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JOHN HAWKES

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China Outlines Cuts in Carbon Emissions

By IAN JOHNSON

BEIJING — With global climate talks set to begin next week, [China](#) on Tuesday issued the most comprehensive document yet on its plans and negotiating positions on emissions.

Although much of the information has been released before, it is the first time the data has been presented comprehensively — part of China's strategy to make its accomplishments better known ahead of the talks, which begin on Monday in Durban, South Africa. China, the world's largest contributor to carbon emissions, highlighted its success in reducing emissions per unit of gross domestic product, an indicator that its industries are becoming more energy efficient. The country's overall carbon emissions have been rising, however, with the growth of its industries.

The report also gives a rare nod to nongovernmental organizations, which usually are frowned upon by China's authorities. The report mentions favorably "[Earth Hour](#)," a project by the [World Wildlife Fund](#), and praises the work of another private organization, the [Energy Foundation](#). The report also indicates that China will follow its previous position of pressuring developing countries to do more.

Speaking Tuesday as the white paper was released, officials asserted that China and other developing countries had taken serious steps to curb emissions while developed countries lagged.

"We hope nations of the world translate their political willingness into concrete actions," Xie Zhenhua, the head of the Chinese delegation to the Durban meeting, said at the news conference.

The report said that China achieved a 20 percent reduction in carbon emissions between 2005 and 2010 per unit of gross domestic product and planned to cut another 17 percent by 2015.

This article has been revised to reflect the following correction:

Correction: November 22, 2011

An earlier version of this article misstated China's accomplishments on reducing carbon emissions. China said it has reduced carbon emissions per unit of gross domestic product; its total emissions have grown, however.