

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment and Technology

Meeting No. 002/10 of the Committee on Environment and Technology for 2010 was held on 1 April 2010 (Thursday) at 2:30 pm at Room 1201, Murray Building, Central, Hong Kong.

Present:	Conrad WONG	(CW)	Chairman
	Siu-hung CHAN	(SHC)	
	Hau-wai CHEUNG	(HWC)	
	Wai-wah HO	(WWH)	
	Jan-ming KO	(JMK)	
	James KWAN Yuk-choi	(YCK)	
	Joseph LEE Hun-wei	(HWL)	
	Kam-hung YU	(KHY)	
	Choi-kai AU	(CKA)	Director of Buildings
	Connie YEUNG	(CYG)	for Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)
In Attendance:	Tat-tong CHEUNG	(TTC)	Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
	Wing-wah CHUI	(WWC)	Development Bureau
	Russell JONES	(RJ)	Hong Kong Construction Association
	David HA	(KKH)	Environmental Protection Department
	Jonathan LEUNG	(MHL)	Development Bureau
	Steve TAM	(STA)	Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited
	Hon-kwok WONG	(HKW)	Architectural Services Department
	Henry SUEN	(HS)	Manager (Research)
	Ivan WONG	(IW)	Senior Manager (Council Services) 2
	Phoebe LEUNG	(PLG)	Manager (Council Services) 2
	<u>For Agenda Item 2.3 only</u>		
	Paul HO	(PHO)	Chairman, Tender Assessment Panel (Research-EWT)
Apologies:	Andrew CHAN	(AC)	
	Wo-hei LAM	(WHL)	
	Wai-wai YU	(WWY)	
	Anthony FOK	(AFK)	Environmental Protection Department

Pun-hing HO	(PHH)	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors
Peter LEE Kai-kwong	(PL)	The University of Hong Kong
Derrick PANG Yat-bond	(DP)	Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited
Long PANG	(LP)	Construction Site Workers General Union

PROGRESS REPORT

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2.0 Welcome Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all Members and Co-opted Members designate to the first meeting of the new CIC membership term. He also expressed his appreciation for their participation in the Committee work and contributions to future discussion of environmental and technological issues of the construction industry.

2.1 Confirmation of the Progress Report of the Previous Meeting

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/R/001/10 and confirmed the progress report of the last meeting held on Thursday, 7 January 2010 at Hong Kong Construction Association.

2.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

2.2.1 Copywriting for Summary Report on Review of Local Construction Standards

The Summary Report was being reviewed by the copywriter and would be published shortly.

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

Discussed under Agenda Item 2.5

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

Discussed under Agenda Item 2.6

2.2.4 Research on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles and Rendering

Discussed under Agenda Item 2.3

2.3 Research on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles and Rendering – Tender Assessment Results

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/008/10 and were briefed by Dr Paul HO, Chairman of the Tender Assessment Panel (Assessment Panel) for the Research on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles and Rendering (Research-EWT) on the tender assessment results.

Members noted that five research institutes had expressed their interest in conducting the Research-EWT while only two research institutes submitted tenders to the CIC and both of them attended the Assessment Panel meeting to present and elaborate their technical proposals. Having considered the experience of the tenderers and project teams as well as the respective technical solutions and design, the Assessment Panel recommended awarding the contract to the research institute with higher technical assessment scores and more competitive fee proposal. Members supported the recommendation of the Assessment Panel, which would be further considered by the Committee on Administration and Finance and the CIC for awarding the contract.

Some Members advised that knowing the reasons why the research institutes which had expressed interest but failed to submit tenders for the Research-EWT would be helpful for organizing future tender exercises.

[Post-meeting notes: two research institutes indicated that they were fully engaged during the period and could not afford time to manage the Research-EWT though they were interested in the research scope. The other research institute teamed up with one of the two tenderers to bid for the project and therefore did not submit their own proposal.]

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2.4 Committee Membership, Terms of Reference and Meeting Rules

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/005/10 and recommended the persons as listed at Annex A for appointment as co-opted members of the Committee by the CIC.

Members noted that the terms of reference (ToR) of the Committee and the work scope of the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) would have some overlap in the sense that both would promulgate green building practices and such like. However, it was agreed that the Committee, being under the CIC, would cover a wider range of construction activities such as environmental friendliness of infrastructures and that the Committee should continue to promulgate desirable environmental performance of the industry in collaboration with the HKGBC. In that regard, Members supported retaining the current ToR and where necessary, the issue could be revisited at a later stage.

According to the ToR, the Committee was tasked to develop systems for assessing the performance of the construction industry. A Member suggested setting some key performance indicators would be helpful for the industry and to facilitate Members' discussion, the Secretariat was requested to prepare a paper on this subject.

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The Chairman invited Members to join the task forces set up under the Committee and would appreciate it if Members could reply to the Secretariat by 15 April 2010.

All

Members were also reminded to comply with the Code of Conduct issued to them and follow the Guidelines on Declaration of Interests to make disclosure should the need arise.

All

2.5 Framework for Research on Establishing a Hong Kong Based Carbon Labelling Standard for Construction Materials – Follow Up

Members took note of the Paper CIC/ENT/P/006/10.

Prof Joseph LEE declared that he and the project coordinator of the proposed Research on Establishing a Hong Kong Based Carbon Labelling Standard for Construction Materials (Research-CLS) were working at the same university though he

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was not involved in the project. As the discussion focused on technical sharing without decision-making, Members invited Prof LEE to stay at the meeting.

Members noted that the CIC was entrusted with promoting construction research and development (R&D). Members were briefed on the mechanism of funding support for practical research, including research topics initiated by CIC committees and those collaborative research projects proposed by research institutes. The proposed Research-CLS was under the category of collaborative research.

[Post-meeting notes: the guidelines and procedures for selection of practical research projects as previously discussed by the Committee were sent to Members after the meeting on 1 April 2010.]

Members generally viewed that the establishment of carbon labelling standard would facilitate manufacturing and procurement of low-carbon construction materials and the proposal would deserve consideration. After much deliberation, Members agreed that a task force be set up to review the proposal of Research-CLS and in particular, to consider the necessity of having a local framework with reference to similar overseas models and so forth. Members also agreed that participation of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department would be favourable to the work of the task force considering their expertise in this subject.

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

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/011/10 and the comments received from the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors and the Civil Engineering and Development Department. Pending feedback from the Hong Kong Construction Association, the Hong Kong Institute of Architects and the Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong, the Secretariat was requested to draft responses to the comments for Members' discussion at the next scheduled meeting.

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2.7 Possible RFID Applications in Local Construction Industry

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/007/10. When

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considering the possible RFID applications in other countries, a Member pointed out that high system development costs could be one of the factors hindering the application of new technologies such as RFID and GPS in the local construction industry.

Some Members pointed out that the promotion of construction R&D by the CIC should bring benefits to the industry at large. It should be cautious in funding RFID research projects considering that the research findings and associated applications could be translated into commercial values.

To further explore RFID applications, the Secretariat was advised to approach the Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies, which was funded by the Innovation and Technology Commission, for assistance and where appropriate, inviting them to make presentations to the Committee.

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2.8 Work Plan for 2010

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/009/10 and were encouraged to propose strategic issues for discussion by the Committee. For new Members, they could approach the Secretariat for previous presentation materials where necessary.

2.9 Tentative Meeting Schedule for 2010 (Second Half)

Members took note of Paper CIC/ENT/P/010/10.

2.10 Any Other Business

Members supported organizing a “Technology Day for the Construction Industry”, not only to facilitate sharing with the research community but also to help promote the work of the CIC relating to the environmental and technological aspects of the industry. The Secretariat would propose an action plan for Members’ discussion.

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2.11 Tentative Date of Next Meeting for 2010

2 July 2010 (Friday) at 2:30 pm at Room 1201, Murray Building, Central, Hong Kong

All to note

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment and Technology

Proposed Co-opted Members

Mr Tat-tong CHEUNG	Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Mr Wing-wah CHUI	Development Bureau
Mr Anthony FOK	Environmental Protection Department
Mr Pun-hing HO	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors
Mr Russell JONES	Hong Kong Construction Association
Mr Peter LEE Kai-kwong	The University of Hong Kong
Mr Derrick PANG Yat-Bond	Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited
Mr Long PANG	Construction Site Workers General Union
Ms Connie YEUNG	Housing Department