



● CCICED ROUNDTABLE MEETING 2014

■ CCICED 2014 Roundtable Meeting Opens Successfully



On May 9-10, China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) 2014 Roundtable Meeting was held in Tianjin Binhai New Area. Mr. Li Ganjie, CCICED Secretary General, Vice Minister of MEP, and Mr. Cui Jindu, Executive

Deputy Mayor of Tianjin, attended the meeting and delivered speeches.

Mr. Li stated that China has entered into a critical stage for green transformation. To accomplish the national strategic targets of building Xiao Kang society and a beautiful China with ecological civilization by 2020, we must propel green transformation of the model, and change the status of economic advancement based on resources for markets and environment for development. In this process, green investment, trade and sustainable consumption patterns are not only important for sustainable development in the country, but also open up an effective way towards green development for the Asia-Pacific region.

CCICED 2014 Roundtable Meeting combined with the APEC High-Level Roundtable on Green Development. Under the theme of "Green Transformation and Institutional Innovation for Investment, Trade and Consumption", the Roundtable Meeting shared policy research outcomes of CCICED on investment, trade, environment, sustainable consumption, and corporate social responsibility, and discussed a series of ongoing policy research studies, such as Evaluation and Prospects for a Green Transition Process in China, Ecological Civilization

and Innovation of Environmental Management System, Good City Models under the Concept of Ecological Civilization, Institutional Innovation of Eco-Environmental Redlining, Performance Evaluation on the Action Plan of Air Pollution Prevention and Control and Regional Coordination Mechanism, and Green Accounting and Environmental Performance Evaluation.

Representatives from the Chinese and international sides all agreed that ecological civilization demands green transformation and institutional innovation, while green investment, green trade and sustainable consumption were important standpoints. CCICED's policy recommendations would play an important role in promoting the green transformation, such as building a green economy system for production, consumption, trade and investment, integrating sustainable consumption patterns into the construction of ecological civilization, identifying the dominant position of business in development and protection, and encouraging enterprises to fulfill environmental and social responsibilities.

The meeting has brought together more than 160 participants, including CCICED members, co-chairs of CCICED policy study projects, officials from the National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Commerce, State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission and agencies under the ministries, officials from provincial and municipal departments, international and domestic experts and scholars, representatives from the APEC, CCICED donors and partners, as well as representatives from well-known domestic enterprises and multinational corporations and the media.

Established in 1992 with the approval of the Chinese Government, CCICED is a high level non-profit international advisory body. The main tasks of CCICED are exchanging and disseminating international successful experience in the field of environment and development; studying key environment and development issues of China; providing forward-looking, strategic and early warning policy recommendations to State leaders and decision makers of all

levels in China. Held annually since 2008, the Roundtable serves to share CCICED's research findings and policy recommendations with central and local government authorities and the international community and facilitate the dissemination and application of the outcomes.

■ Highlights of the Views of Experts at the CCICED Roundtable Meeting 2014

1. Mr. Shen Guofang, CCICED Chinese Chief Advisor, Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE)

The concept of ecological civilization was included in the resolutions of the 27th session of the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) Governing Council. It indicates that the concept has been recognized internationally and become a new way to environmental protection. It is an enlightening contribution that China has made for global sustainable development.



2. Mr. Arthur Hanson, CCICED International Chief Advisor, Distinguished Fellow of International Institute for Sustainable Development, Canada



In conformity with the global trend of green development and with respect for the ecology, China should seek green growth and develop a green economy under the framework of ecological civilization, and explore the new road to environmental protection in green development.

3. Mr. Xu Qinghua, Deputy Secretary General of CCICED, Chinese Co-chair of CCICED Task Force

As a core component of China's green growth strategy, the priority policy of sustainable consumption can create many opportunities, including green urbanization, innovative business models, improving international competitiveness, and promoting social equity. It is recommended to incorporate sustainable consumption into the country's



political, economic and social development framework, promote institutional innovation for sustainable consumption within the ruling system and the whole society, and build partnerships with stakeholders.

4. Mr. John Forgach, CCICED Member, International Co-chair of CCICED Task Force, Chairman of the Board, ForestRE, UK



To achieve more sustainable development, consumption must be reduced by 75%. It requires us to change our current lifestyles, which may be not possible in many countries except China. New customers are expected to number three billion in the future. It is a good opportunity, but there must be new products, services and lifestyles in compliance with the requirements of sustainable development.

5. Ms. Hao Fanghua, Chinese Co-Chair of CCICED SPS on Environmental Responsibility and Green Development of Enterprise, Vice President of Beijing Normal University, Deputy Mayor of Wuhu, Anhui Province

Fulfilling corporate social responsibility is an important way to participate in community governance. Ecological civilization raises a higher requirement for corporate environmental performance. In the road towards green development, government regulation is a key factor to promote corporate social responsibility. Only through the concerted



efforts of business and the government can green development truly be realized. Therefore, the government, the public and enterprises should work together to promote green development.

6. Mr. Ren Yong, CCICED Assistant Secretary General, Leader of Chief Advisor Supporting Team, Deputy Director General of Department of Human Resources and Institutional Arrangement, Ministry of Environmental Protection



The new environmental law passed by the National People's Congress makes two breakthroughs. First, the day-based penalty is expected to change the issue of low violation cost and high compliance cost, an economic issue that has long plagued Chinese enterprises. Second, for the first time, the relevant provisions of the Criminal Law are directly introduced into environmental law, which is generally not allowed for the administrative law. The new environmental law provides that under certain circumstances, a person may be detained for 5-15 days for environmental violations. It will significantly encourage Chinese enterprises to fulfill their social responsibilities.

7. Mr. Dan J. Dudek, CCICED Member, Vice President of Environmental Defense Fund

At the macro level, China has made active efforts in economic rebalance and adjustment from an export-oriented economy to a domestic consumption-led one. This transformation means that sustainable consumption is a more daunting task. Meanwhile, China is also subject to the impact of new urbanization, and needs to converge and narrow the gap in regional development and the social gap between rich and poor. It is in this context that the exploration on the future direction is made.



8. Mr. Wang Xiaolu, Chinese Member of CCICED Task Force, Deputy Director of National Economic Research Institute, China Reform Foundation



China has replaced the U.S. as the world's largest energy consumer. It accounts for nearly 90% of the total fossil energy consumption, 2/3 of which is coal, primarily responsible for air pollution and GHG emissions. In addition, water pollution and soil pollution are also very serious. This is generally attributed to economic structural imbalance, manifested in over-investment, excessive consumption of energy and resources, and heavy reliance on coal. Behind these problems, environmental policies, laws and regulations are not fully in place, coupled with reliance on administrative means and inadequate application of economic instruments. To this end, it is recommended to reform the government performance

appraisal system, promote market-based energy and resource prices, improve the policies and regulations related to green transformation, expand public support and participation through strengthened education and publicity, and change development models in the comprehensive green reform.

9. Mr. Wang Yuqing, Chinese Co-Chair of CCICED Task Force, President of Chinese Society for Environmental Sciences

In the context of ecological civilization construction, the innovation of environmental protection system relates to the reform of national environmental governance system and the modernization of governance capacity. It is necessary to strengthen the studies on the theoretical framework and modern objectives of the environmental governance system, and to push ahead the reform of ecological and environmental protection management system. To this end, a clear general idea about system innovation and the research on environmental management strategic transformation are essential.



10. Mr. Li Xiaojiang, CCICED Member, Chinese Co-chair of CCICED Special Policy Study, President of Chinese Academy of Urban Planning and Design



In the process of new urbanization, urban and rural employment and population concentration are mainly driven by the service industry and small and micro businesses, which have a minor role in the China's economy and rarely receive attention and support. Urban development should not blindly pursue high standards of construction and management and should allow for low-cost and non-standard development. It is an important aspect of the efforts to promote modernization or urbanization healthily.

11. Mr. Derek Thompson, International Co-Chair of CCICED Special Policy Study, Former Deputy Minister of Environment, Lands and Park of BC Canada

It is first necessary to define Ecological Red Lining and the expected results, and in particular, explain the role of this mechanism in ecological compensation. Meanwhile, the focus should be put on management of land resources and through continuous improvement, the management system can act a more practical role in environmental protection.



12. Mr. He Kebin, Chinese Member of CCICED Special Policy Study, Dean of School of Environment at Tsinghua University



Addressing regional haze and fog is beyond the competence of a single city. Under the system of territorial management, a city may effectively reduce its pollution, but for regional pollution prevention and control, a regional coordination mechanism is necessary.

13. Mr. Wang Jinnan, Chinese Co-Chair of CCICED Special Policy Study, Vice President of Chinese Academy for Environmental Planning

Investment, trade and consumption are not only the troika to economic growth, but also the common sources of environmental problems. The government can have its judgment on which is more contributive and greener. The Action Plan for Air Pollution Prevention and Control already issued, as well as the Clean Water Action Plan and the Action Plan for Soil Pollution Prevention and Control to be introduced involve massive investments. It leaves us to consider whether these investments are green.

