

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 004/14 of the Construction Workers Registration Board was held on Wednesday, 30 July 2014 at 3:30 pm 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. 004/14:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
4.1	CIC/CRB/M/003/14	<p><u>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> Members confirmed the revised minutes of the 3rd meeting of CWRB for 2014.</p>
4.3.1	CIC/CRB/P/024/14 (Progress Report)	<p><u>Workers Registration Offices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mail delivery service of workers registration cards had started from 19 May 2014. Over 40% of workers used this service in July. • Starting from 6 Aug, the pilot scheme for outreach registration renewal service would be launched on selected construction sites.
4.3.3	CIC/CRB/P/026/14 (for Resolution)	<p><u>Sub-committee on Senior Workers Assessment</u></p> <p>The proposed budget as a subsidy for trade unions to conduct work experience verification and tests for senior workers was approved as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • administrative expenses for the pre-assessment of Group 2 Senior Workers prior to the effective date of the (Amendment) Ordinance; • arrangement of senior workers registration within 18 months after the (Amendment) Ordinance became effective; and • allowance would be given to other organisations participating in senior workers' work experience verification. <p>Pre-assessment of Group 2 Senior Workers would be commenced after the (Amendment) Bill passed its third reading tentatively in Nov to Dec 2014.</p>
4.3.4	CIC/CRB/P/027/14 (for Resolution)	<p><u>Sub-committee on Registration Matters</u> – Following items were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To revise the phrase “Remaining Phase of Prohibition” to “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” in the Specified Form for “Exempted Emergency Construction Work”. • To develop a mechanism for the Registrar to cancel registrations. Registrar may request workers to renew their Green Card or other construction-related registrations through their employers and to establish a system for relevant organisations/departments to notify the

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		<p>Registrar of any cases of suspension or revocation of related registrations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evenly distribute the number of renewal (50k-90k/year) between 2015 and 2021, WRO would refund the renewal fee to those workers with registrations to be expired in 2015-2016 and would continue to choose alignment of the expiry dates of workers registration and green cards. It was hoped that 100k workers would benefit from this arrangement. • After the amendment of Construction Workers Registration (Fees) Regulation, Skilled Workers (Provisional) were not required to pay fee for converting from provisional to normal registration. The validity of the existing registration would remain unchanged. The Sub-committee would discuss the possibility of workers with registration about to expire to pay the renewal fee in advance while applying for normal registration. • After the (Amendment) Bill was passed, the codes of trades currently used would remain unchanged. New codes would be assigned to the master trade divisions. • To add the trade of “Cable Jointer (Power) (Medium Voltage)” and rename it as “Cable Jointer (Power) (Dead Cables)”.
4.3.5	CIC/CRB/P/028/14 (Progress Report)	<p><u>Task Force on Data Analysis</u></p> <p>It was estimated that 243,578 workers were engaged in construction industry over the past 12 months till 30 Apr 2014. Workers engaged in non-construction works such as drivers, security guards and cleaners were excluded from the report. Telephone survey would be carried out on a regular basis with 10k interviewees from 24 trades in Apr, Aug and Dec every year. 26 trades facing labour shortage would be covered in the Aug 2014 telephone survey (excluding 24 trades, workers engaging in 6 additional trades would be covered) to find out whether they were fully employed. However, this would not be carried out regularly.</p>
4.3.6	CIC/CRB/P/029/14 (Progress Report)	<p><u>Task Force on the Promotion of Remaining Phase of Prohibition of CWRO</u></p> <p>Promotional plan was proposed including 1) senior workers enquiry service; 2) briefing sessions; and 3) senior workers enquiry hotline if needed. Promotion would be carried out after the (Amendment) Bill passed its third reading.</p>
4.3.7	CIC/CRB/P/030/14 (for Resolution)	<p><u>Task Force on Construction Workers Registration System</u></p> <p>The design of the new registration card was approved due to the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright colour, its yellow part matches with that commonly used in the industry e.g. workers’ uniform; • Use the outline of building materials to highlight the theme of construction industry; • The new design was easy to be identified by contractors and workers.

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		<p>Space had already been reserved in the chip for storing biometric data of workers to meet the requirement of majority of contractors. The chip could save 120 latest attendance records and additional 480 records (total 600 attendance records) could be accessed through mobile app or self-service kiosk.</p> <p>The 2nd round of briefing sessions would be held in Aug and Sep 2014. New card would be issued in Sep 2015. Registration card with 5-year validity would be issued after the (Amendment) Ordinance became effective.</p>
4.3.8	CIC/CRB/P/031/14 (Progress Report)	<p><u>Task Force on Reviewing the Outflow of Construction Workers</u></p> <p>As CIC was not familiar with the background and skills level of non-CIC graduates, CWRB agreed providing job matching & referral services and organising focus group for full time CIC graduates who withdrew from the construction industry.</p> <p>Considering the unsatisfactory results of the first two rounds of job placement provided by Trainees Recruitment & Career Support Team, CWRB suggested that the training system, job referral and follow-up services for graduates as well as the publicity should be enhanced, e.g. organising seminars or activities to keep graduates abreast of the industry current situation. The above recommendations should be proposed for discussion at Council meeting and to be followed up and carried out by CITB.</p>

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