

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Call for the End of Filibustering to Protect the Livelihood of Construction Practitioners

Hong Kong • 23 June 2017 – The Construction Industry Alliance, which consists of 16 construction-related organisations including professional institutions, trade unions and associations, held a slow-drive protest of construction vehicles and assembly this morning, urging the members of Legislative Council (LegCo) to stop filibustering.

CHAN Ka-kui, Chairman of the Construction Industry Council (CIC) pointed out that the LegCo's Finance Committee has only passed five new projects this year, which worth less than \$4.9 billion. There is a huge discrepancy when comparing with the average \$69.5 billion approved annually in the previous two years. If the situation still remains unchanged, a severe shortage in construction projects will be resulted, and it will affect the livelihood of construction workers as well as social development. In fact, practitioners in fields taking part in early work of construction projects such as planning, design and site formation, are facing underemployment, salary cut and even layoff.

In recent years, some LegCo members keep using filibustering tactics to delay the development of construction projects. Most of the infrastructure projects could not be rolled out as scheduled, which not only affecting the sustainable development of construction industry, but also the employment of construction practitioners and livelihood of people. Filibustering has led to the unstable volume of construction works, making long-term planning for manpower training and mechanical investment hard to be formulated. Tender price is difficult to be estimated as well. Filibustering is one of the causes leading to high construction cost in Hong Kong, which our citizens would suffer at the end. He urged the Opposition lawmakers to stop filibustering and help facilitate the development of the whole society and construction industry.

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.

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