

Construction Industry Council

Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments

Meeting No. 003/14 of the Construction Workers Registration Board was held on Friday, 8 August 2014 at 3 pm at Conference Room, CIC Headquarters, 15/F, Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Summary notes of the Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments (SGICA) Meeting No. 003/14:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions / Progress Highlights
3.1	CIC/ICA/R/002/14	Confirmation of progress report of the last meeting Members confirmed the progress report of the second meeting held on 13 June 2014.
3.2	CIC/ICA/R/002/14	Matters arising from the last meeting Chairman advised the management to study some measures for the workers to take the construction trade tests or intermediate trade tests in batches before the deadline so as to avoid a large volume of workers taking the tests by the deadline. Concerning about new registration cards, Members noted that Construction Workers Registration Board decided to issue only one worker registration card per worker. The card included storing of biometric data of the card-holder based on his/her wish as requested by Hong Kong Construction Association (HKCA) and the details of arrangement would be discussed with HKCA.

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions / Progress Highlights
3.3	CIC/ICA/P/011/14 (for information)	<p>Corresponding distribution of skills against trade tests after the amendments to CWRO</p> <p>Members took note of the Paper. There were concerns that Bricklaying, Plastering and Tiling (Master) required the testing of masonry after the amendments to CWRO. Task Force on Trade Testing under CITB would study and follow it up for each of the trades.</p> <p>In addition, a Member expressed concern about whether some intermediate trade tests could be taken in written format to shorten the testing time. Director – Training & Development stated that Task Force on Trade Testing would regularly review the contents and efficiency of trade tests.</p> <p>Chairman opined that a schedule should be set up to ensure the completion of testing arrangements and administrative work for all new trade divisions before the passage of CWRO (Amendments). Manager – Construction Trade Testing stated that a work plan on the overall progress would be submitted in the next meeting.</p>
3.4	CIC/ICA/P/012/14 (for information)	<p>Review schedule on capacity and content for trade test after the amendments to CWRO</p> <p>Members took note of the Paper. As regards the estimation on demand for trade testing of various trade divisions with a schedule of work on corresponding measures developed in relation to the amendments to CWRO. Chairman responded that Task Force on Trade Testing would recommend relevant administrative measures such as arrangement of venues, outsourcing of tests etc. A Member suggested renting venues from labour unions for conducting trade tests but CIC staff should be designated as invigilators.</p>

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3.5	CIC/ICA/P/013/14 (for information)	<p>Report on the works of CWRB for the amendments to the CWRO</p> <p>Members took note of the Paper. As regards the tender preparation works of the card-reading device, Co-Chairman opined that requirements, such as asking the supplier to provide a place for inventory and maintenance of card-reading device as well as to have produced a certain number of devices during the trial run of the new system, should be included in the tender document. Director – Registration Services supplemented that a review on whether an update of card-reading device was necessary or not would be conducted every three years. As regards the promotion of remaining phases of Prohibitions under CWRO, representative of DEVB hoped that CWRB Secretariat could submit a timetable on implementation in the next meeting to facilitate a timely and smooth commencement of relevant publicity activities after the passage of the amendments to CWRO. In addition, Chairman requested CWRB Secretariat to conduct trial run on construction sites regarding Specified Form for “Exempted Emergency Construction Work”, Code of Practice on “Exempted Small Scale of Construction Work” and Code of Practice on “Instruction and Supervision” to understand the practicability of these measures and to develop a timetable for the trial run.</p>
3.6	Any Other Business	<p>A Member concerned that testing facilities and manpower resources might not be adequate to handle the number of applications if workers only applied for trade tests by the deadline, and for some of the trades there might be fewer registrations. Chairman said that workers should be encouraged to get registration and close attention should be paid to the situation of workers registration. Such relevant work would be followed up by CWRB.</p>

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Steering Group of Implementation of CWRO Amendments can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.