

CHINESE ECONOMIC SIMULATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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Abstract

Middle East countries have an abundance of energy, in addition to which the importance of strategic position also makes the Middle East become the world's the most sensitive areas about politics and economic. With the rapid development of economy, the shortage of energy resources in China is becoming more and more serious. Due to the complex situation in the Middle East, the economic and trade relations between Middle East countries and China gets a lot of development opportunities as well as challenges. This paper discusses the favorable factors promoting the development of economic and trade relations between the Middle East countries and china, and analyze the present situation of the development of economic and trade relations which help to summarize the problems existing. China and Middle East countries have large trade exchange and exchange of interests, from that China can take advantage of the development in the area, especially investment more in the energy and technology in the region; and also the region's countries can benefit from China experiences on achieving a diverse economic growth. Try to give effective solutions to strengthen the economic and trade relations between the Middle East countries and contribute to China's rapid and healthy development.

Keywords: *Middle East, Economic interest, Chinese diplomacy, Oil, Trade*

INTRODUCTION

China's participation in the Middle East Economic Affairs is not only the difficulty, but also the focus of China's expanding international influence. From a global perspective, participation in the economic affairs of the Middle East has two meanings: China should take the Middle East as a platform in the economic affairs to properly handle the relations between big countries and promote the international energy field and market. China needs to examine the trade surplus and the Yuan's value from the perspective of petrodollars, to accelerate the full integration of the international community.

The Islamic world is the main component in the Middle East. It covers the contemporary world transportation hub and strategic, mainly oil producing countries and exporting countries, which constitutes an important force in the allocation of international forces. Developing good trade relations with these countries has become the basic content of the periphery diplomacy in China and one of the important tasks, it is necessary for China to participate in the Middle East Economic Affairs in a new way, both economic and trade relations with a global perspective in dealing with the Middle East countries, to further consolidate political interaction with countries in the Middle East, and in the Middle East Economic Affairs Platform with world powers, balance China's foreign trade structure and layout. While maintaining the sustainable development of its own economy, gradually establish the image of a responsible country in the system, and gradually realize the goal of integrating into the international community.

The strategic value of the Middle East, especially the Gulf region, is an important part of China's "big peripheral" strategy. China has the interests of political, economic, trade, security, culture and other aspects of the Middle East. In the "anarchy" of the international system, China's access to the interests of the Middle East face more severe external challenges. Therefore, in discord, and intricate contradictions in the Middle East, China needs to have a strong sense of risk, so that China can smoothly realize oneself in the Middle East especially in the best interests of the Gulf.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Nowadays, China is the world's largest trading partner of 128 countries, is also the world's fastest growing major export markets, the most promising major investment destination, as well as the main importing countries of energy resources products.

There is no doubt that China is also important to the Middle East. As is known to all, China has become the biggest trading partner in the Middle East in 2012. In addition, China is the largest importer of oil in the Middle East and the Middle East is China's largest source of oil.

According to the International Monetary Fund estimates, China's GDP growth rate fell by 1%, energy and metal prices will fall by 6%.

In the trade area, China's exports to the Middle East in 2012 have reach 121 billion dollars, most of the exports are light industrial products, such as home appliances, telecommunications, machinery and equipment, food and so on. In the same year, China imported 160 billion dollars from the Middle East, the vast majority of which were oil products. At present, oil market is still a seller's market, the oil consuming countries are competing for oil sources to ensure that the supply and price stability. At the same time, the Gulf States need a large and stable oil market, and no country can meets the conditions but China.

In today's world, there are few areas in the world that can touch the "world's nerves" and attract the attention of the international community. The Middle East is still the world's most important transport hub, in the global strategy of the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and other major powers still occupies an important position, political reform movements in the Middle East to the rest of the world will have an important impact. The Middle East is still the world's oil depot, and its economic development and regional economic cooperation will also have a considerable impact on the world economy, the Middle East, the Middle East, is about 70% of the world's oil reserves.

The Middle East countries, in strengthening the industrial structure adjustment at the same time, expand the opening to the outside world, and actively carry out foreign investment, in order to take advantage of the opportunities brought by economic globalization. Kuwait to take full advantage of domestic and international two market potential, and strive to establish a close association of domestic and international market refining and sales network, estimated in 2000 Kuwait has reached 700 thousand barrels of oil refining capacity in overseas. Kuwait also plans to increase refining capacity in India, Pakistan and Thailand refineries.

Saudi Arabia has applied to join the WTO, is currently working to improve the investment environment. April 10, 2000, the Saudi government announced a new foreign investment law, the law has come into effect in May 10th of the same year. The new investment law guarantee foreign investors with the Saudi people enjoy the same preferential and support, to invest independently, free repatriation of profits and capital. Foreign investors can purchase real estate for the investment projects and employees, unless the legal procedures, the confiscation of the assets of foreign investors, investment in the differences have provided a solution, etc.. This will undoubtedly further promote the Saudi economy and the international market, in the development of the world economy to enjoy the various results of economic globalization.

Although the regional economic cooperation of the Middle East countries will encounter various difficulties in this century, the trend cannot be stopped, and it will certainly make new

progress. Whether this century Middle East Economic Cooperation of countries depends not only in oil producing countries, rich stance on the Middle East economic cooperation, and non-oil producing countries and the poor of the regional economic cooperation in the Middle East Initiative, but also by the United States, the Western European countries support for regional economic cooperation in the middle East, and the Middle East problem can be solved, the Gulf situation can restrict factors such as ease.

Oil producing countries in the Middle East, rich countries in addition to Libya, basically located in the Gulf region of Western Asia. The conflict between the Middle East countries, domestic political corruption and economic deformity restricts the full play of its economic potential which have an influence on China's market share in the Middle East.² In 2012, Middle East oil proved reserves accounted for global 48.4%, production accounted for only 32.5%, while the United States proved reserves accounted for global 2.1% and the production accounted for 9.6% of the yield. Iran, the oil giant, has long been unable to play the production potential, Iran's proven oil reserves accounted for 9.4% of the world, production accounted for only 4.2%. Middle East region has large population size and include a lot of countries, but it is divided into isolated small markets whose capacity is small. They and other countries in the Middle East, have realized the in order to in the economic globalization while avoiding disadvantages, the revitalization of the national economy and occupy an important place in the world, we must walk the road of economic integration, the establishment of Arab common market and the Middle East common market. But in view of the economic integration in the Middle East due to solve the problem in the Middle East peace hard and little progress, so they put attention and focus of work first put on the construction of the GCC, the six GCC countries has decided to since January this year officially launched a customs union, to pave the way for the future establishment of the common market of the Gulf and Arab and Middle Eastern common market.

Non-oil producing countries and poor countries in the Middle East have a positive attitude towards economic cooperation in the Middle East. They believe that they and the Middle East oil producing countries, rich countries in the economic complementarity, the Middle East oil producing countries, rich countries to provide adequate human resources (including teachers, technical personnel), to achieve a win-win situation. The United States and Western European countries support the economic cooperation in the Middle East. The United States urged Israel to participate in non-economic cooperation in the northeast. Israel took part in the meeting of the Middle East and North Africa in 1997 in Doha, the capital of Qatar, but some Arabia countries resisted the meeting. The countries of Western Europe to the Middle East region has been regarded as the strategic security barrier, to the United States in the Middle East and wary of

enhanced status. It and the United States in the Middle East both cooperation and competition, the United States advocated the economic cooperation between the East and North Africa to disagree, put forward the European and Mediterranean countries in the economic circle of the problem.

CHINA'S MAIN INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Risks are often produced in the pursuit of interests. Whether it is from the international development strategy, or from the actual needs of the Middle East countries.

To the point of view, the importance of the Middle East to China has become increasingly obvious, China's interest in the Middle East has gradually increased its share. Specifically, China's appeal to the interests of the Middle East is mainly reflected in the following five aspects: the political cooperation and support, economic benefits, energy access, security, cultural value of development.

Political cooperation and support

With the strengthening of national strength and the need of national revival, China will play a more and more important role, and the Middle East countries will become China's important political backing on the world stage. On the one hand, China's peaceful development needs the support of developing countries, including Middle East countries. On the other hand, China should play a role in international affairs. The Middle East itself is a very good stage. Improve the unfair and unreasonable international order, to promote the political pattern of the world multi polarization, promote democracy in international relations, both China and countries in the Middle East, the vast number of developing countries, the implementation of strategic significance on the efforts and cooperation. The Middle East is an important place in the new period and rely on power China to consolidate and expand the international political activity space.

Economic benefit

The overall economic development of the Middle East countries are affected by the long-term turbulence situation and the global economic depression in recent years. Therefore, many countries in the Middle East unveiled a policies and regulations to encourage the inflow of foreign capital, China's capital injection Middle East related fields, such as cooperation in energy and infrastructure construction provides a good external incentive, become China's implementation of the "going out" strategy, an important destination. Although China's import and export trade and investment in the Middle East is still not high compared to the European

and American markets, the Middle East as a characteristic of China's emerging international markets has begun to show. In the context of the world financial crisis, one side is Europe and the United States and other countries trade protectionism is on the rise, one side is export-oriented characteristics of China's economy is still strong, emerging markets in the Middle East undoubtedly conducive to the diversification of China International and regional market.

Access to energy

From the spatial distribution of oil and gas, the Middle East oil and gas reserves of proven reserves since the seventy's in twentieth Century, is still the highest in the world, accounting for 61.5% and 40.5% of the global total, respectively." At present, China is the world's second largest energy consuming country, it is estimated that China in the "five eleven" end of the period, oil, natural gas external dependence will reach 50.12% and 14.42% respectively. On oil imports, according to China Customs Statistics in January 2009, Saudi Arabia and Iran, the two Middle East countries are China's first, the third largest importer. From the resource availability see, oil and natural gas resources in the Middle East will be in China within the next few decades have to rely heavily on the target acquisition. Therefore, "the essence of the issue of China's future energy security is a oil in the Middle East."

Security protection

From the geopolitical strategy, the Middle East and the western border of China, while the latter with the development of China's western war implementation of the strategy, its importance in the country to further strengthen. "In the Middle East and the Gulf region is one of the United States and other western countries the most important strategic and strategy of China's western frontier extension and guarantee the safety of China's western frontier important buffer." From specific point of view, China is still faced with ethnic separatism, religious extremism and terrorism and other "three evil forces", the religious culture is closely related to these forces and the Middle East, and presents the base, state and development trend of modern, a direct impact to China in the western frontier of the political, military and security interests related to the sustainable development of China's economy.

PROBLEMS CHINA AND THE MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES ARE FACING IN THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS

China's participation in the Middle East Economic Affairs, as China and the oil producing countries have a greater complementarity in economic structure, the two Parties are not easy to generate friction in the macro surface. However, the bilateral economic and trade exchanges

are mainly focused on crude oil trade, cooperation in joint projects and technical cooperation is limited, there are still some problems in the specific operation. Oil is an important factor to promote the rapid growth of bilateral trade, in 2006, China and Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Iran, Kuwait, the volume of trade reached 201, 142, 14 and 28 billion dollars, an increase of 25.3%, 31.83%, 40% and 68.9%. In Saudi Arabia in 2006 of \$201 billion bilateral trade, Saudi exports to China about \$15 billion, is few for China to maintain a surplus of trade partners. But there are customs and non-tariff barriers between the two countries, and there is no direct steamer, especially the regular cargo ship, which greatly affects the trade between the two countries. In addition, the Iranian government attaches great importance to the non-oil exports to China, in the trade statistics in the crude exports to China for the import and export balance project, therefore calls for China to increase its imports of non-oil products, to remain in Iraq trade relative balance.

However, when Chinese goods enter the market of non-oil producing countries, there are not only macro problems such as market access and trade deficit, but the level of the problem is also gradually highlights. For example in 2006, Yemen Islamic financing and investment bank Talz branch alleged financial fraud of Chinese enterprises; in the United Arab Emirates Hamid development and construction limited liability company malicious arrears China's labor due to the project. Two companies were informed of the embassy, and was included in the blacklist of cooperation with the black list. Certainly, this kind of trade disputes and not China and the Middle East countries economic and trade exchanges the new phenomenon, the reason why in the current is particularly prominent for two reasons: one is China and the Middle East countries economic and trade ties of the content is more and more widely, specific trade disputes the possibility of increasing; the second is China more and more to economic perspective and not a political perspective in the economic affairs of the Middle East, the problems appeared in the economic and trade ties, neither deliberately blurred, not artificially expanded, and will be able to take the attitude of seeking truth from facts.

As the growth of any emerging market requires a nurturing period, so the initiative of the enterprise itself and the government to promote the role and the two coordination between the two is particularly important. Enterprises and export companies in China should attach great importance to the Middle East market, not to be as defective and clearance products export should be more effort in improving the product quality and competitiveness, market share erosion caused by short-sighted. Actually, most of the countries in the Middle East on the quality of the products is very picky, in the furniture market in Saudi Arabia, the novel design of Chinese furniture is as a result of the inferior quality causes market share fell from 70% in 2003 to 30% in 2005. The relevant chambers of Commerce, associations should strengthen the

guidance to the domestic industry, to allow domestic companies to more deeply understand the Middle East market, to take advantage of the in-depth local market research, and increase support for domestic well-known brand and publicity efforts.

Relevant government departments should focus in the following several aspects of work: accelerated with the GCC and other regional economic organization free trade negotiations, as participation in the economic affairs of the Middle East is a strategic step; strengthen the export product quality supervision, take appropriate measures to maintain the quality of our products, and promote the healthy development of foreign trade; and constantly improve the relevant policies, encourage more companies, especially well-known companies to cheap labor force and improve the laws and regulations in the Middle East countries and the establishment of the company, to expand exports to countries in the Middle East, and thereby to sign trade agreements to other countries for export and the country. As commerce was included in the "center" sequence management of Qatar China investment and Trade Promotion Center, aims to implement the "going out" strategy, to provide comprehensive services for enterprises between China and Qatar and the whole Middle East; Iran trading city in China, hope to provide a platform for the cooperation between Iran and the project, in the Chinese businessmen in Iran to provide the necessary assistance to the, so as to establish a set of norms, to constraint Chinese counterparts between the malignant competition, to promote unity.

TRENDS: THE FULL INTEGRATION INTO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

In 2005 and 2006, the trade volume of China and all the Arab countries are 512 and 66.2 billion U. S dollars, trade with the greater Middle East countries a total of 736 and \$100.5 billion, despite the rapid growth, but compared with the same time China and Europe and the United States 4289 and \$53.5 billion in trade volume is still inferior many, certainly cannot be during the same period, China to Europe and the United States 1617 and \$258.5 billion trade surplus with the mentioned in the same breath. Therefore, the realistic national conditions of China's primary stage, the focus of the work of the next period of economic diplomacy is still the United States and Europe and other Western powers, although its importance is more and more prominent, but including Arab countries, including countries in the Middle East is only China's participation in the world economy provided the overall game of "supporting role". And the corresponding is that countries in the Middle East to participate in China's economic affairs also holds a similar view, Saudi Arabia and other countries in the export of crude oil "your east west base" and inequality approach to some extent is this attitude reflected. The 20th century is the era of true development of China, especially in the last twenty years, China take the initiative to integrate into the process of international system, gradually become the international system in a

responsible and constructive and foreseeable shapers, showing willingness in the international community as a positive and constructive. In the international game since the end of the cold war, China's banner of multilateralism and economic diplomacy behavior, not only on behalf of the China in the new period of the nature of international relations to a new understanding, and is a manifestation of exploring China's development model. Since the accession to the WTO, China in a more as active and positive attitude, has participated in the SCO, the Boao Forum for Asia, China and ASEAN FTA negotiations, China and the Gulf FTA negotiations, of the China Arab Cooperation Forum ", " China Africa Cooperation Forum "a number of multilateral diplomatic activities. In this process, China not only foreign exchange reserves at the end of 2006 breaks through the \$1 trillion mark, become the world's largest foreign exchange reserves countries; and within the framework of the World Trade Organization (WTO) created a "conducive to the transparency of trade development, stability and predictability", both for their own trading system identified open framework, for the growth of the world economy made an important contribution, to achieve a win-win situation.

In today's world, the common interest of maintaining and strengthening one another is the challenge that all participants in the world system face together. The success, scale and impact of the show that China and other major countries have common interests in maintaining the international system, enhancing the security of the world, promoting the prosperity of the world and increasing new opportunities. Especially in recent years, the rapid growth of the economy has continued to expand China's influence in international affairs, especially in the field of global economic and trade. China has responded to a number of specific actions in the international community, and it has played an active role in strengthening the existing world system. Therefore, it is the only way for China to seek the peaceful development and build a harmonious world, that it is not only the desire and demand of the United States and other western countries, but also the desire and demand of the United States and other western countries.

"An international code of conduct in China, its behavior is reliable, easy to be expected, and is responsible for this Is an important soft power in international relations ". China's participating in the Middle East Economic Affairs object, sometimes is not a single country in the Middle East. For example, the China and Sudan normal energy cooperation politics the main driving force behind is that some Western powers, hindering China and Iran to deepen economic and trade ties between the factors are mainly from the United States. Although China than at any time in the past all hope to have a stable external environment to promote its economic growth, but the complex relationship between politics and economy and China's participation in the multiplicity of the Middle East economic transaction object which is decided

China as a "stakeholder" road of ups and downs, also decided to China in the present stage dealing with the Middle East affairs of the best option, try to resolve international disputes involving the interests of the state, to avoid issues related to acute and eventually spread to China. Given the Middle East focused on the many of the world's hot, focus and difficult problem, to deepen economic ties with the Middle East countries and how to relieve the pressure of western countries, perhaps the most important challenge China faces in the Middle East affairs. However, if China in the participation in the international game of Middle East Economic Affairs, learn to use the law to protect themselves and rules legally to the pursuit of more interests, provide more high-quality global and regional public goods and further establish themselves in the international social responsible big country image, not only to reduce the cost of foreign and through multilateral channels to legalize his claim, and help reduce the pressure on the strategy we face, and create a good environmental diplomacy.

ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF CHINA IN MIDDLE EAST

Since the end of the ninety's in twentieth Century, China's economic growth in the Middle East has increased significantly (see chart 1). According to West Africa division of the Ministry of Commerce statistics, 2008 east China and Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and other 13 countries import and export trade volume has reached 1105.88 billion, an increase of 55.1%, ahead of time two years to achieve the second ministerial meeting of the China Arab Cooperation Forum proposed to 2010 Zhong Ashuang trade volume reached \$100 billion "target. Among them, the export trade volume of US dollars, an increase of 74.4%; import trade volume of US dollars, an increase of 37%. In 2009, bilateral trade volume increased to \$132 billion 800 million.

If singly from the increase in bilateral trade, it is clear that China's economic and trade interests in the Middle East is still relatively fast. But with the increasing proportion of trade in the Middle East, inevitable, China and other countries and regions in the trade competition here has a rising trend. Especially in the acquisition of oil, Chinese encountered external competition and challenges cannot be overlooked. China overtook Japan's oil imports in 2004 as the world's second largest energy consumer. In view of the non-renewable nature of oil and gas resources and the national development and safety of the temporary difficult to replace, oil and gas resources will be the major powers continue to be included in the "economic strategy" of the consideration. In short, the current economic indicators of China's economic utility in the Middle East is slightly less than the political utility indicators, in particular, the total amount of investment in the trade to be further improved.

In recent years, the rapid growth of bilateral trade, trade volume increased from \$12 billion in 2000 to \$102.5 billion in 2006, an average annual increase of 30%, but the trade imbalance phenomenon serious. Turkey National Bureau of statistics, the latest statistics show that in 2006 China exported to the earth's \$, from the earth's imports of U.S. dollars, respectively, an increase of 38.7% and 26.1%. Is expected in 2007 China will exceed the United States, France, the United States and the United States became the fourth largest trading partner. At the same time, the earth's trade deficit with China's re innovative high of \$a strong reaction, the government will this imbalance due to tariffs, WTO rules and other factors, so the Chinese have a heart of alert.

The main reason of tension between the bilateral economic is: the first is similar economic structure, foreign trade of soil mostly concentrated in the textile, carpets, leather and other light industrial products, 1.2 million existing garment enterprises, employees 500 million, textile and garment industry in the soil of the national economy occupies very important position, and Chinese goods more or less and compete. Secondly is the target market overlap. Although Turkey and the EU concluded a customs union, exports to the EU without quota, tariff free, EU Turkey is the largest textile and garment export market, but compared with similar products in China, Turkey's competitive rival. Finally, it is haunted by political factors, Turkey has been seeking to join the European Union, so tight western developed countries footsteps, of Chinese textiles to take tough restrictions, to convergence in some western countries.

Although the bilateral economic and trade cooperation frustration, but China the Ministry of Commerce on bilateral economic and trade cooperation optimistic prospect. China attaches importance to its development balanced trade relations; called on Turkey enterprises, chambers of Commerce and other relevant agencies to actively explore the Chinese market, through in China held in investment, promotion and seminars and other promotional activities local enterprises and commodities; hope earthwork for Chinese companies to invest in soil treated with, to take measures to help Chinese investors to understand soil investment environment, policy and laws and regulations. In the specific action, the Ministry of Commerce has already begun to study to establish a "trade and investment zone" in the soil, encourage are among the highest in the world of 225 engineering contracting enterprises to join the ranks of 50 Chinese companies and 20 Turkish companies to integrate the advantages, the co-development of both sides of the market and third market; organization includes chemical group and China Minmetals Group, including 11 large-scale enterprises of China delegation to Turkey in the procurement of goods, organized around the theme as "the promotion of turkey products to enter the Chinese market" seminar.

CONCLUSION

China's huge economic resources in the Middle East, but its influence is still potential for the future. In the area of trade, Chinese exports to the Middle East, mostly light industry products, are too difficult to be translated into effective influence. In particular, China has not the ability to obtain high-technology contracts, rarely get upstream projects energy investment. The vast majority of high technology content of the contract by the United States, Europe, Japan and Korea in the bag, such as South Korea won the bid in 2009 UAE 4 nuclear power plant contract, worth over 20 billion US dollars. Chinese company holds in low-tech infrastructure and transport projects in the advantage, China accounted for 45 percent of foreign companies in infrastructure projects in the Middle East, the United States accounted for only 9%. China's core interests in the Middle East is economic interests, but the interests of the Middle East and China is shortage. Given the gap between interest and influence, China should take a new road is different from other big countries in the Middle East strategy in history.

We highly recommend more studies in the Middle East countries, especially the empirical studies. Furthermore, the area need more studies in the role of the infrastructure in the economic development, also more studies focusing on how the Middle East countries can learn from the China experience in the development.

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