

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 004/19 of the Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) was held on 18 November 2019 (Monday) at 2:30pm at Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (MegaBox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay.

Summary Notes of the CWRB Meeting No. 004/19:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights		
4.1	CIC/CRB/M/003/19	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of Meeting No. 003/19.		
4.3	CIC/CRB/P/020/19 (for approval)	The List of Nominations for Construction Workers Qualifications Board (a) Established under Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (CWRO), Construction Workers Qualifications Board is a statutory board. Among 15 Members, the current term of 4 Members will expire on 31 December 2019. (b) CWRB approved the nominating organisations at its Meeting No. 003/19. Invitations to nominate were sent accordingly. CWRB approved the following nominees whose term of office will be from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021.		
		Nominee	Nominating Organisation	Sector Represented
		Prof. Michael YAM Chi-ho	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Training institute in the construction industry
		Ir WU Chi-fai	The Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors Limited	Contractor in the construction industry
		Mr. LI Tat-wai	Hong Kong Construction Employees General Union	Registered trade unions of construction workers
		Mr. NG Ki-on	CLP Power Hong Kong Limited	Major employer in the construction industry

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4.4	CIC/CRB/P/021/19 (for approval)	Construction Workers Credit Card (a) Further to Council’s approval to launch a co-branded UnionPay dual currency credit card (co-branded card) in cooperation with China Construction Bank (Asia) Corporation Limited (CCBA), Council also authorised the Executive Director to sign the relevant documents to effect the collaboration. The Memorandum of Understanding and Confidentiality Agreement were duly signed by the two parties. (b) CWRB acknowledged features of the co-branded card, including application requirements (annual income requirement of HK\$100,000; applicants holding a valid Construction Workers Registration Card, etc.), exclusive offers and privileges (e.g. perpetual annual fee waiver, premium free dental plan, cross border privileges), and 5% cash rebate rewards scheme for CIC services; for other spending, \$1 cash rebate to be earned by every \$250 spending. (c) CWRB approved the card face design of the co-branded card.
4.5.1	CIC/CRB/P/022/19 (for information)	Sub-committee on Registration Matters (a) Hong Kong Formwork Contractors Association Limited proposed to add a new trade division of “aluminium formworker” in Schedule 1 to the CWRO. Sub-committee on Registration Matters reviewed relevant trade skills and summarised both positive and negative comments for CWRB’s discussion. (b) After deliberation, CWRB concurred that the proposed “aluminium formworker” does not meet the CWRO requirements to add a new trade division. Reasons are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The legislative intent of the CWRO is to regulate trade divisions with considerable skill levels. Technically, the erection of the aluminium formwork is similar to only partial skills of a formworker. The main processing procedure of the aluminium formwork is erection and skill requirements of erection are not high. It is not compatible with the legislative intent to add a new trade division;● Carpenters (Formwork) generally have the skills of erecting aluminium formwork. At present, those work steps of aluminium formwork requires physical strength are generally performed by general workers. Those work steps require more skills are carried out by Carpenters (Formwork). The work of the aluminium formwork can be carried out by registered construction

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		<p>workers including registered general workers under the current CWRO;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At present, mixed formworks or plastic formwork are used in the market. It would be frustrating to site operation if trade divisions are determined by materials used; ● The CWRO regulates technical requirements rather than safety. The most effective way to raise safety awareness of workers is to strengthen training; ● The major trend of construction industry development should be taken into account in order to determine any amendments for the legislation, for example, the use of Modular Integrated Construction and Design for Manufacture and Assembly. <p>(c) A total of 923 workers completed and passed specified training courses from January to September 2019.</p>
4.5.2	CIC/CRB/P/023/19 (for information)	<p>Sub-committee on Worker Development and Welfare</p> <p>(a) The inaugural Construction Workers Festival 2019 concluded successfully. Please visit the Council website for highlights of events.</p> <p>(b) Construction Workers Professional Development Scheme (Scheme) aims to recognise and encourage workers to participate in continuing professional development and to enrich and equip themselves with multiple skills. The Scheme comprises three awards, namely Continuing Professional Development Award, Career Progression Award and Multiple Skills Award. Prizes are offered to attract workers to participate in the Scheme.</p> <p>(c) The Sub-committee explored ways of promoting worker welfare facilities on construction sites. A preliminary plan of setting up “showcase for outstanding welfare facilities” on the Council website was devised to introduce the best practice on sites and tips of worker welfare facilities.</p>
4.5.3	CIC/CRB/P/024/19 (for information)	<p>Sub-committee on Data Analysis</p> <p>(a) Council Members were invited to do trial and provide feedback on the dashboard of Consultancy Services for Workforce Analytics for the Construction Industry of Hong Kong (dashboard) during 18 September to 7 October 2019. The dashboard was revised according to the comments by Council Members where appropriate.</p>

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		<p>(b) Council agreed in principle to publish the dashboard on the Council website at its Meeting No. 005/19. CWRB agreed to Sub-committee’s final review on dashboard and agreed to publish the dashboard in November 2019.</p> <p>(c) Projected from data integrated with telephone survey conducted in Q3 2019, 329,756 workers were engaged in the construction industry and 146,476 workers were not engaged in construction works as of 14 October 2019.</p>
4.5.4	CIC/CRB/P/025/19 (for information)	<p>Workers Registration Office</p> <p>(a) Total number of workers with valid registration as of 30 September 2019 was 475,467, comprising 199,976 registered skilled workers, 30,200 registered semi-skilled workers, 243,767 registered general workers and 1,524 registered skilled and semi-skilled workers (provisional).</p> <p>(b) To relieve the burden of frontline construction workers, the subsidiary legislation relating to exemption of construction workers registration and renewal fees was gazetted on 27 September 2019 and took effect from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020.</p> <p>(c) Renovation works for the new shop of CIC Service Centre (Nam Cheong) was complete. Renovation to the existing shop is currently undertaken.</p>
4.5.5	CIC/CRB/P/026/19 (for information)	<p>Inspection and Enforcement</p> <p>(a) In Q3 2019, a total of 378 construction sites and 3,890 workers registration cards were inspected. A total of 639 workers’ daily attendance records were checked. The quarterly goals were attained.</p> <p>(b) A total of 50 prosecution summonses were issued in Q3 2019.</p> <p>(c) In Q3 2019, a total of 12 seminars on “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” and Construction Workers Registration System were held. A total of 672 industry practitioners attended.</p>

Remarks: The mentioned papers and/or meeting minutes discussed at the Construction Workers Registration Board can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.