

Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)



TECHNICAL MEETING – Concept Note

With the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)



Action Area 6: Migration, Displacement and Human Mobility

Date: 27 – 29 July 2016

Venue: Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco

I. Background

The Executive Committee (Excom) of the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is currently implementing its initial two-year work plan. Action Area 6 (AA (6)) under this work plan relates to enhancing the understanding of and expertise on how the impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of migration, displacement and human mobility; and the application of such understanding and expertise.

Under Activity (a) of AA (6), the Excom invited relevant organizations and experts to provide scientific information on projected migration and displacement based on climate and non-climate related impacts on vulnerable populations. This invitation for submission was answered by 30 organizations and experts and a country¹.

Under Activity (b), the Excom invited United Nations organizations, expert bodies and relevant initiatives to collaborate with the Executive Committee to distil relevant information, lessons learned and good practices from their activities.

II. Objectives of the Technical Meeting

The objective of the Meeting is to bring together the members of the Excom, national policymakers and practitioners, interested respondents to the invitation under activity (a) of AA (6), and relevant experts from different horizons with the aim of synthesizing relevant information and make it available widely in line with the expected results of this Action Area.

In addition, the outputs of the Meeting should support the work of the Task Force on Displacement, whose establishment was mandated by COP Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 49: *Establishing a task force to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change.*²

III. Expected Results of the Technical Meeting

In line with the mandate of the Excom under AA (6), the expected results of the Meeting are:

1. Enhanced understanding, based on sound science, of migration and displacement, including of characteristics of vulnerable populations that may become mobile owing to factors related to climate change impacts;

¹ Submissions are available from <http://unfccc.int/9508>

² Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 49: "Also requests the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism to establish, according to its procedures and mandate, a task force to complement, draw upon the work of and involve, as appropriate, existing bodies and expert groups under the Convention including the Adaptation Committee and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, as well as relevant organizations and expert bodies outside the Convention, to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change".

2. Enhanced understanding and collaboration;
3. Synthesized information made available on the relevant information, lessons learned and good practices from the activities of organizations and experts.

IV. Expected Outputs of the Technical Meeting

In line with the mandate of the Excom under AA (6), the expected outputs of the Meeting are:

1. Documentation of good practices, key challenges and lessons learned regarding migration and displacement in the context of climate change;
2. A set of recommendations, including those that could be undertaken by the Excom in its future work.

This information will feed into the work of the Excom in relation to the establishment of the Task Force on Displacement as well as the work of the Excom pertaining to discussions around the five-year rolling workplan of the body.

V. Structure of the Technical Meeting

The proposed structure of the Meeting is as follows:

1. An opening session that will serve as introduction to the meeting, including the presentation of the mandate of the Excom in relation to migration, displacement and human mobility, the objectives of the Meeting, framing of the issues for discussion;
2. Expert discussions that will present an initial set of synthesized information on good practices, lessons learned and key challenges;
3. Working sessions to refine and supplement the distilled information shared by the groups of champions/cluster groups;
4. A closing session that will synthesize the discussions and provide recommendations for areas for follow up by the Excom and other organizations/processes, with a view to fostering action.

A Study Tour that will provide opportunities for direct exposure to some of the issues pertaining to climate-related migration, displacement and human mobility. The expected duration of the meeting is 3 days, including the Study Tour.

VI. Participation

Participants to the Meeting (40 to 50) will come from cross-disciplinary backgrounds with a view to foster inclusion and representation of concerned actors: members of the Excom and experts from intergovernmental organizations, United Nations agencies, civil society and the academia.

VII. Language and documentation

The meeting will be held in English. The meeting will be paper free. All relevant documents will be available on the IOM Environmental Migration Portal:
<https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/technical-meeting>.

