Action Plan for Stabilizing Growth in the Petrochemical and Chemical Industries

(2025–2026)

The petrochemical and chemical industry is a vital foundation and pillar of the national economy. With its large economic scale and high degree of industrial interdependence, it is crucial to the stable growth of industry and the steady operation of the economy.Currently, intensified competition in the market for basic organic raw materials, insufficient supply of high-end specialty chemicals, slowing growth in domestic demand, and increasing external uncertainties constitute the primary challenges constraining the improvement of development quality and efficiency in the petrochemical and chemical industries. To implement the spirit of the Central Economic Work Conference and promote the stable operation and structural optimization and upgrading of the petrochemical and chemical industries, this Work Plan has been formulated.

I. General Requirements

Guided by Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, we will fully implement the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China and the Second and Third Plenary Sessions of the 20th Central Committee. Adhering to the general principle of seeking progress while maintaining stability, we will focus on quality and efficiency, strengthen the deep integration of scientific and technological innovation with industrial innovation, and emphasize coordinated efforts on both the supply and demand sides to achieve dynamic balance—supporting certain sectors while curbing others. We will promote a better combination of an effective market and an active government to effectively serve the development of a unified national market. By driving innovation in fine chemicals and improving the quality and supply of bulk products,promote transformation through intelligent, green, and safe upgrades; expand consumption by tapping into the potential of traditional consumption and cultivating emerging applications; strengthen platforms through the construction of chemical industrial parks and the cultivation of competitive clusters; foster new growth drivers for the industry and revitalize existing ones; and synergistically advance carbon reduction, pollution control, ecological conservation, and economic growth,develop new-quality productive forces tailored to local conditions, integrate the effective improvement in quality with reasonable growth in quantity throughout the entire process of high-quality development, further enhance the resilience and security of industrial and supply chains, and use the certainty of high-quality development to counter the uncertainty of rapid changes in the external environment.

II. Main Objectives

From 2025 to 2026, the value-added output of the petrochemical and chemical industry will grow by an average of 5% or more annually; economic performance will stabilize and rebound; the industry's capacity for scientific and technological innovation will be significantly enhanced; the levels of specialized extension, digital empowerment, and intrinsic safety will continue to improve; synergistic benefits from pollution reduction and carbon reduction will be markedly evident; and chemical industrial parks will transition from standardized construction to high-quality development.

III. Action Measures

(I) Strengthen industrial science and technology innovation to enhance effective supply capacity.

1. Enhance the supply of high-end products. Focusing on the needs of key industrial chains such as integrated circuits, new energy, and medical equipment, support research and development of key products in fields such as electronic chemicals, high-end polyolefins,high-performance fibers, specialty rubbers, and high-performance membrane materials. Adopt collaborative innovation approaches such as the "challenge-based recruitment" model to accelerate the establishment of manufacturing innovation centers in the petrochemical and chemical sectors—including high-end fine chemicals—as well as pilot production platforms for new materials and data resource nodes. Continuously leverage the role of key platforms for the production, application verification, testing, and evaluation of new materials, and make full use of the insurance compensation mechanism for the first batches of new materials to promote the R&D and industrialization of innovative products, thereby accelerating the addressing of shortcomings and weaknesses.We will promote the quality upgrade of bulk products with comparative advantages, such as coatings, dyes, and pesticides, guide upstream and downstream enterprises to establish collaborative mechanisms, enhance product performance and application levels, and transition from simply selling products to providing integrated solutions.

2. Ensure the stable supply of fertilizers. Optimize the minimum production plan management for key fertilizer producers, and support key raw material suppliers—including coal, phosphate rock, natural gas, sulfur, and sulfuric acid by-products from smelting—in signing long-term agreements with fertilizer manufacturers to ensure a stable supply of raw materials. Improve the integrated regulatory system for fertilizer production, transportation, storage, sales, and trade; strengthen the role of the National Agricultural Inputs Supply Guarantee Platform in coordinating production and sales; and promote the establishment of a risk-sharing

and profit-sharing models. Promote the innovative development of high-efficiency, specialized, environmentally friendly, and functional fertilizers—such as controlled-release and sustained-release fertilizers, water-soluble fertilizers, liquid fertilizers,

micro- and trace-element fertilizers, and provide services such as soil-test-based fertilization and centralized fertilizer formulation and application tailored to local conditions. **3. Optimize the management of pilot-scale projects.** Leverage the role of pilot-scale projects as key nodes connecting the innovation chain, technology chain, and production industry chains, thereby enhancing the industry's momentum for innovation and development. Pilot projects within pilot bases may adopt a bundled approach to handle relevant procedures such as approval, filing, and environmental impact assessments; the types and quantities of pollutants emitted by pilot bases shall be determined in accordance with the principle of total quantity control, and emission quotas shall be applied for and used sequentially.New pilot-scale trials may be conducted using existing production facilities and pollution control facilities from previous pilot-scale projects. For pilot-scale projects where only the raw materials, auxiliary materials, and products have changed, if the ecological and environmental authorities with approval authority confirm that the types and quantities of pollutant emissions, as well as environmental risks, do not exceed those specified in the original environmental impact assessment, no new environmental impact assessment approval is required. Localities are encouraged to introduce policies clarifying requirements such as the conditions and procedures for the distribution of target products from pilot-scale projects. In principle, the trial period for a single pilot-scale project should not exceed two years.

(2) Expand effective investment and promote transformation and upgrading.

4. Scientifically regulate the construction of major projects. Strengthen guidance on the planning and layout of major petrochemical and modern coal chemical projects; strictly control new refining capacity; reasonably determine the scale and rollout pace of new ethylene and para-xylene capacity; and guard against the risk of overcapacity in the coal-to-methanol industry.In the petrochemical sector, strictly enforce the requirement for capacity reduction and replacement for new refining projects, and prioritize support for the retrofitting of aging petrochemical facilities, industrialization demonstrations of new technologies, and "reduce oil, increase chemicals" projects at existing refining and petrochemical enterprises; in the modern coal chemical industry, focus on regions with relatively abundant coal and water resources and sufficient environmental capacity to moderately deploy coal-to-oil, coal-to-gas, and coal-to-chemicals projects, and carry out industrialization application demonstrations for the coupling of coal chemicals with new energy, advanced materials,

equipment, and industrial operating systems, as well as demonstration projects for the capture , utilization, and sequestration. Accelerate the implementation of projects such as helium extraction from natural gas and potassium extraction from seawater.

5. Implement safety upgrades. Formulate and implement the "Action Plan for Accelerating the Renewal and Upgrading of Aging Facilities in the Petrochemical and Chemical Industries," improve the standards system supporting the scientific assessment and benchmark-based retrofitting of aging facilities, establish a project database for the retrofitting and upgrading of aging facilities, support comprehensive retrofitting and upgrading of aging facilities, and promote the accelerated full-process automation retrofitting or low-risk substitution of key regulated hazardous processes. Fully complete the relocation and retrofitting of hazardous chemical production enterprises in densely populated urban areas by the end of 2025.

6. Accelerate the transition toward digitalization and green development.

Implement the *Guidelines for Digital Transformation in the Petrochemical and Chemical Industries*, Transformation Implementation Guidelines," leverage the role of the Industry Digital Transformation Promotion Center, conduct maturity diagnostics and technical upgrades for the industry's digital transformation, and cultivate exemplary digital transformation scenarios, model plants, and model enterprises.Launch the "Artificial Intelligence + Petrochemicals and Chemicals" initiative, accelerate the development of high-quality industry datasets, support enterprises in strengthening the intelligent retrofitting of key equipment, deploy a series of scenario-based models tailored to the needs of typical unit operations such as separation, distillation, and purification, train and develop large-scale models for the petrochemical and chemical industries, and select and publish a series of exemplary cases with strong catalytic effects.Support enterprises in intensifying efforts to upgrade for energy and water conservation, as well as pollution and carbon reduction. Carry out upgrades to key energy- and water-consuming equipment, and implement measures for source reduction, harmless treatment, and comprehensive utilization of solid waste such as phosphogypsum. Promote the transition of products such as coatings, inks, adhesives, and cleaning agents toward low (or zero) VOC content and low photochemical reactivity.Plan and implement a series of major projects in the petrochemical and chemical industries that synergistically reduce pollution and carbon emissions, and establish a group of benchmark enterprises demonstrating synergistic efficiency gains in these areas. Encourage enterprises and industrial parks to build a series of digital energy and carbon management centers

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7. Strengthen the guiding role of standards. Conduct research on evaluation criteria for synergistic pollution and carbon reduction in the petrochemical and chemical industries

evaluation standards for the petrochemical and chemical industries, issue and implement technical guidelines for synergistic pollution and carbon reduction, and establish an evaluation indicator system for synergistic pollution and carbon reduction. Conduct preliminary research on standards such as the coupling of green electricity, green hydrogen, and petrochemical/coal chemical industries; advance the formulation of standards for carbon footprint calculation rules for key products; and release and implement standards for assessing the maturity of digital transformation in the petrochemical and chemical industries, as well as standards for data management and data security.Accelerate the development of product standards for high-end specialty chemicals, product traceability standards for key products such as fertilizers, and product grading standards for basic products such as synthetic rubber; formulate and revise mandatory national standards on pollutant emissions in the petroleum refining and petrochemical industries, as well as limits on volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in coatings.

(3) Expand market demand and unlock market potential.

8. Promote the upgrading of supply and demand. Organize supply-demand matching events for petrochemical and chemical products to facilitate the establishment of long-term, stable cooperative relationships between manufacturers of synthetic resins, coatings, tires, and other products and downstream users in the construction, automotive, and shipbuilding sectors, thereby improving the alignment of supply and demand in traditional sectors. Focusing on emerging industries such as new energy, the low-altitude economy, and humanoid robots, actively expand applications for new energy battery materials, carbon fiber and its composites, and specialty engineering plastics.Launch initiatives to collect and promote typical case studies of non-grain-based bio-based materials; advance the application of green ammonia and green alcohol in the marine fuel market; and accelerate the improvement of green product certification systems. Focus on promoting the integrated development of domestic and foreign trade, strengthen the alignment of standards and certification systems, and increase support for credit insurance coverage for integrated domestic and foreign trade to help foreign trade products expand into the domestic market.

(4) Strengthen Development Platforms and Cultivate Engines for High-Quality Growth.

9. Build high-quality chemical industrial parks and industrial clusters. Continue to improve the establishment, accreditation, expansion, re-evaluation, and rectification of issues in chemical industrial parks. Implement the Competitiveness Evaluation Guidelines

and smart evaluation guidelines, comprehensively carry out tiered evaluations of chemical industrial parks, and accelerate benchmarking-driven upgrades and progress toward higher tiers. In principle, chemical industrial parks undergoing expansion should achieve a low safety risk level (Level D) and a competitiveness rating of Level 2 or higher. Encourage chemical industrial parks to focus on their leading industries and selectively attract projects that strengthen or complement industrial chains; enhance the integration of upstream and downstream products; and strengthen innovation collaboration and industrial synergy with national-level economic and technological development zones, high-tech zones, and other industrial parks to drive regional economic growth.In fields such as petrochemicals, coal chemicals, phosphate chemicals, bio-chemicals, and fine chemicals, we will foster and expand advanced manufacturing clusters, distinctive industrial clusters of small and medium-sized enterprises, and leading enterprises.

(✉) Deepen openness and cooperation to enhance the level of international development.

10. Expand opportunities for international cooperation. Actively respond to changes in the international trade environment, continue to implement policies and measures to stabilize foreign trade, and guide and assist enterprises in addressing unreasonable trade restrictions imposed by foreign countries. Make full use of free trade agreements such as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), participate deeply in the high-quality joint construction of the "Belt and Road," prudently advance joint ventures and cooperation in the development and utilization of resources such as oil, gas, and potash, actively explore emerging markets, and expand export channels for petrochemical and chemical products.Strengthen services and support for foreign-invested projects; encourage foreign-invested enterprises to establish R&D centers and joint ventures in China; and enhance exchanges and cooperation in fields such as fine chemicals, green and low-carbon technologies, and artificial intelligence. Support industry associations in strengthening research on international trade rules and trade trends; deepen communication and exchanges with relevant countries and industry organizations; and help chemical enterprises improve their capabilities in overseas operational compliance and sustainable development.We will actively participate in negotiations on international conventions, engage deeply in the formulation of international standards and rules, encourage the international expansion of third-party certification bodies, and improve our standards system and product certification mechanisms to align with international practices.

IV. Support Measures

(1) Strengthen Organizational Support. All localities should, based on their specific circumstances, refine and implement the targets and tasks for stabilizing growth, formulate and refine supporting policy measures, organize and carry out policy outreach in various forms, promptly summarize and promote exemplary practices, expand the impact of policy implementation, and ensure the steady growth of the petrochemical and chemical industries in their respective regions. Key enterprises should place greater emphasis on stabilizing growth, strengthen their leading and exemplary roles in industrial and supply chains, and promote the coordinated development of upstream and downstream industries. Industry associations should serve as bridges and liaisons, strengthen industry self-regulation, and promptly report new developments, emerging issues, and proposed solutions.

(2) Strengthen policy support. Coordinate the use of existing measures, such as ultra-long-term special government bonds, etc. Through policy channels, leverage the role of relevant government investment funds to increase support for industrial scientific and technological innovation, equipment upgrades, and other initiatives. Include the petrochemical and chemical industries among the key areas for policy support under the pilot program for new technological transformation in manufacturing. Encourage financial institutions to implement credit policies that provide both support and control in accordance with industrial layout and production capacity regulation objectives. Fully leverage the roles of the People's Bank of China's credit market service platform and the National Industry-Finance Cooperation Platform to enhance the quality and efficiency of financial services. Strengthen the promotion of standard compliance and the evaluation of implementation effectiveness.Implement the Manufacturing Talent Support Program, establish and make full use of the National Practice Bases for Outstanding Engineers, and cultivate a group of high-level technical, skilled, and managerial talent. Accelerate the processing of construction project approval (filing) procedures in accordance with laws and regulations, strengthen the provision of essential resources such as land, energy consumption quotas, environmental impact assessments, and safety assessments. For technical renovation projects where the scope of facility upgrades does not involve the main engineering works, the category of environmental impact assessment shall be determined based on the specific content of the technical renovation. For projects that meet ecological and environmental protection requirements, establish a fast-track process to improve the efficiency of review and approval.

(3) Strengthen Monitoring and Coordination. Enhance the tracking and analysis of basic information on key industries as well as global policy policies, industries, and technologies. Conduct routine monitoring of operations in key industries, strengthen the operational monitoring of major petrochemical and chemical provinces, key chemical industrial parks, and key enterprises

, and regularly organize industry operation analysis meetings to release the petroleum and chemical industry business sentiment indices to guide industry expectations and coordinate the resolution of bottlenecks. Improve the early warning mechanism for key product production capacity by tracking and monitoring capacity utilization rates, revenue profit margins, and capacity under construction. Timely issue early warnings for industries at risk of overcapacity to provide decision-making references for financial institutions, industry enterprises, and local governments.