



Minutes of IRCC Meeting
16-19 September 2005
Surfers Paradise, Australia

Location: Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort,
Time: 9am – 5pm Friday, Saturday 16, 17 September
9am – 3pm Sunday 18 September

Present

Mike Balch	ABCB, Australia	(MB)	
Lam Pham,	ABCB, Australia	(LP)	
Lisbet Landfald	NOBTH, Norway	(LL)	(representing Olav Berge)
Rick Okawa	ICC, USA	(RO)	
Bob Bowen	NRC, Canada	(BB)	
Denis Bergeron,	NRC, Canada	(DB)	(unable to attend Sun 18 Sept afternoon)
Brian Meacham,	Arup, USA	(BM)	
Mike Stannard,	DBH, NZ	(MS)	
Yoshinobu Hirano	NILIM, Japan	(YH)	
Paul Stollard	SBSA, Scotland	(PS)	
John Traw	USA	(JT)	

Apologies

Olav Berge	NOBTH, Norway	(OB)
Okasaki Atsuo	MLIT, Japan	(OA)
Milosh Puchovsky	NFPA, USA	(MP)
Wataru Gojo,	NILIM, Japan	(WG)
Tariq Nawaz	ODPM, UK	(TN)
Anne Hemming	ODPM, UK	(AH)
Theuns Knoetze	CSIR, SA	(TK)
Javier Serra,	MOH, Spain	(JS)
David Smith,	CEBC, RICS, UK	(DS)
Dick Bukowski,	NIST, USA	(RB)
Rainer Mikulits	OIB, Austria	(RM)

Guests

Tas Twyman	ABCB, Australia	(TT)	
Hayden Taylor	DBH, NZ	(HT)	
Peter Thorby	DBH, NZ	(PT)	
Shigetaka Takamiya	ABCB, Australia	(ST)	
Andy Gregory	Facilitator, Australia	(AG)	Item 6
Colin Blair	SA, Australia	(CB)	Item 8
Greg du Chateau	AIBS, Australia	(GC)	Item 7
Gavin Kelleher	ABCB, Australia	(GK)	Item 17

Agenda Item 1 Welcome, Opening Remarks

MB as Chair and on behalf of ABCB as hosts welcomed all members and specifically new members and guests.

Agenda Item 2 Apologies

Apologies were received as detailed above.

Agenda Item 3 Record of IRCC Meeting May 2005 - London

Minutes with small amendment from Scotland were approved. The summary minutes were approved for the website and the detailed ones for the forum site.

Agenda Item 4 Actions from IRCC Meeting May 2005 - London

ID	Action	Result
1	TT to forward copy of International Fire Engineering Guidelines to Austria and Spain for their review and consideration on participation.	Complete
2	MS to circulate to all members and install in members area of website, DB's article on on IRCC activities for the NRC magazine to form the basis for other articles	Complete
3	Feedback to TT on preference of members for one of the three Power Point templates to be used for future IRCC presentations.	Complete, No 3 preferred
4	TT to provide to members the link to the Productivity Commission website so they can access the full report.	Complete
5	RB advised that ADAAG had just published Accessibility Guidelines for the US that come into effect from May. He is to provide the weblink for members.	BM provided pdf during the meeting
6	All countries to prepare a short paper on the relationship with their Standards bodies and issues such as the development and citation of Standards for regulation, costs for users, secondary and tertiary citation, etc, to be addressed for the next meeting	TT to send out questionnaire for all members to respond to for forum site. (Action 2)
7	All members to complete questionnaire to assist the sub committee set up to consider an IRCC programme of risk in performance-based building regulation it and return it to Lam Pham by early June.	Complete, Agenda Item 13
8	RB is to provide the standards linkages paper from TG 37.	RB to address (Action 3)
9	A working group to consider egress and access for people with disabilities was established, one component of this will be protected lifts. The group consists of RM, DS, MP, BM, RB and TT.	RB to address (Action 4)
10	RB is to provide the pdf version of the NIST publication on "Emergency Evacuation of People with Disabilities for Office Buildings for installation on the members area of the IRCC website.	BM provided during meeting

11	MS is to write to IAPMO thanking them for their enquiry about applying for membership of IRCC but advising that their organization would not qualify for membership.	Complete. Response sent.
12	DS to attempt to get electronic copies of the five presentations given at the BRE Conference on Tuesday 10 th May, being those of Prof Heinz Wolff, Lorraine Baldry, Jonathan Fair, Michael Hamilton and Stefan Behling.	DS to advise (Action 5)
13	All countries to provide written information on Country Update to MS by 1 September	Agenda Item 14

Agenda Item 5 Correspondence

Refer appendix.

Agenda Item 6 IRCC Direction/Planning Day

AG facilitated the session to review the purpose of the IRCC and the membership charter. The wording of the charter was reworked and changes agreed. The amended charter is to be approved at the next IRCC meeting prior to being placed on the website. (**Action 6**)

Recommendations for action were as follows:

- a) A more comprehensive list of contacts within respective member organisations be developed and made available to all members through the website. The list would provide a link to key contacts and/or agencies mapped to subject areas of significant interest.
- b) A log of resources capturing past IRCC discussion and activity be developed and made available to all members through the website.
- c) Great effort be made to share research being conducted within member countries with that research being included in the log of resources e.g. finger trapping.
- d) Website enhancements be considered and raised directly through Gavin's presentation.
- e) The IRCC consider the adoption of online collaboration technologies to further strengthen the networking opportunities and to underpin improved collaboration outside formal IRCC meetings.
- f) In respect of formal IRCC meetings it was agreed that:
 - Members would post updates on the website two weeks prior to attending a meeting;
 - Members would continue to give verbal reports at IRCC meetings;
 - The order of verbal presentations would rotate meeting to meeting with the host member leading off the verbal presentations;
 - In the context of written member reports being posted, the minutes of meetings be streamlined to focus on action items.
 - Consideration be given to adopting a standard meeting agenda format.

Agenda Item 7 Private Certification (Australia) 10 years on

GC, Director of Philip Chun & Associates and president of Australian Institute of Building Surveyors, AIBS, presented an overview of building control in Australia and the role that private building surveyors play. The AIBS consists of 2500 building surveyor members. A model building Act that was a model national framework was developed in 1990 that included elements such as registration of all practitioners, proportionate liability, mandatory insurance and a liability time limit. The State and Territory Governments have adopted differing regulatory framework models. He concluded that Government, Industry and Consumers have embraced private participation in approval process.

Agenda Item 8 Standards Australia/ISO presentation

CB presented an overview of the activities of Standards Australia and its relationship with the ABCB. Currently there is a suite of approximately 7000 Australian Standards, of which approximately 2400 are mandated by government legislation. Others are observed on a voluntary basis. Technical committees are obliged to work towards consensus. Standards Australia has a memorandum of understanding, MOU, with the Commonwealth Government recognizing them as the peak Standards body in Australia.

A MOU has been signed between SA and ABCB to facilitate communication between the two organizations and better define the process for Standards development that are to be cited in the Building Code of Australia, BCA. The Standards committee considers at the start of a new project the impact of change and identifies the costs and benefits. SA is working with the ABCB over the next six months on a regulatory impact framework. Secondary and tertiary references are to be minimized. To provide certainty to industry, Standards being cited in the BCA are published with advice on when they are to be cited in the BCA.

Agenda Item 9 Monitoring Outcomes of Performance Regulation

9.1 New Zealand

HT presented work that is being undertaken in New Zealand to monitor the outcomes of recent regulatory change with the implementation of the new Building Act 2004. Building Act 2004 continues a performance based regulatory framework but places greater focus on quality of inputs, guidance and benchmarks. Regulatory interventions have included a move to license building practitioners, the registration and accreditation of building consent authorities, a new building consent process, a better resourced regulator (building levy imposed on building consents increased), product certification, and the review of the building code. An evaluation framework is being developed based on REM logic methodology. The structure seeks to identify and set out outcomes hierarchy; evaluation questions; potential indicators; estimated evaluation feasibility; estimated cost; potential evaluation projects and timing. This is a work in progress.

9.2 Norway

LL provided the results of a 5 year program to review and evaluate the changes made to the Norwegian Building Act in 1997. The review included a number of separate projects, each project looking into different parts of the changes in the Building Act. Findings included:

- Decreased number of minor faults in new buildings
- Decreased number of complaints
- Severe faults take time to discover
- Increased focus on accessibility (possibly not due to the changes of the act):
- A means of registering defects has been developed

Agenda Item 10 IRCC Direction/Planning Day

Refer Agenda item 6 above.

Agenda Item 11 Evacuation of high buildings

RB is coordinating this work based on NIST research into protected elevators for the evacuation of buildings and work the ICC Code Technology Committee is undertaking. RB to report at next meeting. **(Action 4)**

Agenda Item 12 Clarity (quantification) of Performance Requirements

Combined with Agenda Item 13.

Agenda Item 13 Risk and Performance Based Building Codes

LP presented the results of the survey of members on risk and performance based building regulation. From a policy/process perspective the highest priority for members included quantification of performance requirements, risk as a measure of performance, risk perception and metrics and verification methods. Fire and structural risks were the highest priority for members considering specific technical issues. A higher level framework is needed to determine from a policy perspective the socially acceptable level of risk. The methodology can then be applied to a specific subject. There are two main questions. How do you make a decision to regulate? Then when regulating, how do you take a risk based approach? There was real interest in having a conference or workshop for members on risk and performance based regulation in 18-24 months.

Agenda Item 14 Country Updates

14.1 Australia

TT provided the Australian Update. There has been a restructure within the ABCB following the positive Productivity Commission report. Under the new Intergovernmental Agreement, sustainability will be a goal of the BCA. It is proposed that energy efficiency requirements will be required for all commercial buildings from May 2006. Access to buildings for people with disabilities is also a major focus. The CodeMark product certification scheme has now been launched. A fourth MOU has been signed between the ABCB and Standards Australia. This is on the ABCB website. It includes a protocol for reference documents, with a strengthened requirement for cost benefits.

Industry is undertaking work to submit a proposal to include property protection for fire safety as a goal of the BCA. There is a proposal to remove community expectations from the ABCB objective and replace it with national consistency.

An ABCB research programme has been set up to quantify the effects of slips, trips and falls. JT is to provide the link to ASTM research on slip resistance. Care is needed to assess the level of impact you can have by requiring certain levels of slip resistance. Interconnections need to be considered as hazards can be created for other sectors. **(Action 7)**

14.2 Canada

DB commenced the Canada Update with an overview of the status of the new Canadian Objective Based Building, Fire and Plumbing Codes. Hard copies are being printed in September with electronic versions available in early 2006. Training seminars on technical

changes and objective based codes are being rolled out from December 2005. Priorities set for technical work are: photoluminescent exit signs; combustibility of plenum cables; stairs, ramps, handrails, guards; security systems that affect egress; review of referenced standards. Policy scoping or discussion priorities include: care and residential care occupancies; renovation of existing buildings; rooming and boarding houses; energy and water conservation; environmental sensitivity in buildings; barrier-free requirements.

Preliminary recommendations are for a 3 year code publication cycle with no interim changes, fixed dates for key milestones, screening of all change requests, and a management annual review of priorities.

DB also provided an update on the NRC Northern innovation and Sustainable urban infrastructure Construction Clusters.

14.3 Japan

YH provided a presentation on the Housing Performance Indication System in Japan. The system is only for housing and is to stimulate quality improvement. It is currently difficult to compare quality levels and there is asymmetry of information between buyers and suppliers regarding quality of housing. The system is to assure housing quality, protect home buyers and resolve disputes. It is voluntary and contains housing performance standards and evaluation standards. It consists of 9 fields (Structural Stability; Fire Safety; Mitigation of Degradation; Consideration for Maintenance; Thermal Environment; Indoor Air Environment; Luminous and Visual Environment; Acoustic Environment; Consideration for Senior Citizens and Others with Special Needs) and 28 indicators. It is to commence in April 2006. Security evaluation is being added with the increasing awareness and recognition by home owners.

14.4 New Zealand

MS gave an update on developments within the recently established Department of Building and Housing; initiatives & issues associated with the new Building Act including the introduction of licensed building practitioners, product certification, the review of the building code, and building consent authority accreditation. Technical developments since the previous meeting have included: amendments to the Fire Safety Compliance Document, C/AS1, changing minimum fire ratings and addressing issues for safety in early childhood centres; issuing Structural Practice Advisories advising industry of good practice; amending the External Moisture Compliance Document, E2/AS1; and issuing a guidance document External Moisture – Guide to using the risk matrix.

PT provided a more detailed account of the status of the review of the New Zealand Building Code, a report being required to be presented to the Minister by November 2007. He also illustrated the IRCC methodology being used in the review with a case history of changes being made to the Code Clause F6, Lighting for Emergency and associated Compliance Document.

14.5 Norway

LL presented the Norway update. There has been a high level of building activity in Norway. Technical regulation changes are proposed for: energy (following the European Energy Directive); Universal design; and water and sewage infrastructure.

A three year program has commenced focusing on information and education about universal design and how to make the built environment useable for everyone. The aim is to change attitudes and promote the use of universal design in the planning of buildings and outdoor areas.

A Building Legislation Committee has undertaken a total review of the planning and building legislation. Recommendations aim to simplify and make the Building Act easier for all users and to increase efficiency and quality in the building industry.

A 5 year Building Cost Program has commenced to reduce building costs by increasing the productivity and the quality in the building industry. The program includes increasing consumer competence, increasing productivity, partly by reducing errors, and stronger leadership and increased responsibility in all parts of the building process.

The Norwegian system for eGovernment (the ByggSøk system) in the field of zoning, building and construction is proving successful. The goal is for local governments to offer electronic services in zoning and building matters. It is expected to reduce costs for both industry and local governments. The IAI-conference (IAI : International Alliance for Interoperability) on this subject in Oslo in June this year was a success. Norway will now be working closely with Singapore using their automatic checker system.

14.6 Spain

Spain provided a written update prior to the meeting.

14.12 USA – ICC

RO presented a chronology of the development of Hurricane Katrina between August 23 and September 12 and some of the implications for disaster planning. This is anticipated to be the costliest natural disaster in US history with early predictions of damage exceeding \$US 100B.

14.13 Scotland

PS spoke of developments in Scotland. The new building warrant system was introduced 4½ months ago with some initial teething issues. Professional groups are now signing off work, the first being Structural Engineers and electrical groups. Another 9 groups are applying for approval. There is a five year moratorium on technical changes to the Code from 2007. A simple version structural design guide is being developed. There is an increasing requirement for lifetime homes but this does impact on costs. This will allow occupants to live in their own homes with decreasing mobility. Features include considering future adaptability, non load bearing walls, hoist installation. Carbon targets for energy consumption are being developed. Scoping studies have been carried out for an E Government approach to building control. However, because technology is moving too fast, a wait and see strategy is being adopted.

Agenda Item 15 IRCC Webpage presentation

Agenda Item 16 Parking Lot Issues

1. Risk (Lead LP)
2. Security
3. Egress (Lead RB)
4. Standards and the relationship with regulators
5. Energy
6. Existing buildings
7. Universal design
8. Definitions for common understanding (Lead OB)

9. Document Storage

10. Tall building requirements

11. Sustainability

12. Climate change

(Lead DS)

Agenda Item 17 Other Business

IRCC 2nd Global Policy Summit on Sustainability. The organisers and hosts, Australia, were congratulated on the success of the second IRCC Global Policy Summit. BM to write up key points and conclusions. **(Action 10)** Decision on future Summits to be an agenda item for Norway meeting. There was discussion of a possible summit in 2007 in Europe. **(Action 11)**

GK gave members an overview of the IRCC forum website and provided a User Guide to enable more effective use of the site

Agenda Item 18 Next Meeting/Schedule of meetings

Next meeting in Tromsø, Norway from May 22-24 2006. This is the site of the Arctic Research Centre. www.destinasjontromso.no.

The following meeting to be held in New York from 16-18 October 2006. BM to organize a workshop with City officials for Wednesday 18th. Other meetings to be arranged for later in the week. Advise BM of any requirements. **(Action 8)**

Meeting for early 2007. Consideration of it being held in a South East Asian non member country. MB and LP make recommendations following meetings they have scheduled. **(Action 9)**

Agenda Item 19 Conclusions

MB thanked BB for his enormous contribution to the success on the IRCC and wished him every success in his new role within NRC.

There was a general vote of thanks to Australia for inviting IRCC members to the ABCB Conference and for hosting the Global Policy Summit and IRCC meeting.

Actions from IRCC Gold Coast Meeting

ID	Action	Action By
1	RB advised that ADAAG had just published Accessibility Guidelines for the US that come into effect from May. He is to provide the weblink for members.	RB
2	TT to send out questionnaire for all members to respond to for forum site. All countries to prepare a short paper on the relationship with their Standards bodies and issues such as the development and citation of Standards for regulation, costs for users, secondary and tertiary citation, etc, to be addressed for the next meeting	TT & all
3	RB is to provide the standards linkages paper from TG 37.	RB
4	A working group to consider egress and access for people with disabilities was established, one component of this will be protected lifts. The group consists of RM, DS, MP, BM, RB and TT.	RB
5	DS to attempt to get electronic copies of the five presentations given at the BRE Conference on Tuesday 10 th May, being those of Prof Heinz Wolff, Lorraine Baldry, Jonathan Fair, Michael Hamilton and Stefan Behling. MS to contact DS	DS & MS
6	The amended charter is to be approved at the next IRCC meeting prior to being placed on the website and follow up on the recommendations.	MS
7	JT is to provide the link to ASTM research on slip resistance.	JT
8	Advise BM of any requirements for meeting with NYC officials during the October meeting.	All
9	Recommendations for location of IRCC meeting early 2007.	MB & LP
10	BM to write up key points and conclusions from the 2 nd IRCC Global Policy Summit on Sustainability.	BM
11	Possible future IRCC Global Policy Summit included on Agenda for Norway meeting.	MS

Appendix: Correspondence between London Meeting May 2005 and Australia Meeting September 2005

Date	From	Details
6 September 2005	David Smith [davidsmith@cebc.co.uk]	Annual WFTAO meeting 2005 - IRCC Invitation Apologies – not able to attend September meeting
6 September 2005	"Olav Ø. Berge" [berge@be.no]	Annual WFTAO meeting 2005 - IRCC Invitation
7 September 2005	Serra María-Tomé Javier [jserra@mfom.es]	Apologies – not able to attend September meeting
2 September 2005	Lisbet Landfald [landfald@be.no]	IRCC Action List
3 September 2005	Mike Balch [Mike.Balch@abcb.gov.au]	Annual WFTAO meeting 2005 – IRCC Invitation
1 September 2005	Tas Twyman [Tas.Tyman@abcb.gov.au]	Proposal from Earth Building Association of Australia
1 September	Denis Bergeron	Gold Coast IRCC Meeting Agenda – September 16-18
29 & 30 August 2005	Tas Twyman [Tas.Tyman@abcb.gov.au]	Graeme Campbell: Conference Paper
27 August 2005	"Olav Ø. Berge" [berge@be.no]	IRCC Action List
23 August 2005	Rick Okawa [ROkawa@iccsafe.org]	IRCC Global Summit on Sept 15 th
22 August 2005	Serra María-Tomé Javier [jserra@mfom.es]	IRCC Survey on Risk and Performance-based Building Regulation SPAIN
17 August 2005	Peter Thorby to Lam Pham	IRCC Survey on Risk and Performance-based Building Regulation NZ
17 August 2005	Theuns Knoetze [TKnoetze@csir.co.za]	South Africa and the IRCC
16 August 2005	Puchovsky, Milosh [mpuchovsky@NFPA.org]	Gold Coast IRCC Meeting Agenda – September 16-18 Apologies – not able to attend September meeting
16 August 2005	W.GOJO (NILIM) [gojo-w92hc@nilim.go.jp]	Gold Coast IRCC Meeting Agenda – September 16-18 Apologies – not able to attend September meeting
16 August 2005	Mike Stannard [Mike.Stannard@dbh.govt.nz]	Gold Coast IRCC Meeting Agenda – September 16-18
29 July 2005	Okazaki-a263@mlit.go.jp	The role of the IRCC, etc Apologies – not able to attend September meeting
14 July 2005	Lam Pham [Lam.Pham@csiro.au]	IRCC Survey on Risk and Performance-based Building Regulation
8 July 2005	Richard Bukowski [bukowski@nist.gov]	Speakers for IRCC Summit on Sustainability Presentation template for everyone to use
6 July 2005	Balch, Mike [Mike.Balch@abcb.gov.au] To Mike Stannard	Addition of member to IRCC website
6 July 2005	Balch, Mike	IRCC meeting September

	[Mike.Balch@abcb.gov.au] To Moreen White	Dr Paul Stollard offered membership to IRCC. Confirmation email sent to Moreen White from Mike Balch.
4 July	Twyman, Tas [Tas.Twyman@abcb.gov.au]	IRCC Summit and ABCB Conference in September 12 to 15 2005 Reminder email re: registration for ABCB/IRCC Summit.
29 June 2005	Bowen, Bob [Bob.Bowen@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca] To ALL	Appointment to Director General position at NRC- IRC
28 June 2005	Carino, Tracey [Tracey.Carino@abcb.gov.au]	Building Australia's Future 2005 Conference Registration pdf sent out.
	Mike Stannard	Response to IAPMO about membership enquiry.
13 June 2005	Mike Stannard [Mike.Stannard@dbh.govt.nz]	IRCC Draft Minutes from London meeting
8 June 2005	Twyman, Tas [Tas.Twyman@abcb.gov.au]	Preferred IRCC PowerPoint template