



V. Soil Pollution Prevention and Control Action Plan

Notice of the State Council on Issuing Soil Pollution Prevention and Control Action Plan

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People’s governments of all provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government, all ministries and commissions and all organizations directly under the State Council:

“Soil Pollution Prevention and Control Action Plan” is now printed and distributed to you. Please implement it conscientiously.

The State Council

May 28, 2016

Soil Pollution Prevention and Control Action Plan

Soil is the material basis for sustainable development of economy and society, which bears on the people’s health and construction of a beautiful China, and it is an important part in promoting ecological civilization construction and safeguarding national ecological safety to take good care of soil environment. Currently, most areas in the country suffer from poor soil environment and some areas suffer from serious





pollution, which has been one of the prominent weaknesses in building a comprehensive well-off society. The Action Plan is hereby formulated to practically strengthen prevention and control of soil pollution and gradually improve soil environment quality.

General requirements: To fully implement the spirit of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China and the Third, Fourth and Fifth Plenary Sessions of the 18th CPC Central Committee, firmly foster the new development concept of innovation, coordination, greening, openness and sharing in accordance with the overall layout of “five in one” and the strategic layout of “four comprehensives,” carefully implement decisions and arrangements of the Party Central Committee and the State Council, take improvement of soil environment quality as the core and safeguarding the quality of agricultural products and human settlement security as the starting point based on our national conditions and the development stage and with an eye to the overall situation of economic and social development, insist on prevention first, priority for protection and risk management control, stress the key fields, industries and pollutants, implement governance by classification, usage and stage, exercise strict control over new pollution and gradually reduce the stock, form the system for prevention and control of soil pollution featuring “government providing guidance, enterprises taking the responsibility, the public taking part and supervising,” so as to promote sustainable use of soil resources and strive for building a beautiful China with “everlasting blue sky, green mountains and clear water.”

Goals: By 2020, the trend of worsening soil pollution throughout be preliminarily contained, soil environment quality remain stable on the whole, soil environment safety of farming and construction land be basically guaranteed and soil environment risks be basically brought under control. By 2030, it is expected that soil environment quality on the





whole remain stable and turn for the better, and soil environment safety of farming and construction land be effectively guaranteed. By the middle of this century, overall soil environment quality be improved and a virtuous cycle be achieved of the ecosystem.

Key indicators: By 2020, the ratio of safety utilization of polluted farmland is expected to reach around 90% and that of polluted plots reach over 90%. By 2030, the ratio of safety utilization of polluted farmland is expected to reach over 95% and that of polluted plots over 95%.

i. Conducting Investigation on Soil Pollution and Getting a Better Understanding of the Conditions of Soil Environment Quality

(I) To conduct in-depth investigation on soil environment quality. On the basis of relevant investigations made so far, a detailed survey shall be conducted on soil pollution, focusing on farming land and lands used by key industries and enterprises to ascertain the areas of soil pollution of farming land and their distribution and influence on the quality of agricultural products by the end of 2008, and by the end of 2020, to get a clear understanding of the distribution of polluted plots of lands used by key industries and enterprises and their environmental risks. General proposal and technical rules shall be formulated for the in-depth investigations, while technical guidance be provided, supervision and inspection be enforced and achievements be reviewed. A system of regular investigations of soil environment quality shall be established, with one being carried out every 10 years. (It is required that these should be led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, joined by the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Agriculture and the National Health and Family Planning Commission, and implemented



by local people's governments at different levels. Local people's governments at different levels should be responsible for implementation of all work to be described hereinafter, and thus the statement shall not be repeated)

(II) To build soil environment quality monitoring network. We shall plan, integrate and optimize the soil environment quality monitoring point positions uniformly, and by the end of 2017, complete the establishment of soil environment quality monitoring points under national control and establish national soil environment quality monitoring network to give full play to the function of industrial monitoring network and basically form the soil environment monitoring ability. Each province (autonomous region and municipality directly under the central government) shall carry out soil environment monitoring training for technical personnel at least once a year. Based on work needs, monitoring sites should be supplemented in various areas, with addition of characteristic pollutant monitoring items to improve the monitoring frequency. By the end of 2020, full coverage shall be realized for all counties (cities and districts) of soil environment quality monitoring sites. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources and Ministry of Agriculture)

(III) To improve the level of informationization management of soil environment. We shall use relevant data obtained by the ministries of environmental protection, land and resources and agriculture to establish a soil environment basic database and build a national soil environment informationization management platform, a project to be endeavored to be completed by the end of 2018. Mobile internet, Internet of Things and other technologies shall be employed to broaden the channels for obtaining data and realize dynamic updates of data. Actions should be



taken to strengthen data sharing, formulate resource sharing catalogue and specify the sharing authority and modes to give play to the role of big data of soil environment in pollution prevention and control, urban and rural planning, land utilization and agricultural production. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, National Health and Family Planning Commission, and State Forestry Administration)

ii. Promoting Legislation for Soil Pollution Prevention and Control and Establishing and Improving the System of Legal Codes and Standards

(IV) To press forward with the process of legislation. Cooperation shall be made to timely revise and amend laws and regulations in relation to pollution prevention and control, urban and rural planning, land management, quality safety of agricultural products by adding to them with content related to soil pollution prevention and control while endeavoring to complete the drafting the law of soil pollution prevention and control. By the end of 2016, we shall complete the amendment of regulations on pesticide control and release measures for soil environment management of polluted plots and measures for soil environment management of farming land. By the end of 2017, departmental rules shall be worked out and released for the recycling and disposal of pesticide package waste, soil environment management of land for mining and industry, and recycling of abandoned agricultural film. By 2020, the system of legal rules and regulations shall be basically established for soil pollution. Local governments can do research and formulate local laws





and regulations on the prevention and control of soil pollution according to practical needs. (Led by the Legal Affairs Office of the State Council and Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, and State Forestry Administration)

(V) To establish systematically a system of standards. Relevant standards and technical specifications shall be improved for the prevention and control of soil pollution. By the end of 2017, standards for soil environment quality of farming and construction land shall be promulgated; work of amendments shall be completed of technical specifications for soil environment monitoring, investigation and evaluation, risk management and control, and rehabilitation as well as technical specifications and guidelines for environmental impact evaluation; revisions shall be made of limits for toxic and harmful substances in fertilizer, feed and irrigation water, and standards for controlling pollutants in sludge for agricultural use so as to further tighten control over pollutants; the standards for agricultural film shall be revised, the requirements for its thickness shall be raised, and study shall be made in formulating standards for degradable agricultural film; and standards for pesticide package shall be revised by adding requirements for preventing package waste of pesticides from polluting the soil. The standards for discharge of pollutants shall be revised in due time to further specify the requirements for the limits, particularly the limits of discharge, of pollutants. The methods of pollutant analysis and test in the soil shall be improved, and research shall be done to develop the standard samples of soil environment. Local governments can formulate local standards for soil environment quality stricter than the national standards. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and





Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, AQSIQ, and State Forestry Administration)

(VI) To fully intensify supervision and law enforcement. The key points for supervision shall be clearly defined. The focus of monitoring shall be on cadmium, mercury, arsenic, lead, chromium and other heavy metals, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon, petroleum hydrocarbon and other organic pollutants, with the emphasis of supervision on the mining and separation of nonferrous metals ore, non-ferrous metal smelting, oil exploitation, oil processing, chemical engineering, coking, electroplating, and tanning, and major grain-producing (oil-bearing crop-producing) counties, and urban built-up areas of cities at prefecture level and above. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and Ministry of Agriculture)

Efforts shall be intensified in law enforcement. Prevention and control of soil pollution shall be taken as the important content of environmental law enforcement, full use of environmental monitoring network to strengthen routine supervision and law enforcement in relation to soil environment. A strong stance shall be taken on illegal discharge of toxic and harmful pollutants, and illegal depot and storage of dangerous chemicals, illegal disposal of hazardous wastes, abnormal use of pollution treatment facilities, falsification of monitoring data and other acts violating related environmental laws and regulations. A special campaign on environmental law enforcement shall be launched for key industries and enterprises, taking necessary actions to exercise supervision and urge enterprises that cause severe pollution to soil environment and arouse strong appeals from the public to take remedial steps. The conditions shall be improved for environmental law enforcement at the grass-roots



and necessary law-enforcing outfit, such as that for soil pollution rapid detection, shall be supplied. A round of professional technical training shall be conducted for environmental law enforcers throughout the country in every three years in professional skills of soil pollution prevention and control, and efforts shall be made to raise capability in response to emergent environmental incidents, improve the contingency plans for environmental pollution events at different levels and strengthen ability building of environmental emergency management, technical support and disposal and rescue. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, State Administration of Work Safety, and State Forestry Administration)

iii. Implementing Classified Management of Farming Land to Guarantee Environmental Safety in Agricultural Production

(VII) To classify the soil environment quality of farming land. The farming land shall be classified into three categories by pollution level, that is, to classify the unpolluted and slightly polluted as a category to be accorded with preferential protection, the slightly and moderately polluted into a category of safe utilization, and the heavily polluted into a category of strict control, in which case management measures shall be enforced accordingly to guarantee the quality safety of agricultural products. By the end of 2017, technical guide for classifying the soil environment quality of farming land shall be released. Concurrent monitoring and evaluation of arable soil and agricultural products shall be conducted on the basis of results of a detailed survey on soil pollution, orderly press forward with the classification of arable soil environment quality based on the trial and



gradually establish a classified list, making it by the end of 2020. The classification results shall be reviewed and approved by provincial people’s governments before the data are to be uploaded to the national soil environment informationization management platform. Information about the area, distribution, etc. of arable land of various categories shall be regularly upgraded in line with changes in land utilization and soil environment quality. In areas where conditions are allowed, classification shall be made gradually of soil environment quality of forest land, grassland, garden plot and other agricultural land. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Agriculture, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources and State Forestry Administration)

(VIII) To effectively intensify protection. Local governments shall classify arable land eligible for the category of preferential protection as permanent basic farmland and provide strict protection to make sure that the area of such land shall not decrease and their soil environment quality shall not decline and such land shall, except for being selected as sites of key construction projects as stipulated by law and not being avoided any way, not be occupied for any building purposes. Major grain- or oil-bearing crop-producing counties shall work out soil environment protection programs. High-standard farmland construction projects should tilt toward areas with arable land under preferential protection. Following measures shall be promoted: returning crop stock to the soil, increasing application of organic fertilizer, minimal and zero tillage, crop rotation of grain and soybean, and reduced use and recycling of agricultural film. Pilot programs shall be carried forward in protection and utilization of black soil. The transferee in rural land circulation shall fulfill the obligations of soil protection to avoid causing quality deduction of soil environment due to overfertilization, pesticide abuse and other predatory modes of agricultural protection. Provincial people’s governments should warn and take limited approval of projects by way of environ-



mental assessment and other restrictive measures toward those counties (cities, districts) where the area of arable land is decreased or the quality of soil environment is reduced under their jurisdiction. (Led by the Ministry of Land and Resources and Ministry of Agriculture, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Environmental Protection, and Ministry of Water Resources)

To prevent and control pollution by enterprises. Strict control shall be exercised over building new enterprises of non-ferrous metal smelting, oil processing, chemical engineering, coking, electroplating, and tanning in areas with more arable land under preferential protection, and existing enterprises in relevant industries shall adopt new technologies and processes to quicken the pace of upgrading and reconstruction. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and NDRC, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology)

(IX) To press forward with safe utilization. In accordance with the conditions of soil pollution and elevated levels of pollutants in agricultural products, counties (cities, districts) with more arable land classified in the category of safe utilization shall, in view of the varieties of local major crops and planting habits, formulate and implement programs for safe utilization of polluted arable land, and lower the risks of elevated levels of pollutants in agricultural products by adopting such measures as agronomy regulation and substitute plantation. Quality inspection shall be strengthened of agricultural products, so shall be technical guidance and training for farmers and farmers' cooperatives. Prior to the end of 2017, technical guidelines shall be worked out and released for safe utilization of polluted arable land. By the 2020, the area of safe utilization of slightly and moderately polluted arable land shall reach 40 million *mu*. (Led by the Ministry of Agriculture, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources)



(X) To fully enforce strict control. Control shall be strengthened over the usage of arable land of the category under strict control, and areas for specific agricultural products shall be demarcated according to law, and in these areas the planting of edible agricultural products shall be strictly prohibited: for areas where the safety of underground water and source of drinking water are threatened, the counties (cities, districts) concerned shall formulate environmental risk control programs and see to that relevant measures are implemented. Research shall be conducted to incorporate the arable land in the category of strict control in the scope of implementation of the new round of grain for green nationwide, and moves shall be taken to make and implement adjustments to planting structure or plan of grain for green directed at heavily polluted arable land. Pilot programs shall be carried on for the rehabilitation of arable land polluted by heavy metals and the adjustments of the crop planting structure in the Changsha-Zhuzhou-Xiangtan Region of Hunan. Trials of the crop rotation system shall be implemented for arable land. By 2020, the total area of heavily polluted arable of which the cropping structure shall be adjusted or that of arable land where grain production shall be made to give place to tree planting shall reach 20 million *mu*. (Led by the Ministry of Agriculture, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Water Resources, and State Forestry Administration)

(XI) To strengthen soil environment management for forest land, grassland and garden plots. Strict control shall be enforced over pesticide use in forests, grassland and garden plots, banning the use of highly toxic pesticides and pesticides with high toxic residue. The system of management of bio-pesticides and attractants shall be improved to strengthen efforts in promoting them. Areas with more heavily polluted meadowlands shall be brought into the scope of implementation of the program of banned or deterred grazing with priority. Quality inspection shall





be intensified on edible agricultural (forest) products yielded in heavily polluted forestry land and garden plots, and measures shall be taken to adjust the planting structure once the contents of pollutants are found to be beyond the permitted limits. (Led by the Ministry of Agriculture and State Forestry Administration)

iv. Enforcing Access Control for Construction Land and Guarding against Risks for Human Settlements

(XII) To clearly define the management requirements. An investigation and evaluation system shall be established. Prior to the end of 2016, technical rules shall be released for investigation and evaluation of soil environment of construction. As of 2017, the holder shall be made responsible for conducting investigation and evaluation of the soil environment of land used by industrial enterprises in non-ferrous metal smelting, oil processing, chemical engineering, coking, electroplating and tanning the right of use is expected to be taken back, and the land used by the above-mentioned enterprises the use of which is planned to be turned for construction of residential buildings and public facilities such as business, school and hospital buildings or geriatric nursing homes; for those of which the right of use has been taken back, local people's governments at city and county levels shall be responsible for conducting investigation and evaluation of the soil environment. As of 2018, local people's governments at city and county levels shall be responsible for organizing such investigation and evaluation for heavily polluted agricultural land that will be converted to land for urban construction. The results of the investigation and evaluation shall be filed to the local department of environmental protection, department of urban-rural planning and department of land and resources for the record. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of





Land and Resources and Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development)

To specify management measures by purpose of use. As of 2017, all local governments shall gradually establish an inventory of polluted plots and a negative list of their development and utilization to rationally determine their uses in reference to the results of the detailed survey on soil pollution and in accordance with the results of the investigation and evaluation of soil environment of construction land. Plots that are up to requirements of soil environment quality for land planning are allowed to get into the procedures of land use. For polluted plots that are not expected to be developed and utilized for the time being or lack the necessary conditions for rehabilitation, local people’s governments at the county level shall be made to organize and designate the areas to be put under control, place identifications, issue public notices and conduct soil, surface water, underground water and air environment monitoring; in case of pollutant dispersion, the relevant subjects liable shall timely take necessary risk control measures, such as isolation and blocking of pollutants. (Led by the Ministry of Land and Resources, and joined by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural development, and Ministry of Water Resources)

(XIII) To clearly define the responsibility of supervision. Local departments of urban-rural development at different levels shall strengthen demonstration and approval in urban-rural planning in combination with the conditions of soil environment quality. Local departments of land and resources at different levels shall strengthen supervision over land acquisition, resumption, purchase, transfer and change of use in accordance with overall planning of land utilization, urban-rural planning and soil environment quality of the actual plots. Local departments of environmental protection at different levels shall strengthen supervision over





such activities as investigation and risk assessment of soil environment quality of construction land, and treatment and rehabilitation of polluted plots. An information communication mechanism shall be established for joint supervision between the departments of urban-rural planning, land and resources, environmental protection. (Led by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development)

(XIV) To tighten land access. Requirements for management of soil environment of construction land shall be included in urban planning and land supply management, and the development and utilization of land must meet the requirements for soil environment quality. When formulating overall plans of land use, overall urban planning and regulatory detailed planning, local departments of land and resources and urban-rural planning at different levels shall give sufficient consideration to the environmental risks of polluted plots and rationally determine the uses of land. (Led by the Ministry of Land and Resources and Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and joined by the Ministry of Environmental Protection)

v. Intensifying Protection of Unpolluted Soil and Strictly Controlling New Soil Pollution

(XV) To strengthen environmental management of unutilized land. Unutilized land shall be developed and utilized in a scientific and orderly manner to prevent soil pollution. For land to be developed for farming purpose, the people's governments of related counties (cities, districts) shall organize the evaluation of the conditions of soil environment quality; land that falls short of relevant standards shall not be allowed to be planted with edible agricultural products. Local governments shall strengthen protection of unutilized land incorporated into the back-up





resources of arable land and inspections shall be conducted of them at regular intervals. Law-breaking environmental activities, such as illegal discharge of pollutants and dumping of hazardous substances to deserts, shoaly land, saline and alkaline land and marshland, shall be seriously investigated and dealt with. Environmental supervision shall be strengthened on unutilized land in areas affected by exploitation of mineral resources, such as mines and oilfields, and enterprises concerned shall be timely urged to take preventive measures once the problem of soil pollution is discovered. Soil improvement in saline and alkaline land shall be promoted, and as of 2017 pilot programs should be launched in saline and alkaline land improvement by using flue gas desulfurization gypsum from coal-fired power plants in Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps and other places. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Land and Resources, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, and State Forestry Administration)

(XVI) To prevent new pollution of construction land. While evaluating the environmental impact of construction projects discharging key pollutants, the content of impact on soil environment shall be added, with specific measures being proposed for preventing soil pollution; facilities to be built for prevention and control of soil pollution shall be designed, constructed and put into operation together with the major works; and the departments of environmental protection concerned shall do a good job in exercising supervision over the implementation of relevant measures. As of 2017, the local people’s governments shall sign letters of responsibility on soil pollution prevention and control with key industrial enterprises to specify relevant measures and obligations. The letters of responsibility shall be made public. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection)





(XVII) To enhance control over space layout. Demonstration on planning zoning and layout demonstration of construction projects shall be strengthened to reasonably define the functional orientation and space layout of various zones in view of the environmental (such as soil) carrying capacity. Encouragement shall be given to industrial enterprises to develop in clusters so as to raise the level of economical and intensive use of land and reduce soil pollution. Requirements for layout and location of relevant industrial enterprises shall be strictly observed and new enterprises in non-ferrous metal smelting, coking and some other industries shall be prohibited around residential quarters, schools, medical institutions and geriatric nursing institutions. In combination with the efforts in new urbanization, industrial restructuring and resolving overcapacity, existing enterprises cause serious pollution to soil shall be resettled in an orderly manner or closed down in accordance with law. In line with the needs of zonal function positioning and soil pollution prevention and control, scientific layout shall be made of facilities and sites disposal of domestic garbage, treatment of hazardous waste, and recycling of used resources, and rationally determine the layout and scale of livestock breeding. (Led by the NDRC, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, and State Forestry Administration)

vi. Strengthening Supervision over Pollution Sources and Doing a Good Job in Preventing Soil Pollution

(XVIII) To control strictly industrial and mining pollution. Routine environmental supervision shall be strengthened. Local governments shall, in line with the local distribution of industrial and mining enterpris-





es and pollutant discharge, determine the list of enterprises to be given priority in supervision on soil environment, a list that is dynamically updated and announced to the society. Enterprises on the list shall monitor the soil environment by themselves and make the results public. Departments of environmental protection concerned shall monitor enterprises that are given priority in the supervision and the adjacent areas of industrial parks on a regular basis and upload the data timely to the national soil environment information management platform, and the results shall be taken as important criteria for environmental law enforcement and risk warning. Timely revision shall be made of the catalogue of substitutes for toxic and harmful raw materials (products) encouraged by the state. Control shall be strengthened on hazardous substances in electric appliances, electronics, automobile and other industrial products. When demolishing production facilities and equipment, structures and pollution treatment facilities of industrial enterprises involved in non-ferrous metal smelting, oil process, chemical engineering, coking, electroplating and tanning, schemes for safe disposal of residual pollutants shall be worked out in advance and reported to the local departments of environmental protection and industry and informationization for the record; and safe treatment and disposal shall be implemented in strict accordance with relevant regulations to prevent the demolishing from polluting the soil. Prior to the end of 2017, technical regulations shall be published on prevention and control of pollution from demolishing activities of enterprises. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Industry and Information Technology)

To take strict precautions to prevent exploitation of mineral resources from polluting the soil. As of 2017, special limits on emission of major pollutants shall be implemented in areas with intensive exploitation of mineral resources in Inner Mongolia, Jiangxi, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan, Shaanxi, Gansu





and Xinjiang. Tailings ponds left over from history shall be thoroughly repaired and hidden risk control measures such as film mulching, flood draining and dam reinforcement shall be improved, so shall closure measures. Enterprises with tailings ponds under key supervision shall be made to conduct environmental risk assessment, improve pollution treatment facilities and stock up emergency supplies. Monitoring on radiation safety shall be strengthened on the development and utilization of mineral resources, and enterprises concerned shall carry out monitoring on radiating environment of the soil in the mine lot every year. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and State Administration of Work Safety, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and Ministry of Land and Resources)

To strengthen pollution prevention and control of industries involving heavy metals. Heavy metal pollutant discharge standards shall be strictly observed and relevant indicators for overall control shall be implemented; supervision and inspection shall be intensified, and enterprises that fail to be up the established standards after rectification shall be ordered to stop production and close down in accordance with law and the list of such enterprises shall be made public to the society. Outdated capacity of industries handling heavy metals shall be eliminated continuously, access conditions of industries related to heavy metals shall be improved and construction of new projects with outdated capacity or in industries with overcapacity shall be banned. General lighting incandescent lamps shall be gradually eliminated as planned. Exclusion criteria shall be raised for lead battery industry and other industries with outdated capacity to gradually eliminate outdated capacity. Schemes for promoting cleaner production technology shall be formulated for industries handling heavy metals and the enterprises shall be encouraged to adopt advanced and applicable protection processes and technology. By 2020, emissions of major heavy metals by key industries shall be reduced by 10% over





2013. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, and joined by the NDRC)

To strengthen treatment and disposal of industrial wastes. Comprehensive treatment shall be made of stockpiling places of tailings, coal gangue, industrial byproduct gypsum, coal ash, red mud, smelting slag, carbide slag, chromium slag, arsenic slag and solid wastes produced from desulfurization, denitrification and dust removing, facilities for preventing scattering, running off and leakage shall be improved, with treatment schemes being worked out and implemented in an orderly manner. Comprehensive utilization of industrial solid wastes shall be strengthened. Cleanup and revamping shall be conducted of recycling of electronic wastes, scrap tires, waste plastics, etc. and guidance shall be given to enterprises concerned to adopt advanced and applicable processing technology, engage in clustered development, and build and operate pollution treatment facilities in a centralized manner to prevent pollution of the soil and underground water. As of 2017, pilot programs shall be tried out in co-governance of sewage, sludge, exhaust gas and waste residue in a number of cities in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region, Yangtze River Delta, Pearl River Delta and other areas. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and NDRC, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and Ministry of Land and Resources)

(XIX) To control agricultural pollution. Fertilizers and pesticides shall be applied on a rational basis. Farmers shall be encouraged to use more organic fertilizers and reduce the amount of fertilizers used. Pesticides shall be applied in a scientific way. Professional unified prevention and control shall be promoted for crop diseases and insect pests, so shall green prevention and control. Application of high-efficiency, low-toxicity and less-residue pesticides and modern equipment for plant protection shall be generalized. Efforts shall be made in strengthening recycle of





package waste of pesticides. As of 2017, some major grain-producing (oil-producing) counties and key counties in the vegetable industry shall be chosen in Jiangsu, Shandong, Henan, Hainan and some other provinces for trials, and the practice shall be promoted to 30% of grain-producing (oil-producing) counties and all key counties in the vegetable industry throughout the country by 2020. Agricultural clean production shall be promoted, and pilot programs shall be carried out for resource utilization of agricultural wastes to produce a number of reproducible and multiplied technical modes for prevention and control of agricultural diffused pollution. Strict ban shall be imposed on the use of urban household refuse, sludge and industrial wastes directly as fertilizers. By 2020, endeavors shall be made to ensure a zero growth in the amount of fertilizers and pesticides applied for main crops nationwide, with the utilization rate being expected to increase to over 40% and the rate of application of fertilizer prescriptions after testing soils being expected to exceed 90%. (Led by the Ministry of Agriculture, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and All-China Supply and Marketing Cooperative)

To strengthen recycling of used agricultural film. Heavy blows shall be dealt on illegal production and sales of unqualified agricultural film. A network shall be established and improved for recycling, storage and comprehensive utilization of used agricultural film and carry out pilot programs in recycling of used agricultural film. Endeavors shall be made to achieve the objective of comprehensive recycling of used agricultural film in Hebei, Liaoning, Shandong, Henan, Gansu, Xinjiang and some other provinces using more agricultural film. (Led by the All-China Supply and Marketing Cooperative, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Public Security, National Administration for Industry and Commerce, and Ministry of Public Security)





To strengthen prevention and control of pollution from livestock and poultry breeding. Strict normative rules shall be established on the production and use of veterinary drugs and feed additives to prevent from overuse and promote pollution reduction at the source. Steps shall be taken to strengthen comprehensive utilization of animal and poultry excrement and conduct pilot programs of organic combination and cyclic development of crop planting and animal and poultry breeding in chosen major live pig producing counties. Encouragement and support shall be given to the construction of facilities for the treatment and utilization of livestock and poultry, and by 2020 the rate of large farms and aquatic breeding areas equipped with waste disposal facilities shall reach over 75%. (Led by the Ministry of Agriculture, and joined by the NDRC and Ministry of Environmental Protection)

To strengthen control over the quality of irrigation water. Quality monitoring shall be enforced over irrigation water, which is expected to meet the established quality standards for farmland irrigation water. In case that the soil is severely polluted and quality safety of agricultural products seriously threatened due to long-term land irrigation with sewage, the cropping structure shall be adjusted in time. (Led by the Ministry of Water Resources, and joined by the Ministry of Agriculture)

(XX) To reduce domestic pollution. A mechanism shall be established to coordinate efforts of the government, communities, enterprises and residents to promote reduction, recycling and hazard-free treatment of garbage by way of classified dumping and collection and comprehensive recycling. Village cleaning system shall be established to promote management of rural domestic garbage. Rural domestic sewage treatment projects shall be undertaken. Irregular refuse landfills shall be brought under control. The policy of “promoting treatment with rewards” shall be implemented and the renovation of multiple adjacent tracts of rural



environment shall be carried out. Trials shall be conducted in cement kilns co-processing household refuse, and encouragement shall be given to using sludge that meets the required standard after treatment for landscaping. Demonstrations shall be given in resource utilization, such as using construction waste to produce building materials. Greater efforts shall be made to strengthen the safe treatment of used mercury oxide cells, nickel-cadmium batteries, lead-acid batteries, mercury-containing fluorescent lamps, thermometers and other wastes containing heavy metals, to reduce excessive packaging, and to encourage the use of environmental label products. (Led by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Environmental Protection)

vii. Carrying Out Pollution Treatment and Rehabilitation, and Improving Regional Soil Environment Quality

(XXI) To specify the treatment and rehabilitation subjects. In line with the principle of “whoever causes pollution is responsible for its treatment,” any unit or individual that causes soil pollution shall bear the subject responsibility for treatment and rehabilitation. In case a change has taken place in the responsibility subject, the unit or individual inheriting the rights and debts of the out-going unit or individual shall bear relevant responsibilities; in case the land use right has transferred in accordance with the law, the transferee of the land use right or the person in charge agreed by both sides shall bear the relevant responsibilities. And in case that the responsibility subject has disappeared or has not been clearly defined, the county people’s government of the said locality shall bear the relevant responsibilities in accordance with the law. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of



Land and Resources and Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development)

(XXII) To formulate treatment and rehabilitation plans. Focusing on prominent soil pollution problems that affect the quality of agricultural products and human settlement security, the various provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the central government) shall work out treatment and rehabilitation programs for soil pollution, specifying the key tasks, responsible departments and implementation plans by the year, and establish project libraries, and strive to complete the programs by the end of 2017. The programs shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environmental Protection for the record. The Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region, Yangtze River Delta and Pearl River Delta shall be the first to complete the programs. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and Ministry of Agriculture)

(XXIII) To proceed with the treatment and rehabilitation in an orderly manner. Key areas shall be specified in the treatment and rehabilitation efforts. Local governments shall proceed with the treatment and rehabilitation by keeping in view the improvement of urban environmental quality and adjustment of the development pattern and prioritizing the polluted plots to be developed for residential quarters, business areas, schools, medical institutions and endowment establishments, The treatment and rehabilitation efforts shall be first mobilized in Jiangxi, Hubei, Hunan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Sichuan, Guizhou and Yunnan that are haunted by more serious pollution of arable land. It is expected that other provinces determine the key areas of treatment and rehabilitation in line with their respective degree of soil pollution of the arable land, environmental risks and the spheres of influence. By 2020, the total area of





polluted arable land treated and restored is expected to reach 10 million *mu*. (Led by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development)

To enhance supervision over treatment and rehabilitation work. In principle, the treatment and rehabilitation work shall be carried out at the original site, and necessary measures shall be adopted to prevent secondary pollution due to excavation and stockpiling of the polluted soil and so on. In case that it is necessary to have the polluted soil moved to a second place, relevant units responsible shall report in advance the transportation time, means of transportation, route, quantity of polluted soil, direction, final disposal measures and so on to the departments of environmental protection of the locality from which the polluted soil to be moved out and locality to which it is moved. In the construction is going on, the unit responsible shall set up bulletin boards to publicize basic information and environmental impact of the project as well as whatever preventive measures that have been taken. The local department of environmental protection shall be obliged to conduct check-ups of the implementation of various environmental protection measures. After the completion of the project, the unit responsible shall commissioned a third-party agency to evaluate the effects of the treatment and rehabilitation, and the results of the evaluation shall be made public. A system of life-long responsibility shall be implemented for soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation, and relevant provisions to fix the accountability shall be worked out before the end of 2017. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and Ministry of Agriculture)

(XXIV) To supervise the implementation of objectives and tasks.





The departments of environmental protection at provincial level shall report the work progress in soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation to the Ministry of Environmental Protection on a regular basis; and the Ministry of Environmental Protection shall perform its function of supervision and check-up jointly with other departments concerned. All provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the central government) shall commission third-party agencies to carry out comprehensive assessment of the soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation effects of the various counties (cities, districts) under their jurisdiction respectively before announcing the results to the public. Before the end of 2017, provisions the for assessment of soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation effects shall be enacted and promulgated. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and Ministry of Agriculture)

viii. Intensifying Technological Development and Endeavoring for Booming of Environmental Protection Industry

(XXV) To strengthen research on prevention and control of soil pollution. Measures shall be taken to integrate the scientific research resources of the institutions of higher education, research institutions and enterprises to carry out basic research on soil environment reference values, capacity and carrying capacity of soil environment, migration and transformation law of pollutants, ecological effect of pollution, crops with low accumulation of heavy metals and selection of remediation plants, as well as the relations of soil pollution with the quality of agricultural products and human health, etc. Efforts shall be made to press forward with research on such common key technologies as diagnosis of





soil pollution, risk management and control, and treatment and rehabilitation, with the research and development of advanced and applicable equipment and high-efficient and low-cost functional materials (drugs), with enhanced application of satellite remote sensing technology, and with the construction of a number of labs and R&D bases for prevention and control of soil pollution. The relevant science and technology programs (special project, fund, etc.) shall be optimized and integrated to support research on prevention and control of soil pollution. (Led by the Ministry of Science and Technology, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, National Health and Family Planning Commission, State Forestry Administration, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences)

(XXVI) To intensify efforts in promoting applicable technology. Related technical systems shall be established and improved. A total of 200 pilot projects of soil pollution treatment and remediation technology application shall be implemented in batches in view of typical farmland and plots polluted in reference to types, degrees and regional characteristics of soil pollution. These projects are expected to be completed by the end of 2020. From these pilot projects, a number of applicable technologies that are easy to promote, low in cost and satisfactory in results shall be selected through comparison. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Finance, and joined by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and Ministry of Agriculture)

To speed up the transformation and application of research achievements. Mechanisms for the transformation of scientific and technological achievements in soil pollution prevention and control shall be





improved, and a number of platforms for research achievement transformation including the high-tech industrial development zones that take environmental protection as the leading industry shall be built. A directory of major technology and equipment for soil pollution prevention and control the development of which is encouraged shall be released. International cooperation in research and exchange in technology shall be carried out; and advanced risk management and control technology and managerial knowhow in soil pollution risk identification, soil pollutant rapid detection, soil and underground water pollution obstruction shall be imported digested. (Led by the Ministry of Science and Technology, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, and Chinese Academy of Sciences.)

(XXVII) To promote the development of treatment and rehabilitation industry. Control over the service-oriented monitoring market shall be lifted and NGO’s shall be encouraged to take a part in monitoring and evaluation of soil environment and other activities. Driven by relevant policies, accelerated further improvement shall be made of the mature industrial chain that covers soil environment survey, analysis and test, risk assessment, treatment and rehabilitation engineering design and construction, so as to bring into place a number of leading enterprises with strong comprehensive strength and foster a batch of vigorous \small and medium-sized ones. Areas with necessary conditions shall be encouraged to build industrial demonstration bases. Management of institutions and workers engaging in soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation shall be standardized, and supervision mechanisms shall be established and improved in this regard, institutions in soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation which are weak in capability of technological service, low in the level of operation and management, and poor in comprehensive credit shall have their names made





known to the public through the enterprise credit information publicity platform. The role of “Internet Plus” in the whole industrial chain of soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation shall be brought into full play to promote mass entrepreneurship and innovation. (Led by the NDRC, and joined by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce, and General Administration for industry and Commerce)

ix. Giving Play to the Leading Role of the Government in Developing a Soil Environment Treatment System

(XVIII) To enhance the leading role of the government and improve the management system. The soil environment management system shall be improved in accordance with the principle that “the state works out the overall plan, the authorities of the provinces take the overall responsibility and the cities and counties see to the implementation,” ensuring the full fulfillment of the territorial responsibility in soil pollution prevention and control. Exploration shall be made on the establishment of a mechanism of linkage and collaboration in soil pollution prevention and treatment that transcend the administration boundaries. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and Ministry of Agriculture)

To increase financial input. Central and local finances at all levels shall strengthen support to the prevention and control of soil pollution. Central finance shall integrate a number of special funds including the fund for prevention and control of heavy metal pollution and establish a





fund for prevention and control of soil pollution specially geared toward such endeavors as soil environment survey, monitoring and evaluation, supervision and control, and treatment and rehabilitation. The local authorities are expected to make generally planned use of relevant financial funds, strengthen support through the existing policy and capital channels to channel more funds that are earmarked for agriculture, such those for comprehensive development of agriculture, construction of high-standard farmland, construction of water conservancy works, protection and quality improvement of cultivated land, and application of prescribed fertilizers after soil testing, to counties (cities, districts) which have more arable land for preferential protection. Provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities under the central government) where conditions permit can give appropriate rewards to counties (cities, districts) where the acreage of arable land under preferential protection has increased. Special construction funds shall be allocated in accordance with overall planning to support enterprises to conduct technological reforms of outdated production technology and equipment involving heavy metals. (Led by the Ministry of Finance, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Water Resources, and Ministry of Agriculture)

To improve the incentive policies. Local governments shall take effective steps to encourage related enterprises to take part in soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation. Studies shall be made to formulate incentive policies encouraging enterprises engaged in the production of organic fertilizers, comprehensive utilization of used agricultural film, recycling of package waste of pesticides, etc. The pacemaker system in environmental protection shall be tried out in pesticide, fertilizer and other industries. (Led by the Ministry of Finance, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Land and





Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, State Administration of Taxation, and All-China Supply and Marketing Cooperative)

To construct pilot areas for comprehensive prevention and control. Prior to the end of 2016, construction of pilot areas for comprehensive prevention and treatment of soil pollution shall be launched in Taizhou City of Zhejiang Province, Huangshi City of Hubei Province, Changde City of Hunan Province, Shaoguan City of Guangdong Province, Hechi City of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Tongren City of Guizhou Province, with the priority being placed on prevention of soil pollution at source, risk management and control, treatment and rehabilitation, and supervision ability building, striving to achieve substantial improvement in soil environment quality in these pilot areas by 2020. The local people's governments concerned shall formulate development programs for the construction of the pilot areas, and submit them to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Finance according to the established procedures for the record. Such pilot areas shall also be developed in view of the local conditions in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region, the Yangtze River Delta and the Pearl River Delta. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Finance, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, and State Forestry Administration)

(XXIX) To give play to the role of the market. The leverage role of financial fund shall be brought into better play to mobilize more social capital to participate in the prevention and control of soil pollution through the mode of cooperation between the government and social capital (PPP). Government purchase of services shall be increased to promote the treatment and rehabilitation of arable land polluted and pol-





luted plots where the government plays a leading role. Proactive efforts shall be made in the development of green finance and give better play to the guiding role of policy and development-oriented financial institutions, so as to provide support to major projects for soil pollution prevention and control. Encouragement shall be given to eligible enterprises involved in soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation to issue shares. Explorations shall be conducted in promoting soil pollution treatment and rehabilitation by issuing bonds and try out the practice in pilot areas of comprehensive soil pollution prevention and control. Trials of compulsory liability insurance for environmental pollution shall be carried out in key industries and enterprises in an orderly manner. (Led by the NDRC and Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Finance, People’s Bank of China, CBRC, CSRC, and CIRC)

(XXX) To strengthen social supervision. Steps shall be taken to promote information disclosure and inform the public the situation of national soil environment in a timely manner in line with the results of monitoring and investigation on soil environment quality. People’s government of each province (autonomous region, municipality directly under the central government) shall make releases on the soil environment conditions of each prefecture-level city (autonomous prefecture, league) under its jurisdiction on a regular basis. In line with relevant regulations, major industrial enterprises shall inform the public the name(s) of the pollutant(s) they produce, way(s) of discharge, discharge concentration, total amount of discharge, and construction and operation of pollution prevention facilities. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and Ministry of Agriculture)

To provide guidance to public participation. The system of reporting with awards shall be implemented to encourage the public to enforce





supervise over environmental offences polluting the soil, such as wanton discharge of waste water and exhaust gas, disorderly dumping of waste residue and sludge through such channels as the “12369” tip-off hotline for environmental protection, letters, e-mails, government website, WeChat platform. Places where conditions permit can hire volunteer supervisors of environmental protection as deemed necessary to participate in on-site environmental law enforcement, investigation and settlement of soil pollution incidents, etc. Major grain production households, family farms, farmer cooperatives and non-governmental environmental protection organizations shall be encouraged to play a part in the prevention and control of soil pollution. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and Ministry of Agriculture)

To promote public interest litigation. Encouragement shall be given to lodging public interest lawsuits against soil pollution and other environmentally offences in accordance with the law. In areas where pilot programs have been carried out in the reform to make the procuratorial organs file public interest lawsuits, the procuratorial organs can, in capacity as public interest prosecutors, lodge civil public interest lawsuits against soil pollution and other behavior that bring harm to public interests, and lodge administrative public interest lawsuits against administrative organs responsible for soil pollution prevention and control in case they have violated the law in exercising their functions and powers or stay in act which cause damage to national and social public interests. Local people’s governments at different levels and relevant departments shall actively cooperate with the judicial organs in handling of relevant cases and procuratorial organs in supervision. (Led by the Supreme People’s Procuratorate and Supreme People’s Court, and joined by the Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Water Resources,





Ministry of Public Security, and State Forestry Administration)

(XXXI) To carry out publicity and education. Work programs shall be formulated for publicity and education in soil environment protection. Various available means, such as making flip charts and videos, publishing popular science readers, the Internet and digital projection platforms, shall be employed to popularize knowledge on soil pollution prevention and control by taking such opportunities as the World Earth Day, World Environment Day, World Soil Day, World Food Day, and National Land Day, strengthen publicity and interpretation of relevant laws, regulations and policies, create a favorable social atmosphere for the protection of soil environment, and promote the formation of the green development mode and lifestyle. Publicity and education in soil environment protection shall be integrated with the environment-related publicity and training work of the Party and government organs, schools, factories, communities, rural areas, etc. Institutions of higher education with necessary conditions shall be encouraged to offer special courses on soil environment. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television, Central Net Information Office, State Administration of Grain, and China Association of Science and Technology)

x. Strengthening Appraisal by Objective and Tightening Accountability Investigation

(XXXII) To clarify the responsibilities of local governments as the subjects. Local people’s governments at different levels are the subjects to implement the action plan, and thus they shall formulate and





publish work programs for soil pollution prevention and control of soil by the end of 2016 to specify the key tasks and targets of work. They shall strengthen efforts in organization and leadership, improve policy measures, increase capital input, innovate the modes of investment and financing, enhance supervision and management and do a good job in implementing the work programs. The work programs worked out by the authorities of each province (autonomous region, municipality directly under the central government) shall be submitted to the State Council for the record. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, and Ministry of Agriculture)

(XXXIII) To strengthen inter-departmental coordination and interaction. A national soil pollution prevention and control coordination mechanism shall be established to research on and resolve major problems on a regular basis. The departments concerned shall cooperate to do a good job in soil pollution prevention and control according to their obligations and share of work. The Ministry of Environmental Protection shall pay adequate attention to overall planning and coordination and strengthen supervision and check-ups, and submit a report on the work progress of previous year to the State Council in late February the next year. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the NDRC, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, and State Forestry Administration)

(XXXIV) To see to it the responsibilities of the enterprises fulfilled. Relevant enterprises shall strengthen internal management, incorporate





soil pollution prevention and control in their environmental risk control system, build and operate the pollution treatment facilities in strict accordance with the law, and seriously see to it that key pollutants are discharged in strict accordance with state standards. Those who have caused soil pollution, shall bear the legal liabilities for the evaluation, treatment and rehabilitation of the pollution. Self-discipline mechanism should be gradually established for enterprises and industries involved in soil pollution treatment rehabilitation. In this regard, the state-owned enterprises, especially central enterprises, shall take the lead. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, and SASAC of the State Council)

(XXXV) To tighten evaluation and assessment. Target responsibility system shall be implemented. By the end of 2016, the State Council shall have signed with the people’s government of each province (autonomous region, municipality directly under the central government) letters of target responsibility in soil pollution prevention and control to divide and implement targets and tasks. Progress made by each province (autonomous region, municipality directly under the central government) in main work shall be evaluation annually. Checks and assessment shall be made of the implementation of the plan in 2020, and the results shall be taken as an important basis for comprehensive examination and evaluation of the leadership team and individual leading cadres and their off-office auditing of natural resource assets. (Led by the SASAC of the State Council, and joined by the Organization Department CPC Central Committee and Audit Office)

The evaluation and assessment results shall be taken as important reference for the allocation of special funds for soil pollution prevention and control. (Led by the Ministry of Finance, and joined by the Ministry of Environmental Protection)



For provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the central government) which get poor results in the annual evaluation or fail to pass the evaluation, they are expected to come up with proposals for rectification within set limits of time. Prior to the completion of the correction, limited EIA approval shall be of construction projects in relevant areas. If rectification still fails to achieve the expected results, interviews shall be made with leaders of provincial people's governments and related departments concerned. Such interviews shall be made with major leaders of the people's governments of the relevant prefectures and cities as well as major leaders of the departments concerned under the provincial people's governments, where the soil environment problems are serious, the local soil environment quality is significantly decreased, prevention and control has proven to be ineffective and public concerns are pressing. Those who have been proven to engaged in misconduct and practiced trickery shall be admonished, ordered to make public apologies, and given Party or government disciplinary punishments in line with the seriousness of individual cases. For cases that constitute criminal offences, criminal responsibilities should be affixed by law, and those who have been transferred, promoted or retired shall still be held criminally responsible for life. (Led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and joined by the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee, and Ministry of Supervision)

China is now still in the critical stage of building a well-off society in an all-round way, it is still a fervent expectation of the general public to see improved quality of the environment, and yet the task of soil pollution prevention and control still remains arduous. It is necessary for people of different regions and authorities of relevant departments to have a clear awareness of this situation, forge ahead with confidence and pay great attention to implementation, effectively strengthen pollution control and ecological protection, strive to achieve the objectives



of nationwide soil pollution control as scheduled, ensure that the quality of the ecological environment is improved and all kinds of natural ecological systems remain stable and safe, so as to make contributions to the building of a beautiful China and the realization of “Two Centenary Goals” and the China Dream of bringing about a great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

