

Speech by DG Gao Guangsheng at the 5th PIC Meeting of the APP

Seattle, May 19, 2008

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & gentlemen,

Good morning!

I am very happy to be here to attend the 5th PIC meeting of the APP. At the outset, on behalf of the Chinese delegation, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the Government of United States for its hospitality and the considerate arrangement for this meeting.

There have been tremendous changes in global climate system in recent years, which posts a great challenge to all nations in the world, and requires all nations to make corresponding efforts in accordance with the principle of common but different responsibilities and respective national circumstances and capacities. Based on this consensus, we are gathered here and discuss corresponding measures.

Mr. Chairman

Today's meeting is the 5th PIC meeting of the Asia-Pacific Partnership. Since the initiation of this Partnership, the eight Task Forces have undertaken 118 cooperative projects. The Government of China and Chinese private sectors also attach great importance to this Partnership and make all efforts to participate in Partnership activities. So far, Chinese private sector has participated in more than 20 partnership projects and made corresponding in-kind and cash contribution as co-financing to this Partnership. Since the

October New Delhi ministerial meeting, the eight taskforces of China have also been preparing additional 10 project proposals, which we hope could be included in the Partnership activities in the near future. Based on the afore-mentioned activities, we hope we can further promote concrete cooperation on technology and projects under this APP.

Mr. Chairman,

Recognizing the accomplishments we made so far, we shall also recognize the problems we are facing today. I think that our Partnership has not yet set a very strong example to the entire globe in terms of combating climate change. The main reasons are: firstly, in terms of cooperation on technology development and transfer, we haven't yet developed an effective mechanism under this Partnership; secondly, due to the lack of necessary policy and financial incentives, the private sector and the civil society don't have much enthusiasm in participating in activities of addressing climate change; thirdly, under this Partnership, we haven't found a truly effective way between developed and developing Partnership countries to undertake cooperation in accordance with the principles of the UNFCCC, in particular the common but different responsibilities. I hope that these problems can be solved in our future collective work.

In summary, 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 all Partnership countries and make corresponding contributions to addressing global climate change.

Thanks!