Maintain Global Eco-environment Initiatives of Belt and Road —— Take Economic Development as the Bond to Combat Global Climate Change

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Abstract: As a big and responsible developing country, China, facing current serious challenge of human survival and development, put forward to set up Eurasia and Eurafrica economic belts in order to promote the improvement of Belt and Road idea which can push the development of global economy. China, is the founding member of Belt and Road, actively expedite the countries along the Belt and Road to construct the fair, effective, cooperative and win-win international economic climate governance system. Meanwhile, China presents the belief and determination of pushing green and low-carbon idea and win-win economy. Through analyzing the opportunities and challenges of the alongside countries which will be faced during the international climate cooperation carrying out process, this article will discuss the Belt and Road Initiative of maintaining global ecological security, and aim at provide some new thoughts about how to promote the orderly and healthy development of global ecological security through Belt and Road.

Key Words: Belt and Road; Economy; Climate Change; Countermeasures

1. INTRODUCTION

According to the related information, in 2016, the phenomenon of global warming is worsening; the area of the world’s existing glacier is shrinking rapidly; the melting speed of ice shelves in Arctic is escalating continuously; the harsh weather appeared frequently all over the world; and the drinking water sources for humans will face a severe challenge. At present, because Cold War mentality and trade barriers exist around the world, different country, different country, different interest group and different geopolitical region work each for their selves, exclude and resist to each other. Therefore, global economic growth be curbed, and humans could not face the vital survival challenge caused by climate warming. (Wang, 2015) In thousands of years, the thought of being prepared for danger in times of peace is the secret for humans to deal with all kinds of natural disasters, live and reproduce. The developing history of human beings is also the history of economic development. Each industrial revolution is obvious and significant for every economic leap. However, along with the high-speed propulsion of global economy, global climate changes caused by industrial pollution also let each country think more and further about the sustainable development of national economy. "Optimize structure", "slash overcapacity", "promote environmental protection" have become a consensus for every country. Facing the enormous challenge triggered by serious economic crisis, humans gradually know how to use economic methods and information technology to find the holes of the development of global economy. With the development by leaps and bounds, information technology also provides more powerful methods for people to understand economy afresh, broaden new horizons, expand new economic field, and increase the regulation for economy. This is why China's economy can keep the globally admired high growth rate in this decade. Information technology industry contributes a great share to China's prosperity and strength.
green and low-carbon idea and win-win economy, expect to realize the sustainable development with the partners, and create a community of shared future for mankind. Economic development and operation principle complement with each other. And the development of global economy needs every country in the world to cooperate together, communicate and coordinate actively, complement mutually, cope with and tide over the difficulties jointly. I remember that the former president of the United States Franklin D. Roosevelt, while he first took office in the White House and faced the serious economic crisis at that time, said: "This is a day of national consecration. And I am certain that on this day my fellow Americans expect that on my induction into the Presidency, I will address them with a candor and a decision which the present situation of our people impels. This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor need we shrink from honestly facing conditions in our country today. This great nation will endure, as it has endured, will revive and will prosper." Today, people from all over the world should also have this courage and the sense of crisis of "national consecration", and use the collective wisdom from mankind to cope with present human's existence crises. Thus, the research on maintaining global ecological security through the Belt and Road is extremely important and has significant practical meaning.

2. OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE COOPERATION FOR THE COUNTRIES ALONG THE BELT AND ROAD

(1) opportunities of international climate cooperation for related countries

Under the Belt and Road and linked with economic development, opportunities coexist with challenges for combating global climate change. In the aspect of opportunities, first of all, because the concept of sustainable development and combating global climate change is taking hold in people's hearts, the initiatives of Belt and Road cope with the problem of global climate change is imperative. In recent years, countries all over the world have put forward many objectives and agreements about sustainable development and how to deal with climate change. China also proposes some measures and initiatives in succession especially focus on the development concept of "green", and the green economy has turned into an important premise of national communication and cooperation. Secondly, with the heightened level of participation in international affairs, China, as the host, needs to constantly improve the level of diplomacy and agenda setting. Belt and Road concept and the cooperation in dealing with global climate change aspect also create a good platform for Chinese diplomacy. This concept and cooperation have played a crucial role in international diplomacy, global climate governance, and some other related fields. Based on the existing achievements, China should further improve the ability of participation and guidance of global governance. Furthermore, dealing with the global climate change is the inevitable demand to the countries along the Belt and Road. The mutual cooperation and the mutual benefit are powerful measures to various countries to promote economic transformation and upgrading, and realize the development of green economy. The important premise of achieving orderly and healthy development of the related nations is to gradually enhance the ability of promoting the development of green economy and combating global climate change. Similarly, this ability is the powerful guarantee for sustainable development of the whole world. (Wang and Yang, 2017) To strengthen the cooperation of these countries in green infrastructure, green energy and some other related fields, can effectively achieve regional common development and prosperity. Finally, the achievements of China in combating global climate change field are obvious to all the countries. By virtue of accumulated scientific experiences, advanced technology level and comprehensive protection scheme, China plays a remarkable role in ecological environment protection aspect. Such as the issue of energy conservation and emission reduction, China has harvested a lot of achievements in energy saving, green transportation, renewable energy and related fields. Especially in the aspects of high-speed railway construction and the manufacturing of wind-power and photovoltaic equipment, etc, China has reached internationally-advanced level.

(2) Challenges of international climate cooperation for related countries

In terms of challenges, at present, development level of the countries along the Belt and Road is relatively backward. If these countries seek economic development in the future, more or less, the large scale of greenhouse gases will be discharged. Hence, the situation of emission reduction is not optimistic. The per capita emissions of most developing countries are still obviously less than the global average level. When promoting the development of industrialization, the rising of greenhouse gas emissions is inevitable. Under the current constraints of industrialization, the rising of greenhouse gas emissions is inevitable. Under the current constraints of narrow carbon emission space, these countries will face the great pressure of emission reduction. Next, the resource endowment of the related nation is that carbon is the primary composition; hence, the development of green low-carbon energy will face great difficulties. China, India and Southeast Asia have abundant coal resources, and the Middle East is rich in petroleum resources. Thus, these countries, especially the region with relatively backward economic development level, will face multiple obstacles from economic, political, social and other
aspects when developing low-carbon energy. (Zhou et al., 2017) At last, these countries’ environmental standards and related carbon emission standards is relatively loose, and the public also lack the effective eco-environment protection awareness. The environmental influence of international cooperation projects has attracted worldwide attention. In the past, some Chinese enterprises also generated some controversy due to lacking the consideration of local eco-environment protection.

3. MAINTAIN GLOBAL ECOLOGICAL SECURITY INITIATIVES OF BELT AND ROAD

(1) strengthen communication and cooperation among the countries along the Belt and Road; improve the ability of combating global climate change (Strengthen communication and cooperation; improve combating ability). First of all, combating global climate change should be constructed into one of the important cooperation fields and key points under Belt and Road concept. China should improve the diplomatic position of dealing with global climate change during the events that China host, effectively use the influence of Belt and Road neighboring diplomacy and accumulation in the field of global climate governance, to orderly create and strengthen the related platform, improve mechanism and structure, and then play a more important role in the process of global governance and international rules making. In addition, based on the respect of partners’ development agenda and appeal, the countries along the Belt and Road should combine the comparative advantages of different countries, in order to realize the benefit maximization from international cooperation. Through communication and cooperation, each country could promote the implementation of national autonomous sharing and improve the ability of combating global climate change. At the same time, depends on the actual and comprehensive consideration of neighboring countries’ situation, the countries should strengthen international cooperation, especially in the fields of green infrastructure, green energy, green transportation, etc. Finally, based on the existing cooperation platform of the countries along the Belt and Road, through the channels of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and Silk Road Fund, effectively adopt international trade, government assistance and other methods, introduce scientific cooperation mode, maximally mobilize the active participation and cooperation of different stakeholders, in order to truly promote all-dimensional cooperation in dealing with global climate change from policy, economic and business aspects (Jiang and Geng, 2015).

(2) construct Belt and Road eco-civilization dissemination mechanism and improve the sense of identity of China’s ecological development concept among the countries along the Belt and Road (construct eco-civilization dissemination mechanism; improve the sense of identity of ecological development concept)

The vision of Belt and Road is to create a community of shared future for mankind and achieve benefit-sharing and win-win results of human beings. Therefore, during the process of spreading Belt and Road concept, China should insist the scientific leading of ecological development idea, in order to realize the construction of Belt and Road eco-civilization dissemination mechanism. For the three years that Belt and Road initiative has been put forward, China has obtained the active support and positive response from over one hundred countries and international organizations. At the same time, more than 40 countries and international organizations have established the cooperation agreement with China. Chinese companies invested tens of billions of dollars in the countries along the Belt and Road. Various significant projects were built and grew up in related countries, which promote the development of these nations’ economy. Even if Belt and Road Initiative have obtained a series of development achievements, it still exist various international prejudices, and some countries point out that the industrialization development will bring pollution problems for local ecological environment. (Qi et al., 2017) For this situation, China must improve the attention, build a scientific and complete Belt and Road eco-civilization communication system, intensify the power of propaganda, and make the countries and society recognize that Chinese government and Chinese enterprises will not destroy the natural environment in the construction of Belt and Road. Meanwhile, China could build Belt and Road monitoring analysis and working response mechanism of international public sentiment. On the one hand, international public sentiment can reflect the developing effects and the existing problems of the Belt and Road. On the other hand, it can tackle the possible positive or negative influences of future work. In order to fully understand the responses of international public sentiment to the Belt and Road, China must increase the monitoring of related effective sentiment, make full use of these monitoring and analyzing results, apply in the next work, adopt countermeasures, and actively promote the ordered development of the Belt and Road construction. Hence, China’s related departments should continuously explore and establish monitoring, analyzing and coping mechanism to international public sentiment, make the work constantly tends to be standardized, normalized, gradually improve working ability, and further provide better services for construction of the Belt and Road.

3. CONCLUSION

To sum up, China’s efforts are universally recognized
by the international community. Through signing the various infrastructure projects and business agreements with the nations along the Belt and Road, China has specifically represented its development strategy and blueprint of green economy. China has set an example by personally and numerous green projects are already under construction. "Developing economy, starting from environmental protection; green and low carbon, leading sustainable development." This is the common concept should be followed by all the countries. The community initiative of Belt and Road can support the countries around the world to build up a greener future, and become one of the significant actions to combat global climate change. Today because of global warming, the earth is facing a more severe challenge of survival. Only every country’s governments and people make concerted efforts and overcome the difficulties together, mankind will win more “green mountains and rivers” for survival and sustainable development.

REFERENCES