

法
兰
德
斯
中
国
商
会

FCCC
VCKK

FLANDERS-CHINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VLAAMS-CHINESE KAMER VAN KOOPHANDEL

ENVIRONMENT NEWSLETTER | 22 NOVEMBER 2012

Alternative energy

[New-energy theme park to open in Pudong](#)

[Solar power producers offered free grid connection](#)

[China investigates polysilicon imports from Europe](#)

[Desalination could provide water for electricity generation](#)

[U.S. goes ahead with duties on Chinese solar energy products](#)

[Wind energy companies facing tough times](#)

Pollution

[Reporting on air quality could be improved](#)

[Toxicity of energy-saving lights high-lighted](#)

[Plan to combat hazardous waste issued](#)

[New standard to affect number of good air quality days](#)

[Trees planted in Beijing to reduce pollution](#)

Greenhouse gas emissions

[Chinese willing to pay more for eco-friendly products](#)

[China applauds EU freeze on aviation carbon tax](#)

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

New-energy theme park to open in Pudong

A new-energy theme park displaying vintage cars and offering the chance to test drive electric vehicles will open next month at the former World Expo site. The 2062 New-Energy Theme Park covers 50,000 square meters in the Pudong New Area and will open to the public on December 22, organizers said. The park will be divided into five sections and feature solar and wind power generation technologies. There will also be biodiesel technologies on display along with exhibits contributed by leading domestic companies in the new energy field. The name of the park, 2062, has a special meaning, organizers said. "The Mayan Prophecy predicted the end of Earth in 2012, which is not possible. But will human beings change their lifestyles, explore new energies and find better modes of transportation 50 years after the 'doomsday?'" said Zhang Huchao, Market Manager of Shanghai Foremost Multimedia Co, which is in charge of the exhibition.

Solar power producers offered free grid connection

China will allow distributed photovoltaic solar power projects to be connected to the national grid free of charge in a bid to support the renewable energy industry. State Grid Corp on November 1 started providing a free connection service for distributed PV solar electricity producers that are close to customers. State Grid will be responsible for the cost of the

connection and the national grid's modifications. The cost for one network access point is CNY420,000, and 10 points will be needed for a PV solar project of 1 MW, according to Wang Sicheng, Researcher at the Energy Research Institute under the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). Chinese PV solar panel producers have been suffering because of anti-dumping investigations by the United States and the European Commission since October 2011. Many small and medium-sized solar cell manufacturers went bankrupt as a result of declining orders from the shrinking foreign market. Chinese government departments have since been offering solutions to expand domestic demand, reducing dependency on overseas markets. The two major obstacles to China's PV solar power development are high building costs and power transmission management, said Shi Lishan, Deputy Director of the National Energy Administration's New Energy and Renewable Energy Department. State Grid's move will help improve the scale of solar power generation in China, said Martin Daniel, Senior Asia Power Analyst at Platts, a global energy information provider. He said distributed PV solar power is a good way to solve the problem of long distances between major power plants and electricity consumers. During the first nine months, 2.71 million kW of PV solar power projects were integrated into the grid in the State Grid's business area, 4.2 times more than last year, according to Executive Vice President Shu Yinbiao. Those solar projects have generated a total of 2.52 billion kilowatt-hours during the first nine months, a 540% year-on-year increase. At present, PV solar projects with a total generation capacity of 1.26 million kW that have been approved for connection are under construction nationwide, the China Daily reports.

China investigates polysilicon imports from Europe

China launched a trade probe on polysilicon imported from Europe, after the European Union opened similar investigations into Chinese solar products. The Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) said it will look into whether European polysilicon makers have been improperly subsidized by their governments and are selling products at below market prices in China, in response to complaints made by Chinese photovoltaic makers including Jiangsu Zhongneng Polysilicon Technology, a unit of Hong Kong-listed GCL-Poly Energy Holdings. China is the world's largest solar cell and panel maker, with an export-focused industry that counts Europe as its largest market. Due to oversupply, the global average spot price of polysilicon dropped to around USD18.30 a kilogram, below the cost of production for the majority of Chinese polysilicon manufacturers, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance. Hit by imports, China's polysilicon output may fall 25% to 60,000 tons this year. Imports may rise 30% to 85,000 tons, with the vast majority coming from the U.S., South Korea and the EU, according to the China Nonferrous Metals Industry Association. But analysts have said China's polysilicon probe could also put pressure on its own solar panel makers, who will be subject to higher raw material prices if tariffs are imposed. "This will only help a limited number of local Chinese polysilicon producers. It will hurt not only foreign producers but many Chinese wafer, cell, and module makers," Charles Annis, Vice President at research group NPD Solarbuzz, said in an October report. Solarbuzz forecasts average polysilicon prices for photovoltaic applications to fall 52% in 2012 and to start to stabilize in 2013 at around USD21/kg. Polysilicon capacity keeps rising because plants started two to three years ago are hard to abandon, the Shanghai Daily reports.

MOFCOM aims to complete the investigations in a year or, if unusual conditions arise, in 18 months at the most. More than 60% of China's USD35.8 billion worth of solar product exports went to the EU last year, while the country imported USD7.5 billion worth of European solar equipment and raw materials. China imported 64,496 metric tons of polysilicon in the first nine months, up 32.86% year-on-year, customs figures showed. Germany exported 16,047 tons of polysilicon to China in the first three quarters of 2012, when the material had an average price of USD31.86 a kg.

Desalination could provide water for electricity generation

Desalination is viewed by some as a panacea for China's water shortage. But it consumes a lot of electricity, placing a strain on the country's power sector that ironically is being held back by its water shortage. "Water shortage is definitely a serious issue in China," said Tim Luckock, Partner at British law firm Norton Rose, who is involved in the legal aspects of planned desalination plants in China. China's annual renewable water resource per capita was slightly over 2,000 cubic meters between 2003 and 2010, above the water stress level of 1,700 cu m when periodic or limited water shortages can be expected, said an HSBC report. Three municipalities, Beijing, Shanghai and Tianjin, and three provinces, Jiangsu, Hebei and Ningxia,

are running deficits, withdrawing more water than can be replenished, said HSBC. The cheapest way to ease China's water shortage is conventional waste water treatment, which cleans existing water. The other way is desalination, obtaining water from the ocean and removing the salt. "Desalination is a very small part of the water market in China at the moment, but it has very big potential, Luckock said. "There are opportunities for foreign investors to invest in desalination plants in China. The attractive element for investors is the scale of the desalination plants." There are small desalination projects, including Caofeidian in Hebei province and the Tianjin Dagang desalination plant, said Luckock. In November, the Caofeidian plant started operation with a capacity of 50,000 cu m per day, according to Aqualyng, the Norwegian desalination engineering firm that built the plant. The total investment in the plant is CNY430 million, with Beijing Enterprises Water Group, a Hong Kong-listed firm, owning a controlling stake in this project. Hyflux, a Singapore company, operates five desalination plants in China in joint ventures with Chinese companies, including the CNY910 million Tianjin Dagang desalination plant, China's largest seawater desalination plant with a daily capacity of 100,000 cu m. Hyflux's desalination plants in China also include two in Guangdong province. "There has been a mixed view by the Chinese authorities on desalination to date. Desalination is six to seven times more expensive than conventional water treatment and 70% of the cost of desalination is power," said Luckock. Today, 97% of China's electricity requires water to generate it, and China plans to raise its power generation capacity from 967 gigawatt (GW) in 2010 to 2,470 GW by 2030, requiring enormous amounts of water. China will add 1.2 billion GW of water-reliant power by 2030, equivalent to adding nearly six times India's present installed capacity and more than the combined total installed capacity of the U.S., Britain and Australia, said HSBC. "This expansion will further stress water resources unless efficiency is greatly improved." Some coastal cities, including Tianjin, Qingdao and Dalian, have included desalination into their middle- to long-term plans, the South China Morning Post reports.

U.S. goes ahead with duties on Chinese solar energy products

The United States gave final approval to duties on imports of billions of dollars of solar energy products from China for the next five years. The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) voted 6-0 in favor of the duties in a case filed last year by SolarWorld Industries America and which China has called a protectionist move that threatens the future of the solar energy sector by driving up costs for consumers. SolarWorld, the largest U.S. solar panel manufacturer, accused Chinese competitors such as Suntech Power Holdings of selling solar cells and panels in the U.S. at "unfairly low prices and receiving government subsidies." Suntech, the world's largest solar panel producer, was hit with combined U.S. Commerce Department duties of about 36% while another major Chinese manufacturer, Trina Solar, faces duties of about 23.75%. More than a hundred other Chinese producers and exporters face combined duties of 31% to more than 250%. SolarWorld's German parent, SolarWorld, is pressing the European Union for similar curbs on Chinese solar products. Gordon Brinser, President of SolarWorld America, told reporters the unanimous vote showed "very clearly" that U.S. producers had been harmed by the imports, adding that stringent enforcement is needed to prevent the Chinese from circumventing the orders.

The United States imported about USD3.1 billion worth of solar cells and panels from China in 2011, up from USD640 million two years earlier, although both figures contain some products not covered by the investigation. China has already struck back by launching an investigation into imports of solar-grade polysilicon from both the United States and South Korea. Exporters of equipment used in solar manufacturing to China fear they will be caught up in the case. In a separate 4-2 vote, the ITC rejected the Commerce Department's finding of "critical circumstances," which would have made the duties retroactive to 90 days before the preliminary rates were announced. SolarWorld's Brinser said the firm remained disappointed about a Commerce Department decision last month to exclude Chinese panels made with non-Chinese solar cells from the duties. The company fears this decision will encourage Chinese producers to move more cell production overseas. He said his firm would continue to press the Department to close that loophole.

Wind energy companies facing tough times

Sinovel Wind Group Co plans to put 350 workers on leave in response to a sales slump in the industry and a tightening of government policies related to wind power. The 350 employees, who work in Beijing, Yancheng, Jiangsu province, and other places, will receive one month's salary. For the remainder of the leave, they will see their pay cut to 80% of the monthly

minimum wage set by the Beijing government, which is CNY1,260. In the third quarter, Sinovel recorded a loss of CNY280 million, down from the CNY242 million in profit in the same period a year earlier. Its third quarter operating income, meanwhile, decreased by 82% year-on-year, falling to CNY548 million. The company warned it might report an annual loss for 2012. Another listed company, Guangdong-based Ming Yang Wind Power Group, reported it had CNY787 million in operating revenue from January to September, a drop of 58.6% year-on-year. Xinjiang-based Goldwind Science and Technology Co also reported its first single-quarter loss of CNY32.4 million during the third quarter. From January to September, listed Chinese wind power companies saw their income plummet by more than 30% year-on-year. Liu Yuanrui, New-energy Analyst with Changjiang Securities, said that competition between industry players was so fierce that their biggest hope lies in a breakthrough in getting wind power connected to the grid. China is expected to have the installed capacity to generate 100 million kilowatts of wind power by 2015, with 500 kW coming from offshore wind farms. The country already had more than 62 million kW of installed generating capacity by the end of 2011, an increase of 39.4% year-on-year. About 28% was not used, said the Chinese Wind Energy Association. China will see its installed capacity expand at a slower rate up to and after 2015, according to a report by the Global Wind Energy Council. China offers a subsidy of CNY600 for every kilowatt of installed capacity that domestic makers of wind turbines add, the China Daily reports.

- China TBEA Co, a large manufacturer of solar energy transformers, said that BP has transferred all of its equity in two solar joint ventures to the company at zero cost. The move shows BP's determination to exit China's solar market in failure after seven years. BP started the cooperation with TBEA in 2005 when China's solar industry was expanding rapidly. Its investment in the solar business in China totaled CNY48.8 million at the very beginning.
- China's Xunshan Group, the world's largest grower of brown seaweed, will join Bio Architecture Lab, a U.S. biotechnology company, and use its technology to convert seaweed into renewable chemicals, fuels and other products targeting both the Chinese and global market. The two companies will develop an integrated seaweed bio-refinery using Xunshan's seaweed and BAL's conversion technology to produce a low-cost carbohydrate for the production of renewable chemicals, fuels, animal feed and a variety of other high-value products that can be used by energy and pharmaceutical companies.
- European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company, parent of the airplane manufacturer of Airbus, and ENN Group, a bio-energy company based in Hebei province, have signed a memorandum of understanding to work together on technology that can be used to derive biofuel from algae. They reached their agreement at the 9th China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition in Zhuhai, Guangdong province. Their goal is to conduct flights to test algae jet fuel in China in 2013.
- Solar-powered signs that tell waiting passengers the location of buses have been put into trial use at some stops in Shanghai's Pudong New Area. The signs can store energy and power themselves for up to seven days even if it rains.
- China has built its first experimental fast-neutron reactor, which will help it make better use of nuclear energy. The reactor passed official checks after 20 years of development by Chinese scientists, according to the China Institute of Atomic Energy. The reactor is regarded as a major breakthrough in China's strategy to develop its nuclear power sector. Dubbed the China Experimental Fast Reactor, the project makes China one of a few countries in the world that has experimental, power-generating fast reactors.
- China has launched a World Trade Organization (WTO) case against the EU over solar power generation programs in Italy and Greece. China's complaint, alleging that Rome and Athens broke international trade law by favoring local producers, resembles a WTO case that the EU itself has brought against a similar scheme in the Canadian province of Ontario. Beijing's "request for consultations" is the first step in the WTO's dispute settlement process, which can ultimately end in an independent judicial panel authorizing trade sanctions.
- The China Wind Power Conference and Exhibition was held earlier this month in Beijing. The three-day event attracted some 30,000 professionals and other participants from 40 countries. More than 400 companies from 20 countries and

regions displayed their latest wind power products and technologies at the 50,000-square-meter exhibition hall. "As an important renewable clean energy, wind power has witnessed booming worldwide growth," said Liu Qi, Vice Director of the National Energy Administration, in a keynote speech at the opening ceremony. "More than 70 countries had commercial wind power plants with total installed capacity reaching 238 million kilowatts by the end of 2011," he noted. "China leads the world in installed wind power capacity. By the end of this year, its total will exceed 60 million kilowatts, the country's third-largest source of energy."

POLLUTION

Reporting on air quality could be improved

According to a survey on Chinese cities' air quality transparency – which was conducted by the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs from January 1 to August 31 across 113 cities – the public is now better informed about the condition of the air. "The gap in air quality transparency between cities in China and other international cities has been greatly reduced over the past year," said Ma Jun, Director of the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs. "However, some cities are still doing poorly with no PM2.5 monitoring stations set up or delayed." It is also necessary for the government to come up with an alert system or emergency mechanism for heavy-pollution days, Ma said. The public should be warned against being outdoors on those days, and schools should cancel outdoor activities, he added. Weibo, a Chinese microblogging service, has been proved to be an effective channel to release the data, he said. Members of the public need accurate and brief descriptions of the air quality around their neighborhoods instead of a list of dry figures, Wang Wuyi, Researcher with the Institute of Geographic Sciences and National Resources Research said. Guangzhou residents now get air quality information through colored maps, so that they can easily assess the conditions in their neighborhoods. Beijing has also vowed to further improve its emergency plan to respond to heavy pollution, with measures including halting transportation around construction sites to avoid raising dust, and cleaning and watering the roads. Beijing – which set up 35 air-monitoring stations in October that release hourly updates on PM2.5, along with reports on sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and PM10 – tops the air-quality transparency index, followed by Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Dongguan in Guangdong province, the China Daily reports.

Toxicity of energy-saving lights high-lighted

China should raise public awareness of toxicity in used energy-saving lighting products, an investigative report by Economic Information said. 0.5 milligrams of mercury, the average amount contained in a used energy-saving fluorescent tube, can pollute 180 tons of water and surrounding soil. In 2008, energy-saving lights were included in a national list of hazardous waste. People are aware of their energy-saving function without knowing much about toxic dangers, said experts. Broken energy-saving tubes will lead to seriously excessive airborne levels of mercury, which can damage a human being's nervous system. Jin Min, Associate Professor at the Beijing-based Renmin University of China, said that the recovery of energy-saving lamps had become a glaring problem in handling electronic waste. The "green lights" project, launched in 2008, has led to the use of 150 million energy-saving lighting products nationwide, leading to a reduction of 29 million tons of carbon dioxide and 290,000 tons of sulfur dioxide emissions. With the life of energy-saving lamps being around three years, the 150 million products are entering into retirement. Industry experts suggest permanent recovery stations should be set up in communities, enterprises as well as environmental protection organizations, the Shanghai Daily reports.

Plan to combat hazardous waste issued

China's first official plan for hazardous-waste control was jointly released by four ministries, including the Environmental Protection Ministry (MEP). It aims to determine the exact amount and distribution of hazardous waste nationwide; to increase the level of standardized management; and to reduce the environmental risk it might bring by 2015. Hazardous waste includes medical, chemical and heavy-metal waste. A first picture of the distribution of enterprises generating such waste was gained through the first national census on pollution sources in 2007. But information about where the waste goes, how the disposal facilities work, and the types and amounts of the waste generated in past decades is unclear. "No one is aware of the exact amount of hazardous waste we need to deal with now," said Wang Qi,

Director of the Institute of Environmental Engineering Technology of the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences, and an expert on solid-waste treatment. The 2007 survey revealed that hazardous waste produced by industrial sources exceeded 45 million metric tons, while according to "The State of the Environment in China in 2007", the figure was only slightly more than 10 million tons of hazardous waste. Both data came from the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP). In "The State of the Environment in China in 2011", the figure was not even mentioned. "By 2015, the yearly generated hazardous waste will exceed 60 million tons," said Zhong Bin, head of the solid waste sector at the MEP's Pollution Emission Control Department. The corresponding disposal capacity nationwide at present is only about 23 million tons. Detailed targets of the plan include controlling chromium residue pollution, and also finishing the construction of 334 centralized disposal facilities of medical waste and hazardous waste. "The construction work of the 334 facilities was supposed to be finished by 2006, but they are still ongoing now," said Wang Qi from the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences. The total investment in 14 key programs is CNY26.1 billion, which is estimated to bring an output of more than CNY200 billion to the hazardous-waste recycling industry, the China Daily reports.

New standard to affect number of good air quality days

The annual number of days with excellent or good air quality in Shanghai may drop by 20 to 30 percentage points from the current level after a stricter air quality criterion is put into effect. Shanghai started rating local air quality based on six indicators, instead of three, starting November 16, officials from the Shanghai Environment Monitoring Center (SEMC) said. At present, excellent or good air quality is reported for about 330 days, or 90% of the year. The number will be cut to between 220 and 255 days, according to the new standard. The center's website will issue daily and hourly readings of the air quality index (AQI), a composite index of PM10, sulfur dioxide, carbon dioxide, PM2.5, ozone and carbon monoxide levels. Air quality will be indicated by six levels from excellent to severely polluted, with each level assigned a different color, starting from green as the excellent to maroon as the severely polluted. Previously, Shanghai rated its air quality according to three readings of the air pollution index (API): PM10, sulfur dioxide and carbon dioxide. The SEMC will issue timely warnings on air pollution through its website, microblog and public media under the new system.

Trees planted in Beijing to reduce pollution

More trees have been planted recently in Beijing to reduce pollution. By the end of October, more than 13 million trees had been planted over 138 sq km, mostly around the Sixth Ring Road. The area was equal to more than 83% of the target the capital's Forestry Bureau had set for the project this year. Newly planted poplars, pagoda trees and grass will help to reduce pollution in downtown Beijing and shield the city from sand and dust that is periodically blown in from neighboring provinces. As part of the 250-sq-km afforestation project, Beijing's Yanqing district has planted trees on more than 13.8 hectares, mostly along highways and railways. According to the Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau, 24.5% of PM2.5 contaminants in the capital come from neighboring provinces. Preventing them from coming in will greatly improve the city's air. The newly planted trees are expected to prevent as much as 2,096 metric tons of dust from getting into the air each year, the Bureau said.

- China's clean energy generation increased 43% year-on-year to 100 billion kilowatt-hours in September, with hydropower up 52% and wind power up 27%, the State Electricity Regulation Commission (SERC) said. The nation consumed 715.7 billion kWh of green electricity in the first nine months of the year, accounting for 20% of total electricity output, up 22.5% year-on-year.
- Air cleaner systems made by Shanghai Tianyue Development Co are now installed in 10 Shanghai Metro stations for tests. The system will be gradually installed in all stations in the city, according to Wang Lingling, Tianyue's General Manager. "Metro stations are often full of air pollution and bacteria, which can harm the health of thousands of passengers every day," Wang said. After the system was installed in Xujiahui station, pollution and bacteria levels dropped 60%, the company said.
- Shanghai's environmental authority said its inaccurate air quality forecast for the last weekend of October was due to complicated conditions. The Shanghai Environmental Monitoring Center had forecast the weekend's air quality to be good, but it proved to be the city's longest period of air pollution in the past six months with PM2.5 readings

exceeding 300 micrograms per cubic meter at its peak, four times the standard. The city usually has 15 days of air pollution per year.

- The city government of Ningbo in Zhejiang province announced a halt to plans to build a paraxylene (PX) facility at the Sinopec petrochemical plant in Zhenhai district. The concession came after large street demonstrations against the planned project, but demonstrators still doubt the project is completely canceled as preliminary work had already started. In 2007, demonstrations against a PX plant in Xiamen succeeded in halting construction there. In 2011, more than 10,000 protesters in Dalian gathered to demand the closure of a PX facility. In some cases promises to shut down the plants were not honored.
- The central government plans to launch a national program to speed up efforts to control pollutants and improve the country's soil protection. The call for attention to soil in the environment was motivated by the first national survey of soil pollution, which found that China's soil had been seriously polluted by industrial, mining and farming activities. The survey was launched in 2006 by the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP). Minister Zhou Shengxian said that about 10% of China's farmland – 10 million hectares – was polluted. The central government alone would invest up to CNY30 billion.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Chinese willing to pay more for eco-friendly products

The vast majority of Chinese believe climate change is taking place and most consumers are willing to pay more for eco-friendly products to reduce its effects, a survey by the Center for China Climate Change Communication has found. Some 93% of respondents said climate change is under way, while about three out of five respondents feel they have been directly affected by it. The study of 4,169 Chinese adults was carried out from July to September. About 68.4% of respondents said they thought China has already suffered from the effects of climate change, while about half of respondents said it will affect people in rural areas more. About 90% of respondents said the government should have prime responsibility for dealing with climate change, followed by the public, media, companies and NGOs. Zheng Baowei, Director of Renmin University's Research Center of Journalism and Social Development, said the government should play a dominant role in adopting measures and designing policies in line with the public's expectations and interests. More than 93.4% of respondents felt they have knowledge of climate change, while just 6.6% said they had never heard of it. About 60% thought climate change is mainly caused by human activities, while 33% considered it to be mainly caused by the environment. Some 87% of those surveyed said they were willing to pay more for greener products, while more than 34% said they would accept a 30% price rise to buy such products. More than four out of five respondents said they supported the government in setting standards for mandatory garbage separation and waste recycling, adopting greener materials for construction, and producing greener cars, even if it means higher costs. Only 34% of respondents said they separated their garbage, the China Daily reports.

China applauds EU freeze on aviation carbon tax

China, along with the aviation industry, has applauded the European Union's suspension of its carbon tax for one year on flights to and from non-EU countries. The tax faced bitter opposition from Beijing and the rest of Asia. Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hong Lei welcomed the EU's move, while Li Gao, Deputy Director General of Climate Change at the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), said the move was "a step in the right direction". China would take part in international cooperation on climate change, but opposed any unilateral measures like the EU carbon tax, said Hong. Hong Kong flag carrier Cathay Pacific said it welcomed the suspension of the tax that has been criticized for targeting foreign carriers. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) also welcomed the announcement by the European Commissioner for Climate Action Connie Hedegaard suspending the inclusion of international aviation in the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme. This "recognizes the progress that has been made towards a global solution for managing aviation's carbon emissions by ICAO", said Tony Tyler, IATA's Director General. The EU Commissioner said the EU had "stopped the clock" in terms of the enforcement of the tax on flights to and from non-European countries until after the ICAO General Assembly next autumn. Paul Ng of aviation law firm Stephenson Harwood said that China's opposition was a major reason why the EU suspended its tax, as "China obviously is a growing aviation force

with a big cheque book to buy EU aircraft.” Airbus expressed optimism that it would now be able to go ahead with dozens of deliveries of wide-body passenger jets to China. At the height of the row, Airbus had said China was blocking deals to buy passenger jets worth at least USD12 billion, forcing the plane maker to put off part of a planned production increase that would have generated an estimated 1,000 jobs. “We hope we will go back to business as usual,” said Laurence Barron, President of Airbus China. The EU’s decision to freeze its emissions rule will not apply to EU airlines. Only international flights will be exempt from paying for their carbon releases during the year-long suspension period.

- China’s emissions trading system, which is likely to be the world’s second-largest carbon market by 2015, may be a major player if it is connected to the proposed world carbon trading platform, said Andrew Steer, President of the Washington-based World Resources Institute. China has seven pilot emission trading projects, including those in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangdong province. Negotiators from 200 nations and regions agreed to work toward a global treaty taking effect in 2020 at the United Nations’ Climate Change Conference in South Africa in 2011.
- In his report to the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, President Hu Jintao said: “We must give high priority to making ecological progress, work hard to build a beautiful country, and achieve lasting and sustainable development of the Chinese nation.” Hu gave ecological progress a more prominent position by incorporating it into the country’s overall development plan together with economic, political, cultural and social progress. Five years ago, ecological progress was for the first time included in his report.
- Sun-dimming industrial pollution in China or signs that greenhouse gases trap less heat in the atmosphere than expected may help explain an apparent slowdown in global warming since 2000, experts say. The simplest explanation is that China’s sulphate emissions did not go down. Coal-fired power plants emit sulphate pollution that dims sunlight and so offsets warming. “If we’re correct it will make it easier (to slow global warming) but it will still require dramatic reductions in emissions,” said Terje Berntsen, Professor at the University of Oslo.

FOUNDING MEMBERS



STRUCTURAL PARTNERS



Your banner at the FCCC website or newsletter

Companies interested in posting a banner/an advertisement on the FCCC website, FCCC weekly newsletter or bi-weekly sectoral newsletters are kindly invited to contact the FCCC at: info@flanders-china.be

Organisation and founding members FCCC

President: Mr. Bert De Graeve, C.E.O., NV BEKAERT SA

Vice-President: Mr. Stefaan Vanhooren, President Agfa Graphics, Member of the Executive Committee of the Agfa Gevaert Group, NV THE AGFA-GEVAERT GROUP SA

Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. Dirk Mampaey, Senior General Manager Corporate Services, NV KBC Bank SA

Executive Director: Ms. Gwenn Sonck

Members of the Board of Directors and Founding Members:

Mr. Bert De Graeve, C.E.O., NV BEKAERT SA

Mr. Jozef De Mey, Chairman of the Board, NV AGEAS SA

Mrs. Elisabeth Schraepen, Public Affairs Manager, Belgium and Luxembourg, NV AB INBEV SA

Mr. JP Tanghe, Senior Vice President, NV BARCO SA

Mr. Kris Verheye, Vice President Corporate Division, NV BELGACOM SA

Mr. Johan Verstraete, Vice-President Marketing, Sales & Services Weaving Solutions, NV PICANOL SA

Mr. Luc Maton, General Manager Asia Region, NV AHLERS SA

Mr. Marc Stordiau, Member of the Board of Directors, NV DEME SA

Mr. Stephan Csoma, Senior Vice-President Government Affairs, NV UMICORE SA

Mr. Dirk Mampaey, Senior General Manager Corporate Services, NV KBC Bank SA

Membership rates for 2012:

- Large enterprises: €875
- SMEs: €350

Contact:

Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce

Voldersstraat 5, B-9000 Gent

Tel.: +32 9 264 84 86/82 – Fax: +32 9 264 69 93

E-mail: info@flanders-china.be

Website: www.flanders-china.be

Share your story:

To send your input for publication in a future newsletter mail to: info@flanders-china.be



This newsletter is realized with the support of the Federal Government of Belgium, the Flemish Government, the Walloon Government and the Government of the Brussels-Capital Region.

The FCCC Newsletters are edited by Michel Lens, who is based in Beijing and can be contacted by e-mail michel.jc.lens@gmail.com or mobile phone +86-13901323431. Disclaimer: the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the FCCC or its Board of Directors.