

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Productivity

Meeting No. 001/24 of the Committee on Productivity was held on 19 March 2024 (Tuesday) at 2:30 pm in the Board Room, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon and via MS Teams.

Present:	Ricky LEUNG	(RyL)	Chairperson
	Victor CHEUNG	(VC)	
	Clarence LEUNG*	(CLWK)	
	Simon LIU	(SiL)	
	Rocky POON*	(LKP)	
	Derek SO*	(KLS)	
	Edwin TONG	(ETg)	
	Terence HUI*	(TeH)	
	Franki YEUNG*	(FY)	
	Simon Wong*	(SnW)	
	Dominic LAW*	(DcL)	
	Rayson WONG*	(RnWg)	for Permanent Secretary for Housing (Housing)
In Attendance:	Albert CHENG	(CTN)	Executive Director – CIC
	Alex HO	(AHKK)	Director – Industry Development
	Yan ZHOU	(YZ)	Assistant Director – Industry Development
	Kenneth WU	(KKCW)	Senior Manager – Industry Development
	Zoe LAM	(ZeL)	Manager – Industry Development
	William WONG	(WW)	Manager – Industry Development
	Tim SUEN	(TSTT)	Manager – Industry Development
	Christy KWONG	(CyK)	Senior Officer – Industry Development
	Felix LAM	(FL)	Officer II – Industry Development
Apologies:	LI Tat-wai	(LTWi)	
	Stephen LAI	(SnL)	
	CHUNG Kwok-fai	(CKFi)	
	David MOW	(THM)	
	KAN Jun	(KJ)	
	Joseph LO*	(JhL)	for Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

* Members and presenters attended the meeting online via MS Teams.

MINUTES

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1.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Members confirmed the minutes of the Com-PRO Meeting No. 004/23 without further amendment.

All to Note

1.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

All to Note

a. Agenda 4.5: Enhancement of the Assessment Mechanism and Procedures of the CIC Research and Technology Development (R&D) Fund

The Secretariat presented a proposed R&D Fund Assessment Mechanism based on the discussion in Com-PRO Meeting No. 004/23. The proposed R&D Fund Assessment Panel Meeting will be formed of a minimum of 5 Members from different ID Committees and certain flexibility will be provided in terms of meeting frequency and meeting dates. Riding on the abovementioned proposal, the Secretariat also presented a revised R&D Fund schedule which includes two application openings per year to allow more applications to be submitted throughout the year. Members raised concerns about the practicality and flexibility of having two specific openings and suggested exploring a more flexible approach to accept applications throughout the year. They also recommended adjusting the schedule of the assessment panel based on the number of R&D applications received. In addition, Members expressed concerns regarding the nomination process for the chairpersons of the assessment panels. They sought clarification on whether a chairman would be appointed for all panel meetings in the year or a chairman would be selected for each panel meeting.

The Secretariat would follow up on the details of formation of assessment panels and R&D Fund schedule accordingly.

b. Report on the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) status of Com-PRO 2023 & 2024

- i. Manage the Digital Resource Centre with Object Library to facilitate MiC and MiMEP Adoption with 50,000 target number of visits to the Digital**

Resource Centre

(Please refer to Agenda item 1.4.)

ii. Identify and promote practical solutions bringing significant gain to construction productivity

After identifying 10 solutions for productivity gain, which was one of the Com-PRO KPIs in 2023, the Secretariat shared the promotion plan for these solutions in 2024. Webinars will be held in March 2024 and in Q4 of 2024, while robotic solutions will be promoted during the Global Construction Robotic Day in May 2024. The abovementioned promotions primarily target at Main Contractors and Small and Medium Enterprises (SME).

iii. Identify innovation technology to enhance productivity significantly in Building Projects

The Secretariat is collaborating with the Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF) team to assess the top ranking innovative technologies from the Pre-Approved List of funding. Potential technologies will be selected for further promotions in Q4 2024.

iv. Preparation of marketing works for the CIC Innovation Award 2025

The Launching Ceremony of the CIC Innovation Award 2025 will be held in late 2024. The final award presentation will be one of the grand events in the Construction Innovation Expo 2025.

c. Promotion of 10 Solutions for Enhancing Construction Productivity

A series of events had been scheduled in 2024 to promote 10 solutions for productivity gain in construction.

In March 2024, a webinar will be held to promote Acoustic Metamaterials and Drone Inspection and Surveying. Acoustic Metamaterials utilise robust sound absorption technology with

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excellent sound-blocking ability and easy installation features, which can mitigate construction noise problem. Adopting drones for inspection and surveying tasks in confined spaces and exterior walls can mitigate safety risks and address manpower shortages.

Additionally, three robotic solutions will be promoted during the Global Construction Robotic Day in May 2024. In Q4 2024, a seminar will be arranged to introduce the technologies and site applications of High Strength Steel Material – S690, Artificial Intelligence (AI) Rock in Ground Investigation Logging and Concrete Sensor to construction practitioners. Furthermore, a webinar co-organised with the Construction Business Development (CBD) team is also planned in Q4 2024 to promote New Engineering Contract (NEC) and highlight its efficiency on construction management.

1.3 Proposal on Future Construction Excellence Programme

**CIC
Secretariat**

The Secretariat presented the course content, estimated cost, items to be executed under non-procurement and the relevant justifications. Members recognised the value of the proposed programme and agreed that a programme combining global insights and regional technologies would be comprehensive.

Members expressed their concerns regarding the number of participants as companies need to be supportive in allowing their employees to join. Additionally, the opportunity for networking was highlighted as a crucial and attractive aspect for companies to participate. The Secretariat reported that a luncheon will be organised to gather feedback and assess the level of interest from companies before course implementation. All comments raised at the meeting will be addressed to ensure the programme aligns with market needs.

Members approved the proposed list of items being treated as non-procurement items for execution accordingly for the Future Construction Excellence Programme. Among the different providers, Imperial College has a great reputation in engineering and management, and their course delivery fee is the lowest compared to other providers. Therefore, it is approved to be the provider for the Global Insights Module. Research Institute of Tsinghua University in Shenzhen is approved as a course provider for the Regional Know-how Module.

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1.4 **High Productivity Construction – Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) & Multi-trade Integrated Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MiMEP)** **CIC Secretariat**

a. Report on Digital Library

The Secretariat reported the status of the Digital Library. As the gathered information lacks sufficient detail, the Secretariat would follow up to obtain further information and upload to website by May 2024 after consolidation.

b. Update on MiC MiMEP coming events

A visit to MiC factories in Foshan will be held on 9-10 April 2024. Participants will visit the Fire Station-cum-ambulance Depot with Departmental Quarters and Facilities in Area 72, Tseung Kwan O by ArchSD and the High West Site Development at 142 Pok Fu Lam Road by HKU. This visit allows participants to observe the entire fabrication process, including QA and QC procedures for the actual modules that would be delivered and installed in Hong Kong.

The Secretariat proposed that a webinar and workshop for MiC project sharing be held in Q2/Q3 2024.

c. Deferral of 2024 KPI item on “Renovate MiC Resources Centre”

Considering the numerous industrial accidents occurred in the construction industry, CIC has intensified its efforts in promoting safety and designated 2024 as the “Year of Safety”. To ensure a strong focus on construction safety, all departments, including the MiC department, are required to review and reprioritise their focus to align with the development of industry safety.

The Secretariat suggested postponing the renovation of MiC resources centre and prioritizing MiC training to ensure safety in MiC implementation with limited manpower resources. Members approved the plan with no further comments.

d. MiC related Master Classes

The Secretariat reported the status of existing Master Class on MiC project implementation (Project Managers).

The Secretariat proposed the launch of a new Master Class on MiC Logistics and Transportation Management. Additionally, an advisory panel will be established to provide guidance on the course content.

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Secretariat**

1.5 Update on TCQ Report

The Secretariat updated Members on the recent status of TCQ report items.

a. Shifting to High Productivity Construction

Consultation with industry stakeholders regarding the review and enhancement of construction contract term would be completed by end of March 2024.

b. Streamlining Approval Processes

i. Consultancy study on “Adopting Building Information Modelling (BIM) for Statutory Submissions under the Buildings Ordinance” would be completed by end of June 2024;

ii. Further areas and possibilities of streamlining construction processes would be explored.

c. Driving Innovation

i. Development of Construction Innovation Platform commenced on 21 February 2024 and would be launched by the end of 2024;

ii. Consultancy study on “Review and Enhancement of Construction Contract Term Study” was ongoing.

d. Enhancing Project Management and Procurement

i. Industry stakeholders from private sector were engaged;

ii. Study on the CIC Master Classes was ongoing, followed by stakeholders’ consultation;

iii. Consultation on the expansion of Product Certification Scheme to private sector would commence in mid-2024;

iv. Consultation on Early Contractor Involvement was ongoing.

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Regarding “Streamlining Approval Processes”, Members suggested to review the implementation of BIM contract, liaise with the Buildings Department on streamlining approval processes and identify the pain points of BIM implementation.

The Secretariat took note of the suggestions and would follow up accordingly.

1.6 Manpower Forecast Model Revamp

**CIC
Secretariat**

(This agenda item was not reported since further discussion with DevB is required.)

1.7 Oversea Study Tour 2024

**CIC
Secretariat**

The Secretariat presented the proposed plan of overseas study tour 2024 to the Members, in which the perspective of this tour is to learn from the novel technology used in foreign projects and apply it into local projects. The proposed tour is scheduled in Q3 2024, consisting of visiting various mega projects such as the High speed 2 (HS2) project in Birmingham, UK and the reconstruction project of Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, France.

Members agreed with the perspective of this tour without adverse comments. CIC Secretariat would search for more valuable mega projects for site visits and plan the details of study tour accordingly.

1.8 Construction Innovation Expo (CIExpo) 2025 and CIC Construction Innovation Award (CIA) 2025

**CIC
Secretariat**

The Secretariat presented a proposal on organising the Construction Innovation Expo (CIExpo) 2025 and the CIC Construction Innovation Award (Innovation Award) 2025, which included an event programme and a project timeline of the CIExpo 2025, a proposed organising committee of the CIExpo 2025, and details on the Innovation Award 2025. The total expense for organising the CIExpo 2025 is estimated to be within HK\$24.5 million (including prize money for the Innovation Award).

After deliberation, Members approved the proposal. This CIExpo 2025 proposal would be submitted to the Council in April 2024 for final approval. The representative from CIC will issue formal invitation to

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DEVB for the co-organising matter.

1.9 **Year of Safety**

**CIC
Secretariat**

a. Proposed Measures to Enhance Construction Safety

The Secretariat presented proposed measures to enhance construction safety, which include identifying the responsibility of industry stakeholders, providing training, enhancing safety attitude, improving capability, enhancing safety awareness, and implementing incentive and penalty.

Members suggested to encourage the adoption of offsite construction and tailor-made safety trainings for different trades.

The Secretariat took note of the suggestions and would follow up accordingly.

b. Exploration of Steel Scaffolding and Bamboo Scaffolding

The Secretariat sought Members' advice on the exploration of steel scaffolding and bamboo scaffolding. Members suggested to explore the safety use and supervision of bamboo scaffolding, on the other hand, to promote the use of steel scaffolding among the industry.

The Secretariat took note of the suggestions and would follow up accordingly.

1.10 **Any Other Business**

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There was no other business.

1.11 **Next Meeting 002/24**

**CIC
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The next meeting of Committee on Construction Business Development and Productivity (Com-CBD&PRO) would be held in June 2024 tentatively. The Secretariat would inform Members upon confirmation of the meeting details.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.