



Hot Topics

Premier Wen says more efforts needed to cut emissions, conserve energy

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on May 5 called for more efforts to cut emissions and conserve energy to meet the country's target set by the 11th Five-Year Plan.

The task of fulfilling the goal was still tough, Wen said at a State Council meeting, adding that this year would be particularly difficult as the first quarter had already seen rising energy consumption per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) in the major industrial sectors.

"We can never break our pledge, stagger our resolution, or weaken our efforts, no matter how difficult it is," Wen said.

Wen called for stricter control over high-energy-consuming and high-polluting sectors.

More efforts were needed to reduce use of outdated capacity and curb new projects in industries with overcapacity, he said.

This year, China will phase out 10 million kilowatts of small coal-fired power generators, 25 million tonnes of outdated capacity in iron-smelting industry, 6 million tonnes in steel sector and 50 million tonnes in cement sector, Wen added.

The government will further promote energy-saving lamps and intensify efforts to lift energy efficiency in steel, power, non-ferrous, and other high-energy-consuming sectors, Wen said.

More publicity campaigns to promote energy saving and emission cuts were needed, he said. (Source: Xinhua)

Green economy needs aid from developed nations

Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang has called for developed nations to assist the developing world in its green economy endeavor by technology transfer, financial assistance and market liberalization.

Green economy offers a new model where people could both protect the climate and develop the economy, said Li at the International Cooperative Conference on Green Economy and Climate Change with a theme of "Low carbon, New energy and Sustainable development" in Beijing on May 8.

Li urged countries across the world to focus on developing new energies and promoting the development of energy-saving and environmental protection industries.

Li encouraged people to live in a more energy-saving and low-carbon way, citing a "green consumption" concept.

He said international cooperation in the framework of green economy and climate change is crucial to the recovery of global economy and the sustainable development of Chinese economy. (Source: Xinhua)

Chinese Premier urges greater energy-saving, emission reductions

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao called for greater efforts to fulfill the energy-saving and emission reduction goals set out in the nation's 11th Five-Year Plan on April 28th.

According to the plan laid out in 2006, China will cut its per unit GDP energy consumption by 20 percent compared with 2005 levels by the end of 2010.

Relevant departments must work harder to help enterprises close down old and polluting production facilities, he said at a State Council meeting.

The departments must also suspend

approval of new projects by enterprises failing to eliminate backward production capacity, he added.

He also stressed efforts to curb the expansion of high energy-consuming industry, and emphasized strict control of exports of goods produced in an energy-inefficient way.

Wen said energy-saving and emission reduction are priorities for the construction and transportation industries.

Public institutions nationwide are expected to lower their energy consumption by 5 percent year on year in 2010, he added.

More energy-conservation and emission-reduction publicity campaigns should be organized to promote the development of "green" consumption, he said. (source: Xinhua)

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao urges development of renewable energy

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao called for more efforts to develop renewable energy in an effort to cope with rising domestic fuel demand and severe energy shortages on April 22.

"We must accelerate the development and use of renewable energies to ensure the country's energy security and better cope with climate change," Wen said at the first meeting of the National Energy Commission in Beijing.

China should take measures to ensure non-fossil fuels would account for 15 percent of China's energy consumption in 2020, he said.

Wen said the country would make it a binding target to cut carbon dioxide emissions per unit of gross domestic product by 40 percent to 45 percent by 2020 from 2005 levels.

"The target will be incorporated into the country's long-term economic and social development plan," he said.

Wen also urged more efforts to enhance innovative capacity on energy technology to promote sustainable social and economic development.

The government set up the National Energy Commission, a government agency headed by Premier Wen Jiabao, in January to better coordinate energy policy.

The commission is responsible for

drafting the national energy development plan, reviewing energy security and major energy issues and coordinating domestic energy development and international cooperation. (Source: Xinhua)

NDRC works out green measures

More policy tools are being worked out to encourage energy conservation and the use of renewables to propel the development of China's energy-saving industries, an official from the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said on April 21.

Speaking at an energy conference, Xie Ji, deputy director of environmental protection and resource conservation division at the nation's top economic planning agency, outlined the policies it is drafting for the 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-15).

Policy tools tailored to energy service industry are likely to include a national fund sponsored by the central government; a set of tax incentives, such as tax exemptions and tax breaks; an improved accounting system with regard to energy conservation expenses; and at the regional level, more energy-related special-purpose services from financial institutions.

Unparalleled progress has been made in energy conservation and emissions reduction thanks to rising central government support and public awareness across the nation, the official said. The momentum will continue and generate new achievements.

During the 11th Five-Year Plan (2006-10), while average annual GDP growth was 10.72 percent, annual energy consumption growth remained at 6.51 percent. In other words, the ratio of energy consumption in proportion to GDP was 0.75 on average, "significantly lower" than during any of the previous five-year plans, Xie said.

In the meantime, a "responsibility system" has been developed to hold various government agencies to account for national and regional targets in energy saving and emission reduction. As a result, they have rolled out their own policies and matching technological solutions, Xie said.

Nationwide, 10 programs have resulted in a total energy saving capacity of up to 260 million tons of standard coal since 2006, exceeding the original goal of 240 million tons of standard coal. In a separate effort,

large companies in nine energy-intensive industries have accumulated a total energy saving capacity of 130 million tons of standard coal.

Efforts in the last four years will leave an institutional legacy for the 12th Five-Year Plan, the official said, to promote energy saving and green energy under market economy conditions.

Those efforts have not only changed the trend in energy use against GDP growth for a country still in a rapid process of industrialization, he said. They are also

helping China develop many new industries and thereby transform its entire economy, "to make the goal of a sustainable society more achievable".

However, tough challenges remain for the next stage of development, Xie pointed out, such as growing pressure on greenhouse gas emission cuts, rising green tariffs in the global market, and fiercer competition, in various forms, in the name of energy conservation and environmental protection. (Source: China Daily)

CCICED Activities

CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor Shen Guofang wins Special Contribution Award of 2009 Person-in-focus of Green China

The award granting ceremony of 2009 Person-in-focus of Green China was held in Beijing on April 22. Mr. Shen Guofang, Chief Advisor of CCICED won the Special Contribution Award of 2009 Person-in-focus of Green China.

The selection of 2009 Person-in-focus of Green China aims to advocate green idea and cause, and to establish green models, which follows the principle of science, openness and fairness. The candidates are recommended by experts and the public and subject to public vote followed by reviewing of the Review Committee. The candidates passing final review of the Committee are the winners of the year.



An academician and former Vice President of Chinese Academy of Engineering, Mr. Shen Guofang is a famous expert of forestry, forest educator, key founder and a leader of modern forest cultivation science in China. During many

years of forestry research and teaching, he has obtained many scientific achievements in cultivation and production of forests. He has made enormous efforts in key ecological development projects such as the conservation of natural forests and conducted lots of research for sustainable development of forest in China over the past years and played an important advisory role for national macro decision-making. Mr. Shen Guofang commented at the ceremony, "It is an arduous task for us to meet the national target of increasing 40 million hectares of forests with an increase of 1.3 billion m³ forest stock volume in the next 10 years, which requires massive efforts from all of us. I am willing to work together with you to meet this target in the rest of my life so as to build China into a more beautiful country and enable our people live a happy life."

CCICED Task Force on Ecosystem Service and Management Strategy holds a consultation meeting

"Scenario Analysis and Case Study Consultation Meeting" of CCICED Task Force on Ecosystem Service and Management Strategy was held in Beijing on May 14, 2010. Chinese Co-chair Chen Yiyu, Academician and Director of National Natural Science Foundation of China chaired the meeting. Over 30 people, including Task Force Chinese members, special advisors, members of CCICED Chief Advisors' Supporting Team and experts from Stockholm Environment Institute, EU Mission in China, EU-China Biodiversity Program as well as representatives of

relevant universities and institutes attended the meeting.

The meeting discussed different study components including scenario analysis and case study and progress of policy recommendations, soliciting comments and suggestions of all stakeholders on the primary achievements and how to materialize relevant suggestions.

Detailed arrangements for the activities of the Task Force in the next stage was made. The first draft of final report is to be finished in early June and crystallize policy recommendations. The Task Force will present policy recommendation advisory activities to relevant departments in June.

The Fifth Meeting of CCICED Task Force on Ecosystem Issues and Policy Options addressing the Sustainable Development of China's Ocean and Coast is held in Canada

The fourth meeting and the third study tour of the "Task Force on Ecosystem Issues and Policy Options addressing the Sustainable Development of China's Ocean and Coast" was held in Halifax, Canada during May 11-13, 2010. The meeting was chaired by TF Co-Chairs, Prof. Su Jilan and Prof. Peter Harrison. Chief Advisors of CCICED, Prof. Shen Guofang and Dr. Art Hanson attended the meeting. Other participants included the Chinese and International TF members; experts from Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Environment Canada; Dalhousie University; the US National Wildlife Federation; Canada/US International Joint Commission; the State of Rhode Island; UNEP Regional Seas Programme; the province of British Columbia; the South Pacific Marine Commission; and representatives from CCICED Secretariat. In total about thirty-five people were presented at the meeting.

Information and experience on Marine Spatial Planning in various jurisdictions in Canada, US, EU, China and other countries were exchanged during the meeting. Administrators and experts of relevant Canadian institutions provided presentations on legislation processes; stakeholder

participation; and the governance and evaluation of Large Ocean Management Areas and Coastal Management Areas in Canada.

A draft framework of the final project report was discussed and approved by the TF. It was decided that a writing meeting (and the sixth TF meeting) will be held in Qingdao, China on June 20-24, 2010 to complete the first draft of final report. The final report is to be submitted to CCICED in September 2010.

During the meeting, the Chinese and international TF members also visited the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, and exchanged information on marine environmental monitoring and marine ecology studies with BIO scientists.

SFU Speaking of the World in collaboration with The China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development Project

SFU Speaking of the World in collaboration with CCICED Project on May 10, 2010 in Vancouver.

Bjorn Stigson, President of World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), is a member of CCICED and Co-chair of the Council's Task Force on Pathways to a Low Carbon Economy (2007-2008), delivered a presentation entitled "Business and Sustainable Development – The Green Race is on" at Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Vancouver, Canada, on May 10. The event was organized by the CCICED Secretariat International Support Office, which is resident at SFU, in cooperation with SFU's Office of International Development and SFU's Faculty of Environment and Faculty of Business. His presentation focused on China's and other countries' efforts to transform to low carbon economies and to become leading suppliers of resource efficient technologies and solutions. Mr. Stigson's talk was well attended and very well received by faculty members and students, representatives of government and environmental organizations, and members the business sector.

CCICED Secretariat Personnel Adjustment

Due to work requirement, as of April 2010, Mr. Ren Yong (email: ren.yong@mep.gov.cn), Deputy Director General of Department of Human Affairs Management and Institutional Arrangement, Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) and Coordinator of CCICED Chief Advisors' Supporting Team has taken the post of Assistant Secretary General of CCICED; Ms. Fang Li (email: fang.li@mep.gov.cn), Deputy Director General of Foreign Economic Cooperation Center, MEP has taken the post of Assistant Secretary General of CCICED to assist CCICED Secretary General in managing the work of CCICED Secretariat; Mr. Guo Jing has been removed from the post of Assistant Secretary General of CCICED.

In addition, Ms. Ding Yangyang has taken the post as program officer of CCICED Secretariat as of April 2010 (email: ding.yangyang@mepfeco.org.cn). She replaces Ms. Zhang Ou who tentatively leaves CCICED Secretariat for personal reasons.