

**Construction Industry Council**

**Committee on Environment**

Meeting No. 001/24 of the Committee on Environment (Com-ENV) was held on 13 March 2024 (Wednesday) at 9:30 am at Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (Megabox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong, and online via MS Teams.

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Summary Notes of the Com-ENV Meeting No. 001/24:

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights</b>
1.1	CIC/ENV/M/004/23 (for information)	<b>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> Members confirmed the minutes of the last Com-ENV meeting No. 004/23 held on Friday, 8 December 2023.
1.2	CIC/ENV/M/004/23 (for information)	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</b>  The CIC Secretariat updated Members on the following: <u>Item 4.3 – ★Consultancy Services on the Development of Strategy and Plan Directional Guideline for the Hong Kong Construction Industry Achieving Carbon Neutrality Target according to Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050</u>

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		<p>A stage payment of HK\$139,540 was released to CECEP. The Paper was circulated in the Council and the leaflet would be uploaded and disseminated through CIC Channels, and an iClub webinar would be organised.</p> <p><u>Item 4.4 – Progress Update on the CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme (SFCS)</u> A scheme operator was appointed for a one-year service period. Regarding the positioning of SFCS, informal interviews will be conducted in the first half of this year to gain a better understanding of stakeholders' needs and concerns about sustainable finance. Final payments were released to the vendors, including HK\$241,500 to Cundall and HK\$113,500 to CECEP.</p> <p><u>Item 4.5 - Progress Update on CIC Smart Waste Management Tool</u> A stage payment of HK\$502,400 was released to Arcadis.</p> <p><u>Item 4.6 - Progress Update on iBEAM Unison</u> Engagement sessions with professional bodies (HKIA, HKIE, HKIS, etc.) to introduce iBEAM Unison were conducted.</p> <p><u>Item 4.7 - Project Proposal on R&amp;D Fund Project – Tailoring New-Generation Low-carbon Concrete for Green Construction: Engineering Applications towards Carbon Neutrality</u></p>

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		<p>Support from Com-ENV on the research was obtained and the agreement would be finalised in the first quarter.</p> <p><u>Item 4.9 - Report on GCSFE 2023</u></p> <p>The survey for collecting event feedback was completed and the results would be circulated to Com-ENV Members. The event proceedings and materials would be made available to the public by the first quarter.</p>
1.3	CIC/ENV/P/004/24 (for approval)	<p><b>Progress Update on Smart Waste Management Tool</b></p> <p>The Smart Waste Management Tool (SWMT) would be available for open access shortly. The integration between SWMT and iBEAM would be completed by the first quarter.</p> <p>Members were briefed on the proposal for the second phase of development of SWMT and made the following suggestions: (1) conduct a desktop study on alternative construction methods, tools, and services to replace the use of timber and timber formwork; (2) engage continuously with key stakeholders from different disciplines; and (3) consider inviting representatives from the developer and main contractor sectors to join the working group.</p> <p>Members approved Paper CIC/ENV/P/004/24, including the approval of Assignment Brief, the Project Plan and proposed Working Group membership, for the Consultancy Service on Phase Two</p>

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		development of the SWMT.
1.4	CIC/ENV/P/005/24 (for approval)	<p><b>Proposal on a Feasibility Study on Construction Site Electrification and Clean Energy Adoption</b></p> <p>Members were briefed on the proposal for the Feasibility Study on Construction Site Electrification and Clean Energy Adoption, which is one of the directions identified in the Carbon Neutrality study. Members made the following suggestions: (1) engage two power companies on the provision of sufficient temporary power to construction sites; (2) include the scenario-based study on power demand during different phases of construction for various types and locations of projects; (3) consider engaging extensive industrial expert(s) in the consultancy; (4) explore potential incentive funding options; and (5) look into the effective measures to enable staggering power consumption according to operations hours at construction sites.</p> <p>Members approved Paper CIC/ENV/P/005/24, including the approval of the assignment brief, project plan and timeline, the proposed replacement for the Working Group membership, for the consultancy service on the Feasibility Study.</p>
1.5	CIC/ENV/P/006/24 (for approval)	<p><b>Enhancement of the Assessment Mechanism and Procedures of the CIC Research and Technology Development (R&amp;D) Fund</b></p> <p>Members were briefed on the proposal for enhanced assessment mechanism and procedures for R&amp;D Fund applications. Members suggested the application timeline be aligned with R&amp;D funding schedules in tertiary institutes. Members approved Paper CIC/ENV/P/006/24 and one Committee</p>

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		Member, Ar Clarence LEUNG, was nominated to serve as the “Pool of Experts” of this year.
1.6	CIC/ENV/P/007/24 (for approval)	<b>Progress Update on iBEAM Unison</b> Members approved Paper CIC/ENV/P/007/24 to release stage payments No. 3 and 4 to BSL in a total amount of HK\$642,600.
1.7	PowerPoint Presentation (for information)	<b>Any Other Business</b> <b>Proposal on Green Data Hub</b> Green Data Hub proposal was presented. The project aims to develop a single platform of carbon data from infrastructure and building developments.  Members expressed their support for the proposal in principle and recommended that the CIC continue to liaise with other partner organisations (i.e. HKGBC and BEAM Society).  Members also suggested defining the roles and responsibilities of each organisation, establishing specific conditions, evaluating investments and resources required, and devising a plan for sustaining the platform in the long run.  <b>Proposal on ESG Initiatives</b> Members were briefed on various options for CIC to promote ESG initiatives. Members supported CIC to build its own ESG Mobile APP linked with the CIC Super App, as well as building CIC’s own ESG Reporting Portal as the development direction.

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		<p><b>Progress Update on HKGBC Projects Funded by the CIC</b> HKGBC reported progress updates on the CIC funded projects in 2024. Members made the following suggestions on the study to review and enhance Green Product Certification: (1) revisiting the categories of precast concrete products and asphalt; (2) exploring how to manage products, such as MiC and MiMEP, and certifying composite products as a whole; and (3) exploring strategies to enhance the industry recognition of the GPC Scheme and promoting to the Mainland Market.</p> <p><b>Proposed Legislative Amendments to Gas Safety Ordinance (Cap. 51)</b> EMSD gave an overview of the latest hydrogen development and hydrogen trial projects in Hong Kong and outlined the regulatory framework specifically tailored for the governance of hydrogen safety and the proposed legislative amendments to the Gas Safety Ordinance (Cap. 51).</p> <p><b>Review of CIC 2024 Major Work Plans</b> Members approved to adopt the three KPIs in the CIC 2024 Major Work Plans, including CIC Sustainability Strategy, Study on Site Electrification and Clean Energy Adoption, and Smart Waste Management Tool Phase 2 Development.</p>

*Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed in the Committee on Environment and the full progress report can be made available to Council Members from the CIC secretariat upon request.*