

**Construction Industry Council**

**Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments**

Meeting No. 001/17 of the Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments was held on Thursday, 23 February 2017 at 4pm at Board Room, CIC Headquarters, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

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Summary notes of the Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments (SGICA) Meeting No. 001/17:

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions / Progress Highlights</b>
1.1	CIC/ICA/P/001/17 (for information)	<b><u>New Members of SGICA</u></b> Mr CHAN Pat-kan and Mr Dennis WONG join the SGICA as new members representing CITB.
1.2	CIC/ICA/R/004/16	<b><u>Confirmation of Progress Report of the Last Meeting</u></b> The minutes of the 4 <sup>th</sup> meeting in 2016 held on 24 November 2016 were confirmed.
1.3		<b><u>Matter Arising from the Last Meeting</u></b> Chairman opined that when “Designated workers for designated skills” provision implements smoothly after April 2017, the SGICA has completed its mandate and will be dissolved in due course. Other related tasks would be followed up by the CWRB/CITB.
1.4.1	CIC/ICA/P/002/17 (for information)	<b><u>Number of Applications for Registration of Skilled &amp; Semi-skilled Workers through Senior Worker Registration Arrangement and Trade Tests</u></b> Assessment of all 111,072 applications for registration through the senior workers registration arrangement was completed. Among all, 101,350 were approved, 3,829 had been rejected or withdrawn, 5,893 required additional information to be submitted by the applicants. As of January 2017, a total of 44,571 applications were received for trade tests with an average of over 2,000 applications per month.
1.4.2	CIC/ICA/P/002/17 (for information)	<b><u>Review the Number of Registrations of Skilled &amp; Semi-skilled Workers</u></b> As of 31 January 2017, the number of registered skilled and semi-skilled workers (including provisional registrations) accounted for 47.5% of the total number of registered workers. The numbers of registered skilled workers (provisional) and registered semi-skilled workers (provisional) dropped from 344 and 69 on 31/12/2015 to 96 and 31 on 31/1/2017.

1.4.3	CIC/ICA/P/002/17 (for information)	<p><b><u>Promotion and Education on “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” Provision</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Launching Ceremony of the Implementation of “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” Provision was held on 31 March 2017;</li> <li>• Seminars for contractors to explain the arrangements of “instruction and supervision” and the requirements of the reasonable measures;</li> <li>• Briefing sessions on construction sites;</li> <li>• Advertisements and articles published on industry publications;</li> <li>• Leaflets promotion including (i) “instruction and supervision” arrangement, (ii) Guidelines on Arrangement of “Instruction and Supervision” and Code of Practice for Reasonable Measures of “Instruction and Supervision”, and (iii) “Quick Guide on DWDS” mobile app; and</li> <li>• Leaflet would be distributed from April 2017 to promote the senior workers registration arrangement for the 3 newly added trade divisions including “False Ceiling Installer”, “Partition (Metal Frame) Installer and “Cable Jointer (Dead Cable)” .</li> </ul>
1.4.4	CIC/ICA/P/002/17 (for information)	<p><b><u>Construction Workers Registration System (CWRS)</u></b></p> <p>As of 15 Feb 2017, 743 construction sites had adopted the CWRS to collect the daily attendance records from approximately 11,000 workers. 218 CIC Devices had been leased to the contractors. CWRB would discuss about the full implementation of CWRS at its upcoming meeting to be held in April.</p>
1.4.5	CIC/ICA/P/002/17 (for information)	<p><b><u>Progress Report on Trade Testing Services</u></b></p> <p>19,340 trade tests were conducted in 2016. An estimated number of trade tests to be conducted in 2017 was 20,200.</p> <p>The secretariat reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the enhanced services of trade tests, including the increased trade test capacity, improved testing ground services, electronic procedure and free shuttle bus service;</li> <li>• progress report on promotion of trade tests;</li> <li>• the video production and broadcast of the 18 popular trade test subjects or subjects with low passing rates;</li> <li>• To provide assistance to ethnic minority workers (number of ethnic minority candidates increased notably from 10% in 2015 to 24% in 2016), CIC would soon employ two more ethnic minority staff to be lecturers or examiners.</li> </ul>

1.4.6	CIC/ICA/P/002/17 (for information)	<p><b><u>Progress Report on Benchmark Study of Non-local Workers' Skill Certificates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Centre for Innovation in Construction and Infrastructure Development (the Centre) of HKU reported the result of the visit to the Construction Industry Development Board and Malaysian Construction Academy in Malaysia, as well as the interim study report (1st phase)(including the qualification accreditation framework of the 3 trade divisions and the revised content of the report).</li><li>• Members agreed with the suggestions given by the centre to continue the research study:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) To expand the scope of study from accreditation framework to qualification framework. However, the Centre should provide the report on the accreditation framework in a standalone section; and</li><li>2) Three rounds of focus groups would be conducted targeting 1)government, semi-government organizations, professional bodies, real estate developers; 2) consultants, subcontractors and industry associations; and 3) labour unions.</li></ol></li><li>• Regarding the submission of study reports, the Secretariat was requested to liaise with the Centre about the need to postpone the deadline for submitting the second phase interim report. The deadline of 12 June and July for submission of the third interim report and the final report would remain unchanged.</li></ul>
1.4.7	CIC/ICA/P/002/17 (for information)	<p><b><u>Suggestions on Collaboration with Overseas Training and Trade Testing Centres</u></b></p> <p>Members took notes of the timeframe of providing training courses in collaboration with the Foshan Sicheng Construction Training Centre. Among all courses, tower crane course conducted in mainland was expected to commence in October 2017. The Secretariat would continue to study the relevant operational details and arrangements such as per diem and travel allowance provided to instructors and trainees.</p>

*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.*