

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 003/23 of the Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) was held on 27 September 2023 (Wednesday) at 2:30pm at Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay and via Video Conference.

Summary Notes of the CWRB Meeting No. 003/23:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
3.1	CIC/CRB/M/002/23	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of Meeting No. 002/23.
3.2		Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting Nil.
3.3	CIC/CRB/P/013/23 (for information)	Brainstorming Discussion on How to Attract the Expired Construction Workers to Rejoin the Construction Industry Members discussed the target audience, attractive aspects of the construction industry and the ways to reach out to relevant workers and the salient discussion points were as follows: (a) The number of expired workers in the database was accumulative figure since the implementation of workers registration. Members opined that expired Electrician might probably still work in the renovation sector while expired Construction Goods Vehicle Drivers were likely to have engaged in other industries. Members suggested to further analyse the trades of the expired Registered Semi-skilled and Skilled Workers under the age of 55 so as to screen and identify relevant trades for appropriate follow up actions.

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		<p>(b) It was recommended to share construction industry recruitment day information with expired workers to test the market responses.</p> <p>(c) More accurate target workers would be identified through data analysis. In terms of outreaching target workers, success rate would be higher if mentors, former employers, and trade unions made the contact instead of via telephone surveyors or the Secretariat.</p>
3.4	CIC/CRB/P/014/23 (for information)	<p>Brainstorming Discussion on How to Encourage Registered Semi-skilled Workers to advance to Registered Skilled Workers</p> <p>Members discussed on how to further encourage Registered Semi-Skilled Workers to advance to Registered Skilled Workers and the salient discussion points were as follows:</p> <p>(a) Members suggested to enhance the promotion of training courses for Registered Semi-Skilled Workers advance to Registered Skilled Workers and provide support for Registered Semi-Skilled Workers with less experience. Employers should be encouraged to increase the wage gap between Registered Semi-Skilled Workers and Skilled Workers as well as provide incentives for workers to proactively upgrade their skills.</p> <p>(b) Employers should be encouraged to promote trade tests among the experienced Registered Semi-skilled Workers.</p> <p>(c) It was recommended to promote the reinforcement of the requirements on Registered Skilled Workers and Semi-skilled Workers in private sector works.</p> <p>(d) The Construction Workers Professional Development Scheme would continue incentivising Registered Semi-skilled Workers to advance to Registered Skilled Workers in both new works</p>

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		and RMAA works. The Scheme would be further promoted with concerted efforts with industry stakeholders.
3.5	CIC/CRB/P/015/23 (for approval)	<p>Tender Recommendation for the Fixed-Term Procurement Contract for Supply of Accessories and Consumables for Card Printing</p> <p>(a) The tendering procedure for the contract was complete. The tender assessment performed by the Procurement Department resulted in the lowest bid offered by Toppan Forms (Hong Kong) Ltd, which also met all technical requirements.</p> <p>(b) Members approved the awarding of the contract to Toppan Forms (Hong Kong) Ltd. at the a price of HK\$ 1,646,070 for three years.</p>
3.6	CIC/CRB/P/016/23 (for approval)	<p>Nomination Organisations for the Construction Workers Review Board</p> <p>The Construction Workers Review Board is a statutory board appointed by CWRB in accordance with the composition specified in the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (CWRO). The current term will end on 31 January 2024.</p> <p>The CWRB approved the nomination organisations including the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors, the Development Bureau, the Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association, Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Federation, the Federation of Hong Kong Electrical & Mechanical Industries Trade Unions, Hong Kong Construction Industry Registered Specialist Trade Union Federation and Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union to each nominate one member to succeed for the new term.</p> <p>The term of office will be three years, from 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2027.</p>

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3.7	CIC/CRB/P/017/23 (for approval)	<p>Nomination for the Construction Workers Qualification Board</p> <p>(a) The CWRB approved the appointment of Dr. SU Kai Leung Ray, Mr YIP Wai Kit, Mr. NG Chi Wo Julian and Mr. AU Sau Yin Francis with terms of office from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025.</p> <p>(b) The Secretariat will follow up with the Development Bureau to publish the appointment in the Gazette according to the CWRO.</p>
3.8	CIC/CRB/P/018/23 (for information)	<p>Report of Sub-committee on Data Analysis Meeting No. 002/23</p> <p>(a) As of August 2023, according to data expansion analysis, there were a total of 411,629 registered workers engaged in the construction industry.</p> <p>(b) According to the latest release from the Census and Statistics Department (19 September, 2023), the unemployment rate in the construction industry for the period of June to August 2023 was 3.8%, which is similar to the range of unemployment rates during the era of top 10 infrastructure construction projects (3.3% to 5.4%). The latest release by the Census and Statistics Department (19 September, 2023) showed that the underemployment rate in the construction industry was 3.5%, which was the lowest on record.</p>
3.9	CIC/CRB/P/019/23 (for information)	<p>Report of Sub-Committee on Workers Development and Welfare Meeting No. 002/23</p> <p>(a) The Scholarship of Family Members of Registered Construction Workers (Scholarship) had received support from 15 sponsoring organisations, totaling HKD 400,000 in sponsorship funds. A total of 201 scholarship applications were received this year and the Scholarship Award Ceremony will be held on 4 November 2023.</p> <p>(b) The Secretariat has launched multiple construction workers development activities and schemes from July to December 2023, including the Lunchtime Construction Safety Webinar</p>

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		<p>– Site Safety Measures on Working in Hot Weather (Replay), Free Health Assessment for Workers of Ethnic Minorities, Positive Psychology – “The Happiness Equation” Talk, iHub Guided Tours etc.</p> <p>(c) Members approved the inclusion of waterproofing works (including Waterproofing Worker (Adhesive-type Felt), Waterproofing Worker (Burn-type Felt), Waterproofing Worker (Burn-type Felt)) and marble works (including Marble Worker, Marble Worker (Dry Fixing), Marble Worker (Polishing), Marble Worker (Wet Fixing)) as one of the designated trades under the Construction Workers Professional Development Scheme.</p> <p>(d) Medical Examination Scheme for Registered Construction Workers (MES) has launched a new initiative namely the site recommendation stream to welcome construction sites to register their registered workers to enjoy the MES. Participating sites will be awarded certificates of appreciation to recognise their achievements in the field of sustainable development.</p>
3.10	CIC/CRB/P/020/23 (for information)	<p>Report on Inspection and Enforcement</p> <p>(a) From January to August 2023, a total of 1,152 construction site inspections and 11,761 workers registration cards were inspected. A total of 1,390 workers’ daily attendance records (DAR) were checked.</p> <p>(b) From January to August 2023, a total of 161 summonses were issued. 216 summonses were resulted in convictions in court.</p> <p>(c) From January to August 2023, twelve seminars on “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” and “Construction Workers Registration System” (CWRS) were held to explain the requirements of the CWRO, introduce the CWRS and provide operational demonstrations.</p>