CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COUNCIL 建造業議會

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Construction Industry Council Fully Supports Hong Kong Representatives to Take Part in WorldSkills São Paulo 2015

Hong Kong • 23 April 2015 – WorldSkills Competition 2015 will be held in August this year in São Paulo, Brazil. The Construction Industry Council (CIC) fully supports four Hong Kong representatives to showcase their excellent skills in construction-related trades against competitors from all over the world.

Hailed as the Skills Olympics for 64 years, WorldSkills Competition is a biennial international event hosted in different countries which provides a platform for showcasing world-class excellence in skills. The 4-day competition provides valuable opportunities for around 1,200 young talents under the age of 22 from 50 countries and regions to exchange knowledge and skills.

The four Hong Kong representatives on construction-related trades in the WorldSkills Competition are HO Kai-chi (Joinery), YEUNG Wing-wai (Plumbing and Heating), LAI Cho-hong (Painting and Decorating) and HUI Yip-keung (Wall and Floor Tiling). After around nine months of intensive training, they are now ready for the challenge. A press briefing on WorldSkills São Paulo 2015 is held today at the Construction Industry Resource Centre in Kowloon Bay where their experiences and stories were shared. Ir LEE Shing-see, Chairman of the CIC and Ir Alex LEUNG, Director – Training and Development of the CIC also reported on the manpower demand of the construction industry and WorldSkills Competition.

"For 18 years we have been joining the WorldSkills Competition and we are happy to support this world class event again this year. Through the participation and promotion of this event, we hope to promote local craftsmanship, build up the professional image of construction workers and foster exchange of knowledge. We also intend to promote the CIC and the construction industry to attract more young talents into the industry." Ir LEE explained.

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In addition to the participation in WorldSkills Competition, the CIC has also implemented various initiatives in building the image of the construction industry, which included the promotion of green buildings, application of advanced technology and innovative designs, the use of Building Information Modelling (BIM), enhancement of safety and adoption of best practices in construction sites. With innovative project management tools, high job satisfaction and a safe working environment, the construction industry will become more professional and modern as a career choice for young people.

"The CIC has also participated in the last three WorldSkills Competitions held in Germany, the UK and Canada. The Competition offers a valuable opportunity for local youths to exchange ideas with international elites and experts from the industry. I look forward to seeing their best performance in the competition," Ir LEUNG added.

The four representatives joining the Competition in São Paulo this year are finalists from last year's WorldSkills Hong Kong Competition. Having gone through a series of intensive training in trade skills, problem-solving and communication skills, they are now fully equipped and well prepared. It is encouraging to see young talents representing Hong Kong in this world class contest.

About Construction Industry Council (CIC)

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed on 1 February 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 Government, provide training and registration for the construction workforce and serve as a communication channel for Government to solicit advice on all construction-related matters.

Please visit www.hkcic.org for further details.



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About WorldSkills Hong Kong

WorldSkills Hong Kong Competition aims to enhance the skills and status of young technical workers, as well as to encourage youngsters to show their talent. The competition is committed to providing a platform for young people to observe, exchange and excel in their skills, strive for professionalism and contribute to society.

Comprising representatives from the Vocational Training Council, the Construction Industry Council, the Clothing Industry Training Authority and elites from industries, the Standing Committee on Youth Skills Competition organises the WorldSkills Hong Kong Competition biennially. The committee selects and trains outstanding competitors from different trades to represent Hong Kong to compete in the biennial Guangzhou/Hong Kong/Macao/Chengdu Youth Skills Competition and the biennial WorldSkills Competition.

Please visit <u>www.worldskillshongkong.org</u> for further details.

About WorldSkills São Paulo 2015

Hailed as the Skills Olympics with 64-year of history, the WorldSkills Competition is an international event held in different hosting countries every two years. It provides a platform for celebrating world-class excellence in skills by showcasing the next generation of skills talent. It provides valuable opportunities for around 1,200 youth talents under the age of 22 from 50 countries and regions to exchange knowledge and skills.

The four-day competition covers 50 different skills such as transport and logistics, construction and building technology, manufacturing and engineering technology, information technology, creative arts and fashion alongside social and personal services. The 43rd WorldSkills Competition will be held in São Paulo, Brazil this August.

Please visit www.worldskillssãopaulo2015.com for further details.



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