Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Construction Industry Council held on 10 September 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 1201, Murray Building, Garden Road, Central

Present

Mr Keith Kerr Mr Russell Black Mr Francis Bong Dr Andrew Chan Ms Teresa Cheng Mr T T Cheung Mr James Chiu Mr Michael Green Mr Thomas Ho Prof J M Ko Mr Edgar Kwan Mr Thomas Kwok Mr W H Lam Mr Peter Lee Mr Eric Tse Mr K S Wan Mr Conrad Wong Mr Billy Wong	Chairman
Mr C K Mak	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) (PSW)
Mr H W Cheung	Director of Buildings, Buildings Department
Ms Ada YS Fung	Assistant Director (Development & Procurement), Housing Department
Miss Janet Wong	Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1
Mr Enoch Lam	Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 2
Mr Jack Chan	Principal Assistant Secretary for Development (Works) 1
Mr David Tong	Principal Assistant Secretary for Development (Works) 4
Mr K H Tao	Chief Assistant Secretary for Development (Works) 1
Mr Solomon Wong	Assistant Secretary for Development (Public Works Systems Administration) 1
Ms Cindy Kwan	Assistant Secretary for Development (Policy and Development)

Agenda item 9

Mr Charles Wong Executive Director/CITA

Absent with Apologies

Mr James Blake Mr C W Choi Mr S S Lee Mr M H Poon

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 4th Meeting held on 26 July 2007

Some minor amendments suggested by members had been incorporated into the revised draft minutes distributed before the meeting. As Members had no further comments, the minutes were endorsed.

Agenda Item 2: Matters Arising

(i) Disclosure of Interests of Members [Paper No. CIC/030]

- 2. The recommended general guidelines and procedures on the disclosure of possible pecuniary interests had been discussed and supported by the Committee on Administration and Finance (Com A&F) and subsequently cleared with Lovells and CPD/ICAC. The meeting agreed that the one-tier system should apply with immediate effect to members of CIC as well as co-opted members of its Committees.
- 3. The meeting agreed that a paper-based register should be maintained by the Secretariat in accordance with Section 7 of Schedule 3 of the CIC Ordinance.

[Declaration of interest: In relation to the Committee's agreement to seek legal advice from Lovells on the proposed system for disclosure of pecuniary interests by members, Mr Keith Kerr declared that Lovells had recently signed a lease agreement for renting an office in Pacific Place, which was a property managed by his company.]

(ii) Administrative Arrangements

Logo and letterhead

4. Members noted that, as recommended by the Com A&F, the logo and letterhead design for CIC, CITB, and the training school coming under CIC after the amalgamation with CITA should be considered in one go. The meeting agreed that a simple letterhead containing the name and correspondence address of CIC (without any logo) would be used for the interim period.

Renovation works for the ED/CIC's Office

5. Members noted that the floor layout plan, as well as fittings and finishes designs for the ED/CIC's Office were being finalized. Members also noted that the Secretariat was authorized by the Com A&F to evaluate the quotations for the renovation works received from the five contractors. The renovation works would start very soon and complete in six to eight weeks' time.

[Post-meeting note – The contract for the renovation works was awarded 17 September 2007.]

(iii) Training for tower crane workers

6. An Informal Task Force on Tower Cranes was formed under the Committee on Construction Site Safety to recommend measures for improving the safety of tower cranes. With the joint efforts of CIC, CITA, the trade association concerned and Labour Department, a series of silver card courses on tower crane erecting, dismantling, telescoping and climbing operations was organized by CITA to provide training for about 160 tower crane workers within two months. Since launching of the first course on 30 August 2007, some 40 tower crane workers had completed their training. Furthermore, another series of silver card courses on tower crane hoisting and rigging operations would be organized. The initial target was to train 2,000 to 3,000 workers actively involved in these operations. The Task Force would also consider other possible measures for improving safety of tower crane operations taking into consideration relevant overseas experience.

Agenda Item 3: 2nd Progress Report of Committee on Procurement [Paper No. CIC/031]

7. The meeting noted that the Committee, as its preliminary stage of work, would continue to explore relevant matters which might merit further discussion, including innovative project management techniques used in the development projects in Macau. A Member also emphasized the importance of continuous improvement to the conventional procurement approaches.

Agenda Item 4: 2nd Progress Report of Committee on Subcontracting [Paper No. CIC/032]

8. Members noted that the current agreement with HKCA for providing frontline support service for the Voluntary Subcontractor Registration Scheme would expire on 25 November 2007. A new agreement covering the one year period ending on 25 November 2008 was being negotiated.

Agenda Item 5: 3rd Progress Report of Committee on Administration and Finance [Paper No. CIC/033]

- 9. The meeting noted that a set of code of conduct would be drawn up for consideration by the Committee and subsequent adoption by CIC.
- 10. Members agreed that the Committee on Manpower Training and Development (Com MTD) should be tasked to review the existing structure and operation of CITA's Committees and consider the preliminary proposal on the subcommittee structure for the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

Agenda Item 6: 3rd Progress Report on Committee on Environment and Technology [Paper No. CIC/034]

11. The meeting noted that the Committee would examine the way forward on the promotion of green buildings and the strategy for improving construction standards adopted by the local construction industry. The Committee would also take into account other relevant studies on local construction standards conducted by industry organizations.

Agenda Item 7: Report to CIC on the Focus Group Sessions on Amalgamation for CITA's Staff on 13 and 16 August 2007 [Paper No. CIC/035]

12. Members noted that there had been good exchange of views between CIC's delegation, comprising Chairman/CIC, Chairman/Com MTD and representatives of the CIC Secretariat, and CITA's staff members attending the three focus group sessions (over 200 in total). CITA's staff were reassured on CIC's commitment to adopting the minimalistic approach in proceeding with the amalgamation.

Agenda Item 8: Any Other Business

- 13. Members noted that four Informal Task Forces had been set up under the Committee on Construction Site Safety to work on permanent safety devices to be incorporated into the design of new buildings to enhance safety of repair and maintenance (R&M) works, co-operation with property management companies in tackling the safety issues for such works, safety of site vehicles and mobile plant as well as safety of tower crane. The informal task forces had made good progress and would submit recommendations to the Committee for consideration.
- 14. There being no other business, the public portion of the meeting was declared closed.

[End of the first part of the meeting which was open to the public.]
