

Second Meeting of the Bilateral Consultation Mechanism under the EU-China Partnership on Climate Change Beijing 19 October 2006



Presentation on EU-China Summit outcome and follow-up Henriette Geiger, DG RELEX H2

I. 9th EU-China Summit

 The 9th EU-China held on 9 September 2006 went well.

• Main result was the announcement of start of negotiations for a new framework agreement.



Relevant language of the Joint Summit Statement:

- Sustainable development is major area for EU-China cooperation.
- Step up the exchange of experiences towards resource-efficient and environment-friendly society.
- Intensify cooperation in relevant areas including on illegal logging
- Welcomed the progress on the implementation of the EU-China partnership on climate change.



Relevant language of the Joint Summit Statement:

- Further strengthen the dialogue and cooperation on United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Agreed to work positively towards a rolling work plan to further implement the partnership, covering the period 2007-2010.
- Closer cooperation on the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism
- Start of cooperation on the research of near-zero emission power generation technology through carbon dioxide capture and storage.
- Enhancing cooperation in capacity building.



Relevant language of the Joint Summit Statement:

- Exploit synergies between promotion of energy security, sustainable energy supply, innovation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
- EU and China share common concern for ensuring reliable, economical and sustainable energy supply.
- Further strengthen dialogue and cooperation on energy in an effort to create a stable, secure, efficient and clean energy environment
- Strengthen practical cooperation, particularly on action plan on clean coal and the action plan on energy efficiency and renewable energy.



Good Summit discussion on climate change and energy

- ➤ Points made by Commission President Barroso and Finnish Prime Minister Vanhanen:
 - welcomed progress achieved so far
 - reiterated importance the EU attached to climate change and energy
 - stressed need for joint commitment to combat climate change
 - underlined need to complete rolling work programme on climate change as soon as possible.



Prime Minister Wen underlined:

- China's efforts for environmental protection and energy efficiency;
- Stressed that sustainable development was important for both sides;
- Suggested to build on existing good exchanges on climate change and energy to implement our climate change partnership;
- EU-China energy cooperation should be enhanced;
- Clean coal action plan should be implemented.



Overall assessment:

- Summit gave clear mandate to continue work on climate change and energy;
- Overall results on environment, climate change and energy security were disappointing.
- After the 2005 Summit's climate change focus, a more substantive follow-up would have been called for (including adopting of work plan on climate change, joint declaration on energy security).
- EU, both Commission and Member States, wish to reinforce our engagement with China on environment, climate change and energy.



II. New Commission Communication on China

- Commission will adopt the new Communication "Closer Partners, growing responsibilities" on 25 October.
- To be followed by Council Conclusions on China on 13 November.
- Main thrust of the Communication is mature engagement with China.



On environment, climate change and energy the Communication proposes:

- The EU and China should ensure close international cooperation on energy and the environment;
- To ensure secure and sustainable energy supplies the EU and China should increase international efforts to improve transparency and reliability of energy data and information exchange;
- Reduce growth in energy demand through energy efficiency and energy savings;
- Develop environmentally sound energy technology and indigenous resources;

To combat climate change and improve the environment:

- Continue to build on climate change partnership;
- Both sides should continue to build on the Climate Change Partnership, reinforcing bilateral co-operation, but also building international cooperation and looking ahead to future commitments, meeting shared international responsibilities as Kyoto partners.



To combat climate change and improve the environment:

- The EU should strengthen the provision of technical and regulatory expertise to help China increase its energy efficiency and share of renewable energy, and promote the development and deployment of near zero emission coal technology.
- The EU should share expertise on environmental legislation and management procedures, with a focus on preventing pollution and improving energy standards, and work with China to improve transparency, implementation, enforcement and regulatory capacity.

External Relations

III. New Country Strategy Paper 2007-2013 and National Indicative Programme 2007-2010

- The new CSP will be complementary to the new Commission Communication on China. It will define EC co-operation priorities and objectives with China for the coming years.
- It is likely that the new CSP will identify the environment, energy and climate change as clear priority areas of intervention.
- The National Indicative Programme 2007-2010 (NIP) will define the types of projects and programmes that are envisaged to meet the objectives set in the CSP.

NIP 2007-2010

- The NIP will be adopted at the same time as the new country strategy, and will probably propose projects and programmes in three priority areas for cooperation:
- Priority 1: Trade, Business Exchanges and Economic Development;
- Priority 2: Environment, energy and climate change;
- Priority 3: Human Resources Development and Public Administration Co-operation;



Support in Priority 2 (environment, energy and climate change):

- Support for established EU-China policy dialogues on environment, energy and climate change;
- Technical assistance to fight climate change, promote energy sector reforms, enhance energy security, energy efficiency, energy savings and the use of renewable and clean energy and energy technologies.
- This could include assisting with the design and implementation of polices and plans at central, provincial and local levels in China.

Support in Priority 2 (environment, energy and climate change):

- Facilitate and promote private sector industrial and technology cooperation on environment and energy and possibly co-finance pilot demonstration projects.
- Co-finance actions on environmental governance e.g. through creating partnerships between EU and Chinese environment organisations including for public awareness and participation.



New dialogue support facility: :

This new 6 MEURO project has been approved recently to support our 22 EU-China sectoral dialogues through concrete activities.



IV. European Investment Bank Loan

- In early September 2006, EIB's Management Committee approved EUR **500 Million China Climate Change Framework Loan** (CCCFL).
- Final authorisation by Bank's Board of Directors and Board of Governors to be expected before end 2006.
- Chinese Finance Ministry informed on 12 September 2006.



V. Conclusions

- EU has identified cooperation on climate change, environment and energy as a main priority of our strategic partnership with China for the years to come.
- Corresponding resources will be made available for that purpose.
- The last Summit gave a clear mandate to reinforce our cooperation in this area.
- It is in the interest of both sides to move forward on climate change and energy.
- Absolute priority should be given to Summit follow-up, notably work plan on climate change and a joint declaration on energy security.