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HKIS Views on the Implementation Framework of the Pilot Scheme for Arbitration on Land Premium

The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) welcomes the announcement of the implementation framework of the Pilot Scheme for Arbitration on Land Premium (Pilot Scheme) on 16 July 2014 by the Government. The HKIS considers that the implementation of the Pilot Scheme could provide an alternative option to speed up the negotiation process between private land owners and the Government.

The HKIS is pleased to know that our suggestions such as the scope of arbitration, the composition of the Arbitral Tribunal, the qualification/professional requirement of professional surveyors as members of the Arbitral Tribunal, the date of valuation, arbitration timeframe, and the arbitral award are reflected in the Pilot Scheme.

The HKIS believes the inclusion of declaration of the application of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance into the appointment mechanism of arbitrators would safeguard against the conflict of interest.

Professional grade members (professional members) in General Practice Division of the HKIS have long been recognised by the public as the professional surveyors in land premium valuation. These members are required to comply strictly with the HKIS Rules of Conduct when carrying out the land premium valuation.

A working group of the HKIS General Practice Division is in the process of preparing a list of professional surveyors in valuation who have the required experience in valuation and land matters and are suitable to serve as a member of the Arbitral Tribunal. The list would be published in the HKIS website the soonest.

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About the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

Established in 1984, The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors is the only professional organisation representing the surveying profession in Hong Kong. As of 6 June 2014, the number of members reached 8,880, of which 6,022 were corporate members. The Institute's work includes setting standards for professional services and performance, establishing codes of ethics, determining requirements for admission as professional surveyors, and encouraging members to upgrade skills through continuing professional development.

The Institute has an important consultative role in government policy making and on issues affecting the profession. We have advised the Government on issues such as unauthorized building works, building safety campaign, problems of property management, town planning and development strategies, construction quality and housing problems. We are working on amendments to standard forms of building contract and have issued guidance notes on floor area measurement methods.

For more details, please refer to HKIS website: http://www.hkis.org.hk.

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