



中国环境与发展国际合作委员会

China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development

CCICED UPDATE

2018 Issue 1

CCICED Activities

CCICED Dialogue on Gender Mainstreaming in Environment and Climate Change

CCICED Dialogue on Gender Mainstreaming in Environment and Climate Change was held on March 13, 2018, at Simon Fraser University (SFU), Vancouver, Canada.

Participants exchanged information on the latest policy progress and best practices globally on gender and environment, and shared views on how to better incorporate the gender dimension into the main policy research thematic areas for the CCICED during Phase VI.

The event was co-hosted by Mr. Guo Jing, CCICED

Deputy Secretary General and Director General of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China, and Ms. Lucie Desforges, Director General of Multilateral and Bilateral Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada. Attending the discussions were Dr. Arthur Hanson, CCICED International Chief Advisor as well as experts from international organizations, think tanks, and universities, such as UN Environment, World Resources Institute, SFU, and China Women's University.



CCICED meeting on green shipping



On Feb. 27 2018, CCICED held a meeting on green shipping, which focused on environmental monitoring, impact assessment and legal procedures in the event of large-scale oil spills.

Meeting participants explored cooperation and coordination mechanisms to address oil spills and discussed international experience and case studies. Participants also addressed technical issues, including environmental monitoring, formulation of environmental impact assessment plans, calculation of compensation for environmental damage, and legal practice.

Representatives and experts from government departments, Chinese and international universities, and American law firms attended this meeting.

CCICED SPS on “Global Ocean Governance and Ecological Civilization” stages meeting in Guangzhou



The first 2018 working meeting of CCICED SPS on “Global Ocean Governance and Ecological Civilization” was held from Feb. 2 to 5 in Guangzhou. This meeting was attended by Mr. Su Jilan, Chinese SPS co-chair and Academician at Chinese Academy of Science, and Mr. Jan Gunnar Winther, International co-chair and Director of Norwegian Polar Institute, Dr. Art Hanson, International Chief Advisor, representatives from CCICED Secretariat, members of SPS and supporting experts.

The co-chairs briefed participants on recent global developments in ocean governance and proposed these considerations be incorporated in the team's research. Team members discussed their most recent progress and considered next step as outlined in the workplan. More specific research areas to be undertaken by specific task teams include ocean resources and biodiversity, ocean pollution and green marine operation.



2018's First Chief Advisors-CCICED Secretariat Joint Working Meeting

The CCICED's first Chief Advisors-CCICED Secretariat Joint Working Meeting of 2018 took place on Feb. 1. On the agenda were discussions on the Council's research framework, specific research topics and working arrangements for the TF on Global Governance and Ecological Civilization and TF on Green Urbanization and Environmental Improvement. The date and theme for signature events as the Roundtable and the Annual General Meeting were also discussed.

Also present at the meeting were the manager of the EU's environment project and Canadian experts on gender mainstreaming. They provided information on support for CCICED research and activities and how to integrate gender equality considerations into CCICED policy research.



Scoping meeting on SPS of Global Biodiversity Conservation

The scoping meeting was held on Jan. 1, 2018 to discuss the research scope and go through key scientific and policy issues related to CBD COP 15.

Participants indicated that in 2020 when China hosts this COP, this represents a good opportunity to bring the 2030 biodiversity conservation goals and 2050 vision in line with the SDGs and China's "Two Centenary Goals". Participants agreed that CCICED leverage its position to focus on green finance, trade and investment, and the various coordination mechanisms of the convention.

MOU Between CCICED and ClientEarth Signed

China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) and ClientEarth signed a Memorandum of Understanding on January 26, 2018. The two parties have agreed to strengthen cooperation under the framework of CCICED Phase VI.

Ms. Fang Li, CCICED Assistant Secretary-General, signed the MoU on behalf of the CCICED Secretariat; Mr. Dimitri DeBoer represented ClientEarth.



Hot Topics

China to establish ministry of ecology and environment

China will establish a new ministry of ecology and environment to enhance environmental protection. This was part of the government's reform plan submitted to the national legislature for deliberation on Tuesday. The new ministry will replace the existing Ministry of Environmental Protection.

The new ministry will be charged with compiling and implementing China's policies on ecology and environment, plans and standards, as well as its system for monitoring and enforcement.

The new ministry will also regulate pollution control and nuclear and radiation safety, and organize environmental protection inspections by central authorities, according to the State Council's plan.

Over 260,000 organizations to pay environment tax starting April 1

Over 260,000 enterprises and other entities will start paying an environment tax in April, as China moves to protect the environment and cut pollutants, according to the country's top tax authority.

The Environmental Protection Tax Law took effect on Jan. 1, and taxpayers have to file for taxation each quarter. The environment tax will be imposed starting April 1 this year.

Under the Environmental Protection Tax Law, which targets enterprises and public institutions that discharge listed pollutants directly into the environment, companies will pay taxes for producing noise, air and water pollutants, as well as solid waste.

Individuals are not required to pay the tax as it is applicable only to enterprises, public institutions and other business operators.

This is China's first tax clearly designed for environmental protection, which will help establish a "green" financial and taxation system and promote pollution control and treatment of pollutants.

China issues over 20,000 pollutant emission permits

Chinese authorities have issued more than 20,000 pollutant emission permits as of the end of 2017, an official from the Ministry of Ecology and Environment said.

The permits were granted to companies nationwide in 15 sectors including steel, iron, and cement, said the ministry; China started reforming its permit system in 2016 to better protect the environment.

The ministry will continue improving legal standards and technologies supporting the emission permit system and formulate norms and standards for the application and approval of emission permits for major industries.

China's policy makers have listed fighting pollution as one of the country's "three tough battles" for the next three years, along with risk prevention and poverty alleviation.

China to appoint "lake chiefs" to control pollution

China will appoint "lake chiefs" to step up water pollution control as a similar approach adopted in 2016 to protect rivers has achieved satisfactory results.

Lake chiefs will be tasked with resource protection, pollution prevention and control, and environmental restoration in waters under their supervision. Their performance will be assessed and they will be held accountable for environmental damage.

China started to appoint river chiefs more than a year ago, and there some 200,000 officials are now playing this role.

The effect is clear. East China's Zhejiang Province has basically eliminated black waters and has declared it will deal with any water "below Grade V," the lowest acceptable level in China's water quality grading system.

Lake chiefs will address waters not covered by river chiefs.

