

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## <u>Construction Industry Council Expresses Concern on Recent Accidents</u> <u>Establishment of Dedicated Committee for Industry Consultation on</u> <u>Countermeasures in the Short Term</u>

**Hong Kong • 11 November 2023** – The Construction Industry Council expresses deep regret and concern regarding the recent accidents in the construction industry and extends its heartfelt condolences to the families of the workers who lost their lives and wishes a swift recovery to those who were injured. The Council has been dedicated to enhancing the safety standards in the construction industry and has developed a series of training programs and guidelines for this purpose. In the area of lifting operations, the Council, together with the Labour Department, has established clear safety measures that industry must adhere to ensure the safety of lifting operations. However, the recent frequent occurrences of accidents indicate that these measures have not been fully implemented and complied with.

The Council strongly urges every proprietor to personally deliver safety messages to construction sites and calls on all contractors to strengthen their safety measures in lifting operations. The industry is urged to adhere to the safety guidelines during construction and actively utilize the Smart Site Safety System. Prior to work commencement, dynamic risk assessments and field control briefings should be conducted. The Council will establish a dedicated committee in the short term and call for meetings with key industry stakeholders to review the existing operational standards and procedures, including how to enhance training, how to assess and strengthen individual safety responsibilities, improve workers' safety awareness and skill levels, and arrange audits for site safety.

The Council reiterates that safety is the cornerstone of our industry's development, and all industry stakeholders must take immediate action, reflect on the incidents, identify shortcomings, and ensure the construction safety of every worksite. Only through collective efforts can the construction industry reduce the occurrence of accidents and safeguard the lives of every worker.

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## Media Enquiries

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## About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.