Decision -/CP.20

Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

The Conference of the Parties,
Reaffirming the provisions contained in decisions 3/CP.18 and 2/CP.19,
Appreciating the work of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts to develop its initial two-year workplan,
Taking note of the report of the Executive Committee,¹

1. Approves the initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts;²
2. Notes the useful inputs provided by Parties, observers and other organizations as part of the transparent, inclusive and participatory process of developing the initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee;
3. Reaffirms the establishment of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, under the guidance of, and accountable to, the Conference of the Parties, to guide the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism referred to in decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5;
4. Also reaffirms the request to the Executive Committee to report annually to the Conference of the Parties through the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and make recommendations, as appropriate;
5. Decides that the Executive Committee shall be composed of the following, taking into account the goal of gender balance pursuant to decision 23/CP.18:
   (a) Ten members from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties);
   (b) Ten members from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), comprising two members each from the African, Asia-Pacific, and the Latin American and Caribbean States, one member from Small Island Developing States, one member from Least Developed Country Parties, and two additional members from non-Annex I Parties;
6. Encourages Parties to nominate to the Executive Committee experts with the diversity of experience and knowledge relevant to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts;
7. Decides that members shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms of office, and that the following rules shall apply:

¹ FCCC/SB/2014/4.
² FCCC/SB/2014/4, annex 2.
(a) Half of the members shall be elected initially for a term of three years and half of the members shall be elected for a term of two years;

(b) Thereafter, the Conference of the Parties shall elect members for a term of two years;

(c) The members shall remain in office until their successors have been elected;

8. Also decides that the Executive Committee may establish expert groups, subcommittees, panels, thematic advisory groups or task-focused ad hoc working groups, to help execute the work of the Executive Committee in guiding the implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism, as appropriate, in an advisory role, and that report to the Executive Committee;

9. Further decides that decisions of the Executive Committee shall be taken by consensus;

10. Decides that the Executive Committee shall elect annually Co-Chairs from among its members to serve for a term of one year, with one being a member from an Annex I Party and the other being a member from a non-Annex I Party;

11. Also decides on other related provisions including:

(a) If one or both Co-Chairs are absent from a particular meeting, any other member designated by the Executive Committee shall temporarily serve as the Co-Chair or Chair of that meeting;

(b) If a Co-Chair is unable to complete the term of office, the Executive Committee shall elect a replacement to complete that term of office;

12. Further decides that the Executive Committee shall meet at least twice per year, while retaining its flexibility to adjust the number of meetings, as appropriate;

13. Decides that the Executive Committee shall convene its first meeting as soon as practical following the election of its members commencing at the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties but no later than March 2015, and at its first meeting shall adopt its rules of procedure and begin implementing its workplan;

14. Also decides that the meetings of the Executive Committee shall be open to attendance by admitted observer organizations, except where otherwise decided by the Executive Committee, with a view to encouraging a balanced regional representation of observers;

15. Further decides that the decisions and outputs of the Executive Committee shall be made publicly available on the UNFCCC website unless decided otherwise by the Executive Committee;

16. Decides that English shall be the working language of the Executive Committee;

17. Also decides that the secretariat shall support and facilitate the work of the Executive Committee, subject to the availability of resources.