



Hot Topics

The Executive Meeting of the State Council listens to the work report on “Grain for Green”, discusses and approves the Project Plan Phase II for the Control of the Sand and Dust Sources for Beijing and Tianjin Area (2013-2022)

Premier Wen Jiabao chaired the executive meeting of the State Council on September 19, 2012, listened to the work report on “grain for green”, discussed and approved the Project Plan Phase II for the Control of the Sand and Dust Sources for Beijing and Tianjin Area (2013-2022) and decided to establish the “National Low Carbon Day”.

The meeting pointed out that the implementation of the “Grain for Green Program” was a major decision of the CCCPC and the State Council to improve the eco environment at the beginning of this century. Relevant department shall identify the focus, continuously implement the program, and further consolidates the achievements of the program.

The meeting discussed and approved the Project Plan Phase II for the Control of the Sand and Dust Sources for Beijing and Tianjin Area (2013-2022). In order to further reduce the sand & dust in Beijing and Tianjin area, continuously improve the capacity of this area for the sustainable economic and social development and develop eco shield for the North China, the meeting decided to implement the Phase II based on the achievements of the Phase I.

To disseminate the know-how of climate change, spread the concept and policy of low

carbon development, encourage the public participation and promote the implementation of the emission reduction tasks of GHGs, the meeting decided that the third day of the Energy Conservation Publicity Week in June each year will be set as the “National Low Carbon Day” from 2013. (Source: China Environment News)

Li Keqiang meets with Chairman of the United Nations Climate Change Doha Conference in Beijing

Vice Premier Li Keqiang met with Mr. Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah, Chairman of the United Nations Climate Change Doha Conference in Beijing on September 17, 2012.

Li Keqiang said, it requires the joint efforts of the international community to address the climate change. Each country shall encourage the restructuring so that to establish an energy-efficiency, environment-friendly and low-carbon economy in their effort to promote the economic recovery. Meanwhile, we shall adhere to the principle and regulations of UNFCCC in particular the equity principle and the principle of “common but differentiated responsibility”, fully take into consideration of the development stage and the future development room of the developing countries and prioritize the implementation of the consensus that have been reached. The United Nations Climate Change Doha Conference will be held in a few months. It is hoped that Qatar as the host country could play an active role to

push forward the Bali Roadmap negotiation and achieve substantial results, and urge the developed countries to assume substantial reduction targets and fulfill their commitments to provide funds and transfer technology.

Mr. Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah expressed his willingness to strengthen the communication and coordination with the Chinese side, and enhance the joint efforts of all parties to address the climate change. Qatar will continuously promote the cooperation with China in fields including energy. (Source: Xinhua News Agency)

Zhou Shengxian Meets with Danish Environmental Minister

On Sep. 26, 2012, MEP Minister Zhou Shengxian met with the visiting Danish Environmental Minister Ms. Auken in Beijing. They exchanged viewpoints on a set of topics ranging from China's environmental policy, China-Denmark environment cooperation in general and the cooperation within the framework of CCICED, and the follow-ups of Rio+20. They agreed to strengthen cooperation in fields as the prevention and control of water pollution, mercury pollution and chemical management.

Zhou noted that China and Denmark have maintained good cooperation on environment protection in the past years. Many successive Danish Environment Ministers visited China. The cooperation is very fruitful. The two Ministries renewed the cooperation agreement on environmental protection in 2007. The two parties shall actively implement the agreement and push forward the substantial cooperation in areas of common interest including the protection of drinking water and ground water, prevention and control of mercury pollution and environmental industry. Zhou expects the bilateral exchanges and cooperation will move to a new stage and embrace broader prospects.

Auken said she was very impressed by the marvelous achievement China has made in

environmental protection and its grand plan on environment protection for the 12th Five-Year Plan period. Denmark values its environmental cooperation with China and hopes to make greater progress in the new stage to make contributions to sustainable development of the two countries. (Sources: China Environment News)

Li Ganjie attends the International Forum on Biodiversity and Green Development

CCICED Secretary General and MEP Vice Minister Li Ganjie addressed the International Forum on Biodiversity and Green Development on September 13, 2012 in Beijing..

Li Ganjie pointed out that promoting the biodiversity conservation and achieving green development is an integral part of the exploration to a new path towards environmental protection with the aim to seek green development of biodiversity-friendly. This kind of green development must follow the law of nature, bring into full play of the multiple functions of the biodiversity in providing ecological products and services, speed up the green transformation both social and economical, and realize all-win situation from the perspective of economic, social and ecological benefits at community, national and global level.

Li stated that the Chinese government attaches great importance to biodiversity conservation. In June 2011, the State Council established China National Committee on Biodiversity Conservation to coordinate the biodiversity conservation at the national level and guide the implementation of China's Action Plan to Enforce UN Biodiversity 2011-2020 Strategic Plan. The legal system for biodiversity conservation has basically established and a set of major plans and programs including the China's Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity Conservation have been developed and implemented. We have gradually improved the coordination mechanism for biodiversity

conservation and the effect of in situ and ex situ conservation was remarkable. International cooperation on biodiversity conservation also advanced vigorously.

Li Ganjie stressed that green development is the latest efforts of human kind to address the challenges from the economic crisis, environment and resource crisis and ecological crisis. It is the harmonized coexistence of man and nature, environment and economical development, and human being and the society, and the sustainable development of low cost, good benefit and low emissions. Biodiversity conservation is the basis for achieving green development. A green development of biodiversity-friendly pattern shall be worked out to conserve biodiversity on the one hand and to improve the economic efficiency and promote the social equity on the other through mainstreamed biodiversity conservation activities, extensive international cooperation and effective actions. (Source: China Environment News)

Li Ganjie addresses the China — ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Forum

Secretary General of CCICED and MEP Vice Minister Li Ganjie addressed the China—ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Forum held on September 17-18, 2012.

In his speech, Li Ganjie pointed out that this Forum, themed “Biodiversity and Regional Green Development”, is of profound and far reaching significance to establish partnership in the ASEAN region via policy dialogue and experience sharing, improve the biodiversity conservation via joint efforts and achieve regional green development.

Li Ganjie said the Chinese Government attaches great importance to biodiversity conservation, vigorously encourages the construction of ecological civilization, and carried out biodiversity conservation activities across the country of all round and at all levels with remarkable achievements. China actively joined in the development of

international conventions including Bio-Safety Protocol and Nagoya Protocol, seriously enforced the Convention on Biological Diversity, and carried out a series and diversified cooperation with UNEP, UNDP, EU, GEF and other international institutions and partners. The cooperation has achieved practical results which were highly recognized by all parties and made active contributions to the biodiversity conservation in China.

Li Ganjie presented the following three suggestions to improve the China—ASEAN environmental cooperation: 1) Actively put into effect the initiatives proposed by the leaders, seriously implement the China—ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Strategy and bring the two sides forward to achieve new results in the field of environmental cooperation; 2) Continuously enrich the form and contents of the cooperation, actively explore innovative modes to improve the South-South cooperation and make positive contributions to the regional green development; 3) Strengthen personal exchange, experience sharing and research cooperation between the two sides in the field of biodiversity. (Source: China Environment News)

MEP Announces Reduction of Major Pollutants in 2011 across China

On September 7, 2012, MEP announced to the media the calculation and verification results of the total pollution reduction of major pollutants in 2011 of all provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities and the 8 state-owned enterprises. The results showed that the total discharge of COD, ammonia nitrogen and SO₂ emission of the whole country went down and the total NO_x emission went up compared to that of 2010.

MEP examined and checked the total discharge of major pollutants for each province, autonomous region and municipality as well as the 8 state-owned enterprises in 2011. The results showed that in 2011 in the perspective of the whole nation, the total COD discharge was 24.999 million t,

down by 2.04% compared with that of 2010; the total NH₃ emission was 2.604 million t, down by 1.52% compared with that of 2010; the total SO₂ emission was 22.179 million t, down by 2.21% compared with that of 2010; the total NO_x emission was 24.043 million t, up by 5.74% compared with that of 2010.

MEP praised Beijing, Shanghai, Zhejiang and Henan for that they lead the top 4 in terms of total pollutant emission reduction. Beijing's total discharge of COD, ammonia nitrogen, SO₂ and NO_x went down by 3.53%, 2.98%, 6.22% and 4.75% respectively compared with that of 2010. Shanghai's total discharge of COD, ammonia nitrogen, SO₂ and NO_x went down by 6.26%, 3.40%, 5.90% and 1.66% respectively compared with that of 2010.

In 2011, the country newly added 11 million tons of capacity of urban sewage treatment and increased 1.3 million tons of daily capacity in terms of the reuse of recycled water. The auto monitoring system established during the 11th Five-Year Plan period has been put fully into operation. Over 95% desulphurization facilities have been put into operation. The comprehensive desulphurization efficiency of thermal power plants has gone up from 68.7% to 73.2%. A total of 3.46 million kW capacity of small thermal power generating units have been shut down. Outdated production capacity including 7000 m² sintering machine, 7.1 million t of papermaking, 2.3 billion meters of printing and dyeing and 42 million t of

cement production has been phased out. A group of companies or production lines concerning heavy metal pollution were also shut down. (Source: www.gov.cn)

MEP plans to Establish National Environmental Account to Control Pollution Discharges from New Projects

It is reported on Sep. 26, 2012 that MEP will learn from the Ministry of Land and Resources on its management pattern of land indicators to introduce a system of national environmental account which is comparable to "indicator for advanced increment" under the category of "indicator for newly added land for construction". This will enable better connection between MEP and local governments in terms of approval of new projects. The policy will be executed nationwide in 2016.

The so called "environmental account" is to calculate, dismantle and assign accordingly the three binding targets of Total Pollution Discharges, Total Reductions and Advanced Increment of Discharges to governments of all levels, related departments and key polluting companies. These targets apply to four major pollutants including COD, SO₂, NH₃ and NO_x. This will enable the quantifiable management of invisible environmental resources. (Sources: Economic Information)

CCICED Activities

Xu Qinghua visits Environment Canada and CIDA

MEP Chief Engineer on Nuclear Safety and CCICED Vice Secretary General Xu Qinghua visited the headquarters of Environment Canada and CIDA on September 28, 2012 and discussed with Madam Jacovella, DG of the Department of Multilateral and Bilateral Affairs of Environment Canada and Mr. Nankivell, DG of Department of China and

Northeastern Asia Affairs of CIDA over China-Canada environment cooperation and CCICED related issues.

The two sides spoke highly of the China-Canada environmental cooperation, especially the China-Canada CCICED program in the past 20 years. The two sides reached common understanding in principle with regard to the management mechanism of CCICED projects, rules on fund use and related issues concerning CCICED

Secretariat and its International Supporting Office. Speaking of the operation on CCICED Phase V program, the two sides believed it's necessary to sign the bilateral agreement in due time.

On behalf of MEP Minister Zhou Shengxian, Xu Qinghua once again welcomed Mr. Kent, Minister of Environment Canada, to serve as the International Executive Vice Chairman of CCICED Phase V on behalf of Canadian Government and extend his invitation to Minister Kent to attend the CCICED 2012 AGM to be held in Beijing in November. Xu Qinghua said MEP Minister Zhou Shengxian is looking forward to meeting Minister Kent during the CCICED 2012 AGM when they could discuss relevant issues to advance the works of CCICED Phase V and China-Canada environmental cooperation.

The 4th Joint Meeting of CCICED Secretariat and Chief Advisors is held in Beijing

The 4th Joint Meeting of CCICED Secretariat and Chief Advisors was held in Beijing on September 10-11, 2012. CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor and Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering Shen Guofang and CCICED International Chief Advisor Dr. Hanson co-chaired the meeting. CCICED Assistant Secretary General, Head of the Chief Advisor Supporting Expert Group and Deputy DG of MEP Department of Human Resources Management Ren Yong, CCICED Assistant Secretary General and

Vice DG of MEP FECO Fang Li, Assistant of the CCICED Chief Advisors, CCICED Member and Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering Hao Jiming, and CCICED Member and Senior Advisor to Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong on Environmental and Sustainability Affairs Sarah Liao attended the meeting. More than 60 people including experts from domestic universities and research institutes, and representatives of embassies of some donating countries and offices of international organizations participated the meeting.

The meeting listened to the briefings of the CCICED Secretariat about the preparation of CCICED Phase V, Rio + 20 Summit and relevant arrangements for CCICED 2012 AGM, discussed the findings of five policy study projects including “Strategy and Policies on Environment and Development in West China”, “Task Force on Policy Mechanisms to Meet the Environment and Development Objectives set on the ‘12th Five-Year Plan’ ”, “Marine Environment Management System in China — A Case Study on Oil Spill in the Bohai Sea”, “Strategy and Countermeasures for the Transformation of the Development Mode in East China” and “Comprehensive Control System for Regional Air Quality” and put forward comments and suggestions over the existing problems.

The meeting focused its discussions on the main documents for CCICED 2012 AGM. It was decided that the 5th Joint Meeting of CCICED Secretariat and Chief Advisors will be held in mid October.

CCICED Policy Studies

The Inception Meeting of the CCICED Task Force on China's Environmental Protection and Social Development is held in Beijing

The Inception Meeting of the CCICED Task Force on China's Environmental

Protection and Social Development was held in Beijing on September 18, 2012. MEP Vice Minister and CCICED Secretary General Li Ganjie addressed the meeting. Deputy DG of MEP Department of Human Resources Management and Institutional Affairs and CCICED Assistant Secretary General Ren Yong chaired the meeting. More than 90

people including Vice Minister of the State Council Research Office Ning Jizhe, CCICED International Chief Advisor Mr. Hanson, Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering Hao Jiming, DG of MEP Department of International Cooperation and CCICED Vice Secretary General Tang Dingding, Deputy DG of MEP FECO and CCICED Assistant Secretary General Fang Li, experts of the Task Force from both domestic and international, leaders and experts of relevant departments of the State Council, CCICED international partners and representatives of the embassies of foreign countries attended the meeting.

In his speech, Li Ganjie pointed out that China is in a critical period for the transformation of economic and social development. Economic growth, social development and environmental protection are interdependent. The study on any of the above three areas must consider the influences on and connections with the other two. Therefore, the theme of “the Task Force on Environmental Protection and Social Development” concerns the big picture of China’s sustainable development and is a key subject of national strategic importance.

Li Ganjie put forward three suggestions for the Task Force: First, stand at the cutting edge of theoretical study and make achievements of international standard. Second, carry out comprehensive study taking into consideration of both the present and the future. Third, pay attention to the combination of theory with practice that can turn the research into practical results.

The Task Force on China’s Environmental Protection and Social Development was established upon the approval of CCICED 2011 Bureau Meeting. The aim of the Task Force is to put forward the overall thinking and institutional framework for China’s environmental protection and social development through theoretical study and international experience and make preparations for the future study of CCICED on the topics concerning the environment and social development. The Task Force will report its

research findings at CCICED 2013 AGM.

The State Council Research Office will lead the implementation of the Task Force from the Chinese side. Mr. Fan Bi, DDG of the General Department of the State Council Research Office will serve as the Chinese Co-chair and Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Chairperson of Canadian Academic Committee and former Executive Director of UNEP will serve as the International Co-chair.

A Discussion Meeting among the Chinese Members of the CCICED Task Force on Sustainable Consumption and Green Development is held in Beijing

A discussion meeting among the Chinese members of the CCICED Task Force on Sustainable Consumption and Green Development was held in Beijing on September 9, 2012. The meeting was chaired by Xu Qinghua, Chinese Co-chair of the Task Force, MEP Chief Engineer for Nuclear Safety and CCICED Vice Secretary General. DG of MEP Department of International Cooperation and CCICED Vice Secretary General Tang Dingding, Vice DG of MEP Department of Human Resources Management and Institutional Affairs and CCICED Assistant Secretary General Ren Yong, Vice DG of MEP FECO and CCICED Assistant Secretary General Fang Li attended the meeting. Over twenty participants attended the meeting including representatives from NDRC Academy of Macroeconomic Research, MOFCOM Research Academy, MEP Policy Research Center for Environment & Economy, MEP China-ASEAN Environment Cooperation Center and the CCICED Secretariat.

The meeting debriefed the general framework and research focus of the project proposal. Based on relevant research findings, the participating experts discussed the content of the proposal especially sustainable consumption related concepts (ideas), the scope of the study, and the development of industry-specific or

area-specific policies on the prerequisite that the priority areas of the sustainable consumption were identified.

The meeting assigned the study jobs to the task force members. It was required to delivering the outline of each subitem by September 15, 2012 so as to make preparation for the inception meeting scheduled on September 21~22, 2012.

According to the 2012 agenda of the Council, CCICED Task Force on Sustainable Consumption and Green Development shall commence its research work in 2012 and make final report with policy recommendations available to the 2013 AGM.

The inception meeting of the CCICED Task Force on Sustainable Consumption and Green Development is held in Beijing

The inception meeting of the CCICED Task Force on Sustainable Consumption and Green Development was held in Beijing on September 21-22, 2012. Chinese Co-chair of the Task Force, MEP Chief Engineer on Nuclear Safety and CCICED Vice Secretary General Xu Qinghua and International Co-chair of the Task Force and Director of UNEP/Wuppertal Collaboration Center for Sustainable Consumption and Production Michael Kuhndt jointly chaired the meeting.

CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering Shen Guofang, CCICED International Chief Advisor Dr. Hanson, CCICED Vice Secretary General and DG of MEP Department of International Cooperation Tang Dingding, CCICED Assistant Secretary General and Deputy DG of MEP Department of Human Resources Management Ren Yong and CCICED Assistant Secretary General and Vice DG of MEP FECO Fang Li attended the meeting. More than 90 people participated the meeting including experts of the Task Force from both domestic and overseas, leaders and experts of relevant departments of the

State Council and representatives from the Chinese offices of the CCICED international partners and donors.

The meeting reviewed the latest research findings on sustainable consumption and discussed the general framework of the research to be completed by the Task Force. Based on the discussions and the background of the Chinese and international experts, the meeting divided the research job and fixed the overall timeframe. According to the work plan, the second work meeting of the Task Force will be held on January 28-29, 2013.

Established upon the approval of the CCICED 2011 Bureau Meeting, the aim of the Task Force is to propose the development strategy for China's sustainable consumption and serve for the construction of resource-saving and environment-friendly society. According to the work plan, the Task Force will report its final findings at CCICED 2013 AGM.

The 4th work meeting of the CCICED Task Force on Policy Mechanisms to Meet the "12th Five-Year Plan" Environment and Development Objectives is held in Beijing

The 4th work meeting of the CCICED Task Force on Policy Mechanisms to Meet the "12th Five-Year Plan" Environment and Development Objectives was held in Beijing on September 21-22, 2012. Chinese Co-chair of the Task Force, Member of NPC Standing Committee, Vice Chairman of the Central Committee of Chinese Peasants and Workers Democratic Party and Vice Director of NPC Committee of Environment Protection and Resources Conservation Wang Jirong and International Co-chair of the Task Force, Vice President of Environmental Defense Fund and Member of CCICED Daniel Dudek jointly chaired the meeting. CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor and Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering Shen Guofang, CCICED Assistant Secretary General and Vice DG of

MEP FECO Fang Li attended the meeting. More than 60 people participated including representatives from NDRC, MEP, Development Research Center of the State Council, Chinese Academy for Environmental Planning, Tsinghua University, Environmental Defense Fund, Freie University Berlin, Canadian Government, GIZ and other related organizations.

The meeting listened to the report on relevant findings, report on the policy recommendations and special report on total amount control to facilitate the economic transformation. CCICED Chief Advisors and their supporting expert group, specially invited experts and representatives from relevant decision-making departments made comments and suggestions over the above reports.

The meeting decided that the Chinese and international experts of the Task Force shall revise and improve the report respectively based on their work assignment, and submit the report summary before September 30, 2012 and the final report before October 20, 2012.

Before the meeting, the organizer arranged a site visit to Gaobeidian Power Plant of Huaneng Group and Deqingyuan Chicken Farm.

The 3rd working meeting of the CCICED special policy study on “Environmental Strategy and Measures for the Transformation of the Development Mode in Eastern China” is held in Beijing

The 3rd working meeting of the CCICED special policy research program on “Environmental Strategy and Measures for the Transformation of the Development Mode in Eastern China” was held in Peking University on September 7-8. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Liao Xiudong, Chinese Co-chair of the program and CCICED Council Member. CCICED Chief Advisor Shen Guofang and Dr. Hanson, and DG of MEP Department of Pollution Prevention

and Control Zhao Hualin were present. Over 30 participants attended the meeting including representatives from Peking University, Hong Kong University, MEP Assessment Center of Environmental Engineering, Guangdong Province, Shanghai Municipality, and the CCICED Secretariat.

The meeting debriefed the outline, conclusions as well as policy recommendations of the research report. The participating experts focused their discussion on the economic development and environment protection in typical areas of the east part of China, e.g., developed provinces and municipalities like Shanghai and Guangdong and major regions as the Yangtze River delta region and Pearl River delta region. Suggestions were proposed to improve and refine the policy commendations giving by the report.

The meeting decided that the Chinese and international members of the study shall provide more relevant data and information; the report drafting team shall revise the report in accordance with the suggestions proposed by the meeting and deliver the final abstract report and the general report both in Chinese and English by the end of September and October 20, 2012, respectively.

The 4th meeting of the Chinese experts of the CCICED Special Policy Research on Marine Environment Management System in China—— A Case Study on Oil Spill in the Bohai Sea held in Beijing

The 4th work meeting of the Chinese experts of the CCICED Special Policy Research on Marine Environment Management System in China — A Case Study on Oil Spill in the Bohai Sea was held in Beijing on September 21, 2012. Chinese Co-chair of the research team and Executive Vice President of Beijing Normal University Prof. Shi Peijun chaired the meeting. CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor and Academician of Chinese Academy of

Engineering Shen Guofang, and CCICED Assistant Secretary General and Vice Director General of MEP FECO Fang Li attended the meeting.

The meeting listened to the briefings on the research findings, discussed the contents of project report and put forward comments and suggestions on the main contents and

conclusion of the report as well as policy recommendations. The meeting decided that the Chinese drafting group of the research report shall revise and improve the report. According to the plan, the Report Summary shall be submitted before September 30 and the Final report shall be submitted before October 20, 2012.

