

**International Water Association
Regional Committee of Hong Kong, China (IWAHK)**

Minutes of the 14th Executive Committee Meeting

Venue : WSD Headquarters Conference Room, Room 4819, Immigration Tower

Date : 14 February 2017 (Tuesday)

Time : 9:00 a.m.

Present

Ir Enoch TS LAM	Director of Water Supplies (<i>Chairman</i>) Water Supplies Department (WSD)
Ir Edwin KH TONG	Director of Drainage Services (<i>Vice Chairman</i>) Drainage Services Department (DSD)
Ir CL WONG	Deputy Director of Water Supplies, WSD (<i>Secretary</i>)
Ir MC WONG	Assistant Director /Mechanical & Electrical, WSD (<i>Treasurer</i>)
Ir Raymond HM CHAN	Deputy Chief Executive, ATAL Engineering Ltd
Prof GH CHEN	Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, HKUST
Prof XY LI	Professor of Environmental Engineering Department of Civil Engineering, HKU
Dr Samuel CHUI	Principal Environmental Protection Officer Environmental Protection Department (EPD)
Ir Robert CHAN	Executive Director, AECOM
Ir Alan HL MAN	Managing Director, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited
Dr Derrick PANG	Executive Director, Chun Wo Development Holdings Limited
Dr Daniel TSANG	Assistant Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, HK PolyU

Absent with Apology

Ir David LUI	Director of Operations, AECOM
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In Attendance

Ir Fedrick YF KAN	Assistant Director/ Operations & Maintenance, DSD
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Ir Simon CH CHAN	Senior Engineer/Technical Secretary 1, DSD
Ir Sussana WK LAI	Senior Engineer/P4/R&D, DSD
Ir TO LEE	Chief Electrical & Mechanical Engineer /Maintenance, WSD
Mr Alfred CK LEE	Chairman, CIWEMHK
Ir John LOUIE	Senior Engineer/Headquarters, WSD (<i>Note Taker</i>)

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1. Welcoming Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all members to the 14th Executive Committee (EC) Meeting of IWAHK.

2. Matters arising from the 7th General Meeting

There were no matters arising from the 7th General Meeting.

3. Matters arising from the 13th Executive Committee Meeting

There were no matters arising from the 13th Executive Committee Meeting.

4. Report on IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition 2016 on 9 to 14 Oct 2016 in Brisbane, Australia

Ir Sussana LAI made a short presentation to report on WSD and DSD's attendance of the IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition 2016 held in Brisbane, Australia from 9 to 14 Oct 2016. A copy of the presentation slides is attached at **Appendix I**.

5. Participation in International Water Association

The Chairman had the observation that Hong Kong had a relative less degree of participation in conferences, seminars and workshops organised by the International Water Association (IWA). These activities invariably attracted leading researchers, consultants, regulators, manufacturers etc. worldwide and they provided the opportunity for in-depth discussion on emerging topics of interest and sharing of best practices on global scale. The delegates in countries from North America, Europe, Australia and Singapore etc. demonstrated strong commitment to the IWA. The Vice Chairman echoed the Chairman's view and said that Hong Kong took a low-key approach in the global water industry in the past.

The Chairman invited views from the members. Professor CHEN agreed that Hong Kong had remained low profile among the major countries worldwide in the water industry even though Hong Kong boasted a successful development in waterworks, wastewater and drainage services. Ir Raymond CHAN said that the infrastructural development in China in recent years was progressing at great pace when compared with Hong Kong. But he considered that Hong Kong had possessed the cutting-edge technology, quoting the example of Ngau Tam Mei Water Treatment Works winning the American Academy of Environmental Engineers' Superior Achievement Award in 2001. Ir Alan MAN agreed that the market in Hong Kong was small but it was well positioned as an innovation and technology hub, and could offer as a super-connector between south China and the rest of the world. He also said that members of IWAHK could submit more technical papers to the international conferences organised by IWA and IWAHK's Secretariat Office could coordinate the submission of papers to the different conference. The Vice Chairman remarked that since IWA was organising many conferences each year, IWAHK should be selective in participation in the conferences.

Professor LI said that the water treatment technology was advanced in Hong Kong when compared with the adjoining cities in the Guangdong Province. Ir Robert CHAN said that the sea water flushing system, water quality monitoring and caving of wastewater treatment facilities could be showcased in the 8th IWA-ASPIRE Conference and Exhibition in 2019 (ASPIRE 2019). Dr Samuel CHUI agreed that the unique feature in Hong Kong's sea water flushing system could be featured in the IWA-ASPIRE conferences in 2017 and 2019. Dr Daniel TSANG said that the universities in Hong Kong had close ties with the international water organisations, and IWAHK could consider increasing its visibility in the international arena with stronger support from IWAHK's Secretariat Office. Dr Derrick PANG asked whether overseas contractors had participated in various conferences organised by the IWA. The Vice Chairman noted from the visit to the World Water Congress in Brisbane that the contractors would showcase their products and works in the exhibition of the conference. Mr Alfred LEE noted that participants in the Congress in Brisbane included international institutions such as American Water Works Association and regulators such as World Health Organization and Drinking Water Inspectorate, UK.

The Chairman thanked the members for the insightful suggestions and ideas. He suggested that IWAHK should examine its current position and lay out a vision and strategy for Hong Kong's water, wastewater and drainage services sectors to take an active role in

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the international arena by capitalising on its position as the super-connector between south China and overseas countries.

6. Recent developments and activities of International Water Association

The Treasurer had a brief presentation on the organisation structure and recent developments of the IWA. A copy of the presentation slides is attached at **Appendix II**. The Treasurer reported that the IWA Strategic Council (SC) would renew around one third of its membership in 2017 under different segments and applications were being invited from the Governing Members. The Chairman appealed to the members to consider participation in the IWA SC election.

All EC
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7. Hosting of the 8th IWA-ASPIRE Conference & Exhibition 2019 in Hong Kong

The Treasurer had a brief presentation on the preparation work for the ASPIRE 2019 in Hong Kong. A copy of the presentation slides is attached at **Appendix III**.

(i) Venue

The Treasurer reported that WSD had discussed with Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) to explore the possibility of holding the ASPIRE 2019 in conjunction with the world-class exposition “Inno Design Tech Expo 2019” (Expo 2019) in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), Wan Chai. The Expo would showcase global design and inventions as well as the latest applied technology. The synergy for holding the two events together could get a wider attention of the public as well as the industry and thereby enhance the understanding of the local community to the work of IWA.

The Expo 2019 would be held from 5 December 2019 (Thu) to 7 December 2019 (Sat) with two move-in days for setting up booths and conference in HKCEC. It was being considered to make use of the move-in day of Expo 2019 on 4 December 2019 (Wed) for the opening ceremony of ASPIRE 2019 so that IWAHK could take this pre-emptive opportunity to start the conference one day earlier than the Expo 2019 to avoid losing the identity of the conference.

Other venue options included AsiaWorld-Expo in Chek Lap Kok, Science Park and Kai Tak Cruise Terminal.

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As for the hotel venues, the Treasurer stated that hotels with different star ratings nearby the conference venue would be reserved in due course. The Chairman considered that heritage hotel could be of interest to the overseas participants.

[Post-meeting notes: The “Inno Design Tech Expo” will be renamed as DesignInspire from 2017 onwards.]

(ii) No. of Attendees

The expected number of attendees was 800 to 1,000.

(iii) Theme of Conference

Two themes were proposed for members’ consideration-

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(1) Water Resilience Bouncing Beyond the Horizon - Quest for Water Innovation

(2) Innovative Water Solutions for Meeting Climate Changes - An Asian Perspective

Members were invited to give views on the two proposed themes.

(iv) Event Manager

IWAHK had received the quotations from two companies. The Chairman advised that meeting with HKTDC should be held to discuss whether their appointed event manager could be engaged for coordinating the events for the Expo 2019 and ASPIRE 2019. The Chairman also suggested liaison with the Tourism Board to seek collaboration opportunity to promote Hong Kong as a travel destination through holding the conference.

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(v) Alongside Events

Some events such as Young Water Professional Meeting, Specialised Workshops could be considered to be held alongside the conference. The IWAHK’s Secretariat Office would discuss further with IWA about holding Annual IWA Governing Assembly in conjunction with the conference.

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(vi) Sponsoring/Supporting Organizations

To make the conference successful, support/sponsor from different organizations including government, academia, professional bodies and industry should be sought.

(vii) Organizing Committees

Members endorsed the organisation structure and composition of the Organizing Committee and Supporting Committees in **Appendix IV**.

(viii) Promotional activities

The Treasurer said that IWAHK should take the opportunity in the 7th IWA-ASPIRE Conference and Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in September 2017 to promote ASPIRE 2019 such as conference flyers, video and exhibition booths etc. A representative from IWAHK was also invited to deliver keynote speech in the conference in Kuala Lumpur. The early bird registration deadline was 15 April 2017. It was discussed in the meeting that a delegation of IWAHK would be formed with about 30 representatives from the government, academics, consultants and contractors for attending the 7th IWA-ASPIRE Conference in Kuala Lumpur. The Chairman said that the promotional video about the HKSAR 20th anniversary and the infrastructures in Hong Kong could be used for production of the video for promotion of ASPIRE 2019 in the Kuala Lumpur conference.

(ix) Provisional Budget

An update on the provisional budget based on the number of attendees of 800 to 1,000 was summarised as follows-

Income

- Conference fees HK\$4.4 million
- Other income HK\$2.8 million

Expenses

- Fixed Expenses HK\$2.4 million
- Variable Expenses HK\$4.3 million
- Contingency HK\$0.3 million

8. Forthcoming IWA and IWA-ASPIRE Events

Ir John LOUIE reported the following forthcoming IWA events :

- (a) 14th IWA Leading-edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologies (LET 2017), Florianopolis, Brazil
29 May-2 Jun 2017
- (b) 14th IWA/IAHR International Conference on Urban Drainage, Prague, Czech Republic, 10-15 Sep 2017

The Chairman appealed to members for participation in these events.

All EC
Members

9. Date of Next Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The date of the next EC Meeting would be announced in due course.