

Construction Industry Council
Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 002/16 of the Construction Workers Registration Board was held on Tuesday, 26 April 2016 at 3:30pm at Conference Room, CIC Headquarters, 15/F, Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Summary notes of the Construction Workers Registration Board Meeting No. 002/16:

| Agenda Item | Paper | Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights |
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| 2.1 | | <u>Handling of MPF Industry Schemes Accounts with Incomplete/Non-updated Information</u> After thorough deliberation, members agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to distribute MPFA flyers and to allocate suitable space at CIC Service Centres for setting up counters by two trustees to provide workers with enquiry and account opening services; and• to offer assistance to MPFA in sending SMS to workers in principle. To ensure the effectiveness and compliance with the requirements of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, further deliberation was required concerning the date of conducting SMS marketing and the cost sharing arrangement after making reference to MPFA's overall promotional plan. |
| 2.2 | CIC/CRB/M/001/16 | <u>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> The minutes of the 1 st meeting of CWRB for 2016 were confirmed. |
| 2.4.1 | CIC/CRB/P/009/16 (For Discussion) | <u>Proposed Exemption Arrangement under CWRO</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DEVB presented the suggested amendments to the proposed exemption arrangement under CWRO with regard to definition of "emergency incident", exemption period of "emergency construction work", exemption content for "Plumber" and requirement on reasonable measures for small scale construction work.• DEVB also presented the method of measurement for small scale construction work and the adjustment of exemption threshold of small scale construction work from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Members had no objections to the relevant document. |
| 2.5.1 | CIC/CRB/P/010/16 (For Resolution) | <u>Sub-committee on Senior Workers Assessment</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As of 31/3/2016, a total number of 2,619 people registered as skilled workers through simplified specified training courses. |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 31/3/2016, a total number of 27,007 applications for senior workers registration were received, of which 23,823 applications were completed. The number of applications had a significant increase to 3,680 (2,141 and 2,337 in January and February respectively). • Reported by the Secretariat, field visits had been conducted to three major trade unions and all applications had been handled in accordance with the mechanism. <p>Members approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to add Hong Kong Registered Contractors Association in the list of recognized construction related trade associations; • to include the Renovation and Decoration Industry Union and the Hong Kong Seamen’s Union in the list of recognized trade unions after the probationary period; • to maintain the current reimbursement arrangement of assessment fee to Group 2 Senior Workers as stipulated in the Construction Workers Registration (Fees) Regulation 8A as an administrative measure after 1/4/2016; • to provide subsidy to HKCIEGU, HKCSEGU and EMF for hiring one more staff; and • to take receipt of (i) application forms submitted to trade unions or the Workers Registration Office (at least contain personal information and signature) and (ii) list of applicants officially recorded by trade unions before the deadline of Senior Workers Registration Arrangement. |
| 2.5.2 | CIC/CRB/P/011/16 (Progress Report) | <p><u>Task Force on Construction Workers Registration System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 4/2016, 143 construction sites under 85 contractors had adopted CWRS. A total of 16 briefing sessions were organised and attended by 894 participants from 296 contractors. • 4 tutorial videos had been uploaded to CIC YouTube channel and 3 more were under production. • Suggested by members, awards would be presented to express our appreciation to 16 contractors participated in the Working Group on UAT and Pilot Tests and those engaged in early adoption of the new system at an upcoming CIC major event. • It was confirmed that 19 commercial Android devices under 8 brands were compatible with CWRS. The list had been uploaded onto CIC website. • CIC encourages the development of more card reading solutions for contractors’ selection. Jointly |

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| | | <p>conducted the testing with the Council, a list of suppliers with biometric data authentication systems successfully connected with CWRS would be uploaded onto CIC website. In parallel, the Council was coordinating with the suppliers in the preparation work for implementing wave 2 CWRS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The enhancement of CIC Card Reading Device would be continued. Hence, the implementation of wave 2 CWRS would be postponed to end of September. |
| 2.5.3 | CIC/CRB/P/012/16 (Progress Report) | <p><u>Task Force on Data Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted from 10/2015 to 1/2016, the 7th telephone survey was completed with 9,366 interviews being carried out. • Among workers with DAR greater than zero (5,114), the average number of work days per week and number of days using card for site access per week were 5.09 and 4.24 days respectively. • Among workers with no DAR (4,313), 47.9% were engaging in construction industry, which was less than that found in the last survey (56.7%). It was mainly due to decline in the percentage of the registered general workers. • Retirement was the main reason for workers leaving the industry. As of 31/12/2015, more than 48,000 registered skilled workers were aged 55 or above. • As of 12/2015, the total number of construction workers (excluding truck drivers and workers carrying out non-construction works) was 262,300. In any given day, the number of workers engaging in the construction industry (with or without DAR) was 201,616. |
| 2.5.4 | CIC/CRB/P/013/16 (for Resolution) | <p><u>Sub-committee on Registration Matters</u></p> <p>Members approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the newly added reasonable measure, which indicated that principal contractor/employer of workers could assign a “designated person” such as foreman or controller of the subcontractor, etc. to deploy suitable skilled worker(s) as the “instructor(s)” and to let workers under instruction to be able to identify his/her instructor by verbal notice or in writing. Workers under instruction should be informed of the measure in writing. • consensus had been reached with the industry including the HK Construction Materials Association, the HK Concrete Pump Merchant Association and the Concrete Industry Workers Union that the proposed trade divisions of “Plant and Equipment Operator (Concrete Mixer)” and |

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| | | <p>“Plant and Equipment Operator (Concrete Pump)” would not be added at this stage;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Secretariat to inform DEVB in writing of adding 3 trade divisions including “False Ceiling Installer”, “Partition (Metal Frame) Installer” and “Cable Jointer (Dead Cable)” into Schedule 1 of CWRO on 1/4/2017 for workers registration. Workers with at least 10 years’ relevant work experience could apply through Senior Workers Registration Arrangement between 1/4/2017 to 30/9/2018 without the requirement of written assessment. The trade divisions “False Ceiling Installer” and “Partition (Metal Frame) Installer would be subject to “designated workers for designated skills” provision with effect from 1/4/2019 and the proposed revision of the description of skills and the arrangement of works across skills was also approved. • As the “Cable Jointer (Dead Cable)” was a modular skill of “Cable Jointer”, it would be subject to the “designated workers for designated skills” provision with effect from 1/4/2017. |
| 2.5.5 | CIC/CRB/P/014/16 (Progress Report) | <p><u>Task Force on the Promotion of Remaining Phase of Prohibition of CWRO</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast TV advert on the trains of 4 MTR lines (East Rail, West Rail, Ma On Shan and Kwun Tong Line) on 16 horse racing days. • Direct mail the leaflets to workers through trade unions (EMF 34,000copies, HKCIEGU 30,000copies). • Send SMS to 58,000 workers with at least 5-year registration and aged 35 or above. • Organise workshops for contractors and sub-contractors (4 sessions were organised as of 7/4/2016 with 137 attendees from 73 companies). • Erect banners at 30 sites under Housing Authority, 43 public work sites and 200 private work sites. Letters had been sent requesting the owners’ corporations of 20 buildings under OBB scheme of URA and HKHS to assist in the promotion by erecting banners or displaying posters. • Erect 25 roadside banners in Shatin, Yuen Long, Sai Kung, Tuen Mun and North district. |
| 2.5.6 | CIC/CRB/P/015/16 (Progress Report) | <p><u>Workers Registration Offices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of 3/2016, the outreach team visited 59 construction sites and collected 6,084 applications, of which 5,139 were applying for skilled workers through Senior Workers Registration Arrangement. • Between 31/3/2015 to 31/3/2016, the numbers of registered skilled, semi-skilled and general workers had increased by 26,402, 2,684 and 5,690 respectively. |

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| 2.5.7 | CIC/CRB/P/016/16 (Progress Report) | <u>Inspection and Enforcement</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Between January to March 2016, the numbers of construction sites and registration cards inspected was 372 and 3,762 respectively (both reached 30% of the annual targets).• Among 12 construction sites of various natures participated in trial run inspection from January to March 2016, 7 were public works and 5 were private works sites. A total of 282 workers were examined. |
| 2.6.1 | CIC/CRB/P/017/15 (For Resolution) | <u>New Member Nominations for Sub-committee and Task Force</u> <p>Members approved the nominations of Mr Simon KWOK from HKGBCA as a co-opted member of the Sub-committee on Registration Matters and Ir Josiah MA as a member of the Task Force on Construction Workers Registration System.</p> |

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed by the Construction Workers Registration Board can be made available to Council Members from the Workers Registration Secretariat upon request.