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# Create New Green Drivers to Promote High Quality Development

At present and for some time to come, we must carry out the spirit of the Central Economic Work Conference in eco-environmental work and strive to create five new drivers of "green system, green innovation, green industry, green consumption and green market". While solving outstanding environmental problems and improving the quality of ecological environment, we will continue to make new progress in achieving high quality development of our economy.

It is pointed out at the just-concluded Central Economic Work Conference that our economy has shifted from a phase of high growth to high quality. High-quality development refers to the development that can meet the people's ever-increasing needs for a better life, that reflects the new development concepts, that innovation becomes the first force, coordination becomes the endogenous characteristic, green becomes the universal form, openness becomes the only way, and sharing becomes the fundamental purpose.

Promoting high-quality development is the fundamental requirement for determining development ideas, formulating economic policies and implementing macro-control at present and in the coming period, and its strategic objective is to build a modern economic system. Ecological environment protection plays an important role in advancing the supply-side structural reform and accelerating the industrial transformation and upgrading. At present and for some time to come, we must carry out the spirit of the Central Economic Work Conference in eco-environmental work and strive to create five new drivers of "green system, green innovation, green industry, green consumption and green market". While solving outstanding environmental problems and improving the quality of ecological environment, we will continue to make new progress in achieving high quality development of our economy.

## **1. Intensify reform of the environmental governance system and enhance new drivers of the green system.**

Promote the development of high-quality economy, make green a common form, the core is to form endogenous motivation mechanism. Through the reform of institutional mechanisms and the establishment and improvement of laws and regulations, we should form an executive view, achievement view and practice view of green development, and promote local Party committees, governments at all levels and enterprises to fulfill their environmental responsibilities.

Strictly implement the environmental responsibility of local Party committees and governments at all levels. We should continue to carry out the central environmental supervision system, promote reform of environmental vertical management system and strictly enforce the environmental responsibility of local Party committees and

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governments at all levels. In addition, we should constantly improve the rigid constraints on green development, establish and implement the system of outgoing audit on natural resources assets and environmental protection accountability system leading by local Party committees and governments at all levels, and give full play to the direction role of leading cadres in evaluation.

Strictly implement corporate environmental governance responsibilities. Efforts should be intensified in improving backward production capacity and “scattered, disorderly and polluting” enterprises, and implementing the "one proof" management of pollution permits. We also should establish a corporate environmental credit rating system, build promise-keeping encouragement and promise-breaking punishment mechanism, and construct a corporate ecosystem damage compensation system.

Raise the threshold for industrial environmental entry. According to the requirements of “Three Lines and One List” (ecological protection red line, environmental quality bottom line, resource utilization upper line and environmental access negative list), we should determine the land and space development pattern, the overall economic development planning and the industrial development planning, conduct strict environmental impact assessments on economic and social development plans, economic policies and construction projects, and implement a strict industrial environmental access system.

Improve the environmental standards system. In view of the traditional high-consumption, high-emission and high-risk industries as well as some heavily polluted areas and watersheds, we should develop and strictly limit the discharge of pollutants, resource energy consumption standard and clean production level specification, drive enterprises’ production mode to be green through standard specification, promote supply-side structural reform, and achieve industrial optimization and upgrading.

## **2. Strengthen innovation in green technology and enhance new drivers of green innovation.**

Innovation is an important force for promoting the development of a country and its people, and also the entire human society. With the increasing challenges of resources and environment, in the face of major opportunities and challenges in a new round of the global scientific and technological revolution and industrial restructuring, the impetus for economic development is being transformed, and green technological innovation will become a new impetus for the economic restructuring of all countries in the world.

Promote green transformation of national innovation strategy. We should further implement the national innovation-driven strategy for green development, put the green development as an important foundation and the basic requirement of national innovation, increase investment in capital, talent and other resources for green technology innovation, and strengthen national green technology innovation and reform.

Strengthen research and development of green technologies in manufacturing. We

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should promote the eco-design of industrial products, accelerate the development and application of source prevention production technology and process, and promote the green "Made in China 2025"; accelerate the green transformation of traditional industries such as iron and steel and non-ferrous metals, and strengthen the R & D and promotion of clean production technologies and products; and foster and cultivate and re-design and in-service remanufacturing green new service-oriented industries.

Actively explore green technology innovation model. We should establish a green industrial chain innovation project with resource recycling, efficient utilization and low carbon conservation and constantly explore the "Internet +", the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, big data and other new modes and new formats combined with the green development.

### **3. Vigorously develop energy-saving and environmental protection industries, and enhance the new drivers of green economy.**

The requirements of high-quality economic development have opened up huge market space for the development of green economy. Investment in important environmental protection infrastructure construction, ecological protection and restoration projects, resources recycling low-carbon industries, energy saving and environmental protection technologies become an important engine leading economic development.

Promote the implementation of major national green industry projects. Combined with the strategic layout of the key areas during the 13th Five-Year Plan and the major regions such as Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei, the Yangtze River Economic Belt, Belt and Road, and the Xiong'an New Area, we should formulate and implement clean energy, air quality improvement, water system management, soil environmental protection, ecological protection and restoration, waste resources recycling, beautiful rural construction, intelligent environment protection and other major projects, and promote great development of the industry with heavy green investment.

Promote the market-oriented environmental protection industry. We should strengthen third-party governance of the environment, government purchase of environmental services, environmental monitoring social services, and the guidance, cultivation and support of PPP systems; explore the reform of water prices, sewage treatment, waste disposal and other taxation standards, and improve the profitability of the environmental protection industry; encourage the development of environmental technology consulting, system design, operations management and other specialized services; and strictly regulate the market and establish the performance appraisal mechanism and the credibility mechanism of environmental service enterprises.

Implement the "going global" strategy for green industry. With the help of "Belt and Road", aid construction projects and so on, with infrastructure construction as a carrier, we should output pollution control facilities construction and environmental services, guide enterprises' green foreign investment behavior. Moreover, we should set up public service platforms such as domestic and foreign environmental technologies, markets, policies, regulations and standards, and provide service for the energy conservation and environmental protection industry to go global.

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#### **4. Guide the transformation of consumption patterns and enhance the new drivers of green consumption.**

In terms of economic structure optimization and upgrading, we cannot ignore the fact that culture is fundamental and the field of household consumption. Diligence and thrift are the traditional virtues of the Chinese nation. We must promote the green transformation of economic development and lifestyles through the establishment of an all-people green consumption action system that uses resources economically and intensively.

Build a nationwide action system for green consumption. We should strengthen the propaganda and education of ecological civilization, incorporate ecological civilization into the national quality education and cadre training system, promote the education of ecological civilization into the classroom and the community, and firmly establish the concept of ecological civilization in the whole society; promote green consumer revolution, vigorously popularize green low-carbon travel, encourage green living and leisure mode; and advance the building of green families and green communities and lead the green consumption pattern through demonstration by example, display and exhibitions and job creation, and create an atmosphere of public opinion conducive to a green lifestyle.

Promote the green procurement system. We should improve laws and policies related to green procurement, promote supply of green products, formulate green production technology policies for key products, create a green product supply chain, and establish a green product circulation service system to encourage non-governmental organizations and enterprises to implement green procurement.

Improve the green consumption policy. We should actively promote the "leader" system of environmental protection, improve producer responsibility extension system, and implement green supply chain management; improve the fiscal and taxation systems and actively guide consumers to buy energy-saving and environment-friendly low-carbon products; and explore to formulate a uniform green labeling management system and reward and punishment mechanism.

#### **5. Improve the mechanism for economic incentives and strengthen new drivers of the green market.**

Perfecting market mechanisms and policies and fostering effective market players are of great significance to expand effective supply of environmental governance, form a green production and life style, and achieve a coordinated economic and environmental development.

Energetically promote innovation in environmental and economic policies. Progress should be made in implementing discharge fees and tax reform on environmental protection, and improving the environmental economic policies such as environmental protection tax, ecological compensation and emission trading. We should also promote the implementation of the reform of subsidies, such as electricity pricing for

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desulfurization and denitration of power generation, electricity generation through waste incineration, turning coal into gas and coal to electricity, and increase the price reform of urban sewage and household waste treatment.

Improve the green fiscal tax policy. We should optimize the use of special funds for fiscal adjustment, support environmental protection advanced technology research, development, demonstration and promotion in environmental quality priority improvement areas, key ecological protection areas and key areas; implement preferential tax policies on environmental protection, energy and water conservation, and comprehensive utilization of resources in accordance with the law, adopt such policies as tax relief, low interest loans and depreciation discount on enterprises that manufacture and use advanced environmental protection equipment.

Accelerate the establishment of a sound green financial system. We should actively introduce third-party governance and PPP models, and encourage all types of investment to enter the green market; positively encourage local governments and private capital to jointly set up the environmental protection industry development fund; and study the establishment of a national ecological bank or a green development bank to strengthen innovation in financial products and services such as green securities, green bonds and green insurance.

