

ASEAN-China High-level Forum on Green and Sustainable Development ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum 2021 Held in Nanning

On 25 October, ASEAN-China High-level Forum on Green and Sustainable Development & ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum 2021 was held in Nanning City, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the form of online & offline conference. Zhao Yingmin, Vice Minister of Ecology and Environment of the PRC, attended and addressed the opening ceremony through video. Phouvong LUANGXAYSANA, Vice Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Lao PDR; Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN; Deng Xijun, Chinese Ambassador to ASEAN; and Luo Zhanghua, Deputy Secretary General the People's Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, addressed the opening ceremony.

On the forum, guests reviewed the latest progress of ecological civilization construction and ecoenvironmental protection in China and reaffirmed the willingness to work together with ASEAN Member States to implement the *Framework of ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Strategy and Framework of Action 2021-2025.* It is emphasized that the two sides should enhance policy communication and coordination to jointly make greater contribution to global environmental governance, and seize the opportunity of green recovery to expand cooperation and create new momentum for green and low-carbon development in the region.

Guests attending the forum spoke highly of the achievements in the past 10 years since the inauguration of ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum and China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center. It is expected that the Forum could provide an opportunity for the two sides to strengthen the strategic partnership, making the concept of green development partnership gain wider recognition and promoting ASEAN-China environmental cooperation to generate more fruitful outcomes.

2021 is the ASEAN-China Year of Sustainable Development Cooperation. A total of 19 events are scheduled, including ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Week, ASEAN-China Dialogue on Climate Investment and Finance, and ASEAN-China Mangrove Conservation Workshop. As an important event of ASEAN-China Year of Sustainable Development Cooperation, the Forum is composed of a main forum and 4 parallel sub-forums held in the form of online & offline meetings. Over 300 representatives from environmental departments of ASEAN Member States, embassies to China, local environmental departments of China, international organizations, research institutions and businesses attended the forum.

Zhao Yingmin Vice Minister of Ecology and Environment The People's Republic of China



2021 marks the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations. The decision of making sustainable development the theme for ASEAN-China cooperation for this year fully demonstrates the importance attached by the two sides to cooperate in ecological and environmental protection. Giving full play to the role of China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center, the two sides consolidated the basis of cooperation, developed and implemented environmental cooperation strategies, reached cooperation consensus, launched ASEAN-China Green Envoys Programs, ASEAN-China Partnership for Eco-friendly Urban Development and other flagship programs, and carried out practical cooperation in climate change, biodiversity conservation, and urban environmental management. While promoting ecological civilization construction, the Chinese government also takes an active part in global environmental governance, shares experience, offers solutions and makes contributions. In the future, through policy dialogue, capacity building, joint research and pilot projects, China and ASEAN will focus on global and regional hotspot issues including biodiversity conservation to jointly improve regional ecology and environment. China and ASEAN will work together to overcome the impact of COVID-19, tap the potential of cooperation and make greater contribution to promoting regional sustainable development and building a closer ASEAN-China community with a shared future.



Lim Jock Hoi Secretary-General of ASEAN

ASEAN-China partnership and cooperation in the last three decades since the establishement of Dialogue Relations have shown tremendous progress and achievements in environment and other aspects. Addressing climate change and promoting sustainable development are at the heart of ASEAN's agenda and priorities. The *ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework* (ACRF) aims to promote a steady socioeconomic recovery with a focus on sustainable development in the post-pandemic era. China has always been a partner of ASEAN in the area of environmental protection and sustainable development. The two sides will continue to engage in communication and cooperation in addressing climate change and mangrove conservation, call for the participation, advocacy and innovation from the youth generation and encourage the youth to put forward innovative solutions. ASEAN will forge a closer partnership with China to address global and regional issues such as climate change.



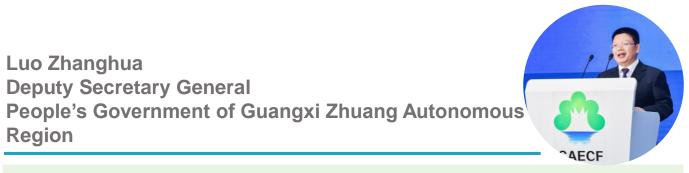
Phouvong LUANGXAYSANA Vice Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao PDR

Phouvong LUANGXAYSANA congratulated on the successful holding of ASEAN-China High-level Forum on Green and Sustainable Development & ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum 2021. Great achievements have been made in environmental protection and sustainable development under the guidance of ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Strategy. The two sides will take the opportunity of the Forum to enhance cooperation and make greater contribution to sustainable development in the region.



Deng Xijun Chinese Ambassador to ASEAN

This year marks the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations. It is also the ASEAN-China Year of Sustainable Development Cooperation. Realizing sustainable and resilient development is the common goal of China and ASEAN Member States and a priority area for ASEAN-China cooperation. Under the theme of sustainable development, the two sides have been promoting exchange and cooperation in areas such as environmental protection, climate change, biodiversity and disaster prevention and reduction, and constantly improve cooperation mechnisms and explore new cooperation opportunities, making the concept of green development patnership a consensus and effectively promoting the upgrade of ASEAN-China strategic partnership. The two sides should take the 30th anniversary as a new starting point, further enhance coordination and fully unleash the potential of cooperation based on the principle of open, inclusive, and mutually beneficial cooperation on an equal footing, so as to allow the development achievements and favorable ecology to benefit local people in a better and fairer manner.



Guangxi is at the frontier of ASEAN-China cooperation with great potential in green and sustainable development cooperation with ASEAN Member States. In the future, Guangxi will enhance cooperation with ASEAN Member States in addressing climate change, mangrove and biodiversity conservation, further strengthen communication and cooperation in ecology and environment, and jointly make greater contribution to promoting regional sustainable development and building a closer ASEAN-China community with a shared future.



Zhou Guomei Director General Department of International Cooperation China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center Ministry of Ecology and Environment The People's Republic of China

Since the start of this year, with the joint efforts of both sides, China and ASEAN have organized a series of events with positive outcomes, including the Inauguration of ASEAN-China Year of Sustainable Development Cooperation and ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Week. As an important event under the framework of ASEAN-China Year of Sustainable Development Cooperation, the Forum was held by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the PRC and the People's Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region with the support of ASEAN Member States, ASEAN Secretariat and partners on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of ASEAN-China Environment and promote cooperation in major regional environmental issues of common concern such as addressing climate change and biodiversity conservation.

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China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center is committed to implementing China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Strategy and promoting China-ASEAN exchange and cooperation in the field of environment. It is an important platform of foreign environmental cooperation.