

Speech by DG Gao Guangsheng at the 2nd Ministerial Meeting of the APP

Distinguished ministers, ladies & gentlemen,

Good morning!

First of all, on behalf of the Chinese delegation, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the Government of India and the Indian peoples for your hospitality and the considerate arrangement for this meeting.

Today's meeting is the 2nd ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Partnership. Since our meeting in Sydney, we have made tremendous progress under this Partnership. The eight Task Forces have developed detailed Action Plans, and endorsed 110 cooperative projects. The Government of China and Chinese private sectors also attach great importance to this Partnership. We have hosted 3 Task Force meetings in China and participated in more than 20 partnership projects. We shall build on this opportunity to further promote concrete cooperation on technology and projects.

China believes that this Partnership is complementary to the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol, and we shall address climate change in accordance with the principles under the UNFCCC, in particular the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities. China recognizes the importance of technology in tackling climate change and the ideas of strengthening international cooperation on technology, R&D, transfer and dissemination of technology proposed by the Partnership.

The Government of China attaches great importance to addressing climate change within the framework of sustainable development. We established the National Climate Change Leading Group headed by Premier WEN Jiabao and released our National Climate Change Programme in June this year, we also developed our targets on combating climate change up to 2010.

Dear colleagues!

Tackling the challenge posed by global climate change requires effective international cooperation. Both as an environment issue and development issue, climate change, in the final analysis, falls in the category of development. Climate change is the product of development and must be solved through sustainable development. The successful solution of climate change in the end depends on technological advancement. China proposes to recognize the importance of technology development and transfer from a strategic perspective. What we need now is not only advanced clean technologies, but also mechanisms for technology transfer and dissemination. And the core of this issue is the price of technology transfer and dissemination.

China finds that the focus of most of the Partnership projects is on soft activities like information sharing, sectoral assessments, capacity building and standardization. There are almost no joint R&D projects between developed and developing Partnership countries. Moreover, the issue of establishing a financial mechanism under this Partnership has not been effectively solved, which creates lots of difficulties for private sectors from developing Partnership countries to participate in project cooperation. We hope that developed Partnership countries can provide financial assistance to Partnership projects and intensify technology cooperation and transfer to promote concrete project cooperation.

In addition, Partnership countries shall also actively create favorable environment for private sectors to engage in Partnership activities and conduct technology cooperation. Private sectors from developed Partnership countries have vast financial resources and advanced technologies, and they shall help their developing country counterparts to achieve clean and sustainable development. For China, advanced technologies of energy efficiency, clean coal, renewable energy, methane recovery and utilization, and energy efficient buildings are our cooperative priorities under this Partnership. And in this regard, we welcome the private sectors of all Partnership countries to make investment in China.

With rapid globalization of economy, addressing climate change has gone beyond a single country's capability and requires joint efforts of all countries. APP is such a good example of joint efforts. In order to make our cooperation under the Partnership more effective, I would like to make the following suggestions:

1. Undertake cooperative actions. Climate change is a global issue and only cooperation can lead to win-win situation. Developed countries shall provide financial and technical support to developing countries to help them import and absorb advanced clean technologies and improve their capacities of mitigating and adapting to climate change.
2. Adhere to the principle of sustainable development. Climate change is an issue of development and can only be solved with the achievement of sustainable development, while the latter requires balanced development between economy, society and environment. This Partnership shall promote the development of sustainable production and consumption patterns, low-carbon economies, a resource conservation and environmentally friendly society among all Partnership countries to address the challenges of climate change.
3. Expand climate-friendly investment. Developed Partnership countries and international financial institutions shall, through policy and investment instruments, play a leading role in helping developing countries to solve the issue of incremental cost in their process of addressing climate change, and providing incentive measures to private sectors to invest more in clean development and low carbon economy.

Dear colleagues!

Addressing climate change is an intrinsic need of global sustainable development. The Government of China will as always, actively participate in and support this multilateral Partnership to promote concrete cooperation between public and private sectors among al

Partnership countries and make corresponding contributions to addressing global climate change.

Thanks you!