

THE CLIMATE INITIATIVE

China intensifies efforts to cut emissions







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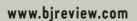
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Anti-Ebola efforts paying off



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EDITOR'S DESK

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The World's Responsibility

From December 1-12, Peru's capital Lima plays host to the 2014 UN Climate Change Conference. The conference takes place juxtaposed with a series of side events on climate issues hosted by the Chinese delegation. During these events, China tries to demonstrate the efforts the government, business and academic communities, non-governmental organizations and Chinese youth have made in combating the detrimental effects of climate change.

Though Chinese economic growth has slowed in the past two years, the Chinese Government has not relaxed its efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

While promoting carbon emission reduction domestically, China has helped advance international efforts to cope with climate change. On November 12, China and the United States issued a joint statement on collaboratively dealing with climate change. Also, according to official statistics, China has contributed a total of about 270 million yuan (\$44 million) to help other developing countries combat climate change since 2011. At the UN Climate Summit on September 23 this vear, Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli announced that China would set up a South-South cooperation fund on climate change.

China has become a big emitter of greenhouse gases only in the last three decades due to its rapid industrial growth. The climate peril the human race faces

right now is not simply an outcome of the industrial growth of developing countries. Instead, the menace has been constantly building up since the onset of industrialization—a process that has lasted for more than two centuries.

At present, international negotiations for combating global climate change remain a difficult task. The principal problem is still the burden shared in coping with climate change. Though the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change has recognized the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities," developed and developing countries still have differences of opinion on how to allocate obligations.

Tackling climate change is mankind's issue; thus, it requires all parties to show a just and responsible attitude. First-world countries have achieved development with free emission space during their industrial processes. Developing countries also need such space for development. Therefore, developed countries should take the lead in assuming emission reduction obligations and provide developing countries with financial and technological support. In the meantime, developing countries are expected to promote sustainable development with concrete and active measures.

Only in the spirit of fairness and shared responsibility can the international community create a viable solution to global climate change. ■

WRITETOUS



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REVERBERATIONS

Students take a break outside makeshift school rooms in a village in earthquake-hit Kangding County, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on November 23.

A 6.3-magnitude earthquake hit Kangding, a region with a predominantly Tibetan population, on November 22, followed by a second 5.8-magnitude quake that hit the same area three days later. As of November 26, the two quakes had killed five and injured 76.

The Central Government has allocated a relief fund of 50 million yuan (\$8.14 million) to Kangding. Rescuers have set up more than 1,800 tents as temporary shelters for quake victims. Quilts and blankets have also been distributed.

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Lights Back On

Students cheer after a volunteer of the Light Up Yushu project turned on lights at Xiasulu Primary Boarding School in Xiasulu Village under Xialaxiu Township, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Yushu, Qinghai Province, on November 22. Located in the Xiasulu Village with an altitude of over 4,100 meters, 21 boarders, 40 externs and two teachers of the school had suffered from power failure since 2013 due to the malfunction of a solar power equipment.

A commonwealth project named Light Up Yushu initiated by zjol.com and Zhejiang Electric Power Corporation helped the school bring electricity back on.

Pollution Law

China's State Council on November 26 passed an amended draft air pollution prevention and control law, which emphasizes addressing the sources, total discharge and density of pollutants.

The amended draft specifies punishment for violations such as discharging pollutants without a certificate, over-discharging pollutants and fabricating monitoring data, according to the draft discussed at an executive meeting of the State Council, presided over by Premier Li Keqiang.

The amended draft has provisions on conducting coordinated control of multiple pollutants from coal burning, industry, automobiles and dust, as well as launching coordinated regional actions in key areas.

The draft will be submitted to the Standing Committee of the National

People's Congress for deliberation after further amendments.

Family Abuse Law

The Chinese Government is consulting the public on a draft of a national law on family violence, the first law of its kind in the country.

The draft gives social organizations and individuals the right to dissuade, prevent and report physical and psychological abuse from within the victims' family. Governments at all levels will allocate funds to combat family violence, according to the draft, published by the legislative affairs office of the State Council.

According to the draft, social aid organizations, primary and middle schools, kindergarten classrooms and medical institutions must report to authorities cases of family abuse and

HELLO LEOPARD

Image of the rare snow leopard is captured in a remote nature reserve in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, researchers said on November 26. This is the first time researchers with the Xinjiang Lop Nur Wild Camel National Nature Reserve have managed to obtain photographic evidence of the endangered animal



could bear legal liabilities should they fail to do so in a timely manner, resulting in "serious consequences."

The law states that government, judicial and other related authorities must provide medical treatment, legal aid and judicial assistance to family abuse victims and should protect the victims' rights in terms of property division and child custody should domestic violence lead to divorce.

According to the office, members of the public can voice their comments on the proposal until December 25.

Lottery Sales

China's lottery sales in October hit 32.7 billion yuan (\$5.34 billion), up 20.3 percent year on year, the Ministry of Finance said on November 27.

Welfare lottery sales reached 17.75 billion yuan (\$2.81 billion), up 14.5 percent year on year. Sports lottery sales rose 27.9 percent year on year to 14.95 billion yuan (\$2.37 billion).

In the first 10 months of 2014, total lottery sales stood at 312.11 billion yuan (\$51.13), up 24 percent from a year earlier.

Under China's lottery management rules, proceeds from lottery ticket sales cover administrative fees and public welfare projects as well as the jackpot.

Last year, total lottery sales topped 309 billion yuan (\$49), up 18.3 percent year on year, ministry data shows.

Bilingual Teachers

China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region plans to train 16,500 teachers to teach in the local dialect and Mandarin.

Ma Wenhua, deputy head of the Xinjiang education department, said on November 27 that 254 million yuan (\$41.48 million) would be channeled into the project from 2013 to 2018, in an effort to make up for the shortage of bilingual teachers in the region.

The initiative will target ethnic minority teachers under the age of 35, he said. By the end of 2013, 21,800 ethnic minority teachers in the region had received government-funded bilingual training.

The local government aims to enroll about 75 percent of ethnic minority students in bilingual education by 2015

and more than 90 percent by 2020.

Free Visit

The Palace Museum in Beijing will waive the entry fee for certain residents, it announced on November 24.

Chinese teachers, students, soldiers, police, medical staff and volunteers will be able to visit the museum for free on the first Wednesday of each month from December 2014 to April 2015.

The initiative aims to foster interest from these key groups of society in the popular ancient Chinese palace during the museum's quieter months, while at the same time reducing the hordes of tourists during high season.

Those eligible must make reservation online 10 days before their visit.

Adult tickets for the museum cost about 60 yuan (\$9.78).

Underground Water

Beijing will gradually shut down 6,900 urban wells in the next five years to protect groundwater and improve drinking water quality.

Aging of facilities and poor management mean that the quality of water from wells cannot be guaranteed in some areas, resulting in a steady stream of complaints from citizens, said Zhang Ping, deputy head of the Beijing water authority.

The middle route of the gigantic south-to-north water diversion project will soon come on stream, bringing 1 billion cubic meters to Beijing each year from a reservoir on the Hanjiang River, which may lead to possible closure of the wells.

"The wells provide 240 million cubic meters of water annually, one fourth of Beijing's urban supply."

Zhang Ping, deputy head of the Beijing Water Authority





Bon Voyage

China's deep-diving manned submersible *Jiaolong*, inside its carrier *Xiangyanghong-9*, leaves Jiangyin Port in east China's coastal Jiangsu Province on November 25 on its maiden scientific expedition to the southwest Indian Ocean.

Since 1999, Beijing has used too much groundwater—about 6.5 billion cubic meters too much. Long-term overexploitation has led to environmental problems like subsidence. The water table in parts of Beijing has dropped 12.8 meters since 1998, and more than 1,300 square km of land has subsided over 50 centimeters.

Football Training

China's education minister Yuan Guiren said on November 26 that football will be factored in when forming a comprehensive quality assessment of students, adding that schools will keep a record on students' football skills.

Addressing a national conference on promoting football in schools, Yuan said the ministry will inspect schools' efforts on football education.

Football will also become a compulsory part of physical education classes to provide more chances for students to play football, said Yuan.

The ministry will also help set up more football academies. The goal is to have about 20,000 primary and middle schools that focus on the promotion of football by 2017, said the minister.

The ministry also plans to train as many as 6,000 football teachers in 2015.

Secret of Orchid

Scientists from seven institutes in China and abroad have completed the world's first whole genome sequencing of an endangered species of orchid in a historic research initiated by a Shenzhen institute.

The work is expected to be put to bio-pharmaceutical use in two years. Medicines developed from knowledge about the genome of the orchid, *phalaenopsis equestris*, are expected to improve immunity and slow the aging process, among other efficacies.

The research results of the whole genome sequencing of *phalaenopsis equestris*, an important parental species for orchid breeding, were published on November 25 by *Nature Genetics*.



THIS WEEK ECONOMY

Internet Finance

China will continue to support the development of Internet finance amid moderate government regulation, Pan Gongsheng, Vice Governor of the People's Bank of China, the country's central bank, said on November 26.

The central bank is considering issuing a guideline, in cooperation with other financial watchdogs, on Internet finance centered on openness and inclusiveness, Pan said.

Online financing holds a promising future, he said, adding that national encouragement for online financing has been explicitly presented in the 2014 Central Government work report at the legislative session in March.

If used right, it can play a very active role in promoting the country's real economy, Pan said.

But he also warned of the potential risks for online finance, calling self-regulation a duty among practitioners.

The finance industry is a high-risk area, Pan said. The problems are usually elusive and contagious and often break out suddenly, plaguing both themselves and other economic entities.

Internet finance companies should strengthen legal awareness and actively safeguard a fair and transparent market environment, Pan said.

The regulators will also carry out regular exchanges of ideas to make the regulations more feasible and keep a dynamic pace with the fast-changing practices of online financing, Pan added.

Deficit Decreasing

China recorded a smaller deficit in service trade in October, data from the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) showed on November 26.

The country's service trade deficit reached 105.6 billion yuan (\$17.25 billion) in October, compared with



SUCCESS ON TRACK

Workers lift a subway rail car that is about to be shipped to Brazil on the dock of Yingkou Port, northeast China's Liaoning Province, on November 25 133.4 billion yuan (\$21.73 billion) in September.

Income from trade in services stood at 75.9 billion yuan (\$12.36 billion) last month, while expenditure in service trade reached 181.5 billion yuan (\$29.57 billion)

In the first 10 months, the aggregate service trade deficit totaled 824 billion yuan (\$134.23 billion), with 1.05 trillion yuan (\$171.1 billion) in revenues and 1.87 trillion yuan (\$304.8 billion) in spending.

The SAFE started to issue monthly data on the services trade in January 2014 to improve the transparency of the balance of payments statistics.

Distinct from merchandise trade, trade in services refers to the sale and delivery of intangible products like transport, tourism, telecommunication, construction, advertising, computing and accountancy.

General Aviation

More efforts should be made to promote the "fast and healthy" growth of China's general aviation industry and strengthen its contribution to economic and social development as well as national defense, Chinese Vice Premier Ma Kai said on November 22.

Ma made the remarks at an industry meeting on low-altitude airspace management reform, saying this reform has entered a "crucial stage and many problems remain to be solved."

China has a total number of 226 general aviation companies and 1,786 general aircraft including helicopters, according to the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC).

It is expected that China's general aircraft will surpass 5,000 by 2020, with an annual growth rate at around 19 percent, representing a new economic engine and an industry with a potential market demand at \$15.5 billion, said CAAC Deputy Director Wang Zhiqing.

General aviation refers to all civil aviation operations other than scheduled air services, and general aircraft range from helicopters to private jets.

General aircraft can fly in the lowaltitude airspace below 1,000 meters in China and policymakers are mulling over lifting that altitude.

"The bottlenecks facing the general



At Your Fingertips

A visitor uses an 84-inch infrared touchscreen at the 2014 China (Shenzhen) International Touchscreen Exhibition on November 25 in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province. Over 1,600 domestic and foreign touchscreen makers showcased their latest touchsreen technology and products during the exhibition.



Mountainous Link

A car runs on the Shennong Stream section of the Yichang-Badong Highway on November 25. All sections of the highway will be completed and open to traffic before year end.

aviation industry are not only airspace resources but also a lack of general aviation airports, temporary landing sites, fuel supply and pilots," Wang said.

China has only 65 general aviation airports, about 300 temporary landing sites and only one oil refiner producing general aviation fuel, CAAC figures showed.

Dairy Cooperation

Chinese dairy giant Yili's first major plant abroad was officially opened in New Zealand's South Island on November 25 with the announcement that the company will almost triple its investment in the factory by 2019.

Oceania Dairy Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Inner Mongolia Yili Industrial Group, spent NZ\$236 million (\$185.14 million) constructing the factory in Glenavy, South Canterbury.

POWER ON

The first hydroelectric power plant constructed on Brahmaputra River in Tibet Autonomous Region becomes operational on November 23



Yili also confirmed the company's plans to invest another NZ\$400 million (\$313.79 million) in the factory, which already produces infant formula, over the next five years.

More than 70 jobs had been created in stage one of the new plant, completed in September, and the plant processed 220 million liters of milk from 48 local farms in its first season, said Zhang Jianqiu, Executive President of Yili Group.

Yili, listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, purchased Oceania in April 2013. The company's 2013 revenue of \$7.6 billion makes it the 10th largest dairy company in the world.

Railway Exports

On November 25, China's CNR Changchun Railway Vehicles Co. Ltd. (CRC) signed an agreement with Malaysia's Express Rail Link Sdn Bhd (ERL) to supply six sets of four-car trains to the line from Kuala Lumpur City Center to Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Boasting a maximum speed of 160 km per hour, the train will be able to carry a maximum of 540 passengers on the 57-km line.

As Kuala Lumpur has a typical tropical climate, CRC will take into full account the local environment in designs to acclimate the trains to the high temperature and abundant rainfall. Moreover, these trains will be more energy-efficient and are expected to be progressively delivered to ERL starting in May 2016.

CRC, founded in 1954, is a leading rail car producer with a diversified product portfolio including metro trains, light rail vehicles, monorail, passenger coaches, commuter trains and high speed trains.

Overseas Plant

Chinese motorcycle and automobile manufacturer Lifan Industry (Group)
Co. Ltd. will build a car plant in one of the special economic zones in central Russia, a governmental agent said on November 25.

"By January 2015, Lifan plans to complete the project's paperwork," a governmental agent of Russian special economic zones said in a statement.

According to the statement, Lifan hopes to start production in the central Russian city of Lipetsk in April 2017 with an operation period of at least seven uears.

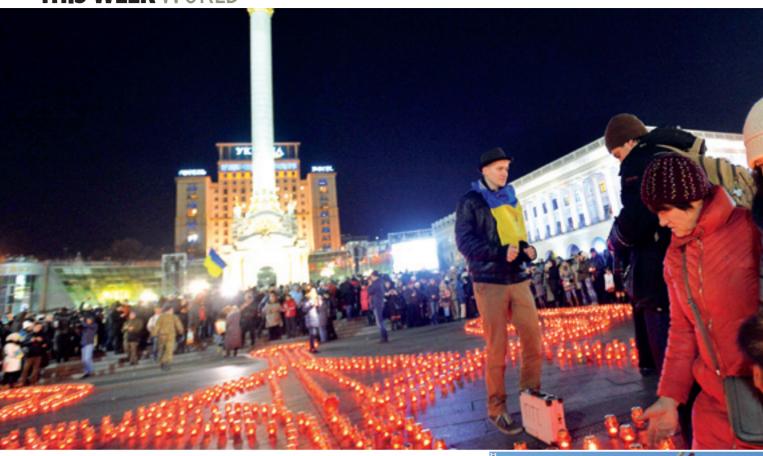
Lifan inked a deal with Lipetsk regional administration in October on the investment of \$300 million.

The plant is Lifan's first car plant with a complete assembly cycle in Russia. It is expected to create 1,500 jobs while producing 60,000 cars of different types annually.

Lifan currently occupies slightly over 1 percent of the Russian car market with nearly 22,000 cars sold in 2014. After the plant in Lipetsk starts production, Lifan's share might grow to 1.9 percent.

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THIS WEEK WORLD





UKRAINE

Candles form the shape of Ukraine's national coat of arms as thousands gather in Kiev's Independence Square on November 21 to mark the first anniversary of protests that unleashed a year of turmoil



THE UNITED STATES

Police officers escort an arrested protestor past members of the National Guard on November 25 in Ferguson, Missouri.

Demonstrators caused extensive damage in Ferguson and surrounding areas following a St. Louis County grand jury decided not to indict Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed African-American teenager







KAZAKHSTAN

A Soyuz TMA-15M space rocket is mounted on a launch pad at the Russian-leased Baikonur Cosmodrome on November 21. The rocket blasted off two days later to send three astronauts, respectively from Russia, the United States and Italy, to the International Space Station



Children dressed as Santa's elves gather outside a shopping mall in an effort to break a Guinness world record in Bangkok on November 25









BRITAIN

Miss World 2014 contestants, led by the current Miss World Megan Young from the Philippines, (center, foreground) pose for pictures at a photocall in central London on November 25. The Miss World contest will be held in London on December 14



JAPAN

A local resident looks at a collapsed house the day after a 6.2-magnitude earthquake hit the area of Hakuba, a popular ski resort some 300 km northwest of Tokyo, Nagano Prefecture, on November 22

THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

(Ψ)

CHRONICLER OF AFRICAN COMMUNITY

A 20-day-long exhibition by **Li Dong**, a photographer based in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, opened in Brussels, Belgium, on November 21. His collection, numbering 44 pieces in total, has attracted public attention to the lives of African migrants in Guangzhou.

Li, 47, entered Zhejiang University to study chemical engineering during the mid-1980s.

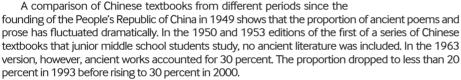


After graduation, he designed industrial plants for domestic and foreign manufacturers until 2003. He then opened a company in Guangzhou. Five years later, Li turned his eye to social documentary photography. In 2013, he finished a series of photographs portraying the lives of African migrants inhabiting a 300-meter stretch of Baohanzhijie Road, close to several wholesale markets favored by African traders in Guangzhou.

His recent exhibition presents a microcosm of African migrants seeking their fortune in China. The exhibition had previously run in Paris, France, and Cologne, Germany.

Teaching Tradition Oriental Outlook November 20

Ever since the 1990s, there has been disagreement concerning whether or not primary and middle school students should be taught ancient literature. Some argue that they are too young to understand ancient works. Others, however, said that as ancient Chinese literature is eminently varied, educational departments can select works easy to understand for young students.



China has a rich tradition of poetry. The Tang Dynasty (618-907) alone spawned over 2,000 poets who collectively composed more than 50,000 poems. Ancient poems can serve the function of passing down traditional culture and cultivating students' minds. Classic poems have specific rhythms and used to be sung out loud. They therefore have a stronger ability to express emotions than their contemporary counterparts. In addition, traditional teachings have an essential role to play in broadening young people's intellectual horizons.



Only-Children-Turned Parents China Newsweek November 17

As the first generation of "only children" born under China's family-planning policy introduced in 1979 has entered their late 20s or 30s, many of them have become parents.

According to Bao Leiping, a researcher with the Institute of Youth and Juvenile Studies of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, parents who are only children are distinctly different from those who are not in certain aspects. For example, they have a tendency to be more individualistic. One fifth of those surveyed stated they would choose not to have children if child rearing would clash with their career goals in Bao's 2005 study.

Compared with the preceding generation, parents who are only children tend to care more about their children's psychological well-being. One possible reason for this is that most of them have received higher education; another is that their feelings may have been ignored when they were children and they don't want the same for their offspring.

Only-child parents prefer to get their information from computers and iPads rather than from TV and newspapers.

"Helping small firms get access to direct financing on the stock market is even more important than increasing the availability of loans for them, and it is a pioneering arrangement."

Zhang Liqun, a researcher with the Development Research Center of the State Council, calling for financial support for small firms on November 19 "Once we provide evidence of suspects' economic crimes to our U.S. counterparts for judicial assistance, they will adopt an active attitude to help us with investigations."

Liu Dong, deputy head of the Economic Crimes Investigation Bureau of the Ministry of Public Security, commenting on China-U.S. judicial cooperation in a recent *China Daily* report



When encountering problems in raising children, they often turn to the Internet for help rather than to their parents.

As most members of the first generation of only children are preoccupied with work, their parents have taken up the responsibility of looking after their children. As a result, they have avoided the pressure and trouble of taking care of newborn babies. However, they will have to face the arduous double responsibility of simultaneously looking after their children and aging parents in about 10 years' time.

Fighting Domestic Violence

Changjiang Daily November 26

The Central Government is soliciting opinions on the formulation of an anti-domestic violence law. According to a survey of Chinese women's social status in 2010 conducted by the All-China Women's Federation, 24.7 percent of married women have suffered physical or sexual violence in their lives. Child abuse is also a problem, with 33.5 percent of the girls and 52.9 percent of the boys surveyed saying they had been physically punished by their parents over the previous year.

Although domestic violence has been frequently brought to the attention of the public in recent years, it has not been effectively controlled. Physical punishment is even regarded by many as an effective tool to educate children.

This mindset has its origin in traditional Chinese familial and social ethics. Physically punishing children may be regarded as illegal in Western countries. In China, however, such behavior is commonplace.

Traditional Chinese thinking has posed an obstacle for establishing a stricter system to combat domestic violence. Public understanding of the issue is inadequate with not many considering it as a violation of rights. To address domestic violence, it needs to be noted that it is not simply a private or domestic matter but a social problem.

(Ψ)

TRIPLY CROWNED ACTOR

Actor and director **Chen Jianbin** won three awards at the 51st Golden Horse Awards in Taipei on November 22, creating a new record for what is one of the largest events in the Chinese-language film industry's calendar.

Chen was born in 1970 in Urumqi, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. He received a master's degree from the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing in 1998 before joining the National Theater of China. Chen first began acting in 1993. He has been the recipient of acting awards in China and South Korea. In 2011, he was the male lead in the TV series *Empresses in the Palace*, which is particularly popular in East Asia.



Chen undertook his first foray into feature film directing in 2014 with the film *A Fool*. He won Best Actor and Best New Director for this film as well as Best Supporting Actor for *Paradise in Service* at the Golden Horse Awards.

"As the largest energy consumer in the world, China must play a pivotal role in the global transition to a sustainable energy future."

Adnan Z. Amin, Director General of the International Renewable Energy Agency, predicting China will become the world's largest renewable energy market by 2030, on November 24 "Clouds are gathering over the global economic outlook, presenting the darkest picture seen since the global financial crisis."

Chris Williamson, chief economist at financial data provider Markit, saying global business confidence dropped to a five-year low in October, on November 24

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THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

With the UN Lima Climate Change Conference underway, China shows its sincerity to fight global warming By Deng Yaqing



ima, capital and the largest city of Peru, has welcomed government leaders, scholars as well as representatives of the business and NGO circles from more than 200 countries and regions this December. They will stay in the South American city for a battle of words at the United Nations Lima Climate Conference held from December 1 to 12, paving the way for the 2015 conference in Paris to reach an international community agreement and strengthen efforts in curbing climate change after 2020.

"Humans clearly influence the climate system, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history," the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) said in an assessment report released on November 2. "Each of the last three decades has been successively warmer

at Earth's surface than any preceding decade since 1850. The period from 1983 to 2012 was likely the warmest 30-year period of the last 1,400 years in the Northern Hemisphere," said the IPCC.

When meeting with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in February, Chinese President Xi Jinping once again stressed that China has attached great importance to tackling domestic climate change and facilitating emission reduction.

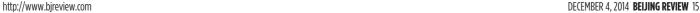
"In this regard, it's not that anyone asks us to do it, but we ourselves take the initiative to do it." said Xi.

"China has been playing an active role in solving problems arising from climate change. It has intensified efforts by setting goals, taking actions and improving efficiency," said Xie Zhenhua, Vice Minister of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

According to statistics from China's Policies and Actions on Climate Change (2014) released on November 25, as of 2013, China's carbon dioxide emissions per unit of per-capita GDP had been reduced by 28.56 percent from 2005; and in the first three quarters this year, China's energy consumption intensity and carbon intensity further dropped by 4.6 percent and 5 percent year on year, respectively. In 2013, a total of 6.1 million hectares of forest and 2.52 billion trees were planted, surpassing the target for the year.

To achieve the goal of reducing 40 to 45 percent of carbon intensity by 2020, even measures like power rationing were taken in some areas of China in 2009 and 2010, said Xie, who

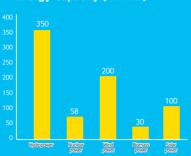
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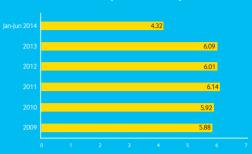
Decreases in China's Energy Consumption per 10,000-yuan GDP



China's 2020 Goal for Non-Fossil Fuel **Energy Capacity (mln kw)**



China's Achievements in Afforestation (mln hectares)



also heads the Chinese delegation at the Lima conference.

Moving forward

According to calculations by the World Bank, from 1990 to 2010, China's energy-saving efforts accounted for 58 percent of the world's total energy efficiency. Moreover, the country's installed capacity of renewable energy accounted for 24 percent of the world's total, and its newly installed renewable energy capacity made up 37 percent of the world's total in 2013, according to the NDRC.

"Though China's achievements in energy conservation and emission reduction are here for all to see, its per-capita carbon emission is 40 percent more than the world average," said Xie, noting that China is still a developing country with an extensive mode of development and imbalanced economic structure, where 200 million people live below the poverty line of \$1.5 per day.

Therefore, the negotiations carried out at the Lima conference as well as the agreement to be reached at the 2015 conference in Paris should be based on the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), especially the equality principle, common but differentiated responsibilities and the respective capabilities principles, said Xie.

However, since China has become the biggest carbon emitter and the second largest economy in the world, some foreign experts and media tend to categorize the nation as a developed country and pressure it to shoulder as much responsibility as the developed world in coping with climate change.

"It's an indisputable fact that China is a developing country, which can be easily proved by every aspect of Chinese people's life. For example, the per-capita meat consumption in China's urban area is roughly 60 kg annually, far less than the 120 kg in developed countries, which mirrors its weak agricultural

> industry and low production efficiency," said Gao Feng, Special Representative for Climate Change Negotiations, stating his opinion that developed countries always feature strong agriculture.

> "Now, the gap between developed countries and developing countries is still very big, and economic growth, social development and poverty elimination are still the main tasks of the developing countries. After 2020, the developing countries will still lag far behind the developed countries in terms of national conditions, development

stages and actual ability," said Su Wei, head of the Climate Change Department of the NDRC, explaining why the common but differentiated responsibilities principle is necessary.

As a matter of fact, when many developed countries reached their carbon dioxide emission peaks, China was far from the biggest emitter, said Gao, indicating that the current problems concerning climate change are mainly a result of the unrestrained emissions of developed countries in the past.

According to the UNFCCC, developed countries should fulfill the obligations of providing sufficient funds for developing countries to cope with climate change. However, the funding negotiations, including those for technology transfer, have made little progress over the past two decades.

At the 2009 Copenhagen conference. developed countries promised to provide \$100 billion a year by 2020 to the developing world. By now, the Green Climate Fund under the UNFCCC has only raised a little more \$9 billion.

Non-Fossil Fuel Energies in China

■ Hydropower Installed capacity: 260 million kw Electricity generated: 911.6 billion kwh

Nuclear

Installed capacity: 17.94 million kw Electricity generated: 110.6 billion kwh

Installed capacity: 81.23 million kw Electricity generated: 131.1 billion kwh

■ Solar

Installed capacity: 14.79 million kw Electricity generated: 7 billion kwh

(Source: China's Policies and Actions on Climate Change (2014))

Substantial contributions

Following the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meetings in Beijing in November, China and the United States issued a joint statement on climate change to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

According to the statement, the United States has set a target of reducing its emissions by 26 to 28 percent below its 2005 level in 2025, while China has pledged to achieve the peaking of carbon dioxide emissions around 2030 and increase the share of non-fossil fuels in primary energy consumption to around 20 percent by 2030.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon commended the statement, calling it "an important contribution" to a possible agreement at a UN climate conference in Paris in 2015.



According to the agreement reached at the Warsaw climate conference in November 2013, all countries should release their targets in the first quarter of 2015. "China and the United States, the two major greenhouse gas emitting countries, have already released their targets ahead of the schedule, which clearly illustrates China's attitude toward promoting a multilateral process," said Xie.

Since the two countries are at different development stages, their goals are differentiated—China's goal is about relative emission reduction, while the United States has to cut its absolute volume. Xie suggested that China should be likely to maintain the level for years after reaching its carbon dioxide emission peak, following the experience of many developed countries.

At the UN Climate Summit held in September, Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli, special envoy of President Xi Jinping, proposed China's post-2020 action goal to deal with climate change—reducing carbon intensity, increas-

ing the share of non-fossil fuels, raising the forest stock, and reaching the peak of its total carbon dioxide emission as early as possible. Beyond that, Zhang announced that China would double its investment in the South-South Cooperation Fund.

Since 2011, China has invested a total of 270 million yuan (\$43,99 million) to help developing countries enhance their capacity to address climate change and trained nearly 2,000 climate change officials and professionals from developing countries, according to statistics from the NDRC.

Apart from emission reduction, the development of green energy is also highly significant. By the end of 2013, non-fossil energy generation capacity had accounted for 30.9 percent of the total electricity generation capacity, 4 percent higher than the previous year.

At the Third Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China held in November 2013, the decisive role of the market was stressed in allocating resources, and a trading system for carbon emissions was put on the agenda. Now, seven provinces and cities are carrying out carbon trading pilot programs, and a total of 13.75 million tons of carbon dioxide worth more than 500 million yuan (\$81.47 million) have been traded by the end of October. 2014.

Gao Yun, deputy head of the Department of Science & Technology and Climate Change, China Meteorological Administration, said that China is committed to the sustainable development, and other countries should also show their sincerity.

"Developed countries should do what the Bali Roadmap requires and take real actions to cope with climate change," said Gao.

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COVER STORY

CLEAR SKIES BY 2030

Cutting carbon emissions has emerged as a key area of Sino-U.S. cooperation By Corrie Dosh



The author is a contributing writer to Beijing Review, living in New York City

here are many topics on which China and the United States differ, but the need to reduce carbon emissions has become a shining example of bilateral cooperation and the future of the relationship between the world's two largest economies. U.S. President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping on November 12 announced their strongest commitment yet on climate change—raising hopes that the foundation for a global accord on reducing greenhouse emissions can be built when representatives of more than 190 nations meet this month in Lima, Peru, at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

While the U.S.-China deal is completely voluntary—no penalties exist for not meeting targets—supporters described it as a historic announcement. Over the next 15 years, China pledges to reach peak emissions of global greenhouse gases and to increase its reliance on non-fossil fuels to 20 percent of its total energy. The United States commits to reducing emissions by 26-28 percent from 2005 levels.

"There has been a lot of reaction, everything from 'this is a game changer' to 'this is business as usual' and a lot of speculation of whether this can really be pivotal in Lima," said Joanna Lewis, an associate professor in the Science, Technology and International Affairs

program at Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service during a November 24 teleconference sponsored by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

While the challenges to implementing the climate change goals are significant, the "ambitious" announcement may motivate other nations to follow suit, Lewis said.

Alex Wang, an assistant professor at the UCLA School of Law, went a step beyond, calling the deal "monumental."

"It's a major step forward," Wang said. "In addition to the targets there have been follow-up announcements. The United States pledged \$3 billion to the Green Climate Fund and China announced an energy plan that talked about a coal consumption cap. So, those are important follow-up announcements."

Implementation is the hot button issue, he added. Many critics have said that China has many environmental laws on the books that are not enforced due to regional protectionism and the lack of data collection, but the latest commitments are different—they are part of a broader economic transformation away from heavy industry and toward cleaner, more efficient economic growth.

"Pressure has been intensifying over the last two years with the problems in air pollution," Wang said. "There are concerns of protectionism but the new economy has new interests. There is a lot of money to be made in the clean energy economy."

China is moving closer to implementing a carbon tax, he said, which would be important for implementation. It is unfeasible to require heavy industry to reduce emissions with a



cheap and easy supply of coal around them, especially when monitoring and enforcement is nearly impossible. Making energy efficiency cost effective is essential.

The United States has faced the same challenge, Wang said. Increasing investment in natural gas to make it an affordable, clean alternative to fossil fuels has damaged the coal lobby and helped reach emission targets.

The pledge creates a major incentive for technological solutions to create cleaner energy. Fossil fuels still provide roughly 80 percent of the world's energy and weaning countries off coal and oil could cause economic collapse. Enterprising innovators who are able to market cost-effective solutions to help governments



reach their climate change goals will have a big advantage.

A way forward

Environmental issues have been elevated in the context of the U.S.-China relationship over the past five years, Lewis said.

"It's surprising to think we could have an agreement like this since [China and the United States] seem to have such different positions," she said. "When you look at the bilateral relationship in the broader context, climate change has arisen as the issue where we have far more in common than not. Even though there are fundamental disagreements, we still have the same goal."

While cooperation on climate change is be-

coming a key foundation of the future between the great powers, significant political obstacles remain. The timing of the announcement and the fact that it is not an enforceable agreement are significant. It would be nearly impossible for Obama to pass a climate change treaty through a hostile Congress, but the high-level, highly public announcement of intentions creates a "momentum" for work that doesn't make headlines, Wang said. This model could be used in other areas of bilateral relations such as terrorism and trade.

"I think the notion that the United States and China—who have been these two big players on opposite sides of the fence and viewed as the biggest antagonists—were able to stand

COOPERATION COMMITMENTS:

Chinese President Xi Jinping and U.S. President Barack Obama attend a joint press conference following their agreement on a climate deal and other issues in talks in Beijing on November 12

up together, that's a big thing," Todd Stern, U.S. special envoy for climate change, told reporters at a forum held by the Center for American Progress.

The non-binding pledge may also be a model for a global agreement for next year's UN Climate Change Conference in Paris. The objective of the 2015 conference is to achieve, for the first time in over 20 years of UN negotiations, a binding and universal agreement on climate, from all the nations of the world.

"The vision of an international binding agreement is wrong. Countries need to see it's in their own interest and see [emission reduction] as positive," Wang said.

The agreement also makes China a major player in the global climate debate. With a commitment by the world's largest emitters, other countries have run out of excuses. Chinese and American emissions represent 42 percent of main greenhouse gas emissions, and smaller countries and developing economies have feared their emission cuts would be useless unless the major players take action.

"I'm very interested to see if this announcement has some reverberations. China is now in a position

where it is clearly the largest emitter. It will be interesting to see if it will influence Brazil, India and South Africa," Lewis said.

The United States, as well, has run out of excuses to take action.

"The argument that the United States cannot act because China won't act has finally begun to fade. A very understandable anxiety—that America cannot cut carbon emissions while our biggest competitor keeps burning dirty energy with no end in sight—can now be put to rest," wrote Fred Krupp, President of the Environmental Defense Fund, in the Wall Street Journal.

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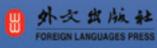


The publication of this book in various languages is of great significance. It will contribute to interpreting the concepts and principles of governance of the CPC leadership, and it will help the international community to learn more about and better understand China's ideas, its path of development, and its domestic and foreign policies, and its response to international concerns about China.





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