



China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development 2025 Annual General Meeting

Thematic Forum:

CCICED Insights into China's Green Transition in the 15th FYP Period

Organized by:

- *Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE),*
- *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*

Time: *October 16, 2025, 09:00–12:00 (Beijing Time)*

Venue: *Multi-function Hall, Fanghua Villa, Building 17, Diaoyutai State Guesthouse*

Language: *Chinese/English (with simultaneous interpretation)*

Background

The world currently faces multiple interconnected challenges spanning economic development, climate change, and environmental protection, amid rapid innovation including in green sectors and growing uncertainty in global governance. Against this backdrop, all countries—including China—must work together, share and learn from past experiences and stress-test their long-term strategies against possible future scenarios.

China's 15th Five-Year Plan represents a critical period for China to realize the vision of building an Ecological Civilization, including through the advancing the Beautiful China initiative and the dual carbon goals. The years to 2030 will also be pivotal to advance international environmental commitments including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and Paris Climate Agreement. In doing this, it will be crucial to have a clear sight of the transition's phased requirements, and to establish clear environmental and development goals and targets that reinforce each other.

To support this effort, CCICED launched a two-year High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on "China's Environment and Development Outlook". The Task Force's aim is twofold. First, to review the progress and experiences that China has gained in the field of environment and development over the past decade. Second, to take a forward-looking approach to inform China's

strategies in pursuing its medium- and long-term goals domestically but also its vision to relevant international environmental and development processes.

The Thematic Forum: CCICED Insights into China's Green Transition in the 15th FYP Period

Amid this context, this thematic forum will share relevant research findings, gathering insights from CCICED partners on the following key questions:

1. What experiences has China gained in the field of green development over the past decade that can help inform the design of the 15th Five-Year Plan?
2. How can China accelerate its comprehensive green transition to 2030 to effectively strengthen the foundation towards an Ecological Civilization and carbon neutrality before 2060?
3. What opportunities and challenges may China face in pursuing its green transition and development process beyond the 15th Five-Year Plan, towards 2035 and the mid of the century?
4. What are the forward-looking tools and approaches that could be deployed to identify future risks and opportunities to inform China's medium and long-term strategies (e.g., forward-looking analyses, scenario planning, back-cast, etc.)?

Provisional Agenda

09:00	Opening Remarks	
	Chaired by Mr. ZHAO Yingmin, CCICED Member; Executive Vice Chair of the HLTF, President of BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC); Former Vice Minister of Ministry of Ecology and Environment(MEE)	
Opening Remarks	Mr. Achim Steiner	CCICED Vice Chair; Co-Chair of the HLTF, Former Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
	Mr. ZHAO Yingmin	CCICED Member, Executive Vice Chair of the HLTF, President of BRIGC; Former Vice Minister of MEE
09:20	Keynote Speech	
Keynote Speech	Mr. REN Yong	CCICED Member; Lead of the HLTF Core Expert Group, Chief Engineer of MEE
09:35	Thematic Discussion 1: Review of Decadal Progress and Outlook for the 15th FYP Period	
Moderator	Ms. Beate Trankmann , International Co-lead of Working Group 2 of the HLTF; UNDP Resident Representative in China	
	Guiding Questions: <i>1. Experiences from China's progress of low-carbon development and green transition over the past decade.</i> <i>2. Strategic directions for accelerating green and low-carbon transition in the 15th Five-Year Plan period.</i>	
Commentary Remarks (5 min each)	Ms. Gim Huay Neo	CCICED Special Advisor; Advisor to the HLTF, Managing Director, World Economic Forum
	Mr. ZHANG Jianyu	Deputy Chinese Lead, CCICED SPS on Green Development Cooperation, Chief Development Officer of BRIGC.
	Mr. ZHANG Haibin	Chinese Co-Lead of Working Group 3 under the CCICED HLTF, Professor and Vice Dean of School of International Studies, Peking University
	Mr. Dirk Messner	CCICED Member; Advisor to the HLTF, President of the German Environment Agency
	Ms. Sarah Cook	Co-lead of Working Group 2 under the CCICED HLTF; Professor and Head of School of Economics University of Nottingham Ningbo

Closing Remarks (5 min)	Mr. Achim Steiner	CCICED Vice Chair; Co-Chair of the HLTF, Former Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
10:05	Tea Break	
10:20	Thematic Discussion 2: Forward-Looking Outlook Based on Medium- and Long-Term Strategies	
Moderator	Mr. Jan Bakkes, Vice President of the Integrated Assessment Society Guiding Questions: <i>1. What opportunities and challenges may China face in pursuing its green transition and development process beyond the 15th Five-Year Plan, towards 2035 and mid-century?</i> <i>2. What are the forward-looking tools and approaches that could be deployed to identify future risks and opportunities (e.g., forward-looking analyses, scenario planning, back casting, etc.), thereby informing China's medium and long-term strategies?</i>	
Commentary Remarks (5 min each)	Ms. Miranda Schreurs	International Co-lead of Working Group 3 of the HLTF; Professor of Climate and Environmental Policy, Technical University of Munich
	Mr. Jan Hendrik Dronkers	CCICED Member; Secretary-General, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Netherlands
	Mr. GAO Shiji	Director-General and research fellow of Institute for Resources and Environment Policies, Development Research Center of the State Council (DRC)
	Mr. Craig Hanson	Vice President of Food, Forests, Water & the Ocean, World Resources Institute
	Mr. Shardul Agrawala	International Co-lead of Working Group 1 of the HLTF; Head of Environment and Economy Integration Division, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
10:50	Open Discussion	
Moderator	Mr. Jan Bakkes	Vice President of the Integrated Assessment Society
11:50	Closing Remarks	
	Chaired by Mr. ZHAO Yingmin, CCICED Member; Executive Vice Chair of the HLTF, President of BRIGC; Former Vice Minister of MEE	
	Mr. Scott Vaughan	International Chief Advisor of CCICED, Vice Chair of the HLTF
	Mr. XIE Zhenhua	CCICED Vice Chairperson; Co-Chair of the HLTF, Former Special Envoy on Climate Change of China

