

**Construction Industry Council**

Meeting No. 001/17 of the Construction Industry Council for 2017 was held on Friday, 17 February 2017 at 2:00pm at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

Present	:	Ka-kui CHAN	(KKCh)	Chairman
		Chi-chiu CHAN	(CCC)	
		Allan Sau-kit CHAN	(SKC)	
		Pat-kan CHAN	(CPK)	
		Paul Kin-lit CHONG	(PC)	
		Ivan Chin-shing FU	(FI)	
		Chi-wah LAI	(CWLi)	
		Stephen Yuk-fai LAI	(SLI)	
		Robert Ping-hong LAM	(PHL)	
		Christopher Kin-ying LEUNG	(KYL)	
		Kenneth Kon-fei MO	(KM)	
		Lawrence San-wa NG	(LN)	
		Shu-jie PAN	(PSJ)	
		Eliza Yeuk-lan WONG	(EWYL)	
		Philco Nai-keung WONG	(NKW)	
		Sze-chun WONG	(SCW)	
		Wilfred Shek-chun WU	(WSCW)	
		Sai-yen YU	(SYYu)	
		Ringo Shek-man YU	(RiYu)	
		Chi-keung HON	(HCK)	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
		Tin-cheung CHEUNG	(TnC)	Director of Buildings
		Ada yin-suen FUNG	(AF)	for Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)
In Attendance	:	Dominic CHOW	(DCW)	Development Bureau
		Lambert CHOW	(WKCw)	Housing Department
		Hau-wai CHEUNG	(HWC)	Executive Director
		Alex LEUNG	(AL)	Director – Training and Development
		Cheryl IP	(CI)	Assistant Director - HR, Facilities Management & Admin
		Oi-yen LEE	(OYL)	Assistant Director – Registration Services
		Justin LI	(JnLi)	Assistant Director - Environmental & Sustainability (ZCB)
		Lotus CHOI	(LCCC)	Senior Manager – Corporate Communications

Ivan KO	(IK)	Senior Manager – Training and Development
Angela YUEN	(AaY)	Senior Manager – Council Services
Miranda YEAP	(MYP)	Senior Manager – Council Services
Amy FUNG	(AyF)	Manager – Council Services
Gary LEUNG	(GyL)	Manager – Council Services

Apologies : Kwok-kwan NG (NKK)  
Derrick Yat-bond PANG (DP)  
Kevin POOLE (KP)

**MINUTES**

**Open-door Session**  
**Agenda Item**

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[The open-door session of the meeting started at 4:30 pm]

**1.18 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Construction Workers Registration Board for 2017**

PC asked for permission to deliver his report first so that he could be excused from the meeting to attend another business engagement afterwards. With no objection from the Chairman and Members, PC continued and highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/015/17:

- Item 1.7.1 – Arrangements for senior workers assessment was in good progress. More than 110,000 applications had been approved and the remaining applications were targeted to be completed by the end February or early March 2017. For those applicants who had submitted incomplete information, the Workers Registration Office would request their further submission of supplementary information to substantiate their applications. For those who failed to submit substantiations by March 2017, final letters would be issued again to request for their supplementary submission by a specific date or their applications would be nullified.
- Item 1.7.2 - The implementation of the new registration system was a bit behind schedule, but should be in place in 2017. By 1 January 2018, the new registration system would be in service and all data collected from the system would be real time and accurate.

PC further reported to Members that, at the last CWRB meeting, the Board has discussed on issues concerning workers' welfare and the Construction Charity Fund (the Fund).

PC said that, there was a huge population of over 420,000 registered workers in Hong Kong including 340,000 active workers. However, the current welfare offered to workers seemed insufficient and not attractive enough. The CIC was urged to figure out a more comprehensive welfare package for workers.

The Chairman agreed to PC that workers were essential to the construction industry and entrusted OYL and LCCC to deliberate a long term welfare strategy for workers. PC further suggested the inclusion of scholarship and grants to the welfare package to workers.

**OYL and  
LCCC**

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Regarding the Construction Charity Fund, PC said that the purpose of the Fund was to show our concern and recognition for workers who suffered from injuries or died in fatal industrial accidents. The Fund would provide immediate financial assistance and condolences to families of workers who died in construction related accidents. PC requested the CIC to consider whether it should provide funding support to the Fund as it was quite an arduous task for the industry to raise about HKD5M each year to support the operation of the Fund.

The Chairman expressed appreciation to the purpose of the Fund. He however stated that as one of the purposes of the Fund was to unite the industry and stakeholders, it might contravene the rationale of the Fund if the CIC subsidized the Fund directly.

SCW, with reference to university's practice, proposing that the CIC could consider donating an amount equivalent to that raised by the Fund itself so as to provide incentive for the Fund to make harder efforts to raise more and not to rely on the CIC solely.

HCK said that the provision of direct funding support from the levy collected by the CIC might convey a wrong message to the public that construction was a fatal industry causing numerous deaths and injuries.

[WSCW left the meeting at this juncture]

SKC echoed HCK's concern, but still believed that it would be helpful for the Fund to obtain financial assistance from the CIC.

AF opined that CIC should not be involved in donation but could help promote the fund raising activities. PSJ pointed out that the Fund was a joint responsibility of industry stakeholders; the CIC should play the role of organizer and coordinator rather than a donor. LN suggested clarifying the legal implications of such motion before any in-depth discussion.

After much deliberation, Members agreed that the following should be studied before further discussion:

- the legal implications of CIC's making direct donation to the Fund;
- what the CIC could do; and
- what the CIC would like to achieve.

CIC  
Secretariat

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Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/015/17.

[HCK, PC, FI, PSJ and SCW left the meeting at this juncture]

**1.12 Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting  
(Open-door Session)**

Members referred to Paper CIC/CMT/M/006/16 and approved the minutes of the open-door session of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of 2016 held on Friday, 9 December 2016 at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

**1.13 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting  
(Open-door Session)**

Nil.

**1.14 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Committee on Construction Safety for 2016**

AF highlighted the following major items as set out in Paper CIC/CMT/P/010/17:

- Item 4.8 – Members of the Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites (TF-RMA) had a discussion on the safe access and facilities for inspection and repair of external walls of new buildings. Direction of the suggested future plans of the task force was agreed by Members.
- Item 4.9 – The first meeting of the Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds and a site visit to the closely placed bamboo scaffolding and mixed bamboo and metal scaffolding took place on 24 November 2016. A working group would be established to review the CIC Guidelines on “Planking Arrangement for Providing Working Platforms on Bamboo Scaffolds”.
- Item 4.10 – Construction Safety Poster No. 001/17 was formally published on 27 January 2017.

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- Item 4.11 – Interim guidelines on “Highways Department enhances safety protection measures for carrying out road works (with photos)” were issued by the Highways Department on 1 November 2016. The “Code of Practice of the Lighting, Signing and Guarding of Road Works” was being reviewed by a working group comprising Highways Department, Transport Department, the Police, Labour Department and Development Bureau. It is intended to issue the updated version in 2017.
- Press release on “Awareness on Safety Measures for Construction Site Vehicles and Mobile Plant” was published on 27 January 2017.
- CIC Seminar:
  - two sessions on “Road Maintenance Works Safety” were held on 29 August 2016.
  - a total of four sessions on “Work-above-ground Safety” were held on 6 December 2016 and 13 February 2017.
  - one session on “Safety of Lift Shaft Works: Volume 4 – Builders’ Lift within Lift Shaft” was held on 11 January 2017.
  - one session on “Site Welfare, Health and Safety Measures” would be scheduled on 17 March 2017.

The Chairman asked why those research projects under Com-CSY were being followed by the Research and Development Team (R&D Team), instead of the Safety Team. After much deliberation, it was agreed that the R&D Team would be in a better position to liaise with the researchers on uncompleted projects nurtured by their team.

For the World Congress on Safety & Health at Work 2017, the Chairman entrusted AF and the Safety Team to explore the possibility for any form of collaboration between the CIC and the Occupational Safety and Health Council to participate in the Congress. The Chairman further reiterated that the presence of the CIC in all construction related events was deemed important for branding and image building.

**AF and AaY**

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/010/17.

**1.15 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Committee on Environment for 2016**

JnLi said that all items on the Paper CIC/CMT/P/011/17 had been verbally reported to Members at the last council meeting. The only update at this meeting was highlighted below:

- Item 4.6 - The Secretariat had arranged Hong Kong Concrete Institute (HKCI) to present the research topic “Better Utilisation of Ultimate Strength Gain of Concrete with Pozzolanic Materials for Sustainable Development of Construction Works in Hong Kong” to the Standing Committee of Concrete Technology (SCCT) under DEVB on 22 December 2016. SCCT Members welcomed the findings of the research and suggested departments to facilitate HKCI to collect more site data for verification of the research findings before revising the General Specifications (GS).

The Chairman supplemented that extra copies of “Hong Kong Green Office Guide” produced by the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) were made available for Members’ perusal. This publication has incorporated the logo of CIC as recognition of CIC’s funding support.

The Chairman informed Members that the senior management of CIC and HKGBC have met recently to discuss the future relationship between the two entities. At the meeting, a new funding support mechanism was established. The funding support from the CIC would be on individual project basis; and the theme of those potential projects must be relevant to the ambit of the CIC. Should the funding from the CIC exceed 50% of the total project expenses, the project would be regarded as a joint project, e.g. the World Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2017. The Chairman assured that the CIC would continue to support the work of HKGBC.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper CIC/CMT/P/011/17.

[EWYL left the meeting at this juncture]

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**1.16 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Committee on Construction Procurement for 2016**

Members received the Paper CIC/CMT/P/012/17 with no further comments.

**1.17 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Construction Industry Training Board for 2016 and 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Construction Industry Training Board for 2017**

Members took note of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/013/17 and CIC/CMT/P/014/17. SKC highlighted the major items of the Paper CIC/CMT/P/014/17 as follows:

- Item 1.3 – The proposed organization structure of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) was endorsed by the Board Members. Under this new structure, the “Task Group on Standardisation of Labour Return of Construction Sites” and “Ad Hoc Working Group on Development of Local Construction Professionals and Supervisory Staff to Work Overseas” would be disbanded.

[SY Yu left the meeting at this juncture]

- Item 1.4 – To avoid the waiting time for plant operation courses being lengthened by the failure of machines, Members agreed to streamline the procedures for purchase or replacement of machines.
- Item 1.5 – The “Skills Enhancement Courses for Construction Workers” was introduced to enhance the skills level of registered general workers, who possess at least one year of relevant working experience, to the level of semi-skilled workers.
- Item 1.6 – A part-time evening “Appreciation Course on Quality of Drinking Water and Good Practice” would be introduced for registered skilled and semi-skilled plumbers. Members might consider extending the course to other groups of trainees at a later stage.
- Item 1.7 – The total expenses for the New Collaborative Training Scheme in 2017 was estimated to be HKD46.4M,



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which incurred an extra funding of HKD3.8M. The estimated budget was agreed by Members. Briefing sessions would be arranged to introduce this New Collaborative Training Scheme to the industry stakeholders, including contractors, sub-contractors and developers. One briefing session was already held on 16 February 2017 and two more sessions were scheduled on 20 & 21 February 2017. Furthermore, a launching ceremony for this New Collaborative Training Scheme was tentatively scheduled in end of March or April 2017 (to be confirmed).

- Item 1.8 - In view of the overwhelming number of applications for the “Skills Enhancement Course” under the Advanced Construction Manpower Training Scheme-Pilot Scheme, Members agreed to increase the training places by 500.

Members had no comments on other items stated in the Paper.

**1.19 Any Other Business**

The Chairman briefed Members on the forthcoming events of the CIC. Major events summarised as follow:

- The “CIC 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cocktail Reception cum CIC Construction Innovation Award 2017 Launching Ceremony” would be held on 21 February 2017.
- The “2017 Young Construction Conference” was scheduled on 18 February 2017.
- A sharing session at Kowloon Bay Training Centre was scheduled on 18 February 2017 from 10:30am-12:00noon. Mr. Thomas Kwok of Sun Hung Kai Properties would be invited to have a sharing with our trainees. Interested Members would be welcomed.
- Training Centre Open Day 2017 would be held on 24 & 25 February 2017 and 3 & 4 March 2017 respectively.
- “CIC 2017 Happy Run” was scheduled on 5 March 2017.
- “Ceremony for Promulgation of Good Practice Guide on Plumbing Works” would be held on 9 March 2017.

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- “Breakfast Round Table” – this would be a monthly gathering with different themes. The “Breakfast Round Table” with the theme of “Productivity” would be held on 29 March 2017. Talents from the relevant field would be invited to share their experience on the topic.

**1.20 Tentative Date of Next Meeting 002/17**

The next meeting was scheduled for 28 April 2017 (Friday) at **All to note** 2:00pm at Multi-purpose Hall of ZCB, 8 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

There being no further business, the open-door session of the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm