



UPDATE

CHINA-ASEAN ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION CENTER (CAEC)

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Issue 4

【ASEAN-China Cooperation Activities】

Inauguration of the China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center

The Inauguration of the China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center (CAEC) was held in Beijing, China, on 24 May 2011. The activity was organized by the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (MEP), in order to implement the leader's initiative on establishing CAEC and promoting environmental cooperation between ASEAN and China. Around 180 government officials and experts attended the inauguration, including representatives from ASEAN Secretariat, embassies of ASEAN Member States in China, international organizations such as UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO, ADB, WWF, and development partners such as SIDA, DFID, GIZ, as well as Chinese representatives from ministries such as Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (MEP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China (MFA), Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), and environmental departments from Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Yunnan Province.



As one focal point for environmental cooperation between China and ASEAN, CAEC provides technical support to the government agencies both in China and in ASEAN Member States for conducting policy dialogues on environment and development, developing and implementing environmental cooperation strategies and action plans, etc. The inauguration of the CAEC is of significance for both sides to deepen environmental cooperation.

Minister Zhou Shengxian Made Suggestions on Environmental Cooperation between ASEAN and China

On 24 May 2011, H.E. Mr. Zhou Shengxian, Minister of MEP attended the Inauguration of the CAEC and delivered a keynote speech entitled "Strengthen cooperation and achieve win-win situation — Developing the bridge for environmental protection cooperation". Minister Zhou Shengxian and Mr. Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN jointly unveiled the plate for CAEC.

In his speech, Minister Zhou Shengxian pointed out that facilitating harmony and integration of regional economy, society and environment and achieving regional sustainable development has been the theme of the dialogue and cooperation between China and ASEAN. Environmental protection cooperation became an important field in China-ASEAN cooperation. The bilateral dialogue has been deepened with continuous improvement of communication mechanisms and achievements.



Minister Zhou Shengxian stated that following the path of sustainable development is a firm option for China. In the future five years, China would center on the theme of scientific development and uplift ecological civilization, actively explore new path to environmental protection with Chinese characteristics and significantly improve eco-environment.

Minister Zhou Shengxian indicated that this year is the 20th anniversary of the establishment of dialogue relationship between China and ASEAN. The inauguration of CAEC is of great significance to deepening bilateral cooperation. He hoped that CAEC would give full play of its role as a window, bridge and platform and make contributions to China—ASEAN environmental cooperation. He put forward the following three suggestions on further promotion of China—ASEAN environmental cooperation: 1) Actively carry out "China-ASEAN Strategy on Environmental Protection Cooperation 2009~2015" and adopte China—ASEAN Action Plan for Environmental Cooperation as soon as possible to ensure sharing the benefits of bilateral cooperation. 2) Carry out "China—ASEAN Green Envoy Program". 3) Strengthen dialogue and cooperation on global and regional environmental issues and beef up our communications and cooperation in the areas such as climate change, conservation of biodiversity, POPs, illegal transboundary movement of hazardous waste, transportation of air pollutants and management of water environment.



Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN Attended the Inauguration of CAEC

On 24 May 2011, H.E. Dato' Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN attended the Inauguration of CAEC and delivered an address on behalf of the ASEAN Secretariat. Misran Karmain and Minister Zhou Shengxian jointly unveiled the plate for CAEC and visited the center.

DSG Misran Karmain conveyed the heartfelt congratulations of H.E. Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of ASEAN. He said that the establishment of CAEC following the adoption of the Strategy is considered as one significant milestone in the history of ASEAN-China cooperation on environment. On behalf of ASEAN countries, he acknowledged with gratitude the strong commitment shown by the Government of China, as well as its contribution in making the Centre possible in a speedy manner to ensure timely implementation of the Strategy. He further highlighted the significant role of CAEC in strengthening existing substantive collaboration between China and ASEAN and contributing to environmental sustainability in the region.

Vice-Minister Li Ganjie Stressed to Jointly Enhance Environmental Cooperation between China and ASEAN

On 24 May 2011, H.E. Mr. Li Ganjie, Vice Minister of MEP attended and chaired the Inauguration of CAEC. Li Ganjie pointed out that environmental cooperation had become an essential part of the China-ASEAN leader mechanism, dialogue on environment and development policy, as well as cooperation on environmental industry and biodiversity conservation had been continuously deepened. CAEC is an important organization which aims at promoting international cooperation in the field of environmental protection. Its inauguration has been highly appreciated by relevant parities from home and abroad.

Li Ganjie thanked the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat for their cooperation. He hoped CAEC contribute to the bilateral cooperation and regional sustainable development between China and ASEAN by playing a role as a window and as a platform, and expected China and ASEAN could future strengthen cooperation in the environmental field.



Assistant Foreign Minister Hu Zhengyue Attended the Inauguration of CAEC

On 24 May 2011, H.E. Mr. Hu Zhengyue, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of China (MFA) attended the Inauguration of CAEC and delivered a speech at the event. On behalf of the MFA, Hu Zhengyue expressed warm congratulations on the Inauguration of CAEC. He thanked the efforts of the MEP in implementing the Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's initiative on establishing the China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center. He expressed that the MFA would fully support the CAEC in the future.



Hu said that this year was the 20th anniversary of the establishment of China—ASEAN dialogue relationship. He stressed that environmental protection is one of the key areas of China-ASEAN cooperation. He hoped that the center could take advantage of the resources of all parties, bring its role into full play, and vigorously promote exchanges and cooperation in such fields as circular economy, environmental protection, and green development so as to bring China-ASEAN cooperation to a new high.

Vice-Minister Li Ganjie Met Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN

On 24 May 2011, H.E. Mr. Li Ganjie, Vice Minister of MEP met in Beijing H.E. Dato' Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN who attended the Inauguration of CAEC. They exchanged views on some on-going cooperation work, such as the ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Action Plan and ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum. Li Ganjie expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat in promoting environmental cooperation between ASEAN and China. He hoped that both sides could join hands, make full use of CAEC as an important platform, and contribute to the bilateral cooperation in the environmental field.



Exhibition on China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation

On 24 May 2011, Exhibition on China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation was held in Beijing. H.E. Mr. Zhou Shengxian, Minister of MEP, H.E. Mr. Li Ganjie, Vice Minister of MEP, H.E. Mr. Hu Zhengyue, Assistant Minister of MFA and H.E. Dato' Misran Karmain, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN visited the exhibition.



The exhibition was organized by the MEP and implemented by the CAEC. As one side event of the Inauguration of CAEC, the exhibition was held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of China—ASEAN

dialogue relationship and the implementation of the China—ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Strategy, as well as share information about the achievements and further promote China-ASEAN environmental cooperation.



17th Annual Meeting of the GMS Working Group on Environment

On 24 May 2011, The 17th Annual Meeting of the GMS WGE (WGE AM17) was held on 24-25 May 2011 in Siam Reap, Cambodia. Around 100 representatives attended the conference, including GMS WGE, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Environment operations Center (EOC), Foreign Ministry of Finland, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), UNEP, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), WWF, etc. MEP sent a delegation to attend the conference. The WGE AM17 carried out in-depth discussions on the first phase progress report of the Core Environment Program (CEP) and the framework document of the second phase of the CEP. The conference adopted “17th GMS WGE AM17 Resolution”.

【Information about CAEC】

Tang Dingding Attended International Symposium on Green Supply Chain Innovation

On 6 May 2011, Mr. Tang Dingding, Director General of CAEC attended International Symposium on Green Supply Chain Innovation in Shanghai. The meeting is hosted by China Council for International Cooperation On Environment and Development (CCICED), sponsored by Environmental Defense Fund and Shanghai Institute of Environmental Sciences, and co-organized by CAEC and China Environmental United Certification Center. Around 100 representatives from relevant governments departments, professional associations, research institutions and enterprises attended the meeting.



The symposium carried out in-depth discussion on related topics of Green Supply Chain. After the Symposium, Mr. Tang Dingding listened to the progresses of the sub-tasks of the project. During the symposium, Mr. Tang Dingding and Ms. Zhou Guomei, Deputy Director General of CAEC also attended the news conference of “Report of 2010 Shanghai World Expo Green Travel”.

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