



Summary Minutes of IRCC Meeting 9-11 May 2005 London, UK

- Monday 9 May: - 9am – 5pm
 ODPM's offices, Eland House, Bressenden Place
- Tuesday 10 May: - 9am – 2pm
 RICS offices, 3 Cadogan Gate, London, SW1X 0AS
 - 3.00pm - Invitation to the BRE Annual Conference at The Banqueting
 House, Whitehall, London
- Wednesday 11 May: - 9am – 5pm
 RICS offices, 12 Great George Street, Parliament Square, London, SW11P
 3AD
 - Reception at Arup, London's offices

Present

Lam Pham,	ABCB, Australia	(LP)	
Tas Twyman	ABCB, Australia	(TT)	(representing Mike Balch)
Okasaki Atsuo	MLIT, Japan	(OA)	
Wataru Gojo,	NILIM, Japan	(WG)	
Olav Berge,	NOBTH, Norway	(OB)	
Denis Bergeron,	NRC, Canada	(DB)	(representing Bob Bowen)
Dick Bukowski,	NIST, USA	(RB)	
Brian Meacham,	Arup, USA	(BM)	
Javier Serra,	MOH, Spain	(JS)	(from Tuesday)
Rainer Mikulits	OIB, Austria	(RM)	
Mike Stannard,	DBH, NZ	(MS)	
Anne Hemming	ODPM, UK	(AH)	(Monday)
David Smith,	CEBC, RICS, UK	(DS)	

Milosh Puchovsky NFPA, USA (MP) (from Tuesday)

Guests

Suzanne Townsend	DBH, NZ	(ST)	
Paul Everall,	ODPM, UK	(PE)	
Tariq Nawaz	ODPM, UK	(TN)	
Paul Swift	ODPM, UK	(PS)	
Guy Bampton	ODPM, UK	(GB)	
Ted King	ODPM, UK	(EK)	(Monday Item 7.9(b))
Les Fothergill	ODPM, UK	(LF)	(Monday Item 7.9(a))
Tony Rackliffe	RISC, UK	(AR)	(Monday, Tuesday)
Theuns Knoetze	CSIR, SA	(TK)	
Paul Stollard	SBSA, Scotland	(PS)	(Wednesday)
Helen Young	ABCB, Australia	(HY)	
Peter Hewlett	BBA & WFTAO, UK	(PH)	(Monday)

Agenda Item 1: Welcome, Opening Remarks

General welcome and introductions.

Agenda Item 2: Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Mike Balch,	ABCB, Australia	(MB)
Bob Bowen,	NRC, Canada	(BB)
Rick Okawa,	ICC, USA	(RO)

Agenda Item 3: Record of IRCC Meeting November 2004 – Tokyo

The minutes of the IRCC November Tokyo meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Item 4: Actions from IRCC Meeting November 2004 – Tokyo

Actions from Tokyo November 2004 meeting discussed and recorded for members.

Agenda Item 5: Correspondence

The only external correspondence has been from IAPMO. Refer Agenda Item 12.

Agenda Item 6: Chairman's Appointment

The meeting confirmed the continuation of Mike Balch for the full two year term as the Chair of IRCC.

Agenda Item 7: Country Updates

7.1 Australia

Main points discussed:

- Review of ABCB by Productivity Commission.
- International Fire Engineering Guidelines. This document, a collaboration between Australia, USA, Canada and New Zealand, has now been published. This is available for purchase for \$A160.00.
- Sustainability.
- Access to buildings for all is considered a social justice issue.
- Energy efficiency.
- Digital River.
- Product Certification.
- Student Research programme.
- Student Industry Based Learning programme.
- Attack on buildings by salinity and acid sulphate soils.
- Standards.

7.2 Canada

Main Points Discussed:

DB spoke to the Canadian Country Update

- New objective based codes.
- Joint CCBFC/PTPACC Task Group on priorities.
- Joint CCBFC/PTPACC Task Group on process.
- NRC Construction clusters.
- Sustainable urban infrastructure.

7.3 Japan

Main Points Discussed:

- Update of Tokyo – presentation.
- Sustainability and Act concerning the rational use of energy.
- Research activities for new building regulations.

7.4 New Zealand

Main Points Discussed:

- Department of Building and Housing established (1 November 2004).
- Current issues for NZ presented.
- Technical focus relating to New Zealand's seismic activity.
- New Zealand Building Code Review progressing – aiming to report to Minister by November 2007.
- Universal design for access will become increasingly important with an ageing population.
- Department taking pro-active approach with industry and consumers.
- www.dbh.govt.nz

7.5 Norway

Main Points Discussed:

- Universal design – needs to be a clearer definition.
- Energy directive.
- Water and sewage infrastructure – now significant issue for local authorities.
- Building authorities vs Fire authorities.
- Sports Halls.

- IT developments – web based building permit application system very successful.
- Building Cost – ways of reducing building costs are being considered.
- Risk – natural hazards.

7.6 Austria

Main Points Discussed:

- Six essential requirements & follow the European Products Building Directive framework. One guideline produced for each essential requirement.

7.7 South Africa

Main Points Discussed:

- CSIR (scientific/research body for building in SA) currently undergoing re-organisation.
- Current projects discussed.

7.8 Spain

Main Points Discussed:

- Spanish Building Code
- Windsor Building Fire
- Lessons to learn from fires

7.9 England & Wales

Main Points Discussed:

- Changes to Approved Document E, Sound.
- Changes to Approved Document L, Energy Efficiency.
- UK general.

7.10 United States of America - NIST

Main Points Discussed:

- Status of the NIST World Trade Centre, WTC, and investigation discussed.
- Standard procedures are needed for: wind load testing; design fire loads; performance (risk) based thresholds; actively managing egress; document retention and access; existing buildings; and best available technology.
- Evacuation strategies discussed.

- Decided that IRCC should continue to work on the requirements of tall buildings, egress and existing buildings.

7.11 United States of America – NFPA

Main Points Discussed:

- NFPA Updates NFPA 5000 (Building Code) and NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code) every 3 years.
- Goals for the Building Code NFPA 5000 are safety, health, building usability, public welfare, property protection as it relates to the other goals, and cultural heritage as a subset of public welfare.
- Proposed Changes to NFPA 101 & NFPA 5000 discussed.
- NFPA has established a High Rise Building Safety Advisory Committee.
- The World Organisation for Building Officials, WOBO, is to have a conference from November 17-22, 2005 in Hong Kong.
- The Council on Tall Buildings & Urban Habitat, CTBUH, is having 7th World Congress on Renewing the Urban Landscape in New York, 16-19 October 2005.

7.12 United States of America – ICC

Main Points Discussed:

- Discussions on matters the ICC Code Technology Committee has been considering.
- NYC Department of Buildings is to adopt the International Building Code, IBC, published by ICC with local modifications.

7.13 Scotland

Main Points Discussed:

- Discussion on activities occurring in Scotland.
- Building controls in Scotland has always been distinct from the ODPM.

Agenda Item 8: IRCC Global Summit – Australia, Sustainability, September 2005

The conference includes three main topics: Energy Efficiency; Accessible Buildings; and Performance. The IRCC Global Policy Summit on Sustainability is on the following day, Thursday 15 September. The programme was finalized during the meeting with minor amendments to the programme tabled.

Agenda Item 9: Risk Concepts in Building Regulation

Agenda Item 10: Security Requirements in Building Codes

Following on from the Tokyo meeting, discussions were held relating to building regulations enhancing the security of buildings. The IRCC should continue to monitor this subject.

Agenda Item 11: Egress for people with disabilities

General discussion.

Agenda Item 12: Membership

No new members were approved.

Agenda Item 13: Parking Lot Issues

The following issues were identified during the meeting, requiring additional work, some of which are being progressed at the Gold Coast meeting:

1. Risk
2. Security
3. Egress
4. Standards and the relationship with regulators
5. Energy
6. Existing buildings
7. Universal design
8. Definitions for common understanding
9. Document Storage
10. Tall building requirements
11. Sustainability
12. Climate change

Agenda Item 14: Other Business

N/A

Agenda Item 15: Next Meetings

The next meeting is to be a two day meeting, Friday 16 September and Saturday 17 September 2005 hosted by the ABCB on the Gold Coast following the ABCB Conference (Monday 12 September to Wednesday 14 September) and the IRCC Global Summit on Sustainability (Thursday 15 September).

Agenda Item 16: Conclusion

DS, representing the RICS, and TN, representing the ODPM, were thanked by all participants for very successfully hosting this, the 18th meeting of the IRCC.