

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The CIC Welcomes the 2024 Policy Address** **Leading the Industry to Build Hong Kong's Future**

**Hong Kong • 16 October 2024** – The Construction Industry Council (CIC) supports the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2024 (Policy Address), which has shed light on the development roadmap of various infrastructure projects, allowing the society to focus on pursuing economic growth and improving people's livelihoods. The CIC will continue to support the construction industry and the government's development approach in pushing forward the infrastructure works, driving innovation and technologies as well as talent training, improving industry's productivity and competitiveness, giving full play to the advantages of the construction industry in contributing to our country.

The Policy Address has shown government's determination in creating developable land to let the community thrive. Numerous large scale infrastructure projects including the Northern Metropolis, Kau Yi Chau Artificial Islands, Lok Ma Chau Loop, housing and hospital development plans, major transport infrastructure and urban renewal, will boost the construction industry. The CIC will join hands with the Development Bureau, in supporting the industry to seize the opportunities and enhance their productivity and competitiveness, while building the infrastructure that can benefit the general public.

Hong Kong's construction industry has the dual advantage in connecting the Motherland and the world. The Policy Address further establishes a clear positioning for the development of Hong Kong and provides measures to assist the industry in capitalising their advantages. The Development Bureau has outlined a number of new measures in promoting the research and the application of construction-related technologies, including the establishment of the Building Technology Research Institute (BTRi) in August this year. The CIC believes that its establishment will accelerate research and development activities in areas covering innovative construction materials and methods, devising standards, aligning Hong Kong standards with Guobiao, the National Standards of the PRC, which will facilitate entry into the international markets. The CIC will continue to lead the industry in driving the application of innovative technologies and digital transformation, making use of the BTRi and the Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF),

helping consolidate talents and resources, and encourage enterprises from local and the Mainland to go global in exploring the Belt and Road's and overseas markets.

The CIC also supports the measures to enhance the housing ladder and devising a system on the renting of the subdivided units as outlined in the Policy Address. We hope the initiatives in stabilising the supply of developable land and increasing the supply of public housing, will achieve the goal of benefiting the people's livelihood and building our future together, at the same time creating employment opportunities for the industry. The measures to strengthen the supply chain for the Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) will also uplift the productivity of the industry, helping them integrate into the development of the Greater Bay Area. The CIC places emphasis on the research progress of the development of the MiC 2.0, and will strive to maintain constant communication with stakeholders to assist the industry in mastering the latest skills, making Hong Kong as the global role model of the application of MiC.

The Policy Address mentions various initiatives to nurture and attract talents, and to strengthen training, which will benefit the construction industry. Apart from training professionals and skilled workers, the Policy Address also focuses on the middle-grade talents. The training on technical talents is crucial to the construction industry, the CIC will continue to support the government's plan to strengthen training of the skilled construction workers, by increasing the training quotas from 6,000 to 12,000 places in each academic year from 2023/24 to 2027/28. The CIC will also work with the labour sector to promote "multi-skills" and different training on the construction technologies, to integrate with to the development of the new quality productive forces of the country. The CIC welcomes the works of the Development Bureau as mentioned in the Policy Address, covering areas on establishing the GBA Standards, the arrangement of the "One Examination, Multiple Certification" and the strengthening of the Mutual Recognition of Construction Professional Qualifications. These measures will further capitalise Hong Kong construction industry's advantages on training and as an international platform, favouring the long-term development of the GBA.

In terms of local talents' training, the CIC supports the directions of STEAM education proposed in the Policy Address. In collaboration with the Development Bureau and the professional institutions, the CIC is currently enhancing the construction-focused STEAM

Education Portal with more construction-related content to nurture the interest and capability of the new generation in learning science and technology from an early age, and to inspire their creativity and foster interest in the construction industry, with the goal of attracting more new talent to the sector.

The Policy Address also focuses on the support to enterprises, especially the SMEs in the construction sector. Measures include the arrangement of principal moratorium for SME Financing Guarantee Scheme. The CIC has also invited industry representatives to meet with banks to reflect the financial needs of the sector and fully supports the government in pushing for the expedited passage of the Construction Industry Security of Payment Bill, which will further secure the industry. The CIC welcomes the initiatives of streamlining construction application procedures, believing it will help enhancing efficiency and reducing costs. The CIC will continue to maintain close contact with the industry, helping the SMEs in making the most of the government's support.

The Policy Address places special emphasis to the occupational safety of the frontline workers. The CIC will continue to collaborate with the Development Bureau to promote the use of the Smart Site Safety System (4S), encourage the industry to apply for the label, and assist the industry in complying with the safety regulation revised by the government. Additionally, the CIC will strengthen training through organising workshops on Design for Safety, master classes, webinars, etc., to fully enhance construction site safety.

With Hong Kong's world-class infrastructure and the advantage of having the Motherland at our back, the construction industry is committed to building Hong Kong and playing the role of a super-connector, contributing to Hong Kong and our country on all fronts.

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**CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY COUNCIL**  
**建造業議會**

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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](http://www.cic.hk) for further details.