Construction Industry Council

Meeting No. 006/21 of the Construction Industry Council for 2021 was held on Friday, 17 December 2021 at 2:00pm at the Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (MegaBox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Present:	CHAN Ka-kui CHAN Chi-chiu CHAN Kim-kwong Ivan FU Chin-shing* Thomas HO Kwok-kwan Thomas HO On-sing Eddie LAM Kin-wing Ricky LEUNG Wing-kee LO Hong-kam* LO LEE Oi-lin Kenneth MO Kon-fei MOW Tai-hing PAN Shujie Derrick PANG Yat-bond Rocky POON Lock-kee Simon WONG Hin-wing Ken WONG Kin-wai* Eliza WONG Yeuk-lan YU Sai-yen Clarice YU Po-mei* Stephen LEUNG Kin-	(KKCh) (CCC) (KKCN) (FI) (KnH) (TH) (ELM) (RyL) (LHK) (OLLL) (KM) (THM) (PSJ) (DP) (LKP) (DP) (LKP) (SWHW) (SWHW) (SWHW) (SYYu) (SYYu)	Chairman Director of Buildings for Permanent Secretary for
	man*		Transport and Housing (Housing)
In Attendance:	Vera CHAN* Albert CHENG Daniel SUEN Francis WONG Alex HO Stephen HO	(DS1) (VCML) (CTN) (DSn) (FW) (AHKK) (SnH)	Development Bureau Housing Department Executive Director Director – Industry Development Director – Hong Kong Institute of Construction Assistant Director – Industry Development Assistant Director – Industry Development & Estates Office Assistant Director – Human
	Cheryl IP	(CI)	Resources & Administration

CIC/CMT/M/006/21

	LEE Oi-yen	(OYL)	Assistant Director – Registration Services
	Miranda YEAP	(MYP)	Senior Manager – Corporate Secretariat
	Amy FUNG	(AyF)	Manager – Corporate Secretariat
Apologies:	CHUNG Kwok-fai LI Tat- wai Ricky LAU Chun-kit	(CKFi) (LTW) (PSW)	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

* attended the meeting online via Microsoft Teams

<u>Open-door Session</u> Agenda Item

Action

[The open-door session of the meeting started at 4:40pm.]

6.30 Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Open-door Session)

Members referred to Paper CIC/CMT/M/005/21 and confirmed the minutes of the open-door session of the 5th meeting of 2021 held on Friday, 22 October 2021 at the Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (MegaBox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

6.31 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting (Open-door Session)

Nil.

6.32 Summary Notes of 3rd Meeting of Committee on Construction Safety for 2021

Members took note of Paper CIC/CMT/P/140/21.

DP expressed concerns on the 22 fatal construction accidents in 2021 and highlighted the following major action items for Members' information:

- (a) the "Guidelines on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds' Safety Enhancement and Notification Arrangement" was issued in September 2021. Promotion activities would be arranged to update stakeholders on the voluntary arrangement agreed between the Labour Department (LD) and the Hong Kong Association of Property Management Companies (i.e. whenever a truss-out bamboo scaffolding work took place, the responsible contractor would submit a designated notification to the property management company for onward submission to LD, thereby allowing LD to arrange on-site inspection to reduce accidents);
- (b) to discuss with BD on the feasibility of implementing regulatory measures for truss-out bamboo scaffolding work (e.g. submission of notification to BD on truss-out bamboo scaffolding work in a compulsory manner);

Open-door Session Agenda Item

- (c) continue to discuss with LD on industry stakeholders' opinions regarding the proposed raising of penalties under OSHL (i.e. Occupational Safety and Health Legislation); and
- (d) more work would be done in 2022 to increase the awareness of key stakeholders on their roles and responsibilities on safety.

Members expressed their views/comments on initiatives and suggested the following measures to reduce fatal construction accidents:

- (a) monitor the safety measures of contractors carrying out RMAA works in private properties through mandatory measures implemented by the Property Management Services Authority (PMSA);
- (b) enhance the safety awareness of workers through continuous publicity work;
- (c) HKIC to review and strengthen its training on the installation and application of truss-out metal bracket 「狗臂架」, and also strengthen related trade testing; and
- (d) alert property management companies and clients of their responsibilities to inform LD on truss-out bamboo scaffolding works to be carried out on their premises so as to raise their awareness of the safety of scaffolding works.

In view of the construction accidents regarding the application of trussout metal bracket bamboo scaffoldings, the Chairman requested the Com-CSY to work out a proposal on recommended measures in three months.

Members received Paper CIC/CMT/P/140/21 without further comments.

6.33 Summary Notes of 4th Meeting of Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme for 2021

Members took note of Paper CIC/CMT/P/141/21.

CCC highlighted the following item:

• Item 4.3 – The Committee approved at its meeting the addition of "Suspended Ceiling" and "Tower Crane (Erecting, Dismantling, <u>Action</u>

<u>Open-door Session</u> <u>Agenda Item</u>

Altering Height)" as the 9th and 10th designated trades under the RSTCS with effect from 1 April 2022 with a grace period of 18 months.

- Item 4.4(b) Regarding the processing status of applications under the transition arrangement for Group 1 Registered Specialist Trade Contractors (RSTCs), as of 31 October 2021, 76 out of 121 applicants were confirmed to be in compliance with the new registration requirement. The Secretariat adopted a multipronged approach of engaging employers, key trade associations, main contractors and registered companies to urge the relevant companies to submit the required information to substantiate their compliance with the new registration requirements.
- Item 4.6 With reference to the Independent Commission Against Corruption's case involving two companies, one RSTC was sanctioned with written warning and the other was required to provide additional information. Another scheduled hearing about a fatal construction site accident was postponed due to time constraints.

The Chairman urged the Committee to speed up the work of enhancing the RSTC registration requirements and increase the number of designated trades under the RSTCS.

Members received Paper CIC/CMT/P/141/21 without comments.

[LKP left the meeting at this juncture.]

6.34 Summary Notes of 6th Meeting of Construction Industry Training Board for 2021

Members took note of Paper CIC/CMT/P/142/21.

The multi-pronged measures to maintain manpower supply in the construction industry were discussed as follows:

 (a) continue to support the Apprenticeship Training Programme – approximately 100 Registered Skilled Workers were trained under the programme in 2021;

<u>Open-door Session</u> <u>Agenda Item</u>

- (b) encourage tertiary institutes to organise upskill training for inservice technical and professional practitioners;
- (c) collaborate with local universities e.g. signing of Memorandum of Understanding with the Hong Kong Metropolitan University to articulate HKIC Advance Diploma graduates to their bachelor programmes;
- (d) promote sponsorship progromme, e.g. invite industry stakeholders to identify and sponsor suitable candidates to receive training at HKIC;
- (e) provide training and articulation opportunities to attract jobchanging practitioners from other industries such as tourism and retail to engage in the construction industry;
- (f) continue to explore collaborative opportunities with in-service stakeholders under the Collaborative Scheme;
- (g) promote the positive image of construction industry to career masters and secondary school students (e.g. drama performance would be organised by the Hong Kong Construction Association to promote the industry to students);
- (h) make best use of HKIC's resources to increase overall training places; and
- (i) express more care and offer help to ethnic minority practitioners, so that they would be more willing to stay in the industry.

In response to KnH's inquiry about the difference between "Higher Diploma" and "Advance Diploma", OLLL explained that "Higher Diploma" was more academic, while "Advance Diploma" was vocational-oriented. Training institutes such as HKIC and the MTR Academy would provide "Advance Diploma" courses, focusing on cultivating the vocational competence of students.

Members received Paper CIC/CMT/P/142/21 without further comments.

[PSJ left the meeting at this juncture.]

<u>Action</u>

6.35 Summary Notes of 4th Meeting of Construction Workers Registration Board for 2021

Members took note of Paper CIC/CMT/P/143/21.

KM highlighted the following figures to Members:

• In the past year, the total number of registered workers had increased from 544,368 to 582,726. The average number of workers with "Daily Attendance Record" increased from 103,285 in October 2020 to 113,570 in October 2021 (i.e. an increase of 10,285 workers). The figures did not include workers engaged in RMAA works and post OP (i.e. Occupation Permit) construction sites. This indicated an improvement in the employment situation of the construction industry.

Members received Paper CIC/CMT/P/143/21 without comments.

6.36 Summary Notes of 4th Meeting of Committee on Construction Industry Sports & Volunteering Programme for 2021

Members took note of Paper CIC/CMT/P/144/21.

DP reminded Members that the Construction Industry E-sports Games 2021 – Final and Prize Presentation Ceremony would be held on 19 December 2021 and encouraged Members to participate.

Members received Paper CIC/CMT/P/144/21 without comments.

6.37 Any Other Business

6.37.1 The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the following Members

- (a) who have served the CIC Council for six years with their term of office ending on 31 January 2022 (i.e. 1 February 2016 to 31 January 2022):
 - (i) Ir CHAN Chi-chiu;

<u>Open-door Session</u> <u>Agenda Item</u>

Action

- (ii) Mr. Ivan FU Chin-shing;
- (iii) Ir Kenneth MO Kon-fei;
- (iv) Ir PAN Shujie;
- (v) Ms. Eliza WONG Yeuk-lan;
- (vi) Ir YU Sai-yen; and
- (b) Ir Prof. LO Hong-kam, who has resigned with effect from 1 February 2022.

6.37.2 DS1, on behalf of the Hong Kong Government, the DEVB and all CIC Members, recorded a vote of thanks to the Chairman who would be retiring from the Council on 31 January 2022. She expressed heartfelt appreciation for his enthusiasm and dedication to the work of the CIC Council and the construction industry. In the past six years, the Chairman has earnestly worked on many aspects of the construction industry to enhance their overall quality and performance, including the implementation of "designated workers with designated skills" in cooperation with DEVB, application of innovative technologies in construction, e.g. adoption of MiC; promotion of construction site safety and workers' health and welfare; development of an effective promotion ladders for students of HKIC; and sports and voluntary services to the community, etc.

CTN, on behalf of all CIC staff, also thanked the Chairman for his leadership over the past six years. He added that the CIC would continue to strive in all directions to enhance more achievements for the construction industry.

6.38 Tentative Date of Next Meeting No. 001/22

The next meeting was scheduled for 25 February 2022 (Friday) at All to note 2:00pm at the Board Room, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five (MegaBox), 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

There being no further business, the open-door session of the meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.