



澜沧江-湄公河环境合作中心
Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center

Newsletter

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Expert Views at the Seminar on Global Climate Governance Toward Carbon Neutrality

On March 11, 2022, the Seminar on Global Climate Governance Toward Carbon Neutrality was held in the form of hybrid meeting, which was hosted by the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center (FECO) of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) / the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center (LMEC). Representatives from China Foreign Affairs University, Peking University, Tsinghua University, Fudan University, University of International Business and Economics, Yunnan University, Chinese Academy of Sciences, World Resources Institute, and other international organizations attended the meeting. The seminar exchanged ideas on issues including the framework and progress of global climate governance, challenges and opportunities of regional climate cooperation, and regional environmental cooperation mechanisms to drive China's participation in global climate governance, etc. Expert views are summarized as follows:

GUO Yanjun
China Foreign Affairs University



Addressing climate change is a shared responsibility of humankind, and global action is needed to promote global climate governance jointly. Recently, China has actively carried out climate change practices and achieved positive results. In the future, Bilateral and regional climate change demonstration cooperation should be strengthened in the future, to promote more normalized and unified standards and policy concepts for regional climate governance action and to form a more binding international climate governance normative system, contributing Chinese and regional wisdom to international climate governance.



ZHAI Kun
School of International Studies, Peking University

Recently, the uncertainty of international climate governance has continued to rise, bringing more severe challenges to achieving the net-zero emission target. Therefore, countries need to strengthen their confidence and determination to tackle climate change and adjust global and national interests. Through bilateral and multilateral climate cooperation, improve regional climate resilience and sustainable development and jointly promote the process of global climate governance.



ZHA Daojiong
School of International Studies, Peking University

Building a fair, reasonable, cooperative, and win-win global climate governance system is essential. Countries and regions with relatively low development levels and inadequate infrastructure face the dual challenges of developing the economy and addressing climate change. More attention should be paid to the balancing mitigation measures and people's livelihood. Besides, we should fully respect the differences in the development stages of countries in international climate governance cooperation to steadily promote a low-carbon and sustainable social development on the basis of ensuring the development needs of the people.



LIU Bin
**Institute of Energy, Environment and Economy,
Tsinghua University**

China has taken responsibility for addressing climate change and actively contributed its solutions to global governance over the years. To better contribute to global climate governance, China, in the area of domestic development, should focus on developing science and technology, improve the collaborative governance system for pollution and carbon reduction, and support the realization of the global goal of net-zero emissions. While in terms of international cooperation, China needs to continue to strengthen exchanges in climate governance experience and good practices with countries, improve the technical level and governance capabilities, and promote the construction of a win-win global climate governance system.



ZHAO Minghao
Institute of International Studies, Fudan University

Due to insufficient scientific and technological development and infrastructure construction, some impoverished areas are more vulnerable to the climate crisis, further exacerbating poverty. The United States is jointly promoting climate governance both domestically and internationally by promulgating clean energy policies and building a regional economic and energy framework. In the future, China's participation in global climate governance should also be promoted simultaneously at home and abroad by encouraging technological innovation, strengthening bilateral and multilateral dialogues to improve its governance capabilities effectively, and expanding the cooperation network.

CHEN Xulong
School of International Relations,
University of International Business and Economics



Coping with climate change requires a green and low-carbon transformation of the economy. Countries should formulate practical goals based on their national conditions and development potential and promote green and steadily sustainable development based on rationality and reality. Meanwhile, countries need to adopt a science-based approach to strengthen technological innovation and capacity building in participating in global climate governance and achieving their emission reduction targets.



ZHANG Chun
Institute of International Relations, Yunnan University

Due to the difference in development stages and needs, the countries have various directions for climate governance efforts, making it difficult to form an effective synergy. Therefore, It is recommended that countries at different stages of development form unified and normalized international climate governance standards. For developing countries, it is necessary to further strengthen exchanges and cooperation and jointly explore the coordinated development path for economic growth and climate change.

CHEN Shaofeng Institutes of Science and Development, Chinese Academy of Sciences



International trade injects impetus into the economic development of countries. However, issues such as the transfer of carbon emissions in trade activities also impact climate change substantially. Therefore, content relevant to addressing climate change should be added to regional trade agreements, to promote international trade and climate governance coordination and integration. Moreover, countries need to take independent measures for green development, participate in international cooperation, and explore feasible paths for sustainable development.



LIU Zhe World Resources Institute

For better global climate governance and delivery of climate goals, countries should adopt a unified standard for nationally determined contributions and strengthen the legal constraints on climate commitments. For developing countries such as China, more international funds and technologies are needed to support climate mitigation and adaptation. To this end, countries should strengthen cooperation in addressing climate change, make full use of bilateral and multilateral cooperation platforms, and integrate international resources to explore more efficient collaboration approaches in addressing climate change.

KANG Aili Wildlife Conservation Society



Cooperation on climate change requires the participation of more academic research institutions and social forces. On the one hand, China should strengthen its joint research and academic exchanges with other countries, share its best practices in addressing climate change, and raise the voice of developing countries in international climate change science. On the other hand, China needs to guide more domestic NGOs and other social forces to “go global”, improve their participation in the global response to climate change, and attract more environmental cooperation entities to engage.



LI Nan World Wide Fund For Nature

Climate change is a common challenge facing the world. Capital investment and its rational allocation on a global scale are crucial to climate governance. Climate adaptation funding needs to support developing countries and regions with low climate resilience, while climate mitigation funding should target those with more significant emission reduction potential. Recipient countries, on the other hand, should also fully mobilize their funds and carry out green development actions independently and improve the overall effectiveness of addressing climate change.

LI Xia Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, Ministry of Ecology and Environment



Regional climate cooperation involves technical issues and politics, economy, and environment, among others. In regional cooperation, countries need to respect and understand each other's differences in culture and development and promptly adjust the path and mode of cooperation. FECO will continue to expand international climate cooperation partnerships, making Chinese contributions to South-South cooperation on climate change and global climate governance.

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About LMEC: Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation(LMEC), established in 2017 in Beijing, China, aims to boost the capacity of environmental governance of each country and achieve regional sustainable development through the promotion of environmental cooperation among the Lancang-Mekong Countries.