

Construction Industry Council

Construction Industry Training Board

Meeting No. 002/19 of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) was held on 20 March 2019 (Wednesday) at 9:30am at Conference Room, 5/F, Hong Kong Construction Industry Trade Testing Centre, 95 Yue Kwong Road, Aberdeen.

Summary Notes of the CITB Meeting No. 002/19:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
2.1	CIC/CTB/M/001/19	Confirmation of the Progress Report from the Previous Meeting Members approved the Minutes of the 1st meeting held on 23 January 2019.
2.2	CIC/CTB/M/001/19	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting Members took note of the progress on the matters arising from the previous meeting.
2.3	CIC/CTB/P/015/19 (for approval)	Proposed Amendment on Apprenticeship Scheme (Civil & Building Work Trades) Members took note of the Financial Secretary announced in the 2019-20 Budget that HK\$200 million would be allocated to enhance the training for construction workers and support Construction Industry Council (CIC) for strengthening its training to attract new blood to join the industry. HK\$110 million would be used for this apprenticeship scheme. HK\$50 million would be used to increase student training allowances for students of HKIC's Certificate in Construction Programme and Diploma in Construction Programme. HK\$40 million would be used to encourage current general workers to participate in the HKIC Skill Enhancement Courses. Members approved the following proposed amendments on Apprenticeship Scheme (Civil & Building Work Trades): (a) Adopted the use of "Construction Industry Council Approved Technical Talents Training Programmes" (The Chinese is 建造業議會認可技術專才培訓計劃.) as the general title of all CIC training programmes for skilled workers and technicians. The scheme for graduates of HKIC's

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		<p>Certificate in Construction Programme, Diploma in Construction Programme, and adult short courses of Bar-Bending & Fixing, Metalworks & Welding and Levelling & Surveying was “Construction Industry Council Approved Technical Talents Training Programmes – Senior Tradesman (Certificate)” (The Chinese name is 建造業議會認可技術專才培訓計劃-高級技工(證書).)</p> <p>(b) Terminated the CIC’s old “Apprentices Subsidy Scheme”.</p>
2.4	CIC/CTB/P/016/19 (for approval)	<p>Adjustment on Application Requirement and Application Fee for Trade Tests</p> <p>Members took note of the paper CIC/CTB/P/016/19 and the adjustment suggestions which aimed at targeting candidates who frivolously applied and abused the re-sit of trade tests. The suggestion was to avoid significantly uplifting the entry thresholds and depriving those in genuine need of applying trade tests. The gradual and incremental increase of test fee was targeted at candidates who abused the re-sit of trade tests. If candidates could not provide proof of work experience issued by their employers, they might visit Home Affairs Enquiry Centres under the Home Affairs Department to make an oath. As the oath had legal effect and could assist candidates considering carefully whether they possessed the relevant skills and work experience before applying trade tests.</p> <p>Members agreed that abuse should be prevented. A Member considered that the suggested fee was reasonable, while a Member considered that the first test fee should be reduced. Another Member opined that the entry threshold for intermediate tradesmen should not be too high. Regarding the proof of work experience, the Member opined that workers should not only be requested to make an oath at Home Affairs Department but CIC should also consider allowing trade unions to issue work experience proof in order to provide convenience to workers for applying intermediate trade tests. In response to Members’ views, the management would amend, re-consult and enhance the proposal before submitting to CITB for further discussion. The ultimate objective was to shorten the waiting time for trade tests and facilitate workers with related skills to have trade tests as soon as possible.</p>

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2.5	CIC/CTB/P/017/19 (for endorsement)	Manpower Forecast for Construction Workers 2019-2023 Members took note of the paper CIC/CTB/P/017/19, and endorsed the report of the manpower forecast for construction workers 2019 – 2023. According to the manpower forecast of construction workers from 2019 - 2023 projected by the CIC Manpower Forecasting Model, there would be a shortage of approximately 5,000 to 10,000 construction skilled workers in short and medium terms.
2.6 to 2.10	CIC/CTB/P/018/19 to CIC/CTB/P/022/19 (for information)	Summary Report of the 1st Meeting of the Hong Kong Institute of Construction Management Board in 2019, Table on Estimated Waiting Time for Full-time Short Courses, Table on Waiting Time and Data for Trade Tests, Table on Waiting Time for Plant and Machinery Operation Certification Courses cum Tests, Statistical Data of Advanced Construction Manpower Training Scheme – Pilot Scheme Members took note of the mentioned reports, summary reports and waiting timetables.

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Construction Industry Training Board can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.