
12/2010 - 21. Oktober 2010

Green China – Race to the Future

Chinese NGOs' Position Paper for 2010

United Nations Climate Change Conference in Tianjin¹

Climate change is the biggest challenge humanity has ever faced. With three more months left before the end of 2010, this first decade of the 21st Century has already been assured by scientists to be the hottest decade on record. Climate disasters are happening more frequently and are becoming more intense, threatening many of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals, such as "to end poverty and hunger", "health", "environmental sustainability".

Climate change is threatening China's economic and social development. China's mean temperature in the past five decades rose by 1.1 degrees Celsius, the fastest globally. In China's western regions, more than 80% of the glaciers are melting and retreating. The yields of China's main crops are projected to drop by about 37% in the second half of the 21st Century and water resources are becoming scarcer. This year alone, China has been hit by nationwide droughts, followed by floods.

Being one of the world's fastest-growing economies and the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter, in order to maintain its competitiveness and to provide real long-term benefits for its citizens, China will need to develop a green, sustainable, and low-carbon growth model and take effective

China is taking action

The National Leading Group to Address Climate Change, lead by China's Premier Wen Jiabao, has launched a series of policies to encourage circular economy, afforestation, and energy-saving industries. China has committed to reduce its intensity of carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP in 2020 by 40 to 45 percent compared with 2005 levels. It has also finished its 2nd National Assessment Report on Climate Change and has launched its national programme to adapt to cli-

mate change through capacity building in vulnerable regions and in disaster alert systems.

Chinese NGOs have started concrete activities to raise public awareness, to push for individual low-carbon lifestyles, to participate in the drafting and discussion of climate and energy policies, to monitor the implementation of relevant policies, and to provide solutions for people in poor and vulnerable areas.

Climate change is a global issue that requires global actions. Chinese NGOs call on the governments from all countries to take actions addressing climate change. These actions include:

1. Collective/cooperative actions:

Explore global low-carbon sustainable development pathways through equitable cooperation; improve energy structures and energy efficiency; ambitiously develop renewable energy such as solar and wind; increase funding for research and development as means of lowering the costs of low-carbon energy and creating more green jobs.

2. Care for people in vulnerable regions:

Reduce the impacts of climate change on people in vulnerable regions by actively improving poverty alleviation policies and enhancing agricultural investment policy, disaster alert and relieve systems and insurance policies; to empower people in such regions with strengthened capability and resources to adapt to climate changes.

3. Emission cuts started by high emitting communities:

Encourage low-carbon lifestyles in communities with high-carbon footprints through awareness raising, creating economic incentives, legislation, and technical innovation.

4. Transparency in data monitoring:

Improve data collection and monitoring/verification of greenhouse gas emissions data

¹ This paper was translated from the Chinese original by the Chinese NGOs signing this paper. 绿色中国，竞跑未来 – 中国公民社会致 2010 年天津联合国气候变化会议的立场书

through international cooperation and public engagement

5. Equitable policies and market incentives:

Create market incentives encouraging energy efficiency and emission reduction in enterprises; utilize market mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of emission reduction policies; social equity should be taken into consideration by these policies.

6. Integrity of environmental policies:

Prevent and lessen negative secondary social and environmental impacts caused by climate policies, market incentives, and technology development

Support civil society actions and monitoring:

Guarantee and encourage the involvement of the public and civil society in the making and imple-

mentation of climate policies; to empower the public, NGOs and youth to raise awareness, to educate, to build capacity, to innovate, and to participate in the political process.

China is currently the world's largest carbon emitter and it is also one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change threats. Chinese NGOs are calling on the Chinese government to play an active role as negotiator in pushing for a fair, ambitious, and binding climate deal. Chinese NGOs would like to see China strengthening its climate-related legislation and strategic research on mitigation and adaptation plans. History has provided China with a unique and valuable opportunity to play a leading role and leapfrog towards a low-carbon growth model in the race to a green future.

Chinese NGOs calls for Climate negotiations:

1. To prevent the worst case climate disasters, all governments must collectively set a long-term global goal, with respect to climate science, and address climate change under the framework of the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol. Developed countries must take their responsibility and take the lead in reducing greenhouse gases emissions required by the global climate target.
2. Developed countries must commit to reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions by 40% below the 1990 level by 2020. Most of the emission reduction must be executed domestically, with a clear capping on overseas reduction through market mechanisms.
3. With respect to the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities", developed countries must support developing countries in mitigation and adaptation through measures including financial support, technology transfer and capacity building. Developing countries must take active domestic actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and proactively set GHG emission control targets. Cooperation between and among developing countries should also be further encouraged.
4. The international society should work constructively together for a truly fair, just, and legally binding climate deal that will benefit under-developed countries and vulnerable communities. In order to address climate change, developed countries need to deliver their funding support commitments, guarantee additional, sufficient, and predictable financial support and technology transfer, and provide capacity building for developing countries, especially most vulnerable countries. This funding should be raised mainly from public funds, with market and private funds as complementary funds only.

签署机构(Organizations, signing this statement)

COP16 中国青年代表团 COP 16 YOUTH

北京绿十字 Green Cross

长垣县绿色未来环境保护协会 Green Future Environmental Protection Association in Changyuan County, Henan Province

道和环境与发展研究所 Institute for Environment and Development

东莞市环保志愿服务总队 Dongguan Volunteers Team of Environment Protection

福建省绿家园环境友好中心 FuJian Green Home Environment Friendly Center

甘肃绿驼铃环境发展中心 Green Camel Bell

杭州市生态文化协会 Hangzhou Eco-culture Association

华南自然会 South China Nature Association

淮河卫士 Huai River Water Liuing Circumstance Scientific Researching Center

佳木斯市科教文可持续发展协会 Jiamusi association for sustainable Education, Science and Culture

江西青年环境交流中心 Jiangxi Youth Environmental Exchange Centre

乐施会 Oxfam

丽江环境保护志愿者协会 LiJiang Environment Protection Volunteers Association

丽江绿色教育中心 Lijiang Green Education Center

联合国学院（UIC）环境与发展中心 UIC Environment and Development center

绿家园志愿者 Green Earth Volunteers

绿色北京 Green Beijing

绿色大学生论坛 Green Student Forum

绿色汉江 Green Han River

绿色和平 Greenpeace

绿色和谐使者 Green Hotel Angel

绿色龙江 Green Longjiang

绿色潇湘环境发展中心 Green Hunan Association

绿色浙江 Green Zhejiang

NRDC（美国自然资源保护委员会）中国项目 NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council) China Program

内蒙古土默川环保志愿者工作组 Tumochuan Volunteers Team of Environment Protection in Inner Mongolia

南京绿石环境行动网络 Green Stone

能源与交通创新中心 Innovation Center for Energy and Transportation (iCET)

宁夏扶贫与环境改造中心 Ningxia Center of Environment and Poverty Alleviation

帕帕（PAPA）工作室 PAPA studio

盘锦市黑嘴鸥保护协会 Saunders Gull Conservation Society of Panjin City

莆田绿萌滨海湿地研究中心 Putian Green Sprout Coastal Wetlands Research Center

前进工作室 Forward Works

全球环境研究所 Global Environmental Institute

山水自然保护中心 Shanshui Conservation Center

陕西省农村妇女科技服务中心 Sci-tech Service Centre for Rural Women in Shanxi Province

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天津新视界教育发展研究所 Tianjin New View Education and Development Institute

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岳阳市湿地环保促进会 Association For Wetland Conservation
云南生态网 Yunnan EcoNetwork
云南昭通黑颈鹤保护志愿者协会 Zhaotong Volunteers Association to Protect Black-necked
Cranes
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中国国际民间组织合作促进会 China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO)
中国红树林保育联盟 China Mangrove Conservation Network
中国志愿者保护藏羚羊协会 China Volunteer Association on Protection for Tibetan Antelope
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Herausgeber: Asienstiftung für das EU-China-Civil-Society Forum.

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Das Projekt „EU-China: zivilgesellschaftliche Partnerschaft für soziale und ökologische Gerechtigkeit“ wird von der Europäischen Union gefördert. Die vom Projekt vertretenen Positionen können in keiner Weise als Standpunkte der Europäischen Union angesehen werden.