

Japan's Submission Related to Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage Associated with Climate Change

Japan welcomes the opportunities to submit its views on possible activities under each strategic workstream as contained in the indicative framework for the five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee (ExCom), with a focus on workstreams (e), (f) and (g).

Japan appreciates the work done by ExCom so far under the initial two-year workplan, and hopes that the ExCom continues to guide implementing functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM). Japan expects that the ExCom will develop a strategic workplan, taking advantages of lessons learned from its progress made and considering various inputs from submissions made by Parties and organizations.

1. Views on implementation of the initial two-year workplan

Japan recognizes that the ExCom has made many achievements since its establishment despite the shorter period than originally planned. It is important to recognize and highlight such achievements in order to leverage ExCom's experiences in its future work.

- The ExCom has established and made a significant progress towards establishment of expert groups and task forces, such as a technical expert group for comprehensive risk management, an expert group on non-economic losses and a task force on displacement. These focused groups could leverage expertise efficiently and provide technical advisory to the future work of ExCom.
- The ExCom has enhanced collaboration and strengthened partnership with and among relevant existing bodies inside and outside the UNFCCC. The involvement of those bodies has contributed to expanding a network for support of WIM.
- The work of the ExCom has synthesized information and enhanced recognition of issues related to loss and damage as well as taken stock of existing efforts and best practices of diverse stakeholders. Building on such knowledge base, the ExCom strengthened dissemination of knowledge and enhanced recognition among Parties, relevant organizations, and other stakeholders through distributing knowledge products and participating in and convening various events and meetings.

2. Views on the indicative framework for the five-year rolling workplan

Finance-related topics

Promotion of recognition in financial instruments and resources, including those provided by private sectors, continues to be important regarding the loss and damage. Holding a workshop or seminar during SB or COP may allow more people to deepen their recognition on this issue and its solutions. It is important to bear in mind that based on decision 4/CP.22, paragraph 2 (f), (g) and (h), the secretariat will prepare a technical paper to elaborate the sources of financial support, and the ExCom is expected to assist the secretariat in determining the scope of the technical paper. The ExCom should provide relevant information and knowledge on the secretariat's work to support the secretariat, while avoiding duplication of the work.

In addition, existing financial instruments and resources must be used in an efficient and effective way. Identifying needs to build enabling environments and capacity in developing countries are helpful in this regard. One of the key measures in which developing countries can address loss and damage is to develop comprehensive risk management plans and decide priorities based on scientific climate risk assessment as well as to mainstream climate change policies and measures.

Japan also would like to emphasize that reducing disaster risk is a cost-effective investment in preventing future losses as this concept is shown in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Appropriate measures of disaster risk reduction are indispensable in the context of minimizing loss and damage arising from adverse impacts of climate change. Financing disaster risk reduction and build back better, therefore, will be another possible theme which could be covered in the finance-related topic of the indicative framework. Hearing voices of many stakeholders such as experts of disaster risk reduction and finance and civil society are important.

Additional results from the initial two-year workplan

As mentioned above, the ExCom has made considerable achievements under the initial two-year workplan. The future work should build up on knowledge and resources that the ExCom has obtained through strengthening and expanding its network, and continuing work of the expert groups and task forces.

Emerging needs

Continuing assessment and identification of needs and challenges in developing countries regarding loss and damage are important and useful to capture emerging needs. The result of assessment should be presented and shared broadly especially to development banks and

agencies such as MDBs in increasing awareness of the needs.

Regarding dissemination of accumulated knowledge and information of the ExCom, the ExCom also should consider effective communication ways and tools, including development of a clearing house for risk transfer referred to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 48, for sharing knowledge and information with Parties and relevant stakeholders as a part of 5-year indicative framework.