

Terms of References of a Technical Expert Group for providing technical support and guidance on comprehensive risk management and transformational approaches under Action Area 2, activity (d) (which could include issues related to Action Areas 5 and 7) of the initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee

I. Background

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its nineteenth session, established:¹
 - (a) The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts in order to address loss and damage associated with impacts of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change (hereinafter referred to as the Warsaw International Mechanism); and
 - (b) An Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism (hereinafter referred to as Executive Committee), to guide the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism:
 - Enhancing knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including slow onset impacts;
 - Strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders;
 - Enhancing action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.
2. The COP, at its twentieth session, approved an initial two-year workplan² of the Executive Committee, in accordance with decisions 3/CP.18 and 2/CP.19 (hereinafter referred to as Workplan).
3. Action Area 2 of the Workplan aims to “Enhance the understanding of, and promote, comprehensive risk management approaches (assessment, reduction, transfer, retention), including social protection instruments and transformational approaches, in building long-term resilience of countries, vulnerable populations and communities”.
4. Activity (d) of Action Area 2 mandates the Executive Committee to “Establish a technical expert panel or group, extending invitations to relevant bodies under the Convention and relevant United Nations organizations, the private sector, expert bodies and relevant initiatives that could provide technical support and

¹ Decision 2/CP.19, paragraphs 1, 2 and 5.

² FCCC/SB/2014/4, Annex II.

guidance on comprehensive risk management and transformational approaches (which could include issues related to action areas 5 and 7 of this workplan)”.

II. Mandate

5. The mandate of the technical expert group (hereinafter referred to as Technical Expert Group) is to help execute the work of the Executive Committee in guiding the implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism in an advisory role, in accordance with decision 2/CP.20, paragraph 8. In performing its advisory role to the Executive Committee, the Technical Expert Group could provide technical support and guidance on comprehensive risk management and transformational approaches. The Technical Expert Group may also support the Executive Committee in its efforts to undertake Action Areas 5 and 7 of the Workplan.

III. Scope of work

6. In line with the mandate described above, the scope of the work of the Technical Expert Group, as it relates to the Workplan, is to contribute to delivering expected results of Action Area 2 of the Workplan:

(a) Building on outcomes of Action Area 2, activity (a) which will deliver an overview (paper-based compendium) of tools, technologies, good practices and lessons learned, including with respect to policies and data standards, instruments such as insurance and social protection, and transformational approaches, to facilitate comprehensive risk management;

(b) Identifying gaps and identifying or developing methodologies to be used by national governments to enhance knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches, including issues related to finance, data, technology, regulatory environments and capacity-building, which may feed into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and other relevant processes, as appropriate;

(c) Identifying how to enhance the implementation of comprehensive risk management approaches related to addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change;

(d) Providing support for the dissemination of information;

(e) In delivering its work, taking into account the needs of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

(f) Suggesting follow-up actions, as appropriate.

IV. Activities, tasks, deliverables and associated timeline

7. Within the framework of the mandate and scope of work, the Technical Expert Group is to organize at least one face-to-face meeting and to prepare a draft

workplan, including a list of activities, associated deliverables and respective timelines, as soon as possible, subject to review and approval by the Executive Committee and prior to the implementation of the workplan by the Technical Expert Group. The annex to these Terms of Reference includes a non-exhaustive indicative list of possible initial work to be considered by the Technical Expert Group as it develops its workplan.

V. Required qualifications and expertise

8. Selection of technical experts will be based on the following required qualifications and expertise:

(a) Demonstrable and internationally recognized expertise relevant to the different types of comprehensive risk management approaches (including assessment, reduction, transfer, retention), including social protection instruments and transformational approaches, in building long-term resilience of countries, vulnerable populations and communities;

(b) Practical international, regional and/or national experience working on issues related to addressing the adverse effects of climate change, at a range of different levels, across regions as well as in a range of sectors and ecosystems.

VI. Size and composition of the Technical Expert Group

9. The Technical Expert Group consists of:

(a) Balanced representation of Annex I³ and non-Annex I⁴ members of the Executive Committee;

(b) Technical experts reflecting regional diversity on issues related to comprehensive risk management approaches.

10. The total number of individuals described in paragraph 9(a) above will not exceed four at a time. The total number of individuals described in paragraph 9(b) above will not exceed ten at a time.

11. The Technical Expert Group will be co-facilitated by two members from the Executive Committee, one from Annex I and one from non-Annex I.

12. The technical expert members should be drawn as follows:

(a) Representatives from UNFCCC constituency groups⁵, with no constituency having more than one representative;

³ "Annex I" refers to Annex I Parties to the UNFCCC.

⁴ "Non-Annex I" refers to non-Annex I Parties to the UNFCCC.

⁵ Constituency groups are as follows: Environmental non-governmental organizations (ENGO); Research and independent non-governmental organizations (RINGO); Business and industry non-governmental organizations (BINGO); Farmers; Indigenous peoples organizations (IPO); Local government and municipal authorities (LGMA); Trade Unions non-governmental organizations (TUNGO); Women and Gender; and Youth non-governmental organizations (YOUNGO).

(b) Representatives from intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), that have been admitted by the COP to the UNFCCC process;

(c) Representatives from nationally- or regionally-based research institutions and universities agreed for inclusion by the Executive Committee;

(d) Representatives from multilateral financial institutions, bilateral channels and/or the private sector agreed for inclusion by the Executive Committee.

13. The Executive Committee, at the request of the Technical Expert Group, can invite additional experts and representatives from other bodies, as needed, to serve as ad hoc members of the Technical Expert Group.

14. Technical Expert Group members who are not members of the Executive Committee may not act as representatives of the Executive Committee.

VII. Mode of work

15. The mode of the work of the Technical Expert Group includes:

(a) Electronic modalities (primary modality);

(b) In-person meetings, as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. Support for participation applies to only those in-person meetings which the Executive Committee has approved in advance.

VIII. Reporting

16. The Technical Expert Group reports to the Executive Committee, on a regular basis, through their co-facilitators, at the meetings of the Executive Committee and through written reports, as appropriate.

17. Progress related to the work of the Technical Expert Group will be captured in the report of the Executive Committee.

IX. Timeframe (the Technical Expert Group, and the membership)

18. The term of work of the Technical Expert Group will be bound by the mandate and scope highlighted in sections II and III above, and by the duration of the Executive Committee's Workplan, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

Annex

Areas for initial work may include:

- Developing a roster of organizations/experts working on comprehensive risk management approaches (including assessment, reduction, transfer, retention) or in areas of relevance to risk management approaches;
- Enhancing the understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches;
- Gathering and reviewing information, data, tools, technologies, good practices and lessons learned on comprehensive risk management approaches, including through analysis of programmes and projects, in various regions at various levels, that may not be climate specific, taking into consideration and building on work undertaken under Action Area 2, activity (a);
- Identifying best practices and gaps on the planning and elaboration of comprehensive risk management approaches;
- Developing awareness raising strategies, related knowledge products and methodologies to enhance the understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches to be used by national governments;
- Specifying the target entity/entities for any recommendations developed;
- Providing advice to the Executive Committee, if requested by the Executive Committee, on strategies, emerging questions and issues related to comprehensive risk management approaches;
- Considering how the clearing house for risk transfer to be established pursuant to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 48, can be used to support the work of the Executive Committee and the Technical Expert Group on comprehensive risk management in implementing Action Area 2 and other relevant action areas;
- Building on the work in Action Area 7, identifying support requirements, including in terms of finance, technology and capacity-building for comprehensive risk management.