

**Construction Industry Council****Committee on Environment and Technology**

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Present:	Conrad WONG	(CW)	Chairman
	Andrew CHAN	(AC)	
	Tat-tong CHEUNG	(TTC)	
	Jan-ming KO	(JMK)	
	Peter LEE	(PL)	
	Choi-kai AU	(CKA)	Director of Buildings
	Pun-hing HO	(PHH)	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors
	Russell JONES	(RJ)	Hong Kong Construction Association
Anthony FOK	(AF)	Environmental Protection Department	
In Attendance:	Jonathan LEUNG		Development Bureau
	TAM Ka-Lok		Architectural Services Department
	Clifford CHENG		Housing Department
	Jason SYLVESTER		(for item 6.3)
	Christopher TO	(CT)	Executive Director
	Ivan WONG	(IW)	Senior Manager (Council Services) 2
	Phoebe LEUNG	(PLG)	Manager (Council Services) 2
Apologies:	Wo-hei LAM	(WHL)	
	Hau-wai CHEUNG	(HWC)	
	Wai-wai YU	(WWY)	
	Shiu-ming NG	(SMN)	Association of Plastering Sub-contractors
	Long PANG	(LP)	Construction Site Workers General Union
	Wing-wah CHUI	(WWC)	Development Bureau
	(represented by Mr Jonathan LEUNG)		
	Hon-kwok WONG	(HKW)	Architectural Services Department
	(represented by Mr. TAM Ka-Lok)		
	Connie YEUNG	(CYG)	Housing Department
(represented by Mr Clifford CHENG)			
Kwok-keung LI	(KKL)	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	

**PROGRESS REPORT**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Committee on Environment and Technology for 2009 will be held on 26 November 2009 (Thursday) at 2:30 pm at Hong Kong Construction Association, 16/F, 180 – 182 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

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**Action****6.1 Confirmation of the Progress Report of the Previous Meeting**

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/R/005/09 and confirmed the progress report of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting for 2009 held on Thursday, 24 September 2009 at Hong Kong Construction Association.

**6.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting****6.2.1 Guidelines on Trip-ticket System**

DevB had provided to the Secretariat with a draft updated Technical Circular on the Trip Ticket System and the Secretariat would start revising the first draft guidelines as discussed at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting for 2009.

**CIC**  
**Secretariat****6.2.2 Summary Report on Review of Local Construction Standards**

The Summary Report was endorsed by the CIC at its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting for 2009 on 30 October 2009. The Secretariat would arrange for its proofreading, editing and publication.

**CIC**  
**Secretariat****6.2.3 Task Force on Research Activities – discussion on research funding**

Discussed under Agenda Item 6.4

**6.2.4 Work plan for 2010**

Discussed under Agenda Item 6.10

**Action****6.3 Application of Radio-frequency Identification**

Members received a presentation from Mr. Jason Sylvester of Velocity Solutions on the application of Radio-frequency Identification (RFID) in concrete testing and precast elements. Members took note that the MTR had used the technology in its Disney Line construction project to ensure the quality and integrity of the concrete cube testing and were told that Velocity Solutions was the only company capable of providing such application. While considering the application appeared to be limited at this stage, Members noted that Housing Authority was at its early stage of investigating the potential usage of RFID in its housing projects. Members considered that the issue could be revisited with the findings of the Housing Authority and invited Housing Authority to share its findings with the Committee when it was ready.

**6.4 Update on Task Force on Research Activities**

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/030/09 and discussions were made in collaboration with item 6.4.1.

**6.4.1 Proposal on Research Administration**

Members considered the proposal set out in Paper CIC/ENT/P/031/09 was a good start for the CIC to encourage practical research activities through the rolling budget for a 5-year period while addressing the view of the CIC on provision of research funding on a need basis. A Member pointed out that the logic sequence was to define a research year plan with a five-year projection before coming up with a 5-year budget plan for research activities. Members agreed to the mechanism but given the research funding support arrangement was still new to the CIC, it would be better to kick off the 5-year rolling budget plan first and review the effectiveness of the arrangement after the 5-year period to decide the way

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forward. Members also agreed to the importance of the Committee's to set out good practices on research project administration and to keep track of the progress of research projects of the CIC as a whole. Members also agreed the emphasis was not limited to research but also on developing the research findings into practical solutions.

While there were comments on the detailed logistics, Members agreed to seek the CIC's endorsement on the rolling budget principle first before working on the detailed procedure. Members were aware of the closest meeting of Com/ANF being scheduled for 27 November 2009 which is the date after the present meeting and asked the Secretariat to try to table the proposal at the Com/ANF meeting for consideration with a view to seeking the endorsement of the CIC at its last meeting on 9 December 2009 before the expiry of current terms of office of the appointed CIC Members.

**CIC**  
**Secretariat****6.5 Update on Task Force on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/032/09 and supported the research proposal. The Secretariat would prepare funding request to the Com/ANF. In the meantime, the Secretariat would invite research institutes for expression of interest in accordance with the proposal.

**CIC**  
**Secretariat****6.6 Task Force on River Sand Substitutes Research – Proposed Membership**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/033/09. As there was no Members of the Committee participating in the Task Force which would create communication barrier between the Task Force and the Committee, Mr. Peter LEE (PL) volunteered to join the Task Force. DevB also said it would consider sending a

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representative to the Task Force if necessary and appropriate. In addition, the Secretariat was asked to invite HKCA to send representative to the Task Force.

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**Secretariat**

**6.7 Research on Establishing a Hong Kong Based Carbon Labelling Standard for Construction Materials**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/034/09

Before the discussion, PL declared his interest of being a colleague of the project coordinator for the proposed research. As the discussion was only technical sharing without decision-making, Members invited PL to stay at the meeting.

Members considered that the research topic was important in particular the formulation of strategies and measures to implement a carbon labelling standard for construction materials. However, Members wondered if there were any similarities between the outputs of the proposed research and the work already done by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department in the area of carbon emission. The Secretariat was asked to invite the project coordinator of the proposed research project to attend the next meeting of the Committee to elaborate the proposal and answer the questions raised by Members.

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**Secretariat**

**6.8 Tentative Work Plan for Year 2010**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/035/09

Members were in general agreed to the work plan as set out in the paper except the following items.

For Paragraph 4.4, Regarding the RFID, Members further discussed the subject and considered that the focus of the task should be on the exploration of possible applications of RFID in the construction industry rather than the detailed investigation on specific usage at this stage.

For Paragraph 2.3, Members acknowledged that the suspension of

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the study on adhesion technologies for external wall tiles by the Buildings Department was to avoid duplication of efforts as the CIC had already committed to carry on the study.

For Paragraph 4.3, some Members raised concern on the communication channel and reporting mechanism of the HKGBC to the Committee and the CIC to ensure that CIC could be fully aware of the progress of implementation of critical tasks of the HKGBC such as the development of BEAM Plus with CEPAS good practices incorporated. The Secretariat was asked to make proposal on the reporting line among HKGBC, ENT and CIC for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

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**Secretariat**

The Secretariat would circulate to Members a revised work plan with the above comments incorporated.

**CIC**  
**Secretariat****6.9 Sustainable Supply Chain Management in Construction**

The Chairman delivered a presentation to Members elaborating the areas of concerns in sustainable construction in particular the carbon emission and highlighted briefly possible actions which could be taken in the construction supply chain. Members agreed to the principle and suggested a road map could be set up for future development towards sustainability. The Secretariat was directed to come up with some research ideas that the Committee could consider in moving along with the sustainable construction.

**6.10 Tentative Meeting Schedule for 2010**

Members took note of the meeting dates of the Committee in 2010 as set out in Paper CIC/ENT/P/036/09

**6.11 Any Other Business**

6.11.1 A letter from the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) relating to the setting up of a task force on accreditation of construction products certification body. The Secretariat approached HKAS and understood that HKAS would like to invite CIC to send a representative to participate in the task force.

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**CIC**

**Secretariat**

Members decided that the Secretariat would join the task force and report to the Committee the matters arising from the task force.

6.11.2 A leaflet on calling for paper for the First International Conference on Sustainable Urbanization where the CIC was a non-financial supporter was tabled for Members information.

6.11.3 A letter from EPD on the First Stage Public Engagement Exercise for the Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives was tabled at the meeting. Members were reminded that it had been discussed at the CIC meeting that the CIC would generally not form a view on similar consultation but would leave it to individual Members to respond directly in their own capacities. AF encouraged Members to provide their opinions to the EPD as the proposed water quality objectives would have a wider coverage of the territorial marine water.

6.11.4 A letter from EPD announcing the effective date of the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) (Amendment) Regulation 2009 was tabled for Members' information.

**6.12 Tentative Date of Next Meeting for 2010**

7 January 2010 (Thursday) at 2:30 pm at Hong Kong Construction Association, 16/F, 180 – 182 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong **All to note**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.