Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles

[Basic Information]

Christian Thomsen

Moderator: Address and Keynote Speech: Song Zhenyuan Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Economic Information Daily Panel Discussion: Wang Xiaobo Editorial Board Member of Economic Information Daily Address: Vice Minister and Deputy China International Trade Representative, Ling Ji Ministry of Commerce of China Xiong Jijun Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of China Keynote Speech: Philippe Metzger Secretary General & CEO of International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Liew Chin Tong Deputy Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry of Malaysia Li Keqiang Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering; Professor at the School of Vehicle and Mobility, Tsinghua University Panel Discussion: Ralph Ossa Chief Economist of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Yin Tongyue Chairman of Chery Executive Vice President and Chief Scientist of BYD Lian Yubo Sam Wu Global Vice President of Ford, President and CEO of Ford China

President, North East Asia Cluster, Alfa Laval

[Brief Introduction]

On November 6, 2024, the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles of the 7th Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF), hosted by the Ministry of Commerce of China and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of China, organized by Economic Information Daily and Automotive Sub-Council of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, was held at National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai).

At present, as a new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation gradually moves towards depth, the development of new energy vehicles has attracted widespread attention. In this context, the session specifically invites both domestic and international representatives from the government, industry, academia, as well as upstream and downstream stakeholders in the field of new energy vehicles, to jointly review the development history of new energy vehicles, look into their future development, and discuss technological breakthroughs and bottlenecks in various new energy powers such as hydrogen energy and lithium batteries, the enhancement of intelligent driving, and the integrated development of vehicle-road-cloud systems. Additionally, it will address discussions on creating a globally open environment and policy empowerment that are conducive to the healthy and sustainable development of the new energy vehicle industry.



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[Address]



Ling Ji, Vice Minister and Deputy China International Trade Representative, Ministry of Commerce of China, addressed the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles

Ling Ji, Vice Minister and Deputy China International Trade Representative, Ministry of Commerce of China, emphasized that new energy vehicles (NEVs) are both an emerging industry and an iconic green product, serving as an effective means to address global climate change and achieve green transformation. The development and technological advancement of the NEV industry cannot succeed without international cooperation. China will firmly adhere to openness and cooperation, deepen international collaboration in the industrial chain and supply chain of NEVs. It will take a gradual, rational, and orderly approach to advance cross-border industrial chain arrangements and support capable automobile manufacturers to engage in international cooperation through trade, investment, and technological collaboration, thus fostering a favorable environment for enterprise development. As a representative of new quality productive forces, NEVs embody a highly globalized industrial division of labor. Only by leveraging complementary advantages and enhancing cooperation can the NEV industry achieve steady and sustainable growth.



Xiong Jijun, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of China, addressed the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles

Xiong Jijun, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology of China, stated that NEVs are the primary direction for the transformation and upgrading of the global automotive industry and are a strategic choice for countries to address climate change and promote green development. Looking back at the history of the automotive industry, globalization stands out as its most defining feature. History has repeatedly demonstrated that openness drives technological advancement, and cooperation fosters industrial prosperity. The rapid development of China's automotive industry, particularly its NEV sector in recent years, is the result of adhering to the principles of industrial development, persistent technological innovation, and adherence to the global division of labor and collaborative progress. China is willing to deepen cooperation with all relevant parties to jointly build stable, smooth, and efficient industrial and supply chains, maintain a fair, just, reasonable, and inclusive economic and trade order, and work together to build a clean and beautiful world.

[Keynote Speech]



Philippe Metzger, IEC Secretary General & CEO, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and delivered a keynote speech

Philippe Metzger, IEC Secretary General & CEO, stated that international standards and conformity assessment play a crucial role in improving productivity and facilitating international trade. The IEC has a broad global presence and its standard-setting activities cover various industries, including energy, electric vehicles, grid connectivity, and hydrogen energy, among others. Additionally, the IEC has established four conformity assessment systems, establishing the world's most extensive mutual recognition framework. By advancing universally accepted technical standards, the IEC ensures global standardization and interoperability, fostering global collaboration in electrification. This reduces redundant efforts for enterprises, helping them reduce costs and improve efficiency. Moreover, it supports informed consumer choices, further driving the adoption of green and clean energy solutions.



Liew Chin Tong, Deputy Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry of Malaysia, attended via video the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and delivered a keynote speech

Liew Chin Tong, Deputy Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry of Malaysia, emphasized that discussions often centered around car sales, tariffs, supply, and overcapacity. However, the fundamental focus should be on how to foster economic cooperation in creating green transportation. Malaysia is willing to collaborate with China and all other international partners to advance green transportation. He expressed the hope that cooperation would go beyond car sales to include technology, the transformation of transportation modes, and even autonomous driving. Realizing this vision requires a spirit of joint development and the creation of deeper models of economic cooperation. Through collective efforts, we can foster a better environment and build a better world.



Li Keqiang, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering; Professor at the School of Vehicle and Mobility, Tsinghua University, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and delivered a keynote speech

Li Keqiang, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and Professor at the School of Vehicle and Mobility, Tsinghua University, pointed out that the NEV industry is currently at a critical juncture of transformation. While the scale of the global automobile market is stabilizing, the NEV sector continues to expand, with the "three-electric systems" -battery, engine, and electronic control-driving the reconstruction of the automotive ecosystem and creating new opportunities. However, China's NEV development faces challenges such as product homogeneity and profitability. As the differences in the range, charging, and electronic control of NEVs continue to narrow, the integration of intelligence and connectivity has emerged as the core of future product differentiation in the automotive market. The development of intelligent connected vehicles is an inevitable trend in the transformation of the automotive industry and has become a shared consensus among governments and industries worldwide.



Song Zhenyuan, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Economic Information Daily, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and moderated Address, Keynote Speech

[Panel Discussion]



Wang Xiaobo, Editorial Board Member of Economic Information Daily, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and moderated Panel Discussion



Ralph Ossa, Chief Economist of the World Trade Organization (WTO), attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and participated in Panel Discussion

Ralph Ossa, Chief Economist of the World Trade Organization (WTO), stated that international trade is a vital component of solutions to address climate change. Some countries, constrained by market size or technical limitations, cannot produce electric vehicles domestically. Trade facilitates the dissemination of green technologies across countries. While the rapid development of NEVs and the resulting growth in trade volumes have disrupted the traditional automotive industry's market share and created some trade tensions, numerous regional and bilateral trade agreements are being signed-a positive signal of the ongoing evolution of global trade. The WTO takes an open approach to the development of new technologies, recognizing the inherent interplay of challenges and opportunities. Today, multilateral cooperation and trade are more crucial than ever. The WTO strives to foster a fair environment that promotes healthy competition among all parties, and ultimately helps countries balance economic growth with environmental sustainability.



Yin Tongyue, Chairman of Chery, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and participated in Panel Discussion

Yin Tongyue, Chairman of Chery, highlighted that when it comes to NEV exports, the world needs China, and China needs the world. Chinese automotive enterprises should adopt a dual perspective: Seeing the world from China and China from the world. This dynamic imbalance drives the flow of international trade and technology, fostering collaboration and mutual empowerment. As Chinese automobile manufacturers actively expand into global markets, they should remain conscious of their role as "away players," and respect the historical position of established market leaders. Chinese automobile manufacturers can draw on the win-win experiences of foreign auto brands entering the Chinese market and driving the development of China's auto industry. By leveraging their advantages in the NEV sector, they can drive and strengthen the growth of foreign auto industries, and avoid being perceived as a threat.



Lian Yubo, Executive Vice President and Chief Scientist of BYD, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and participated in Panel Discussion

Lian Yubo, Executive Vice President and Chief Scientist of BYD, said that the electrification of vehicles has laid a solid foundation for the rapid development of intelligent technology, while intelligence itself has transformed the functions and value of cars. Today, the automotive industry involves not only automakers but also suppliers of related components, software, communications, and the internet, spanning various sectors. The entire supply chain, ecosystem, and value chain are being reshaped. Embracing this change is crucial to seizing the future of the automotive industry and better meeting market demand. Currently, there are significant differences among countries in the development of battery technology, recycling, and other areas. All parties need to work together to research and discuss the formulation and mutual recognition of standards, and to foster cooperation and integration. Only through communication among governments, collaboration among enterprises, and cooperation within the supply chain can the entire NEV development system be streamlined. Breaking down trade barriers and leveraging each other's strengths will be crucial to further advancing the development of NEVs.



Sam Wu, Global Vice President of Ford, President and CEO of Ford China, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and participated in Panel Discussion

Sam Wu, Global Vice President of Ford, President and CEO of Ford China, said that the auto industry is a century-old sector that should not be viewed in terms of short-term gains. It is a global industry that requires cooperation between governments and enterprises, as well as international exchanges and collaboration. Global cooperation can accelerate and improve the development of this industry worldwide. In addition to the production process, with a large batch of NEVs being put into use, a significant number of batteries will enter the market. In the future, the recycling and utilization of batteries will be a major challenge. In areas such as material recycling, reduction of emissions during the manufacturing process, and recycling of batteries, governments should give guidance and regulation, in addition to relying on corporate self-discipline. There is also considerable scope for international cooperation in this regard. Furthermore, as automobiles are consumer goods, governments should allow consumers to make choices and let the market determine the winners and losers, to ensure the healthy and long-term development of the industry.



Christian Thomsen, President, North East Asia Cluster, Alfa Laval, attended the Parallel Session on The Future of Global New Energy Vehicles and participated in Panel Discussion

Christian Thomsen, President, North East Asia Cluster, Alfa Laval, stated that, from the perspective of managing carbon emissions throughout the entire lifecycle of NEVs, carbon emissions are not primarily generated during the driving process of electric vehicles, but rather during the production and recycling processes. Alfa Laval's main business is manufacturing equipment and industrial components for clean energy production. It currently has business relations with many global new energy vehicle companies and charging equipment manufacturers. Globally, the scale effect of the Chinese market makes it an ideal market for the company to test new technologies. Cooperation is crucial to the development of NEVs. Technological innovation cannot be driven solely by one company or institution; it requires the joint efforts of multiple parties and industries. Companies from different countries should share technologies and experiences they have developed in the process, and engage in more exchanges and cooperation among countries.