

**Construction Industry Council**

Meeting No. 004/17 of the Construction Industry Council for 2017 was held on Friday, 25 August 2017 at 2:00pm at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

Present	:	Ka-kui CHAN	(KKCh)	Chairman
		Chi-chiu CHAN	(CCC)	
		Pat-kan CHAN	(CPK)	
		Allan Sau-kit CHAN	(SKC)	
		Paul Kin-lit CHONG	(PC)	
		Ivan Chin-shing FU	(FI)	
		Chi-wah LAI	(CWLi)	
		Stephen Yuk-fai LAI	(SLI)	
		Robert Ping-hong LAM	(PHL)	
		Christopher Kin-ying LEUNG	(KYL)	
		Kenneth Kon-fei MO	(KM)	
		Kwok-kwan NG	(NKK)	
		Lawrence San-wa NG	(LN)	
		Kevin POOLE	(KP)	
		Sze-chun WONG	(SCW)	
		Eliza Yeuk-lan WONG	(EWYL)	
		Sai-yen YU	(SYYu)	
		Ringo Shek-man YU	(RiYu)	
		Albert LAM	(ALa)	Acting Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
		Tin-cheung CHEUNG	(TnC)	Director of Buildings
	Ada Yin-suen FUNG	(AF)	for Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)	
In Attendance	:	Jacky WU	(JW)	Development Bureau
		Albert CHENG	(CTN)	Executive Director
		Alex LEUNG	(AL)	Director – Training and Development
		Cheryl IP	(CI)	Assistant Director - HR, Facilities Management & Admin
		Oi-yen LEE	(OYL)	Assistant Director – Registration Services
		Miranda YEAP	(MYP)	Senior Manager – Council Services
		Amy FUNG	(AyF)	Manager – Council Services
Apologies	:	Chi-keung HON	(HCK)	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Shu-jie PAN (PSJ)  
Derrick Yat-bond PANG (DP)  
Philco Nai-keung (NKW)  
WONG  
Wilfred Shek-chun WU (WSCW)

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[The open-door session of the meeting started at 5:20pm.]

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

Members referred to Paper CIC/CMT/M/003/17 and approved the minutes of the open-door session of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of 2017 held on Friday, 16 June 2017 at the Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

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

Nil.

**4.15 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Construction Industry Training Board for 2017**

The Chairman invited SKC to present Paper CIC/CMT/P/054/17 to Members before he left for another business engagement.

SKC highlighted the major items of the Paper as follows:

- Item 3.2 – Currently, applicants eligible for trade testing should possess a minimum of four years relevant working experience. In response to CITB Members' request, the CITB proposed to accept applicants with less relevant experience, but with supportive reference from employers or related labour unions. The effectiveness of this proposed arrangement would be reviewed after a trial of 6 months to one year.
- Item 3.3 – The estimated budget for CITB for financial year 2018 has been incorporated into the budget estimates of CIC and discussed under Agenda item 4.5.
- Item 3.4 – Regarding the pilot scheme, the CITB agreed to the daily extension of machinery operation training for one hour to shorten the training period and reduce the waiting time for applicants.
- Item 3.6 and 3.9 – To meet the training needs for general welders and structural steel welders, the CITB agreed to introduce welding simulators as auxiliary tools for training. Moreover,

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the management intended to extend the use of simulators to operational training on other construction machineries.

- Item 3.7 – The CITB targeted to hire full-time translators and instructors with good command of Cantonese, English and any other ethnic minority language, e.g. Nepali, to enhance the effectiveness of training to ethnic minority trainees.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/054/17.

[SKC left the meeting at this juncture]

#### **4.13 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Committee on Construction Procurement for 2017**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/052/17.

SLI highlighted the major items of the last meeting as follows:

- Item 2.4 – Consultancy report on “A Study of the Risk Sharing Pattern in the Construction Projects in Hong Kong” conducted by the HKCA was discussed at the last meeting. Committee Members were encouraged to review the report and to identify major issues for further investigation.
- Item 2.6(a) – Regarding the work progress of the Task Force on Selection of Contractors, a consultant has been engaged to prepare the reference materials and is expected to complete the assignment by the end of this year.
- Item 2.6(b) – Regarding the work progress of the Task Force on RMAA Procurement, the possible overlapping areas in respect of RMAA works covered by the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) and CIC were well noted. The direction and scope of works of CIC would be further discussed at the upcoming task force meeting.
- A technical seminar on “Rising Construction Cost” was held on 15 August 2017. Guest speakers including Sr YU Hon-kong, Rider Levett Bucknall Ltd., Mr Francis AU, ARCADIS, Ir John KWONG, Development Bureau, and Mr PAN Shujie, China State Construction Engineering (HK) Ltd. About 140 applicants attended the seminar on the day. In the evaluation

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questionnaire, participants expressed that they found the content of the seminar useful to their work and some showed interest in other topics concerning “use of BIM in local industry”, “technologies adopted in the construction industry”, “how to change the image and culture of the construction industry”, and “new initiatives to improve productivity”.

The Chairman said that the topic on high construction cost was discussed at the quarterly meeting with the Development Bureau few months ago. It was noted that one reason for the high construction cost was the excessive amount of inspection procedures and regulations incurred. CTN reported that CIC has commissioned a consultant to conduct a study on “Time, Cost and Quality”. A steering committee chaired by CTN would be established to work on the issue.

The Chairman requested CTN to submit an information paper on the said consultancy study at the next Council Meeting for 27 October 2017.

**CTN**

Members received the Paper CIC/CMT/P/052/17 with no further comments.

**4.14 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Committee on Productivity for 2017**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/053/17.

KYL highlighted the major items of the last meeting as follows:

- Item 2.3 – Regarding the research study on “A Comprehensive Productivity Appraisal of the Hong Kong Construction Industry” conducted by Dr. Wei PAN from the University of Hong Kong (HKU), Committee Members requested the HKU to provide an implementation plan against the measures recommended in the final report. The follow up work was underway.
- Item 2.4 – Regarding the study on “Achieving Productivity Leap through Construction Process Re-engineering” conducted by Mr Jeff FUNG from Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), Committee Members requested the HKPC to conduct field trials in order to quantify the effectiveness of their proposed measures. Moreover, budget was reserved in 2018 for further study on other categories of construction work.

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- Item 2.7 – Research Proposal on “A Feasibility Study of Lego-inspired Construction with Bendable Concrete” conducted by Professor Victor LI from the University of Michigan was presented to the Committee. This was a feasibility investigation into a tailor made Engineered Cementitious Composite (also called bendable concrete) taking into account the design of the joints between the bricks to finally achieve a prototype which could be assembled and dis-assembled for re-use. A footbridge prototype with built scale 1:5 would be provided to CIC later to demonstrate the idea.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/053/17.

**4.16 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Construction Workers Registration Board for 2017**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/055/17.

OYL highlighted the major items of the last meeting as follows:

- Item 3.3.2 – As the term of office of four Members of the Construction Workers Qualifications Board would be expired soon, the appointment exercise for the next term from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019 was underway. For this term, the Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong would be invited to represent major employers in the construction industry.
- Item 3.3.3 – For convenience sake, the new construction worker registration card was designed to store the card tapping records and construction-related certificates of qualifications obtained by the card owner. The CWRB approved a list of 20 relevant construction-related certificates of qualifications (e.g. the Certificate of Registration of Lift Worker) to be recorded on this new card. The Secretariat was liaising with relevant government departments to obtain their recognition to the relevant qualifications records stored on the new card. Upon the endorsement from these government departments, approval from the Secretary of Development would be sought to add the 20 certificates of qualifications to the new registration card.

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- Item 3.4.1 – Regarding welfare to registered construction workers, Board Members agreed to stop the allocation of resources to unattractive merchant discount scheme, and invest more effort to enhance the provision of medical examination and continue with scholarships for family members of registered construction workers, etc.

[KM left the meeting at this juncture]

- Item 3.5.2 – Since the implementation of the Designated Workers for Designated Skills (DWDS) on 1 April 2017, 355 construction sites subject to the DWDS were inspected and a total of 23 advices were issued. The Sub-committee on Registration Matters would monitor the situation and continue to enhance the inspection procedures.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/055/17.

**4.17 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments for 2017**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/056/17.

OYL highlighted the major item of the last meeting as follow:

- Item 3.3.1 – The consultant from the HKU has completed the draft final report on the “Consultancy Services for Establishing an Accreditation Framework for Qualifying Skilled Workers for the Hong Kong Construction Industry” with key results as follows:
  - (a) Development of skill standards for 15 trade divisions; and
  - (b) Recommendation on top-up training based on the comparison between CIC trade tests/intermediate trade tests and Skills Evaluation Certificate (Knowledge) trade tests offered by the Building and Construction Authority in Singapore.

Subsequent to the approval of the final report, follow up actions would be allocated to the CITB or CWRB subject to the nature of the tasks.

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Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/056/17.

**4.18 Any Other Business**

**4.18.1** The Chairman invited MYP to brief Members on the progress of the CIC Construction Innovation Award 2017. MYP reported that by the deadline for applications (i.e. 15 August 2017), a total of 122 applications were received, which doubled the number of applications for 2015. The applications were well distributed among the different categories of awards. The judging work would start soon and the award presentation ceremony would be held on 15 December 2017 at JW Marriot Hotel Hong Kong.

**4.18.2** The Chairman briefed Members on the forthcoming events of the CIC. The major events were summarised as follow:

- Construction Safety Week would be held in late September 2017.
- Dinner Reception of the Hong Kong Construction Industry to Celebrate the 68<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the PRC would be held on 28 September 2017.
- Awards Presentation Ceremony of CIC Scholarships for Family Members of Registered Construction Workers 2017 would be held on 7 October 2017.

**4.18.3** The Chairman announced that ALa would soon retire and it would be the last time for him to participate in the Council Meeting. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to ALa for his participation and support to the CIC's work.

**4.19 Tentative Date of Next Meeting 005/17**

The next meeting was scheduled for 27 October 2017 (Friday) at **All to note** 2:00pm at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

There being no further business, the open-door session of the meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm.