China to Cut Carbon Intensity by Up to 45% by 2020 (Update1) 2009-11-26 08:30:09.746 GMT

(Adds details of Xinhua report in second paragraph.)

By Bloomberg News

Nov. 26 (Bloomberg) -- China, the world's biggest polluter, aims to cut carbon dioxide emissions per unit of gross domestic product by between 40 percent and 45 percent by 2020 compared with 2005 levels, Xinhua News Agency said.

This step is voluntary and is based on China's "own national conditions," Xinhua reported today, citing the State Council, or Cabinet. It will also be "a major contribution to the global effort in tackling climate change."

The goal marks the first time China has offered a specific target to slow the growth of its emissions of greenhouse gases, and gives the world's fastest-growing major economy new negotiating points heading into the Copenhagen conference starting Dec. 7.

For Related News and Information: Top environment stories: GREEN <GO>

--Wang Ying and Baizhen Chua in Beijing. Editors: Ryan Woo, Amit Prakash.

To contact the reporter on this story: Ying Wang in Beijing at +86-10-6649-7562 or ywang30@bloomberg.net; Baizhen Chua in Beijing at +86-10-6649-7561 or bchua14@bloomberg.net

To contact the editor responsible for this story: Amit Prakash at +65-6212-1167 or aprakash1@bloomberg.net; Clyde Russell at +65-6311-2423 or crussell7@bloomberg.net.=