

No.1 Central Document 2017 中央一号文件 2017

The "No 1 central document" is the name traditionally given to the first policy statement released by the central authorities in the year and is seen as an indicator of policy priorities.

On February 5, 2017, authorized by Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CCCPC) and the State Council, Xinhua published the first policy document for 2017.

This is the 14th year in a row that the "No 1 central document" has been devoted to agriculture, farmers and rural areas.

The key theme of 2017 No 1 Central Document is "supply side reform", this includes adjusting the structure, as well as improving the quality of agricultural production. The Document outlined 33 policy measures in 6 categories, these include:

1. Optimize the product and industrial structure and focus on promoting the quality and benefit improvement in agriculture

- Adjust the planting structure of grain crops, cash crops and feed crops in a coordinated manner;
- Develop the high-efficiency large scale animal husbandry;
- Enlarge and strengthen speciality industry;
- Further optimize the regional distribution of agriculture;
- Improve the quality of agricultural products and the food safety level in an all-round manner;
- Actively develop operation of moderate scale;
- Build modern agricultural industry parks;
- Create a good environment for international trade of agricultural products.

2. Promote green production modes and strengthen sustainability capacity of agriculture

- Carry forward clean production in agriculture.
- Implement the agricultural water saving project on a large scale.
- Resolve eminent problems of agricultural environment in a concentrated manner.
- Strengthen the construction of significant ecological projects.

3. Enlarge new industries and business formats and expand the industrial chain and value chain of agriculture

- Make every effort to develop the rural recreational tourism industry.
- Propel the development of rural e-commerce.

- Accelerate the development of modern food industries.
- Cultivate personalized villages and towns suitable for living and business.

4. Reinforce the drive of scientific innovation and guide faster development of modern agriculture

- Strengthen research and development of agricultural sciences and technologies.
- Strengthen the promotion of agricultural sciences and technologies.
- Refine the incentive mechanism for agricultural science and technology innovation.
- Improve the construction level of agricultural science and technology parks.
- Develop rural human resources.

5. Bolster the short slab of agriculture and rural areas and cement the foundation for sharing development of rural areas

- Continuously strengthen the construction of farmland infrastructures.
- Implement the treatment of rural residence environment and construction of beautiful, livable rural areas in depth.
- Improve the basic public service level in rural areas.
- Steadily carry forward the campaign for poverty eradication.

6. Strengthen the rural area reform and stimulate the endogenous development drives for agriculture and rural areas

- Deepen the price-setting mechanism for grain and other important agricultural products as well as the system for their purchase and storage.
- Improve the agricultural subsidy system.
- Reform the fiscal input mechanism for agricultural support.
- Accelerate rural financial innovation.
- Deepen the reform of the rural collective proprietorship system.
- Explore the establishment of the security mechanism for use of land for agricultural and rural area development.
- Refine the transfer employment for rural labor force as well as the rural startup and innovation system.
- Carry forward various reforms in rural areas in a coordinated fashion.

Box.1 China's No. 1 Central Document Since 2004

2017 – Several opinions of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council on carrying forward the structural reform of agriculture on the supply side and accelerating the cultivation of new kinetic energy driving the development of agriculture and rural areas

2016 – Accelerating agriculture modernization with new development ideology and achieving moderately prosperous (Xiaokang) society completely

2015 – Reinforcing reform and innovation to accelerate agricultural modernization

2014 - Deepening rural reform to accelerate agricultural modernization

2013 - Speeding up the modernization of agriculture and further strengthening the vitality of rural growth

2012 - Accelerating scientific and technological innovation to strengthen the supply of agricultural products

2011 - Accelerating development of water conservation

2010 - Speeding up coordinated development between urban and rural areas and further cementing foundation of agricultural and rural area development

2009 - Achieving steady agricultural development and sustained income increases for farmers

2008 - Fortifying the foundation of agriculture

2007 - Developing modern agriculture and steadily promoting the construction of a new socialist countryside

2006 - Constructing a new socialist countryside

2005 - Strengthening rural work and improving the overall production capacity of agriculture

2004 - Boosting farmers' incomes

(The full text (in Chinese) of the No 1 document 2017 is available at:
http://news.xinhuanet.com/politics/2017-02/05/c_1120413568.htm)

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