

Construction Industry Council

Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments

Meeting No. 004/16 of the Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments was held on Thursday, 24 November 2016 at 4:30pm at Board Room, CIC Headquarters, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Summary notes of the Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments (SGICA) Meeting No. 004/16:

| Agenda Item | Paper                                 | Major Resolutions / Progress Highlights   |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 4.1         | CIC/ICA/R/003/16                      | <b>Confirmation of Progress Report of the Last Meeting</b><br>The progress report of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> meeting in 2016 held on 18 August 2016 was confirmed.  |
| 4.2         | CIC/ICA/R/003/16                      | <b>Matter Arising from the Last Meeting</b><br>Regarding production schedule of trade tests videos, the Secretariat reported that Trade Testing Centre started filming of six videos in 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2016. It was expected that 15 videos would be completed by 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2017. In 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017, bar bender and electrical wireman would be filmed. There were 1,000 views in average for videos uploaded online. The Secretariat would request the video production house to trim each video in order to attract more people to watch them.  |
| 4.3         | CIC/ICA/P/006/16<br>(for information) | <b>Progress reporting on benchmark study of non-local workers' skill certificates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HKU reported that the team would validate and refine the proposed accreditation framework by seeking views of various stakeholder groups in the local construction industry; and propose a series of short, medium and long-term strategies to address the challenges and industry's concerns.</li><li>• The team visited Building Construction Authority in Singapore in July 2016; Taipo Training Ground in Hong Kong in August; the relevant training and trade test centres in Jinan, Guangzhou in September and October; Foshan and CIC centres in November. The team was visiting Construction Industry Development Board and Malaysian Construction Academy in Malaysia. Details of the visit to Malaysia would be reported at the next meeting.</li></ul> |

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| 4.3         | CIC/ICA/P/006/16<br>(for information) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HKU had submitted inception report to the CIC on 25 July 2016. The interim report stage 1 would be submitted on 12 December 2016. It would cover a draft Qualification Framework for three trades in the first batch.</li> </ul> <p><b>Number of Applications and Successful Registration of Skilled &amp; Semi-skilled Workers through Senior Worker Registration and Trade Tests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The accumulated number of applications for senior workers registration arrangement and trade tests had exceeded the cumulative target with nearly 150,000 applicants. A total number of 111,072 applications were received before the deadline of the senior workers registration arrangement on 30 September 2016, in which over 58,000 were received in August and September. As of mid-November, 58,727 applications were processed and the majority of the remaining applications were subject to verification of work experience carried out by the trade unions. The processing of all applications must be completed by 31 March 2017.</li> </ul> <p><b>Review of Number of Registered Skilled &amp; Semi-skilled Workers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat reported the registration figures of skilled workers as of end October 2016. Requested by the Development Bureau, the Secretariat would continue reviewing the number of registered skilled &amp; semi-skilled workers after 1 April 2017.</li> </ul> <p><b>Promotion and Education of “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” Provision</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminars on “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” (DWDS would be held on a monthly basis at the Resource Centre) for all industry stakeholders. Upon request of individual stakeholders, additional seminars would be organised.</li> <li>• In collaboration with the trade union, briefing session would be organised on construction sites about four times a month starting from October 2016. In addition, briefing sessions would also be arranged during trial run inspection. As of 31 October 2016, 32 briefing sessions were organised and attended by 370 participants.</li> </ul> |

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| 4.3         | CIC/ICA/P/006/16<br>(for information) | <p><b>Press Conference on “Designated Workers for Designated Skill” Provision</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A press conference would be organised at the Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB on 31 March 2017 to announce the implementation of the “Designated workers for designated skills” provision (DWDS) and to launch the mobile app for DWDS information.</li> </ul> <p><b>CWRS Early Bird Experience Programme</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported by the Secretariat, free rental of the CIC Device would be offered to each contractor for one construction contract from now to 30 June 2017 in order to have experience of using the new registration system. As of 10 November 2016, 47 contracts under 31 main contractors had registered for 153 CIC Devices, in which 21 contracts have integrated with biometric data authentication.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status Updates on Trade Testing Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat reported that there were 16,085 candidates applied trade tests from January to October 2016. It was expected that there would be more than 17,000 candidates throughout the year.</li> <li>• A member requested the CIC to review all trade tests in view of low passing rates of some trade tests. Development Bureau suggested establishing a working group to review trade test mode and content, and study whether trade tests could be conducted in modular basis, etc. Another member suggested the Secretariat to review job rotation of invigilators so that fair and objective assessment could be maintained.</li> <li>• The Secretariat provided subsidy schemes to trade test applicants continuously which would be ended by 31 March 2017. Review would be conducted afterwards.</li> <li>• The Secretariat was referencing mode of lunch seminars in order to provide briefing to participated workers and record queries raised by them, so as to analyse the ratio between trades and general trade test questions and plan for the strategy of the relevant site seminars. Four seminars in December would be referenced.</li> </ul> |

| <b>Agenda Item</b> | <b>Paper</b> | <b>Major Resolutions / Progress Highlights</b>   |
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|                    |              | (Post-meeting Note: There were 20,139 candidates applied trade tests from January to October 2016. It was expected that there would be more than 23,500 candidates throughout the year.)   |
|                    |              | <b>Cooperation with non-local training and trade test centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Secretariat planned to sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Guangzhou Construction Polytechnic and Foshan Sicheng Construction Training Centre. The MoU would be submitted to CITB for endorsement. The Secretariat would continue to further discuss on training cooperation with Dongguan Construction Training Centre for pilot trades and tower cranes.</li><li>• A member requested the Secretariat to provide the timetable of the cooperation.</li></ul> |

*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.*