



## Hot Topics

### China to continue its efforts to tackle climate change

China will continue to work with other countries to advance the international efforts in tackling climate change, Premier Wen Jiabao said March 15 after the close of the annual parliament session.

Wen said he wrote to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Danish Prime Minister Lars Loekke Rasmussen, respectively, at the end of January after the Copenhagen conference, expressing in clear-cut terms that China highly commends and supports the Copenhagen Accord.

Not long ago, China once again wrote to the United Nations, expressing that China fully supports the Copenhagen Accord, he said.

"(But) It still perplexes me why some people keep trying to make an issue about China (in this regard)," Wen told a press conference after the annual session of the National People's Congress (NPC) closed.

"The issue of climate change concerns human survival, the interests of all countries, and equity and justice in our international communities," he said.

"We are fully justified to stick to the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities,'" he said.

China has said it would endeavor to lower its carbon dioxide emissions per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) by 40 to 45 percent by 2020 compared with 2005 levels. (Source: Xinhua)

### Focus on green recovery

The Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2010 with the theme "Green Recovery: Asia's Realistic Choice for Sustainable Growth" was held on April 9-11

in Boao, a coastal town and the permanent BFA site in South China's island province of Hainan.

As a non-government, non-profit international organization, BFA is a forum for government, business and academic leaders in Asia and other continents to share opinions on pressing issues in the region and the world.

Vice-President Xi Jinping delivered the keynote address at the forum on April 10, emphasizing the importance of developing greener Asian economies.

"The financial crisis has inspired us in the belief that if Asia wants to keep sound growth, and keep on driving the development of the world economy, we must pay more attention to perfecting our development pattern, follow our own way of developing a greener and sustainable Asia," Xi said. (Source: China Daily)

### Vice Premier calls for better use of pollution source census results

Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang has called for better application of the results of the country's first national census on pollution sources to better protect the environment and control pollution on April 12.

In a letter sent to a meeting, which was held recently to commend outstanding organizations and individuals in the census, Li affirmed achievements made during the process.

He urged environmental workers to use the census results to establish a prevention and control system for pollution sources.

It took more than two years for over 570,000 staff to finish the census since the State Council made the decision to conduct it in 2006.

The census surveyed nearly 6 million objects of industrial, agricultural, residential and centralized pollution control facilities, collecting about 1.1 billion pieces of data on pollution sources.

A database for the census was established and includes environment-related information from nearly 6 million objects nationwide as a resource for administration and policymaking. (Source: Xinhua)

### **China to step up efforts to eliminate outdated industrial capacity**

China will continue to shut down outdated capacity in major industrial sectors to reduce pollution, save energy, and upgrade industry, the State Council, or Cabinet, said in a statement released on April 6.

The sectors include power, coal, steel, cement, non-ferrous metals, coke, paper making, tannery and printing and dyeing, according to the statement.

The country will eliminate by the end of 2010 more than 50 million kilowatts of small coal-fired power generators and 8,000 small coal mines which are lacking in work safety standards, overly energy-intensive or not environmentally friendly.

Small coking coal makers with a coking chamber height of less than 4.3 meters will be closed by the end of 2010, the statement

said.

It said the country will phase out mill furnaces below 6,300 kilovolts in the ferro-alloy sector and calcium carbide by the end of 2010. In the steel industry, furnaces smaller than 400 cubic meters will be shut down by the end of 2011.

The country also plans to close outdated capacity in the construction materials sector, light industry and textile industry sectors, the statement added.. (Source: Xinhua)

### **The fifth inter-ministerial meeting on protection of biological resources opens in Beijing**

The fifth inter-ministerial meeting on protection of biological resources was held in Beijing on April 2. MEP Minister Zhou Shengxian, chair of the meeting, called on the meeting to play a bigger role in promoting protection of biological resources and making contributions to safeguarding national ecological security and the long-term interest. The meeting heard the work report made by Vice Minister Li Ganjie and adopted work report of the fifth inter-ministerial meeting on protection of biological resources, China action plan for 2010 International Year of Biodiversity, China's Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity Protection (review draft). Deputy Secretary General of the State Council Zhang Yong attended the meeting. (Source: China Environment News)

## **CCICED Activities**

### **CCICED holds the 2010 Roundtable Meeting**

China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) held the 2010 Roundtable Meeting in Shanghai from March 25 to 26, 2010. The theme of the roundtable meeting was "Low-carbon transformation for green urban development". About 200 persons including council members and experts, representatives from departments of the State Council, local environmental protection bureaus and cities, business circles and Chinese offices of relevant countries and international organizations

attended the meeting.

MEP Vice Minister Zhang Lijun addressed the meeting, CCICED Secretary General Zhu Guangyao attended the meeting and made a closing statement. Mr. Xu Qinghua, CCICED Deputy Secretary General and Director General of MEP Department of International Cooperation, chaired the meeting. The meeting included three sessions as "towards low carbon transformation: opportunities for urban development in China", "the energy efficiency and environmental challenges for urban development" and "environmental and economic policies for green urban development". The meeting shared the research findings of CCICED and policy

recommendations to the Chinese Government in 2009, explored on China's challenges regarding the change of development modes and economic restructuring, and discussed the world trends of urbanization as well as relevant problems concerning China's urbanization process. The potential of transformation to low-carbon cities and green prosperity was prospected.

The meeting called for the following efforts: first, the transformation to low-carbon and green development is one of the important approaches for China to change economic development modes, and a crucial means to adjust development pattern and restructure the economy; second, low-carbon economy is one of the strategic options for addressing global climate change. China should vigorously promote the development of low-carbon technologies and low-carbon industries; third, urban areas should play a leading role in green development.; fourth, efforts should be made to build resource-saving and environment-friendly cities.

### **CCICED Secretary General Zhu Guangyao attends the unveiling ceremony for Expo Green Commuting**

CCICED Secretary General Zhu Guangyao attended the unveiling ceremony for Green Commuting for Shanghai World Expo and delivered a speech on March 24, 2010. It is the first forest aiming for reducing carbon emissions during big events and a new mode for achieving carbon neutralization of these events. It is very important to guiding the general public to accept and participate in low-carbon activities.

Secretary General Zhu pointed that the Expo Green Commuting not only brought benefit to the carbon sink but more importantly, involved many businesses who made solemn commitments to green travels and set an example for achieving low-carbon World Expo with their own efforts. The program called for the participation of the whole society, passing on the environmental protection concepts from green Olympics to low-carbon Expo. He hoped that such concepts would be passed on to the future so that the low-carbon idea would be an integral part of the development of China.

### **Secretary General Zhu Guangyao attends the completion ceremony of Sino-Italian cooperation project in Urban Best Practices Area of Shanghai World Expo**

On March 26, 2010, CCICED Secretary General Zhu Guangyao attended the completion ceremony of Sino-Italian Cooperation Project in Urban Best Practices Area of Shanghai World Expo and made a speech. The project, developed by Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and Bureau of the Shanghai World Expo Coordination, retrofitted old workshops into exhibition pavilions, showcasing the best practices of building livable cities and protecting and utilizing heritages in the process of sustainable urbanization. It also demonstrates advanced ideas and experience of Italy in the fields of environmental protection and sustainable development.

Zhu pointed out that as the theme of the just concluded Roundtable Meeting of CCICED was *Low Carbon Transformation for Green Urban Development*, the Urban Best Practices Area of the World Expo holds great significance in providing excellent interpretation of the theme in the form of practice. As one of the major participants of CCICED, Italy charted a new direction for Sino-Italian environmental cooperation through this project. China and Italy are expected to make full use of the platform to exchange experience in building eco cities and share countermeasures for urban sustainable development, bringing out the best of their creativity and making constant effort to jointly promote urban sustainable development.

### **Secretary General Zhu Guangyao meets Director General of WWF James Leape**

On March 26, 2010, Secretary General of CCICED Zhu Guangyao met with WWF Director General, international member of CCICED, James Leape, who came to Shanghai for the CCICED 2010 Roundtable Meeting.

Both sides fully recognized the yearly successful cooperation between CCICED and WWF on CCICED's project and looked forward to further strengthening communications and exchanges to extend closer and more comprehensive collaboration, thus continuing contributions

to China's environmental protection cause.

### CCICED Secretariat and Chief Advisors holds the second joint working meeting

The second joint working meeting of CCICED Secretariat and Chief Advisors was held in Shanghai on March 27, 2010. The meeting was co-chaired by CCICED's Chief Advisors, Prof. Shen Guofang, and Dr. Hanson. Chairperson of the supporting team, Dr. Ren Yong and Deputy Director General of Foreign Economic Cooperation Center, MEP, Ms. Fang Li attended the meeting. The meeting reviewed the 2010 CCICED Roundtable meeting and the progress of policy studies and discussed the new proposal of policy research project for 2010.

During the meeting, Secretary General Zhu Guangyao met the Chinese and international Chief Advisors and meeting participants. He emphasized that the year 2010 is critical for CCICED when the fourth phase would be wrapped up in 2011 and the fifth one is to begin. He urged all staff to endeavor to prepare for CCICED Phase V. Early preparation for the 2010 AGM should also be considered. The Secretariat, Chief Advisors and their supporting team were required to further identify their responsibilities, improve working mechanisms and communications as well as efficiency. Plans in this regard should be made in advance to constantly improve efficiency and work quality.

### The Task Force on Ecosystem Issues and Policy Options Addressing Sustainable Development of China's Ocean and Coast holds a working meeting

The Chinese members and relevant experts of the Task Force on Ecosystem Issues and Policy Options Addressing Sustainable Development of China's Ocean and Coast held the fourth working meeting in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province from April 7 to 8, 2010. The meeting was chaired by Chinese Co-chair, Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Mr. Su Jilan. CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor Shen Guofang attended the meeting. Six special policy study groups including the group on "Offshore eutrophication and its eco-environmental problems" reported and discussed their draft reports and put forward opinions and suggestions for further revisions. The meeting discussed and agreed on the framework of the general report of the Task Force, and identified the work for the next step.