

**Construction Industry Council**

**Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments**

Meeting No. 002/16 of the Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments was held on Monday, 23 May 2016 at 4:00pm at Conference Room, CIC Headquarters, 15/F, Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

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Summary notes of the Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments (SGICA) Meeting No. 002/16:

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions / Progress Highlights</b>
2.1	CIC/ICA/R/001/16	<b>Confirmation of Progress Report of the Last Meeting</b> The progress report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting in 2016 held on 19 February 2016 was confirmed.
2.2	CIC/ICA/R/001/16	<b>Matter Arising from the Last Meeting</b> Regarding trade test applications applied by female and ethnic minority workers, the secretariat reported that there were around 800 female workers and 6000 ethnic minority workers applied trade test from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016. After establishment of ethnic minority team, the number of trade test applications had been increased significantly. That showed the effectiveness of service team which focused on special community and could improve service quality.
2.3	CIC/ICA/P/004/16 (for information)	<b>Number of Applications and Successful Cases of Registering as Semi-skilled/ Skilled Workers through Senior workers Registration and Trade Testing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Secretariat reported the total number of senior workers registration applications and trade test applications was 56,063 as of April 2016.</li><li>• Number of senior workers registration applications was 31,062 and number of completed senior workers registration approval was 27,011.</li><li>• Total number of successful conversion and new skilled and semi-skilled workers registration was 35,840.</li></ul>

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2.3	CIC/ICA/P/004/16 (for information)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members thought that there was an increasing trend for the number of applications. The Secretariat should further increase number of senior workers registration applications before the deadline of senior workers registration in September.</li> </ul> <p><b>Registration Situation of Workers obtaining Trade Testing Qualifications and Registered Semi-skilled/ Skilled Workers (Provisional)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat reported that as of April 2016, there were 2,550 workers who obtained trade test qualifications and valid registered general worker card, and successfully applied as registered skilled/ semi-skilled workers, 31% of the total number. Moreover, the number of expired registered skilled/ semi-skilled workers (provisional) was around 2,500, while that of valid registered skilled/ semi-skilled workers (provisional) was around 340.</li> <li>• Members suggested the Secretariat studying the feasibility of issuing worker registration cards directly to workers who just successfully passed at trade tests/ intermediate trade tests.</li> <li>• Co-chairman expressed that senior workers registration could replace registration of skilled/ semi-skilled workers (provisional). Representative of Development Bureau said that discussion on roadmap of ceasing skilled/ semi-skilled workers (provisional) registration could be considered after implementation of "Designated Workers for Designated Skills" in April 2017.</li> </ul> <p><b>Review of Number of Registered Workers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat briefed total number applications and applicants of valid registered skilled workers applications as well as senior workers registration for each trade division. Representative of Development Bureau expressed gratitude to CIC and the industry on their endeavours to increase number of applications for trade divisions which had less than 100 registered workers in the recent months.</li> <li>• A member proposed the Secretariat to prepare enforcement guidelines for CWRO Amendment for the industry to follow.</li> </ul>

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2.3	CIC/ICA/P/004/16 (for information)	<p><b>Enhancement of Trade Testing Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Secretariat introduced trade testing enhancement services, including trade test videos, ethnic minority promotion, improvement of trade testing environment and services automation. The secretariat also showed a trade test video at meeting and there was no particular comment on the video.</li><li>• A member reminded the Secretariat to ensure trade test workshops could be able to cope with the trade test capacity before implementation of “Designated Workers for Designated Skills”.</li></ul> <p><b>Establishing Non-local Skill Accreditation and Trade Test for Qualifying Skilled Workers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Secretariat briefed the progress of studying skills recognition of non-local construction workers, including Route 1: To carry out trade tests in CIC’s non-local agent such as Guangdong Construction Vocational Technology Institute (Guangzhou), Foshan Sicheng Training Centre, Dongguan Jianshe Training Centre and BCA Hangzhou Test Centre; Route 2: To recognise non-local trade test certificates. CIC appointed the research team of the University of Hong Kong to carry out the feasibility study. It was expected to have 3 – 5 trades in pilot scheme by August, and the initial mutual recognition system would be prepared by end of 2016; and Route 3: To carry out trade tests for non-locals in Hong Kong which was still at the initial studying stage.</li></ul> <p><b>Survey on industry’s preparation on “Designated Workers Designated Skills”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Secretariat reported that a consultant was entrusted to conduct a survey on the industry’s awareness and preparation of “Designated Workers Designated Skills”. The survey would be targeted at company level (contractor and sub-contractor) and individual (registered worker). The preliminary results were expected to be completed by early August (even better if interim results would be ready by July as raised by a member). The Secretariat would collect members’ views on the questionnaire design by circulation.</li></ul>

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions / Progress Highlights</b>
2.3	CIC/ICA/P/004/16 (for information)	<b>Key Promotion Items in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The secretariat reported key promotion items in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters, including workshops on senior workers registration arrangement, leaflets to members of trade unions, sending SMS to registered general workers aged at 35 or above and with valid registration for 5 year or longer, TV advert broadcast on the trains of 4 MTR lines on racing days, etc. According to the recent survey results conducted by Trade Testing Centre, the most effective promotion means are SMS, bus seat back advertisement and banners.</li></ul>
2.4	Any Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A member proposed the secretariat to promote senior workers registration at the first safety training for new employees held by contractors. The Secretariat would follow-up with the construction companies. Another member also suggested contacting Hong Kong Construction Association to recommend its members to remind workers of deadline of senior workers registration by September and “Designated Workers Designated Skills” requirements at construction sites, morning assembly (morning exercise), breakfast time and other suitable occasions.</li></ul>

**Remarks:** *The mentioned papers discussed at the Steering Group of Implementation of CWRO Amendments can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.*