# (Unclassified version with commercially sensitive or confidential information and Members' names removed)

#### **BDC 19/2018 (Revised)**

# Revised Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Business Development Committee held at 2:30p.m. on Tuesday, 13 November 2018 in the Boardroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, HKPC Building, 78 Tat Chee Avenue, Yau Yat Chuen, Kowloon

<u>Present</u>: Chairman – Mr. Emil Yu Chen-on, JP

Members – Mr. Mohamed D. Butt

Mr. Alan Cheung

Mr. Felix Chow Bok-hin Mr. Bryan Ha Kwok-fung Mr. Paul Poon Wai-yin Prof. Tam Kar-yan, MH

#### **In Attendance from HKPC:**

Dr. Lawrence Cheung
Mr. Edmond Lai
Director, Technology Development
Director, Business Development
Director, Business Management

Ms. Vivienne Chiu General Manager, Corporate Development

Mr. Terrence He General Manager, Mainland (Agenda Item IV

onlv)

Ms. Flora Li General Manager, Human Resources and Facility

Management

Ms. Vivian Lin General Manager, Finance and Procurement

Ms. Gillian Luk Senior Manager, Council Secretariat

#### Welcome

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms. Vivienne Chiu, General Manager, Corporate Development, HKPC who attended the meeting for the first time.

### I. <u>Confirmation of Minutes</u> (BDC 13/2018 Revised)

1. The Revised Draft Minutes of the 66<sup>th</sup> Business Development Committee (BDC) meeting held on 16 July 2018 had been circulated to Members and there

were no further requests for amendments. The Minutes of the meeting were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

#### II. Matter Arising

#### (A) INC Invention Centre

2. briefed Members of the inauguration ceremony of the INC Invention Centre, under the brand name of The Hatch, on 11 October 2018. said that as part of the programme under the ceremony, HKPC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with RWTH Aachen Campus of Germany to explore the setting up of an Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Centre at the research cluster, AIR@InnoHK, at the Hong Kong Science Park (Science Park). The occasion also saw HKPC and 13 leading industry chambers and quangoes pledging to foster reindustrialisation and transformation to Industry 4.0 among local enterprises by signing a "Reindustrialisation and Industry 4.0" charter. The whole series of events received enthusiastic response and helped to make HKPC's name known among the business community as the leading organization to promote Industry 4.0 and smart manufacturing in Hong Kong.

#### III. Progress Report of Inno Space (BDC 14/2018)

- 3. Invited by the Chairman, briefed Members of the work progress of Inno Space during the first half of 2018/19 in terms of a membership drive and achievements made against the targets set for the 4C objectives of Inno Space (i.e. Complete, Complement, Connect and Community). said that industry feedback showed that Inno Space was moving in the right direction, with its services meeting the demands of start-ups and contributing to promoting innovation in the local community. In a bid to start moving Inno Space towards self-sustainability and support the Government's policy to nurture technology talents, Inno Space would actively seek to hold maker and award-based events, as well as workshops or boot camps under STEM-related themes in future. activities would provide a potential source of revenue in terms of sponsorship as well as an opportunity for Inno Space to make good use of its facilities, like those in Inno Prototype, to help the younger generation realize creativity and build up confidence in STEM-related areas.
- 4. Supplementing, said that the Information Services Department had picked Inno Space to do a video clipping on the local support available to start-ups. The video, just released the day before, contained interviews with several start-ups which expressed appreciation of the support rendered by Inno Space. On Inno Space's new initiative to organize STEM-related activities, said

that it was hoped to enhance the interest of the younger generation in innovation and technology (I&T) and encourage more students to take up STEM-related subjects when pursuing further studies.

- 5. <u>Members</u> then discussed the work of Inno Space. A summary of their comments is as follows:
- (a) Inno Space, armed with a full range of equipment and machinery for creating prototypes, could perform a unique role in the promotion of I&T by helping undergraduates in tertiary institutes obtain hands-on experience in turning ideas into products. For this purpose, Inno Space could explore setting up joint programmes with tertiary institutes for undergraduates in mechanical/industrial engineering or other relevant disciplines to work on practical projects by using the facilities of Inno Space. Such programmes, being continual rather than one-off in nature and involving actual design-and-make activities, would contribute to building up the maker atmosphere to attract more users to Inno Space;
- (b) in Inno Space's membership drive to increase visitor flow and boost utilization of facilities, promotion of corporate membership to secondary schools and tertiary institutes should be given impetus as the potential number of beneficiaries would be larger. Riding on the good response to the pilot programme launched with promotional offer to schools/departments of tertiary institutes, Inno Space should do more out-reaching to introduce the programme and facilities available. Future reports to BDC should separately report the enrolment situation in this membership category for Members' information;
- (c) Inno Space should continue to uphold the mission to help start-ups and inventors bridge the gap between ideation and commercialization by providing a complete service leveraging the expertise of HKPC. The process would in turn generate IPs and bring revenue to Inno Space, enabling it to improve income performance and more importantly, provide a model for other non-government co-working spaces to follow, thereby contributing to building an eco-system for entrepreneurs in Hong Kong; and
- (d) while it took time to create awareness and momentum, Inno Space had achieved a large part of what it set out to do at the beginning, with results achieved in its 4C objectives. Looking ahead, Inno Space should aim to increase utilization of facilities to maximize impact and improve its income. In this regard, consideration could be given to providing learning activities to primary school students as well, such as introduction of 3D printing machines as early STEM education.

6. <u>Members</u> noted the progress report of Inno Space for April-September 2018 as set out in the paper.

#### IV. Report on HKPC's Mainland Subsidiaries (BDC 15/2018)

- 7. Invited by the Chairman, briefed Members on the business progress and financial performance of the Mainland subsidiaries of HKPC during April to September 2018, as well as their 3-year forecast for 2019/20-2021/22 as detailed in the paper.
- 8. In response to 's question on the details of expanding the service scope of the SZWFOE (paragraph 18 of the paper), said that there were plans to improve the current mode of operation where order intake was mainly processed through the Shenzhen SZ-HK Productivity Foundation Co. Ltd. (SZJV), while SZWFOE had a relatively narrow business scope. For more flexibility in contract signing and manpower deployment, consideration was being given to expanding the business scope of SZWFOE for it to take up a larger role in business dealings.
- 9. In response to about the HKPC Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Centre (the Centre) in the Futian Free Trade Zone, Shenzhen, said that SZWFOE and SZJV relocated to the Centre in August 2018 and they were providing consultancy and training support to local enterprises. Supplementing, said that it was tentatively planned to hold the opening ceremony of the Centre after the Lunar New Year.
- 10. <u>Members</u> noted the business progress and operating results of HKPC's Mainland subsidiaries as contained in the paper.

## V. <u>2018/19 Mid-Term Report of Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems</u> R&D Centre (APAS) (BDC 16/2018)

11. Invited by the Chairman, briefed Members on the progress of the R&D programme of APAS and status of centre operation as detailed in the paper. said that during APAS's 11 years of operation, its roadmap had evolved with time to ensure that its R&D directions tie in with the latest market development. For the coming year, the APAS Subgroup of the Innovation and Technology Fund Research Projects Assessment Panel (APAS Subgroup) overseeing APAS's R&D programme was of the view that APAS should strengthen support in smart city applications, given that smart mobility was an

important facet of smart city. Pending more detailed discussion with the APAS Subgroup and Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC), the revised roadmap of APAS would be presented to the BDC.

12. <u>Members</u> noted the 2018/19 Mid-Term Report of APAS for submission to the ITC in line with the funding agreement with the Government.

## VI. Report on Projects for Government Funding Schemes (April – September 2018) (BDC 17/2018)

- 13. <u>Members</u> noted that between April and September 2018, 25 projects with HKPC's involvement had been approved under the respective government funding schemes, as follows:
- (a) Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF): 11 approved projects for \$26.3M;
- (b) SME Development Fund (SDF): 9 approved projects for \$24.5M;
- (c) Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF): 2 approved projects for \$2M; and
- (d) The BUD Fund Organization Support Programme: 3 approved projects for \$11.2M.
- 14. <u>Members</u> also noted HKPC's secretariat support to several government funding schemes, including:
- (a) Enterprise Support Programme (ESP) of the BUD Fund;
- (b) Cleaner Production Partnership Programme;
- (c) Retail Technology Adoption Assistance Scheme for Manpower Demand Management; and
- (d) Recycling Fund.

## VII. Final Performance Review of Completed ITF Projects (BDC 18/2018)

- 15. <u>Members</u> noted the final performance review of 4 completed ITF projects, as follows:
- (a) Innovative Development of Advanced Composite Processing Technologies for the Production of i) Continuous Fibre Piping, ii) 2-Material Composite Products and iii) High Strength Defect-free Heavy-duty Composite Parts;
- (b) Research and Development of a 16-Tonne Full-Electric Truck with Hook Lift for Solid Waste Collection;
- (c) Development of New Generation Advanced Motorcycle Electronic Fuel Injection System; and

(d) Research and Development of an Integrated DC-DC Converter with Active Battery Balancing Function.

#### VIII. Any Other Business

#### (A) Collaboration with RWTH Aachen Campus

- 16. said that HKPC was in initial discussion with RWTH Aachen Campus (RWTH) to set up jointly an Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Centre (Research Centre) in Hong Kong. Subject to the support of the BDC and Council, HKPC would proceed to enter into more detailed discussion with RWTH to take forward the proposal. then briefed Members with a powerpoint presentation (Appendix) on the proposal as summarized below:
- (a) the Research Centre would conduct world-class and impactful collaborative researches in artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics to enhance the local research capability to support Hong Kong's development into an international I&T centre;
- (b) RWTH would bring in researchers from overseas to collaborate with researchers from Hong Kong (including HKPC staff), thereby building up the expertise of local researchers in AI and robotics;
- (c) the R&D focus of the Research Centre would be on AI, data analytics, robotics and innovation research. Under the 4 R&D foci, lighthouse projects would be undertaken to develop technologies for application in mobility, smart cities, healthcare and manufacturing industries;
- (d) the Research Centre would be set up as a local non-profit making company limited by guarantee under the Companies Ordinance. HKPC and RWTH would be the founder members of the company, with HKPC being the lead partner having the majority of seats in the board; and
- (e) the Research Centre would be located in a world-class research cluster at the Science Park, namely AIR@InnoHK, which was being set up as part of the Government's initiative to foster more synergy and collaboration between top local and overseas researchers. Under the Government's plan, financial support would be available to eligible research laboratories set up at the cluster, including capital support, operation support and research support in the form of programme-based funding for the initial 4-5 years.
- 17. Providing Members with background information about the research clusters

at the Science Park, said that the Government had earmarked funding to support the setting up and operation of two research clusters at the Science Park. One of the clusters was AIR@InnoHK which would focus on development of AI and robotics technologies and the other on healthcare-related technologies. The purpose was to attract overseas renowned institutes to conduct collaborative researches to develop Hong Kong as the hub for global research collaboration. Interested institutions were being invited to submit applications for consideration by a Governing Board which would also monitor the operation of the clusters like by conducting regular reviews.

- 18. said that in pursuing the proposal, it was of paramount importance for the IPs generated from the Research Centre to be made available in Hong Kong for their eventual application and commercialization to benefit the local community. In this respect, HKPC had obtained the initial agreement of RWTH to the joint ownership of IPs developed under the Research Centre. In the collaboration with RWTH, being one of the most prestigious universities in Europe, HKPC would also benefit from the synergistic effect in terms of brand name enhancement and secondment opportunities to HKPC staff which would help boost the local talent pool.
- 19. After discussion, <u>Members</u> supported in principle the proposed establishment of the Research Centre in collaboration with RWTH.

#### (B) Appointment of Mentors

20. <u>Members</u> agreed to appoint mentors for 5 newly approved HKPC-initiated ITF projects with approved funding of over \$1M each as below:

Project Title Mentor

- (a) Development of an Atmospheric Cold Plasma Pr (ACP) Continuous Disinfection System for Dry and Fragile Food Materials to Enhance Food Safety
- Prof. Tam Kar-yan
- (b) Development of High Speed Selective Binder Solidification (SBS) 3D Printing System by Using Nano-adhesive Catalyst
- Mr. Emil Yu
- (c) Development of the Nano Sol-gel Glass Materials and Process for 3D Glass Printing

Mr. Paul Poon

Project Title Mentor

(d) Smart & Multi-stage Electrolytic Ionized Steam Plasma Finish for Mirror Surface of 3D Metallic Object with High Dimensional Tolerance Mr. Alan Cheung

(e) Development of Anti-fouling and Anti-microbial Surface Treatment of Membrane Filter by Chemical Vapor Infiltration

Mr. Felix Chow

#### (C) 2019 Meeting Schedule

21. <u>Members</u> noted the proposed 2019 BDC meeting schedule uploaded to iPads provided at the meeting as below:

Meeting	Date and Time
68 <sup>th</sup> BDC meeting	12 March 2019 (Tuesday) 3:00pm
69 <sup>th</sup> BDC meeting	16 July 2019 (Tuesday) 3:00pm
70 <sup>th</sup> BDC meeting	12 November 2019 (Tuesday) 3:00pm

#### IX. Date of Next Meeting

- 22. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 12 March 2019 at 3:00pm.
- 23. There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 4:00 pm.