Action Plan Sets 2030 Goal for Transport, Logistics

Policy Express

By LIN Yuchen

China has unveiled a new action plan to accelerate the cultivation of leading transport and logistics enterprises by 2030.

It is designed to reduce logistics costs, improve quality and efficiency, and build an innovation-driven, internationally competitive logistics sector. It will mobilize joint efforts by the government and enterprises and strengthen coordination between central and local authorities to foster a group of cross-modal, integrated, and professional comprehensive logistics service providers.

The focus is on strengthening support capabilities across industrial and supply chains and enhancing the resilience and efficiency of the logistics system so that by 2030, around 100 comprehensive logistics integrators are developed. They will include more than 10 enterprises with global reach and strong international competitiveness.

These firms are expected to play a pivotal role in improving logistics performance, lowering systemic costs, and reinforcing the safety and resilience of supply chains.

A priority is the improvement of transport and logistics service networks with faster development of a unified national transport market, greater cross-regional mobility of logistics resources, and optimized layouts of key corridors, hubs, and service nodes.

Containers are piled together in Nanjing Port, Jiangsu province. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

Urban distribution and rural logistics networks will be strengthened and enterprises encouraged to expand through alliances, mergers and acquisitions, and shared use of network resources.

The plan highlights promoting multimodal transport to enhance integrated logistics services. Enterprises are encouraged to form multimodal transport alliances, integrate resources across different transport modes, and advance models such as "single document" and "single container" services.

The goal is to shift from fragmented, station-to-station transport to integrated, door-to-door and end-to-end logistics solutions, while extending services into warehousing, distribution, and broader supply chain management.

Deepening the integration between logistics and industry is another focus. The plan supports closer collaboration between logistics firms and manufacturing, trade, and key cargo owners, encouraging joint infrastructure use, shared standards, information connectivity, and coordinated supply chain optimization.

Logistics enterprises will be encouraged to establish long-term strategic partnerships and pursue coordinated overseas expansion.

Digital and intelligent transformation features prominently in the plan. It will promote wider application of technologies such as big data, the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and 5G.

Alongside, it will promote electronic waybills, intelligent capacity matching, route optimization, and online settlement.

Enterprises are encouraged to develop large-scale models tailored to logistics scenarios and to improve system connectivity with upstream and downstream partners.

To enhance security and resilience, enterprises are asked to strengthen risk monitoring, early warning, and emergency response mechanisms while improving coordination in emergency transport.

Financial, land-use, data, and insurance support measures are also outlined to ensure sufficient resources for logistics development.

Overall, the action plan signals a concerted push to build a modern, integrated, and resilient transport and logistics system capable of supporting high-quality industrial development and deeper participation in global supply chains.

Government Mobile Apps Get Standardized

By LIN Yuchen

China has released a new set of regulations to strengthen the standardized management of government mobile Internet applications, aiming to improve governance efficiency.

Issued by the General Office of the State Council, the regulations came into force upon release. The document establishes comprehensive requirements covering the entire lifecycle of government apps, from planning and development to operation, maintenance and security mechanisms.

Government mobile apps, as defined by the measures, include apps, mini-programs, and quick apps developed or used by government agencies, mass organizations and public institutions to support internal work such as administration, management and training. County-level authorities and below are, in principle, prohibited from independently developing such apps.

A core focus of the measures is addressing "fingertip formalism," a phenomenon in which digital tools are misused to shift administrative pressure downward through excessive reporting, repetitive data submission, forced check-ins, rankings or online performance metrics.

The new rules explicitly ban compulsory functions such as daily sign-ins, points-based rankings, and mandatory online time tracking, except in special cases such as security or emergency response. They also prohibit forcing downloads, assessing app usage rates, or turning apps into platforms for disguised inspections and routine performance evaluations.

To strengthen oversight, the measures establish a unified filing system. All government apps must complete filing procedures before launch, clearly display their sponsoring entity and filing number, and undergo technical testing. Apps with major functional changes must reapply for filing, while those that are discontinued must be reported and deregistered in a timely manner. Existing government apps are required to complete filing within six months of the measures taking effect.

In addition, the document places strong emphasis on security and compliance.

Sponsors bear primary responsibility for app construction, use and security. All regions and departments will implement relevant laws and regulations concerning cybersecurity, data security, security protection of critical information infrastructure, personal information protection, cryptographic management, and management of mobile Internet application information services, as well as protect data and personal information security in accordance with laws and regulations. Regular inspections and risk assessments are also required to ensure stable and secure performance.

Furthermore, the measures encourage greater integration and consolidation of government apps, promoting data sharing and intensive construction and eliminating low-usage, low-practicality or overlapping platforms. They will simultaneously encourage the use of government mobile applications to genuinely enhance grassroots governance and public service delivery.

According to officials from the Cyberspace Administration of China, the measures are designed to form a long-term mechanism to prevent formalism in digital governance, while enabling government mobile applications to better serve public needs with efficiency.

Guideline Maps Path to Build Zero-carbon Factories

By LIN Yuchen

China has set its sights on building zero-carbon factories faster, in order to develop industrial green transformation and support the country's goals of carbon peaking and carbon neutrality.

To make this happen, a new guideline has been released defining a zero-carbon factory as an industrial facility that continuously reduces carbon dioxide emissions and gradually approaches near-zero emissions within the factory boundary, through the use of technological innovation, structural adjustment and management optimization. The guideline was jointly released by five government departments, including the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the National Development and Reform Commission.

The initiative aims to guide industrial enterprises in piloting zero-carbon practices, and promote emission reduction and efficiency improvement across industries to foster the development of new-quality productive forces tailored to local conditions.

A smart zero-carbon factory of Lenovo in Tianjin. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

The guideline calls for the deep integration of green energy with modern manufacturing, technological innovation with industrial upgrading, and green transformation with intelligent manufacturing, all in order to drive fundamental changes in production technologies and operational models.

A phased and differentiated approach will be adopted. From 2026, China plans to select a group of zero-carbon factories to play a demonstrative role. By 2027, a batch of zero-carbon factories are to be established in sectors such as automobiles, lithium batteries, photovoltaics, electronic appliances, light industry, machinery and computing facilities. This will form a preliminary industrial ecosystem covering energy supply, technology development, standards and financial support. By 2030, the initiative aims to expand to sectors including steel, non-ferrous metals, petrochemicals, building materials and textiles, exploring new decarbonization pathways for traditionally high energy consuming industries.

The guideline outlines six key implementation pathways, including establishing standardized carbon accounting systems, accelerating the green and low-carbon transformation of energy consumption structure, significantly improving energy utilization efficiency, promoting product carbon footprint analysis to drive supply-chain-wide emission reductions, enhancing digital and intelligent capabilities to achieve smart carbon control, and using carbon offset mechanisms and information disclosure to achieve near-zero emissions.

Enterprises are encouraged to increase the use of renewable energy, apply advanced energy-saving equipment, and adopt digital technologies such as industrial Internet, big data, artificial intelligence and digital twins to enable precise monitoring and intelligent control of energy consumption and carbon emissions.

To ensure effective implementation, local industrial and information technology authorities are urged to strengthen coordination, improve standard systems, and promote market-oriented energy-saving and carbon-reduction services.

The guideline also highlights the importance of developing professionals proficient in both international carbon related regulations and carbon neutrality practices, while enhancing international exchanges and cooperation.

Case Study

Innovation Makes Sturgeon Farming Flourish on Land

By SUN Jin & WU Chunxin

At a sturgeon farm in Yidu, a city in central Hubei province, a new water-recycling system is transforming how fish are raised on land.

Developed by Hubei Qingjiang Sturgeon Valley Special Fisheries Co., Ltd. with support from China's national freshwater fish research team, the system cuts water use by 95 percent, increases output per unit area by more than five times, and ensures over 98 percent of the sturgeon survive transportation across distances longer than 5,000 kilometers.

This technology, known as advanced live sturgeon transport, was included in the first batch of advanced and applicable technologies for science and technology-based poverty alleviation under the Belt and Road Initiative recently released by the China Rural Technology Development Center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

It reflects how Yidu, a county-level city, is integrating scientific innovation with industrial development.

Growing fish on land

As environmental regulations restrict traditional net-cage aquaculture in rivers, moving sturgeon production onto land has become essential. Sturgeon Valley therefore adopted a recirculating aquaculture system that reuses and purifies water, making farming both sustainable and efficient.

Transporting large sturgeon, especially those raised for caviar, over long distances used to be a major challenge. Conventional methods often caused high mortality due to stress. The new approach manages every step of the process: capture, temporary holding, sedation, transport, and recovery.

In 2020, the system was tested when 12 tonnes of live sturgeon were shipped from Yidu to Kazakhstan. All the fish survived, setting a record for live sturgeon exports from Hubei.

In October 2025, Sturgeon Valley made its first live shipment to Vietnam, achieving a breakthrough in exports to that market.

Government incentives

Sturgeon Valley's progress is backed by strong local policies. Yidu offers rewards of up to 10 million RMB to enterprises that develop pioneering products, such as new equipment, advanced materials, specialized software, or the first application of a new technology cycle.

Industrial projects led by high-level talents can receive up to 5 million RMB in funding. The city also allocates 3 million RMB each year to support key technological research by local companies.

At a 2025 meeting on business environment and innovation, Yidu distributed 9.55 million RMB in cash rewards and approved 110 million RMB in special loans for science and technology and talent development. These measures have significantly boosted local enterprises' capacity to innovate.

Building an innovation ecosystem

"Yidu's innovation model has shifted from isolated breakthroughs to a systematic approach," said Shen Xiyang, director of the Yidu Municipal Bureau of Science and Technology.

The government, industry, universities, and research institutions are now working together more effectively.

A key player is the Yidu Industrial Technology Research Institute, established in 2022 by Hubei University. It has organized more than 500 expert visits to local companies, finding 55 specific technical needs.

For example, Yidu Huayang Chemical Co., Ltd. was stuck at a critical stage in developing ultraviolet absorbers for over a year. Then Yidu Industrial Technology Research Institute brought in experts, who found a solution in less than two months.

Yidu has also built a demand-driven technology innovation platform in line with provincial strategy. So far, over 650 enterprises have joined the platform, posting innovation requests.

Innovation across sectors

Yidu's innovation efforts go beyond sturgeon farming. The city has nurtured three companies that are among Hubei's Top 100 High-Tech Enterprises and 27 emerging high-tech firms.

One of them, Yichang Dongyang Sunshine Bio-Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., has been recognized as a "moose" enterprise, a provincial title for fast-growing, high-potential tech companies.

Today, Yidu is focused on turning individual innovations into coordinated industrial strengths. By channeling more scientific resources into real-world production, the city aims to drive high-quality economic growth and realize the vision that "the world looks to China for sturgeon, and China looks to Qingjiang."

Sturgeon Valley in Yidu, Hubei province. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

Industries of the Future to Be Boosted

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The province will also advance industrial big data platforms to provide key data support for industries of the future like aerospace information and unmanned aerial vehicles.

Enterprises need to fully play their principal role in the development of industries of the future. According to Cao Zhongxiong, assistant president of China Development Institute in Shenzhen in south China, this means market forces and entrepreneurship will be more fully harnessed in the direction of R&D, resource allocation and commercialization and application of sci-tech achievements.

In Shanghai, the brain-computer interface industry faces unprecedented opportunities.

An official from the city's municipal commission of science and technology said Shanghai will guide enterprises to continuously advance core technologies and refine product quality with a focus on clinical needs, making sure that cutting-edge science and technology truly benefits people's lives.