

Oral report by the co-chair of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Opening plenary of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, Monday 6 November

(Check against delivery)

- Thank you, Chair, for giving me the opportunity to update you and the SBI on the work of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts.
- The work of the Executive Committee strives to contribute to efforts that build climate resilience. The past weeks across the world, we have felt concerned and express our friendship to countries that have been struggling with hurricanes, droughts, storms, floods and other impacts. These challenges underscore the importance of building resilience together.
- At this session through the SBs, the Executive Committee presents a report to the COP on its work undertaken between October 2016 and October 2017.
- I will spare the detailed account of the progress made as it is available in the written report and on the UNFCCC website. I would like to highlight three points:
 1. Key elements of the report;
 2. Progress on the Paris mandate; and
 3. Our activities at this COP.
- Our report contains **recommendations** for consideration by the COP and a set of **detailed activities** for the first two years of our five-year rolling workplan as well as priority activities for the subsequent years.
 - The indicative framework adopted by COP 22 served us as the basis for developing corresponding activities.
 - The Committee expresses its sincere appreciation for the wealth of inputs and ideas provided by Parties and relevant organizations, which we duly took into account in developing activities for the rolling workplan.
 - One of the recommendations included in the report of the Committee to the COP for its consideration is that the COP to take note of the **budgetary implications of the activities** to be undertaken and urge Parties and other organizations to make available resources for the successful and timely implementation of the five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee.
- The Executive Committee is happy to report that the Committee successfully operationalized two **Paris mandates** entrusted by the COP through decision 1/CP.21 as follows:
 - First, the Committee developed the **Clearing House for Risk Transfer** that will connect seekers of insurance around the world with experts who can help to explore practical risk transfer solutions, while also providing broad information on insurance and risk transfer.
 - In doing so, the Committee established lasting partnerships with the InsuResilience Secretariat and a global network of leading risk management experts.

- The COP President will launch the Clearing House on 14 November at the high-level event ‘*Towards a Resilient Future: Frontiers of Risk Sharing*’.
- We encourage Parties and all interested stakeholders to avail of the opportunities that the Clearing House offers and engage to make the Clearing House the practical and helpful tool it is envisioned to be.
- Second, the Committee advance the work on **the Task Force on Displacement**.
 - The Task Force comprises experts from implementing agencies and expert bodies working on human mobility, including migration, displacement and planned relocation.
 - By directly engaging relevant organizations under the umbrella of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, the Committee is ensuring coherent action and support in inter-related areas of work.
 - The Task Force plans to undertake a wider stakeholder consultation next March before finalizing the recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change. The **Executive Committee will deliver these recommendations at COP 24** next year.
- Before I conclude, let me announce that the Executive Committee will hold a **side event** titled ‘*Breaking new ground: risk financing for slow onset events*’ at this session.
 - It aims to facilitate insightful thinking on features of financial instruments and innovative ways for collaboration and partnerships to enhance action and support.
 - We look forward to welcoming Parties and observers at this event to take place on **Thursday 9 November at 13:15**.
 - The Committee is also running an awareness-raising campaign. We encourage all COP participants to pass by our photo booth in the Bonn Zone and take part in the **photo campaign** in the lead up to the side event.
- Mr. Chair, the Executive Committee has made tremendous progress since September 2015 when the Committee met for the very first time.
 - The Committee implemented its initial two-year workplan, operationalized the two Paris mandates, and developed a rolling workplan which provides implementing entities, experts and stakeholders concrete entry points for collaboration and synergy in our efforts for averting, minimizing and addressing the risks of loss and damage associated with climate change impacts from here onward.
- On behalf of the Executive Committee I would like to thank all those who contributed in various ways to the work of the Executive Committee thus far. Please rest assured that the Executive Committee will continue to count on your support and collaboration in the future.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

To be included in the longer version for web-posting

- The Executive Committee also advanced the implementation of activities of its **initial two-year workplan**.
 1. The Executive Committee continued its *outreach efforts to strengthen dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies* among bodies and processes under, and outside, the Convention. Let me mention a few examples:
 - The Committee participated in the first meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building and expressed its willingness to work with this newly established body under the Convention.
 - The Committee has taken up the recommendations of the Technology Executive Committee in the context of its five-year rolling workplan and looks forward to the future collaboration between the two committees.
 - The Committee is regularly engaging in the dialogue on the science-policy nexus in the realm of loss and damage under the SBSTA, through its research dialogue, meetings with representatives of IPCC and the research community.
 - The Committee continues to work closely with relevant organizations and processes outside of the Convention, including through its technical arms and the Clearing House for Risk Transfer which I just mentioned.
 2. In relation to *promoting the development of and compilation, analysis, synthesis and reviewing information*, the Executive Committee undertook work related to:
 - Comprehensive risk management approaches, through the development of a compendium on this topic, including case studies;
 - Climate risk analysis, through the analysis of responses by Parties and organizations to a questionnaire on climate risk analysis. I take the opportunity to thank all Parties and institutions who responded to our request for input;
 - Slow onset events, by initiating an assessment of the current state of knowledge and capacity to address slow onset events.
- More details on the progress made in the implementation of work of the Committee is available in the written report and on the UNFCCC website.