

UNFCCC expert meeting on a range of approaches to address loss and damages associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather and slow onset events

Session-I: Framing discussion on loss and damage from African perspective

Amanuel Zenebe (PhD), Mekelle University, Ethiopia

Addis Ababa, June 15th 2012

Papers presented:

I. Climate- related risks that are most relevant to Africa context
(Ms Balgis Osman Elasha, IPCC)

II. Priority areas of concerns, sectors and systems, and the type of loss and damage envisaged in the region **(Mr. Tom Owiyo UNECA-ACPC)**

III. Overview of a range of approaches to address loss and damage currently in practice in Africa-key findings from the background paper **(Ms Koko Warner, UNU)**

IV. Significance of addressing loss and damage for Africa, and important elements of the work programme on loss and for COP18, **(Mr. Ladislaus Kyruzi, United Republic of Tanzania)**

Outline

- 1. Climate- related risks and impacts of climate changes**
- 2. Losses and damages on systems and climate-sensitive sectors**
- 3. Implementation of the Work Program (WP) on Loss and Damage**
- 4. Some recommendations for Implementation of the Work Program (WP)**

1. Climate- related risks and impacts of climate changes

- **Droughts** (E.g. W. Africa...): food and nutritional insecurity, famine, life/property damage, displacement
- **Floods** (e.g. Nairobi...): life/property damage, displacement,
- **Outbreak of variety of diseases**
- **Sea level rise**
- **Flood plain inundation**
- **Glacial melting (Mt. Kilimanjaro)**
- **Drying of lakes (e.g. Lake Haremaya of Ethiopia)**
- **Impacts of increased temperature and heat waves**

2. Losses and damages on systems and climate-sensitive sectors

i. Ecosystems: wetland and biodiversity, river basin systems

ii. Climate-sensitive sectors:

- **Rain-fed agriculture** (25% of the GDP, food insecurity)
- **Infrastructure** (housing, roads, poles..., Eth, Ken, and Moz loses 1% of the GDP annually)
- **Water resource availability**
- **Animal husbandry/livestock production**
- **Health** (malaria epidemics, rift valley fever)
- **Rural and urban Development**

3. Implementation of the Work Program (WP) on Loss and Damage (L & D)

Implementation of the WP on L & D needs:

i. **Assessing the risk of L&D**, is **complex** and constrained by *low technical capacity, data gaps, inexistence or low reliability of EWS, & large uncertainty in future climate projections.*

ii. A range of approaches to mitigate loss and damages caused by climate change or extreme weather events: **Risk Reduction, Risk Retention, Risk Transfer** and **Measures that address slow onset climatic process**

iii. The **role of the Convention** in enhancing the implementation of approaches to loss and damage.

4. Some recommendations for Implementation of the WP

- For the Implementation of the WP on L & D, Africa needs support from Annex II countries and others.
- Appropriate utilization of resources (bio-physical, financial, human)
- Selection of appropriate approaches, methods and tools depending on spatial scale, and bio-physical and socio-economic set-up of the target area.
- Strengthening technical and institutional capacity
- Linking science, policy and practice
- Implementing comprehensive adaptation and mitigation plans

Thank you for your attention!

