

**Environmental Policy Working Group of the
U.S.-China Forum on Environment and Development
April 9, 1999
Washington, D.C.**

The Environmental Policy Working Group was co-chaired on the U.S. side by Carol M. Browner, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and Frank E. Loy, Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs. Xie Zhenhua, Minister of State of the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA), and Lu Shumin, Director-General, Department of America and Oceania Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, co-chaired the People's Republic of China delegation. Lists for both delegations are attached.

The session, which met for three and a half hours, was divided into two interrelated parts: the first focussing on environmental issues of bilateral concern and cooperation, and the second concerning multilateral environmental matters. The agreed Agenda and Schedule are also attached.

On bilateral issues, the two sides exchanged views on the recent exchange of visits of Minister Xie and Administrator Browner, and then discussed cooperative environmental projects, including the on-going air quality monitoring project. A discussion then ensued on possible new air pollution control projects, industrial pollution prevention and energy efficiency issues, and possible expansion of U.S. Peace Corps activities in China into environmental education. Forestry cooperation, air quality/pollution management issues, air pollution and health issues, and municipal solid waste treatment and urban water issues were also discussed. After the conclusion of the Working Group meeting, six separate Statements of Intent on environmental cooperation issues were signed between USEPA and SEPA; and one between USEPA and the State Administration of Coal Industry of China. These were in addition to three Statements of Intent concluded earlier in the day, including one between USEPA and SEPA and two between USEPA and the State Development and Planning Commission of China.

On multilateral issues, the two delegations exchanged views on global climate change, including the High Level Dialogue between the two governments on climate change, and Clean Development Mechanisms Issues and other environmental financing issues. Desertification issues and international forests issues were also discussed. The two sides examined international chemicals issues, including the Persistent Organic Pollutants and Prior Informed Consent Regimes and associated agricultural issues, as well as biodiversity matters, specifically the Biosafety Protocol to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

Bilateral Issues

Mr. William A. Nitze, Assistant Administrator for International Activities, USEPA, opened the discussion on bilateral environmental cooperation issues on behalf of Administrator Browner who was called away on urgent business. Mr. Nitze welcomed the Chinese participants and noted the importance of the Forum in engaging both sides on environmental issues, congratulating the Chinese side for the commitment to this effort and hard work to make the Forum a success. Because the meeting started late, both sides agreed to work quickly through the agenda.

Minister Xie captured the current state of industrial development and its impact to the environment in China. He noted that the many small and medium sized industries in China produce visible environmental impacts including groundwater pollution and acid rain. China is in need of a better groundwater resource management scheme and is prepared to spend over 100 trillion RMB on addressing the acid rain problem, he said. The environmental restoration effort will be initiated in the "key" cities, such as Beijing, he noted. In addition, protection and restoration of the marine environment is also important to the Chinese, the Minister stated.

Mr. Xie described some of the active efforts being made by China to protect the environment, including "total emissions control," the target of which is to hold emissions of certain pollutants (primarily SO₂) in certain areas to 1995 levels in the year 2010; ecosystem management including massive tree planting programs; CFC phase-out efforts; chemical waste management programs; and setting aside 7.6% of the country's land for nature reserves. With respect to lead phase-out in gasoline, 20 some cities have begun to use unleaded gasoline, the Minister noted. Sustainable development is the goal for eleven major key cities. In terms of greenhouse gas emissions reduction, Minister Xie described population control programs in terms of their benefit in limiting growth in energy consumption, as well as efforts to develop non-coal energy sources including nuclear, wind and solar.

Both sides reviewed the progress on bilateral cooperation since the last Forum meeting, including successful exchanges of visits between Minister Xie and Administrator Browner. Mr. Nitze also mentioned the success seen to date on the Air Quality Monitoring Cooperation Project between USEAP and SEPA that involves the State of California. Mr. Wang Zhijia, Director-General, Department of International Cooperation, State Environmental Protection Administration, agreed with Mr. Nitze and further elaborated that up to eleven cities will have automated air monitoring systems purchased from Dasibi at the end of Phase I of the project. SO₂, a major concern to China, is included in the Air Monitoring Network Project.

Turning to new projects under discussion at this meeting, Mr. Nitze invited USEPA colleagues to describe several projects on which the U.S. and China had come to agreement. First, for the project on market-based mechanisms for SO₂ control, the

signing of which had just been completed prior to this meeting and witnessed by the Vice President and Premier, Mr. Paul Stolpman, Director, Office of Atmospheric Programs, USEPA, briefly described U.S. efforts and the benefits and cost reductions incurred. Mr. Wang noted that SEPA is very interested in market mechanisms but noted that they are not the only way to control pollution, and that the U.S. and China need to move forward step by step. Mr. John Beale, International Programs Manager, Office of Air and Radiation, USEPA, described what the two sides intend to do for the Air Quality Management Assessment Project and the Industrial Pollution Prevention and Energy Efficiency Project. Mr. Stolpman also mentioned the Energy Efficient Building Project which was being discussed in the Commercial Cooperation Working Group of the Forum, noting that buildings are responsible for significant pollution levels and that more pollution is caused by working in an office building than by driving to work. Mr. Wang also expressed that China is interested in the U.S. expert recommendations on the implementation and development of clean coal technologies.

Ms. Ellen Paquette, Regional Director for Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Asia Region, U.S. Peace Corps, described a new agreement with China to expand next year its English-language training programs into environmental education. Most of the Peace Corps work in China has been related to teaching English, and Ms. Paquette said that environmental education could be incorporated into current lecture material. Mr. Wang welcomed suggestions from Peace Corps on ways to raise environmental consciousness in children and adults alike. Mr. Yao Changtian, Deputy Director-General, Department of Development Planning, State Forestry Administration, described China's efforts to reinforce protection of reserved areas, of which there are 926 in China, to prevent erosion through wetlands preservation and planting, and other programs. He emphasized that most of the ecological preservation efforts and minimization of deforestation and agricultural activities have taken place on the upstream portions of the Yangtze River. Mr. Gary Man, Program Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, Office of International Programs, U.S. Forest Service, responded that there are many similarities between the forests of the U.S. and China, and that the U.S. Forest Service looked forward to continued cooperation with China.

Mr. David Gardiner, Assistant Administrator for Policy, USEPA, noted that the U.S. and China had not yet come to agreement on two projects relating to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) on project based crediting and forest sinks. Because these projects are between USEPA and the State Development and Planning Commission, they were not discussed in detail. The U.S. side noted a desire to hold workshops to further explore bilateral cooperation in this area. Mr. Nitze noted that new projects examining the co-benefits (in terms of public health and the economy) of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions control measures, as well as new air pollution and health research projects, will make the benefits of environmental management more clear to policy makers and the public. Minister Xie agreed, noting that U.S. cooperation on monitoring, forecasting and benchmarking would be particularly helpful. He also suggested that USEPA consider cooperating on an analysis of the sources of air pollution in China.

Finally, the Chinese delegation described China's needs in the areas of solid waste and waste water management, noting the need for improving waste management beyond current waste burial programs. Nearly 70% of China's waste water is discharged without treatment and water pollution fees have not rectified the problem. The U.S. side noted the successful initiation of cooperation on landfill methane and solid waste management, initiated at a Mayor's workshop last month in Nanjing and co-sponsored by the UN Development Program.

Multilateral Issues

Under Secretary Loy opened the discussion by congratulating China on efforts it has undertaken to date to address environmental issues and praised the bilateral cooperation between the two sides on such matters. He noted, however, that the United States and China can't effectively address environmental problems independently, and that the two countries need to work together in multilateral fora considering such issues. Mr. Loy observed that the U.S. and China had worked effectively in such fora on some international environmental issues such as chemicals matters. He stated that the U.S. recognized that there exist differences of views between the two sides on a number of multilateral environmental issues, but said that the U.S. and China have a responsibility to all peoples. He stated that the U.S. and China have a special role given each others' influence, size and power. Mr. Loy then observed that perhaps no issue is more important in this regard than global climate change, and proposed that the U.S. and China hold another session of their High Level Dialogue on Climate Change this summer.

Global Climate Change: On global climate change, Under Secretary Loy observed that as the two largest emitters of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change, the leadership of the U.S. and China in the international community is essential to solve this problem. He noted that the challenge is to build a global system to limit and reduce where possible the rate of emissions growth while protecting economic growth. Mr. Loy stated that with China's help, the incentives to energize technology, capital, and the international rules can be developed that will benefit China in the process.

Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Melinda L. Kimble, proceeded to provide a progress report on global climate change discussions since the last Forum meeting, specifically focussing on the first High Level Dialogue session held in September 1998 in Beijing. She stated that the two days of meetings with a number of Chinese ministries were productive, noting that views on the problem of climate change were exchanged, actions to address it were presented, and opportunities for bilateral cooperation were discussed. Ms. Kimble opined that the session was particularly valuable in helping to understand each government's position in the multilateral negotiations on climate change. She stated that at the meeting, the U.S. outlined why it believes China could benefit financially, technologically, and environmentally from taking on a greenhouse gas emissions target under the Buenos Aires Action Plan and the Kyoto Protocol that allows for very substantial growth in emissions, and participating in emissions trading. Ms. Kimble

noted that the U.S. heard China's concerns at that time with this approach, but that the U.S. continues to believe that there may be opportunities to narrow the differences of views. She stated that it was clear that while the U.S. and China may have some differences in the negotiations, there was strong interest in opportunities to work together to address climate change and related issues. In this regard, and within the context of the multilateral UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Ms. Kimble noted that the two sides had identified an ongoing interest in cooperative opportunities presented by carbon sinks and the Clean Development Mechanism. She concluded that both sides emphasized the need for continued and strengthened cooperation, and agreed to continue the Dialogue.

Under Secretary Loy then congratulated China for its outstanding work to produce the China Climate Change County Study, stating that it was a significant accomplishment involving many Chinese ministries and institutions. He noted that the U.S. was pleased to have recently received the English translation of the report, which was completed with assistance from the U.S. Country Studies Program, USEPA, U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Mr. Loy then called on Todd Stern, Assistant to the President for Special Projects, and coordinator for U.S. climate change policy, to describe U.S. domestic programs to reduce emissions.

Mr. Stern noted that the U.S. is spending approximately \$4 billion annually on climate change related projects, including \$1.4 billion in research and development. He noted that these funding levels represented a 35% increase over the previous year, which was a 25% increase over the year before that. He stated that the U.S. was focussing particularly on high efficiency automobiles, bioenergy, energy and environmental technologies, and other forms of energy efficiency. Mr. Stern noted that in addition to other groups, the U.S. has an extensive consultative process with the energy sector.

Mr. Loy concluded that it is clear that the U.S. and China are both taking actions domestically to address climate change, and that the bilateral cooperation between the two countries on this issue is growing significantly. He stated that it is essential, as the two sides move forward with national and bilateral cooperation on climate change, to enhance cooperation in the multilateral negotiations, and in this regard, that the High Level Dialogue on Climate Change was very useful. He again proposed another session of the Dialogue to be held this summer, without great publicity or a repetition of previously stated positions, but rather as an exchange of ideas.

Minister Xie responded by stating that climate change was discussed at length in the working lunch held earlier in the day between the Vice President and Premier. He noted that China understands the measures that the United States is taking domestically to address climate change and asserted that China is likewise taking measures. The Minister agreed with the need for the U.S. and China to cooperate on this matter and opined that such cooperation could lead to business cooperation and assist with solving the trade deficit between the two countries. He stated his agreement with continuing the dialogue, but noted that it needed substance and that simply repeating old positions

would not be meaningful. Under Secretary Loy concurred that a free discussion was needed – one that would not bind either side, that was low key, and that did not anticipate a result such as a communiqué. He stated that time needed to be taken to prepare and plan for the Dialogue so that effective and meaningful results would be obtained.

A discussion on Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) issues then ensued. Acting Assistant Secretary Kimble stated that, in the context of the Kyoto Protocol and the Buenos Aires Action Plan, the challenge is to develop a system that assists developing countries such as China to limit their emissions growth while pursuing sustainable economic development. The engine for such a system must be the use of market-based mechanisms such as the CDM and emissions trading. She noted the differentiated nature of the Kyoto Protocol with regard to emissions reductions and stated that developed countries had agreed to reduce their emissions. But the overall problem is one of global emissions growth, and in this regard the Kyoto Protocol must be used effectively.

Ms. Kimble noted that the U.S. has the technology available to assist China with its emissions, but restricting the mechanics of the CDM does not help in this process. She also noted that the CDM could be beneficial to China with its forest sector, and that the CDM could become operational by 2000; therefore, there is increased urgency to China's participation in the CDM as soon as possible.

Gao Yanping, Director, Division of Environment, Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responded that China agrees that climate change is an important issue and that the Kyoto Protocol and CDM are important legal instruments. She stated that China's gross domestic product on a per capita basis was low and that China's per capita greenhouse gas emissions were similarly low. Though China opposed emissions limitation commitments on developing countries, it would act responsibly and not refuse to make efforts to limit emission at home. Ms. Gao said many nations have not done in-depth study on the CDM, and that an international debate is needed. She said it will be necessary to first get clear principles and rules in place for the CDM, abiding by the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol, following which we can gradually set up the mechanism in a step-by-step process. Ms. Gao noted that China had submitted its views to the UNFCCC Secretariat in February on the CDM and, in this regard, noted that China believes certain principles needed to be included, particularly regarding methodological and institutional issues.

Under Secretary Loy reiterated that the Kyoto Protocol is essentially a document of differentiated obligations that the U.S., along with others, recognize and support. He stated that China's position on the CDM appeared reasonable, and agreed that discussions are needed on the principles and institutions that would ensure that the CDM would be simple enough to use and would provide certainty that emissions reductions are real and measurable. He noted that the circumstances under which the U.S. would be able to submit the Kyoto Protocol to Congress for ratification would require some sort of increased participation by developing countries. Mr. Loy felt it was in the mutual interests of all to play an appropriate role in a global system with differentiated

responsibilities. Mr. Loy further stated that on the matter of technology and technology transfer, the U.S. recognized that without the wide application of technology, the problem of climate change was unlikely to be solved. He hoped the two sides could discuss further at the High Level Dialogue the mechanisms needed to speed up the flow of technology. Ms. Kimble added that the U.S. had recently submitted its own technical papers on the CDM and other Kyoto mechanisms.

The discussion then turned to Environmental Financing Issues. USEPA Assistant Administrator for International Activities, William A. Nitze, opened the discussion by noting that the issue is one involving the dilemma of how to purchase environmental technologies. He suggested that in order to initiate cooperation between the U.S. and China on environmental finance, a first step might be to organize consultations between U.S. and Chinese financial and environmental experts. Mr. Nitze stated that the U.S. is not as effective as Japan or the European Union in providing attractive financing, but that the U.S. is interested in providing assistance to the energy and electricity generating sectors. He proposed that the U.S. and China begin a dialogue on the issue of environmental project financing.

Minister Xie responded that without U.S. grants or low interest financing little could be done to aid in implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. He concurred that Japan and the European Union have far more attractive financing packages than the U.S., and posed the question of why China should cooperate with the U.S. when the U.S. can't compete in this particular market. Under Secretary Loy agreed that China should purchase the most economical materials; David Sandalow of the Council on Environmental Quality and the National Security Council said that the U.S. has superior environmental technology and suggested the need for a dialogue on the issue. Minister Xie concluded by suggesting that perhaps there was a need to nationalize environmental technologies.

Desertification Issues: Ms. Gao opened the brief discussion on desertification issues by underscoring the severity of the problem in vast areas of China and the importance of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD) as a means of providing needed international technical and financial cooperation to China. She noted that 46 million square meters of China suffers from desertification and dryland degradation, or approximately 30% of China's land area, and nearly 20% of China's population. The negative effects of desertification, Ms. Gao stated, are extraordinarily serious in developing countries. She noted China's status as a party to the CCD and observed that the U.S. has still not ratified the CCD. She affirmed the importance of U.S. ratification of the CCD and expressed the hope that this would occur as soon as possible. We were reminded that at the last Conference of Parties (COP) in Dakar in November 1998, Congressman Donald Payne (D-N.J., and Ranking Minority Member of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Africa) indicated that the U.S. was in the process of ratifying the Convention. Ms. Gao stated that China was taking measures to address its desertification problems by supporting the CCD and appointing officials to

address desertification/soil erosion. But, she stated, China needs financial resources and technology to do this effectively.

Ms. Kimble responded by noting that the U.S. has many areas subject to desertification and drought and has built an experience base on how to manage them. She reiterated the importance the U.S. attaches to the CCD. She informed the Chinese side that the U.S. has signed the Convention and has sent it to the United States Senate for advice and consent to ratification. She also stated that Secretary of State Albright had included the CCD in the urgent (top) category for legislative action by the Congress this year. She also noted that she would be chairing a forum of U.S. environmental and business interests regarding the CCD in the next few weeks. The Chinese side indicated their strong desire to have U.S. ratification completed by the next COP to be hosted by Brazil in late 1999.

International Forests Issues: Mr. Yao Changtian, Deputy Director-General, Department of Development Planning, State Forestry Administration, led the brief discussion on multilateral forest issues by stating that management of forests in China is based on sustainable development principles. He noted that China has developed a reforestation plan and established a sustainable development center. Ms. Gao further said that China participates in many international meetings, including the UN Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF), with an effort towards discussion of future international arrangements to promote sustainable forest management.

Brooks Yeager, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Environmental Affairs, responded by stating that the U.S. is encouraged by the importance Premier Zhu placed on forest issues in his opening address to the Forum earlier in the day. Mr. Yeager noted that the U.S. and China had worked closely at the recent UN Food and Agriculture Organization Ministerial Meeting on Forestry in drafting an action oriented ministerial declaration. Such collaboration, he stated, is not only very welcome but also essential if the U.S. and China are to bring about a positive outcome to the ongoing debate on forests in the United Nations.

Mr. Yeager then reiterated the U.S. position that we do not believe a new legally binding forest convention is the best vehicle to promote international cooperation for sustainable forest management. He noted that the U.S. is concerned about sterile negotiations that would take away from concrete actions on the ground, such as implementing criteria and indicators. Mr. Yeager stated that the U.S. wants to work with China in the IFF. With further regard to criteria and indicators, Mr. Yeager said that the U.S. highly valued the participation of China in the Montreal Process Working Group (MPWG) for Sustainable Forest Management. He noted that the U.S. looks forward to working with China at the next MPWG meeting, which the U.S. will host this fall, and that the U.S. hopes China will consider hosting a meeting.

China did not respond to the U.S. comments on the Montreal Process. Ms. Gao stressed that consensus needs to be reached before discussion about the concrete elements of a

legally binding instrument can be undertaken. She noted that China understands the U.S. position, and that the two countries' goals for sustainable forest management are the same.

International Chemicals Issues: Deputy Assistant Secretary Yeager opened the discussion by indicating U.S. satisfaction with the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Convention and expressed optimism about its prospects for early ratification by the U.S. He expressed the U.S. hope that China too would be in a position to ratify at an early date. Mr. Yeager noted that the U.S. enjoyed a close and cooperative relationship with China during the PIC negotiations, and characterized both countries' positions as pragmatic and sensible.

Turning to the ongoing negotiations on a Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) through the UN Environment Program, Mr. Yeager indicated that the U.S. sought a practical and sensible agreement in this area as well and one that effectively addresses transboundary risks associated with the highest priority substances. He expressed a hope that the U.S. and China could find areas where they could work together in this regard.

Mr. Yeager noted that because of the considerable local risks posed by POPs releases, most countries across all regions of the world had already taken strong action on most of the POPs. He stated that the U.S. believes that the task of the negotiations was to build on this momentum by moving away from the relatively few remaining uses as alternatives become available. As an example, Mr. Yeager noted that China had already indicated under the voluntary Prior Informed Consent procedure that it had banned all of the POPs substances that had been listed under PIC, including such substances as DDT and chlordane. He stated that the U.S. view is that the Convention would be instrumental in directing resources through the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and other mechanisms toward better addressing this problem. Mr. Yeager noted that on technical issues, such as criteria and technical exemptions, the U.S. and China were likely to have much in common. He stated that the U.S. believes that the first Criteria Experts Group report reflected an excellent technical outcome on this issue, and that the U.S. wants to ensure that we build on this outcome in future meetings.

Minister Xie deferred to Mr. Lu who stated that China had agreed to reduce the use of POPs, but that China needed the financial resources and technology to reduce the harmful effects of POPs. He stated that the international community must agree to an acceptable timetable to reduce the use of POPs. On the PIC Convention, Ms. Gao responded by indicating that the development of the PIC Convention was very positive and that China was doing its best to sign and ratify it, hopefully in the near future. With further regard to the POPs agreement, Mr. Gao Shangbin, Deputy Director, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, expressed China's view that the Convention would need to take into account different conditions of developing countries, and that there would need to be differentiated obligations. He also stressed the importance of financing for the implementation of the agreement. Mr. Yeager responded

by stating that the U.S. recognized the need for technical assistance to developing countries.

Biodiversity Issues/Biosafety Protocol: As the Working Group meeting was running late when this agenda item was reached, it was decided to spend less than the allotted time on the Biosafety Protocol. Under Secretary Loy opened the discussion by saying that the United States was disappointed in the results of the suspended Biosafety negotiating session in Cartagena held last Fall. The U.S. is committed to achieving a Biosafety Protocol, but one that is practical and does not unduly hinder research or trade in biotechnology products, he stated. Mr. Wang responded that China too was disappointed by the outcome of the talks in Cartagena. He went on to say that China and other G-77 countries were very concerned about the role of big business in the negotiations. He claimed that China witnessed business representatives interacting with negotiators in the negotiating rooms in Cartagena. Mr. Wang went on to say that helping commercial activity is not the topic of the Protocol; protecting human health is the true topic.

Mr. Loy responded by noting that the U.S. cares about human health issues, but human health issues should be discussed in the Codex Alimentarius meetings under the auspices of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The Biosafety negotiating mandate is about protecting biological diversity. He reiterated that there are very important issues that still need to be discussed in the Biosafety Protocol negotiations, including the impact of the future agreement on the world trading system. Mr. Loy concluded the discussion up by saying that this technology is important to growing economies, and our countries need to discuss in-depth our differences.

U.S.-China Forum on Environment and Development

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY WORKING GROUP

April 9, 1999
U.S. Department of State

Agenda and Schedule

Loy Henderson Auditorium

- 10:00-12:15 pm Opening Plenary Session
 10:00-10:25 am – Vice President/Premier Address
 10:30-10:35 am – Dr. Lane/Mme. Zhu Remarks
 10:35-10:45 am – Introduction of Working Group Chairs
 10:45-11:15 am – Water Management Discussion
 11:15-11:30 am – Coffee/Tea Break
 11:30-12:15 pm – Working Group Chairs Presentation of
 Working Group Goals/Issues
- 12:15-1:30 pm U.S.-China Environment Working Group Luncheon
 Henry Clay Room, Eighth Floor, U.S. State Department

Room 1105 – U.S. State Department

- 2:00-2:30 pm Introduction and Welcoming Remarks
 (U.S./EPA & State Dept. – China/SEPA and MFA)
- 2:30-3:55 pm Discussion of Bilateral Issues
- A. Progress Reports since last Forum Meeting 10 minutes
 - 1. Minister Xie and Administrator Browner Exchange of Visits (China – U.S./EPA)
 - 2. Air Quality Monitoring Cooperation Project (U.S./EPA – China)
 - B. New Air Pollution Control Projects (U.S./EPA – China) 15 minutes
 - C. Industrial Pollution Prevention and Energy Efficiency (U.S./EPA – China) 10 minutes
 - D. Environmental Education (U.S./Peace Corps – China/MFA & SEPA) 10 minutes

- E. Forestry Cooperation/Ecological Forest Environment Development Issues (China/SFA - U.S./EPA & USDA) 10 minutes
- F. Air Quality/Pollution Management Issues (U.S./EPA – China) 10 minutes
- G. Air Pollution and Health Issues (U.S./EPA – China) 10 minutes
- H. Municipal Solid Waste Treatment Strategy Development and Urban Water Environmental Issues (China/MOC – U.S./EPA) 10 minutes

3:55-4:10 pm Coffee/Tea Break

4:10-5:25 pm Discussion of Multilateral Issues

- A. Progress Reports since last Forum Meeting High-Level Global Climate Change Dialogue (U.S./State Dept. – China) 10 minutes
- B. Global Climate Change 20 minutes
 - 1. Clean Development Mechanism Issues (U.S./State Dept. – China/MFA)
 - 2. Other Environmental Financing Issues (U.S./EPA – China/MFA)
- C. Desertification Issues (China/MFA – U.S./State Dept.) 5 minutes
- D. International Forests Issues (China/SFA – U.S./State Dept.) 10 minutes
- E. International Chemicals Issues POPs Regime/PIC Regime/Associated Agricultural Issues (U.S./State Dept. – China/MOA) 20 minutes
- F. Biodiversity Issues Biosafety Protocol (U.S./State Dept. – China) 10 minutes

5:25-5:50 pm Closing Remarks
(U.S./EPA & State Dept. – China/SEPA & MFA)

5:50-6:00 pm Signing Ceremony of Environmental Cooperation Statements
of Intent Between the U.S. and China (U.S./EPA – China)

U.S.-China Forum on Environment and Development

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY WORKING GROUP

April 9, 1999

U.S. Department of State, Room 1105

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