

Mr Chairman under this joint agenda item, as you are aware, loss and damage is an important issue for AOSIS. We welcome the advancement of the issue at COP 19 with the establishment of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. However, more work remains to be done to ensure this mechanism addresses the comprehensive needs of the Small Island Developing States.

The IPCC AR5 Summary Report for Policy Makers on Working Group II shows that “increasing magnitudes of warming increases the likelihood of severe, pervasive, and irreversible impacts. And with high levels of warming that result from continued growth in greenhouse gas emissions, risks will be challenging to manage, and even serious, sustained investments in adaptation will face limits”. SIDS are already experiencing loss and damage from climate change that cannot be adapted to and experiencing immediate losses that they have no capacity to respond to. This demands an urgent need for this mechanism to be functional.

AOSIS is greatly concerned with the limited membership and restrictive participation of Parties in the current composition of the interim executive committee. We are particularly concerned that AOSIS has no voice on this interim executive committee considering it has championed and led on the issue for over two decades.

We are also extremely concerned with the lack of transparency in the work of the interim executive committee, which has been mandated to develop the two-year work plan.

In light of these concerns, AOSIS requests that you, Chair, along with the Chair of the SBI, provide Parties with the space during this session for consultations with you and the SBI chair as well as the interim Executive Committee, allowing Parties to provide their views and inputs on the work plan and guide the work of the interim executive committee.

Mr Chairman, we are mandated at this session to consider the composition of, and procedures for, the executive committee. On the issue of the composition of the executive committee, AOSIS proposes the following:

- 1. A special seat for SIDS
- 2. With majority developing country membership

On the rules of procedure, AOSIS proposes the following two operating facilities of the Executive Committee,

- 1) 1. A Technical facility and
- 2) 2. A financial facility