Remote Video Inspection by Minister-Counselor Zhang Xumin of the Chinese Embassy in Singapore

MCC Singapore’s Preventive Measures for COVID-19 and Resumption of Work

At 9.30 am on 9 December 2020, Minister-Counselor Zhang Xumin of the Chinese Embassy in Singapore connected to the sites of MCC Singapore, Mandai Rainforest Park (North) project, and the Normanton Park condominium project through video means to inspect and guide MCC Singapore in its preventive measures for COVID-19 and resumption of work.

At the beginning of the meeting, Mr Tan Zhiyong, Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of MCC Singapore, expressed his gratitude to Mr Zhang and the Embassy for the care and attention given to MCC Singapore before moving on to report on the various measures taken by the company since the pandemic and the results achieved, the arrangements and progress regarding the company’s resumption of work and production, as well as the current situation regarding compliance management.

Since the appearance of the first confirmed case in Singapore, MCC Singapore has always prioritised the safety of its personnel, strengthened personnel management, and took the preventive measures for COVID-19 seriously. MCC Singapore has continuously learnt from China’s experience in the fight against the pandemic, maintaining close cooperation with the Embassy, the Group, and MCC CRIBC, as well as conscientiously demonstrating the spirit of pandemic prevention, following the regulations and instructions to block pandemic transmissions and minimise the risk of the pandemic. While actively fighting against the pandemic, MCC Singapore held fast to its business operations and signed six major projects consecutively under the pandemic. During the two-month Circuit Breaker period, MCC Singapore’s business continued to develop steadily, the off-site work of various projects progressed smoothly, and the company made full use of the work-from-home period to turn the crisis into an opportunity, improving the overall management of the company and systematically sorting out various tasks. In mid-June, Singapore entered the second phase of the reopening, and MCC Singapore also gradually resumed work and production in strict accordance with the local government requirements. A total of eight projects are currently under construction in Singapore, including the newly signed project this year, the Mandai Rainforest Park project, as well as the Short Street Hotel project.

Following the report by Mr Tan Zhiyong, Wang Bin, the representative of the Normanton Park condominium project, and Xu Yingjie, the representative of the Mandai Rainforest Park project, both reported the actual situation of the resumption of work and production to Minister-Counselor Zhang from their respective project site, including personnel management, the zoning of the site, the environment of the workers’ dormitory on site, etc., showing an exemplar of a site that combines both safety and preventive measures for COVID-19.

After listening to the overall report of MCC Singapore, Minister-Counselor Zhang verified the various details, during which he emphasised that the preventive measures for COVID-19 should be updated promptly according to the changes of the pandemic situation and that the personnel management should be refined. For the site safety system, it should be constantly improved to be more specific and detailed according to the situation of the site and pandemic, as well as taking care to manage both the physical and mental health of workers. In addition, the company should also cooperate with the local government to prepare for long-term pandemic prevention in the face of the new normal. In this regard, Mr Tan Zhiyong said the company will continue to put in effort to improve the workers’ quality of life, take care of every worker, and complete every project.

When it comes to the workers’ arrangement, Minister-Counselor Zhang was particularly concerned for the 94 Chinese workers in MCC Singapore, and Mr Tan Zhiyong responded that most of them are now living in the company’s self-managed Kranji dormitory, project site dormitory, and self-leased housing, while a few are temporarily living in government dormitories due to workplace restrictions and will be transferred to self-managed dormitories in the future. In fact, the living conditions of all workers in MCC Singapore have now been upgraded and the project site dormitories have started using two-room arrangements with en-suite bathrooms. In addition, MCC Singapore also provides internet access for all workers to meet their communication and recreational needs after work.

Towards the end of the meeting, Minister-Counselor Zhang summarised the remote video inspection. He said that MCC Singapore is one of the larger enterprises with more projects in the construction category of Chinese enterprises in Singapore and is one of the focus for the Embassy’s concern. He also expressed his anticipation for the pandemic situation to be under control as soon as possible when he can personally visit MCC Singapore and its project sites after the relaxing of preventive measures.

Finally, on behalf of China’s Ambassador to Singapore Hong Xiaoyong, the Embassy, and the Embassy’s Party Committee, Minister-Counselor Zhang sent deep condolences to all the staff of MCC Singapore and fully affirmed the achievements of MCC Singapore in pandemic prevention and control as well as business development in the past year. He also hopes that MCC Singapore would continue its efforts to refine its safe production under the pandemic’s new normal.