

Construction Industry Council

Meeting No. 004/16 of the Construction Industry Council for 2016 was held on Friday, 19 August 2016 at 2:30 pm at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Present	:	Ka-kui CHAN	(KKCh)	Chairman
		Allan CHAN	(SKC)	
		Chi-chiu CHAN	(CCC)	
		Paul CHONG	(PC)	
		Reuben CHU	(RCU)	
		Ivan Chin-shing FU	(FI)	
		Chi-wah LAI	(CWLi)	
		Stephen LAI	(SLI)	
		Christopher LEUNG	(KYL)	
		Kenneth Kon-fei MO	(KM)	
		Kwok-kwan NG	(NKK)	
		Lawrence NG	(LN)	
		Shu-jie PAN	(PSJ)	
		Kevin POOLE	(KP)	
		Philco Nai-keung WONG	(NKW)	
		Sze-chun WONG	(SCW)	
		Ringo Shek-man YU	(RiYu)	
		Sai-yen YU	(SYYu)	
		Siu-wai HUI	(SWH)	Director of Buildings
		Ada FUNG	(AF)	for Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)
In Attendance	:	Dominic CHOW	(DCW)	Development Bureau
		Christopher TO	(CT)	Executive Director
		Alex LEUNG	(AL)	Director – Training and Development
		Wyllie FUNG	(HWF)	Assistant Director –Training and Development
		LEE Oi-yen	(OYL)	Assistant Director – Registration Services
		Cheryl IP	(CI)	Assistant Director - HR, Facilities Management & Admin
		Katherine TAM	(OKT)	Senior Manager - Finance
		Julian LEE	(JL)	Senior Manager – Research & Development
		Angela YUEN	(AaY)	Senior Manager – Council Services
		Miranda YEAP	(MYP)	Senior Manager – Council Services
		Belle HO	(CYH)	Manager – Council Services

Apologies : CHAN Pat-kan (CPJ)
Robert LAM (PHL)
Eliza Yeuk-lan (EWYL)
WONG
Wilfred Shek-chun (WSCW)
WU
Albert K C LAM (AKCL) Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works) (Ag.)

MINUTES

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[The open-door session of the meeting started at 4:05 p.m.]

**4.5 Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting
(Open-door Session)**

Members referred to Paper CIC/CMT/M/003/16 and approved the minutes of the open-door session of the 3rd meeting of 2016 held on Friday, 17 June 2016 at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

**4.6 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting
(Open-door Session)**

Nil.

4.7 2nd Meeting of Committee on Construction Safety for 2016

AF highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/041/16:

- Item 2.4 – The 5th Construction Safety Week (co-organised by CIC and DevB) was held from 25 to 27 May 2016. The main theme was “Design for Safety” focusing on Temporary Works Design.
- Item 2.5 – The drafted Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works: Vol. 4 would be submitted to the next Com-CSY Meeting No. 003/16 for endorsement.
- Item 2.6 – Two trial runs for Rear RFID Sensing / Alarm System for Vehicles and three trial runs for the Safety Belt Engagement Sensing System were conducted by Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies (LSCM) from May to June 2016.
- Item 2.7 – The Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites was formed, comprising of over 30 industry stakeholders.
- Item 2.9 – Construction Safety Poster No. 001/16 “Use low voltage electrical hand tools and cordless electrical hand tools” was published on 15 July 2016.

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- Item 2.10 – Safety Alert No. 002/16 “Safety Precaution for Zika Virus Infection” was published on 26 July 2016.
- Item 2.11 – A small group meeting with representatives from HKHA, DEVB, Labour Department (LD), OSHC, Hong Kong Construction Sub-Contractors Association (HKCSA) and Hong Kong Federation of Occupational Safety and Health Associations (HKFOSHA) was held on 21 July 2016 to discuss the recommendations of the McKinsey Report.
- Item 2.12 – Safety Experience and Training Centre (SETC) for the Construction Industry would be set up at Silver Card Training Workshop in Kwai Chung Training Centre (KCC). Besides, renovation at G/F, KCC would be done at the same time.

The Chairman requested to expedite the setting up of SETC in Kwai Chung.

AaY

- Item 2.13 – CIC Secretariat shared the experience on Benchmarking Visit to Germany. After the visit, the CIC Secretariat suggested the lifting industry upgrading safety devices for cranes, exploring integrating crane simulators into CIC training centres and avoiding unnecessary overload test to mobile cranes.
- Item 2.14 – A drafted safety related event calendar incorporating the events of government departments, associations and professionals was prepared by the CIC Secretariat. CIC Secretariat had circulated the calendar to Members for updating.

A contractor sent a letter to Com-CSY Chairperson to explain the marker buoys accident in May 2016 and to give suggestion on maintenance of marker buoys. Members of Com-CSY agreed that the Task Force on Site Safety Incidents would follow up.

The Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions sent a letter to Com-CSY Chairperson to express concern and to give suggestions on maintenance works in existing buildings on 15 June 2016. The suggestions would be followed up.

Ir Chan Chi-chiu was nominated to represent Com-CSY to review the research projects in the Task Force on Research.

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A Member of Com-CSY suggested organising an evening gathering on a quarterly basis to share with industry stakeholders on hot topics related to construction safety. The Com-CSY Chairperson would be invited to share on an annual basis.

A Member suggested CIC Secretariat to follow up on road maintenance works accident recently. CIC Secretariat would organise a CIC Seminar on Road Maintenance Works Safety on 29 August 2016.

CT added that a seminar related to health and safety would be co-organised with REDA on 27 October 2016. One of the aims was to enhance the understanding of new developers regarding standard provisions on site facilities.

(Post meeting note: The seminar would be deferred to the first quarter of 2017 for better organisation.)

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/041/16.

4.8 **2nd Meeting of Committee on Environment for 2016**

KP highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/042/16:

- Item 2.2 – Members of Com-ENV agreed that it was crucial to have a representative from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in the Committee. The CIC Secretariat would continue to liaise with EPD.
- Item 2.4 – Members of Com-ENV endorsed the Proposal, Programme and Action Plans for the Consultancy Project of Strategy for Management and Reduction of C&D Waste in Hong Kong.
- Item 2.6 – The proposed Inception Report and Survey Framework of the Survey on the Potential Utilisation of Prefabrication Yard in Hong Kong were endorsed by Members of Com-ENV.
- Item 2.7 – The CIC Secretariat would work closely with the

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CIC Training Centre and DevB in conducting trial test and pilot projects on the use of River Sand Substitutes.

- Item 2.8 – Possible study or projects related to the response to the recommendations from Mckinsey Interim Report would be discussed in the upcoming Com-ENV meeting.
- Item 2.9 – The representative from HKGBC gave a verbal update on Green Product Labelling, Green Design Guidelines for Minimisation of C&D Waste and Beam Plus. Projects relevant to CIC would be discussed in the next Com-ENV meeting.
- Item 2.10 – Members of Com-ENV were invited to express views on the opportunity to reduce vehicular emissions and to encourage the adoption of low/zero emissions technologies to accelerate the replacement of ageing non-road mobile machinery (NRMM).

A paper named “CIC’s Response and Proposed Action to the “Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Excess Lead Found in Drinking Water”” had been circulated to Members of Com-ENV on 25 July 2016 to seek comments.

MYP supplemented that the above paper incorporating all the inputs from the relevant departments of CIC would be issued by August 2016.

MYP

A Member representing the labour union had reservation to require workers taking examinations as one of the follow up actions to the Lead Water Incident.

Another Member concurred that attending courses by the workers would be sufficient.

The Chairman requested Com-ENV organising an Annual Experience Sharing Session on Environmental practices related to construction in 2017.

AaY

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/042/16.

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4.9 **2nd Meeting of Committee on Construction Procurement for 2016**

SLI highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/043/16:

- Item 2.2 - Members took note of the latest amendments to the Operation Framework of the CIC Research Fund. The Com-CPT would follow up on the possible implementation of the two completed research projects relevant to the Com-CPT.
- Item 2.3 – PHL was appointed as the Chairman of the Task Force on the Selection of Contractors.
- Item 2.4 – The Chairman of the Task Force on RMAA Procurement had not been appointed yet.
- Item 2.6 – The simplified Standard Form of Domestic Sub-contract was circulated for Task Force Members’ review.

The 2nd draft of the “Standard Form of On-demand Bonds with Model Condition(s) of Use” would be circulated to relevant industry stakeholders for further comments.

ICAC briefed Members of Com-CPT on some complaints of foreman soliciting money from workers for job opportunities and illegal rebate in the construction industry. Members were urged to remain vigilant and report suspected cases to ICAC.

MYP supplemented that the drafting of NEC Casebook (Vol. 2) would start soon.

A seminar on collaborative contract would be held in Central on 22 September 2016.

The Chairman added that the bilingual versions of the “Educational Video on Competition Law for the Construction Industry - Bid-rigging” incorporating Members’ comments would be uploaded to the CIC website.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/043/16.

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4.10 **2nd Meeting of Committee on Productivity for 2016**

KYL highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/044/16:

- Item 2.3 – Members of Com-PRO agreed to extend the completion date of the study of Benchmarking the Construction Trade Productivity in Hong Kong from July 2016 to January 2017, while necessary information and data would be sought from relevant government departments and trade associations.
- Item 2.4 – Several developers had already expressed interest in conducting trials with the research outcome of High Modulus Concrete for Tall Buildings. The research result would be promoted through journals as well.
- Item 2.5 – The interim report on “Assessing the Performance of the Hong Kong Construction Industry, Key Performance Indicators (KPI): An International Comparison” would be published in early July 2016, while the final report was expected to be issued in November 2016.
- Item 2.6 – The study on “Achieving Productivity Leap through Construction Process Re-engineering (CPR)” would be divided into two phases. The research period of phase 1 would last for around eight to nine months from July 2016 to March 2017.
- Item 2.7 - A preliminary proposal on establishing the Construction Innovation Centre (“Centre”) was presented to Members. The Centre would comprise of three sections, namely Market Ready Technologies, Emerging Technologies and Knowledge Sharing Sections. Innovative products and technologies developed by different parties under a specific theme would be displayed on a rotating basis within a certain period. It was proposed to set up a Steering Group (“Group”) for the Centre which would directly report to the Council. The Group might consist of two to three Members from each CIC Committee. The Group would oversee the operation of the Centre, propose consultancy studies and cooperate with the relevant government departments for trials, in order to promote the application of innovation in the Hong Kong construction industry.

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The Chairman would further brainstorm with KYL regarding the establishment of the Centre.

- Item 2.8 - The revised proposal on Implementing Robotics and Automation in Housing Development for Hong Kong included a prototype construction robot which was endorsed by Com-PRO Members.
- Item 2.9 - It would be useful to investigate what could be achieved by 3D printing technology and its feasibility of application in the local construction industry through a paper study. The CIC Secretariat would follow up on further arrangement.
- Item 2.10 - The study on “Integrating Constructability in Project Planning and Design”, due to limited market interest, had been tendered twice. It was subsequently proposed to establish a team in the CIC Secretariat to provide additional assistance and supplement the government’s in-house study, and to adopt similar research methodology for the private construction projects.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/044/16.

4.11 4th Meeting of Construction Industry Training Board for 2016

SKC highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/045/16:

- Item 4.3 - The overall rate of employers’ satisfaction towards the working performance of CIC graduates this year was about 11% higher than that in 2013/14. The graduates were generally satisfied with the courses provided by CIC.
- Item 4.4 - With the launch of the Advanced Construction Manpower Training Scheme (ACMTS) last year, the number of employers withdrawing from the On-the-Job Training Scheme (OJTS) to join the ACMTS was on the increase. Members would review the situation by the end of 2016. If the number of new applications was still low, the OJTS would cease operation in 2017.

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- Item 4.5 - Members of CITB agreed to introduce three new in-house skills enhancement courses which included the Welding Craftsman Course, Construction Plant Mechanic Craftsman Course and Joinery Craftsman Course.
- Item 4.6 - Members agreed to adjust upwards the quota of five work trades, namely Bar Bender and Fixer, Carpenter (Formwork-Building Construction), Carpenter (Formwork-Civil Engineering), Concretor, Electrical Wireman, and Leveller, to 200 places each. In this way, more contractors/sub-contractors who were really interested in joining the Structured On-the-Job Training Scheme could then submit their applications.
- Item 4.7 - Members of CITB agreed to introduce the revised green card training course and the training duration would be increased by 0.5 hours to 7.5 hours. The launching time of the above course was brought forward to September 2016 and CIC would try to introduce the revised course at the same time.

AF suggested that correct answers should be given to the candidates after the examination to enhance their safety knowledge. In response, CT said that the issue would be followed up with the Labour Department in the following week.

- Item 4.4 to 4.17 – The waiting time and statistical figures for various training courses/ schemes were noted.

SKC supplemented that a Forum on Training and Development “Industry Collaboration for Development of a Sustainable Construction Workforce” was held on 9 August 2016 to collect stakeholders’ views on construction workers’ training under the collaborative training schemes.

Members had no further comments on the items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/045/16.

4.12 3rd Meeting of Construction Workers Registration Board for 2016

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/046/16.

PC shared several statistical figures with the Members as follows:

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- According to the statistics from the Census and Statistics Department, the population of Hong Kong rose 7.8% from 2011 - 2016. There was no population growth in Hong Kong last year and the population would decrease afterwards.
- The construction workforce grew 23% from 2011 to 2016.
- The number of registered workers increased by 43% as compared with the beginning of 2016.
- The ratio of construction workers to registered workers was about 80%.

Based on the above figures, PC pointed out that the construction industry was attractive to new workers and training should be provided to them.

[PSJ left the meeting at this juncture.]

While agreeing that training could be focused on registered workers, a Member pointed out that recruitment of workers was still difficult in several trades. He said that more attention could be paid to the ethnic minority workforces. Meanwhile, the challenge of ageing population to the construction industry should be examined as well.

The CWRB secretariat was requested to prepare summary statistics on registered workers, including new workers and a demographic for general workers.

**CWRB
secretariat**

A Member representing the labour union requested to provide more On-the-Job training to construction workers as it would be more difficult for workers to join the industry after the implementation of "Designated Workers Designation Trade" legislation.

[NKW left the meeting at this juncture.]

The Chairman suggested organising evening and weekend training courses for the workers.

In response, a Member said that he had reservation to the above suggestions. Instead, he proposed that a worker could work for 4 days in a week and attend training course on the 5th day. The worker could receive salary on the day of training.

Members suggested that the renaming of workers as construction technologists, process reengineering and the adoption of advanced technology could attract more people to join the industry.

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Some Members requested for a brainstorming session to evaluate the effectiveness of training provided by the CIC. The information required for the brainstorming session would be gathered by October 2016.

AL

Members had no further comments on items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/046/16.

4.13 Any Other Business

4.13.1 MYP reported that a job fair for engineering graduates would be held on 29 & 30 August 2016 at the Construction Industry Resource Centre. 14 companies would participate in the event and a total of 75 vacancies were advertised for the job fair.

4.13.2 MYP invited Members to join the technical seminar to be held on 22 September 2016 in Central. Topics included NEC and 3rd party contractual rights.

4.13.3 The Construction Industry Sports Day would be held on 30 October 2016 at the Hong Kong Sports Institute in Shatin to raise fund for the Construction Charity Fund.

4.14 Tentative Date of Next Meeting 005/16

The next meeting was scheduled for 28 October 2016 (Friday) at 2:00 p.m. at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong. A light lunch would be served at 1:30 p.m.. **All to note**

There being no further business, the open-door session of the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.