

Pressemitteilung: Bekämpfung des Menschenhandels in Süd- und Südostasien: neue Prioritäten erforderlich, so die EU-Prüfer

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Securing our Energy Future

The Turnbull Government is taking immediate action to put downward pressure on power prices and ensure reliable energy for all Australians.

Every decision we make in the energy sector is designed to ease pressure on household bills and make businesses more competitive.

Today, the Turnbull Government agreed to:

- Finalise tough new regulations in the gas sector to give Australian customers priority access to gas supply before it is exported. This will commence on July 1.
- Strengthen the Australian Energy Regulator by providing it with an additional \$67.4 million to stop energy network companies gaming the system and overturning rulings in the courts.
- Ask AEMO how to ensure that new continuous dispatchable power is provided, including what support is needed to promote new investment.

This decisive action puts the needs of Australian families and businesses first. Our priority is to ensure all Australians have access to reliable and affordable energy supplies.

The finalisation of our tough gas regulations will increase supply to the domestic market, putting downward pressure on gas prices which have risen because of supply shortfalls.

We simply cannot allow Australians to pay more for Australian gas than competitors overseas do.

Restrictions will be placed on gas exporters when there are shortages in the domestic market.

The Turnbull Government will also take immediate action to address escalating electricity prices.

We will stop big electricity companies from running to the courts to try to

overturn the Australian Energy Regulator's decisions. Companies have made 52 appeals and the courts have ruled against consumers 31 times. This will end.

To back this, we will strengthen the Regulator by providing it with an additional \$67.4 million to ensure it is fully equipped to address behaviour in the market that is pushing up electricity prices.

Baseload power anchors our electricity system. Continuous generation underpins our household and economic security. With a significant amount of baseload generation being phased out over the next 15 years, we need to ensure we are prepared and have enough power to meet future needs.

We will ask the responsible market body, the Australian Energy Market Operator, to:

- identify the existing and potential loss of continuous, dispatchable (baseload) generation;
- talk to suppliers and customers, particularly large-scale emissions intensive industrial users, about what they need to secure future investment; and
- examine how much continuous power is needed in the short term to stabilise power prices

On the back of the identified need, we will ask AEMO how best to ensure the new continuous dispatchable power is provided, optimising affordability and security for consumers, including what if any support, including support from Governments if new investment is needed.

At an emergency COAG Energy Council meeting last year, following South Australia's state-wide blackout, the Chief Scientist was tasked with developing a long term blueprint for the future security of the national electricity market.

The Chief Scientist's report was provided to COAG on 9 June. We are continuing to examine his report with the care it deserves.

The Commonwealth will progress the recommendations of the Chief Scientist, through the COAG Energy Council, which focus on enhanced security, stability, transparency and governance of the energy system and will continue further to consider and analyse the Clean Energy Target.

[New version of foreign permanent residence ID card officially put into](#)

use

China's public security authorities announced on June 16 that the 2017 version of foreign permanent residence ID card was officially put into use. Eight foreign nationals in Beijing were issued the new ID card last Friday.

The new version of the identity card, which is based on the design of China's second generation identity card, is embedded with a chip containing information, including their name, gender, date of birth, nationality, registration agencies and ID numbers.

The new ID cards will be machine-readable. Holders can use the card independently as lawful proof of identity for matters related to finance, education, health care, travel, accommodation, communication, employment, tax, social security, property registration, lawsuits and others.

Foreigners can apply for the new version of the permanent residence ID card, while the old version will stay valid until the expiration date. The Beijing public security authorities will streamline the process of issuing the new card, promising to issue it within 20 days of the application from holders of the old card.

According to the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau, 598 foreigners were issued permanent ID cards in Beijing in 2016, which is 2.8 times that of 2015. This is partly led by 20 new policies put forth by the Chinese public security authorities to support Beijing's innovation-driven development.

Beijing International Horticultural Exhibition invites B&R countries

The Bureau of Beijing International Horticultural Exhibition Coordination recently invited countries along the Belt and Road to participate in the 2019 Beijing Expo.

During the ongoing Astana Expo in Kazakhstan, the Beijing expo bureau sent out invitations to countries and people along the Belt and Road to attend the Beijing Expo 2019, which is the world's highest-level horticulture exhibition. The expo will be held in Yanqing District in suburb Beijing

The Expo Coordination Bureau is currently visiting Kazakhstan, a key country along the Belt and Road, to promote the Beijing Expo 2019. The delegation of the bureau met with the agricultural ministries of Kazakhstan and Armenia on matters related to the expo participation. The vice agricultural minister of Kazakhstan expressed interests in the expo. Up to now, a number of B&R

countries have shown intentions to be exhibitors.

The Beijing Expo has made plans concerning the exhibition space for international exhibitors, including five areas covering Europe, Africa, Asia, the Americas, Oceania and international organizations. The outdoor exhibition space will span 1,000 to 3,000 square meters individually and the indoor booth will each cover 50 to 300 square meters.

Sci-tech innovation contributes 60% to Beijing's economic growth

Beijing is going all out to build itself into the national center of scientific and technological innovation, and the city has made significant sci-tech achievement in the past five years.

In 2016, Beijing's expenditure on research and development totaled 147.98 billion yuan (US\$21.73 billion), ranking the highest in China and above the average level of developed countries. Sci-tech innovation contributes more than 60 percent to Beijing's economic growth.

In 2016, Beijing produced 76.8 patents for every 10,000 residents, which was 9.6 times of the national average. The city's PCT application reached 6,589 last year, 3.5 times that of 2011. Companies in Zhongguancun, the city's innovation hub, created 229 items of international standard, an increase of 139 on the basis of 2011.

Meanwhile, the value added in the high-tech industry and technology service industry grew by 37.7 percent and 12.8 percent respectively in 2016. Last year also saw the turnover of business concerning technology contracts hit 394 billion yuan, which has doubled within five years. The gross revenue of the Zhongguancun demonstration area totaled 4.57 trillion yuan, 2.4 times of that in 2011.

Beijing is also home to 16,000 national high-tech enterprises (accounting for 16 percent of the total nationwide) and 432,000 scientific and technological enterprises. Last year, 80,000 new scientific and technological enterprises were registered in the city, accounting for 36 percent of all the newly registered enterprises. In addition, the capital city is also home to more than 350 startup incubators at the end of 2016, 125 of which have been recognized as national maker space.