

Construction Industry Council

Meeting No. 006/16 of the Construction Industry Council for 2016 was held on Friday, 9 December 2016 at 12:30 pm at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Present	:	Ka-kui CHAN	(KKCh)	Chairman
		Allan CHAN	(SKC)	
		Chi-chiu CHAN	(CCC)	
		Pat-kan CHAN	(CPK)	
		Paul CHONG	(PC)	
		Ivan Chin-shing FU	(FI)	
		Chi-wah LAI	(CWLi)	
		Robert LAM	(PHL)	
		Christopher LEUNG	(KYL)	
		Kenneth Kon-fei MO	(KM)	
		Kwok-kwan NG	(NKK)	
		Lawrence NG	(LN)	
		Shu-jie PAN	(PSJ)	
		Eliza Yeuk-lan WONG	(EWYL)	
		Philco Nai-keung WONG	(NKW)	
		Sze-chun WONG	(SCW)	
		Wilfred Shek-chun WU	(WSCW)	
		Sai-yen YU	(SYYu)	
		Albert LAM	(ALa)	Development Bureau
		Tin-cheung CHEUNG	(TnC)	for Director of Buildings
	Stephen CW KWOK	(SnK)	Housing Department	
In Attendance	:	Dominic CHOW	(DCW)	Development Bureau
		Hau-wai CHEUNG	(HWC)	Executive Director
		Alex LEUNG	(AL)	Director – Training and Development
		Oi-yen LEE	(OYL)	Assistant Director – Registration Services
		Cheryl IP	(CI)	Assistant Director - HR, Facilities Management & Admin
		Justin LI	(JnLi)	Assistant Director - Environmental & Sustainability (ZCB)
		Angela YUEN	(AaY)	Senior Manager – Council Services
		Alan TANG	(AnTg)	Government Seconded - Research and Development
		James WONG	(JsW)	Manager – Research and Development
		Miranda YEAP	(MYP)	Senior Manager – Council Services

	Belle HO	(CYH)	Manager – Council Services
Apologies	: Reuben CHU	(RCU)	
	Ada FUNG	(AF)	for Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)
	Chi-keung HON	(HCK)	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
	Siu-wai HUI	(SWH)	Director of Buildings
	Stephen LAI	(SLI)	
	Kevin POOLE	(KP)	
	Ringo Shek-man YU	(RiYu)	

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[The open-door session of the meeting started at 2:40 p.m.]

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

Members referred to Paper CIC/CMT/M/005/16 and approved the minutes of the open-door session of the 5th meeting of 2016 held on Friday, 28 October 2016 at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

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

Item 5.13 of Members took note of the Paper Meeting
CIC/CMT/P/070/16.
005/16

A Member advised that based on CIC regular telephone surveys, there were about 170,000 construction workers working in new construction sites while about 80,000 workers worked in non-new construction sites in any one day. Among the 170,000 workers working in new construction sites, about half of them (i.e. 85,000) were skill-registered workers. CIC's forecasted shortage of about 10,000 to 15,000 skilled workers (item 6.5 above refers) would be about 15% of the 85,000 skill-registered workers in new construction sites.

**6.3 Verbal Report – Progress Update of the 4th Meeting of
Committee on Construction Safety for 2016**

AaY provided a progress update on the following Com-CSY matters that require Members' attention:

- Item 4.6 – After several trial runs, Members of the Task Force on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety agreed that the Rear RFID Sensing / Alarm System for Vehicles was well-established and it might consider sourcing manufacturers for discussing the possibility of production and

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implementation in the market.

- Item 4.8 – Members of the Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites (TF-RMA) suggested safe access and facilities for inspection and repair of external walls of new buildings, such as air-conditioning (A/C) platform and cast-in anchor.

TF-RMA Members also suggested reviewing and revising the Technical Guidelines on the Design, Installation & Maintenance of Cast-in Anchors at External Walls of New Buildings issued by CIC in July 2011.

The Buildings Department would consult construction industry stakeholders on the design guidelines for A/C platforms.

- Item 4.9 – The site visit of closely placed bamboo scaffolding in Homantin and mixed bamboo and metal scaffolding in Nam Cheong MTR Station were held on 24 November 2016. Members of the Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds agreed to form a working group for reviewing the CIC Guidelines.
- Item 4.10 – Members of Com-CSY endorsed in principle the Construction Safety Poster No. 002/16 – “Lifting Safety” with some minor amendment.
- Item 4.11 – Two sessions of CIC Seminar on Road Maintenance Works Safety were held on 29 August 2016. Over 500 people registered for the seminars.

On 1 November 2016, the Highways Department (HyD) implemented a number of measures with a view to enhancing safety protection of workers under the HyD's road works.

- Item 4.13 – The tentative work plan and budget of the Com-CSY for 2017 were discussed at the committee meeting. No comments were received in the meeting.

The Construction Safety Week would be held in September 2017. The target audience would be construction workers and their family.

Members had no comments on the above items.

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[SKC left the meeting at this juncture.]

6.4 Verbal Report – Progress Update of the 4th Meeting of Committee on Environment for 2016

JnLi provided a progress update on the following Com-ENV matters that require Members' attention:

- Progress update on the following was presented at the Com-ENV meeting and members had no adverse comments to the progress:
 - (a) Provision of Consultancy Services for the Survey on the Potential Utilisation of Prefabrication Yard in Hong Kong;
 - (b) Consultancy Services on the Strategy for Management and Reduction of Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste in Hong Kong; and
 - (c) Status of various environmental and sustainability related research projects.
- The following research was presented to the Com-ENV meeting:
 - (a) Better Utilisation of Ultimate Strength Gain of Concrete with Pozzolanic Materials for Sustainable Development of Construction Works in Hong Kong; and
 - (b) Feasibility of Delivering High-rise Low Carbon Buildings in Hong Kong
- The Chairman of Com-ENV noted that this was the first time that these research projects were reviewed by Com-ENV and suggested that some further scrutiny of the final reports would be needed before wider promulgation or publishing.
- The tentative work plan and budget of the Com-ENV for 2017 were discussed at the committee meeting. The CIC Secretariat would fine-tune the work plan incorporating comments from the Members.

Members had no comments on the above items.

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6.5 Verbal Report – Progress Update of the 4th Meeting of Committee on Construction Procurement for 2016

MYP provided a progress update on the following Com-CPT matters that require Members' attention:

- The research proposal of “International Best Practices in Subcontractor Registration and Performance” was presented to the Com-CPT meeting for CIC Research Fund application.

Members commented on the research proposal and requested the Research Institute to revise the research proposal for further endorsement.

[Post-meeting note: The revised research proposal was circulated for Members' endorsement on 16 December 2016 and was endorsed on 30 December 2016. The research proposal would be submitted to the Com-ANF for funding approval.]

- An introductory note addressing Members' comments on the Standard Form of On-demand Performance Bonds (Standard Form) from the last meeting had been prepared.

Members noted HKCA's position of objecting any form of on-demand bond in construction contracts. The rest of the Members, noting CIC's position that the Standard Form was meant to be a reference material for the industry in case such bond was adopted in actual circumstances, endorsed the Standard Form.

- A legal consultant would be engaged to draft a simplified version of the Standard Domestic Subcontract in response to the feedback of the Task Force and Committee Members.

Members had no comments on the above items.

[KM left the meeting at this juncture]

6.6 Verbal Report – Progress Update of the 4th Meeting of Committee on Productivity for 2016

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KYL highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/073/16 which was tabled at the meeting.

- Item 4.2 – Dr. Kelwin WONG from HKU delivered a presentation on the progress of the Consultancy Service for Assessing the Performance of the Hong Kong Construction Industry, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): An International Comparison Study. Dr. WONG was studying the factors affecting the trends of KPIs and would propose improvement strategies in a specific manner.
- Item 4.3 – Dr. Ray SU from HKU delivered a presentation on the findings of the research on Practical Guidelines on Seismic Detailing for Concrete Buildings in Hong Kong. The Buildings Department (BD) was concurrently carrying out review on codes for structural use of concrete. The guidelines would be circulated to Com-PRO members for comments and then provided to BD for their consideration.
- Item 4.4 – Dr. Zhen LENG from PolyU delivered a presentation on the progress of the on-going research on Quality Control and Quality Assurance of Asphalt Pavement Construction Using Innovative Non-destructive Methods. Though the accuracy of the non-destructive test devices was a concern, the Committee was informed that it could supplement the authority to locate potential defect spots on site so that destructive test could be conducted in localized areas.
- Item 4.5 – Members of Com-PRO commented that the study on investigating the Potential Application of 3D Printing Technology for Construction Supply Chains in Hong Kong could serve as strategic research on 3D printing technology for industry application before large scale implementation. To enhance practicality of the study, the Committee Secretariat would contact Prof. SKIBNIEWSKI to identify imminent industry areas that could benefit the most from 3D printing and explore its integration with BIM.
- Item 4.6 – On the follow-up action of the consultancies under the Com-PRO, the consultants should provide specific suggestions and strategies, on implementation in the industry e.g. technological aspects like prefabrication and buildability, etc. and regulatory aspect in the studies. Members of the Com-PRO supported to engage consultants to investigate integration of buildability in project planning and design which

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should take into account the findings of other relevant studies of CIC and Government.

Members considered that a one-day seminar and/or field trip on “Prefabrication” could be arranged in 2017.

Members supported CIC Secretariat to coordinate a forum with the Hong Kong R&D Centre for Logistic and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies which could serve as a discussion platform for industry stakeholders and researchers.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/073/16.

6.7 Verbal Report – Progress Update of the 6th Meeting of Construction Industry Training Board for 2016

SKC provided a progress update on the following CITB matters that require Members’ attention:

- Since the launching of the Voluntary Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Scheme for Licensed Plumbers by the Water Supplies Department from Oct 2016 of which CIC was one of the accredited CPD programme providers, 5 CPD courses would be launched (each for 2 to 3 hours). These courses would assist the licensed plumbers to learn the latest plumbing materials and techniques, installation standards and local waterworks regulation requirements. Moreover, reference highlights of good practice for connecting pipes (Copper Tube) had been passed to the Members for information.
- A new Collaborative Training Scheme (CTS) would be introduced. It was accepted by Members apart from the following minor comments:
 - (a) There were differences on salary for 3-month and 6-month trainings. Members suggested providing higher incentive for the 6-month training in order to encourage the trainees to complete the training;
 - (b) A review mechanism should be set; and
 - (c) Although some trades did not have trade tests, CIC should also provide training, and should not exclude them from the new Scheme.

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The following principles had been established for the formulation of the new Collaborative Training Scheme:

- (a) With the objective of addressing the pressing manpower demand, CTS should focus on trades with severe shortage;
 - (b) CTS should cover trades that the CIC did not have the capacity to train due to a lack of the required equipment/facilities;
 - (c) Employment relationship that could strengthen the commitment of employers and trainees in the training period should be adopted;
 - (d) A labour market with major gap in demand and supply should call for more competitive pay to attract people; and
 - (e) The administrative procedures for joining the scheme should be simplified.
- To train more new blood for the industry, preliminary discussion was held between the CIC Management and vocational training organisations in Guangdong and Foshan on possible co-operation in the launching of training courses. Members of CITB endorsed the signing of a MOU with them.

Members had no further comments on the above items.

6.8 4th Meeting of Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments for 2016

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/071/16.

- Item 4.3 - The accumulated number of applications for senior workers registration arrangement and trade tests had exceeded the cumulative target with nearly 150,000 applicants. A total number of 111,072 applications were received before the deadline of the senior workers registration arrangement on 30 September 2016.

A press conference would be organised at the Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB on 31 March 2017 or 1 April 2017 to announce the implementation of the “Designated workers for designated skills” provision (DWDS) and to launch the mobile app for DWDS information.

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A member of the Steering Group requested the CIC to review all trade tests in view of low passing rates of some trade tests. The Development Bureau suggested establishing a working group to review trade test mode and content, and study whether trade tests could be conducted in modular basis, etc. Another member suggested the Secretariat to review job rotation of invigilators so that a fair and objective assessment could be maintained.

To solve the problem of low passing rate, AL suggested reviewing the composition and function of Course Advisory Panel. It would be included in Tricor's study.

On item 4.2, the Chairman requested expediting the production of 15 trade test videos.

Ivan Ko

Members supported the implementation of DWDS requirement on 1 April 2017 and had no further comments on items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/071/16.

[PSJ and SYYu left the meeting at this juncture.]

6.9 4th Meeting of Construction Workers Registration Board for 2016

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/072/16.

PC asked if a benchmark study on the welfare of construction workers should be conducted to compare the situation of Hong Kong with other places.

The Members in general agreed that there was no need to conduct the study. Nevertheless, site facilities such as toilets, showers, lockers and jump lifts should be improved. The above topic should be further studied by a task force.

A Member commented that a jump lift was not common in private construction sites.

HWC supplemented that the Task Force on Site Housekeeping under Com-CSY had issued a guideline on the above topic and this could be followed up by the Task Force.

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The Chairman concluded that the task force should introduce the best practice of site housekeeping overseas and critically examine the situation of both private and public construction sites in Hong Kong.

AaY

Members had no further comments on items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/072/16.

[WSCW left the meeting at this juncture.]

6.10 Any Other Business

A tour to Yan Chau Tong would be organised by the CIC Secretariat. Members were invited to join the tour. The deadline of application was 16 December 2016.

6.11 Tentative Date of Next Meeting 001/17

The next meeting was scheduled for 17 February 2017 (Friday) at 2:00 p.m. at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

All to note

There being no further business, the open-door session of the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.