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## Volunteers needed for Sichuan Relief Works

An earthquake measuring 8 on the Richter scale struck the province of Sichuan on 12 May 2008. About 70,000 were killed, over 350,000 were injured and there are still thousands of people missing. The disaster caused widespread destruction to the area and there are a lot of difficulties to be overcome in the aftermath.

Governments, organisations, companies and individuals have initiated different efforts as a relief to the disaster. The Hong Kong and Sichuan governments agreed to establish a co-operation mechanism in the reconstruction of Sichuan. In our industry, the Hong Kong Construction Sector 5.12 Reconstruction Joint Conference (RJC) was formed on 10 June 2008. The purpose of RJC is to enable the Hong Kong real estate and construction sector to contribute to the reconstruction of Sichuan by providing their professional expertise.

The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors is now recruiting HKIS members of any grade to be volunteers to join and support RJC on the Sichuan relief campaign in person. The volunteers would visit Sichuan for seven to ten days to assist the reconstruction and help those in need. The exact dates and duties to be taken will be further advised by the Government.

The Sichuan Earthquake is an enormous disaster for the people of China, and it is the very time for us to do something to help. In the capacity of the President of the HKIS, I strongly encourage every member to join this meaningful event. If you are unable to participate in person, you are also welcome to show your compassion by placing your donation into the donation box located at the HKIS office.

### The Proposed Formation of Promotion Committee

In the last Executive Committee meeting, it was agreed that a Promotion Committee (the name is subject to confirmation by the General Council) would be set up. The Committee will be comprised of representatives from various divisions and the YSG and aim to help the promotion of the professional image of and services provided by the members of HKIS. Personally, I would be very grateful to contribute more

time and effort in this area in the future.

In the forthcoming days, we shall focus in the promotion of HKIS to different organisations and institutions from government departments, professional institutes, universities to listed companies and funds within and outside Hong Kong and the Mainland. We shall also prepare, review and revise the capability statements of all divisions for the deeper and more updated introduction of the scope of the surveying profession. On the Government side, we shall review the existing constitution of the relevant working groups or advisory committees of the Government to ensure the interests and opinions of surveyors are properly represented.

Your suggestions and concerns are most welcome.

### My Recent Activities

I am very grateful to share with you the following remarkable events in June and July:

- On 20 June, I represented the HKIS to attend the dinner discussion held by Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong (BPF);
- On 21 June, I attended the Finalist Presentation for Green Building Award 2008, in the capacity of a Member of the Jury Panel. The award presentation ceremony of this remarkable event will be held in late July 2008;
- I have been given the opportunity to be the speaker of several CPD events for various government departments in June and July. The CPD topic includes Quantitative and Qualitative Analyses on Listed PRC Property Developers, Asian Land System and The New Development of South China: Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Shenzhen & Macao Conurbation; and
- On 1 July, I attended the celebration of the "11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China".

Yu Kam-hung  
President