



China and the climate negotiations

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Changing perceptions

1949年 只有社会主义才能救中国
Only socialism can save China

1979年 只有资本主义才能救中国
Only capitalism can save China

1989年 只有中国才能救社会主义
Only China can save socialism

2009年 只有中国才能救资本主义
Only China can save capitalism



1978 – a new revolution

Deng Xiaoping:
Open door; economic
reform
4 modernizations



China's environmental crisis has become intolerable



Benxi: Pollution from steel mills blows over residential buildings [July, 2007.] Photo: Gilles Sabrie/Corbis.
Image may be subject to copyright.

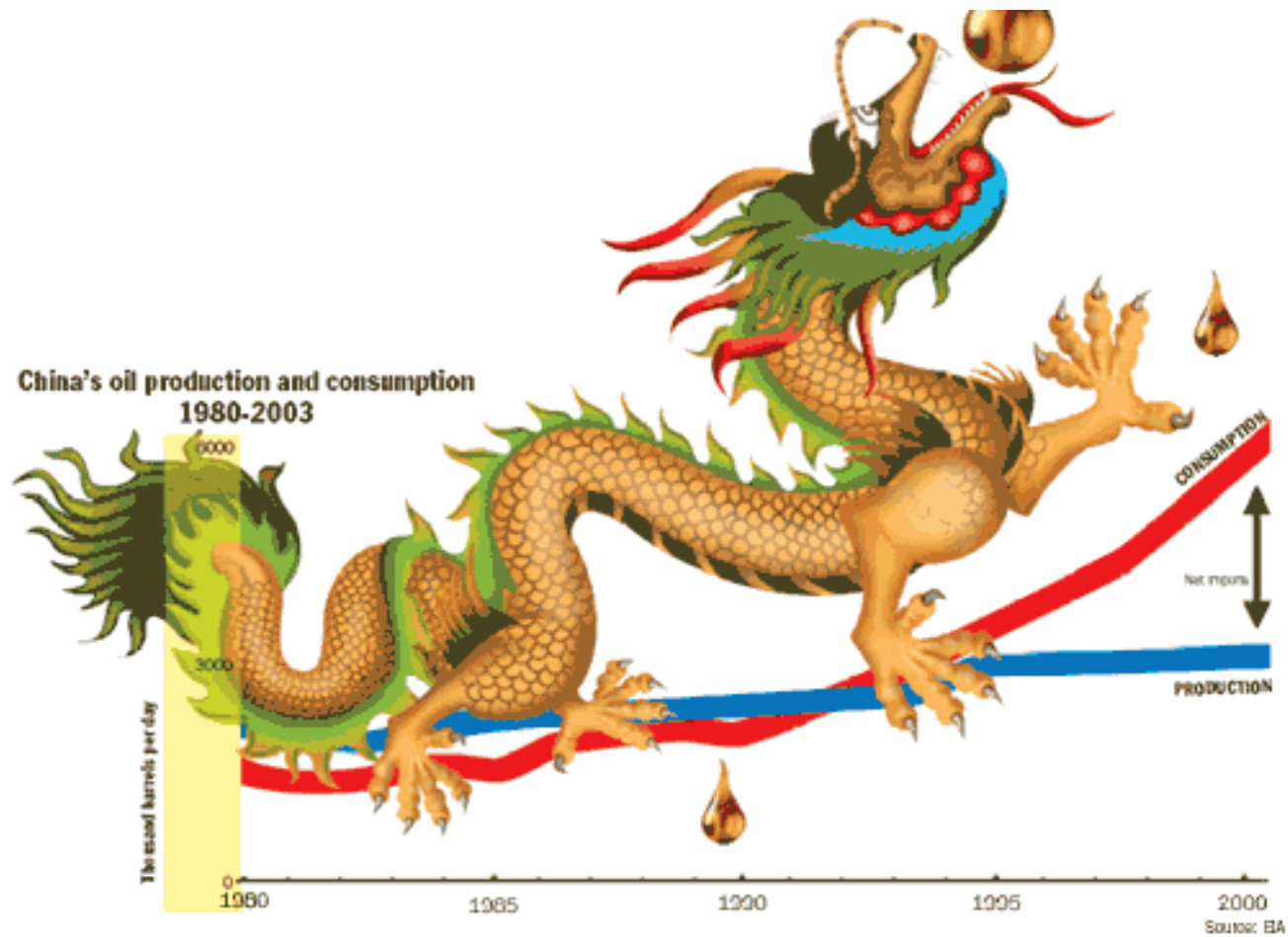
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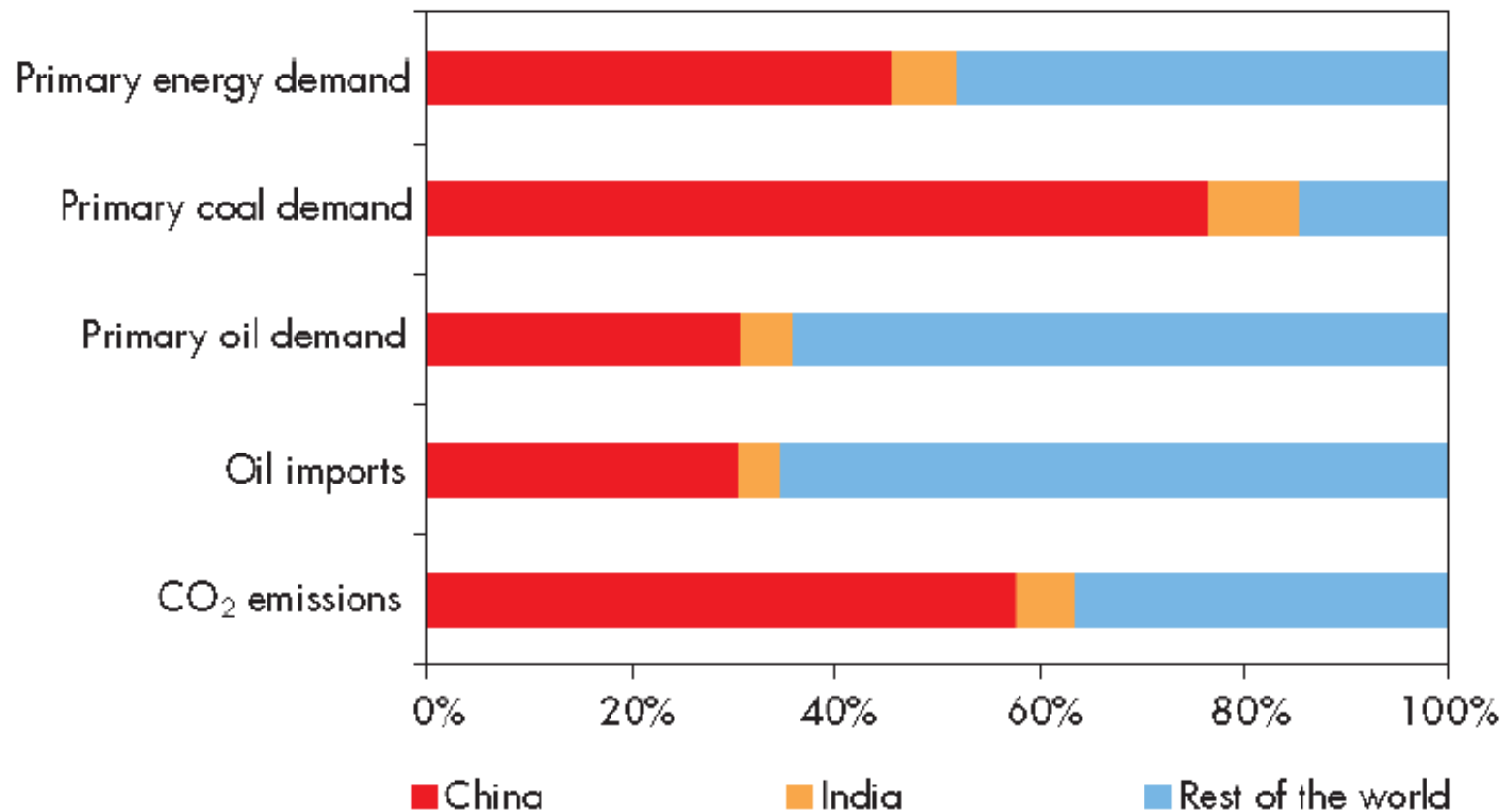
Environmental problems = Protests



The dragon is thirsty for energy



Incremental demand for key fossil fuels and in energy-related CO₂ emissions in China, India, and the rest of the world (2000-2006)



Source: IEA, WEO 2007

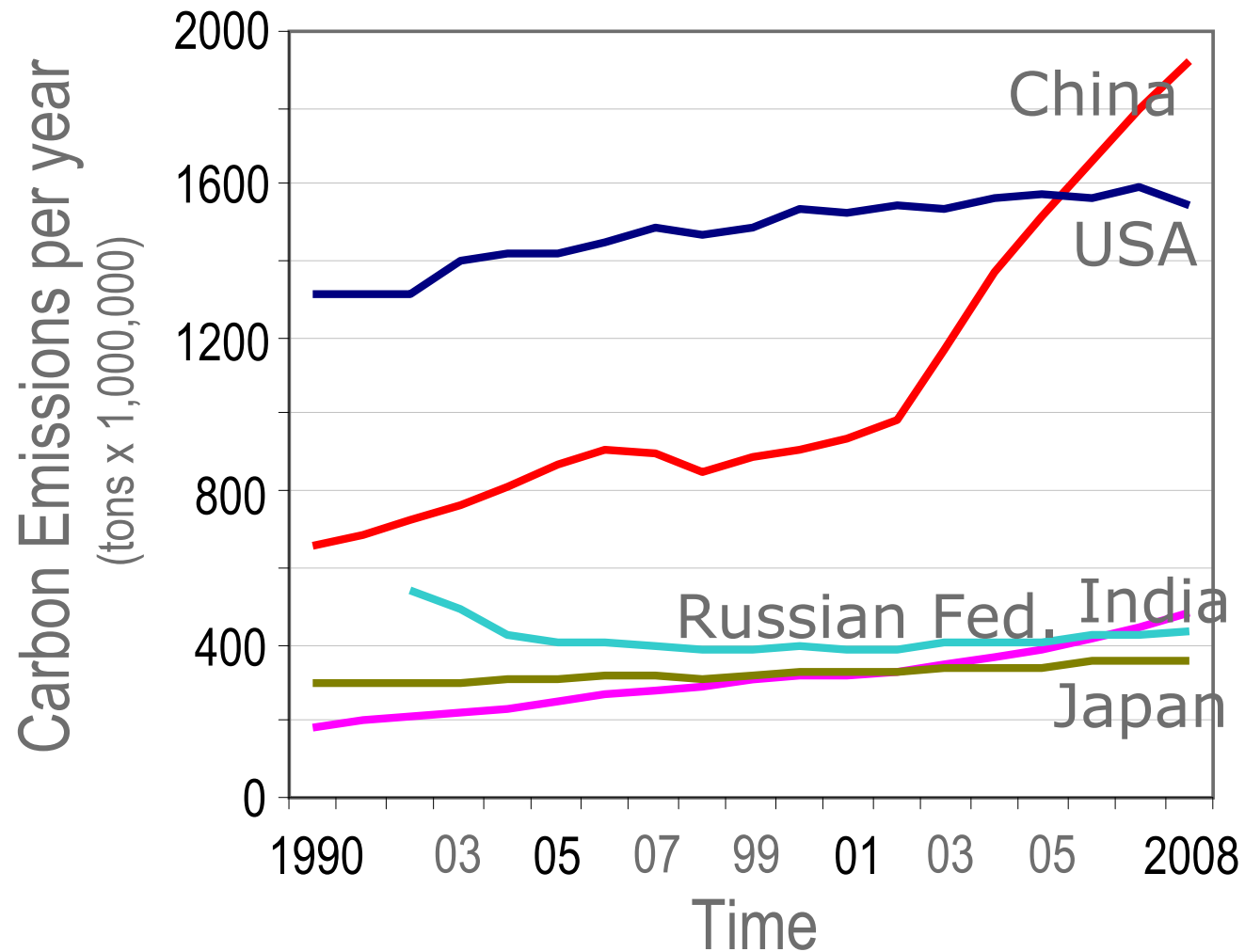


China's total emission

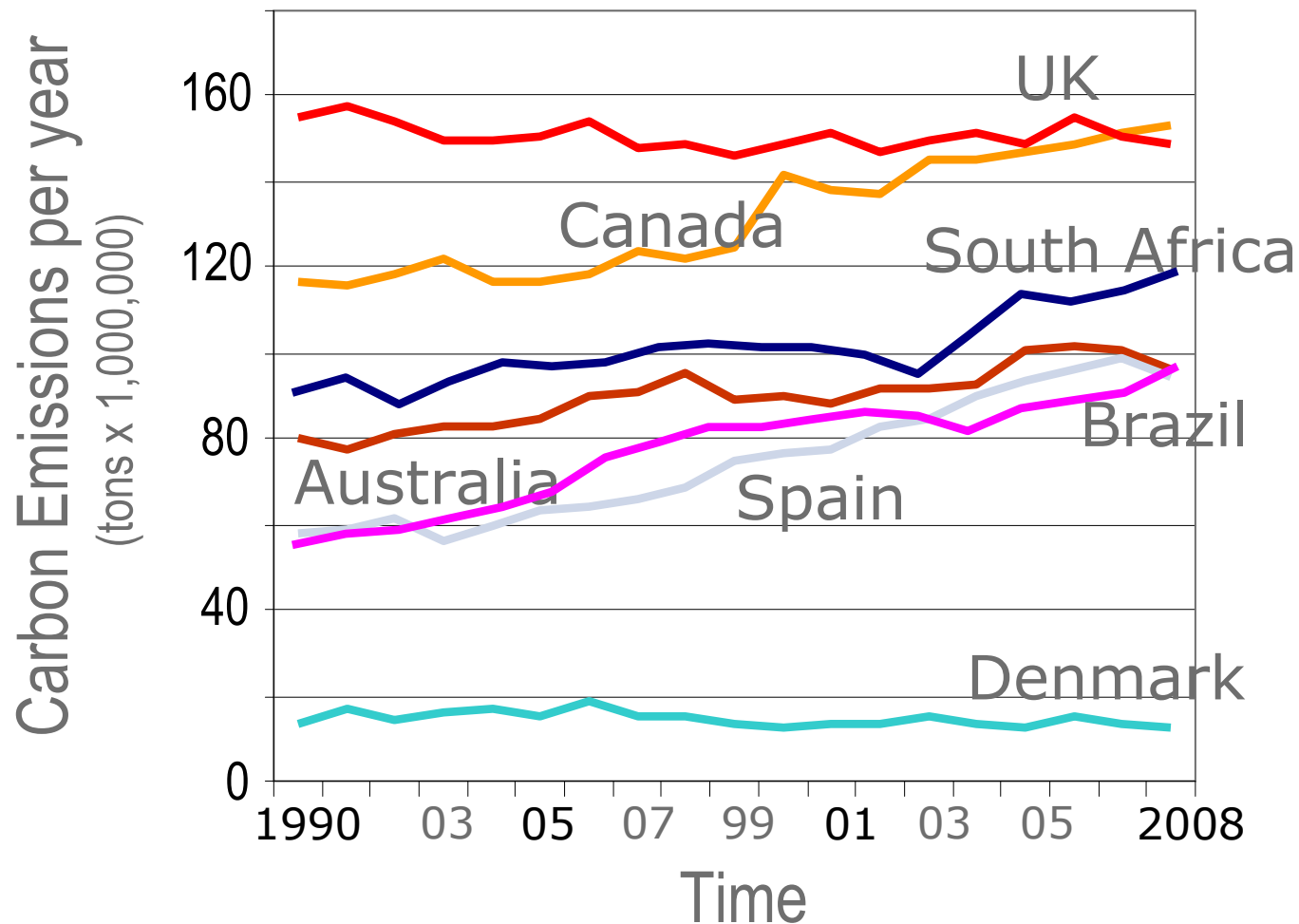
Item	Year	1994	2004
Total GHG emissions	Mill. t. of CO ₂ eq.	4,060	6,100
	Mill. t. net emissions	3,650	5,600
- of which:	Mill. t. of CO ₂	3,070	5,050
	Mill. t. of CO ₂ eq of CH ₄	730	720
	Mill. t. of CO ₂ eq of N ₂ O	260	330



Fossil Fuel Emissions: Top Emitters (>4% of Total)



Fossil Fuel Emissions: Profile Examples (1-4% of Total)



Comparison of key country variables

Key variables	China	USA	Japan
Population (million)	1,320	302	128
Per capita (US\$) (PPP)	5,345	45,790	33,525
Energy use per unit of (toe/ thousand \$)	0.26	0.17	0.12
Per capita CO _{2eq} emissions (2003 data; tons)	3.2	19.5	9.8

The 2008 World Development Indicators, available on-line at:

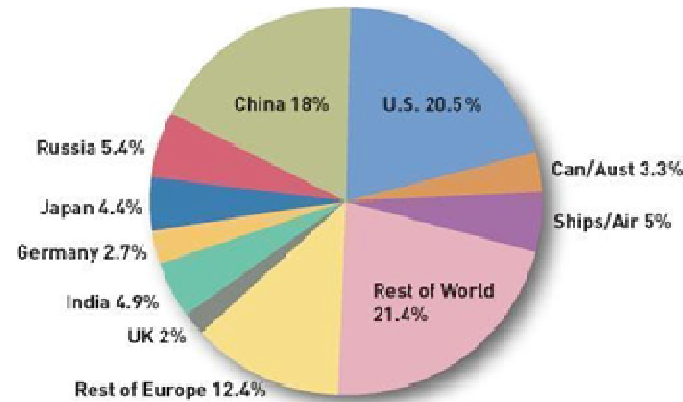
<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/DATASTATISTICS/0,,contentMDK:20399244~menuPK:1504474~pagePK:64133150~piPK:64133175~theSitePK:239419,00.html#ranking;>

EarthTrends Environmental Information, WRI, available on-line at: <http://earthtrends.wri.org/text/climate-atmosphere/variable-666.html>

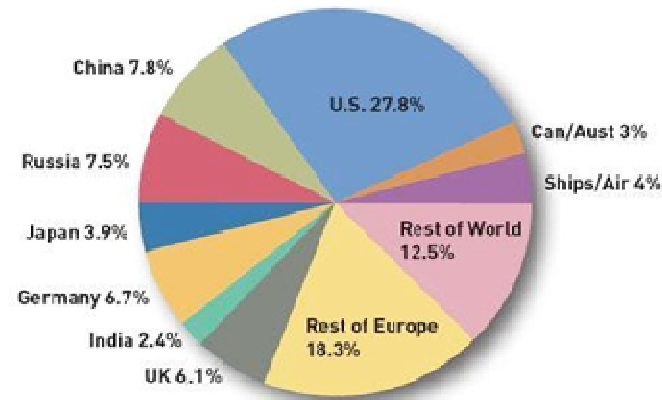


Accumulated current and historical emissions in comparison

2005 ANNUAL EMISSIONS



1750-2005 ACCUMULATED EMISSIONS



Does the colour of the cat still matter?



Well, to some extent not so much anymore!

- ✓ The environmental problems have been recognized
- ✓ The climate change challenge has been acknowledged
- ✓ New development strategy with sustainability as a key component; wish to move towards a low carbon economy
- ✓ China invests heavily in new and renewable energy and wants to be a world leader in the field
- ✓ The financial crisis has accelerated investments in the RE sector
- ✓ China is willing to enter a climate change agreement and to pay some of the bill itself!



What does China do to deal with climate change?

Comprehensive approach at national level

- ✓ Green transformation 绿色转型
- ✓ Focus on improving energy efficiency across critical sectors
- ✓ Transformation of the energy system; more reliance on RE and nuclear
- ✓ Comprehensive afforestation programs
- ✓ New climate change goals: reduction of carbon intensity by 40-45% in 2020 compared to 2005
- ✓ Expansion of R&D programs, e.g. in RE
- ✓ Increased financing behind mitigation measures
- ✓ New institutional infrastructure to handle coordination and implementation
- ✓ Provincial climate programs being rolled out
- ✓ Intensified international collaboration
- ✓ Biggest beneficiary in the world of CDM projects



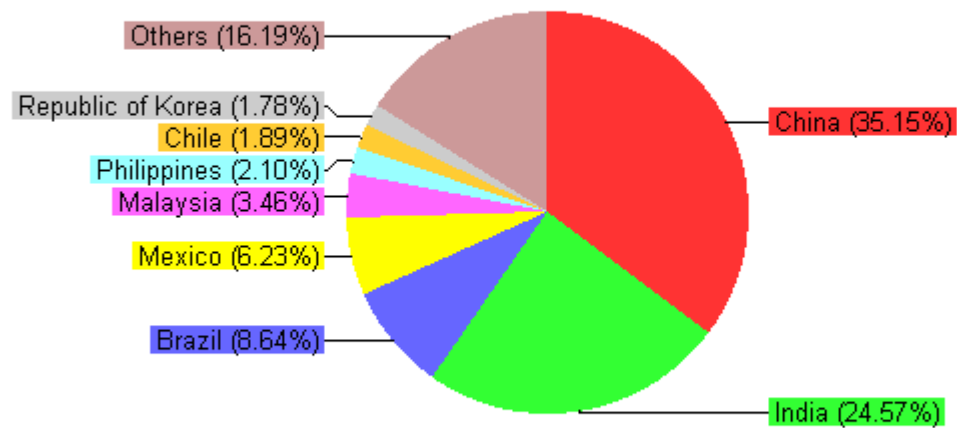
China's climate change strategy

Name of document	Organization responsible	Date	Source
The People's Republic of China Initial National Communication on Climate Change		October 2004	http://www.ccchina.gov.cn/file/en_source/da/da2004110901.pdf
China's National Climate Change Programme	National Development and Reform Commission	June 2007	http://en.ndrc.gov.cn/newsrelease/P020070604561191006823.pdf
<i>Chinese version:</i> 中国应对气候变化国家方案	国家发展改革委	2007年6月	http://www.sdpc.gov.cn/xwfb/t20070604_139486.htm
White paper: China's policies and actions on climate change	State Council Information Office	10.2008	http://www.china.org.cn/government/news/2008-10/29/content_16681689.htm
<i>Chinese version:</i> 中国应对气候变化的政策与行动	国务院新闻办公室	10.2008	http://www.china.com.cn/policy/qhbh/node_7055577.htm
China's Views On Enabling the Full, Effective and Sustained Implementation of the Convention Through Long-term Cooperative Action Now, Up to and Beyond 2012	Report to ICFC	28.09.2008	http://unfccc.int/files/kyoto_protocol/application/pdf/china_bap_280908.pdf
Implementation of the Bali roadmap-China's Position on the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference	NDRC	20.05.2009	http://www.china-un.ch/eng/bjzl/t564324.htm
<i>Chinese version:</i> 国政府关于哥本哈根气候变化会议的立场			http://www.china-un.ch/chn/bjzl/t564315.htm



CDM: Globally registered projects

Registered project activities by host party. Total: 1,909



<http://cdm.unfccc.int> (c) 25.11.2009 15:53

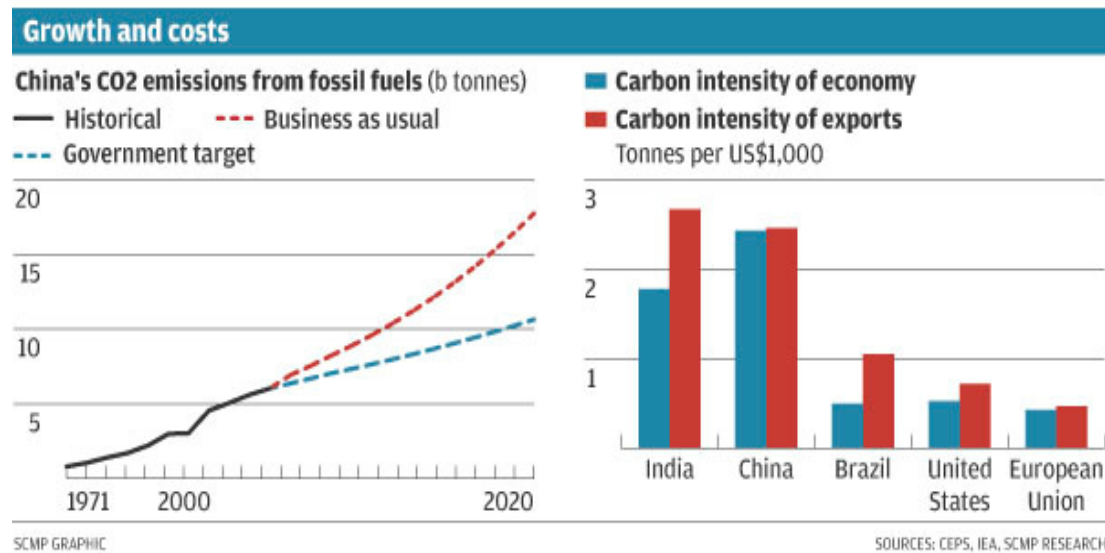
Emission scenarios 2000-2050 based on energy consumption only (mill t. CO₂)

Year	BAU	LC	ELC
2000	867	867	867
2005	1409	1409	1409
2010	2134	1943	1943
2020	2779	2262	2194
2030	3179	2345	2228
2040	3525	2398	2014
2050	3465	2406	1395

BAU = business as usual
 LC = low carbon scenario
 ELC = enhanced low carbon scenario



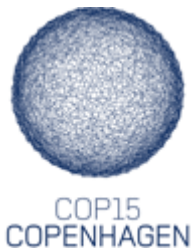
Is China committed to reductions?



South China Morning Post 8.12.2009



China's negotiation position



China's reservations:

- ✓ China is a developing country
- ✓ Sustainable development must go hand-in-hand with economic growth
- ✓ Historical emissions and comparable low per capita emissions must count in China's favour
- ✓ Legally binding agreement with verifiable goals and instruments
- ✓ DC emission reduction not to be used to offset emissions by developed countries

China's demands:

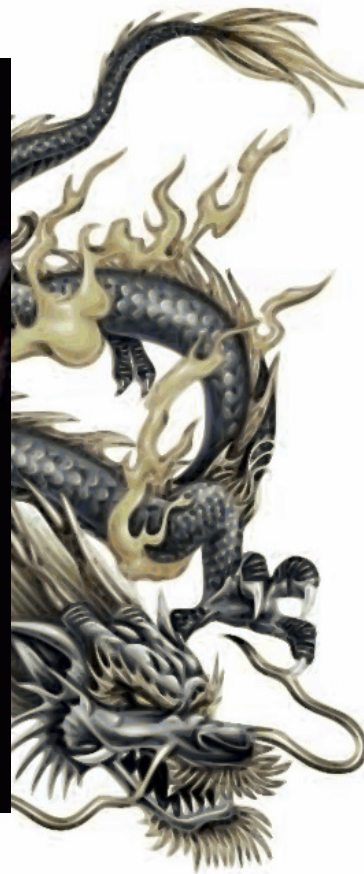
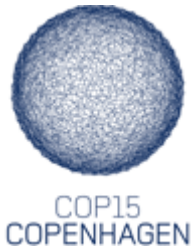
- ✓ The Kyoto Protocol framework for implementation to be maintained
- ✓ Common but differentiated responsibilities
- ✓ The developed countries must take the lead and be ambitious in formulating their caps (40% by 2020 cf 1990)
- ✓ The developed countries must make commitments: financing and technology transfer (0.5-1% of GNP + ODA)
- ✓ New institutional framework to facilitate financing, technology transfer (e.g. TechTrans Fund), verification and monitoring

China's commitments:

- ✓ A responsible and constructive player
- ✓ Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA), e.g. Carbon intensity reduction
- ✓ Mainstreaming of climate plans/targets; carbon intensity goal to be part of China's development plans



China's position



"It's not enough to say, 'I may do this, I might do that, possibly I'll do this'. I want to create a situation in which the European Union is persuaded to go to 30 percent," Gordon Brown tells The Guardian. 8.12.2009

US vs CHINA *or* US + CHINA?

