

Joint Declaration on International Ecological Safety

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Today, the deterioration of global ecology and the outbreak of unexpected eco-disaster have been seriously threatening the human survival and development, and can not be controlled by any single country or region alone. Based on this understanding, the UN/International Academy of Ecology and Life Protection Sciences, together with other international institutions, established the “International Eco-Safety Cooperative Organization (IESCO)” in February 2006. The IESCO is a non-profit international organization with the objective of maintaining ecological safety, protecting ecological environment, implementing Goal 1 of MDG Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, Goal 7 Ensure Environmental Sustainability and Goal 8 Develop a global partnership for development. Setting up the international eco-safety early-warning mechanism and jointly coping with ecological disaster through cooperation among government institutions, non-governmental organizations, financial institutions, academic institutions and enterprises groups in member states.

Maintaining eco-safety is the common responsibility of all the countries in the world, significant component of eradicating poverty as well as the basic condition for achieving social harmony and world peace and realizing sustainable economic development. Presently, we are confronting with a series of complicated ecological issues which have made a great impact on the economic development and ecological safety of all the countries in the world. Global warming, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, desertification, severe pollution of water resources, and frequent outbreak of ecological disasters are directly threatening the human existence. In this situation, urgent tasks before us at the moment are how to stop the rapid depletion of natural resources on the earth, how to keep the balance among economic, social and ecological development for both the present generation and future generations and how to strengthen the cooperative network between developed countries and developing ones. Therefore, we, with the support and involvement of the United Nations Environment Program National Committee for Russia, the UN Initiative and Technology for the Youth, the UN Development Program Crisis Prevention and Recovery Bureau, the Alliance of Civilizations, hereby launch the “Joint Declaration on Ecological Safety”.

I To strengthen public education in ecological safety and deepen the cognition of the concept of eco-safety. Eco-safety is the dynamic and fluid process in which the ecological environment, necessary for a country’s survival and development, is free or less free from destruction. Ecological safety constitutes an important component of national security. Eco-safety is composed of seven elements: non-conventional safety, environmental safety, species safety, life safety, nuclear (radiation and biochemical weapons) safety, safety of cultural heritage and sustainable development. Eco-safety has three characteristics: ecological deterioration and unexpected ecological disaster could weaken a state’s economic growth and sustainable development; ecological deterioration and unexpected ecological disaster could trigger a mass of refugees, subsequently affect a nation’s stability; ecological deterioration and ecological disaster could make negative impact on a country, its neighboring countries and even the whole world.

II To stick to harmonious development of ecology and economy. Mode of economic development should adapt to the condition of resources and ecology. Permanent utilization of resources and

benign cycle of ecosystem are the utmost important objective of development. Eco-safety policy-making should base on each nation's condition and should take both the urgent need of improving ecological environment and the possible impact on economy and society into consideration. When making the eco-safety policy, each country's sustainable development mode which is chosen according to its national and development condition should be respected. Coordinated activities should be emphasized when solving global and regional eco-safety issues, meanwhile, diversified modes of development of various countries should be respected so as to enhance the harmonious development of ecological and economic globalization.

III Developed and developing countries should share a rational quota of responsibilities of global eco-safety. Presently, the global eco-safety situation, especially the environmental and eco-safety issues in developing countries are continuously deteriorating. Concerted efforts of all countries are crucial to maintenance of eco-safety, protection of eco-environment and implementation of the UN Millennium Goals. The principle of "Common and Differential Liability" should be carried out, by which developed countries should actively and positively bear the responsibility of maintaining eco-safety and protecting environment and play more significant role in dealing with eco-safety issues; the developing countries, on the other side, should combine the issue of eco-safety closely with restraining the global warming and set up eco-safety warning mechanism to jointly cope with unexpected ecological disasters.

IV To remove the obstacle in the eco-safety technology exchange. Sustainable development relies on the development in the fields of technology, information, biology and energy and is significant in promoting the efficient use of resources, and in keeping eco-safety. For developing countries, introduction of technological and managing experience counts for as much as the introduction of foreign capital. Governments of all countries and competent international organizations should play an important role in promoting the technological cooperation, and should protect intellectual property rights as well as establish a reasonable transference mechanism, promote the international spread and cooperation of eco-safety system and related technology.

V To create favorable environment of international cooperation. In order to expand the cooperation in the fields of eco-safety and economic development, we must formulate new rules guiding international economic activities and trade through the concerted efforts of the international community. The developed countries should further open their markets and reduce or even abolish the trade barriers resulted from the over high standards of eco-safety so as to promote the synchronic development between eco-safety and international trade. The developing countries should continuously step up the eco-safety and environmental protection as well as the capacity-building for sustainable development in order to take active part in the international cooperation and competition.

VI To host the Global Ecological Safety Assembly which will be held once every two years, host places may apply for the host right, by which to promote the spread of the eco-safety concept and the implementation of international eco-safety management system; to set up the "International Eco-Safety Award", for awarding those government institutions, civil societies, enterprise groups and outstanding individuals who have made important contribution to maintaining eco-safety, and protecting eco-environment. The award will be conferred during the Global Ecological Safety

Assembly; to implement the evaluation and management of the “International eco-safety demonstrative cities, area, communities and eco-safety quality products.

VII All states should set up ecological catastrophe early-warning system. Ecological disasters may break out anytime under the current circumstances of mass migration movement and rapid urbanization. It is crucial for governments of all countries to prevent residential housings from being too high and transportation, communication, electric power and other public infrastructure from being intensively centralized when making urban construction plan. Therefore, it is necessary to build a disaster emergency rescue and management mechanism and establish permanent rescue institution so as to raise, by all means, the governments, society and the public’ awareness in ecological disasters and one’s own capability to deal with emergency.

VIII The massive earthquake measuring 8.0 on the Richter Scale occurred in Wenchuan county, Sichuan province, China, on May 12th, 2008 shocked the whole nation, attracted the attention of all people in the world as well. In front of the emergent catastrophe, all Chinese people rose to fight bravely against the disaster. Meanwhile, boundless care and aid came from all over the world to disaster-hit area in China. Though the calamity is merciless, people are warmhearted. Care and love can warm people’s hearts and link everybody together. As long as there is love, mankind can calmly cope with any calamity, no matter it is ice snow, flood, drought, hurricane, sand storm, earthquake or tsunami. Aiming at raising the capability to respond to unexpected ecological disaster of all governments and all circles of society, the IESCO hereby appeals for naming May 12 as “World Eco-Safety Day”.

IX In order to achieve Goal 1 of MDG Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, Goal 7 Ensure Environmental Sustainability and Goal 8 Develop a global partnership for development. IESCO, together with Association of Mutual Assistance between Europe and African/Caribbean/Pacific Countries and Association for the Development of the Social Habitat, jointly launched the aiding project of “International Ecological Satellite Cities” in developing and these least developed countries. It also co-launched the “Climate Prosperity Project” with Global Urban Development, Rockefeller Brothers Fund and Environmental Defense Fund in the aim of alleviating stress on cities, resettling refugees and building a friendly country enjoying safe ecology, harmonious society and growing economy.

As an international organization, IESCO will commit itself to promote its development and sustainability among economy, society and ecology through making relevant policies in its current system and promoting its global partnership. It is therefore that our new strategy focuses on new possibility of the global development and cooperation in implementing the UN Millennium Goals with active attitudes and by resorting to the overall, comprehensive, coordinated modality. IESCO is ready to make important contributions to achieving these goals.

Signatory Countries

China, the United States, Russia, Malaysia, Indonesia, East Timor, Sri Lanka, India, Vietnam, Cambodia, Uzbekistan, Germany, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Madagascar, Cameroon, Niger, Chad, Papua New Guinea, Nepal, Guinea, Seychelles, France, Chile, Cyprus, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Georgia, Sweden, Iceland, Afghanistan, Turkey, Egypt,

Bahrain, Ethiopia, Libya, Tanzania, Norway, Albania, Grenada, Maldives, Uganda, Mali, Mauritius, Lesotho, Saudi Arabia

Support from International Organizations

UN Economic and Social Council, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, European Union, Secretariat of World Political Forum, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, Alliance of Civilizations, the UN Refugee Agency, United Nations Development Programme, UN Initiative and Technology for the Youth