

**Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the
Construction Industry Council
held on 11 June 2007 at 10:00 a.m.
in Room 1201, Murray Building, Garden Road, Central**

Present

Mr Keith Kerr	Chairman
Mr Russell Black	
Mr James Blake	
Mr Francis Bong	
Dr Andrew Chan	
Mr James Chiu	
Mr C W Choi	
Mr Thomas Ho	
Prof J M Ko	
Mr Thomas Kwok	
Mr W H Lam	
Mr Peter Lee	
Mr S S Lee	
Mr M H Poon	
Mr Eric Tse	
Mr K S Wan	
Mr Conrad Wong	
Mr Billy Wong	
Mr C K Mak	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works) (PSW)
Mr H W Cheung	Director of Buildings, Buildings Department
Mr N M Chan	Assistant Director (Development & Procurement), Housing Department
Miss Janet Wong	Deputy Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works) 1
Mr Enoch Lam	Deputy Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works) 2
Mr David Tong	Principal Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works) 4
Mr Jack Chan	Principal Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works) 1
Mr K H Tao	Chief Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works) 1
Mr Solomon Wong	Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Public Works Systems Administration) 1
Ms Cindy Kwan	Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Policy and Development)

Absent with Apologies

Ms Teresa Cheng

Mr T T Cheung

Mr Michael Green

Mr Edgar Kwan

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 2nd Meeting held on 21 March 2007

Subject to some minor amendments of the Chinese translation suggested by Members before the meeting, the minutes were taken as read and endorsed.

Agenda Item 2: Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting**Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (para 3(e)(v) of the minutes)**

2. In response to an enquiry on the progress of the commencement of the prohibition provisions under the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (CWRO), Mr C K Mak reported that the first stage of prohibition would pass the negative vetting procedure in LegCo by 20 June 2007, subject to its decision on whether a subcommittee should be set up to examine the proposed subsidiary legislation. As regards the second stage prohibition provisions, CITA would organize specified training courses to facilitate workers with provisional registration to become qualified as skilled workers before these provisions would come into effect.

3. On whether overseas experts would inadvertently be subject to the registration requirements set out under the CWRO, Mr C K Mak explained that it was the intention of the CWRO to register construction workers only but not other types of personnel working on a construction site. Engineers or other construction-related professionals would not be considered as workers if they carry out their work within their respective professions. ETWB had already clarified the legislative intent with relevant professional institutes and detailed explanations had been set out in the relevant LegCo paper. The Construction Workers Registration Authority would also publish guidelines on the applications of CWRO to dispel misunderstandings and worries.

Disclosure of Interests & Confidentially Agreement

4. Mr Jack Chan reported that in finalizing the detailed proposals on disclosure of interests which were based on the model used by the former PCICB, and the confidentiality agreement, the Secretariat considered that there was still room for improvement on simplicity and user-friendliness. The Secretariat would further refine the proposals before submitting them for endorsement by CIC.

Proposed Terms of Reference, Memberships and Rules for Co-option of the Committees [Paper No. CIC/012]

5. The meeting endorsed the respective terms of reference and memberships of the six Committees.

6. Members noted that all Committees had adopted the rule that the co-opted Members would be invited to attend Committee meetings on a need basis to contribute their knowledge and expertise in order to keep the meetings to a more manageable size, except for the Committee on Construction Site safety which would invite all co-opted Members to attend its meeting regularly in the light of the nature of the subject.

Matters relating to the work of the Committees

7. Members noted the Progress Reports of the Committees and the following matters:

- (a) Committee on Construction Site Safety would consider launching a publicity campaign and issuing guidelines during the coming Summer months when there were historically more construction site accidents.
- (b) Committee on Environment and Technology would plan to conduct some research and development work in future, e.g. the adoption of industry standards, such as Eurocodes, etc. Funds would need to be allocated to the Committee for conducting such work.
- (c) As for the Management Committee of the Voluntary Subcontractor Registration Scheme (VSRS), the meeting endorsed that Mr S S Lee, Chairman of the Committee on Subcontracting, would take over the Chairmanship of the Management Committee and that Mr Eric Tse would become one of the members of the Management Committee to replace a former PCICB member.

8. In view of the expected funding requirements of the Committees, the Secretariat would draw up a proposal on the funding allocation mechanism for CIC Committees and how to handle funding requests from outside bodies for consideration by the Secretariat Committee on Administration and Finance in due course.

Agenda Item 3: Amalgamation with CITA
[Paper No. CIC/019]

9. Members noted that the Works Branch of the future Development Bureau would take up the housekeeping responsibilities for CITA starting from 1 July 2007 following the proposed reorganization of the Government Secretariat. Members agreed that CIC should formally request the CITA Board to draw up programmes of actions for key functional areas, as well as other necessary actions relating to the amalgamation, for future consideration by the Liaison Groups.

10. Members supported that the CIC Secretariat would set up an “Amalgamation Team” (“A Team”) in July 2007. The Liaison Groups would discuss the detailed transitional arrangements.

11. To step up communication with CITA staff, three focus group discussion sessions would be organized by CITA management in the summer. Works Branch would also brief the LegCo Panel on the legislative timetable and preparatory work on the amalgamation. CITA

Agenda Item 4: Administrative and Financial Arrangements for CIC
[Paper No. CIC/020]

12. The meeting agreed that temporary office accommodation be provided for the ED/CIC and key supporting staff by converting the entire CITA Town Office in Sheung Wan for CIC’s exclusive use. Members noted that the premises were conveniently located and only minimal disruption to CITA would be expected. The Secretariat would liaise with CITA on taking over its Town Office. The suggested layout for the temporary office would also be prepared for consideration by the Committee on Administration and Finance in due course. Secretariat

13. Members agreed to take out Combined Director & Officer (D&O) Liability and Professional Indemnity (PI) Insurance for Secretariat

Members, co-opted Members and staff of CIC. Quotations would be sought from underwriters for further discussion by the Committee on Administration and Finance.

14. The Committee on Administration and Finance would discuss details of the draft layout plan for the temporary office, quotations from accountants/auditors, legal firms and insurance underwriters and report its deliberations at the fourth CIC meeting in late July 2007. Secretariat

15. Members noted that the domain name “hkcic.org” was reserved for use by CIC and that the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund has been commissioned to establish a web site for CIC which would become available in July 2007. Members noted that other alternatives such as cic.org and cic.hk had already been registered and used by other parties.

Agenda Item 5: Any Other Business

16. There being no other business.

[End of the first part of the meeting which was open to the public.]

**CIC Secretariat
June 2007**