

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 001/22 of the Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) was held on 16 February 2022 (Wednesday) at 2:30pm via Video Conference.

Summary Notes of the CWRB Meeting No. 001/22.

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
		Members welcomed Ir Thomas HO On-sing, who was appointed as the Chairman of the Construction Industry Council (CIC) on 1 February 2022, to join the CWRB meeting.
1.1	CIC/CRB/M/004/21	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of Meeting No. 004/21.
1.2		Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting Members took note of the progress on the matters arising from the previous meeting.
1.3	CIC/CRB/P/001/22 (for information)	Registration Data Dashboards Members took note of workers' skill levels, types of works participated, registered trades and age distribution from the analysis of attendance records. Members exchanged views on increasing manpower in the industry to cope with large volume of works in the future. Highlights are as follows:- (a) increase the human resources in the construction industry through multi-pronged approach, such as training new bloods, incentivising registered general workers to upskill, and encouraging registered skilled workers without attendance records to return to the construction industry;

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		<p>(b) formulate programs to nurture talent at “master” level. In order to successfully attract workers to enhance their skills, industry’s cooperation to offer corresponding job positions was expected; and</p> <p>(c) promote Modular Integrated Construction, Design for Manufacture and Assembly, and technology application.</p>
1.4	CIC/CRB/P/002/22 (for approval)	<p>Tender Invitation for Provision of SMS Sending Services for the Construction Industry Council (2022 – 2025)</p> <p>(a) The CIC departments regularly used SMS as one of the communication channels with stakeholders. The current contract of SMS Sending Services would soon expire, thus tender invitation for new contract was required.</p> <p>(b) It was not necessary for the CIC to commit any service quantity in the contract with the contractor and the CIC reserved the right to terminate the service contract.</p> <p>(c) Members approved the tender invitation for provision of SMS sending services for the CIC.</p>
1.5	CIC/CRB/P/003/22 (for approval)	<p>Tender Invitation for Medical Examination Scheme for Construction Workers (2022 – 2025)</p> <p>(a) The CIC initiated Medical Examination Scheme (MES) in 2016 and benefited around 16,000 registered workers so far. The current contract would soon expire, thus tender invitation for new contract was required with a view to sustainable promotion of workers welfare and construction safety.</p>

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		<p>(b) The service primarily covered medical examinations, examination reports and medical advices provided to qualified registered workers, as well as statistical analysis provided to the CIC.</p> <p>(c) Members approved the tender invitation for MES.</p>
1.6	CIC/CRB/P/004/22 (for approval)	<p>Construction Workers Professional Development Scheme 2022</p> <p>(a) Construction Workers Professional Development Scheme 2022 (Development Scheme) would award 2,000 registered general workers, who successfully passed a trade test of designated trade and updated the qualification on workers registration cards to become registered skilled workers from 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022. Each awardee would receive a prize of HK\$5,000. The total budget of Development Scheme would be HK\$10 million.</p> <p>(b) The Development Scheme was not applicable to those students enrolled or graduated from full-time course, collaborative training scheme, or any subsidised course/scheme for students (including training and trade test) offered by the CIC and/or Hong Kong Institute of Construction.</p> <p>(c) Members approved the Development Scheme and endorsed the additional budget of HK\$6.35 million. The CIC's approval on additional budget would be sought after the use of existing budget and reallocation of available budget within the CIC.</p>
1.7	CIC/CRB/P/005/22 (for information)	<p>Brainstorming Session</p> <p>Occupational Safety and Health of Registered Construction Workers</p> <p>(a) Appropriate health check helped construction workers to evaluate if he/she could perform heavy manual and outdoor work, so as to prevent accidents at construction sites and enhance personal and site safety.</p>

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		<p>(b) The CIC held the MES for workers as well as explored establishment of health check standard form and addition of occupational health as one of the registration requirements.</p> <p>(c) Members agreed to enhance the workers’ awareness on occupational safety and health. Promotion of MES and health messages would be the current focus.</p>
1.8	CIC/CRB/P/006/22 (for information)	<p>Report of Sub-committee on Workers Development and Welfare Meeting No. 001/22</p> <p>(a) CWRB Secretariat followed up the promotion campaign on upskilling registered workers discussed in the Sub-committee with the service provider.</p> <p>(b) Companies would be encouraged to signify their goals on ESG (environmental, social and governance) as supporting organisations of Construction Workers Festival 2022 through publicity campaign and events.</p> <p>(c) The Subcommittee approved the suggestion to provide gifts to registered skilled workers in Scholarship for Family Members of Registered Construction Workers 2022 (Scholarship) to honour their achievement in craftsmanship. The Subcommittee also approved the Scholarship sponsorship programme.</p> <p>(d) Workers development and welfare activities for the first half of 2022 included distributing pockets for cards and red packets, organising webinar series “Road to Construction Professional”, and holding Medical Examination Scheme.</p>
1.9	CIC/CRB/P/007/22 (for approval)	<p>Report of Workers Registration Office</p> <p>(a) As of 31 December 2021, the total number of workers with valid registration was 584,304, comprising 206,411 registered skilled workers, 34,628 registered semi-skilled workers and 343,265 registered general workers.</p>

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		<p>(b) Members took note that workers submitted registration applications via electronic channels or by post during pandemic and the registration process ran smoothly. Members agreed that the electronic registration mode became increasingly popular and recommended CWRB to establish Task force on e-Workers Registration Card to explore the feasibility of electronic cards.</p> <p>(c) Members approved the tenancy renewal of CIC Service Centre (Nam Cheong) and authorisation was granted to the CIC Secretariat to finalise the tenancy details and sign the new tenancy agreement with MTR Corporation.</p>
1.10	CIC/CRB/P/008/22 (for information)	Report of Inspection and Enforcement <p>(a) In 2021, a total of 1,560 construction sites and 15,342 workers registration cards were inspected. A total of 2,455 workers' daily attendance records were checked. Figures met the annual target.</p> <p>(b) In 2021, a total of 235 summonses were issued.</p> <p>(c) In 2021, a total of 25 seminars on "Designated Workers for Designated Skills" and "Construction Workers Registration System" were held. A total of 383 industry practitioners attended.</p>

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the CWRB and the full meeting minutes could be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.