

China Development Forum 2026
China in its 15th Five-Year Plan Period: Advancing
High-Quality Development and Creating New Opportunities
Together

Symposium on New Energy Industry Development and
International Cooperation
(Keynote Speech & Panel Discussion—Part I)

The China Development Forum 2026, hosted by the Development Research Centre of the State Council and organized by the China Development Research Foundation, was held at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on March 22-23, 2026. On the afternoon of March 22, the Symposium on New Energy Industry Development and International Cooperation was convened. WAN Jinsong, Vice Administrator of National Energy Administration delivered the keynote speech. Among the speakers during the first half of the Panel Discussion were Simon Trott, Chief Executive of Rio Tinto; Jeremy Weir, Chairman of Trafigura Pte Ltd; and CHIANG Tung Keung, CEO and Executive Director of CLP Holdings Limited. The session was chaired by TIAN Jietang, Director-General of the Research Department of Industrial Economy at the Development Research Centre of the State Council.

WAN Jinsong stated that China, guided by its new energy security strategy featuring “Four Reforms and One Cooperation,” is accelerating

the development of a green, low-carbon, safe, and efficient new energy system. Under this strategy, China is pursuing a path of energy transition that is suited to its actual conditions, follows the general trends of global development, and meets the changing needs of our times. In doing so, China has contributed its own wisdom and solutions to the global energy transition. China has achieved remarkable strides in this area. First, the scale of new energy development has continued to reach new heights. Second, the industrial strength of new energy technologies has steadily grown. Third, the policy support system for new energy has been constantly improved. Fourth, international cooperation in new energy has continued to deepen.

WAN put forward three proposals for the development of the new energy industry and international cooperation.

First, we should pursue integrated development across multiple energy sources to build a secure and resilient energy system. Grounded in each country's energy resource endowments, we should actively promote the development of diverse and clean energy sources, so as to create a new type of energy system featuring multi-energy complementarity and strong resilience against risks.

Second, we should further leverage digital and intelligent technologies to cultivate smart and efficient new quality productive forces. On the one hand, we should continue to expand the application scenarios of AI in the new energy sector. On the other hand, we should advance the integrated development of new energy to better support the growth of AI.

Third, we should advance open and inclusive cooperation to jointly maintain a stable and smooth global new energy industrial chain. This calls for establishing an open, transparent, and non-discriminatory international energy market order, and encouraging governments,

international organizations, financial institutions, and energy companies to deepen policy coordination, align standards, and collaborate on capacity development, in a bid to jointly build a new global energy supply chain that is safe, stable, efficient, and inclusive.

Simon Trott underscored the critical role of international cooperation in accelerating the energy transition and shared practical experience in collaborating with Chinese partners across supply chains. In the context of energy transition, global demand for mineral resources has surged, and the supply of green energy needs to balance affordability and reliability. As the cost of green electricity continues to decline significantly, this trend calls for stronger cooperation among countries to jointly build a reliable, integrated, and resilient global energy system.

Trott outlined three models of cross-border corporate cooperation. The first is collaboration across supply chains. Mining companies serve as a bridge connecting mineral resources with energy transition technologies and infrastructure, integrating mining, processing, and transportation on an end-to-end basis. The second is technological cooperation. Mining companies can leverage Chinese solutions to reduce carbon emissions and jointly develop lower-carbon processes. The third is partnership. By building a robust global partner network, companies can achieve value sharing.

Jeremy Weir discussed supply chain transformation, the challenges facing supply and demand for metal resources, and the importance of internationally coordinated development in the context of the global energy transition. He noted that China has achieved significant progress in the new energy sector, exerting a profound impact on the global energy transition. The application of digital technologies is making energy systems smarter and optimizing power grids to facilitate the efficient integration of renewable energy. This structural transformation not only

benefits China itself but also supports global energy security and accessibility. He emphasized that the energy transition relies heavily on substantial metal resources, with solar panels, wind turbines, and electric vehicles all requiring large quantities of metals.

Weir pointed out the critical importance of building resilient supply chains to manage supply risks. This requires diversified strategies across sourcing, financing, and processing, along with increased long-term investments throughout the value chain and stronger supporting policies. He emphasized that securing and supplying metal resources cannot rely on a single country; instead, it requires integrating global technology, resources, and industrial capacity, promoting open and interconnected supply chains, and achieving efficient and sustainable resource development.

The global energy landscape is undergoing a profound transformation. The fragility of traditional energy supply chains has become increasingly evident, making energy security a core concern for all countries. **CHIANG Tung Keung** shared three insights on building resilience in the new energy industry and shaping its future.

First, nuclear energy, as a stable source of zero-carbon power, holds strategic value for safeguarding national security, ensuring energy security, and achieving carbon reduction goals.

Second, promoting renewable energy development in line with local conditions is a key pathway for cross-border green cooperation. Cross-border energy connectivity fully demonstrates the value of corporate participation in green cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative, contributing substantively to achieving the “dual carbon” goals and laying a solid foundation for larger-scale international cooperation in the future.

Third, the key to addressing climate change lies in translating carbon

reduction targets into actionable measures for enterprises. Coordination of rules can be strengthened across international, national, regional, and corporate levels to empower the whole of society in achieving green transition through reliable, affordable, low-carbon energy and shared carbon reduction technologies.

To further advance international cooperation in the new energy industry, CHIANG made three suggestions. First, deepen green energy cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative. Efforts should be made to actively explore opportunities for clean energy collaboration and contribute to the high-quality development of the Belt and Road. Second, leverage Hong Kong's strengths as a "super connector" and "super value-adder." Third, pursue mutual benefit, win-win outcomes, and open coordination. In the face of geopolitical uncertainties, only by upholding openness, inclusiveness, and connectivity, and jointly building a fair, inclusive, and resilient global energy governance system, can we achieve shared security and sustainable development.

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— Background Information —

The China Development Forum (CDF) is hosted by the Development Research Centre of the State Council and organized by the China Development Research Foundation. Since its inception in 2000, the Forum has been dedicated to the mission of “engaging with the world for common prosperity.” It has served as an important platform for high-level, professional dialogue among China’s senior government officials, global business leaders, representatives from international organizations, as well as scholars from both China and around the world.



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