CIRCULAR OF GENERAL OFFICE OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE TRANSMISSION OF THE OPINIONS OF THE LEADING GROUP OFFICE OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN REGIONS ON IMPLEMENTING SOME POLICIES AND MEASURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN REGIONS

Guo Ban Fa [2001] No. 73

Promulgation date: 09-29-2001 Effective date: 09-29-2001

People's governments at provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the central government levels, ministries and commissions under the State Council and departments directly under the State Council: Opinions on Implementing Some Policies and Measures for the Development of Western Regions formulated by the Leading Group Office of the State Council of the development of western regions has been approved by the State Council and now is transmitted for implementation: General Office of the State Council

September 29, 2001

Opinions on Implementing Some Policies and Measures for the Development of Western Regions

(Leading Group Office of the State Council for the Development of Western Regions, August 28, 2001)

To carry out the strategy of the development of western regions and enhance the improvement of these regions is a major decision made by the State Council from the most commanding height and with the greatest vision and assuming the overall responsibility of the country. The Leading Group Office of the State Council, together with relevant departments, further formulates the opinions on implementing some policies and measures for the development of western regions on the basis of Circular of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on Implementing Some Policies and Measures for the Development of Western Regions (Guo Fa [2000] No.33).

1. Scope applicable for such policies

(1) The scope applicable for implementing some policies and measures and carrying out these opinions includes Chongqing municipality, Sichuan province, Guizhou province, Yunnan province, Tibet autonomous regions, Shanxi province, Gansu province, Ningxia

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Hui autonomous regions, Qinghai province, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region (Xinjiang production and construction crops of the Chinese People's Liberation Army is directly under the central planning), Inner Mongolia autonomous region, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region (all the above regions are collectively called "western regions") Other minority nationality autonomous regions in other districts (Tujia and Miao nationality autonomous region at Xiangxi Hunan province, Enshi Tujia and Miao nationality autonomous region at Hubei province and Chaoxian nationality autonomous region at Yanbian Jilin province) shall be given preferential treatments according to relevant policies in the actual workings.

2. Strengthen the construction investment

- (2) Proportion of the construction funds for the financial purpose of the central government invested in the western regions, including the construction funds coming from investments and treasury bond, shall be increased. The state policy-related loans of bank and preferential loans given by international financial institutions and foreign governments shall be granted to the projects in the western regions to the most extent under the condition of adhering to the principles relating to loans. The proportion of such loans granted for the western regions shall be increased to the full extent.
- (3) For the important infrastructural construction projects newly arranged to be established in the western regions by the state financed by construction funds for the financial purpose under the central government, other special construction funds, bank loans, foreign investments or self-financed by the enterprises itself, there shall not be any shortage of capital. Local governments shall actively support such enterprises in the land use and reduction and exemption of relevant fees. A batch of key projects relating to the overall development of the western regions shall be carried out, such as the West-East natural gas transmission project, West-Ease electricity transmission project, the construction of Qinghai-Xizang railway, national main trunk line of highway, rational development, saving and utilization of water resources.
- (4) The central government will adopt various manners to collect special funds for the development of western regions and supporting the key projects at these regions. At the time of arrangement of construction funds by railway, transportation, water conservancy, agriculture, forestry and information industry departments, proportion of such funds given to the key projects at western regions shall be continually increased.
- 3. Giving priority to arranging construction projects to western regions

(5) The western regions shall be given priority to arranging of some construction projects under the guideline of scientific planning and making the planning and market mechanisms play their roles in the allocation of resources. Including the infrastructural construction such as water conservancy, highway, railway, airport, pipe, telecommunication; the construction of ecological environment; development of special agriculture; exploration and utilization of advantageous mining resources such as hydroelectricity, high quality coal, petroleum, natural gas, copper, aluminum, potassium and phosphor; infrastructural construction of cities; development of special tourism; industrialization of special hi-and-new tech and technology of military enterprises converted to civilian productions.

4. Enhance the financial transfer payment

- (6) General transfer payment for the western regions, especially minority nationality regions (indicate the minority nationality autonomous regions, minority nationality districts in other provinces enjoying the same treatments as the minority nationality autonomous regions), shall be strengthened. The financial departments under the central government will increasingly enlarge the scope of general transfer payment to the western regions as the financial power is strengthened. The general transfer payment shall be calculated on the basis of standard financial gap between revenues and expenditures at different places, adhering to the principle of being scientific and reasonable and adapting unified formula to calculate standard earnings and expenditures according to objective factors without the influence of subjective factors. Minority nationality regions shall be given proper priority to the arrangement of funds of general transfer payment. Starting from 2000, the financial department under the central government will allocate part of special funds for transfer payment of minority nationality regions.
- (7) Western regions will be given priority to the allocation of special funds by the central government. More funds will be allocated to the western regions for the purposes of agricultural technology development, day farming, water saving agriculture, the protection and construction of agricultural ecological environment and the prevention and cure of plant diseases and insect pests and assistant the farmers in this aspects. The central government will support the exploration and utilization of clouds and water resources over the western regions and the inspection and forecast of water and land conditions and sandstorm. More powers will be put in the comprehensive agricultural development of western regions, focused on the alternation of middle and low-yield land, used for the improvement of the basic production conditions and ecological environment of land, main development of high-yield and effective agriculture, promotion of industrialized operation and the selective construction of modern demonstration zone and

technological demonstration zone. The central government will properly reduce the proportion contributed by local governments to the comprehensive agricultural development financial funds and increase the investment to bring land under control according to the actual conditions of western regions starting from 2001. The financial departments under the central government will give proper compensation to the provinces having difficulties in finance (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) at western regions who suffer from additional expenditures for the reason of implementation of the policies of the central governments to increase the salary of workers at government organs and public institutions and the incomes of the citizens of towns and cities receiving low earnings. The amount of such compensation shall be calculated on the basis of the numbers of on-job workers and retired cadres and workers, average salary per person per month, the amount increased for allowances given to such retired cadres and workers and the compensation ratio of transfer payment. When the central government gives funds to local state-owned enterprises for compensations of basis allowances for laid-off workers, basis annuities to retired cadres and workers of such enterprises and the minimum standard of living of citizens of cities and towns, such enterprises at western regions shall be given priority. The allocation of special funds relating to education, science and technology, sanitation, politics and law, culture and cultural relic shall also be favorable to the western regions.

- (8) The poverty-relief funds of the financial departments under the central government will be mainly appropriated to the poverty-stricken districts at western regions. Poverty-relief funds allocated to the poverty-stricken districts and minority nationality districts at western regions will be increased as the improvement of financial powers of the central government. Such funds shall be mainly utilized in the infrastructural construction, farm production, livestock breeding, basic education and vocational education, cultural and sanitation undertakings, the promotion of suitable advanced technology and relevant trainings at poverty-stricken villages.
- (9) The central government will support the western regions in the construction of protection of natural forests with respect to the arrangement of construction funds, special funds compensated by financial departments and reduction of local financial departments of the collection of compensation funds. Such construction funds include the subsidies given for the purpose of closing of hillsides to facilitate afforestation, afforestation by airplane, artificial afforestation and seeding equipments. The special funds compensated by financial departments include the fees for management and taking care of forest, subsidies of basic endowment insurance of state-owned forest industry enterprises, subsidies for expenditures for the policy and social purposes, subsidies given to laid-off workers to meet the minimum standard of living and the lump-sum allowances for the allocation of laid-off workers. In case the financial revenues of local governments are affected by carrying out the protection projects of natural forest, the financial departments

under the central government will properly compensate during certain period of time. If the forest industry enterprises are unable to pay the debts of banks for the reason that the wood outputs decrease, such debts may be suspended and the interests hereof are ceased to be charged. Such debts shall be settled by writing of uncollectible and bad accounts after check and inspection.

- (10) During the pilot undertakings of returning the grain plots to forestry or grass, the government will provide grains (unprocessed food grains) to households who return the grain plots to forestry or grass with 150kg per year for every mu returned by such household living in the upper reaches areas of the Yangtze River and 100kg per year fore every mu returned by it living in the middle reaches areas of Yangtze Rive for certain periods. The price of such grains (CNY 1.40 per kg of unprocessed food grains) shall be assumed by the financial departments under the central governments while the allocation and transportation costs of such grains shall be bore by local governments. At the same time, households returning the grain plots to forestry will receive subsidies in cash given by the state at CNY20.00 yuan per mu to be returned every year. Funds used for compensation will be bore by the financial departments under the central government. In addition, the central government also provides subsidies for seeding to households returning their grain plots at CNY 50.00 yuan every year for each mu of land have been returned by the household and trees or grass to be cultivated, funds allocated for this purpose shall be appropriated from infrastructural construction funds by the central In case the financial revenues of local governments are affected by carrying out the projects of returning the grain plots to forestry or grass, the financial departments under the central government will properly compensate during certain period of time. Moreover, the anti-sand project and bringing sand under control conducted by local governments will also under the support of the state.
- (11) In case the financial department at the town level suffers difficulties in the process of pilot undertaking the tax reforming at rural and is unable to overcome such difficulties by its own, the finance department under the central government will give proper subsidies according to the standard measures of transfer payment.

5. Enhance the financial supporting

(12) Grant more credit in the infrastructure construction of western regions To support the construction of large and middle sized transportation and energy projects, such as railway, electric power, petroleum and natural gas. The term for loans given to the infrastructure construction projects with large amount of investment and long term of construction period may be appropriately postponed according to the construction cycle

and ability of pay the loans. Among which, in case the loans of superhighway projects reach 40% of the total investment and such loans are borrowed and paid centrally by the government finance, term of loan may be postponed to eighteen years (including the grace period and the same below); for the hydroelectricity project, under the same condition, the term of loan may be postponed to twenty-five years. If the non-hydroelectricity project West-East electricity transmission gets loans more than RMB three hundred million, the term of such loan may be gradually postponed to eighteen years and to twenty years to the most extent. Terms of loans granted for the city's infrastructure construction project may be postponed to ten years and for other infrastructure construction may be postponed to fifteen years.

- (13) Enlarge the scope of loans with the right to earnings and to charges of infrastructure project as pledge Continue the pledge loan against the right to earnings of rural transmission-line system of electric power, commence the pledge loan against the right of charging of highway and continuously working to enlarge the scope of pledge loans to the infrastructure project of water supply, heat supply, public communication and telecommunication. Trying to set up the pledge loan against the right of earnings and charging of hydroelectricity development project and city environment projects (such as the treatment of wastewater and waste processing) which have certain ability to pay the debts.
- (14) Increase the credit granted for the agricultural and ecological construction. Offer credit support for the development of special agriculture, water saving agriculture and ecological agriculture of western regions and assist in the establishment of a batch of leading enterprises with great potential of development and strong ability of leading the development of relevant industries and jointly operated by companies and farmers. The agricultural bank and saving houses at rural shall actively promote the petty loans to the farmers and grant unsecured loans to the farmers ensuring that they will and will be able to pay the loans. Credit will be increased to the selected construction projects of ecological environment, to other ecological environment construction projects matching the returning of grain plots to forestry or grass and closing the hillsides for afforestration; to the projects with ability of payment of loans such as fast-growing high-yield timber forests, mountain food and wild vegetables, development of Chinese traditional medicinal crops and individual nurseries.
- (15) Supporting the adjustment of economic structure and industrial structure with credit leverage. Supporting the improvement of the advantageous industries of western regions such as the reasonable development of electricity power, natural gas, tourism and the biological resources; Regarding the key projects request large amount of loans, the head office of commercial banks shall directly made the arrangement which shall not be

included in the deposit-loan ration and limitation of examination of local branches of the bank. The head office of agriculture bank of China will centrally make the plans and arrange loans for the renovation of the transmission-line system of electric power at rural of western regions. Meanwhile, credit support shall also be given to the technological renovation and the development of hi-and-new tech and middle and small size enterprises at western regions.

6. Devote major efforts to improve the soft environment of investment

(16) Carefully implement the relevant policies relating to the reformation and development of state-owned enterprises, deepen the reform of state-owned enterprises at western regions and make enterprises the main body in the market competition. Enhance the establishment of modern enterprise system and carry out the innovation of systems. To this end, except for the enterprises which are important for the life line and security of the country and shall be controlled by the State, other stand-owned large and middle enterprises are encouraged to be changed into limited liability companies or joint-stock limited companies according to law in the form of standard coming into the market. Chinese and foreign joint ventures and participating in each other's business by The reformed enterprises shall set up board of directors and board of supervisions, clarify the functions and power of the shareholders meeting, board of directors, board of supervisions and the managers, all of which shall respectively perform their own functions and powers, jointly operation and effectively regulate to achieve Set up the mechanism of the management, operation and supervision of state-owned assets with clear functions and powers, make the investors of state-owned enterprises to be in place as soon as possible and strengthen the external supervision of the main body of operation of state-owned assets. Further deepen the reform of labor, personnel and distribution systems in the internal of enterprises and establish new mechanism in which the administrators can be the leader as well as the worker, workers can leave or to be employed by the enterprise without influences to it and the enterprises are able to bear the increase or decrease of incomes. Promote the strategy adjustment of the economic distribution of the State in combination with the adjustment of industrial structure and adhering to the principles that some enterprises should be encouraged while others should be backward and something shall be done and something shall not. Further reform and activate the state-owned middle and small size enterprises and promote the construction of organization and management systems, policy system and social servicing systems of middle and small size enterprises. Give more supporting to the state-owned enterprises at western regions to make up deficits and shake off poverty and the reorganization and reformation of such enterprises.

(17) Guide the nonpublic economy such as individual and private enterprises at the

western regions to improve fast and encourage the enterprise and individuals at the eastern and middle regions of China to invest to the western regions. Unless specially regulated by law, all kinds of enterprises within China shall have the right to enter into the investment fields opened to foreign businessmen. Encourage the main bodies of nonpublic economy such as individual and private enterprises to invest in the western regions by means of wholly-own, joint venture, cooperation and special licenses.

- (18) Simplify the examination and approval procedures of investment projects In case the enterprises invests in the projects not be restricted by the State by their own capitals or loans got from banks of China, and need the government to balance the conditions of construction and operation, the competent authorities of government shall only approve of the project proposal of such projects, except for the projects under special control or important projects having influence to the overall and long-term development of national economy and the security of the country. After several conditions of construction are fulfilled, the enterprises shall have right to decide whether or not to commence the construction, provided that the enterprises shall report to the competent department of government for record after the commencing of construction.
- (19) Carefully implement the policies and regulations of the central government relating to the introduction of foreign capital. Make great efforts to optimize the regional distribution of foreign investment and encourage foreign businessman to invest at the western regions, and reasonably simplify the procedures of examination and approval of foreign-invested projects. In case the foreign businessmen invest in the projects in the industries encouraged by the State or in advantageous industries at western regions, except for key projects or projects under special control, with capital of their own or commercial bank loans, the competent departments of government shall only examine and approve the feasibility study report of the project. The project proposal and report of commencing construction are not requested to be submitted to the competent department of government for examination and approval. The examination and approval procedures of the contracts and articles of associations of foreign invested enterprises will also be simplified step by step.
- (20) Further transform the government functions and pay more attention to the improvement of soft environment of investment, rectify the economic orders at market and realistically protect the intellectual property right and safeguard the economic legal system. Separate the governmental functions from enterprise management, reduce the items required to be submitted for examination and approval, standardize the official procedures handling relevant matters, clean and abolish rules and regulations which are unable to meet the requirements of the development of socialist market economy and opening to outside. As for the matters which are necessary to apply for examination and

approval of governments at different levels, such governments shall provide convenient services and increase the efficiency and transparency of handling such matters. Strengthen the construction of arbitration mechanism, timely settle economic disputes and protect the legitimate interests and rights of investors.

7. Implementing preferential taxation policies

- (21) The enterprises financed by domestic capitals or with foreign investments established at the western regions encouraged by the State shall be subject to the enterprise income tax at the reduced rate of 15% during the period from year 2001 to 2010. Enterprises financed by domestic capitals indicate the enterprises mainly carry out the projects fall under the Catalogue of the Industries, Products and Technologies the Development of which are mainly Encouraged by the State Currently (amended in 2000) and the income form such projects shall account for more than 70% of the total income of the enterprise. Foreign invested enterprises encouraged by the State indicate the enterprises mainly carry out the projects encouraged by the State as stipulated in the Catalogue for the Guideline of Foreign Investment Industries and Catalogue of Advantageous Industries with Foreign Investment at Middle and Western Regions and the income from such projects shall account for more than 70% of the total income of the enterprise. Under the approval of the people's government at province level, enterprises financed by domestic capitals at minority nationality autonomous regions may be subject to periodical reduction or exemption from enterprise income tax and foreign invested enterprises in such regions may be subject to reduction or exemption from local income tax. The jurisdiction and procedures of the examination and approval of the reduction and exemption of enterprise income tax levied by the central government shall be determined by relevant stipulations currently in effect.
- (22) Enterprises newly established at the western regions relating to transportation, electricity power, hydroelectricity, post, broadcast and television shall enjoy preferential treatment of reduction or exemption from enterprise income tax. Among which, enterprises financed by domestic capitals shall be exempted from enterprise income tax for the first and second year after commencing operation and subject to enterprise income tax at the reduced rate of 50% form the third to the fifth year hereafter. Foreign invested enterprises with term of operation over ten years shall be exempted from enterprise income tax for the first and second year after commencing operation and subject to enterprise income tax at the reduced rate of 50% form the third to the fifth year hereafter starting from the year on which it begin profits. For the purpose of this article, transportation enterprises indicate the enterprises newly invested and established to carry out transportation through highway, railway, airline, port, docks and pipes; electricity enterprises indicate the enterprises newly invested and established to carry out operation

of electricity power; hydroelectricity enterprises indicate the enterprises newly invested and established to carry out hydroelectricity development and flood control, including tackling problems of rivers and lakes in a comprehensive way, flood control, surface dredging, irrigation, water supply, protection of water resources, waterpower, the conservation of soil and water, channel dredging and the construction of dams; postal enterprises indicate the enterprises newly invested and established to carry out post operations; broad casting and television enterprises indicate the enterprises newly invested and established to carry out the operation of programs of broadcasting and television. Unless otherwise stipulations, the income of abovementioned enterprises from stipulated projects in proceeding paragraphs shall accounts for more than 70% of the total income of the enterprises.

- (23) For the incomes obtained from special agricultural products gained at the procedures of ecological environment protection, returning the grain plots to forestry or grass (of which, the ecological forest shall account for more than 80%), the taxes on special agricultural products shall be exempted from starting from the year on which it begin profits.
- (24) The land used for the construction of highway of national line and provincial line shall be exempted from tax on occupation of cultivated land according to the policies relating to the tax on occupation of cultivated land by construction of railway and airports. Provided that only the occupation of cultivated land by the line of highway and the ditches on both sides of it shall be subject to tax exemption, which do not include the cultivated land occupied by the stock yards, maintenance gangs, checkpoints, construction teams and car washing yards on both sides of highway. As for the construction of other highways other than national line and provincial line, if it occupies cultivated land, the people's government shall decide whether or not the tax on occupation of cultivated land may be exempted form thereof. Once the abovementioned land occupied without payment of tax is changed the utilization and goes beyond the scope to enjoy the exemption of taxes, the tax on occupation of cultivated land shall be paid starting from the date on which the utilization is changed.
- (25) Where the projects fall under the catalogues encouraged by the State financed by domestic capitals or foreign investment import equipments to meet the requirements of the operation of the enterprises within the total investment, the tariff and importation value-added tax shall be exempted from, except for the commodities listed at the Catalogue of Imported Commodities for Domestic Invested Projects which are prevented from Enjoying Tax Exemption (amended at year 2000) and Catalogue of Imported Commodities for Foreign Invested Projects which are prohibited from Enjoying Tax Exemption. Where the foreign invested projects comply with the Catalogue of

Advantageous Industries with Foreign Investment at Middle and Western Regions import equipments for self-utilization within the total investment, the tariff and import value-added tax shall be exempted from, the procedures of examine and approval of which shall be carried out in accordance with the stipulations of Circular of the State Council on the Adjustment of Tax Policies against Imported Equipments (Guo Fa [1997] No.37).

8. Implement the preferential policies on the land use

- (26) The sloping cultivated land will be returned the grain plots to forestry or grass step by step under certain planning. The afforestation and growth of grass on suitable barren hills and wastelands will be encouraged by carrying out the policies of "who returns the grain plots, afforests and grows grass, it shall have the right to operate and own the land-use right and have the ownership of the forest and grass it has grown," Where the state-owned unused barren hills and wastelands to be transferred to units or individuals for ecological construction such as afforestation and grass growth, land transfer fees may be reduced or exempted from and the land-use right will remain unchanged for a period of fifty years; such land-use right may be transferred, lent or mortgaged in case it fulfills the provisions of contracts and meets the conditions for ecological construction. The term of such land-use right may be applied for renewal after expiration. The one who conducts ecological construction by afforestation or grass growth in the unused barren hills and wastelands owned by collectivity of village, it may obtain land-use right through contract, lent and auction and such land-use right will remain unchanged for a period of fifty years and may be inherited, transferred or lent or mortgaged.
- (27) Strictly protect the basis farmland and realize the balance of occupation and compensation For the purpose of protecting the productivity of grains, in the areas with more sloping cultivated land, the sloping cultivated land at the degree between 15 and 25 which have been cultivated for many years with good water power and soil and water conservation facilities may be fixed as basic farmland. Moreover, some of the newly cultivated land with good supporting facilities may also be fixed as basic farmland. The plant production structure of such basic land may be adjusted for the development of economic crop according to relevant stipulations, provided that the cultivation conditions shall not be damaged. Land arrangement projects shall be given priority to the protection zone of basic farmland to make the effective areas and quality of cultivated land continuously increased. The State will arrange more funds for the restore of the cultivation and development of land at western regions. The royalties for the new usage of land for construction paid by every province (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) to the central government shall be re-allocated in whole through the arrangement of land development and cultivation in principle. Where

the government confirms that the unused lands which have been developed as grassland or garden may be adjusted as cultivated lands, it may be used to set off the cultivation land index and to be protected and managed as the cultivated lands. In case the infrastructure construction occupies cultivated land, the reclamation fee of cultivated land may be charged according to the lowest standard stipulated by each province (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government), provided that the cultivated land must be ensured to take balance between the occupation and cultivation.

(28) Raise the efficiency of examination and approval of land-use by construction, reduce the links in the examination and approval procedures, timely provide and ensure adequate land to be used for the economic construction. The land used for construction requires to be submitted to the State Council for approval, the competent department of government shall mainly examine whether such land-use complying with the planning of land utilization and whether or not the balance of land between occupation and cultivation and the allocation and compensation of land-use being able to be achieved. Materials submitted for approval may be properly simplified according to the content to be examined. The compensation and allocation relating to the requisition of land shall comply with the legal stipulations of the Law of Land Administration of the People's Republic of China, no charges by getting a life may be permitted and the rights and interest of farmers shall be under realistically protection. The utilization of state-owned unused land may be exempted from land compensation fee. Unless otherwise stipulated by law, the construction projects shall use the state-owned land with payment according to law and the provision of land is encouraged to be conducted through bid Where the foreign invested projects necessitate the using the invitation and auction. state-owned land, the land-use right of such state-owned land may be provided by means of holding shares or making capital contributions after evaluation after approval.

9. Implement the preferential policies on mineral resources

(29) Give the western regions priority to arranging the research and evaluation project of the state-owned land resources at western regions and the outlay for relevant working shall also be favorable to the western regions. The research and evaluation project shall be focused on the areas centralizing important mining resources, short supply materials of the State and the underground water resources at western regions. Such projects shall also be arranged mainly for the basic geological working of low-grade with serious geological hazard.

(30) The price for the right of exploration and right of mining formed by the prospecting

financed by the State at western regions, in case it fulfills one of the following conditions, may be transferred to the national assets in whole or in part to the state-owned mining enterprises or geological prospecting unit according to relevant provisions after approval. It may be used for the exploration or mining of mineral resources such as petroleum, natural gas, coal bed gas, high-grad iron ore deposit, qualified manganese ore, chromite, copper, nickel, gold, silver, sylvite, platinum group metal and underground water; exploration and mining at the important poverty-relief development zones and important development zones confirmed by the State; exploration for substitute resources for the original resources are dried up of the large and middle mining enterprises; or at the time when state-owned mining enterprises converting to share-holding system or jointly operated outside after approval; units holding state-owned capitals purchasing shares by the contribution of exploration right and mining right after evaluation; the state-owned enterprises actually having difficulties in the payment of prices of exploration right and mining right for the reason of force majeure.

- (31) The one who exploits and mines mineral resources at western regions may supply to pay reduced royalties of exploration right and mining rights or to be exempted from such royalties if it fulfils one of the following conditions: to exploit or mine the mineral resources such as petroleum, natural gas, coal bed gas, uranium, high-grad iron ore deposit, qualified manganese ore, chromite, copper, sylvite, platinum group metal and underground water; exploit or mine applied by the large and middle mining enterprises for the substitution resources; to exploit mineral resources with new technology and measures to improve the comprehensive usage (including the exploration of low-grade and refractory minerals and the usage of old mining areas) and other conditions confirmed by the State. The royalties of exploration rights may be exempted from for the first year, subject to the reduced royalties at 50% for the second and third years of exploration. Such royalties will be charged as 75% during the forth to the seventh year of exploration. As for the royalties of mining right, it may be exempted during the period of construction of mining area and the first year of operation. It will be subject to the reduced royalties at 50% for the second and third years and 25% for the forth to the seventh year, for the year on which the mining is closed, the royalties of mining right will be exempted from.
- (32) The person with exploration right may obtain mining rights hereof according to law after finding of valuable mining areas by investment in the exploration. The exploration fees may be included in the deferred assets to the paid in installments during the period of mining.
- (33) Actively establish the market of rights relating to mining industrial, and promote the transfer of exploration right and mining right according to law. Scope for the transfer of mining industrial rights include mining areas exploited under the finance of the State,

mining areas returned for the ownership of the state according to law and other places without ownership of mining industrial rights. In addition to the application for approval, such mining rights may also be transferred through auction and bid inviter. Persons own exploration right and mining right may also transfer such rights according to law through selling, contribution by evaluation, jointly exploration or mining or listing them at the market. Such rights may also be lent or mortgaged according to relevant regulations.

(34) The foreign businessmen conducting the exploration of mineral resources other than petroleum and gas, he may be exempted from the royalties of the exploration rights and mining right for a period of one year, or the reduced royalties of exploration right and mining right at 50% for a period of two years in addition to the current preferential policies given by the State. If the foreign businessmen exploit the mineral resources other than the petroleum and gas fall under the catalogue of Catalogue for the Guidance of Foreign Investment Industries. It may enjoy the exemption from land compensation fee for a period of five years. In a joint venture, in case the Chinese party intends to make capital contribution in exploration right and mining right, such rights shall be reasonably evaluated according to relevant regulations. The Chinese party shall provide relevant geological results materials to the joint venture.

10. Coordinate through price mechanism and charge mechanism

- (35) Deepen the price reformation and further increase the ratio of the price coordinated by the market. The price for the transportation of railway at western regions shall exercise the guidance price of the government other than the price fixed by the government. The branches of airline within the province (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) shall implement floating prices. The price of ethnic drug included in the scope of medicine used for the system of medical insurance for urban workers shall be examined and approved by the competent department of government at the place where such drug is grown.
- (36) Adjust the price of electricity and water; promote reformation of the fess for the disposal of wastewater and the rubbish. Actively settle the disputes of the electricity price of the transmission-line system of electric power at western regions, separately fix the fees of power transmission and distribution between the transmission-line systems of electric power at western regions; encourage the electricity power production enterprises directly sign the contract of purchase of electricity with final users and thus lower the charges for the use of electricity of users; properly reduce the fees for the power transmission between the key lines of the transmission-line systems of electric power

between east and west region and encourage the West-East electricity transmission project. Under the conditions of consideration of reasonable development and bearing ability, the water prices of hydroelectricity projects in the northwestern China with shortage of water supply shall be given priority to be adjusted to ensure the expenditures of construction and maintenance of such projects to be reasonably compensated. In case the wastewater treatment plant has bee completed in construction at the cities at western regions but the fees for wastewater disposal have not been collected, such fees shall be collected as soon as possible according to relevant regulations of the State. If such fees have been started collection, it may be increased generally adhering to the principles of keeping the capital investment secure and having meager profits. Governments at western regions shall work out and implement the policies relating to the collection of fees for rubbish disposal according to the actual local conditions.

(37) Implement special prices for the operation of newly constructed railways and branches at western regions. According to the policies of the State Council of "New railway with new price", the special price for the railways newly constructed at western regions shall be fixed on the principles of "Repaying the interest and principals and compensating the reasonable operation costs" to ensure that the construction loans can be repaid within specific period, normal operation may be maintained thus promote the railway construction at the western regions. Further search manners for the compensation of the difference between the special prices for the railways newly constructed at western regions and the unified price for the whole railway. Branches of railways at western regions shall implement special prices fixed for such branches. The principles of the fix of such prices of branches of railway shall be formulated by the State Council while the specific prices shall be fixed by the competent authorities of local government. Where the branches of railways at western regions meet certain conditions, the guidance price of the government or price coordinated by the market may be implemented to grant more rights for the decision of prices to the railway transportation enterprises.

11. Enlarge the investment scope for the foreign businessmen

(38) Where the foreign businessmen invest in the basic industries or infrastructure construction projects such as agriculture, forest, hydroelectricity, transportation, energy, municipal infrastructure and public facilities, the development of mining and tourism resources and establishment of technological development centre, it may enjoy various preferential policies given to the industries encouraged by the State. The State will timely amend and modify the Catalogue of Advantageous Industries with Foreign Investment at Middle and Western Regions and relevant measures according to the conditions of

economic development and changes hereof at different places to further enlarge the opening outside of the western regions.

(39) Enlarge the opening outside at the services and trade fields at the western regions. The scope for the investment of foreign businessmen at bank, commercial retail enterprises is extended to the central cities (municipalities directly under the central government, capital city of province and autonomous regions). The scope for the foreign trade companies jointly invested by Chinese and foreign parties at the western regions is extended to the central cities at western regions and given loose requirements for the qualifications of the parties. The foreign invested banks at western regions shall be given priority to the operation of RMB according to relevant stipulations of law and relevant agreements after the entrance of WTO of China. In case foreign invested insurance companies apply for the establishment of operation agencies at western regions, it may be given priority to be granted. And the foreign businessmen intend to establish insurance agents and jointly invested insurance brokers company at western regions; it may be given priority over others to be granted. The requirements for the establishment of travel agencies jointly invested by Chinese and foreign parties at the western regions shall be properly reduced in respect of qualification and examination and approval. According to the promises and relevant provisions made by China at the time of negotiation for the entrance of WTO, foreign certified public accountants' firm (office) may be permitted to establish certified public accountants' firm jointly invested by Chinese and foreign parties at western regions. Where the conditions of establishment of such firms are not fulfilled, they are allowed to set up a member branch at western regions. The current Chinese-foreign joint venture certified public accountants' firms are encouraged to establish branches at western regions. Chinese-foreign invested law firms may be given priority to be established at western regions under the full conditions. Enterprises with Chinese and foreign investment conducting construction and providing relevant services and design services are permitted to be established at western regions, on which the foreign parties may hold the enterprises. Foreign invested enterprises will be gradually permitted to be established in the fields of construction, and providing relevant services, design services, engineering services and services of city planning. Foreign parties are gradually permitted to hold the transportation enterprises by railway and through highway jointed invested by Chinese and foreign parties. And foreign invested enterprises also are gradually to be established in these fields.

12. Widen the tunnels for the usage of foreign capitals

(40) To formulate the measures applicable to the western regions for the management of foreign invested enterprises established at western regions to be listed at the market in and out of China, the enterprises financed by domestic capitals to absorb foreign

investments by means of transfer of operation rights, stocks, merger and organizations and the absorption of foreign investments by Chinese-foreign invested industrial funds and venture investment funds.

(41) Appropriately utilize the preferential loans from international financial institutions and foreign governments in the fields of education, sanitation, poverty relief, ecological environment protection. Try the best efforts to get international bilateral and multilateral capital donations and arrange them mainly to the western regions. Timely introduce the management models, procedures of application and key applicable fields of the preferential loans and the non reimbursable assistance provided to China by international organizations and governments of relevant nations to the western regions. Support the western regions in the training of managerial person of the project under non reimbursable assistance, improve the management of such projects, increase the transparency of the project management and ensure the relevant departments at western regions to timely master relevant information hereabout. The projects fulfill the long-term interests for the development of social economic at western regions in the fields of environment protection, agricultural development, basic education, sanitation and hydroelectricity will be firstly supported.

13. Reduce relevant conditions for the utilization of foreign investment

- (42) Where the foreign businessmen invest in the projects of infrastructure construction and advantageous industries at western regions, the restriction on the proportion of shares held by foreign parties may be properly reduced according to different conditions at different industries. The restriction on the term of operation of foreign invested commercial projects at the western regions may be extended to forty years, ten years longer than that at the eastern regions and the registered capital of companies may be RMB thirty million, RMB twenty millions lower than that at the eastern regions. Where the foreign invested enterprises and Chinese-foreign invested enterprises and Chinese-foreign cooperative enterprises invest at the western regions, then the established enterprise shall, in case the capital contribution made by foreign parties is no less than 25% of the registered capital, have the right to enjoy the preferential treatment given to the foreign-invested enterprises.
- (43) Where foreign businessmen invest in the projects of infrastructure construction and advantageous industries at the western regions, proportion of loans in RMB provided for the investment of fixed assets provided by domestic banks may by properly raised. Such proportion may account for 120% of the proportion of capital contribution of Chinese party at Chinese-foreign invested projects and Chinese-foreign cooperative projects and

100% of the capital contribution made by foreign investors at the wholly foreign-owned projects. Where domestic banks offer loans for investment of fixed assets to foreign businessmen, who invest in the projects fall under the catalogues encouraged by the State at Catalogue for the Guideline of Foreign Investment Industries and Catalogue of Advantageous Industries with Foreign Investment at Middle and Western Regions, have good reputations and utilize loans for the purchase of equipments and material made in China and the payment of domestic contract prices which are necessary for the project, the abovementioned stipulations on proportions may not be applicable. The banks may independently assess and independently decide whether or not to offer such loans. The foreign invested projects are permitted to conduct project finance including RMB.

(44) As for some projects utilizing preferential loans from abroad at the western regions, the proportions of foreign preferential loans in the total investment of project are permitted to be properly increased. In the projects of infrastructure construction, ecological environment construction and poverty-relief and development at the western regions, the proportion of utilization of foreign preferential loans may account for 70% of the total investment according to the capability of payment instead of the general provisions of 50%, unless the projects suffer form restricted procurement conditions or the loan institutions have special provisions over the proportion of such loans. Strengthen the link between the planning for the utilization of foreign preferential loans and investment plans of the State to the western regions and give more support in capital to the important foreign invested projected at the western regions.

14, vigorously develop foreign economic trade

(45) Further adjust the standard relating to the operation rights of enterprises at western regions in the foreign economic trade and economic technological cooperation. Lower the standard for the application of operation rights for operating import and export by the production enterprises at the western regions by lower the registered capital from RMB three million to two million. The enterprises of scientific research institution and colleges and hi-and-new tech enterprises and mechanical and electrical production enterprises apply for operation rights, the registered capital shall be adjusted form RMB two million to one million. The standards for the application of operation rights for operating import and export by private production enterprises may be determined according to the conditions, standards and measures stipulated for state-owned and collectivity-owned production enterprises. In case the foreign trade enterprises at western regions apply for operation rights for operating foreign labor services, the total value of foreign trade during the last year shall reach USD fifty million or the amount of exports of the last year shall reach USD thirty million. Where a region (or municipality) has not a "window" company operating foreign economic trade, it may establish a state-owned "window"

company or assign a foreign trade company to apply for the qualification of foreign cooperation in labor service.

- (46) Support the western regions in export of advantageous products Set up the production and service system and quality verification system for organic agricultural products, accelerate the conversion fro the scientific research results of organic agriculture to the process of production, establish several model bases for the export of livestock products without specified epidemic disease and enlarge the export of organic agricultural products and livestock products. The export quotas given to the production enterprises mainly producing such export products at the province (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) where such exported products come from shall be gradually increased under the conditions of in conformity with the industrial policies of the state. The advantageous primary mining products and agricultural and sideline products at the western regions shall be encouraged to improve towards the deep-processing and high value-added.
- (47) Encourage the enterprises at western regions to contract foreign engineering and cooperation in labor services. Actively support the large professional engineering enterprises with actual powers at the western regions in the application of operation rights for contract of foreign engineering and cooperation in foreign labor services, contract of projects, obtaining information and project finance. Support the large enterprises under the central government to cooperate with enterprises at western regions in the contract of projects and employment of labors thus lead the enterprises at western regions to open the international market. Promote the association between foreign large enterprises with enterprises at western regions and joint undertaking the projects of infrastructure construction with foreign investments at western regions.
- (48) Encourage enterprises at western regions invest and establish plants outside China, especially at surrounding areas and countries. Where the enterprises at western regions establish processing and trade enterprises or contract aid foreign projects jointly invested by Chinese and foreign parties and/or under the cooperation of Chinese and foreign parties at surrounding countries and areas outside China, the particular procedures shall be handled first under the same conditions. Where the enterprises at western regions apply for the foreign trade development funds under the central government to establish processing trade enterprises outside China, they shall be given priority to be considered if they fulfill certain conditions.
- (49) Technical equipments which are much-needed for the economic development at western regions shall be given proper preferential treatment in respect of import

management. Limitation on import of products urgently needed and to be used by the minority nationality regions shall be properly reduced. As for the products under import quotas by western regions, priority shall be given to the allocation of numbers of such products according to actual situations.

(50) Preferential policies on border trade over boundary areas shall be continually implemented according to international rules and the restriction on the tax reimbursement for export, business scope for import and export commodities, quotas for import and export commodities, management of licenses and exchange of persons shall be loosed. Relevant procedures shall also be simplified. Border trade operation rights for the border trade enterprises shall be registered, managed and recorded by the competent authorities of the people's governments at provincial level according to relevant stipulations of the competent department under the State Council. The project contract on contracting of engineering and undertaking cooperation of labor service at the boundary areas of abutted countries by foreign trade enterprises at border areas shall be independently examined and approved by the competent departments of people's government at the province level at the boundary. If the foreign trade enterprises export commodities original from local place and under the quotas for import and export commodities, it may not be requested to apply for export license, except for the commodities under the unified bid inviter of the state, important industrial products the total amount of which are controlled, commodities under voluntary quota management, commodities under the management of paid quotas, commodities exported in the border trade under focus managements, chemical products universally utilized for military and civil use, poisonous chemical products and the materials being able to consume the ozonosphere. When the border trade enterprises export commodities produced in the boundary area and under the management of paid use of quotas, the qualification of operating such commodities shall be properly lowed and the royalties of such quotas shall be reduced or exempted. As for the commodities exported in the border trade under the focus management of the State, the competent department of the State Council will specially issues certain number of quotas, which shall meet the requirements of material and equipments to be brought out of China which are necessary for the economic technical cooperation of border trade enterprises with those at the boundaries of the abutted countries as well as the materials for the daily use of labors working outside China. Except for the fees charged by administrative agencies for the execution of laws under the unified stipulations of the State, all other administrative charges shall not be charged at the port to reduce the operation burden of border trade enterprises.

15. Promote the regional cooperation and matched assistance

- (51) Promote the regional technical cooperation. In accordance with the stipulations of the industrial policies of the State, encourage the overall economic technical cooperation between the eastern, middle and western regions under the guideline of market, with profits as centre, and the enterprises as the main body on the basis of making full use of the comparative advantages between different regions. According to the preferential policies given to the foreign invested enterprises, adopt effective measures to improve the investment environments and raise the level of services thus attract the enterprises as eastern and middle regions to invest and establish plants or cooperation in development at the western regions by means of wholly investment, holding shares, participating in the shares, acquisition, association, merger, lease, trusteeship, and contact for operation. In the process of cooperation, production equipments shall be eliminated, backwards techniques and heavy pollution projects are prohibited from transfer to western regions.
- (52) Enhance the matched assistance and help working. Relevant provinces, municipalities directly under the central government and cities under the central planning at eastern regions shall, on the basis of the advantages of its own and the regions under matched assistance, continually the construction of a batch of primary schools, middle schools, health centers and cultural stations, organize the circular teaching, medical treatment and bring the science and technology to the countryside at the regions receiving such assistance. Funds for the matched assistance shall be collected by the provinces, municipalities directly under the central government and cities under the central planning at eastern regions according to the abilities. The poverty-relief working with petty loans shall be continued to provide credit services to the farmers at the poverty-stricken districts at western regions. Methodically carry out the activities to "make border flourishing and the people rich", mainly support the boundary counties in the minority nationality regions and poverty-stricken regions, manage the pilot experiment and utilize the aid measures to the grass roots.

16. Attract and make full use of professionals

(53) The system of allowances for working at hardship remote regions starting from the year 2001 and the funds of which are assumed by the financial department under the central government. Salaries received by peoples working at the administrative departments and public institutions at hardship remote areas are increased to gradually reach or above the average level of the country and thus encourage and attract professionals working at hardship remote areas.

- (54) Arouse the enthusiasm and creativity of the professionals working at the western regions. For the advanced technicians badly needed by their works who still undertake the major economic construction projects or work in the hardship remote areas although they have reached the age to retire may be continually engaged after the approval of the people's government at the province level. Such engagement shall neither change the authorized size of the unit nor occupy the post for professional services. Vigorously strengthen the support on the selection of experts receiving special allowances of the State, the establishment of scientific research floating stations for postdoctoral and the scientific research station for postdoctoral at enterprises as well as the assistance of the persons study abroad by offering scientific research expenditures. Further improve the working and living conditions for the professionals working at the western regions and give them priority in the providing of scientific research expenditures, appointing assistants and the application of projects.
- (55) Strengthen the training of peoples working at western regions. Training the professionals badly needed by the western regions by ways of training at local place or arranging them receiving trainings at the eastern regions or foreign counties in combination of important tasks at the development of western regions, the implementation of major construction projects and important research tasks. Give more guideline and support in the training of minority nationalities, young and middle-aged scientific technicians and the civil servants. Increase the training outlay and support the institutions and teachers in offering such trainings. Properly use the special funds given by the State, seek international assistance projects and pay more attention to the trainings of persons at western regions.
- (56) Encourage the professionals and intellectuals going west. Support the professionals participate in the development of the western regions by part-time work, short-time service, undertake trust projects, cooperative research, becoming a shareholder by technique and contract and operation. Arrange senior expert of China, excellent postdoctoral and persons returned after studying abroad to research and provide advise service periodically and in batches. Organize long-distance services provided through modern communication means and net techniques. Assistant the establishments of parks for set up business at the western regions at certain places which fulfill specified conditions to make full use of the advantages of intensive techniques, complete equipments and preferential policies and attract the persons study abroad to establish hi-and-new tech enterprises or conduct the research and development of high and new techniques.
- (57) Implement the matched assistance with professionals and intellecturals. In combination with the economic matched assistance, fix the matched provinces

(autonomous regions and municipaliteis directly under the central government) between the western and eastern regions for the development of professionals and important assitance projects at the western regions. Support the western and eastern regions in the arrangement of scientific technical professionals to exchange betweent the regions and hold a temporary post for practice, make professionals and information to be shared betweent the regions. Persons working at the western regions shall receive the same salary, welfare and treatments in the origin unit. The matched unit at the western regions may grant allowances to such person according to actual conditions.

(58) Persons woring at western regions shall be free for come and go under their own decisions. Their personnel archives may be transferred to the unit where he currently works or to be kept by the original unit or to be kept by professional resource exchange agencies under the unit where he currently works or the original unit. The graduated student work at the western regions at the year when he graduates may transfer his registered permanent residence to the place where he works or to his native place. The professonal resources exchange agency under the competent department of the government shall provide professional delegate service for them, who shall be exempted from the fees of archives management within five years after the archives are transferred to such agencies. The professional resources exchange agency shall provide social services for such archives such as the salary adjustment and the evaluation of the title of technical post. In case the persons invested or set up enterprises at the western regions or in need of by the development of construction have transferred registered permanent residence to the western regions, such registered permanent residence may be re-transferred to the original place on his own decision when he returned to the eastern regions for working and living. The professionals selected and appointed by the State to undertake key tasks or important construction projects of the development of western regions, the registered permanent residence may not be transferred and the working relations at the original unit shall be kept. They's hall enjoy the same treatment given to the workers at original unit in respect to the promotion of post, assessment of special technical post and the adjustment of salaries. Living problems such as the wife and husband are unble to live together shall be settled firstly. The unit shall underwrite personal accident insurance for such person if they have such ability. The students graduated from colleges and technical secondary school working at the hardship remote areas may be fixed post in advance. As for the professionals badly needed by the regions, the salary granted for them may be higher than others according to the actual conditions of different districts. Governments at western regions shall accelerate the reform of personnel and employment system, and permit other citizens keeping original registered permanent residence to invest in operation or participate in the construciton of dvelopment of the western regions.

(59) provide convenience for going out of and coming into China to the foreign technical professional, senior managerial persons and investors at the western regions. The person set out below may receive the convenience in coming into China and reside at China: persons undertake the scientific technical Projects at the province and the State level signed by the central government or local government with foreign institutes; foreign hi-tech professionals and foreign professionals at the upper level of management working in important construction agreements; foreign hi-tech professionals and foreign professionals among the persons studying abroad and returned to the homeland after graduation, foreign professionals offer non reimbursable assistance between governments of different countries; investors, foreign managers at upper level and technicians in large foreign-invested enterprises; where the abovementioned persons need to come into China many times, such person may receive entry visa with the period of validity of one year to five years according to actual conditions; persons resided in China shall receive the permit of resudence for foreigners with the period of validity of one year to five years according to actual conditions; if he is necessary to come in and go out of China many times, he shall receive the return visa for many times with the same period of validity of one year to five years

(60) Reform the system of control of domicile. All the persons having legal and fixed domicile, stable occupation or source of income at the cities or towns under the prefecture level (including prefecture-level city), shall have the right to get the registered permanent residence under his own decision. The governments at minicipalities directorly unde the central government of the western regions or cities at the deputy province level may adjust the policies relating to the transfer of registered permanent residence under the conditions that he shall have legal and fixed domicile, stable occupation or source of income under the guideline of city planning and population planning and taking the comprehensive bearing capability and actual requirement of social and economic development into consideration and further release the limitation on the transfer of registered permanent residence. The planning management system of "Agricultral converting to dewellers at urban areas. As for the persons settle their registered permanent residence at the western regions, all the departments may not collect the capacity increasing fee of cities and towns and other similar fees.

17. To allow science and technology to play a leader role

(61) Various science and technology funds, and scientific & technological planning outlays set up by the State shall be spent largely in the western part of the country. The key tasks are to improve the ecological environment, construct infrastructure facilities, restructure the industrial mi, work out pivotal technologies with an extensive applicability and bring them into industrial usage in a comprehensive way as well, in the western part of China, thus to confer more intensive supports to the development of China's west.

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Besides, it is necessary to make greater endeavors to furnish China's west with stronger scientific and technological strengths, construct scientific & technological research infrastructures such as state-level key laboratories, engineering centers and in-field observation towers, and basic databases, biological germ plasm (gene) resources repositories, and scientific and technological information networks.

- (62) It is required to encourage those enterprises in China's west to spend more of their received funds in technological development. Varied expenses incurred by enterprises in research and development of new products, technologies and production techniques, including the new product designing charges, technical procedure formulating costs, equipment adjusting expenses, expenses in testing raw materials and semi-finished products, purchasing costs of technical documents, etc. intermediate experimenting expenses, wages and salary to those working personnel in research institutes, other expenditure in relation to depreciation of research equipment, trial production of new products and technological research which have not brought into the State plan yet, as well as the expenses in authorizing other organs to conduct scientific and technological research, etc. are subject to no restrictions in terms of their occupied percentages in the total, and are all brought into management expenses. Various expenses of enterprises in research and development of new products, technologies and production techniques shall increase on a year-on-year basis; those enterprises whose expenses on these fronts have registered an annual growth rate of more than 10% shall be entitled to have their taxable business revenues, as posted in reality, offset by 50%.
- (63) To make greater efforts in boosting the development of China's west by use of the fund specific for scientific and technological innovation of small/medium-sized enterprises. It is suggested to, according to relevant management methods; arrange those projects in application for the fund specific for scientific and technological innovation in small/medium -sized enterprises in China's west, for receiving the fund as such ahead of other projects, under identical circumstances.
- (64) To put into force the "Notice of the Administrative Office of the State Council with Regard to Dissemination of Certain Regulations Formulated by the Ministry of Science & Technology upon Boosting the Transformation of Scientific & Technological Results into Productive Forces" (file reference: [1999] No.29), augment the commissions attributable to those scientific and technological specialists who have conducted transfers of scientific and technological results, or embarked on science & technological oriented enterprises in China's west, and allow them to possess more shares in the science & technology oriented enterprises thus established, accordingly.
- 18. Enhancement of investments in the education sector

(65) To pour more funds for investing purpose. It is required to list those regions in China's west that are populated by those residents of national minority, or are mountainous areas, pasturing areas or frontier areas as key areas under the State's project titled "Compulsory Education for Poverty-Stricken Areas", thus to receive intensive financial supports from the central government. In the period of China's "Tenth Five-Year-Long National Development Program", the State government will allocate a specific fund to carry out the second phase of the project titled "Compulsory Education for Poverty-stricken Areas". This fund is going to be used primarily to support the development of compulsory education forces in China's west, cut down the percentage occupied by government erected supporting facilities in the total to an appropriate extent. furnish those elementary and middle schools in rural areas with funds to reconstruct their shabby buildings, and pour funds into those elementary and middle schools in China's west, too. It is advised to support the development of a variety of occupational education institutes in China's west in multiple forms, raise funds in order to help those counties, which have been designated as key targets under the state's poverty alleviation program, in China's west to build up a galaxy of secondary vocational schools on their respective territories, and also help furnish China's west with a number of exemplary senior vocational schools. The competent authority under the State Council and competent authorities at province, autonomous region and municipality levels shall make concerted efforts to help construct a horde of leading colleges and universities in China's west. It is also advised to apply for more loans from commercial banks, international financial organs and foreign governments, hence to bolster up the erection of basic education and higher learning institutions in China's west, improve the educational conditions and expand the scale of education service in China's west, too. It is required to carefully put into force a diversity of measures for the sake of mitigating those students in financial difficulty, such as "scholarship, stipend, loan, subsidy, tuition fee reduction and exemption", and put into force the country's student financing system, in a purpose to guarantee those students in colleges and universities who hail from China's west and are stricken by financial difficulties to complete their studies without a hitch.

(66) To recruit more students. It is suggested to allow those colleges and universities in China's west to recruit more students (especially those to be trained for pre-determined employers), and encourage those colleges and universities directly under state ministries to recruit more students from China's west, and advocate those colleges and universities in China's west and China's central area to recruit more students from China's west as well, enable more of those fresh graduates from senior high schools in China's west to get into colleges and universities, and give preferential treatments to those colleges & universities in China's west in terms of teaching materials compilation, examination and approval of academic degree conferment stations, major academic subject construction, and pivotal laboratory construction, etc. It is recommended to expose those cadres, headmasters and teachers with educational organs in China's west to more intensive trainings in all-different forms, expose those teachers in elementary and high schools in poverty-stricken areas to regular trainings, encourage and support social forces in China's west to build up schools in various forms, intensify the cooperation and exchanges between colleges and universities in China's west with their counterparts in China's east,

China's central area, in Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and in other countries, and allow colleges and universities in China's west to dispatch more personnel to study abroad, too.

(67) To match educational organs with their counterparts in other areas. It is suggested to match those educational organs in China's east with their counterparts in certain poverty stricken areas in China's west, select and organize a galaxy of exemplary schools in some economically bettered developed provinces (municipalities) in China's east to support their counterparts in poverty-stricken areas within some certain provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities) China's west, hence to help their counterparts financially and academically. Besides, it required to mobilize those schools in medium/large-sized cities in China's west to support their counterparts in poverty-stricken areas in certain provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities) also in China's west financially and academically, thus to give a boost to the development of compulsory education sector in China's west; intensify those supports granted by colleges and universities in China's east and China's central area to their counterparts in China's west, help those colleges & universities in China's west strike up certain academic subjects, teachers and laboratories as they need, and build up their respective branches, thus to enhance the level of educating skills of colleges & universities in China's west. The State government will continue to provide funds, and make use of the educational resources in the hinterlands, as well as launching bespoke classes for Tibetan students in the hinterlands, certain preparatory courses for Tibetan students in colleges & universities in the hinterlands, and bespoke classes for Tibetan students within senior high schools in the hinterlands, so as to foster up human talents for China's west directly.

(68) To speed up the paced in pursuit of informatization in the educational sector. It is required to gradually allow all those higher education institutes in China's west to have access to www.edu.cn and www.broadhand.com.cn, and build up secondary vocational schools, elementary and high schools in China's west, as well. During the country's "10th Five-Year National Development Program" period, it is advised to allow those teachers in elementary & high schools and students in normal schools in China's west to grasp basic computer skills and lores; and create prerequisite conditions to spread computer lores and means of informatized education throughout those elementary and high schools in China's west step by step; equip schools in China's west with a lot more information technology based educational devices, construct a remote learning education system in China's west, develop high-quality educational software products, and formulate the standard governing such educational service to students in China's west. Moreover, www.edu.comc.cn has offered discounts to students in all those elementary, high schools, and colleges & universities in China's west in terms of their access to Internet service.

19. To intensify the efforts in striking up cultural and sanitary utilities

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(69) To make greater efforts in building up social utilities. The national health organ offers a special subsidy to those areas and realms in China's west that have not been developed well, as far as their health care career is concerned. The central government also proffers a political and legal subsidy, and allocates it to those key poverty-stricken counties whose names have been listed under the country's poverty alleviation program, certain counties that have been designated by their respective provincial governments as main targets to receive this subsidy, and other economically poorly developed countries with weak social insurance capabilities, in proportion to their weight factors, thus to assist those political 7 legal organs in these poverty stricken areas in reinforcing their financial capabilities. The state government provides another subsidy specific for repair and maintenance of cultural facilities and a national subsidy for "10,000-li corridor", which is mainly used to finance the cultural palaces, cultural centers, public entertainment halls, libraries, theaters, performing courts (premises) administered by those cultural organs at county level or above in those frontier counties in China's west; and the national subsidy specific for protection of cultural relics is largely used to finance those projects launched by key organs liable for protection of cultural relics, leading museums at State level, major cultural relics repositories at State level, and significant archaeological projects, all in China's west, for the sake of rescuing, repairing, protecting, digging out and sorting out cultural relics of these organs.

20. Interpretation to and implementation of policies and measures:

(70) These Enforcement Opinions shall be, in principle, interpreted by the Administrative Office for the Steering Group for Development of China's West under the State Council, and in accordance with the arrangements for division of functions and powers of office borne by relevant departments under the State Council; to be specific, the contents of these Enforcement Opinions are to be interpreted by price control, economic and trade, education, science and technology, finance, human resources, State-owned resources, foreign trade, and taxation authorities; whilst related authorities under the State Council shall be able to, as per their needs in reality, issue implementation regulations or other concrete enforcement opinions, without exceeding their respective limits of powers, in conformity to a certain number of policies and measures formulated by the State Council with regard to development of China's west at full blast, and also pursuant to the present Enforcement Opinions. Governments at all levels in China's west shall follow out the State's regulations, carry out the uniform policies and measures for developing China's west at full blast, plus relevant enforcement opinions and implementation regulations. In addition, the enforcement policies upon a certain number of policies and measures for development of China's west at full blast shall be put into force commencing from 2001.

国务院办公厅转发国务院西部开发办关于西部大开发若干政策措施实施意见

的通知

发文机关国务院办公厅 法规文号国办发[2001]73 号

颁布日期 2001-09-29 生效日期 2001-09-29

(国办发〔2001〕73号〕各省、自治区、直辖市人民政府、国务院各部委、各直属机构: 国务院西部开发办《关于西部大开发若干政策措施的实施意见》已经国务院同意,现转发给你们,请认真贯彻执行。

中华人民共和国国务院办公厅

二00一年九月二十九日

关于西部大开发若干政策措施的实施意见

(国务院西部开发办 二00一年八月二十八日)

实施西部大开发战略,加快中西部地区发展,是党中央高瞻远瞩、总缆全局做出的重大决策。 根据《国务院关于实施西部大开发若干政策措施的通知》(国发〔2000〕33号),国务院 西部开发办会同有关部门,进一步研究制定了西部大开发若干政策措施的实施意见。

- 一、政策措施的适用范围
- (一)实施西部大开发若干政策措施和本实施意见的适用范围,包括重庆市、四川省、贵州省、

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云南省、西藏自治区、陝西省、甘肃省、宁夏回族自治区、青海省、新疆维吾尔自治区(新疆生产建设兵团单列)和内蒙古自治区、广西壮族自治区。(上述地区以下统称:西部地区)。其他地区的民族自治州(湖南省湘西土家族苗族自治州、湖北省恩施土家族苗族自治州、吉林省延边朝鲜族自治州),在实际工作中比照有关政策措施予以照顾。

二、加大建设资金投入力度

- (二)提高中央财政性建设资金包括中央基本建设总资资金、建设国债资金用于西部地区的比例。国家政策性银行贷款、国际金融组织和外国政府仅度贷款,在坚持贷款原则的条件下,尽可能多安排西部地区的项目,争取提高用于西部地区的比例。
- (三)对国家新安排的西部地区重大基础设施建设项目,其投资主要由中外财政性建设资金、 其他专项建设资金、银行贷款和利用外资以及企业自筹资金解决,不留资金缺口,地方政府在 土地使用、收费减免等方面积极配合。要集中力量建设一批关系西部开发全局的重大工程,如"西 气东输、"西电东送、青藏铁路、公路国道主干线、水资源合理开发和节约利用等。
- (四)中央将采取多种方式,筹集西部开发的专项资金,支持西部开发的重点项目。铁道、交通、水利、农业、林业、信息产业等部门在安排建设资金时,要继续提高用于西部地区重点项目的比重。

三、优先安排建设项目

(五)以科学规划为指导,发挥计划和市场两种机制在配置资源中的作用,在西部地区优先布局一些建设项目,包括:水利、公路、铁路、机场、管道、电信等基础设施建设,生态环境建设,特色农业发展,水电、优质煤炭、石油、天然气、铜、铝、钾、磷等优势能源、矿产资源

开发和利用,城市基础设施建设,特色旅游业发展,特色高新技术及军转民技术产业化。

四、加大财政转移支付力度

(六)加大对西部地区特别是民族地区(指民族自治区、享受民族自治区同等待遇的省和非民族省份的民族自治州)一般性转移支付的力度。随着中央财力的增加,中央财政逐步加大对西部地区一般性转移支付的规模。一般性转移支付以各地标准财政收支差额作为计算的依据、按科学合理的原则,根据客观因素计算标准收入和支出,采用统一公式,不受主观因素影响。在一般性转移支付资金分配方面,对民族地区给予适度倾斜。从2000年起,中央财政安排一部分财力,专项用于对民族地区的转移支付。

(七)中央对地方专项资金补助向西部地区倾斜。加大对西部地区农业科技发展、旱作农业、节水农业、农业生态环境保护和建设、农业病虫膏防治和救助等方面的投入力度。支持在西北地区开展空中云水资源的开发利用,对水土条件和沙尘暴进行监测、预测。加大对西部地区农业综合开发的投入力度,以改造中低产田为重点,改善农业基本生产条件和生态环境;大力发展优质高产高效农业,促进产业化经营;有选择地建设现代化农业示范区和科技示范区。从2001年起,根据西部地区的实际情况,适当调减农业综合开发财政资金地方配套比例,增加对土地治理的投入。对西部地区财政困难的省(自治区、直辖市),因执行1999年出台的提高机关事业单位职工工资和城镇低收入居民收入政策而增加的支出,由中央财政给予适当补助,补助额根据各地机关事业单位在职职工和离退休职工人数、月人均工资和离退休费增加额及转移支付补助系数确定。中央补助地方国有企业下岗职工基本生活费、企业离退休人员基本养老金和城镇居民最低生活保障金支出,适当向西部地区倾斜。教育、科技、卫生、政法、文化、文物等专项资金补助的分配,也要向西部地区倾斜。

(八)中央财政扶贫资金重点用于西部贫困地区。随着中央财力的增加,逐步加大对西部贫困 地区和民族地区的扶贫资金投入力度,主要用于贫困乡村的基础设施建设、种植和养殖业、农 村基础教育和职业技术教育、文化卫生事业和先进适用技术的推广与培训等。

(九)实施天然林保护工程,国家在安排基建投资、财政专项补助资金和对地方财政减收补助资金等方面给予支持。基建投资包括封山育林育草、飞播造林、人工造林和种苗设施建设补助等。财政专项补助资金包括森林管护事业费,国有林区森工企业基本郭老保险补助费、政策性社会性支出补助费、下岗职工基本生活保障费补助和下岗职工一次性安置费补助。对因实施天然林保护工程影响地方财政收入部分,中央财政在一定时期内给予适当补助。对森工企业因本材产量调减造成无力偿还的银行债务实行先停息挂账,然后在清理核实的基础上,通过冲销呆坏账等方式予以解决。

(十)开展退耕还林还草试点工作。国家按长江上游地区每亩退耕地每年补助 1 5 0 公斤、黄河上中游地区每亩退耕地每年补助 1 0 0 公斤粮食(原粮)的标准,在一定时期内向退耕户无偿提供粮食,补助粮食的价款(每公斤原粮 1 . 4元)由中央财政承担,调运费用由地方财政承担。同时,国家给予退耕户适当的现金补助,补助标准按退耕面积每亩每年 2 0 元计算,所需资金由中央财政负担;国家向退耕户提供种苗费补助,补助标准按退耕还林还草和宜林荒山荒地造林种草面积每亩 5 0 元计算,所需资金由中央基建投资安排。对因实施退耕还林还草影响地方财政收入部分,由中央财政在一定时期内给予适当补助。另外,要积极支持防沙治沙工作。

(十一)对在实施农村税费改革试点过程中,因改革而造成乡镇财政困难、自身无法克服的,中央财政将按照规范的转移支付办法,适当给予补助。

五、加大金融信贷支持

(十二)加大对西部地区基础设施建设的信贷投入。重点支持铁路、主干线公路、电力、石油、 天然气等大中型交通、能源项目建设。对投资大、建设期长的基础设施项目,根据项目建设周 期和还贷能力,适当延长贷款期限。其中,国家开发银行对高速公路项目,在项目资本金比例 达到40%和统借统还的条件下,贷款期限可放宽至18年(含宽限期,下同);对水电项目, 贷款期限可放宽至25年;对"西电东送"非水电项目,贷款额超过3亿元的,贷款期限一般可放 宽至18年,最长可放宽至20年;对城市基础设施项目,贷款期限可放宽至10年;对其他 基础设施项目,贷款期限最长可放宽至15年。

(十三)扩大以基础设施项目收益权或收费权为质押发放贷款的范围。继续办好农村电网收益 权质押贷款业务,开展公路收费权质押贷款业务,创造条件逐步将收费权质押贷款范围扩大到 城市供水、供热、公交、电信等城市基础设施项目。对具有一定还贷能力的水利开发项目和城 市环保项目(如城市污水处理和垃圾处理等),探索逐步开办以项目收益权或收费权为质押发放 贷款的业务。

(十四)增加农业、生态建设的信贷投入。对西部特色农业、节水农业、生态农业发展在信贷方面给予支持,扶持一批有发展前景、带动作用强、以公司加农户为经营方式的龙头企业。农业银行和农村信用社要积极扩大农户小额贷款,对确有还贷能力的可以发放信用贷款。有选择地增加对生态环境建设项目的贷款投入。配合退耕还林还草、封山绿化等生态环境建设工程,对一些有还贷能力的逻生丰产用材林、经济林、山野菜、中药材开发以及个体苗圃等项目,增加信贷投入。

(十五)运用信贷杠杆支持经济结构及产业结构调整。支持电力、天然气、旅游和生物资源合理开发等西部优势产业发展,对贷款金额较大的重点项目,可以由商业银行总行直贷解决,贷款不纳入当地分行存贷比或限额考核范围。西部地区农村电网改造贷款,由中国农业银行总行统一安排贷款计划和资金。同时,对西部地区企业技术改造、高新技术企业和中小企业发展、也要给予信贷支持。

六、大力改善投资软环境

(十六)认真贯彻落实国有企业改革和发展的有关政策,深化西部地区国有企业改革,便企业真正成为市场竞争的主体。加快建立现代企业制度,实行制度创新。除关系国家命脉和安全的企业由国家控股外,鼓励其他国有大中型企业通过规范上市、中外合资和相互参股等多种形式,依法改制为有限责任公司或股份有限公司。改制企业要依法建立董事会、监事会,明确股东会、董事会、监事会和经理层各自的职责,做到各负其费,协调运转,有效制衡。建立分工明确的国有资产管理、经营和监督体制,使国有资产出资人尽快到位,强化国有资产经营主体的外部监督。进一步深化企业内部劳动、人事、分配三项制度改革,逐步形成经营者能上能下、人员能进能出、收入能增能减的新机制。结合产业结构调整,坚持有进有退、有所为有所不为的方针,推进国有经济布局的战略性调整。进一步放开搞活国有中小企业,积极推进中小企业组织管理体系、政策体系和社会化服务体系建设。在实际工作中加大对西部地区国有企业扭亏脱困、改组改造的支持力度。

(十七)积极引导西部地区个体、私营等非公有制经济加快发展,鼓励东、中部企业和个人到西部地区投资。除法律有特殊规定外,凡对外商开放的投资领域,国内各种所有制企业均可进入。鼓励个体、私营等非公有制经济主体以独资、合资、合作、特许权等多种方式进行投资。

(十八)简化投资项目审批程序。除关系国民经济全局和长远发展、对国家安全有重要影响的 重大项目或有特殊规定的项目外,企业利用自有资金或国内银行贷款投资于国家非限制类产业 的项目,需要政府平衡建设、经营条件的,政府主管部门只审批其项目建议书。企业在落实各项建设条件后,自主决定是否开工建设,并在开工后报政府主管部门备案。

(十九)认真遵照执行中央关于引进外资工作的一系列政策、法规。努力优化外商投资的地区布局,鼓励外商向西部地区投资。合理简化外商投资项目的审批程序。除重大项目或有特殊规定的项目外,外商投资项目利用自有资金和商业银行贷款在西部地区投资于国家鼓励类产业及优势产业的,政府主管部门只审批项目的可行性研究报告,项目建议书、开工报告不再报政府主管部门审批。逐步简化对外商投资企业合同、章程的审批程序。

(二十)进一步转变政府职能,在改善投资软环境上下功夫,整顿市场经济秩序,切实保护知识产权,维护经济法制。实行政企分开,减少审批事项、规范办事程序,清理和废止不符合发展社会主义市场经济和对外开放要求的规章制度。确需各级政府审批的事项,应实行便捷服务,提高办事效率和透明度。加强仲裁机制建设,及时处理经济纠纷案件,保障投资者的合法权益。

七、实行税收优惠政策

(二十一)对设在西部地区国家鼓励类的内资企业和外商投资企业,在2001年至2010年期间,减按15%的税率征收企业所得税。国家鼓励类的内资企业是指以《当前国家重点鼓励发展的产业、产品和技术目录(2000年修订》)中规定的产业项目为主营业务,其主营业务收入占企业总收入70%以上的企业。国家鼓励类的外商投资企业是指以《外商投资产业指导目录》中鼓励类项目和《中西部地区外商投资优势产业目录》中规定的产业项目为主营业务,

其主营业务收入占企业总收入 7 0 %以上的企业。经省级人民政府批准,民族自治地方的内资企业可以定期减征或免征企业所得税,外商投资企业可以减征或免征地方所得税。中央企业所得税减免的审批权限和程序按现行有关规定执行。

(二十二)对在西部地区新办交通、电力、水利、邮政、广播电视企业,给予减免企业所得税的优惠政策。其中:内资企业自生产经营之日起,第一年至第二年免征企业所得税,第三年至第五年减半征收企业所得税。外商投资企业经营期在10年以上的,自获利年度起,第一年至第二年免征企业所得税,第三年至第五年减半征收企业所得税。本条所称交通企业是指投资新办从事公路、铁路、航空、港口、码头运营和管道运输的企业;电力企业是指投资新办从事电力运营的企业;水利企业是指投资新办从事江河湖泊综合治理、防洪除涝、灌溉、供水、水资源保护、水力发电、水土保持、河道疏浚、河海堤防建设等开发水利、防治水害的企业;邮政企业是指投资新办从事邮政运营的企业;广播电视企业是指投资新办从事广播电视运营的企业。除另有规定外,上述各类企业主营收入需占企业总收入70%以上。

(二十三)对保护生态环境,退耕还林(生态林应占80%以上)还草产出的农业特产收入, 自取得收入年份起10年内免征农业特产税。

(二十四)西部地区公路国道、省道建设用地,比照铁路、民航建设用地,免征耕地占用税。 免征耕地占用税的范围限于公路线路、公路线路两侧边沟所占用的耕地,公路沿线的堆货场、 养路道班、检查站、工程队、洗车场等所占用的耕地不在免税之列。公路国道、省道以外其他 公路建设用地是否免征耕地占用税,由省级人民政府决定。上述免税用地,凡改变用途,不再 属于免税范围的,应当自改变用途之日起补缴耕地占用税。

(二十五) 西部地区内资鼓励类产业、外商投资鼓励类产业的项目在投资总额内进口自用设备、除《国内投资项目不予免税的进口商品目录(2000年修订》) 和《外商投资项目不予免税的进口商品目录》所列商品外,免证关税和进口环节增值税。符合《中西部地区外商投资优势产业目录》的外商投资项目,在投资总额内进口自用设备,免征关税和进口环节增值税,其审批程序按照《国务院关于调整进口设备税收政策的通知》(国发〔1997〕37号)的规定执行。

八、实行土地使用优惠政策

(二十六)有计划、有步骤地对坡耕地退耕还林还草,鼓励利用宜林宜草荒山、荒地造林种草,实行谁退耕、谁造林、谁种草、谁经营、谁拥有土地使用权和林草所有权。国有荒山、荒地等未利用地依法出让给单位和个人进行造林、种草等生态建设的,可以减免土地出让金,实行土地使用权50年不变;达到出让合同约定的投资金额并符合生态建设条件的,土地使用权可以依法转让、出租、抵押;土地使用权期限届满后,可以申请续期。利用农村集体所有的荒山、荒地等末利用地进行造林、种草等生态建设的,可以通过承包、租赁、拍卖等方式取得土地使用权,实行土地使用权50年不变;土地使用权可以继承、转让(租)抵押。

(二十七)对基本农田实行严格保护,实现耕地占补平衡。坡耕地较多的地区,为保护当地粮食生产能力,在不影响生态建设的前提下,依据土地利用总体规划,可以将部分已经过多年整治、有良好的水利与水土保持设施的坡度为 1 5 度至 2 5 度之间的耕地划定为基本农田,也可以将部分配套设施较好的新开发整理的耕地划定为基本农田。可以按照有关规定,调整基本农田种植业生产格局,发展经济作物,但不得破坏耕作条件。土地整理项目应优先安排在基本农田保护区内,使保护区内有效耕地面积不断增加,质量不断提高。增加国家对西部地区土地整理复垦开发资金的投入。西部地区各省(自治区、直辖市)上缴中央的新增建设用地土地有偿

使用费,原则上通过安排土地开发整理项目全额下拨。把未利用土地开发成草地、园地,经政府有关主管部门认定能调整为耕地的,可折抵补充耕地指标,按耕地加以保护和管理。基础设施建设占用耕地的,在保证耕地占补平衡的前提下,其耕地开垦费可按各省(自治区、直辖市)所定标准的下限收取。

(二十八)提高建设用地审批效率,减少审批环节,及时提供并保障经济建设用地。需报国务院批准的建设用地,在用地报批阶段,政府主管部门主要审查是否符合土地利用规划与计划、 耕地占补平衡和征地补偿安置能否落实。报批资料可以根据审查的内容相应简化。征地补偿安 置要符合《土地管理法》等法律规定,防止各种搭车收费,同时切实保护农民利益。使用国有 未利用地,可以免缴土地补偿费。建设项目用地除法律另有规定外,应依法有偿使用国有土地, 鼓励以招标、拍卖等方式供地。外商投资项目用地,确属必需的,经批准,可以用国有土地使 用权作价入股、作价出资的方式提供国有土地使用权。

九、实行矿产资源优惠政策

(二十九)在国土资源调查计划中,优先安排西部地区的调查评价项目,工作经费向西部地区 倾斜。重点安排西部地区重要矿产资源集中区、国家紧缺矿产和地下水资源的调查评价工作, 以及地质工作程度较低地区、地质灾容严重地区的基础地质工作。

(三十)在西部地区由国家出资勘查形成的探矿权、采矿权价款,按有关规定,符合下列条件之一的,经批准,可以部分或者全部转为国有矿山企业或地勘单位的国家资本:勘查或开采石油、天然气、煤层气、富铁矿、优质锰矿、铬铁矿、铜、镍、金、银、钾盐、铂族金属、地下水等矿产资源的;在国家确定的扶贫开发重点地区和重点开发地区勘查、开采矿产资源的;大

(三十一)在西部地区勘查、开采矿产资源,符合下列条件的,可以申请减缴或免缴探矿权使用费、采矿权使用费:石油、天然气、煤层气、铀、富铁矿、优质锰矿、铬铁矿、铜、钾盐、铂族金属、地下水等矿产资源的勘查、开发,大中型矿山企业为寻找接替资源申请的勘查、开发,运用新技术、新办法提高综合利用水平(包括低品位、难选治的矿产资源开发及老矿区尾矿利用)的矿产资源开发,政府主管部门认定的其他情形。探矿权使用费,第一个勘查年度可以免缴,第二至第三个勘查年度可以减缴50%,第四至第七个勘查年度可以减缴55%。采矿权使用费,矿山基建期和矿山投产第一年可以免缴,矿山投产第二至第三年可以减缴50%,第四至第七年可以减缴55%,矿山闭坑当年可以免缴。

(三十二)探矿权人投资勘查获得具有开采价值的矿产地后,可依法获得采矿权。允许将勘查 · 费用计入递延资产,在开采阶段分期摊销。

(三十三)积极培育矿业权市场,促进探矿权、采矿权依法出让和转让。出让矿业权的范围包括国家出资勘查并已经探明的矿产地、依法收归国有的矿产地和其他矿业权空白地。除采取依法申请批准方式外,可以采取招标、拍卖等其他方式出让矿业权。探矿权人、采矿权人可以采取出售、作价出资、合作勘查或开采、上市等方式依法转让探矿权、采矿权,也可以按有关规定出租、抵押探矿权、采矿权。

(三十四)对于外商从事非油气矿产资源勘查开采的,除享受国家已实行的有关优惠政策外,

还可以享受免缴探矿权、采矿权使用费 1 年,减半缴纳探矿权、采矿权使用费 2 年的政策。对于外商从事《外商投资产业指导目录》中鼓励类非油气矿产资源开采的,享受免缴矿产资源补偿费 5 年的政策。在中外合营方式中,中方以探矿权、采矿权入股的,其探矿权、采矿权应按规定依法评估确认,合理作价,由中方提供相关的地质成果资料。

十、运用价格和收费机制进行调节

(三十五)深化价格改革,进一步提高市场调节价格的比重。西部地区部分铁路运价由政府定价改为政府指导价。省(自治区、直辖市)内航空支线实行浮动票价政策。列入全国城镇职工基本医疗保险用药范围的民族药价格,委托产地省级政府主管部门审批。

(三十六)调整电价和水价,推进污水处理、垃圾处理收费改革。积极疏导西部电网电价矛盾,单独核定西部地区各电网输配电费用,鼓励电力生产企业与用户直接签订购电合同,降低用户电费负担;适当降低东西部地区之间骨干电网联络线的输电费用,鼓励"西电东送。在统筹考虑合理开发与承受能力的前提下,优先调整西北水资源短缺地区的水利工程供水价格,保证水利工程建设维护成本开支得到合理补偿。西部地区城市已建成污水处理厂而未征收污水处理费的,要依据国家有关规定尽快开征污水处理费,已开征的可根据当地居民的承受能力,按照保本微利的原则逐步提高收费标准。西部地区可以根据当地情况出台垃圾处理收费政策,推行垃圾处理收费制度。

(三十七)对西部地区新建铁路和铁路支线实行特殊运价。根据国务院确定的新路新价政策。 对西部地区新建铁路可以按照偿还贷款本息、补偿合理经营成本的原则,核定新线特殊运价。 以保证西部地区新建铁路按期偿还建设贷款,维持正常生产经营,促进西部地区铁路建设。进

一步研究西部地区新建铁路特殊运价与全路统一运价之间整价的补偿方式。对西部地区铁路支 线实行支线特殊运价。由国务院主管部门制定支线特殊运价的定价原则,具体价格水平由当地 省级人民政府主管部门确定;对具备条件的西部支线,实行政府指导价或市场调节价,赋予铁 路运输企业一定的价格自主权。

十一、扩大外商投资领域

(三十八)外商投资西部地区农业、林业、水利、交通、能源、市政公用、环保等基础产业或基础设施建设,矿产、旅游等资源开发,建立技术研究开发中心,享受外商投资鼓励类产业的各项优惠政策。国家将根据各地经济发展情况和条件变化,及时补充、修订《中西部地区外商投资优势产业目录》及有关措施,扩大西部地区对外开放。

(三十九)扩大西部地区服务贸易领域对外开放。将外商对银行、商业零售企业投资的试点扩大到西部地区中心城市(直辖市、省会城市和自治区首府城市)。将中外合资外贸公司的试点扩大到西部地区中心城市,并在中外双方的资格条件上比东部地区适当放宽。我国加入世贸组织后,在法律和有关协议的框架内,优先考虑西部地区外资银行经营人民币业务的要求。对外资保险公司申请到西部地区设立经营机构的给予优先许可,对外商在西部地区设立保险代理公司和合资保险经纪公司予以优先考虑。对西部地区兴办中外合资旅行社,在资质审查与项目审批方面适当放宽标准。按照我国加入世贸组织谈判的承诺和有关规定,允许外国会计公司(事务所)在西部地区兴办中外合作会计师事务所,对于一时不具备设立条件的,允许其在西部地区设立成员所,鼓励现有中外合作会计师事务所在西部地区设立分所。在条件成熟时,可以优先在西部地区兴办中外合作律师事务所。允许设立中外合资合作建筑与相关服务、设计服务企业并允许外商控股,逐步允许在建筑与相关服务、设计服务、工程服务、城市规划服务领域设立

外资企业。逐步允许外商在中外合资铁路货运企业、中外合资道路货运企业中控股,在铁路货运、 道路货运领域设立外资企业。

十二、拓宽利用外资渠道

(四十)要制定适用于西部地区的外商投资企业境内外上市、内资企业通过转让经营权、出让股权、兼并重组等方式吸引外商投资,以中外合资产业基金、风险投资基金方式吸引外商投资 等管理办法。

(四十一)用好国际金融组织和外国政府优惠贷款,用于西部地区教育、卫生、扶贫、生态环境保护等领域。积极争取国际多边、双边赠款,优先安排西部地区项目。及时向西部地区介绍国际组织和有关国家政府对华提供优惠贷款和无偿援助的管理模式、申请程序及重点领域。帮助西部地区培养无偿援助项目管理人员,完善项目管理,增加项目管理的透明度,确保西部地区及时获得有关信息。优先支持对西部社会经济发展具有长远意义的环保、农业开发、基础教育、卫生、水利等领域的项目。

十三、放寬利用外资有关条件

(四十二)对外商投资西部地区基础设施和优势产业项目,视不同行业适当放宽对外商投资的股比限制。对外商投资西部地区商业项目,经营年限可放宽至40年,比东部地区延长10年;注册资本可放宽至3000万元,比东部地区降低2000万元。在华外资企业和中外合资合作企业向西部地区投资,被投资企业注册资本中外资比例不低于25%的,享受外商投资企业待遇。

(四十三)对外商投资西部地区基础设施和优势产业项目,适当放宽国内银行提供固定资产投

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资人民币贷款的比例,中外合资合作项目一般放宽到中方出资比例的120%,外商独资项目扩大到外方注册资本的100%。对属于《外商投资产业指导目录》鼓励类和《中西部地区外商投资优势产业目录》的项目,外商具有良好信誉、贷款用于购买项目所需的国产设备材料及支付国内工程承包费用的,国内银行向其提供固定资产投资人民币贷款可不受上述比例限制,由银行独立评估,自主确定。允许外商投资项目开展包括人民币在内的项目融资。

(四十四)对西部地区利用国外优惠贷款建设的一些项目,允许适当提高项目总投资中利用国外优惠贷款的比例。对西部地区基础设施建设、生态环境建设、扶贫开发等领域的项目,根据项目的偿还能力,从一般要求国外优惠贷款占项目总投资的比例不超过50%,提高到最高可达70%,有限制采购条件或贷款机构对贷款比例另有规定的除外。加强利用国外优惠贷款规划与国家西部地区投资计划的衔接,对西部开发的重点外资项目,国家在资金上给予支持。

十四、大力发展对外经济贸易

(四十五)进一步放宽西部地区企业对外贸易经营权和经济技术合作经营权的标准。降低西部地区生产企业申请自营进出口经营权的标准,注册资金由300万元调整到200万元,科研院所、高新技术企业和机电产品生产企业的注册资金由200万元调整到100万元。私营生产企业申请自营进出口经营权的标准,按国有、集体生产企业的条件、标准和办法办理。西部地区外贸企业申请对外劳务经营权的标准,调整为上年进出口总额达到5000万美元,或出口额达到3000万美元。在未设立外经窗口公司的地(市),可由该地(市)成立一家国有窗口公司。或指定一家国有外经贸公司申请对外劳务合作经营资格。

(四十六)鼓励西部地区发展优势产品出口。建立有机农产品生产服务体系和质量认证体系,

加快有机农业科研成果向生产转化,建设一批无规定疫病区和畜产品出口示范基地,扩大有机农产品、畜产品出口。在符合国家产业政策的前提下,对西部地区出口产品逐步增加主产省(自治区、直辖市)主营生产企业的出口配额比例,鼓励西部地区优势初级矿产品和农副产品向深加工、高附加值方向发展。

(四十七)鼓励西部地区企业开展对外承包工程和劳务合作。对西部地区有实力的大型专业工程企业,在申请对外承包工程和劳务合作经营资格、承接项目、获取信息、融资等方面、给予积极支持。推动中央大型企业在承微项目、招聘劳务人员等方面与西部地区企业合作,带动其开拓国际市场。推动国内外大型企业与西部地区企业相互联合,共同承揽西部地区利用外资的基础设施建设项目。

(四十八)鼓励西部地区企业到境外特别是周边国家和地区投资办厂。对于西部地区企业到周 边国家和地区设立境外加工贸易企业或承接援外合资合作项目,在同等条件下给予优先办理。 对于符合条件的西部地区企业申请中央外贸发展基金开办境外加工贸易企业,给予优先考虑。

(四十九)对西部地区经济发展急需的技术设备,在进口管理上给予适当照顾。民族地区生产 急需的自用产品,适当放宽进口限制。对西部地区进口配额产品,视具体情况在数量安排上适 当给予倾斜。

(五十)按照国际规则,对边境地区继续实行优惠的边境贸易政策,在出口退税、进出口商品 经营范围、进出口商品配额、许可证管理、人员往来等方面,简化手续,放宽限制。对边贸企 业的边境贸易经营权,根据国务院主管部门的有关规定,由省级人民政府主管部门进行登记、 管理和备案。对边境地区外经企业在毗邻国家边境地区承包工程和开展劳务合作,其项目合同

由边境省级人民政府主管部门自行审批。对边贸企业出口原产于本地区且属于出口配额许可证 管理的商品,除国家实行统一招标的商品、实行总量控制的重要工业品、实行主动配额管理的 商品、配额有偿使用管理的商品、重点管理的边境贸易出口商品、军民通用化学品、易制毒化 学品和消耗臭氧层的物质外,免领出口许可证。对边贸企业出口原产于边境地区并属于实行配 额有偿使用管理的商品,适当放宽经营资格,减免配额有偿使用费。对边境地区属国家重点管 理的边境贸易出口商品,由国务院主管部门专项下达一定数量的出口配额,并尽量满足边贸企 业与毗邻国家边境地区经济技术合作所得带出设备材料和劳务人员自用生活物资的配额。除国 家统一规定的行政机关执法收费外,取消口库其他行政性收费,减轻边贸企业经营负担。

十五、推进地区协作与对口支援

(五十一)推进地区经济技术协作。按照国家产业政策要求,在充分发挥地区比较优势的基础上,鼓励东部和中部地区与西部地区开展以市场为导向、以效益为中心、以互利为目的、以企业为主体的全方位经济技术协作。比照外商投资的有关优惠政策,采取有效措施,改善投资环境和提高服务水平,吸引东部和中部地区企业通过独资、控股、参股、收购、联合、兼并、租赁、托管和承包经营等多种方式,到西部地区投资设厂、合作开发。在开展合作的过程中,禁止把应予以淘汰的生产设备、落后的工艺技术和污染严重的项目向西部地区转移。

(五十二)加强对口支援和帮扶工作。东部地区有关省、直辖市及计划单列市根据自身优势和对口支援地区的特点,在受援地区继续建设一批小学、中学、卫生所、文化站,组织巡回教学、巡回医疗、科技下乡活动。东部地区省、直辖市及计划单列市可以根据条件,筹集对口支援的资金。继续开展小额信贷扶贫工作,向西部贫困地区农户提供信贷服务。有组织地推进"兴边富民"行动,重点支持民族地区和贫困地区的边境县,抓好试点,把帮扶措施落实到基层。

十六、吸引和用好人才

(五十三)从2001年起,建立艰苦边远地区津贴制度,所需经费由中央财政负担。提高艰苦边远地区机关和事业单位人员的工资水平,逐步使其达到或高于全国平均水平,鼓励和吸引人才在艰苦边远地区工作。

(五十四)调动西部地区专业人才的积极性和创造性。对已到退休年龄,但仍承担国家重大经济建设项目和在边远艰苦地区工作,腐急需紧缺的高级专业技术人员,经省级人民政府主管部门批准,可适当延聘,不占单位编制和专业技术职务岗位数额。加大对西部地区政府特殊津贴专家选拔、博士后科研流动站、企业博士后科研工作站设置和留学人员科研经费资助等工作的支持力度。进一步改善西部地区高层次人才的工作和生活条件,在科研经费、助手配备、项目申请等方面给予倾斜。

(五十五)加强西部地区人才培训。结合西部开发重点任务、重大建设项目和重要研究课题的 实施,采取当地培训、到东部地区培训、出国培训等方式,培养西部地区紧缺人才。加强对西部地区少数民族、中青年科技骨干培训和公务员培训的指导与支持。增加培训经费,对负责培训的机构和师资队伍建设提供支持。用好国家专项经费,争取国际援助项目,重点支持西部地区人才培训。

(五十六)鼓励人才和智力向西部地区流动。支持其他地区的人才以兼职、短期服务、承担委托项目、合作研究、技术人股、承包经营等多种形式参加西部开发。组织国内高级专家、优秀博士后和海外留学人员分期分批到西部地区考察和进行咨询服务,运用现代通信手段和网络技术开展远程服务。支持在西部有条件的地方建立留学人员创业园,充分利用其技术密集、设施

完备、政策优惠的有利条件,吸引留学人员创办高新技术企业或从事高新技术研究与开发工作。 (五十七)实行人才和智力对口支援。结合经济的对口支援,确定东西部地区之间人才开发的 对口省(自治区、直辖市)和重点支援项目。支持东西部地区之间开展科技人才相互挂职交流 锻炼,实行人才、信息共享。进一步扩大东西部地区之间干部交流的规模。对口支援到西部地 区工作的各类人才,在西部工作期间,原单位工资福利待遇保持不变,西部地区对口单位可根 据实际情况给予生活补贴。

(五十八)对到西部地区工作的各类人才实行来去自由的政策。其人事档案可转到接收单位或由原单位保存,也可由接收单位或原单位所在地政府主管部门所属的人才交流机构保管。到西部地区工作的应届大学毕业生,根据本人意愿,户口可转到工作地区,也可转回原籍,由政府主管部门所属的人才交流机构提供人事代理服务,5年内免收以上人员的档案管理费用,并负责提供档案工资调整、职称评定等社会化服务。到西部地区投资、兴办实业的人员以及开发建设所需要的各类人才将户口迁入西部地区后,如果返回东部地区工作、生活,可以根据本人意愿将户口迁回原迁出地。经选派参加国家西部开发重点任务和重大建设项目的人才,可不迁户口,保留原单位工作关系,在职务晋升、专业技术职务评聘、工资调整等方面,与原单位同类人员享有同等待遇,优先解决其夫要两地分居等生活困难,有条件的单位应为其办理人身意外伤害保险。对到艰苦边远地区工作的大中专毕业生,可提前定级,对特别急需的人才,各地可根据实际情况,适当高定定级工资标准。西部地区要加快人事和劳动用工制度改革,允许保留原籍户口的其他地区公民到西部地区从事投资经营和参加开发建设。

(五十九)对到西部地区的外籍高科技人才、高层次管理人才和投资者提供出入境便利。提供 入境、居留便利的人员范围是:执行中央或地方政府与国外签署的国家级和省部级科技项目、

重点工程协议的外籍高科技、高层次管理人才,在华任职的留学归来人员中的外籍高科技、高层次管理人才,执行政府间无偿援助协议的外籍人员,较大的外商投资企业投资者及外籍高级管理人员和技术人员。上述人员如需多次临时入境;可以根据实际需要发给有效期一年以上、最长不超过五年的多次入境有效签证;对需在华常住人员,可以根据实际需要发给一年以上、最长不超过五年的外国人居留证,并对需多次出入境的,同时发给与外国人居留证相同期限的多次返回签证。

(六十)改革户籍管理制度。凡在西部地区地级以下城市(含地级市)和小城镇有合法固定住所、稳定职业或生活来源的人员,可以根据本人意愿办理城镇常住户口。西部地区的直辖市、副省级城市可以根据当地经济和社会发展的实际需要及综合承受能力,在城市规划和人口规划的指导下,以有合法固定住所、稳定职业或生活来源为基本落户条件,调整户口迁移政策,放宽各类人才户口迁移限制。改革户口"农转非"计划管理体制。对到西部地区落户的人员,各部门均不得收取城镇增容费或其他类似费用。

十七、发挥科技主导作用

(六十一)国家设立的各项科技基金、科技计划经费等专项经费向西部地区倾斜。重点围绕西部生态环境和基础设施建设、产业结构调整等方面的关键共性技术攻关及产业化,加大倾斜支持力度。加强西部地区科技能力建设,加强对国家重点实验室、工程中心、野外观测台站等科研基础设施和基础数据库、生物种质(基因)资源库、科技信息网络等科技基础性建设的支持。 (六十二)鼓励西部地区企业提高技术开发经费的开支比重。企业研究开发新产品、新技术、

新工艺所发生的各项费用,包括新产品设计费、工艺规程制定费、设备调整费、原材料和半成

品试验费、技术图书资料费、未纳入国家计划的中间试验费、研究机构人员工资、研究设备折旧、与新产品试制和技术研究有关的其他经费,以及委托其他单位进行科研试制的费用,不受比例限制,计入管理费用。企业研究开发新产品、新技术、新工艺的各项费用应逐年增长,增长幅度在10%以上的企业,可以再按照实际发生额的50%抵扣应税所得额。

(六十三)加大科技型中小企业创新基金支持西部地区的力度。根据相关管理办法,对西部地区申报科技型中小企业创新基金的项目,在同等条件下优先安排。

(六十四)落实《国务院办公厅转发科技部等部门关于促进科技成果转化若干规定的通知》(国 办发〔1999〕29号)的有关政策,对科技人员在西部地区实施科技成果转让和兴办科技 型企业,在实际执行中,提高转让收入提成、科技成果入股等奖励的比例。

十八、增加教育投入

(六十五)增加资金投入。把西部民族地区、山区、牧区和边境地区列为"国家贫困地区义务教育工程"重点地区,中央财政予以重点支持。"十五"期间,安排专项资金,实施第二期"国家贫困地区义务教育工程",主要用于支持西部地区发展义务教育,同时适当降低地方政府配套比例;安排农村中小学危房改造资金,向西部农村中小学倾斜。以多种方式支持西部地区大力发展各具特色的职业教育,筹集资金,帮助西部地区国家确定的扶贫开发工作重点县建设好一批中等职业学校,支持西部地区办好一批示范性高等职业学校。采取国务院主管部门和省(自治区、直辖市)共建的形式,帮助西部地区建设好一批重点高等学校。增加商业银行贷款,争取国际金融组织和外国政府贷款,支持西部地区高等教育和基础教育发展,帮助改善办学条件,扩大办学规模。认真落实"奖、助、贷、补、减、免"等各项资助经济困难学生的措施,落实国家助学

贷款制度,保障家在西部地区、生活有困难的高校学生能够完成学业。

(六十六)扩大招生规模。增加西部地区高校招生特别是定向招生的数量,逐年增加中央部属高校在西部地区的招生数量,扩大东、中部地区高校在西部地区的招生规模,提高西部地区应届高中毕业生升学比例。在教材建设、学位点审批、重点学科建设、重点实验室建设等方面,向西部地区高校倾斜。采取多种形式,加强和扩大对西部地区教育行政领导干部、校长和教师的培训,对贫困地区中小学教师定期进行培训。鼓励和支持西部地区发展多种形式的社会办学。加强西部地区高校同东、中部地区高校、国外高校和港、澳、台高校的交流与合作,支持西部地区高校派出更多的留学人员。

(六十七)实行教育对口支援。实施东部地区对口支援西部贫困地区学校工程,组织东部发达省(直辖市)各选择一批条件较好的学校,对口支援西部一个省(自治区、直辖市)贫困地区学校、帮助受援地区的中小学。实施西部大中城市对口支援所在省(自治区、直辖市)贫困地区学校工程,促进西部地区义务教育的发展。加强东、中部地区高校对西部地区高校的对口支援,帮助西部地区高校发展所需学科专业、培训师资、建设实验室,具备条件的合作办分校,提高西部地区高校人才培养水平。国家继续提供经费支持,利用内地教育资源,办好内地西藏班、内地高校少数民族预科班、内地新疆高中班,直接帮助西部地区培养人才。

(六十八)加快教育信息化建设。逐步便中国教育科研网和中国教育宽带多媒体网络连接西部所有高等学校、具备条件的中等职业学校和中小学。"十五"期间,使西部地区中小学教师及师范学校在校生都能接受计算机基础知识技能培训。创造条件逐步在西部地区中小学推广计算机和信息技术教育。通过多种方式,支持西部地区学校增加信息技术教育设备,建设西部地区远程教育体系,开发高质量的教育软件,制定教育软件标准,为西部远程教育提供高质量资源。中

国教育科研网对西部地区所有大中小学国内上网实行优惠。

十九、加强文化卫生等社会事业建设

(六十九)加强社会事业建设。中央卫生事业补助专款,向西部地区公共卫生事业发展薄弱的地区和领域倾斜。中央政法补助专款,按因繁法分配,重点投向西部地区列入国家扶贫开发工作重点贫困县、部分省级确定的扶贫开发工作重点县及经费保障能力较低的其他贫困县,以帮助贫困地区提高政法机关的经费保障程度。全国文化设施维修专项补助经费和全国"万里长廊"专项补助经费,向西部边疆地区县级以上(含县级)文化部门所管辖的文化馆、文化中心、群艺馆、图书馆、排演场(厅)、剧院(团)等文化单位倾斜。国家重点文物保护专项经费,向西部地区全国重点文物保护单位、国家重点博物馆、国家重点文物库房以及重要考古发掘项目倾斜,主要用于以上单位文物的抢救、维修、保护及发掘整理等。

二十、政策措施的解释和落实

(七十)本实施意见在总体上由国务院西部地区开发领导小组办公室负责解释,并根据国务院有关部门的职能分工,由计划(价格)经贸、教育、科技、公安、财政、人事、国土资源、外经贸、金融、税务等各有关主管部门对具体内容分别进行解释。国务院有关部门可根据实际需要,按照国务院关于实施西部大开发若干政策措施和本实施意见,在本部门主管范围内,进一步发布有关政策细则或具体实施意见。西部地区各级政府,要按照国家规定,执行统一的西部大开发政策措施及其实施意见和有关细则。西部大开发若干政策措施实施意见自2001年起开始实施。