

CCICED 2009 Progress Report

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The year 2009 was a year of challenges. The impact of international financial crisis on the world economy will inevitably bring uncertainty to global sustainable development. To tackle the crisis, the Chinese Government issued an economic stimulus package, and considered energy saving, emission reduction, and ecological development as important components of economic growth. The adjustment of key national policies on environment and development has been significantly accelerated.

2009 was a particularly active year for CCICED, while CCICED carried out its work under the background of the international financial crisis. With the support of the Chinese Government, CCICED has strengthened communications and cooperation with major domestic and international partners. The work plan approved by the Council's bureau meeting has been successfully carried out, and has achieved its anticipated objectives.

The operation of the Council has enjoyed continued attention and strong support from Chinese and international stakeholders in 2009. When meeting with the international Council Members during the CCICED 2008 Annual General Meeting, Premier Wen Jiabao clearly indicated that he expected CCICED to continue to operate in the future and witness progress China's efforts on the environmental front. Mr. Li Keqiang, CCICED Chairperson and Vice Premier of the State Council, when addressing the CCICED 2008 AGM, expressed his appreciation of the contribution CCICED has made since its establishment and set higher expectations from the Council.

As the hosting department of CCICED, MEP has strengthened its leadership and support to the CCICED Secretariat, and the Secretariat has improved its capacity. Relevant departments of the Chinese Government such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NDRC, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Commerce have attached great

importance to CCICED and supported the work of the Council in various ways.

CCICED activities have also received high attention and strong support from international communities and partners, not only in terms of financial support, but also through the sharing of ideas and experience. CCICED partners was further extended to include countries, international institutions, NGOs and transnational corporations as Canada, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Britain, Japan, the Netherlands, Italy, Australia, France, Denmark, EU, UNEP, UNDP, WWF, US Environmental Defense, Rockefeller Brothers Fund and Shell Company. CCICED has developed a wider partnership with expanded influence over the past year.

A summary of progress in main areas of the Council's work in 2009 is as follows.

I. Contributions of Chinese and International Members

Both Chinese and International Members have actively taken part in relevant activities of CCICED and made important contributions to the formulation of policy recommendations to the Chinese Government since the inception of CCICED Phase IV. Their engagement has been crucial in the promotion and the expansion of the Council's influence, and in realizing the Council's achievements.

Both Chinese and International Council Members have made significant contributions to the Council's research activities. More than 10 Chinese and International Council Members have served as co-chairs or members of task forces, investing large amounts of time and resources and contributing their insights and wisdom in policy research work. Members have also taken part in major activities organized by CCICED. For example, the 2009 CCICED Roundtable Meeting, with Council Members' support, was very successful in disseminating the Council's policy research findings. In addition, the Roundtable Meeting has also played an advisory role by putting forward policy recommendations to the Chinese Government on adjustments to environment and development policy while facing of the international financial crisis. This attracted the attention of relevant departments of the central government.

II. Policy Research

Policy research forms the basis for the Council's policy consultation and

dialogues. Council Members and experts have made significant contributions to policy research over the past year. Overcoming various cultural and language difficulties, Chinese and international experts have held numerous workshops and work meetings in China and abroad and improved mutual understanding and cooperation through communications and cooperation. Great attention was paid to the combination of international experience and practice with the situation in China, which helped a lot for the smooth implementation of CCICED's research work.

Meanwhile, CCICED policy research has attracted the attention of relevant donors and partners, whose support and direct participation has played an important role. 2009 policy research focused on various relevant aspects of the relationship of energy, environment, and development and was highly relevant to the adjustment of Chinese relevant national policies. Some mid-term findings and primary recommendations are well received by relevant government departments.

The following CCICED policy research projects completed their work in 2009:

- 1. Task Force on Pathways towards a Low Carbon Economy in China**
(2008-2009)
- 2. Task Force on Economic Instruments for Energy Efficiency and Environment**
(2008-2009)
- 3. Task Force on Energy Efficiency and Urban Development (2008-2009)**
- 4. Task Force on Rural Development and its Energy, Environment and Climate Change Adaptation Policy (2008-2009)**
- 5. Task Force on Sustainable Use of Coal and Pollution Control Policy in China (2008-2009)**

The above five Task Forces will report their findings at the 2009 AGM.

- 6. Case Study on Energy and Environment Management: Promoting Urban Low Carbon Development. (A written report will be submitted to the 2009 AGM)**
- 7. China—India Joint Research Program on Environment and Development Policy. (Study report will be released during the 2009 AGM)**

In addition, the following study programs were launched in 2009:

8. Task Force on Ecosystem Service and Management Strategy (2009-2010)
9. Task Force on Ecosystem Issues and Policy Options Addressing Sustainable Development of China's Ocean and Coast (2009-2010).

The above two Task Forces will submit their reports to the 2010 AGM.

10. CCICED China Environment and Development Outlook Program (2009-2011). The program will officially start its work at the end of 2009, and will submit and publish its report at the 2011 AGM.

III. CCICED 2009 Roundtable Meeting

The CCICED 2009 Roundtable Meeting was held in Beijing on April 16-17 with the theme "Green Development: Opportunities for China in Times of Economic Challenge". Council Members, representatives and experts from relevant departments of the State Council and Chinese and international institutes, senior officials of local governments, representatives of foreign embassies and international organizations, as well as Chinese and international enterprises attended the meeting. Participants carried out in-depth discussions on topics addressing the challenge of economic downturn for environment and development, policy options for green development, green technological innovation, and the policy recommendations of CCICED's 2008 AGM.

In response to the international financial crisis, the Roundtable Meeting put forward the following broad policy recommendations on how China should strengthen the adjustment of policies on environment and development during the current economic recovery: 1) To seize the opportunity to adjust the economic growth mode and further facilitate green development and green economy; 2) To address the international financial crisis and climate change challenge and achieve green recovery at the same time, in an integrated fashion; 3) To develop a national plan for the development of environmental protection and energy-saving industries; launch a national program for environmental science and technology innovation; 4) To vigorously promote an environmentally-friendly energy technology revolution; 5) and To mainstream the green development concept in the "12th Five-Year Plan" or strategic development plan for a longer period of time. These policy recommendations have been submitted to relevant departments of the central government and attracted

their attention.

IV. Dissemination of CCICED Achievements

In order to expand CCICED's influence and share its research findings, the Secretariat, with the support of the International Support Office, has developed a special publicity plan and got it implemented, which has had positive outcomes.

- CCICED's 2009 Roundtable Meeting was successful in disseminating the Council's policy recommendations and findings to a wide audience.

- CCICED publications have been made available to the public and relevant government departments. These include the Proceedings of the CCICED 2008 Annual General Meeting, the CCICED Annual Policy Report for 2008, Report of CCICED 2009 Roundtable Meeting, and CCICED Special Policy Reports.

- Communication and cooperation at home and abroad have been strengthened and expanded. Through information sharing and regular CCICED Updates (e-bulletins on CCICED's work), CCICED has established closer relations with Chinese and international partners and attracted increased understanding and support.

- With the launching of the China—India Joint Study Program on Environment and Development Policy, CCICED tried the communications with other developing countries to develop 'south-south' cooperation within the framework of CCICED ;

- The dissemination of CCICED achievements using multi-media channels has been strengthened through the newly designed CCICED website (in both Chinese and English). CCICED broadcast its AGM and Roundtable Meeting live on-line. This attracted favorable feedback.

V. CCICED Operation and Management

Under the leadership of the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General, the CCICED Secretariat and its International Support Office and the Chief Advisors and supporting expert team enjoyed a year of smooth operations in 2009. The routine operations and management of CCICED has become increasingly standardized.

Secretariat and its International Support Office

Principal activities of the Secretariat and its International Support Office over the past year include but are not limited to the following:

- Coordinate and administrate of CCICED policy research work and provide active support and assistance during the establishment and operation of policy research task forces. The CCICED Secretariat took part in 37 task force meetings and activities in 2009 and provided on-going support during the development of each research project.

- The Secretariat maintained and strengthened contacts and communications with Chinese and International Council Members, listened to and adopted their suggestions on CCICED's work, shared relevant information in a timely fashion, invited Members to take part in relevant CCICED activities, and provided a range of services for Members during these activities.

- The Secretariat kept close contact with donors and cooperation partners, gradually expanded its network of partners at home and abroad, and strengthened its contacts with other government departments, enterprises, and local governments.

- The Secretariat planned, organized and convened such major activities as the AGM and the Roundtable Meeting and has continuously sought to improve its organizational and administrative performance.

- The Secretariat has further enhanced and standardized the management of financial contributions from donors and provided financial support to policy research and other activities.

- The Secretariat held the CCICED Workshop on Gender Equality in Environment and Development to promote CCICED's gender strategy. It has also played an important role in facilitating women's participation in the implementation of CCICED projects and policy research.

Chief Advisors

The Chinese and International Chief Advisors performed a very valuable role during the past year. Prominent among their many duties is to provide the Secretary General with recommendations on the work of CCICED, including policy research. They have played a key role in the successful implementation of policy research and the operation of CCICED. The work of Chief Advisors and their supporting group includes but is not limited to the following:

- Play a key role of providing comprehensive comments and suggestions to the

Secretary General on the establishment of CCICED Task Forces and other policy research programs;

- Conducted quarterly Chief Advisors and Secretariat Joint Meetings and monthly Chinese Chief Advisor and its supporting team meetings, to closely coordinate their work with the Secretariat and to ensure the smooth and effective operation of the Council's Task Forces;
- Provide scientific guidance for and assistance to the implementation of research by task forces and encourage effective communications among all task forces;
- Prepare the draft of CCICED Policy Recommendations and the Issues Paper to incorporate research findings for AGMs ;
- Draft the annual Report on the Review of China's Policy Development on Environment and Development, and tracking and assessing the influence of CCICED policy recommendations.

Annex: 2009 Financial Report of CCICED