Message from Ms Ada FUNG Yin-suen, JP Deputy Director of Housing (Development and Construction) / Chairperson of the Housing Department Site Safety Sub-committee



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With "Caring" as its core value, the Hong Kong Housing Authority always attaches great importance to the occupational health and safety of each and every one of its employees in addition to the frontline staff of its contractors. Over the years, we, through the channel of the Site Safety Sub-committee of the Housing Department, have been working closely with government departments, relevant organisations and various trades to promote site safety by consistently reviewing site-safety strategies and measures, as well as sharing our own experiences.

It is our strong belief that formulating the best practices adopting safe work behaviors is essential in fostering a 'safety culture'. Therefore, we are committed to improving our codes of practice and guidelines for the enhancement of safety management and risk control. Moreover, through dedicated research, we have developed new technology to further improve the safety standard of our projects.

Recently, the Housing Authority adopted new technology known as "Building Information Modelling" (BIM) in several projects involving the demolition of old public housing estates. The whole demolition process was simulated so that suitable safety measures could be worked out to minimise the risks. We also employed BIM simulation in the production of videos to enhance communication with staff. With the aid of the videos, staff could better understand the works requirements and familiarise themselves with every detail of the demolition process—ensuring that the works were conducted safely and efficiently.

The "Safe System of Work" is also widely adopted by the Housing Authority in construction projects, as well as in the repair and maintenance works on public housing estates. The System appraises the potential risks of a project through works assessment, and can identify various safe working methods and procedures to lower the level of risk and avoid accidents.

The theme of this year's "Site Safety Forum for Works Contracts and Property Services Contracts" will also focus on the "Safe System of Work". The philosophy and operation model of the System will be shared with stakeholders of relevant trades, and our distinguished guests are invited to share their personal experiences in implementing the System and its efficacy. Our hope is that the System will then be adopted industry-wide to further enhance site safety.

This year marks the five consecutive years of the highly successful "Safety Forum for Works Contracts and Property Services Contracts". I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Occupational Safety and Health Council, all the supporting organisations, speakers and business partners for their unwavering support and participation throughout this time. Keep up your efforts in fostering a 'safety culture' and achieving the objective of "zero incident".

