

**Construction Industry Council**

**Construction Workers Registration Board**

Meeting No. 002/22 of the Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) was held on 10 June 2022 (Friday) at 2:30pm HKIC Conference Room, 4/F, Hong Kong Institute of Construction (Kowloon Bay Campus), 44 Tai Yip Street, Kowloon Bay and via Video Conference.

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Summary Notes of the CWRB Meeting No. 002/22:

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights</b>
-	-	Members took note and welcomed Mr. NG Ho-wang, Chief Occupational Safety Officer (Operations), who succeeded Mr. CHAN Ka-lai to join CWRB.
2.1	CIC/CRB/M/001/22	<b>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> Members confirmed the minutes of Meeting No. 001/22.
2.2	-	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</b> Members took note of the progress on the matters arising from the previous meeting.
2.3	CIC/CRB/P/010/22 (for endorsement)	<b>CWRB 2023 Budget and Work Plan</b> Members endorsed the CWRB 2023 Budget and Work Plan. Highlights of the 2023 Work Plan are as follows:  (a) operate two CIC Service Centres and provide multiple-channel workers registration application services with an estimate of 36,000 new applications, 79,052 renewal applications, and 28,500 applications for updating information;

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) provide one-stop-service to process applications for trade test and training courses application with an estimate of 36,000 applications in total;</li> <li>(c) conduct maintenance work for air-conditioning system, outdoor wooden platform and indoor rubberized rollouts at CIC Service Centre (Kowloon Bay);</li> <li>(d) conduct regular and ad hoc site inspections as well as compliance checks on submission of daily attendance records (DAR) in accordance with the established guidelines, initiate investigation and prosecution against offenders for breaching the requirements of the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (CWRO) in accordance with the established enforcement guidelines and prosecution policies, and proactively educate and promote the CWRO requirements to the industry;</li> <li>(e) organise various programs for workers development and welfare, including Construction Workers Professional Development Scheme, Construction Workers Festival, Medical Examination Scheme (MES) and Scholarship for Family Members of Registered Construction Workers;</li> <li>(f) conduct research and survey on frontline practitioner competence;</li> <li>(g) perform quarterly analysis on workers data, including data from Construction Workers Registration System (CWRS) and telephone survey, and publish the results on the CIC website;</li> <li>(h) maintain and enhance the CWRS and the mobile app; and</li> <li>(i) develop new integrated registration website covering registration information of companies, frontline practitioners and repair/maintenance.</li> </ul>
2.4	CIC/CRB/P/011/22 (for approval)	<p><b>Tender Recommendation for Medical Examination Scheme for Construction Workers (2022 – 2025)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) CWRB approved the tender invitation for three-year Medical Examination Scheme (MES) at CWRB Meeting 001/22. The CIC completed the tender process and tender assessment in accordance with the Procurement Manual;</li> </ul>

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		<p>(b) Members noted that if demand for MES is overwhelming, additional service quota could be budgeted and procured according to the CIC Budget Policy and Procurement Manual; and</p> <p>(c) Members approved the tender recommendation for MES.</p>
2.5	CIC/CRB/P/012/22 (for approval)	<p><b>Nominations for the Construction Workers Qualifications Board</b></p> <p>(a) Members approved the appointment of Ir Alfred LEUNG Wai-ho as the Chairperson of Construction Workers Qualifications Board (QB) for a term from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024; and</p> <p>(b) Members approved the invitation to Development Bureau, Housing Department, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Labour Department, Drainage Services Department, Vocational Training Council, The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, The Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors Limited, The Federation of Hong Kong Electrical and Mechanical Industries Trade Unions, and Hong Kong Construction Industry Registered Specialist Trade Union Federation, as nominating organisations to recommend 10 nominees, succeeding QB Members who would retire at the end of 2022.</p>
2.6	CIC/CRB/P/013/22 (for information)	<p><b>Review on Enhancing Industry Standards of Bamboo Scaffolding</b></p> <p>In view of recent occurrence of fatal accidents relating to truss-out bamboo scaffolds, the CIC explored measures in training, trade tests and workers registration targeting to enhance industry standards and prevent recurrence of fatal accidents. After Members' discussion, given the diverse views from stakeholders and complexity of the topic, the subject matter would be further explored and discussed by the Sub-committee on Registration Matters.</p>
2.7	CIC/CRB/P/014/22 (for approval)	<p><b>Membership and Terms of Reference of the Task Force on Electronic Construction Workers Registration Card</b></p> <p>(a) Members approved the establishment of the Task Force on Electronic Construction Workers Registration Card (Task Force). The terms of reference are to:-</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) explore available technologies on Electronic Construction Workers Registration Card (e-Card) and its compatibility with CWRS;</li> <li>(ii) discuss the e-Card format and other associated functions as required by industry stakeholders;</li> <li>(iii) review the specification of registration card under the CWRO; and</li> <li>(iv) propose follow up actions to CWRB.</li> </ul> <p>(b) Members approved the appointment of Mr. Franki CHAN Shut-ho, as Chairperson of the Task Force, and the other eight Task Force Members.</p>
2.8	CIC/CRB/P/015/22 (for information)	<p><b>Report of the Task Force on Electronic Construction Workers Registration Card Brainstorming Session</b></p> <p>Members of Task Force made initial recommendation on e-Card’s function and requirement as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) store and instant update information of workers’ other qualification;</li> <li>(b) keep “tap card” action for workers to access the construction sites;</li> <li>(c) use mobile app in smartphone for ease of operation to workers;</li> <li>(d) protect and respect personal data privacy with workers’ consent of information collected; and</li> <li>(e) log the trade performed by workers daily.</li> </ul>
2.9	CIC/CRB/P/016/22 (for approval)	<p><b>Report of Sub-committee on Data Analysis Meeting No. 001/22</b></p> <p>(a) In view of the surge of the total number of registered construction workers and the engagement rate of workers participating in construction industry from telephone survey, enhancing analytics model was required for better estimation of total number of workers engaged in the construction industry. The CIC engaged a consultancy firm to conduct a review and make recommendation on the enhancement. The recommendation was endorsed by Sub-committee on Data Analysis. Given the significant increase in number of workers engaged in the construction industry arising according to the enhanced analytics</p>

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		<p>model, self-explanatory notes should be published together with the new set of data to facilitate industry stakeholders to understand the new data.</p> <p>(b) Due to the fifth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of workers with DAR decreased while the unemployment rate of construction industry increased in February and March 2022. Amid the receding pandemic, the number of workers with DAR in April 2022 resumed to normal level before the fifth wave pandemic.</p>
2.10	CIC/CRB/P/017/22 (for information)	<p><b>Report of Sub-committee on Workers Development and Welfare Meeting No. 002/22</b></p> <p>(a) The beneficiaries in the new round of MES would be registered skilled workers/registered semi-skilled workers aged 50 or above. Workers could participate in MES through online application at a cost of HK\$10.</p> <p>(b) To gain exposure and increase participation of Construction Workers Professional Development Scheme, Members recommended advertising in social media as well as promotion to contractors, subcontractors and property management companies.</p> <p>(c) As pandemic situation stabilised, various face-to-face events were organised including iHub Guided Tour, Territory-wide Physical Fitness Survey for the Community, health checks under current MES contract, promotion counter of CCB (Asia) Construction Industry UnionPay Dual Currency Credit Card, and seasonal gift distribution.</p> <p>(d) “Smart worker helmet” was the prototype of mascot design for the CIC Registration Services. The Secretariat continued working with the designer to develop different styles of mascot to be applied for promotion for Registration Services.</p> <p>(e) Sub-committee on Workers Development and Welfare would explore the standard of welfare facilities at construction sites for continuous improvement of site environment.</p>
2.11	CIC/CRB/P/018/22 (for information)	<p><b>Report of Workers Registration Office</b></p> <p>As of 30 April 2022, the total number of workers with valid registration was 584,495, comprising 204,353 registered skilled workers, 34,380 registered semi-skilled workers and 345,762 registered general workers.</p>

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2.12	CIC/CRB/P/019/22 (for information)	<b>Report of Inspection and Enforcement</b> (a) From January to March 2022, a total of 202 construction sites and 1,575 workers registration cards were inspected. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the actual number of inspection was below target for the first quarter, while the number of daily attendance records checked exceeded target to 741 for the same period. (b) From January to March 2022, a total of 109 summonses were issued. (c) From January to March 2022, two seminars on “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” and “Construction Workers Registration System” were held. A total of 41 industry practitioners attended.
2.13	-	<b>Any Other Business</b> The Executive Director expressed gratitude to CWRB Members, including Ir Kenneth MO Kon-fei, Prof. Raymond CHAN Kwok-hong, Sr Peter DY Wai-fung, Mr. Simon KWOK Tung-keung, Ir Prof. PAN Wei, Mr. TSANG Ting-fat and Ar. Franklin YU who would retire from CWRB. They significantly contributed to promote quality workers registration as well as workers development and welfare during their tenure in CWRB. The CIC looked forward to continuous collaboration with Members in different aspects for the development of construction industry.

*Remarks: The mentioned papers and/or progress reports discussed at the Construction Workers Registration Board can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.*