

## Greetings

### Greetings from Secretariat

We staffs of CCICED's Secretariat would like to take the opportunity of the inaugural launch of this newsletter, named CCICED Update, to express our sincere greetings to all the friends who have been supporting CCICED. It's our hope that this newsletter could act as a bridge to provide necessary information for CCICED council members and experts both home and abroad, donor governments and NGOs, and other related international organizations, and let more people understand CCICED's important and significant works.

**Secretariat of CCICED**

## Top News

### New Council Members of CCICED

Under the rules of CCICED and the approval of the Bureau, SEPA (State Environmental Protection Administration) Minister and Executive Vice Chairman of CCICED Mr. Xie Zhenhua formally invited Norway's Minister of Trade and Industry Mr. Borge Brend and the Vice President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences Mr. Li Jiayang to assume the position of CCICED Phase III Council Members.

### Mr. Måns Lönnroth joined Lead Experts Group meeting in Beijing

From January 14 to 15, Vice Chairman of CCICED Mr. Måns Lönnroth from Sweden was visiting Beijing, where he joined the first meeting of Lead Experts Group in 2005. During the meeting, Mr. Lönnroth met with Mr. Zhu Guangyao, Vice Minister of SEPA and Secretary General of CCICED, and exchanged views on the works of CCICED.

### Mr. Zhu Guangyao met with Lead Experts



In January and April, Vice Minister of SEPA and Secretary General of CCICED Mr. Zhu Guangyao, together with Mr. Xu Qinghua, Director General of SEPA's Department of International Cooperation and Deputy Secretary General of CCICED and Prof. Earl Drake, the Director of CCICED Secretariat Canadian Office, held respective meetings with Chinese Lead Expert Prof. Shen Guofang and international Lead Expert Dr. Arthur Hanson, who were taking part in the first two Lead Expert Meetings of this year in Beijing.

## Lead Experts Group

### Lead Experts Group held first two working meetings of this year

This year's first working meeting of the Lead Experts Group was held in Beijing from January 14 to 15. CCICED's Chinese Lead Expert Prof. Shen Guofang and international Lead Expert Dr. Arthur Hanson both attended the meeting. Participants of the meeting discussed the Lead Experts' working plans and were briefed by Chinese Co-Chairs of the Task Forces that

are submitting working reports to this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM). The meeting also made recommendations to the Bureau on issues such as the progress of ongoing tasks, CCICED Annual Meeting 2005, new task forces setting and the tentative plan of CCICED AGM 2006.

During April 3 to 5, the Lead Experts Group met again in Beijing and was joined by staffs from the Secretariat of CCICED and its Canadian Office. The meeting reviewed the works of Lead Experts from January and debriefed the progress of each Task Force before deciding the deadline for them to submit reports. Participants of the meeting also discussed the focus topics and main keynote speakers for this year's AGM and details about the setting up of the 5th new Task Force in 2006. Lead Experts have approved the meeting's outcomes and decided to hold the third working meeting in Beijing at the beginning of July.



## The Secretariat Activities

### Secretariat Held Briefing Reception

On March 31, CCICED's Secretariat held its first Briefing Reception of this year in Beijing Kempinski Hotel to brief and ask advice of the donor governments and organizations on CCICED's recent progress and its main plans in 2005. Invited to the reception were delegates from foreign delegations in China, such as Canada, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, German, UK, Italy and Holland's embassies in China, Delegation of the European Commission to China, United Nations Environment Program China Office, Britain's Department for International Development (DFID) China, German Development Cooperation (GTZ), Sino-Italian Cooperation Program for Environmental Protection, and Shell China Limited. Deputy Secretary General Mr. Xu Qinghua attended the reception and introduced CCICED's progress to the guests.



Foreign delegates showed great interests in the timely information briefing by the Secretariat and sang high praise for this form of information exchanging, which they said could largely promote their government's understanding and support of CCICED's works. They also expressed their expectation that the Secretariat keep them well informed of CCICED's future works through all methods.

## Progress on Task Forces

### Environmental and Natural Resources Pricing and Taxation

The TF on Environmental and Natural Resources Pricing and Taxation, which is to report to the AGM this year, has made following progress since the beginning of this year. In early January, the Chinese co-chair Mr. Ma Zhong paid a visit to the Department of Regional Economy of NDRC to exchange views on how to achieve multi-purpose of regional development, poverty alleviation together with environmental and natural resources protection. On January 8, International Co-chair Professor Jeremy Warford arrived in Beijing to review the progress of all components under the TF.

During March 11 to 17, the TF held a working meeting in Hong Kong to discuss the first draft

of executive summary and consult with Hong Kong Special Administrative Government on Environment Fiscal and Pricing System.

In the first quarter of this year, members of this TF have held respective field trips to Tongzhou, Yanqing and Miyun in suburb Beijing, Tianzhu in Guizhou Province and the Sanjiang Region.

### **Sustainable Transportation**

The TF on Sustainable Transportation will also report to the AGM this year and its progress in the first quarter is as follow:

During January 9 to 11, a delegation of the TF was in Washington DC, USA, to attend the 84th Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. During the meeting, the delegation discussed the existing problems of China's transportation sustainable development and international experiences with experts participating the meeting. On January 14, the delegation visited US Department of Transportation, and held a meeting with their American counterparts to discuss issues such as integrated transport planning, transportation environment, transportation safety, intelligent transportation system and urban transport.

In February, experts of the TF attended the Conference on Sustainable Transportation in Developing Countries in Abu Dhabi, UAE. In the same month, the Chinese Experts Meeting of the TF was held in Beijing to discuss issues on institutional innovations of comprehensive transportation, fuel tax and public transport policies.

In June, the TF will hold an international forum to review the primary research achievements and explore international experience. In July, the 3rd TF working meeting will be held in Beijing to discuss the final draft of policy recommendations.

### **Sustainable Urbanization Strategy**

The TF on Sustainable Urbanization Strategy will also report to the AGM this year and has achieved following first-quarter progress:

The kick-off meeting was held in Sweden to discuss the work plan from January 4 to 5. During March 3 to 6, the 2nd working meeting was held in Beijing to identify the key scope of the research and its final work plan. It's decoded that the study area will cover Beijing-Tianjin-northern Hebei Province area. The policy recommendation should be drawn from the case study findings by using 4 different scenarios as a hub.

The TF will hold its 3rd working meeting in Beijing in June.

## **Meeting and Events**

- The Task Force on Circular Economy is to hold a working meeting in Beijing during April 24 to 25.
- CCICED Deputy Secretary General Mr. Xu Qinghua is to visit CIDA's Headquarter in Canada on April 27 and will have informal meetings with CIDA officials to discuss the works of CCICED.
- A delegation of CCICED's Secretariat is to visit Norway and Swede during May 11 to 17 and will meet with officials from related government departments to introduce the CCICED's progress.
- On May 13, the TF on Environmental and Natural Resources Pricing and Taxation will hold a workshop in Peking University, to collect opinions and advices for the research.