

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 005/13 of the Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) was held on Wednesday, 24 July 2013 at 11:10am at Meeting Room 1, CIC Headquarters, 15/F Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Summary Notes of Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) Meeting No. 005/13:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
1		<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Members confirmed the amended minutes of the 4th meeting of CWRB for 2013.
2		<u>Matters Arising from the Last Meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- It was confirmed that a Workers Registration Office would be established at MTR Nam Cheong Station. The new office was expected to be open and fully operational by the end of 2013. An internal meeting would be convened to discuss the feasibility of providing other services for workers and subcontractors at the new workers registration office.- Simplified specified training courses would be open to workers who had previously registered as Registered Skilled Workers (Provisional), but had not been successfully registered as skilled workers after the expiration of the provisional registration. Workers must participate and complete the simplified specified training courses within one year after the implementation of the measure. The worker could apply to register with WRO after passing the course. Their qualification obtained would then be examined by the Construction Workers Qualifications Board (QB). Once the approval from QB was confirmed, they could register with the Registrar.

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
3.1	CB/2013/39 (For Deliberation and Resolution)	<p><u>Nomination for New Construction Workers Review Board Member</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nominated by the Hong Kong Construction Association, the Board endorsed Mr. Desmond Sze to succeed Mr. Jimmy Chu as member of the Construction Workers Review Committee.
4.1		<p><u>Change of Membership of CWRB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nominated by the Director of Buildings, the Board noted that Ms. Clarice Yu would succeed Ir Leung Siu-man as member of the CWRB. The appointment of Ms. Yu and the publication in the government Gazette would be carried out by the Council Secretariat and DEVB.
4.2	CB/2013/41 (Reporting Issue)	<p><u>Report of Workers Registration Office</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWRB noted the report of key registration numbers and the work progress of WRO.
4.3	CB/2013/42 (Reporting Issue)	<p><u>Report of Inspection and Enforcement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWRB noted the report of site inspection and enforcement figures. To reduce reliance on live witnesses and the weight of the witness testimony in the prosecution process, Members suggested that while enhancing the training to enable colleagues to refine and strengthen their skills in terms of law enforcement, gathering of evidence and presenting evidence in court, more thought should be given when developing a new computer system to help facilitate successful prosecution.
4.4	CB/2013/43 (Reporting Issue)	<p><u>Report of Construction Workers Qualifications Board</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction Workers Qualifications Board recently recognized a case with qualification not specified on Schedule 1 to the CWRO as equivalent to that for registration as a registered skilled worker for the designated trade of “Plumber”.

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4.5	CB/2013/44 (Reporting Issue)	<p><u>Report of Sub-committee on Specified Training Courses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposed to be discussed at the Council level, the Sub-committee on Specified Training Courses put forward that a mechanism should be set up to form an expert panel to engage industry experts to develop course syllabus and curriculum in the future
4.6	CB/2013/45 (Reporting Issue)	<p><u>Report of Sub-committee on Registration Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Endorsed by CWRB, the intermediate trade test for marble worker (polishing) would be divided into two sections. The recommendation would be proposed to CITB for further deliberation. <i>(Post-meeting note: After deliberation, the Sub-committee on Registration Matters had decided that the current amendment proposal should be maintained. The marble worker would be further divided into three specific sub-skills, i.e. marble worker (dry fixing), marble worker (wet fixing) and marble worker (polishing). Only one paper would be prepared for the intermediate trade test for marble worker (polishing). The Secretariat was requested to study and amend the proposed job description of marble worker (polishing) to clearly define marble repair, maintenance and cleaning work does not belong to the scope of work for marble worker (polishing). This issue would be further discussed at the next scheduled meeting of the Sub-committee.)</i> - The proposition to maintain the full name of the skill of “Marble Worker (Master)” in the consolidated proposal of Schedule 1 to the CWRO was endorsed.
4.7	CB/2013/46 (Reporting Issue)	<p><u>Report of the Task Force on Data Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWRB noted the captioned report. The Task Force on Data Analysis would submit a preliminary report of data analysis to the board at the next scheduled meeting in September.

4.8	CB/2013/47 (Reporting Issue)	<p><u>Report of the Task Force on Construction Workers Registration System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWRB noted the captioned report. The number of check-in and check-out records stored in the construction workers registration card would be increased from the latest ten to twenty records.
5		<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council had commissioned a consultant to conduct a review of the registration services and the necessity of restructuring the Workers Registration Offices as well as CWRB Secretariat. To avoid uncertainty and unnecessary speculation by staff, it was proposed that a briefing session should be organized to introduce the objectives, scope and timetable before carrying out the consultancy study. - Concerning the review of the operation of WRO in the weekdays and Sundays, the Board Chairman suggested for consideration to convert part of the temporary jobs into permanent positions with an aim to improve productivity and increase the sense of belonging and morale of staff members.

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Construction Workers Registration Board can be made available to Council Members from the CWRB Secretariat upon request.