

**Construction Industry Council**

**Committee on Environment and Technology**

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Meeting No. 003/10 of the Committee on Environment and Technology for 2010 was held on 2 July 2010 (Friday) at 2:30 pm at Hong Kong Construction Association, 16/F, 180 – 182 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present:	Conrad WONG	(CW)	Chairman
	Andrew CHAN	(AC)	
	Wo-hei LAM	(WHL)	
	Wai-wah HO	(WWH)	
	Jan-ming KO	(JMK)	
	Joseph LEE	(HWL)	
	Choi-kai AU	(CKA)	Director of Buildings
	Connie YEUNG	(CYG)	for Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)
	Tat-tong CHEUNG	(TTC)	Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
	Ping-wai CHOW	(PCH)	Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union
	Wing-wah CHUI	(WWC)	Development Bureau
	Anthony FOK	(AFK)	Environmental Protection Department
	Pun-hing HO	(PHH)	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors
	Russell JONES	(RJ)	Hong Kong Construction Association
	Peter LEE	(PL)	The University of Hong Kong
	Derrick PANG	(DP)	Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited
In Attendance:	Yuen-fong CHEUNG	(YFC)	Architectural Services Department
	Christopher TO	(CT)	Executive Director
	Guiyi LI	(GYL)	Senior Manager (Research)
	Ivan WONG	(IW)	Senior Manager (Council Services) 2
	Phoebe LEUNG	(PLG)	Manager (Council Services) 2
	<u>For Agenda Item 3.3 only</u>		
	John HUNG		Innovation and Technology Commission
	Terence CHAN		Hong Kong Accreditation Service
	Chin-keung CHEUNG		Hong Kong Accreditation Service



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3.2.2 Membership of Task Force on Carbon Labelling Standard for Construction Materials

Discussed under Agenda Item 3.4

3.2.3 Comments on Draft Guidelines on Trip Ticket System for Disposal of Construction & Demolition Materials in Private Sector Works

Discussed under Agenda Item 3.7

3.2.4 Exploring RFID Applications

The CIC Secretariat would invite the Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies to give a presentation to the Committee about the possible RFID applications in Hong Kong construction industry. The presentation was tentatively scheduled for 7 October 2010.

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3.2.5 Com-ENT Seminar Programme

Discussed under Agenda Item 3.6

**3.3 Report of the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification (HKCTC)**

*[Mr John HUNG, Mr Terence CHAN and Mr Chin-keung CHEUNG joined the meeting at this juncture.]*

Members received a presentation from the Innovation and Technology Commission (“ITC”) on the development of testing and certification industry as well as the schemes of the Innovation and Technology Fund (“ITF”). Members appreciated that certification services for construction materials would help promote quality assurance in the construction industry and felt that there would be collaboration opportunities between the ITC and the CIC in the areas of product certification. As the Housing Department (“HD”) had implemented requirements of product certification for certain building materials in its works projects, Ms Connie YEUNG kindly consented to arrange a presentation to share HD’s experience with Members.

**CYG**

Members urged greater support from the ITC on

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construction-related research and development (“R&D”) in view of the industry needs and invited ITC representatives to attend future meetings of the Task Force on Research Activities to facilitate the promotion of construction-related R&D. Members also suggested the CIC to provide technical input to the relevant funding bodies, such as the ITF, during the approval process of construction-related research proposals.

*[RJ left the meeting at this juncture.]*

*[Mr John HUNG, Mr Terence CHAN and Mr Chin-keung CHEUNG left the meeting after the presentation.]*

**3.4 Task Force on Carbon Labelling Standard for Construction Materials – Submission of Research Proposal**

*[Dr James WONG joined the meeting at this juncture.]*

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/012/10 and received a presentation from Dr James WONG on the revised proposal for the Research on Establishing a Hong Kong Based Carbon Labelling Framework for Construction Materials (“Research-CLS”).

*[Prof Joseph LEE and Mr Peter LEE had declared that they and the project proponent were working at the same university though they were not involved in the proposed Research-CLS. They both abstained from commenting on the proposal.]*

Compared with the Consultancy Study on Life Cycle Energy Assessment of Building Construction commissioned by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Dr WONG advised that the aforementioned study focused on the life cycle environmental impacts quantified by a set of 10 impact indicators whereas the proposed Research-CLS would specifically investigate greenhouse gas emission levels of construction materials and devise a benchmarking system to facilitate selection of low carbon construction materials.

*[Dr James WONG left the meeting after the presentation.]*

After deliberation, Members approved the proposal of the Research-CLS. The CIC Secretariat was directed to seek endorsement from the Committee on Administration and Finance

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and the CIC in order to commission the project proponent to conduct the research.

**3.5 Commitment towards Sustainable Urbanisation in Hong Kong – Construction Industry Perspective**

*[Prof Li-yin SHEN, Dr Bo-sin TANG, Dr Yat-hung CHIANG and Mr Jose Jorge OCHOA joined the meeting at this juncture.]*

*[Prof Jan-ming KO declared that he and the project proponent were working at the same university though he was not involved in the proposed research titled “Commitment towards Sustainable Urbanisation in Hong Kong – Construction Industry Perspective” (“Research-SU”). As the discussion focused on technical sharing without decision-making, Members invited Prof KO to stay at the meeting.]*

The project proponent gave a presentation to Members elaborating on the research objectives and significance. Based on the best practices of other Asian cities, the deliverables of the project would include a list of recommendations for enhancing construction industry contributions to sustainable urbanisation in Hong Kong and an assessment of Hong Kong’s commitment to sustainable urbanization.

*[LWH left the meeting at this juncture.]*

*[Prof Li-yin SHEN, Dr Bo-sin TANG, Dr Yat-hung CHIANG and Mr Jose Jorge OCHOA left the meeting after the presentation.]*

Members also received a full proposal on the Research-SU at the meeting and agreed to defer the discussion on project details at the next meeting.

**All**

**3.6 Task Force on Research Activities**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/014/10 and agreed that half-day seminars organised by the Committee, such as the proposed Technology Day, should be held once a year. For possible seminar to be held in October 2010, an overview of research projects managed by the Committee could be the subjects to discuss. The CIC Secretariat was requested to prepare a proposal for Members’ consideration at the next meeting. Members also considered that such kind of seminars could only be

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conducted once or at most twice a year.

Members also noted that the Inaugural CIC Conference would be held in March 2011.

3.6.1 Proposed Research Funding Application Procedures

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/015/10 and the explanations given by the Task Force on Research Activities (“TF-RA”) on the following issues:

- (a) Collaboration with the ITF – The TF-RA had considered the grant of matching funds for research projects supported by the ITF but concluded that the proposed CIC research funding scheme should be launched quickly as an interim measure to meet the industry needs. The TF-RA would explore collaboration opportunities with the ITC and enhance the scheme at a later stage.
- (b) Ownership of intellectual property rights (“IPR”) – Under normal circumstances, approved projects would be offered full funding support and the IPR of the funded research projects should be wholly owned by the CIC for the use of the industry. Understanding that the ITC was reviewing its relevant policies, the TF-RA would communicate with the ITC on such issue in due course.

After deliberation, Members approved the Research Funding Application Procedures as set out in the Paper for endorsement by the CIC.

*[HWL left the meeting at this juncture.]*

*[Given that the Members remained at the meeting were below the quorum stipulated under the Meeting Rules of Committees of the CIC, the meeting continued for sharing views without making further decisions.]*

**3.7 Comments on Draft Guidelines on Trip Ticket System for Disposal of Construction & Demolition Materials in Private Sector Works**

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/016/10 and a letter from

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the Environment Bureau on measures to combat fly-tipping and land filling activities.

Regarding stakeholders' comments on the draft guidelines as set out at Annex A of the Paper, Members requested the CIC Secretariat to follow up on the below issues:

- (a) Point 15: to seek help from the Environmental Protection Department ("EPD") regarding the reasons for requesting submission of maintenance/ final certificates;
- (b) Point 22: to seek clarification from the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors on the details of "domestic renovation projects" and "no existing registration system" as per their comments before deciding whether the proposed Guidelines should be applicable to domestic renovation projects or not;
- (c) Point 23: to revise the relevant points as the same treatment applicable to maintenance permanent contracts; and
- (d) Point 29: to check with the EPD about the retention period of disposal records posted on the EPD website.

*[JMK, WWC and WWH left the meeting at this juncture.]*

It was also suggested that pilot projects should be run to test the viability of the TTS in private works projects. The CIC Secretariat was directed to seek assistance from Mr Russell JONES on the proposed arrangement.

**RJ/CIC  
Secretariat**

The CIC Secretariat was requested to further revise the draft guidelines. Discussion would be continued at the next meeting.

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*[CT and CYG left the meeting at this juncture.]*

**3.8 Consultation on Control of Emission from Non-Road Mobile Sources**

*[Mr Eric WONG joined the meeting at this juncture.]*

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/017/10.

Mr WONG briefed Members on the proposal to control emissions of non-road mobile sources. In view of administrative efficiency, the EPD would consider granting blanket approval to those machine models in compliance with the statutory emission

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standards instead of every single machine. Members were advised to give their comments, if any, on the proposal to the CIC Secretariat for onward submission to the EPD.

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*[Mr Eric WONG left the meeting after discussion of the proposal.]*

**3.9 Performance Indicators for Construction Industry**

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/018/10.

A Member reminded that setting clear objectives would be favourable to determining suitable key performance indicators (“KPIs”). Members viewed that in the short term, a set of KPIs could be worked out with reference to those adopted by overseas countries. In the long term, a research project might be conducted to give an in-depth and comprehensive study on the local construction industry and its performance assessment systems.

*[DP left the meeting at this juncture.]*

The Secretariat was requested to work out a set of sample KPIs for reference and discussion at the next meeting. In addition, a research brief should be drafted to embark on a comprehensive study on industry performance assessment systems.

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**3.10 Task Force on River Sand Substitutes Research – Progress Update**

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/019/10. The Research on River Sand Substitutes was planned to be conducted in two phases. The first phase would focus on reviewing the existing use of river sand and identifying suitable substitutes for practical use in cement mortar production and application of cement sand rendering and plaster in Hong Kong. The second phase would involve extensive laboratory and on-site testing with a view to developing relevant standards and specifications.

**3.11 Task Force on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles – Progress Update**

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/020/10. An excerpt of the project inception report was tabled at the meeting to give details of the proposed site testing and inspections for the research.



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Members suggested the CIC Secretariat to approach the Architectural Services Department and the Housing Department to assist in identifying and providing five suitable building sites for such purposes.

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**3.12 Follow-up Actions on CIRC Recommendations**

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/013/10. Regarding prefabricated construction and use of standardised and modular components, these initiatives had been widely adopted in the Hong Kong Housing Authority projects since the issuance of the CIRC report though no particular actions was taken by the CIC. The CIC Secretariat would propose follow-up actions for Members' consideration.

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**3.13 Any Other Business**

Members took note of the Green Plus Program 2010 organised by the CLP and agreed that the Program could be supported and the CIC Secretariat would discuss it with the CIC Chairman.

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

24 August 2010 (Tuesday) at 2:30 pm at Hong Kong Construction Association, 16/F, 180 – 182 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

**All to note**

The remaining Members departed at 5:30 pm.