



Science, Technology and Education News from China

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Introduction

As China celebrates its achievements on the 30th anniversary of the economic reform and opening up policy, the country is more and more aware of the challenges lying ahead for a sustainable future with resource restraints and the need to protect the environment. The 1st International Expo on Energy Conservation and Emissions Reduction is due to be held in 2009, organised by the most powerful Ministries in China, such as the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). Traditional Medicine (TM) is on the agenda of the World Health Organisation (WHO) to be promoted in the primary healthcare sector around the globe. Boarding schools from “the 1st world” are taking Chinese kids into their cradles, rousing debates among education specialists.

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1. 1st International Expo on Energy Conservation and Emissions Reduction to be Held in 2009

(MOST, 26-11-2008)

Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (MOST) recently announced to hold the 2009 International Expo on Energy Conservation and Emission Reduction at the Beijing Exhibition Centre between 19 and 23 March 2009, jointly with the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Railways, Government Offices Administration of the State Council, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and China Association for Science and Technology. With the theme of "Facilitating Energy Conservation & Emission Reduction and Benefiting the Public through S&T", the expo aims to promote and commercialize technologies and to release information on latest achievements.

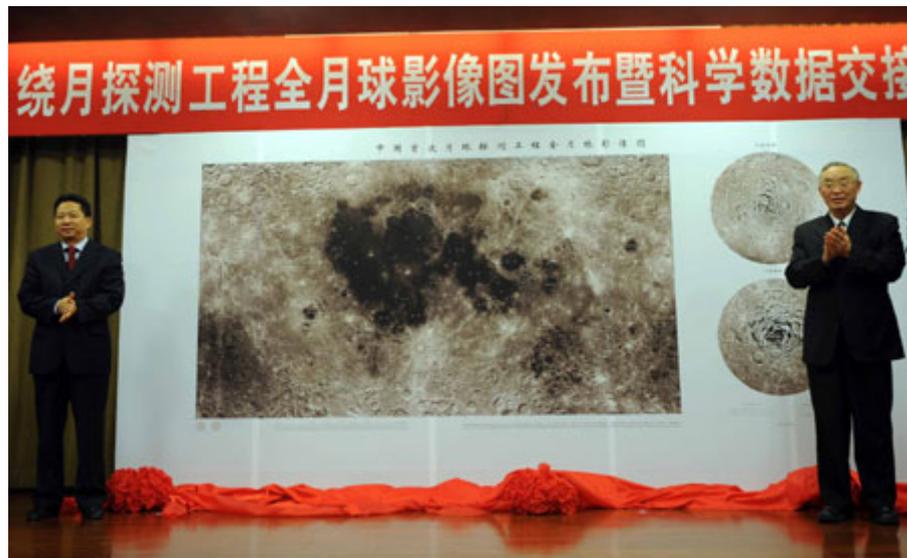
2. Shell Forges Partnership with CAS Institutes for Bio-Energy Development

(CAS, 26-11-2008)

Royal Dutch Shell PLC (Shell) signed agreements recently with Massachusetts Institute of Technology from US and five other institutions around the world to find new sources for bio fuel that might improve energy efficiency at lower costs. The two Chinese partners are: CAS Institute of Microbiology, and CAS Qingdao Institute of Bio energy & Bioprocess Technology.

3. China Reveals its 1st Map of the Moon's Complete Surface

(Xinhua, 12-11-2008)



Chinese scientists revealed the country's first full map of the moon's surface on 12 November 2008, more than a year after the launch of its first lunar probe, Chang'e-1. The picture of the moon surface covered the complete range of areas on the moon surface, according to the State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence, which is in charge of the country's moon program. Scientists created the map with the image data captured by the satellite-borne camera on Chang'e-1.



4. CCICED 2008 Annual General Meeting Held in Beijing

(CCICED, 24-11-2008)

China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) 2008 Annual General Meeting was held in Beijing between 12 and 14 November 2008, with the theme of "Harmonious Development through Innovation". Mr. Li Keqiang, Vice Premier of the State Council and Chairperson of CCICED attended the meeting and made a keynote speech. Mr. Zhou Shengxian, Minister of Environmental Protection and Chinese Executive Vice Chairperson of CCICED chaired the opening session. More than 200 participants including both International and Chinese Members of CCICED, Task Force Co-chairs, heads of relevant government departments, representatives of foreign embassies and international organizations, Chinese and International observers as well as experts attended the meeting.

Mr. Li said, "...the current international financial crisis is a key challenge (to China). However, if we responded with appropriate reforms and implementation, we could turn the crisis into an opportunity for us to modify our approach to economic and social developments.

The Chinese Government has taken the improvement of eco environment as a key agenda for the promotion of our economic growth. This shows the determination of the Chinese Government on continuous promotion of the scientific outlook on development and harmonious development. As China is the biggest developing country in the world, its steady & fast economic growth is an important contribution to global economy. Meanwhile, the government has made such efforts as improving the quality & efficiency of economic growth, facilitating technological progress and economic restructuring, which may continuously improve people's living standard and quality of life.

[...]

In the future, China will firmly adhere to the path of scientific development. It will protect the environment during economic growth and develop economy with environmental considerations in order to facilitate harmonious development of economy, society, natural resources and the environment. We will adhere to the development of ecological culture, accelerate the development of industrial structure, production & consumption modes conducive to energy saving & environmental protection so as to achieve the harmony between man and nature."

5. 9 Nuclear Plants in Pipeline

(CAST, 20-11-2008)

At least nine nuclear power plants (NPP) will be built over the next two years, the China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA) said in a news release on November 11. [...] The new plants will help achieve the country's goal of having 40 million kilowatts of installed nuclear capacity by 2020, which will account for 4 percent of the total generating capacity.

6. WHO Congress on Traditional Medicine Held in Beijing

(Embassy, 12-11-2008)

[The WHO Congress on Traditional Medicine](#) (TM) was held in Beijing between 7 and 9 November 2008, on the 60th anniversary of the WHO and the 30th anniversary of the Alma-Ata Declaration. It operated on two levels, one being the International Forum on the Integration of TM into Healthcare Systems, with about 400 representatives from the Ministries of Health of about 70 countries, a vast majority of whom came from Asia and Africa; the other level being the Satellite Symposia and Exhibitions where the Chinese TM practitioners and manufacturers of TM equipments and herbal medicine were most prevalent. [Beijing Declaration](#) on the promotion and development of TM was established.

Related information: [Traditional Medicine](#)

7. Nature Magazine Publishes Scientists' Work on Mapping Chinese Genome

(Xinhua, 07-11-2008)

The latest edition of the journal Nature reports on scientists' progress in mapping the Han Chinese genome. [...] The sequencing is the first for a Han Chinese and the third for humans overall. [...] The project is the Asian section of a



comparative genomics project by Chinese and British scientists, which aims to create genome databases for various races from different continents.

8. Martial Arts Gives Disabled New Freedom

(SCMP, 27-11-2008)



Born with cerebral palsy, Mr Wong, 31, was never able to raise his right hand above his chest or lift his right leg when walking. But four years ago, his life changed dramatically after he began a weekly martial arts session given by Grace Link Charity, a group providing educational and social welfare services to disabled people and those on rehabilitation treatment. "Look, I can raise my arm onto the top of my head now, and very few people can tell I had a problem with my leg," says Mr Wong, who has become an instructor for other disabled martial art practitioners at the training centre.

9. Chinese Government Scholarship Standard Increased

(CSC, 13-11-2008)

In recent years, China has achieved stable and rapid development in economy and great progress in reform and opening up. China's international status and influence has been on the rise. More and more international students have been attracted to study in China. A great number of international young students get to know and love Chinese culture and help to bridge China and foreign countries. With the economic development, the number of students awarded Chinese Government Scholarship will be continuously increasing. In order to show concerns for international students, and considering international students' living needs and rising prices, Chinese government has decided to increase the scholarship standard from January 2009

10. Overseas Boarding Schools Recruit Chinese Students

(Xinhua, 09-11-2008)

A group of 72 well-known boarding schools from the United States, Switzerland and Canada jointly hosted an Education Fair especially for Chinese students on 7 November 2008 in Beijing and Shanghai. Sarah Rowland, representative of The Association of Boarding School (TABS) based in the United States, said that more Chinese families are capable and willing to send their children abroad for study, as a result of China's fast growing economy and the country's integration into the global market. TABS statistics revealed that only about 60 Chinese students in Shanghai's middle and primary schools had applied to study abroad in 1997. Since 2001, the figure had grown by more than 1,500 students annually.[...] However, many Chinese education experts object to sending children overseas for study at middle school age as cases are frequently reported that the students cannot live independently and many get homesick and even suffer psychological problems.