

# China's Efforts to Address Climate Change

Sun Guoshun (First Secretary)

Chinese Embassy

April 5, 2011 DC

## 1. Legislative Measures

- 2002 /2007 Law on Energy Conservation
- 2002 Law on the Promotion of Clean Production
- 2002 Law on the Prevention of Air Pollution
- 2002 Law on Forest
- 2003 Law on Environment Impact Assessment
- 2005 Law on Renewable Energy
- 2009 Resolution on Climate Change

## 2. Administrative Measures

- Formulate regulations to implement relevant laws.
- Set up a National Climate Change Leading Group chaired by Premier Wen Jiabao.
- Set short-term energy intensity goal in the 11th Five-Year Plan (20% below 2005 level by 2010).
- Set mid-term carbon intensity goal in 2009 (40%-45% below 2005 by 2020).
- Shut down small and inefficient coal power plants, steel and iron plants, cement plants, aluminium plants, coke plants, etc.
- Make local leaders accountable for the goal.

## 3. Economic Measures

- Adjust economic structure (increase the ratio of light and tertiary industry).
- Adjust energy structure (increase the ratio of non-fossil fuel in the energy mix).
- Increase investment on energy efficiency and renewable energy (stimulus package).
- Provide incentives to develop renewable energy.

## 4. Major Achievements

- Economic structure has improved slightly (The ratio of three industries in 2005 was 12.1%, 47.4% and 40.5. This ratio changed to 10.2%, 46.8% and 43% in 2010)
- Energy efficiency has been improved and more renewable energy has been developed. In 2010 renewable energy has reached 300 million tons coal equivalent, accounting for 9.6% in the total energy mix.
- From 2005-2010, China has shut down inefficient coal power plants with a capacity of 72 million kilowatts.
- Energy intensity per unit GDP has dropped 19.1% on the 2005 level by 2010.

## 5. Future Objectives

- short-term goal (energy intensity cuts 16%, carbon intensity cuts 17%, non-fossil fuel reaches 11.4%, forest coverage increases 12.5 million hectares) in the 12th Five Year Plan (2011- 2015)
- mid-term goal (carbon intensity cuts 40%-45% over 2005 level, non-fossil fuel reaches 15%, forest coverage increases 40 million hectares over 2005 level) by 2020.

## 6. Drivers of China's Action

- Scarcity of per capita energy reserves.
- Diversification of energy resources.
- Concern of climate change.
- Meet the increasing energy need of the people.
- Increasing employment.

## 7. China's Difficulties

- China has 1.3 billion population. Total emission is big, but per capita emission is small and emission history is short.
- China is a developing country. Many people are still living under UN poverty line and yet without access to energy. Poverty reduction and eradication is a daunting task.
- China is in the process of economic development and urbanization. We are lack of advanced technology and we need energy to support growth.
- China's energy endowment is coal which is more carbon intensive than gasoline and natural gas.

## 8. International Cooperation

- Support the UNFCCC process.
- Support the CBDR principle and the principle that all men are created equal in emission right.
- Support international cooperation to address climate change.
- Appeal to the US and other developed countries to take the lead in reducing emissions because of your high per capita emission and long emission history.

Thank you!