

Construction Industry Council

Meeting No. 001/15 of the Construction Industry Council for 2015 was held on Friday, 6 February 2015 at 2:30 pm at Meeting Room 1, Construction Industry Council Headquarters, 15/F Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Present	:	Shing-see LEE	(SSL)	Chairman
		Andrew CHAN	(AKYC)	
		Allan CHAN	(SKC)	
		Paul CHONG	(PC)	
		Luen-kiu CHOW	(LKC)	
		Ada FUNG	(AF)	for Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)
		Chi-wah LAI	(CWLi)	
		Robert LAM	(PHL)	
		Christopher LEUNG	(KYL)	
		Tak-ching MAK	(TCM)	
		Lawrence NG	(LN)	
		Melissa Kaye PANG	(MKP)	
		Kevin POOLE	(KP)	
		Mike WONG	(MW)	
		Wilfred Shek-chun WU	(WSCW)	
		Siu-hung CHAN	(SHC)	
		Hau-wai CHEUNG	(HWC)	
		Sze-chun WONG	(SCW)	
		Ringo Shek-man YU	(RiYu)	
		Chi-sing WAI	(CSW)	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
	Siu-wai HUI	(SWH)	Director of Buildings	
In Attendance	:	Dominic CHOW	(DCW)	Development Bureau
		Lionel LAU	(LYL)	Housing Department
		Christopher TO	(CT)	Executive Director
		Alex LEUNG	(AL)	Director – Training and Development
		Ivan WONG	(IW)	Director – Registration Services
		Miranda YEAP	(MYP)	Senior Manager – Council Services
		Belle HO	(CYH)	Manager – Council Services
Apologies	:	Tai-chong CHEW	(TCC)	
		Reuben CHU	(RCU)	
		Stephen LAI	(SLI)	

MINUTES

Open-door Session
Agenda Item

Action

[The open-door session of the meeting started at 4:00 p.m.]

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

Members referred to Paper CIC/CMT/M/006/14 and approved the minutes of the open-door session of the 6th meeting of 2014 held on Friday, 12 December 2014 at Meeting Room 1, Construction Industry Council Headquarters, 15/F Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

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

Item 6.9 of Meeting 006/14 AL delivered a powerpoint presentation on the progress of improving the retention rate of trainees.

In 2014, there were over 4,000 graduates with a placement rate of 90%. The 3-month retention rates for Basic Craft graduates and Short Course graduates were approximately 90% and 70% respectively. Surveys for 6-month and 12-month retention rates for Basic Craft and Short Course graduates would be conducted so as to have a more comprehensive review of the retention situation. For ECMTS graduates, the 3-month, 6-month and 12-month retention rates were approximately 80%, 70% and 68% respectively. Surveys were conducted to find out why students left the construction industry after training. One of the reasons was due to the expectation gap of the graduates on their income.

AL advised that a number of measures and new initiatives were implemented to improve the retention rate. They included:

- (a) Briefing sessions to newcomers
- (b) Mentorship Scheme
- (c) Career Seminars
- (d) CIC Trainees Alumni Association
- (e) Sharing Sessions by Trade Associations/

Open-door Session
Agenda Item

Action

Employers

- (f) Construction JobsNet
- (g) Subsidy on trade tests
- (h) Subsidy schemes on Apprenticeship scheme and On-the-job training

A Member acknowledged AL's effort in communicating with the stakeholders and said that support should be provided to both the trainees and the employers. The Chairman supported that effort should be continued to minimise the drop out rate of the graduates.

The development of qualification framework for the training courses would be further discussed in CITB.

[TCM left the meeting at this juncture.]

1.10 3rd Meeting of Committee on Procurement and Subcontracting for 2014

MYP briefed Members on the Paper CIC/CMT/P/005/15.

The following issues were highlighted:

- Item 3.3 –Members noted that the “Reference Materials on the Selection of Consultants” had been published on the CIC website. The Task Force Chairman would consider the possibility of organising a briefing session, seminar or forum for industry stakeholders in 2015.
- Item 3.6 – A visit to the Competition Commission was held on 20 January 2015 for Members to exchange views with the Commission on the Competition Ordinance and the Commission's draft guidelines.
- Item 3.9 (a) –The “Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration between the CIC and the NEC Contracts UK” was signed by the CIC Chairman in October 2014. As part of the collaboration, NEC would work in partnership with CIC to deliver the NEC ECC Project Manager Accreditation courses in Hong Kong. Several classes would be arranged in 2015 at the ZCB.

Open-door Session
Agenda Item

Action

- Item 3.9 (b) – A “Standard Form of On-Demand Bonds with Conditions” would be produced.

A Member enquired about the drafting of a simplified Standard Form of Domestic Subcontract. MYP explained that a task force member indicated, during a consultation conducted by the task force Chairman in December 2014, that the drafting of a simplified Standard Form was preferred to be conducted after legal vetting of the more comprehensive Standard Form of Domestic Sub-contract. MYP further supplemented that the legal vetting for the Standard Form would be completed soon and the matter could be further discussed in the committee or task force meeting.

The Chairman asked if there would be representative of HKCA in the meetings of the Task Force on Standard Contract Provisions for Domestic Subcontracts. SKC confirmed that there would be HKCA representative participating in the task force meetings.

Members had no comments on other items in Paper CIC/CMT/P/005/15.

1.11 10th Meeting of Construction Industry Training Board for 2014

AL briefed Members on the Paper CIC/CMT/P/006/15 and the progress of the Meeting No. 001/15 held on 13 January 2015.

The following issues were highlighted:

- Item [10.2] – Members noted proposed unified collaborative training scheme was being devised in consultation with the relevant stakeholders.
- Item 10.3 – Members noted that measures were taken to better utilize the training capacity, including referring applicants in the queue to take the courses with available training places.
- Item 10.4 – Members noted the waiting time for taking the trade tests of those six trades exceeding the two-month timeframe was expected to meet the target gradually in the first quarter of 2015.
- Item 10.12 – Members accepted the six benchmarks for

Open-door Session
Agenda Item

Action

measuring effectiveness of various cooperative training schemes. It was proposed that the same set of benchmarks be applied in CIC's in-house training courses as appropriate.

- Item 1.1 – Six new Members joined the CITB in 2015.
- Item 1.3 – The membership list of the four task forces under CITB were accepted.
- Item 1.9 – The implications to trade tests demand for the amendments to CWRO and the related publicity activities were noted.

Members had no comments on other items in Paper CIC/CMT/P/006/15.

1.12 1st Meeting of Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments for 2015

IW briefed Members on the Paper CIC/CMT/P/007/15.

The following issues were highlighted:

- Item 1.3 – In order to cope with a large number of trade test applications after the commencement of the Construction Workers Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2014 (Amendment Ordinance), Trade Testing Centre (TTC) would work out a proposal to meet the anticipated trade tests demand. For example, the sixth floor of the Aberdeen Management Training and TTC would be refitted to expand the trade test capacity.
- Item 1.4 – More than 2,000 workers applied for the pre-assessment of Senior Workers since its commencement on 2 January 2015.

CWRB secretariat would conduct an industry-wide consultation and trial runs of reasonable measures proposed for “Instruction and Supervision” and “Exempted Works” under the Amendment Ordinance, which would take place throughout 2015.

The new Construction Workers Registration System

Open-door Session
Agenda Item

Action

(CWRS) and the Mobile Device developed by CIC would soon be put up for on-site testing.

Members had no comments on other items in Paper CIC/CMT/P/007/15.

1.13 **1st Meeting of Construction Workers Registration Board for 2015**

Members took note of Paper CIC/CMT/P/008/15.

The following issues were highlighted:

- a) PC said that the estimated construction volume in 2014 based on collected levies was HK\$170 billion, while the total construction volume should be higher as some projects were not subject to payment of levy.
- b) There were 340,000 registered workers in Hong Kong, as at end 2014, of which 230,000 workers were active. The number of active workers was deduced after deducting 80,000 inactive workers and 30,000 drivers and security guards. The net growth in the number of registered workers was slow in view of increasing retiring workers.
- c) PC reported that due to technical difficulties encountered, it was not advisable to have parallel run of existing worker registration cards and the new cards. Rather, it was suggested replacing all existing new cards in one go. PC admitted that such arrangement might still have some potential risks. A Member supplemented that HKCA requested the new cards to allow for biometric authentication function though the requirement might be uplifted in public works contracts by DEVB later.

The Chairman suggested that the detailed implementation arrangements should be discussed with the industry stakeholders to ensure smooth transition.

Members had no comments on the items in Paper CIC/CMT/P/008/15.

[PC left the meeting at this juncture.]

Open-door Session
Agenda Item

Action

1.14 **4th Meeting of Committee on Construction Safety for 2014**

HWC briefed Members on the Paper CIC/CMT/P/009/15.

The following issues were highlighted:

- Item 4.4 – A new Safety Alert – Safety Use of Vertical Transportation at Construction Sites was published.
- Item 4.6 – The Guidelines on the Implementation of “P” and “N” Caring Programme was approved. Two Award Schemes with Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) would be continued.
- Item 4.8 – A new Poster on topics related to Work Safety on Vessels would be made. In addition, a Technical Seminar on Construction Work Safety Near Water was held on 4 December 2014.
- Item 4.9 – Construction Safety Poster No. P-CSY-002-14 (Safety for Construction Work carried out on, adjacent to or over Water – Prevention of Fall into Water) was published.
- Item 4.10 – Construction Safety Poster No. P-CSY-003-14 (Work Safety in Confined Spaces) was published.

Members had no comments on other items in Paper CIC/CMT/P/009/15.

1.15 **1st Meeting of Committee on Environment, Innovation and Technology for 2015**

Members were briefed by KP on the Com-EIT Meeting held on 15 January 2015.

The following issues were highlighted:

- Item 1.1 – The progress of the Research on River Sand Substitutes for Concrete Production and Cement Sand Mortar Production (Phase Two) was noted.
- Item 1.2 – Ten new carbon intensive construction materials were added to the Carbon Labelling Scheme and a number of applications on rebar, structural steel, and ready-mix concrete were received.

Open-door Session
Agenda Item

Action

- Item 1.3 – Members of Com-EIT endorsed the publication of the Hong Kong Construction Industry Performance Report for 2013.
- Item 1.4 – The aim of the Research and Survey on the C&D Waste in Hong Kong was to collect data on C&D waste composition for better strategic planning in construction waste management. KP recommended the committee to seek support from EPD and set up a task force to manage the progress of the survey.

A Member commented that similar studies were conducted before and they could be used as references. KP agreed.

- Item 1.5 – A number of comments had been received for the Assignment Brief for BIM Standards to Facilitate the Submission of GBP for Statutory Authorities (Phase One) and they would be discussed in the next committee meeting.
- Item 1.6 – The theme for BIM 2015 Year Plan would be “BIM Training, Intelligence Sharing, and Recognition of BIM Professional’s Qualification”.

Members had no further comments on the above items.

1.16 Any Other Business

AL reported that a Construction Supervisor/Technical Programme 2014 was published with resumés of the CIC graduates endorsed.

1.17 Tentative Date of Next Meeting 002/15

The next meeting was scheduled for 24 April 2015 (Friday) at 2:30 p.m. at Meeting Room 1, Construction Industry Council Headquarters, 15/F Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

All to note

There being no further business, the open-door session of the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

******End of the Open-door Session******