

Key Tasks to Boost Domestic Consumption

Policy Express

By ZHONG Jianli

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council have issued a detailed action plan to stimulate consumer spending and expand domestic demand.

The plan emphasizes raising urban and rural residents' incomes by promoting reasonable growth in wages. Employment support programs will be implemented in key sectors, industries, and grassroots communities, particularly small and micro enterprises.

Additionally, measures will be taken to protect grain farmers' earnings, utilize farmers' legally owned housing through leasing or other forms, and upgrade the capabilities of low-income rural populations.

Enhancing consumption capacity is another critical aspect of the plan. Maternity and childcare support systems will be improved and childcare subsidies introduced.

To increase the use of public services, the plan proposes social adaptations for the aging population. This in-



The 2025 Spring Flower Festival at the Yu Garden in Shanghai attracts visitors. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

cludes installing lifts in old buildings and developing meal services for the elderly. By promoting industries focused on senior travel, the plan aims to unlock the potential of the senior consumer market.

On the tourism front, it seeks to expand visa-exemption policies and en-

hance inbound tourism offerings. Greater support will be given to tax-free shops at designated ports, along with streamlined departure tax refund services for more premium merchants, to attract international travelers.

Modernizing large-scale consumption by encouraging a "trade-in" initiative

for old goods, particularly for automobiles and household appliances, is another focus. This will leverage special long-term government bonds to fund local programs, facilitating the upgrade to greener and smarter durable goods.

To improve consumption quality, the plan highlights the importance of brand leadership in sectors such as trade, logistics, and culture. It aims to fuse traditional Chinese culture with contemporary product design, fostering original intellectual property development in areas like animation and gaming, thereby expanding both domestic and international markets.

The acceleration of new forms of consumption is another focus, with significant emphasis on digital consumption. Quality e-commerce and the integration of AI into consumer applications will be supported. The burgeoning low-altitude economic sector will be boosted by promoting low-altitude tourism, aviation sports, and drone usage.

This comprehensive action plan reflects China's efforts to boost domestic consumption as an essential driver of economic growth and enhance the overall well-being of the people.



HBSN: Committed to Academic Excellence

By MAO Yilei

Since its launch in 2012, the journal *Hepatobiliary Surgery and Nutrition* (HBSN) has been committed to showcasing outstanding Chinese medical research and ensuring fair recognition of Chinese studies.

With the support of Wang Daoyuan, CEO of AME Publishing Company, HBSN has pursued the goal of establishing a high-caliber international surgical journal that integrates both Eastern and Western perspectives while keeping pace with modern advancements.

Building a high-level academic platform

As a bi-monthly open-access journal, HBSN has consistently followed an international development path. Its editorial board comprises more than 90 experts in the field of hepatobiliary surgery and nutrition from 15 countries, including leading scholars such as Thomas van Gulik from the Netherlands and Ronald Busuttill from the United States.

In recent years, HBSN has expanded its scope to cover a wider range of fields, including pancreatology, oncology, hepatology, and basic research.

The journal also serves as a vital platform for Chinese surgeons and researchers to share their voices with the global community. It has played a key role in promoting Chinese medical publications on the international stage.

In February 2025, HBSN published a review article, "2024 latest report on hepatitis B virus epidemiology in China: current status, changing trajectory, and challenges," authored by Chinese scholars based on the 2024 national hepatitis B survey conducted by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Global Hepatitis Report 2024 by the World Health Organization.

This article highlights China's contributions, challenges, and future directions in hepatitis B prevention and treatment, providing the latest data for academic citation worldwide.

Emphasizing diverse perspectives

Diversity of viewpoints is a core edi-



Mao Yilei. (COURTESY PHOTO)

torial philosophy of HBSN. Medicine should not be confined to scientific aspects alone — it must also embody humanistic values.

Through its "Medical Ethics & Humanities" column, HBSN invites experts to discuss key issues related to healthcare professionals, the doctor-patient relationship, and medical technology. These in-depth perspectives spark discussions among peers and the wider community, fostering valuable insights.

This column serves as a bridge that brings medicine closer to the public, making it a discipline with warmth while addressing the lack of humanistic focus of traditional medical journals.

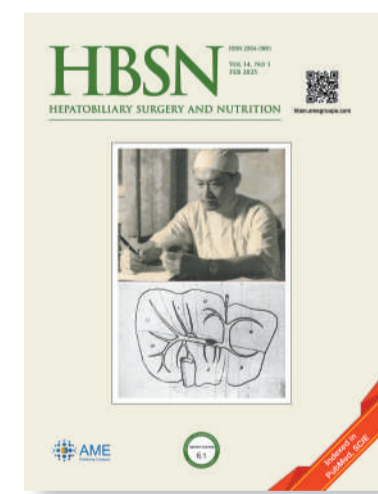
Establishing an internationally recognized brand

Academician Chen Chao-Long from the Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital once remarked, "When we communicate with international experts, we frequently hear about HBSN. With HBSN, Chinese surgeons now have a more powerful platform to voice their work."

After years of development, HBSN has been indexed by PubMed Central, a free digital archives of biomedical and life science literature, and the Science Citation Index Expanded. In the 2024 Journal Citation Reports by Clarivate Analytics, HBSN achieved an impact factor of 6.1, ranking 10th globally (Q1) among surgical journals. Since 2017, it has been recognized as a leading journal in the fields of surgery, nutrition, and gastroenterology.

Looking ahead, HBSN will continue upholding rigorous standards for quality and integrity, striving to be a respected voice in the international medical journal community.

The author is the editor-in-chief of HBSN, chief physician, doctoral supervisor and professor of surgery in the Department of Liver Surgery, Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, and deputy chair of the Chinese Society of Liver Surgeons.



Journal Review

Under the meticulous stewardship of its editorial team, HBSN has evolved over 13 years into a top-tier journal in hepatobiliary surgery. Professor Mao Yilei, the editor-in-chief of HBSN, treats the journal as his own child, soliciting manuscripts and peer reviews with the utmost dedication. His commitment reflects the rigor and responsibility of a true scholar.

HBSN's success is not only a testament to academic achievements but also a symbol of the rise of Chinese scientific journals. It has facilitated the integration of hepatobiliary surgery and nutrition while making medicine more socially relevant and human-centered through its diverse perspectives and medical humanities column.

The editorial team's persever-

ance and original vision have established HBSN as a leading Chinese academic brand in the global surgical community and set a benchmark for other journals.

HBSN's story reminds us that a journal's character mirrors an individual's — staying true to its core values enables it to go further. We look forward to HBSN continuing to lead the field and contributing to global medical progress.

— Yang Tian, chief physician and professor at the Third Affiliated Hospital of Naval Medical University (Eastern Hepatobiliary Surgery Hospital, Shanghai) and a recipient of the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars of China.

New Regulations on Resolving Foreign-related IP Disputes

By WANG Manxi

China has unveiled a set of regulations on resolving foreign-related intellectual property (IP) disputes.

The regulations, which consist of 18 articles and will take effect on May 1,

2025, clarify that relevant government departments should strengthen overseas IP information inquiry and monitoring services.

Relevant departments are required to improve access to overseas IP information and early warning systems, estab-

lish robust guidance mechanisms and procedures for handling foreign-related IP disputes, and provide response guidance and rights protection assistance.

Additionally, the regulations support the involvement of commercial mediation organizations and arbitration institutions in resolving foreign-related IP disputes.

The regulations also aim to strengthen the capabilities of law firms and IP service agencies in handling foreign-related IP matters, offering efficient and convenient dispute resolution pathways for citizens and organizations.

Enterprises are urged to increase their legal awareness, establish and improve internal regulations, build a talent pool and enhance the protection and utilization of IP to safeguard their legitimate rights and interests.

Relevant departments will conduct publicity and training programs for enterprises, focusing on key area of foreign-related IP disputes. These programs will share experiences and practices in handling such disputes through case studies.

The regulations also support the

establishment of mutual assistance funds for foreign-related IP protection and encourage insurance institutions to develop related insurance products.

The regulations specify that the service of documents, as well as investigation and evidence collection in China, should be carried out in accordance with the international treaties to which China is a party or has acceded.

Countermeasures against unfair treatment are also emphasized. The regulations stipulate that, if foreign entities fail to grant national treatment to Chinese citizens and organizations or fail to provide adequate and effective IP protection, the commercial departments under the State Council can conduct investigations and take necessary measures in accordance with the law.

When foreign countries use IP disputes as a pretext to constrain or suppress China, or impose discriminatory and restrictive measures on Chinese citizens and organizations, the relevant departments of the State Council can take appropriate countermeasures and restrictive measures in response, according to the regulations.



The 2024 International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI) World Congress is held in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang province. (PHOTO: VCG)

Green Electricity Certificate Market Boosted

By ZHONG Jianli

A guideline to set up an efficient system promoting green energy consumption has been issued in China, with the goal of developing the renewable energy sector and the green electricity certificate (GEC) market.

The GEC is the only recognized credential required to produce and consume renewable energy electricity in China. It is issued to qualified renewable energy sources, with each certificate representing 1,000 kilowatt-hours of renewable energy generation. As a consumption credential, the certificate is utilized for accounting and certifying the consumption of renewable energy.

One of the guideline's goals is having a well-established trading system for the GEC market by 2027. This includes the development of essential systems for accounting, certification, and labeling of green electricity consumption. It aims to facilitate smoother integration of the certificate with other mechanisms, thereby unlocking the market's potential and

promoting its international application.

By 2030, the guideline proposes further enhancements to the GEC market system, significantly increasing the demand for green electricity across society. The market is expected to operate efficiently and orderly, effectively realizing international applications of the GEC and reflecting the environmental value of green electricity. This will provide strong support for the high-quality development of renewable energy and contribute to a comprehensive green transformation of economic and social development.

A representative from the National Energy Administration (NEA) said that China has established a closed-loop management mechanism covering the entire lifecycle of issuing, trading, applying, and canceling the GEC.

The guideline also presents specific measures to boost the GEC market, targeting market supply, consumer demand, trading mechanisms, application scenarios, and international outreach of the certificate.

In addition, it calls for an increase

in green power consumption among key industries such as steel, non-ferrous metals, construction materials, petrochemicals, and data centers, so as to stimulate demand for GEC.

Meanwhile, to improve the trading mechanism, the guideline stresses the need for establishing a sound pricing system for the GEC, enhancing price

monitoring, and researching the establishment of a price index, guiding prices to operate at reasonable levels. The establishment of a unified national trading system for GECs and the enhancement of trading platforms are advocated.

According to the NEA, China issued 4.734 billion GECs in 2024, marking a 28.4-fold year-on-year increase.



Wind turbines stand on mountains in Wangtian Village, Ganzhou city, Jiangxi province. (PHOTO: VCG)