

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 001/20 of the Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) was held on 5 June 2020 (Friday) at 9:30am at Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (MegaBox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay.

Summary Notes of the CWRB Meeting No. 001/20.

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
1.1	CIC/CRB/M/004/19	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of Meeting No. 004/19.
1.3	CIC/CRB/P/001/20 (for information)	Promulgation of monthly pay for partial construction workers (a) For the long-term development of the construction industry, the CIC formulated “Magnificent 8” initiatives in 2019. Among which, the CWRB was assigned to follow up on the promulgation of monthly pay for partial construction workers. (b) Members agreed that promulgating monthly pay for partial construction workers is beneficial for the development of construction industry, especially for increasing the sense of belonging; enhancing site safety; improving work quality; implementing systematic training; and optimizing site supervision. (c) Members discussed the definition of monthly pay. With reference to the Employment Ordinance’s definition on monthly pay, members exchanged views on the subject matter taking into account the characteristics of the construction industry. Members opined that

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		<p>the monthly pay can be the basic salary of construction workers. Work beyond the basic pay contract can allow cross-company work or will be regarded as overtime work with overtime pay entitlement.</p> <p>(d) The industry faces challenges in respect of workers and employers. It is necessary to educate workers on the characteristics and benefits of the monthly salary system and to study whether measures to support small and medium enterprises are needed.</p> <p>(e) In terms of promulgation strategy, it is recommended to enhance the requirements specified in the procurement contracts so as to raise standard of the whole industry and create an atmosphere to gradually implement the monthly pay for partial construction workers. With the contract specification on number of workers hired under monthly pay, the relevant costs can be incorporated in the contract amount.</p>
1.4	CIC/CRB/P/002/20 (for approval)	<p>Tender Recommendation for Provision of Card Printer Supplies and Accessories for Construction Industry Council</p> <p>(a) The CIC would like to engage a vendor to provide various types of card printer supplies and accessories including card printer ribbons, nozzles, cleaning accessories and card protective coating tapes for relevant departments.</p> <p>(b) The CWRB approved to award the relevant contract, with the contract period from 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2023.</p>
1.5	CIC/CRB/P/003/20 (for endorsement)	<p>CWRB 2021 Budget and Work Plan</p> <p>The CWRB endorsed 2021 budget and work plan. The Finance Department would consolidate the budgets and work plans of all CIC committees and departments, adjust the budget in accordance with the overall budget target of the CIC, and submit it to the CIC for approval.</p>

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1.6.1	CIC/CRB/P/004/20 (for information)	Sub-committee on Data Analysis (a) Projected from data integrated with telephone survey conducted in the first quarter of 2020, 327,782 workers were engaged in the construction industry and 163,794 workers were not engaged in construction works as of 30 April 2020. (b) The CWRB noted that with the completion of ten major infrastructure projects and uncertain market conditions, the overall project volume has started to decline in the past three years, especially for public sector sites. (c) The construction industry has been affected by the COVID-19 epidemic. The number of daily attendance records of registered workers in the first quarter of 2020 was noticeably lower than that in the same period of 2019 by about 10%, which was about 11,000 workers. (d) In order to further facilitate the industry's understanding on the characteristics of different trades and to facilitate CIC to formulate training strategies, two new dashboards were created. Vertical mobility analysis involves the skill level distribution and age group demography of semi-skilled and skilled workers from different trades, whereas horizontal mobility analysis considers the characteristics and possibilities of multi-skills development for workers.

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1.6.2	CIC/CRB/P/005/20 (for information)	<p>Sub-committee on Workers Development and Welfare</p> <p>(a) Preparatory work for the launch of the construction industry unionpay dual currency credit card as collaborated with China Construction Bank (Asia) (CCB) will be completed by July 2020. However, in view of the outbreak situation of COVID-19 and the suspension of cross-border activities, the CWRB considered that it was not the appropriate time to launch the credit card. It suggested that the credit card should be launched in conjunction with the economic recovery of society in the second half of the year, as well as the drive of retail sentiment and the timing of relaxation of cross-border restriction. The Secretariat will further discuss with CCB regarding the launch details.</p> <p>(b) The CWRB took note that the Committee on Construction Safety endorsed the research study “Health Profiling of Construction Workers in Hong Kong” prepared by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. To follow up with the research, three new check-up items will be added in the tender document of the Medical Examination Scheme to be carried out in 2021, namely high-density cholesterol, low-density cholesterol and triglycerides.</p> <p>(c) The themes of the Construction Workers Festival 2020 are “Construction Technology” and “Personal Health”. A total of 7 events will be held from July to October. The format of events will be flexibly adjusted in response to the latest development of the COVID-19 outbreak and implementation of the prohibition on group gathering.</p>
1.6.3	CIC/CRB/P/006/20 (for approval)	<p>Workers Registration Office</p> <p>(a) Total number of workers with valid registration as of 30 April 2020 was 491,576, comprising 205,126 registered skilled workers, 31,281 registered semi-skilled workers and 255,169 registered general workers.</p>

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		(b) The current tenancy of the CIC Service Centre (Tsing Yi) at Tsing Yi MTR Station will expire on 29 September 2020. The CWRB approved the renewal of the tenancy of the CIC Service Centre (Tsing Yi) for a period from 30 September 2020 to 29 September 2025 (5 years) and authorized the CIC Secretariat to finalise the relevant tenancy details and sign the new tenancy agreement with MTR Corporation Limited.
1.6.4	CIC/CRB/P/007/20 (for endorsement)	Inspection and Enforcement (a) In the first quarter of 2020, a total of 253 construction sites and 2,468 workers registration cards were inspected. A total of 713 workers' daily attendance records were checked. (b) A total of 44 prosecution summonses were issued in the first quarter of 2020. (c) In the first quarter of 2020, a total of 3 seminars on "Designated Workers for Designated Skills" and "Construction Workers Registration System" were held. A total of 44 industry practitioners attended.

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the meeting of CWRB and/or the full Minutes can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.