

May 26, 2012

In the afternoon of May, 26th, the first seminar of the sub-forum "East Asian Ecological Construction Strategies for 2011-2020" of Shanghai Forum 2012 is held in the Ziwei Hall of Xijiao State Guest Hotel. Centering on the topic of current ecological crisis of East Asia and its strategies, scholars from Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and other countries and regions voice their opinions from different angles.

This seminar consists of two halves. The first half is hosted by Professor Jiang Yihua, director of Center for Comparative Studies of Modernization, Fudan University. He points out that East Asia is now confronted with increasingly severe environmental crisis. Professor Huang Chihlien, president of Hong Kong Society of Asia & Pacific 21, is the first to speak in the first half. His insightful remarks presents a set of innovative theory based on analysis of Chinese and foreign historic literature, as well as his own research. He holds that communication between ethnic group and civilization must conform to the development needs of "Human Being as a "Five-principle System" (Physiology, Psychology, Interpersonal Relation, Physics and Heavenly Truth) which interacts between individual and group. During past five hundred years when western model reigned, influenced by capitalism, exchanges between people to object and object to object were extremely frequent but detrimental to local group civilization, resulting in ecological problems, therefore seriously endangered biological diversity. Therefore, "The model of modern biological exchange" should be integrated with "eight-point plan of ecological civilization construction" so that human civilization development will contribute to quality development of material, biology, nature and ecology. Shaw Chen Liu, researcher from Research Center for Environmental Changes, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, analyzes global data (GOCP) covering the period 1979 - 2007 in the new method and finds that globally the very

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heavy precipitation (top 10% bin of precipitation intensity) increase substantially in the case of total precipitation basically remain unchanged, thus, the moderate and light precipitation correspondingly decreases and result in droughts, which is considered more dangerous than floods. As global temperature climbs up, significant changes are found in eastern China. Increases in heavy precipitation lead to more floods, while chronic decreases of moderate and light precipitation pose a serious threat to droughts. Therefore, adaptation strategies need to be developed and implemented quickly. Zhao Zhangyuan, researcher from Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences, points out that against the backdrop of global environmental crisis ,air pollution, land desertification. Environmental condition of East Asia is now the most serious among global environmental crises, so to speak. We are actually "racing with death".

Then, what strategies and measures should we make against the environmental crises that severely threaten our survival? The second half is hosted by Professor Dong Zhenghua, head of Center for Studies of World Modernization Process Of Peking University. This half is devoted to discussion on strategies for ecological crisis. From the angle of economic impact, Professor Lin Hua Sing from Waseda University analyzes the severe impacts on Japanese and Chinese economies brought about by debt crisis in America and EU. Fan Ying, researcher from Institute of Policy and Management, Chinese Academy of Sciences, discusses deeply the emission reduction of greenhouse gas, thinking that differentiation on carbon taxes scheme can lower the information cost of policy implementation, increase policy acceptability, and yield emission reduction results that are better than the implementation of carbon tariff. Global differentiation on carbon taxes scheme, under the principle of cost equity, can be served as an effective international cooperation emission reduction mechanism. Professor Zhuang Guoshun from Department Of Environmental Science and Engineering, Fudan University gives a detailed analysis of dust-haze, a new type of weather brought about by serious air pollution, to explain that long-distance



transport of aerosol is a main contributor to air pollution in Chinese cities and dust-haze. By introduction of Chinese and foreign theories on control of haze pollution, he points out that apart from long-term control ,precise forecasting and early warning remain the most powerful guarantees of current controlling measures, and presents general thinking, long-term management mechanism and emergency emission reduction countermeasures for controlling main pollutants of typical haze pollution.

To solve environmental and ecological crisis remains a long and uphill battle and an arduous task that needs comprehensive strategies. This seminar attempts to deepen our understanding in this area from all dimensions. However, it is rather obvious that the discussion still needs to be developed and continued. In addition, in face of this common survival crisis for us, we need to respond to it with more concerns and more effective concrete actions.