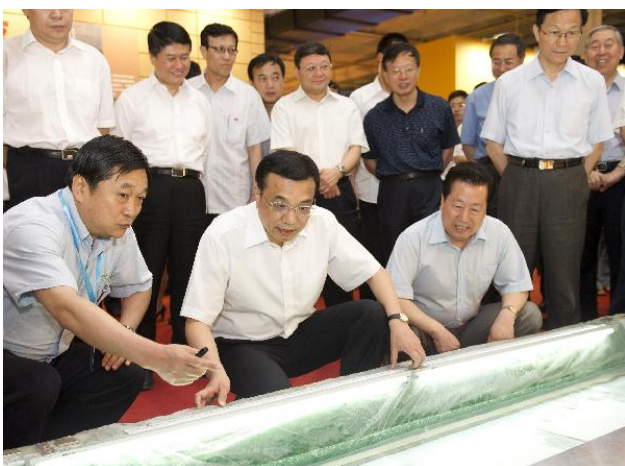


● Hot Topics

■ Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang visits exhibition on environmental protection achievements

Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang visited an exhibition in Beijing that displayed the achievements the country made between 2006 and 2010 on environmental protection on June 7.



"China made remarkable progress in environmental protection during the 11th Five-Year Plan period, but the current environmental protection situation remains grave," said Li, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

Li said greater efforts must be made to draw up a specialized plan for environmental protection during the 12th Five-Year Plan period starting in 2011.

China may become the world's largest market for energy-conservation and environmental protection products, he said, calling for more efforts to develop the market in order to foster a new economic growth engine.

China's pollution reduction met the targets set for the 11th Five-Year Plan

between 2006 and 2010, according to a report released by the Ministry of Environmental Protection the 1st week of June.

For instance, emissions of sulfur dioxide and the amount of chemical oxygen demand (COD) were reduced by 14.29 percent and 12.45 percent respectively from that of 2005, the report shows. (Source: Xinhua)

■ Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang calls for careful programming and faithful implementation of the country's development blueprint between 2011 and 2015.

Li made the remarks on April 29 at a meeting concerning the country's key programs during the 12th Five-Year Plan period (2011 to 2015).



According to Li, 18 key programs will be drafted in five areas: structural adjustments, technological innovation, environmental protection, people's livelihoods and deepening reforms and opening-up.

Li noted that these key programs are essential for implementing the 2011-2015 blueprint, as they provide detailed

requirements and goals for the blueprint.

Li stressed that it is of great importance to properly implement the plans for the next five years and ensure that the actual work will be in line with the government's initial programming.

During the meeting, officials with the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology introduced current progress on the key national programs, and experts and scholars offered their advice. (Source: Xinhua)

■ First strategic research report on China's environment released

The Macro Strategic Research Report on China's Environment, the first of its kind in China, was officially released at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on April 21.

The report took over 50 academicians from the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) as well as hundreds of experts three years to compile.

CAE President Zhou Ji said that according to the research results, although China's environment has improved in some regions, the overall situation continues to deteriorate, which places the country under increasing environmental pressure. The country's overall environmental quality has not reached a turning point.

Zhou Shengxian, Minister of Environmental Protection, said that the ministry will make efforts to achieve the strategic objectives in the report through cooperation with many other governmental agencies. According to the report, emissions of major pollutants should be considerably reduced by 2020, and the environmental safety should be effectively guaranteed. By 2030, the aggregate emissions of all pollutants should be significantly reduced, and the overall environmental quality should be greatly improved. By 2050, the environmental quality should match the people's high quality of life as well as the country's status as a modern and powerful socialist country. (Source: People's Daily Online)

■ Study lays out roadmap for environment

China is aiming to effectively curb emissions of major pollutants and ensure greater environmental quality, as pointed out in a strategic report released on April 21 by the country's leading environmental experts.

The study, jointly published by the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) and the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP), says the government's intensified and persistent efforts to control pollution have paid off by cutting emissions of major pollutants.

"China now faces more pressure on pollution control than any other country in the world. Challenges facing the environment and natural resources are among the harshest," said Zhou Shengxian, environmental protection minister, at the study's launch ceremony on April 21.

"As a result, the task of solving these problems is also the toughest."

It may still take China two decades to fully rein in rampant pollution, rapid ecological degradation and the loss of valuable species, according to the roadmap laid out by the study.

"The target is to effectively curb emissions of major pollutants and ensure environmental safety by 2020," it said, adding that industrial pollution in urban areas should be brought under control and the safety of drinking water guaranteed.

By 2030, the country will see a comprehensive improvement in its environmental quality, in both urban and rural areas, with pollutants being well managed.

"That is to say, toxic pollution caused by heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants, which are quite difficult to tackle at the moment, will be fully controlled by 2030," Xia Guang, head of the policy research center for the environment and economy under the MEP, told China Daily.

Emissions of some conventional pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide from coal combustion, have already peaked in China, thanks to stringent environmental policies adopted over the past five years, said Xia.

Other pollutants, such as nitrogen oxide and ammonia nitrogen, are likely to peak in the near future, he said.

But at the current stage, overall pollution has been expanding despite the drop in emissions of major water and air pollutants, it said.

For instance, the study said, 320 million rural people still do not have access to safe drinking water in China and, of these, 190 million use drinking water that contains excessive levels of hazardous substances.

When the study was conducted in 2007, about 30 percent of cities failed to reach national standards for air quality. Over half suffered from acid rain, with an increased acidity, compared to previous years, which resulted in greater fossil fuel consumption.

Reasons for the current gloomy environmental situation include China's inability to break out from an outdated growth mode characterized by high energy and resource consumption and high levels of polluting emissions, according to the

seven-volume, six-million-word study of China's Macro Strategies for Environmental Protection.

"The significance of environmental protection and sustainable development is still poorly acknowledged at local level," said Shen Guofang, a member of the CAE, who was also one of the chief editors of the study.

"Some local governments are still blindly seeking a growth path that is heavily priced with resource depletion and environmental deterioration."

Meanwhile, a total of 10 million hectares of agricultural land has been polluted.

For the first time the study links health problems - such as increased cancer rates - with the worsening environment (Source: China Daily).

● CCICED Activities

■ Vice Minister Li Ganjie Requires Overall Plan for Development and Conservation at Land and Seas at CCICED 2011 Roundtable Meeting

China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) 2011 Roundtable Meeting was held in Qingdao City, Shandong Province on April 27. Mr. Li Ganjie, MEP Vice Minister and CCICED Secretary General attended the meeting and gave a speech. Vice Minister Li pointed out, as a big coastal developing country, China has great opportunity to develop marine economy to ensure its sustained development of national economy. But the prerequisite is making an overall plan for land and sea development and conservation and carrying it out as a long-term national strategy.

Li said, seas of China in particular coastal ecosystems are under great pressure. Environmental protection department is willing to conduct active cooperation with oceanic administration according to the requirements for facilitating development of marine economy specified in the outlines of the "12th Five-Year Plan". To this end, Vice Minister Li put forward the following three suggestions:

i. to facilitate policy arrangements for

combining marine blue economy with land green economy. Governments should focus on sustainability of marine economy and service functions of marine ecosystems.

ii. to strictly control land-based pollution, to appropriately develop and utilize marine resources and achieve sustainable development of marine economy. The development of marine economy should, in the first place, pay attention to the overall plan for sustainable development of land and marine environment. Apart from raising our capacity in marine development, we will strictly control land-based activities; improve our capacity in control of marine pollution and comprehensive management; pay attention to the safety of relevant industries and protect islands, coastal zones and marine eco environment.

iii. to vigorously develop marine science and technology conducive to promotion of conservation of ecosystems. The development of marine economy and conservation of marine ecosystems depends upon advancement of marine science and technology. To develop marine economy, we should strengthen the development of relevant basic, projecting and key technologies and improve scientific support capacity in facilitating sustainable development of marine environment.

The theme of this meeting is

"Promoting a Blue Economy Through Ecosystem-Based Management". Mr. Hau Sing Tse, Senior Vice President of CIDA, Mr. Chen Lianzeng, Vice Administrator of State Oceanic Administration and Mr. Wang Jianxiang, Vice Mayor of Qingdao attended the meeting and gave speeches.

■ The first Secretary General meeting in 2011 holds in Beijing

CCICED Secretary General Li Ganjie chaired the First Secretary General Working Meeting in 2011 on the morning of May 6 to discuss and arrange relevant activities of CCICED. Academician Shen Guofang, CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor, Mr. Xu Qinghua, CCICED Deputy Secretary General and Director General of MEP Department of International Cooperation, Mr. Ren Yong and Ms. Fang Li, CCICED Assistant Secretary Generals attended the meeting.

The meeting discussed major activities of the year, including CCICED's working mechanism, 2011 workplan, 2011 AGM as well as the 20th anniversary of CCICED. The following arrangements were made: i. to maintain the existing CCICED working mechanism as a base for preparation of CCICED Phase V; ii. to orderly carry out all activities in 2011 according to the Workplan approved by the Bureau and ensure sound progress and quality of the research of 3 Task Forces and two Special Policy Studies that will report to 2011 AGM; iii. to successfully hold CCICED 2011 AGM and CCICED 20th Anniversary activities in the spirit of "simple, highly efficient, warm and frugal"; iv. to consider comprehensively the preparation for CCICED Phase V. The key work needs to be highlighted and the relevant work needs to be facilitated timely.

■ CCICED holds its second joint working meeting of the Secretariat and the Chief Advisors in 2011

The second joint working meeting of CCICED Chief Advisors and the Secretariat was held in Beijing and Qingdao during April 25-28. Mr. Shen Guofang, CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor and academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering, Dr. Hanson, International Chief Advisor, Ms. Fang Li and Mr. Ren Yong, CCICED Assistant Secretary Generals, representatives of Task Forces and Special Policy Studies well as donors attended the meeting.

The meeting listened to the briefings on the progress of the three Task Forces and two Special Policy Studies, discussed the primary findings of each research program and policy recommendations. It was required that all research programs should strengthen communications to enhance the understanding and mutual learning among research programs, avoiding redundant study on a way to complete all tasks according to the schedule with high quality.

The meeting also discussed the issues such as the framework and members of the two new Task Forces (Task Force on Policy Mechanisms for Meeting "12th Five-Year Plan" Environment and Development Objectives, Task Force on Development Strategy for West China), CCICED's 20th Anniversary Forum, CCICED 20-Year Review and Outlook Report as well as the schedule of each work.

It was highlighted that 2011 is of great significance for CCICED. We should spare no efforts in doing well all of the preparation work to ensure the success of CCICED 2011 AGM and the 20th anniversary event.

It has been decided that primarily, the third joint working meeting will be held in the end of June, 2011.

● CCICED Policy Studies

■ CCICED Task Force on Investment, Trade and Environment conducts an overseas survey

Members of the CCICED Task Force on Trade, Investment and Environment had a study tour in Indonesia to investigate the

trade and investment between the two countries and their impacts on the environment on February 19-27. This investigation was headed by Mr. John Forgach, the International Co-chair of the Task Force. Dr. Hanson, CCICED International Chief Advisor, members of the

Task Force and staff from the Secretariat took part in this overseas visit. This investigation obtained strong support from Mr. Ismid Hadad, international expert of the Task Force and senior official of Indonesia Climate Change Commission and the support of IIEE.



After the survey, the Task Force took the view that as developing countries in Asia, China and Indonesia have huge potential and wide prospect in south-south cooperation in the field of trade and investment. These two countries should set up a multi-level bilateral dialogue platform and mechanism to discuss and develop relevant standards for trade and investment accepted by both countries, and facilitate the transition towards a green economy. The priority of bilateral cooperation should be in the field of energy and environment. The Task Force believes that with concerted efforts, China and Indonesia will surely create a win-win situation conducive to sustainable development of the two countries.

The Task Force will finish the investigation report by the end of March, which will provide an important case for the study of the Task Force. The third meeting will be held on April 18-19 to discuss the first draft of the final report.

■ CCICED Task Force on Low Carbon Industrialization Strategy in China holds its third working meeting

Task Force on Low Carbon Industrialization Strategy in China held a working meeting in Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs) in London, UK on February 22-23, 2011. Mr. Feng Fei, the Chinese Co-chair of the Task Force and Director of Research Department of Industrial Economy of Development Research Center of the State Council, and Ms. Bernice Lee, Research Director of

Energy, Environment and Resource Governance, Chatham House, co-chaired the meeting. Mr. Björn Stigson, CCICED Member and President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development attended the meeting on invitation. Members of the Task Force and staff from the Secretariat also attended the meeting.

The meeting focused its discussions on topic 3, 4 and 5, i.e., the foundation for low carbon industrialization in China, scenario analysis, the contributions of high-energy consuming industry and the development of emerging industries with strategic importance to low carbon industrialization as well as the policy recommendations. The meeting decided that all topic studies will finish their draft reports before April 20; the final report will be drafted by middle of May and in June, the members of the Task Force will discuss the first final report.



During the meeting period, Task Force members exchanged their views with officials from UK Department of Energy and Climate Change and Department for International Development and visited Climate Change Capital (CCC).

■ CCICED holds the Inception Meeting for the Special Policy Study on Mercury Management in China

The inception meeting of CCICED Special Policy Study on Mercury Management in China was held in Beijing on March 7-8. Ms. Fang Li, CCICED Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Director General of MEP Foreign Economic Cooperation Office chaired the meeting. Dr. Hanson, CCICED International Chief Advisor gave a speech on invitation. Academician Chai Zhifang, Chinese Co-chair and Dr. Barry Stemshorn, International Co-chair of this Special Policy Study jointly presided over the technical

discussions. Chinese and international members as well as the supporting experts of the Study, representatives from UNEP, GIZ, World Bank, UNIDO, Swedish Embassy to China and Norwegian Embassy to China attended the meeting.



The meeting listened to the briefings on the latest development of mercury management in China, progress of inter-government negotiation on mercury convention and its impacts on China, policy study on mercury management in China, mercury emissions from smelting of zinc and other non-ferrous metals and prevention and control of atmospheric mercury pollution in China. Participants also discussed the framework of the study program.

According to the workplan, some Chinese and international experts will hold a meeting in the end of March to further discuss the contents of the research report and submit the first draft report in May.

■ CCICED holds the Seminar on Mechanism and Policy Innovation for Achieving the Environmental Targets of the ‘12th Five-Year Plan’ Period

CCICED held the seminar on Mechanism and Policy Innovation for Achieving the Environmental Targets of the ‘12th Five-Year Plan’ Period in Beijing on May 5, 2011. Ms. Wang Jirong, CCICED Member and Vice Chairwoman of NPC Environmental Protection and Resources Conservation Committee, Mr. Shen Guofang, CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor and academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering and Mr. Hao Jiming, CCICED Member and academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering attended the meeting. About 20 people, including officials from MEP Department of Planning and Finance, Department of Science, Technology and Standard and Department of Pollution Prevention and Control, NDRC Department

of Resources and Environment as well as experts and scholars from relevant institutes and universities attended the meeting. Ms. Fang Li, CCICED Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Director General of MEP Foreign Economic Cooperation Office presided the meeting.

The meeting listened to the introduction of the interim assessment of the implementation of the “11th Five-Year National Plan for Environmental Protection”, findings of Task Force on Policy Mechanism towards Successful Achievement of the 11th Five-Year Plan Environmental Targets and the design of the framework of the will-be-commenced Task Force on Policy Mechanisms for Meeting “12th Five-Year Plan” Environment and Development Objective, which were presented by Mr. Wu Shunze and Mr. Wang Jinnan, Vice Presidents from Chinese Academy of Environmental Planning respectively.



Focusing on the study of mechanism and policy for achieving environmental target during the “12th Five-Year Plan” period, the meeting had heated discussions. It is viewed that the study on Policy Mechanisms for meeting the “12th Five-Year Plan” Environment and Development has great significance. Meanwhile, it is suggested that this policy research should not be limited to emission reduction, it should cover issues relevant to the development strategy of the “12th Five-Year Plan” period with wider scope over longer time period. Studies on the following areas should be carried out: monitoring and strategic research on PM2.5; development of local standards at regional level that embodies the policy of environment first; assessment of healthy rivers; emergency response mechanism for most unfavorable weather conditions in central cities; assessments of the environmental and health as well as social health impacts.

Many constructive comments and suggestions at the meeting provided a good

foundation for the improvement of the framework of the Task Force on Policy Mechanisms for Meeting the “12th Five-Year Plan” Environment and Development Objectives. This Task Force is going to commence its work in June of 2011 and will submit its report and policy recommendations to CCICED 2012 Annual General Meeting.

■ The second working meeting of CCICED Special Policy Study on Green Supply Chain and Workshop on Innovation in Green Supply Chain holds in Shanghai

The second working meeting of CCICED Special Policy Study on Green Supply Chain and Workshop on Innovation in Green Supply Chain was held in Shanghai on May 6, 2011. Mr. Tang Dingding, Chinese Co-chair of the Special Policy Study, Director General of MEP Environmental Development Center, and Director of China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center attended the meeting. Mr. Daniel Dudek, CCICED Member and Vice President of US Environmental Defense Fund, officials and experts from Shanghai Environmental protection Bureau, China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center, MEP Center for Environmental Certification (CEC) and experts of the Special Policy Study attended the meeting. Over 100 representatives from relevant local government departments, industrial associations, research institutes and enterprises were present at the meeting.



During the meeting, experts and representatives had in-depth discussions on

topics such as learning from international experience in green supply chain, enhancement of government green procurement system, case study and institutional development of green supply chain as well as the relations between the green supply chain and trade. At the workshop, Mr. Tang Dingding, Chinese Co-chair of the Special Policy Study required the team to strengthen learning from international experience, in particular relevant case studies, to actively explore the feasibility of promoting the green supply chain system in China, which is based on government guidance, corporate participation, social supervision and market assessment so as to facilitate the development of sustained production and consumption system. Relevant policy recommendations should be put forward with overall consideration of the government, enterprise and the public. The policy recommendations put forwarded should be brief with good workability.

After the workshop, Chinese Co-chair Tang Dingding chaired a report meeting on the progress of the Study and listened to the report on the progress of each component. He put forward suggestions on the outline of the final report and required each component finish its work with high quality according to workplan. After the meeting, members of the Study paid a site visit to Shanghai General Motors and its suppliers.

■ The China Environment and Development Outlook Feasibility Study holds meeting in Paris

The Environment and Development Outlook Feasibility Study (CEDO-F) was held in Paris on May 9-12. Dr. Hanson, CCICED International Chief Advisor attended the meeting. Mr. Xia Guang, Chinese Co-chair of the Study and Director General of MEPF Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy and Ms. Marion Elizabeth Cheatle, the International Co-chair chaired the meeting. About 20 people, including Chinese and international experts as well as representatives of CCICED Secretariat attended the meeting.



The meeting discussed the Feasibility Study Report. Based on earlier work, in-depth discussions were carried out regarding the necessity, uniqueness, framework, methodology, compilation procedures, publication cycle, quality control and capacity building requirement of the Study and reached agreement on basic content of the feasibility study report. Based on the discussions, Chinese and international experts will revise each part of the report accordingly. Another meeting will be held in the end of August to improve the draft report and the final report will be submitted to the Secretariat by September 30.

Experts from OECD and UNEP were invited to introduce the method and model of OECD adopted in OECD Environment Outlook, the on-going study of Green Growth Indicators, environmental impacts of consumption and production as well as UNEP Green Economy Report to help the Chinese and international experts of the Study to understand the research, contents and method of relevant reports in the world.

■ CCICED Special Policy Study on Mercury Management in China holds meeting in Beijing

CCICED Special Policy Study on Mercury Management in China held a meeting in Beijing on June 1-2. Dr. Barry Stemshorn, the International Co-chair chaired the meeting. Mr. Shen Guofang, CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor and academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering and Ms. Fang Li, CCICED Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Director General of MEP Foreign Economic Cooperation Office addressed the meeting. Around 50 officials and experts from

relevant government department, universities, international organizations such as MEP, Renmin University, Central South University, UNEP, GIZ, UNIDO and American Embassy as well as Chinese and international members of the research program were present at the meeting.

The meeting listened to the introduction of main tasks and recommendations on prevention and control of heavy metal pollution in China, requirement for international cooperation and the experience of UNEP in prevention and control of mercury pollution and pollution of other heavy metals. The discussions were focused on the topic study report of each research group, summary of the final report and primary policy recommendations.



According to the workplan, the Chinese and international experts will hold a meeting in Canada in late July to discuss the draft policy recommendations and summary of the final report. Visit to some non-ferrous metal smelters, coal-fueled power plants and mercury contaminated sites will be arranged to understand and learn the measures for prevention and control of mercury pollution in Canada. It is also scheduled to attend the 10th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant.