To: UNFCCC Secretariat
Cc: Ms. Christiana Figueres
    Executive Secretary

Subject: China’s submissions on the matters referred to the Decisions adopted by COP17/CMP7

To whom it may concern,

Please kindly find the attached China’s submissions on the followings:

2. Paragraph 61 of Decision -/CP.17, Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention;
3. Paragraph 69 of Decision -/CP.17, Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention;
4. Paragraph 76 of Decision -/CP.17, Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention;

Yours sincerely,

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Director-General
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China’s Submission on Options and Ways for Further Increasing the Level of Ambition

The Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session held in Durban invited Parties and observer organizations to submit their views on options and ways for increasing ambition and possible further actions. China welcomes this opportunity and would like to submit the following views:

Developed country Parties should take the lead in reducing their emissions by undertaking ambitious mitigation commitments and fulfill their obligations of providing financial resources and transferring technology to developing country Parties in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. The key to increase the level of ambitions to reduce emissions lies with the developed country Parties’ political will and the recognition of their historical responsibility.

Bali Action Plan resolves on enhancing the implementation of the Convention, to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention in accordance with its principles and provisions. The Cancun Agreement reaffirms that developed country Parties show their leaderships by undertaking ambitious emission reductions and in providing financial, technology and capacity-building resources to developing country Parties. The Cancun Agreement urges developed country Parties to increase the ambition of their emission reduction targets, with a view to reducing the level of their aggregate emissions consistent with the 25-40% as recommended by the Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC.

Firstly, developed country Parties must clarify their quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets and remove all of their political and non-political conditions they have put forward related to their individual targets. Secondly, each of the developed country Parties must reach the highest level within their pledged target range. Thirdly, under such circumstances, developed country Parties should further increase these targets based on science and in line with the requirement of the developing country Parties, ensuring their highest possible mitigation efforts to reflect their historical responsibilities. The targets above should be comparable among all Annex I Parties, and should also be stringently measurable, reportable, and verifiable.
Under the circumstances of a lack of finance and technology support from the developed country Parties and being confronted with the challenges of economic and social development as well as poverty eradication, developing country Parties have made their greatest efforts to take mitigation actions, whose contributions to mitigation are much greater than those of developed country Parties. Social and economic development and poverty eradication are first and overriding priorities of developing country Parties. Whether the developing country Parties could enhance their actions both on mitigation and adaptation depends on the enhanced finance and technology supports by developed country Parties.
China’s Submission on the Composition, Modalities and Procedures of the Team of Technical Experts of ICA

The Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session held in Durban invited Parties and accredited observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 5 March 2012, their views on the composition, modalities and procedures of the team of technical experts referred to in paragraph 1 of Annex IV of the Outcome of the Work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention. China welcomes this opportunity and would like to submit the following views:

1. ICA is neither a review nor a compliance process, and it should be distinct from IAR for developed country Parties. ICA should be conducted in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respecting national sovereignty.

2. Technical experts should be nominated by Parties based on their expertise, while ensuring the balance between Non Annex I Parties and Annex I Parties.

3. Technical analysis should be hosted by UNFCCC Secretariat. To simplify the process, the technical analysis should be conducted for a group of developing countries, namely, three steps for the team of technical experts:

   (1) to check the completeness of submissions,

   (2) to examine the consistence of methodologies with guidelines of biennial update reports by Non Annex I Parties and,

   (3) to prepare a summary report in close consultation with concerned Parties.

4. Secretariat and Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Non Annex I Parties (CGE) should substantially increase their efforts on capacity building and training for experts from developing counties to guarantee their full participation.
China’s Submission on the Modalities and Procedures for Financing the Results-Based REDD-plus Actions

The Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session held in Durban invited Parties and accredited observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 5 March 2012, their views on the matters referred to modalities and procedures for financing results-based actions and considering activities related to decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 68-70, 72. China welcomes this opportunity and would like to submit the following views:

Recalling the paragraph 65, 66, 67 and 68 of the draft decision [-/CP.17] on Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention, the discussions on the modalities and procedures for financing results-based REDD-plus actions should focus on new, additional and predictable public finance sources. The modalities and procedures for financing the results-based REDD-plus action should abide the following principles:

1. All the activities and actions as defined in the paragraphs 68–70 and 72 of the decision 1/CP.16, resulting in emission reduction, removal and stabilized forest carbon stocks shall be provided with equal opportunity to access the results-based REDD-plus finance. Appropriate allocation of result-based REDD-plus finance should be ensured among the activities and actions, as defined in the paragraphs 68–70 and 72 of the decision 1/CP.16. All the developing countries shall be incentivized to participate in the implementation of REDD-plus actions. Both national and sub-national approaches in implementing REDD-plus actions should be allowed.

2. The application and distribution of results-based REDD-plus finance should be open, effective, efficient, appropriate and participatory, while respecting the domestic laws, regulations, and relevant institutional arrangements in developing countries. It is the legitimate authority of developing countries to decide the domestic disbursement of the results-based REDD-plus finance received from international source, but the process of application of results-based REDD-plus finance and its domestic allocation should ensure the effective participation of relevant stakeholders.

3. The modalities and procedures for financing results-based REDD-plus actions
should strictly follow the relevant articles of the Convention, especially the Articles 4.3, 4.7 of the Convention, and be conducive to strengthening the multilateral finance mechanism under the Convention.

4. The modalities and procedures for financing results-based REDD-plus actions should give due considerations for the different abilities in finance absorption and delivery. Therefore, the modalities and procedures should be simplified and with low transaction costs ensuring well balanced consideration of the various technical requirements and implementation costs of REDD-plus. Relevant stakeholders, especially indigenous people, local households and communities should receive real benefits and be incentivized in the end.

In line with these principles above, the modalities and procedures should be arranged as follows:

1. The operating entities of the financial mechanism under the Convention should ensure sufficient earmarked financial provisions for REDD-plus actions. To facilitate the finance allocation, a REDD-plus technical panel, with equal distribution of members from developing and developed countries, may be created as an assistant to the operating entities of the financial mechanism of the Convention.

2. To help developing countries to access the result-based REDD-plus finance, the detailed rules and formats guiding the application and distribution of the result-based REDD-plus finance from the operating entities of the financial mechanism under the Convention should be developed and adopted by COP. To follow the rules and formats agreed by COP, a developing country may send a national proposal voluntarily to the operating entities of the financial mechanism under the Convention, outlining the steps of the actions in the developing country, including development of national or sub-national REDD-plus action plan and strategy, national or sub-national reference level, projection of reduced emission or enhanced removal or stabilized forest carbon stocks at national or sub-national level through implementing the specific REDD-plus actions.

3. The REDD-plus technical panel should assess the feasibility of the proposed REDD-plus actions submitted by a developing country based on the rules and formats agreed by COP, presenting its recommendations to the operating entities of the financial mechanism under the Convention for final approval.
4. Upon approval of the proposed actions, the developing country government should be provided with certain amount of up-front funding for its initial activities, such as capacity building, establishing forest carbon monitoring system etc.

5. The delivery of results-based REDD-plus finance should be paid in installments to the government of developing countries based on the results achieved.

6. The developing country government implementing REDD-plus actions could disburse the result-based REDD-plus finance received from the operating entities of the financial mechanism of the Convention following its domestic finance allocation system in a timely, open, transparent, appropriate and participatory manner to the local people, small landowners or the poor who are implementing the REDD-plus actions in the field.
China’s Submission on Issues Related to Agriculture

The Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session held in Durban invited Parties and accredited observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 5 March 2012, their views on the issues referred to in paragraph 75 of the Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention. China welcomes this opportunity and would like to submit the following views:

1. Agriculture plays a vital role in achieving food security, poverty reduction and sustainable development. Food security is of great importance for developing country Parties. The negotiations on agriculture should be in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and in line with the mandate of 1b(iv) of Bali Action Plan to enhance the implementation of Article 4.1(c) of the Convention, and emphasize how to fulfill the objective of “ensure that food production is not threatened” as described in the Article 2 of the Convention.

2. Mitigation and adaptation deserve equal attention in the agriculture. For developing country Parties, their agriculture is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change due to the weakness in infrastructure, lag in technology and low adaptation capacity to climate change. As a result, climate change has already had serious impact on the food production in developing countries. Therefore, adaptation is more important than mitigation in agriculture for developing country Parties. The priority of the discussion on agricultural sector should focus on how developed country Parties provide the supports of finance, technology transfer and capacity building to developing country Parties to help implement their adaptation actions, assuring their food security and achieving their sustainable development.

3. SBSTA should start a dialogue on issues such as how to facilitate the technical transfer, strengthen developing countries’ independent innovation capacities to help developing country Parties to implement adaptation actions in agricultural sector and improve their abilities on sustainable development in agriculture.

4. Parties could have discussions and exchange views on the need and way to establish a work program on enhanced adaptation actions in agricultural sector and
fulfilling the objective of “ensure that food production is not threatened”.

5. Greenhouse gas emissions are unavoidable in agricultural production. For developing countries, the emissions from the agricultural sector are the necessary for their basic survival. SBSTA should discuss how to enhance developing countries’ capacity on technology research and development and scientific evaluation methods for controlling emission from the agricultural sector, and enable farms and peasants in developing countries to access to the climate–friendly technologies. The discussion about this issue should be in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and not lead to any mitigation commitments for developing country Parties.
China’s Submission on Various Approaches and the Established Market-Based Mechanism

The Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session held in Durban invited Parties and accredited observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 5 March 2012, their views on the matters referred to in both paragraphs 79 and 80 and paragraphs 83 and 84 of the Outcome of the Work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention. China welcomes this opportunity and would like to submit the following views:

1. Market-based mechanism established under the Convention should promote cost-effectiveness in emission reductions.

2. Market-based mechanism established under the Convention should not introduce emission reduction commitments for developing countries.

3. Market-based mechanism established under the Convention should be project-based and its modalities and procedures should be comparable to those established under the Kyoto Protocol.

4. Market-based mechanism established under the Convention would be available to developed country Parties that have undertaken internationally legally binding emission reduction targets which are measurable, reportable and verifiable.

5. Emission reduction commitments of the developed country Parties should be achieved mainly through domestic efforts and market-based mechanism could only play a complementary role. Further guidelines need to be established in this regard.

6. The utilization of market-based mechanism established under the Convention should not lead to double counting by developed country Parties, i.e. both as fulfilling their financial and technology transfer commitments and as offsetting their emissions.

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