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SUBJECT: Gibbons reports on China's current thoughts on the climate treaty

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READ: UNKNOWN

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TEXT:

Jack phoned after extensive meetings with Song Jian (State Councilor and Minister of State on Science and Technology).

Several things he thought you should know as we prepare for Kyoto.

1. Controlling population remains foremost on Jian's mind.
2. They see a lot of potential to tie up carbon in trees and are supportive of this (this is good news--some have suggested they don't like carbon sequestration as an option cuz it's not high tech)
3. They like the idea of some kind of metric for China like improvement in carbon /\$GDP. They are not wed to "emissions per person" as some are espousing for developing countries. Rather, they see slowing the rate of increase as an appropriate goal for them. This could be important in the negotiations.
4. They see great importance in sustained R&D for clean fuels and efficient technologies.
5. They have an open attitude to AIJ and think some early actions should be tried.