke any approval for subscription should the media organisation concerned fail to meet the criteria as stated above. Any organisation which will cease to operate is requested to inform ISD of the date on which it will cease operation for ISD to terminate its account.

6. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure compliance with relevant statutory and licence requirements with regard to its nature of business. The fact that an applicant is granted GNMIS user status does not obviate its responsibility to ensure compliance with statutory requirements under relevant ordinances.

7. ISD reserves the right to review a media organisation's subscription to GNMIS should the following situations arise:

- (a) representatives of the media organisation concerned conduct any activity other than news-reporting, have misconducted themselves (e.g. using foul language, causing disruption to the orderly conduct of the media events, making protests) or fail to follow the instruction of government officers at the venues of government events;

- (b) the media organisation is no longer legally registered or considered a mass news media organisation; or
- (c) the media organisation concerned has ceased operation.

Application Procedure

8. The application form for registration with GNMIS can be downloaded from ISD's website (www.isd.gov.hk) or obtained from ISD's Duty Officers (Tel: 2842 8747).

9. The completed application form, together with proof of registration under relevant ordinances, should be submitted to the Duty Officers by:

- (a) Email: isdnews@isd.gov.hk or
- (b) Fax: 2845 9078 or
- (c) Mail: 8/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Hong Kong

10. Enquiry should be made to the Duty Officer on 2842 8747.

Information Services Department

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