

Opening speech

Workshop on Santiago Network

UN City, Copenhagen

4 May, 2022

- Dear chairs of the UNFCCC subsidiary bodies, delegates, observers
- It is my pleasure to welcome you to this technical workshop on the Santiago Network. And, indeed, to welcome you to Copenhagen.
- We are gathered in the UN City of Copenhagen. As you may learn more about during the workshop, this building is climate friendly. It is equipped with solar power, water circulation, air recycling systems, - all with a view to keep energy consumptions at a very low level. The

building has received the EU's Green Building Award and a Platinum certification from Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

- The building illustrates Denmark's ambitions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We have set a goal of 70% reductions by 2030. We have introduced a moratorium on oil and gas exploration by 2050. Denmark has the highest capacity of wind power in the world, with close to 50% of our electricity consumption covered by onshore and offshore wind turbines. And we are making Copenhagen carbon neutral by 2025.
- Ambitious efforts to reduce emissions form the basis for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage emanating from climate

change. Denmark wish to lead by example. This also applies to our international engagement. For example, we are increasing finance for adaptation to be at least 60 % of our climate finance next year.

- In this way, we wish to show solidarity with countries that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including the least developed countries and small island developing states [SIDS].
- Last week, I visited Bangladesh together with the Danish Crown Princess and our minister for international development cooperation. We witnessed how communities in the front line of climate change are in constant risk of being affected by climate induced loss and damage.

- Now we gather in Copenhagen to follow up on an important loss and damage issue: the Santiago Network.
- The Network was set up at COP25. And its functions were decided at COP26. Now we should aim to get the Santiago Network fully operational at COP27.
- What remains are the institutional arrangements of the Network and the modalities for managing its technical assistance funds.
- Denmark was the first country to offer a contribution to the Network. The pledge is at 8 million USD. Of this amount, 5 million USD could

go into the Network's technical assistance fund. The remaining 3 million USD for running the hosting body of the Network.

- We do this to facilitate an early start of the Network. And as an illustration of Denmark's commitment to action on loss and damage. Others have also pledged contributions to the Network. The total amount from the EU is around 25 million EUROS.
- Many vulnerable countries not only lack support. They also lack knowledge and technical assistance. The Santiago Network is meant to help facilitate this.

- Therefore, the Santiago Network is urgently needed. And there are funds available to kick off its work.
- It is my sincere hope that this workshop will see a convergence of views around these issues. And that deliberations at the workshop will help pave the way for a final decision on the Network at COP27.
- Countries in need of technical assistance for loss and damage cannot and should not wait till COP28 for the Network to be up and running.
- We have an obligation to deliver before then. It may require creativity and – indeed – flexibility.

- We need a lean and agile set-up of the Network that can make it an effective instrument in support of countries and communities that suffer from losses and damages due to the impacts of climate extremes.
- I trust that the workshop will demonstrate that we can work in the spirit of partnership to find the right solution in a timely manner.
- We owe to the world and to each other to live up to what is expected from us.

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[Check against delivery]