

**Construction Industry Council**

**Committee on Environment**

Meeting No. 003/23 of the Committee on Environment (Com-ENV) was held on 5 September 2023 (Tuesday) at 14:30 at Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (Megabox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong, and online via MS Teams.

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Summary Notes of the Com-ENV Meeting No. 003/23

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights</b>
3.1	CIC/ENV/M/002/23 (for information)	<b>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> Members confirmed the minutes of the last Com-ENV meeting No. 002/23 held on Tuesday, 6 June 2023.
3.2	CIC/ENV/M/002/23 (for information)	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</b> The CIC Secretariat updated Members on the following:  <u>Item 2.3 – Progress Update on the Consultancy Services on Development of Strategy and Plan Directional Guideline for the Hong Kong Construction Industry Achieving Carbon Neutrality Target according to the Hong Kong’s Climate Action Plan 2050</u> A meeting with HKGBC would be convened to explore the potential synergies and collaboration between the CIC’s carbon neutrality directional guideline and HKGBC’s Climate Action Framework.

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		<p>The second stage payment of HK\$79,090 was released to China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group (CECEP).</p> <p><u>Item 2.4 – Progress Update on Smart Waste Management Tool (SWMT)</u> The pilot programme will be expanded from five to ten projects. The second stage payment of HK\$302,400 was released to Arcadis.</p> <p><u>Item 2.5 – Progress Update on CIC R&amp;D Fund Project – iBeam Unison</u> The stakeholder engagement exercise would be conducted to address the proposed change of scope of iBeam Unison.</p> <p><u>Item 2.6 – 2024 Business Plan and Budget</u> The HKGBC’s funding request for 2024 was approved in the last Council Meeting in August 2023.</p> <p><u>Item 2.8 – A.O.B.</u> <u>Progress Update on CIC Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition 2023 (GCSFE) and Sustainable Construction Award 2023</u> The contract for the Provision of Event Management and Production Services for GCSFE 2023 for CIC has been awarded following the approval in the last Com-ENV meeting and Council meeting. The event preparation already commenced in June 2023.</p>
3.3	CIC/ENV/P/013/23 (for approval)	<p><b>Progress Update on Smart Waste Management Tool</b></p> <p>Members were briefed on the project’s progress, including a study on the Environmental Protection Department’s C-Easy System and a subsequent system update of the Smart Waste Management Tool (SWMT) to ensure its compatibility with the EDP’s system.</p>

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		<p>The pilot programme would be expanded from five to ten projects, and would be shortened to two months until the end of November 2023. The SWMT is targeted for launching by the end of 2023.</p> <p>Members approved Paper CIC/ENV/P/013/23 and the additional budget of HK\$200,000 for the expansion of the pilot programme.</p>
3.4	CIC/ENV/P/014/23 (for approval)	<p><b>Progress Update on the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme</b></p> <p>Members were briefed on the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the ESG Consortium to promote green finance jointly. Members approved the proposed MoU but suggested further specifying the collaboration and follow-up actions with the ESG Consortium.</p> <p>Members were updated on the progress of the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme (SFCS), and the latest updates on international standards, including Green Loan Principles (GLP) and Sustainability-Linked Loan Principles (SLLP). It is suggested the SFCS should be updated accordingly.</p> <p>The CIC Secretariat introduced a discussion paper titled “Prototype of a Green Classification Framework for Hong Kong” issued by Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA). Members suggested that the CIC Secretariat should actively participate in the consultation process of the HKMA's classification framework, and the Working Group should further discuss the positioning and implementation strategy of the SFCS to keep abreast of the market situation.</p>
3.5	CIC/ENV/P/015/23 (for information)	<p><b>Progress Update on the Sustainability Report for the CIC</b></p> <p>Members were briefed on the scope of the consultancy services for the Sustainability Report for the CIC. Members suggested EY to add more organisations of similar scale in the peer benchmarking exercise.</p>

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		Members suggested that the CIC Secretariat should have flexibility and objectives to decide the publication time of the Sustainability Report and the disclosure reference standards to be adopted as deemed appropriate.
3.6	PowerPoint Presentation (for information)	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>(a) Progress Update on CIC Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition 2023 (GCSFE) and Sustainable Construction Award 2023</b></p> <p>The CIC Secretariat reported the progress on the CIC Global Construction Sustainability Forum and Exhibition (GCSFE) 2023. Members suggested displaying an upcycled art piece at the Forum venue, and inviting certain charter pledgees to take a group photo with the Financial Secretary on stage.</p> <p><b>(b) Progress Update on the HKGBC Projects Funded by the CIC</b></p> <p>Members were updated on the progress of CIC-funded HKGBC projects. Arup, the consultant engaged by HKGBC, presented the latest status on the Green Product Certification (GPC) Scheme enhancement study to identify opportunities for improving the quality and competitiveness of the Scheme.</p> <p>Members suggested HKGBC to invite experts from the material manufacturing sector to join the steering committee group, including upcycled/recycled materials and to explore the possibility of material upcycling to facilitate the implementation of material circularity.</p> <p><b>(c) Proposal on Green Data Hub</b></p> <p>BEAM Society Limited reported an interim report on the Green Data Hub proposal, which aims</p>

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		<p>to establish a single digital platform to store reliable data related to carbon emissions and other environmental performance aspects. Further discussions should be conducted regarding the positioning, ownership, development, maintenance, finance matters and data management at a later stage.</p> <p><b>(d) Progress Update on the CIC Carbon Assessment Tool</b></p> <p>Members were briefed on the CIC Carbon Assessment Tool (CAT) enhancement project, which included three significant updates, namely (1) improving user-friendliness and data reliability; (2) enhancing the efficiency of material searching and comparison; and (3) expanding the construction material database from approximately 900 pieces of data to over 2,000.</p> <p><b>(e) Progress Update on 2023 Business Plan &amp; Review of 2024 KPIs</b></p> <p>Members were updated on the progress of the 2023 Com-ENV business plan, including the latest status for each project under Com-ENV.</p> <p>The CIC Secretariat presented the modified 2024 business plan, with key performance indicators (KPIs) and the timeline.</p> <p>Regarding Carbon Neutrality for Construction Industry – Study on Site Electrification, Members suggested the CIC to prioritise actions based on workability and readiness of market supply, and to explore a more realistic approach to decarbonisation.</p> <p>Members suggested that the Circular Economy Building project should be funded by the Board of CIC-Zero Carbon Park, and the Com-ENV Committee should provide technical advice.</p>

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		<p><b>(f) Brainstorming Session – CIC’s ESG Initiatives</b></p> <p>Members were introduced the ESG incentive schemes currently available in the market.</p> <p>Members opined that while the CIC and Com-ENV have already launched many good initiatives which are all related to different aspects of ESG, it would be good to have some promotion efforts to reach out to the industry practitioners.</p> <p>Members suggested that the CIC to leverage the sustainability reporting exercise to identify and formulate CIC’s ESG strategy, framework and direction, to facilitate the CIC to brand its existing efforts and devise promotional initiatives accordingly to engage industry practitioners.</p> <p><b>(g) HKIQEP Legislation</b></p> <p>Representatives of the Hong Kong Institute of Qualified Environmental Professionals (HKIQEP) introduced their Institute and the proposed submission of Private Member Bill to the Legislative Council for the incorporation of the Institute. Members expressed their support.</p>

*Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed in the meeting of the Committee on Environment and the full progress report can be made available to Council Members from the CIC secretariat upon request.*