

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The CIC Welcomes The 2023-24 Budget

Hong Kong • 22 February 2023 - The Construction Industry Council (CIC) welcomes the 2023-24 Budget's proposal with regards to construction manpower demand, lands for innovation, housing and planning development, research and application of innovative technology and other measures benefitting the advancement of the construction industry. The proposal will aid the upgrade of the construction industry and enhance competitiveness of Hong Kong, while the public could enjoy a liveable city at the same time.

Ir Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC said, "The Construction Manpower Forecast recently issued by the CIC showed the mismatch in supply and demand would further increase due to the growth in construction volume. In addition to the training funds allocated last year, the new measures proposed by The Budget will further assist the industry in nurturing technical professionals, and encourage youngsters to join the construction industry, relieving the construction manpower shortage and uplifting construction quality in the long run. The CIC strives to promote the wide adoption of innovation technology in the industry, we look forward to the establishment of Building Testing and Research Institute proposed in The Budget would facilitate R&D activities for new building materials, construction methods and technologies to boost construction productivity, sustainability and safety. The CIC appreciates the Government's effort in including our suggestion to strengthen the supply chain of Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) and explore the feasibility of providing land in the Northern Metropolis for manufacturing and storage for MiC production. Together with the proposed Advanced Construction Industrial Building and Hong Kong's competitive edge as part of the Greater Bay Area, Hong Kong will soon become the advanced construction hub in the area."

Hong Kong is advantageous in becoming a centre of international green technology and sustainable finance. The CIC is also actively promoting the sustainable development of the construction industry, putting forward initiatives such as CIC Carbon Assessment Tool, CIC Green Product Certification, CIC Sustainable Finance Certification Scheme and leading the application of green technology in the construction industry.

The Hong Kong Institute of Construction (HKIC) of the CIC will continue to train professionals through various full-time and part-time courses as well as Collaboration Scheme to attract new blood to undertake professional construction training. The CIC also offers Master Classes to upgrade technical capabilities of construction professionals in response to the rapid development of the industry. The CIC strives to boost manpower supply in the construction industry to support the two new engines for future development, Kau Yi Chau Artificial Islands and Northern Metropolis, and build a foundation for Hong Kong's high-quality economic co-operation with the Greater Bay Area.

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Media Enquiries

Corporate Communications Department

Tel: 2100 9000

Fax: 2100 9090

Email: corpcomm@cic.hk

About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.