

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

**BDC 20/2023**

**Minutes of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the  
Business Development Committee  
of the Hong Kong Productivity Council  
held at 3:30p.m. on Tuesday, 14 November 2023  
via Microsoft Teams**

**Present:** Chairman – Mr. Ricky Chan Wai-chung

Members – Mr. Mohamed D. Butt, MH  
Mr. Bryant Chan Wan-sing  
Ms. Clara Chan Yuen-shan, MH  
Prof. Matthew Lee Kwok-on  
Ir Paul Poon Wai-yin, MH  
Mr. Indiana Wong Man-chung  
(Assistant Commissioner for  
Innovation and Technology (Funding  
Schemes), representing Mr. Ivan Lee  
Kwok-bun, JP, Commissioner for  
Innovation and Technology)

**Absent with Apologies:** Mr. Emil Yu Chen-on, BBS, JP

**In Attendance from Innovation and Technology Commission:**

Mr. Jacky Chow                      Manager, Innovation and Technology Fund

**In Attendance from HKPC:**

Dr. Lawrence Cheung              Chief Innovation Officer  
Ms. Vivian Lin                      Chief Operating Officer  
Ms. Christina Cheung              Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Brian Wong                      Chief People & Culture Officer  
Ms. Gillian Luk                      Head, Council Secretariat  
Ms. Olivia Poon                      Manager, Council Secretariat

**Mode of Meeting**

The Chairman said that the Business Development Committee (BDC) meeting was held via Microsoft Teams application. He thanked Members for joining the meeting.

## **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Brian Wong, Chief People and Culture Officer, who attended the meeting for the first time.

## **Declaration of Interest**

The Chairman reminded Members to declare interest should they observe any direct/pecuniary interest in any matter to be discussed at the meeting.

### **I. Confirmation of Minutes (BDC 14/2023 Revised)**

1. The Revised Draft Minutes of the 81<sup>st</sup> Business Development Committee (BDC) meeting held on 4 July 2023 had been circulated to Members and there were no further requests for amendments. The Minutes were taken as read and confirmed and the Secretariat would arrange signing of the Minutes by the Chairman.

### **III. 2024/25 Targets for Key Performance Indicators (BDC 15/2023)**

4. Invited by the Chairman to introduce the paper,                      took Members through the proposed Key Performance Indicator (KPI) targets for 2024/25.

7. Members endorsed the proposed KPI targets for 2024/25 for inclusion in the Programme and Estimates for 2024/25 for seeking the Council's approval.

### **IV. Report on HKPC's Mainland Subsidiaries and Related Entities (BDC 16/2023)**

8. Invited by the Chairman to introduce the paper,                      briefed Members on the business progress of HKPC's subsidiaries and related entities in the Mainland since July 2023.

## **GBA INCs**

9.                      said that HKPC held a series of 12 GBA INCs (industry network clusters) consultation sessions in 9 major cities and 3 districts in July – November 2023. The sessions were well attended by Hong Kong-owned enterprises operating in the region, other local enterprises as well as

government authorities. The consultation sessions were also supported by 16 trade associations which represented 41,000 enterprises across 26 industries. The participants welcomed the opportunity to exchange and offered valuable views on industry concerns, challenges faced and support required from HKPC.

10. said that apart from a better understanding of the industry practitioners in GBA which would help HKPC determine its positioning, the consultation sessions served to promote development opportunities in Hong Kong as well as Hong Kong being an important gateway to assist Mainland enterprises to go global. In all, the initiative, reported by many social media platforms in the Mainland, had helped strengthen the HKPC's brand, which was conducive to attracting future service opportunities and talents. Looking forward, HKPC would continue to reach out and leverage the connection built with local media and industry associations to bring forth business opportunities.

11. observed that the consultation sessions were successful with the participation of a no small number of industry players across diverse industries who also gave positive feedback. commended the efforts of and team in undertaking the initiative.

#### Enhancing Collaboration with Mainland in R&D and Technical Areas

12. also reported the R&D and technical collaboration with the Mainland.

#### Promotion in Mainland

13. Continuing with report, said that during July - November 2023, there were 1,296 articles and reports by the Mainland media on HKPC. In addition, HKPC conducted 13 high-level technical interviews with mainstream media companies, released 83 articles on WeChat and arranged 24 in-depth articles on success stories in new industrialisation with Nanfang Daily.

14. Members noted the report on HKPC's Mainland subsidiaries, including their financial forecast for 2024/25-2026/27, as well as HKPC's GBA activities.

**V. 2023/24 Mid-Term Report of Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre (BDC 17/2023)**

15. Members received a presentation by            on the mid-term report of APAS for 2023/24. In particular,            highlighted the KPI performance, commercialisation status of project deliverables and marketing activities held in the first half of the year.

18. Members noted the 2023/24 mid-term report of APAS.

**VI. Report on Projects for Government Funding Schemes (April – September 2023) (BDC 18/2023)**

19. Members noted            report that between April and September 2023, 19 proposals with HKPC's involvement were approved for HK\$36.6M and RMB2.6M under Government funding schemes as follows:

- (a) Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF): 12 approved projects for \$26.8M;
- (b) Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund (TSF): 4 approved projects for \$7.4M;
- (c) Environment Conservation Fund (ECF): 1 approved project for \$2.4M;
- (d) 深港澳科技計劃項目 (C類項目): 1 approved project for RMB2.6M; and
- (e) 科技部國家重點研發計劃: 1 project approved with funding amount pending advice.

**VII. Final Performance Review of Completed ITF Projects (BDC 19/2023)**

20. Members noted the final performance review of 6 completed ITF projects, as follows:

- (a) Development of Innovative Containerised System for In-situ Recycling of Food Waste;
- (b) Cultivating Hong Kong Secondary School Student in the Innovative Use of Augmented Reality Technology in a vHK Grand Tour Showcase;

- (c) Development of i4.0-based Digitalisation Technology for Metal Processing;
- (d) Trial: Intelligent eBus with Light Body Structure and High Efficient Traction Motor System;
- (e) Development of High Efficiency Hydrogen Fuel Cell Hybrid System for Electric Forklifts; and
- (f) Development of Multi-Point Forming Technology with Process Parameters Optimization Mechanism for Manufacturing of Automotive Complex 3D Forming Aluminum Sheet Parts.

21. The final performance review reports would be available for Members' information on request.

### **VIII. Any Other Business**

#### **(A) New Industrialisation Development Centre** <sup>tentatively named</sup>

22. Members noted the update by            that renovation on LG1 of the HKPC Building was in progress to house the New Industrialisation Development Centre which was soft launched in July 2023.            said that the physical setup would serve as an experience centre on applied technology solutions towards smart manufacturing, digitalisation and sustainability, for the purpose of deepening the industry and community's understanding of new industrialisation and 新質生產力.

#### **(C) Update on Secretariat Projects for Government Funding Schemes**

27. Members received a presentation by            on the latest development under secretariat projects.

#### **Latest Development under Government Funding Schemes**

33. Continuing with            presentation,            shared the latest developments under the following funding schemes with HKPC's secretariat support:

- (a) BUD Fund – the geographical scope had been extended to Turkey from 31 October 2023. Coming up, “E-Commerce Easy” would be launched to support enterprises to tap into the e-commerce market, as one of the initiatives under The Chief Executive's 2023 Policy Address;

- (b) Chinese Medicine Development Fund – a short-term talent training programme was rolled out in October 2023 to nurture local Chinese Medicine practitioners, to be followed by enhancement to the funding scheme in the first quarter of 2024, focusing on specific Chinese medicine areas;
- (c) Pilot Subsidy Scheme for Third-party Logistics Service Providers – the scheme would be regularised from 2024, as announced by the Transport and Logistics Bureau which would collaborate with HKPC to organise certification courses and seminars on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG)-related topics;
- (d) Smart Traffic Fund – the maximum funding support had been increased from 50% to 70% of project cost to encourage applicant companies to collaborate with public sector research institutions; and
- (e) the first city level patent landscape report was compiled jointly with the Federation of Hong Kong Industries to give direction to turn Hong Kong into an IP trading centre in Asia.

34. Members noted the update on secretariat projects.

**(D) Update on SME ReachOut 2.0**

35. Members noted the update by [redacted] that a new phase of the SME ReachOut project had begun in October 2023. Under the new project phase which would run for 5 years till September 2028,

- (a) the dedicated SME ReachOut team would be strengthened;
- (b) the funding promotion activities would continue;
- (c) the advisory service for Government funding schemes would be enhanced;
- (d) new elements were introduced to promote the capacity building of SMEs; and
- (e) special events like Sourcing Fair and Fund Fair would continue.

**(G) Appointment of Mentor for ITF Project**

38. Members agreed to appoint [redacted] as the mentor of a new ITF project commenced in September 2023, namely “Study the Key Technologies of

Intelligent Underframe Inspection Robot for Subway Vehicle”.

**(H) Hong Kong AI Industry Development Study**

39. said that HKPC announced in November 2023 the findings of its third annual study on new industrialisation-related topics, namely “Hong Kong AI Industry Development Study”. The study was further to the “Reindustrialisation Study - Hong Kong” released in November 2021 and “Hong Kong Life and Health Industry Development Study” in November 2022.

40. Members noted that the study, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Institute of Economics and Business Strategy and HKU Business School, reviewed the development of Hong Kong’s AI industry including major challenges faced by industry players. The study also examined AI application trends in Hong Kong and the international context, culminating in 9 recommendations to promote Hong Kong’s development as an international hub for AI and data industry development. The study, attracting extensive media coverage with over 150 reports by the media in Hong Kong and the Mainland, had also provided the chance to promote HKPC’s work in promoting AI applications across industries.

42. also invited Members to the GBA International Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Summit 2023 to be held in HKPC on 21 November 2023 in hybrid mode with live broadcasting to the Mainland.

said that the event would bring heavyweight speakers to share the latest trends, application scenarios and successful cases in AI and robotics to lead industry development.

**(I) Attendance Record of BDC Members**

43. Members noted their attendance record for 2023 as circulated together with the meeting agenda and papers by email on 7 November 2023 and shown at the meeting. Members were also reminded by the Chairman to attend future meetings as far as possible.

**(J) 2024 Meeting Schedule**

44. Members noted the tentative BDC meeting schedule for 2024 shown at the meeting, as follows:

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>
83 <sup>rd</sup> BDC meeting	5 March 2024 (Tuesday) 3:00pm
84 <sup>th</sup> BDC meeting	2 July 2024 (Tuesday) 3:00pm
85 <sup>th</sup> BDC meeting	12 November 2024 (Tuesday) 3:00pm

**IX. Date of Next Meeting**

45. Members noted that the next meeting would tentatively be held on 5 March 2024 at 3:00p.m.

46. There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 4:44 p.m.