

Action and Support expert groups of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (as at 9 October. Unedited)

I. Background

1. Decision 2/CP.19 established: 1) the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts in order to address loss and damage associated with the impacts of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events (WIM), in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change; and 2) its Executive Committee (Excom) to guide the implementation of functions of the WIM.
2. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its twentieth session, decided that the Excom may establish expert groups, subcommittees, panels, thematic advisory groups or task-focused ad hoc working groups (hereinafter referred to as expert groups) to help execute the work of the Excom in guiding the implementation of the WIM, as appropriate, in an advisory role, and that report to the Excom.
3. The COP, at its twenty-second session, recognized that the Excom may enhance its effectiveness by prioritizing activities in thematic areas for further work.
4. The COP, at its twenty-third session, welcomed the report¹ of the Excom, which contains, inter alia, the five-year rolling workplan of the Excom.
5. The COP serving as Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) at its second session noted that the Excom will evaluate progress in implementing its five-year rolling workplan in 2020 and at regular intervals at its subsequent meetings.

II. Mandate

6. As part of the outcomes of the first review of the WIM in 2016, the COP, at its twenty-second session, recommended that the Excom may consider the establishment of, as appropriate, additional expert groups, subcommittees, panels, thematic advisory groups or focused working groups to assist it in conducting its work and supporting its efforts to enhance action and support for loss and damage as provided for in decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c).²
7. The CMA, at its second session (December 2019),³ requested the Excom to establish, by the end of 2020, in accordance with its procedures and mandate, an expert group pursuant to decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c), drawing on the work of and involving, as appropriate, existing bodies, organizations, networks and experts under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, ensuring a fair, equitable and balanced representation within the group.

III. Scope of work

8. The Action and Support expert group will assist the Excom in implementing decisions taken by the COP and CMA and the Excom five-year rolling workplan, as it relates to action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, guided by workstream (e), as

¹ FCCC/SB/2017/1/Add.1, annex.

² Decision 4/CP.22, para 4(b).

³ Decision 2/CMA.2, paragraphs 26 and 40.

well as in addressing new mandates related to action and support arising from guidance by the Parties to the Excom.

9. Recognising the urgency of enhancing mobilization of action and support,⁴ the expert group shall develop a focused plan of action, while avoiding duplication of existing efforts, at its first meeting to take place in 2020, on the following:
 - a) The activities referred to in paragraphs 37⁵ and 39⁶ of decision 2/CMA.2;
 - b) The collection, compilation and dissemination of information on the available sources of support under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement for activities relevant to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage in developing country Parties;
 - c) Collaboration with the thematic expert groups of the Excom to undertake the work referred to in paragraph 26 of decision 2/CMA.2;
 - d) Collaboration with relevant bodies and organizations under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement pursuant to decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c)(iii);
 - e) The organization of events in conjunction with relevant meetings and conferences, including the NAP Expo and regional events, to share information and experience relating to accessing available sources of support for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, in collaboration with relevant constituted bodies and organizations under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as appropriate;
 - f) The analysis and identification of enabling conditions for effective implementation of risk transfer facilities and social protection schemes in the context of comprehensive risk management, as appropriate.
10. In developing and implementing its plan of action as outlined in decision 2/CMA.2 and paragraph 9 above, including in undertaking its mandate to produce technical guides (see decision 2/CMA.2, paragraph 26), the expert group shall draw upon relevant information from all sources, inter alia, from biennial transparency reports submitted by Parties.

IV. Membership

11. The Action and Support expert group should consist of:

⁴ Decision 2/CMA.2, paragraphs 31–34.

⁵ Decision 2/CMA.2 paragraph 37: Requests the Excom to further engage and strengthen its dialogue with the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) by providing input in line with decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c)(ii), to the SCF when, in accordance with its mandate, it provides information, recommendations and draft guidance relating to the operating entities of the financial mechanisms under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as appropriate.

⁶ Decision 2/CMA.2 paragraph 39: Requests the Excom, in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to clarify how developing country Parties may access funding from the GCF for the development of funding proposals related to the strategic workstreams of the five-year rolling workplan of the Excom, consistently with paragraph 38 above, and to include information thereon in its annual reports.

- a) Balanced representation of Annex I⁷ and non-Annex I⁸ members of the Excom;
 - b) Technical experts; and,
 - c) Representatives of relevant constituted bodies.
12. The total number of individuals described in paragraph 11(a) above will not exceed four at any time. The total number of individuals described in paragraph 11(b) and (c) above will range from 10 to 18. These numbers may be reviewed and revised by the Excom, as appropriate.
13. The Excom members referred to in paragraph 11(a) above will 1) identify the technical experts referred to in paragraph 11(b) above, drawing *inter alia* on the WIM Roster of Experts, and 2) propose the list of potential members of Action and Support expert group, including from the relevant constituted bodies referred to in paragraph 11(c), as appropriate, for endorsement by the Excom, following which the Excom Co-Chairs will liaise with respective experts and the constituted body(ies).
14. The selection of technical experts referred to in paragraph 11(b) will take into account the need for expertise from multiple regions, regional balance, and be based on the following requirements:
- a) Demonstrable and internationally or regionally recognized expertise, taking into consideration, as appropriate, the need for transdisciplinary expertise;
 - b) Practical international, regional or national experience in issues related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage to the adverse effects of climate change, corresponding to the group's mandate, including on priority thematic areas of work as determined by Excom.
15. The Excom, on the recommendation of the expert group, can invite additional technical experts, including those listed in the roster of experts, and from relevant organisations, as needed, to contribute to specific activities of the group on an ad hoc basis:
- a) Ad hoc members with the requisite expertise may be invited to serve specific activities in keeping with the Plans of Action (PoAs) of the expert groups;
 - b) To the extent possible, a regional balance will be pursued.
16. Technical experts of the expert group will serve for two years and can be renewed or replaced as needed, in accordance with the prioritized topics in strategic workstream (e) of the five-year rolling workplan of the Excom. For members serving as representatives of constituted bodies under the Convention and/or the Paris Agreement, their term will not exceed their term on the body they represent.

V. Mode of work and outputs

17. The mode of work of the Action and Support expert group will comprise:
- a) Electronic means/modalities; for example, email, video conferencing and telephone online platforms;

⁷ 'Annex I' refers to Annex I Parties to the Convention.

⁸ 'Non-Annex I' refers to non-Annex I Parties to the Convention.

- b) In-person meetings, as deemed necessary. Such meetings should be held back-to-back with or in parallel to Excom meetings, sessions of the subsidiary bodies or relevant external events, as far as possible, with a view to maximizing overall efficiency and effectiveness;⁹ and,
 - c) Engagement with organizations, bodies, experts and networks including the Santiago network, engaged in providing technical advice, support and assistance to developing countries, through, inter alia, electronic means/modalities; workshops, including at national and regional level; outreach through other organizations as appropriate.¹⁰
18. The Action and Support Expert group will be co-facilitated by Excom members.
 19. The Action and Support expert group will develop a rolling plan of action at its first meeting,¹¹ in line with the mandate and scope as defined in the respective sections of the TOR, and taking into account the information contained in the respective strategic workstream of the five-year rolling workplan of the Excom. The plan of action should include specific activities, and associated deliverables, indicative time frames and lead/co-lead, and will be subject to endorsement by the Excom prior to its implementation.
 20. The plan of action may be updated, as appropriate, upon advice by the Excom which will be guided by priorities identified in the five-year rolling workplan and, if applicable by further guidance by the Excom on the thematic areas of work.
 21. In developing or updating its rolling plan of action, the Action and Support expert group will take into account information from the Santiago Network as appropriate, and the plans of action of other expert groups of the Excom, to enhance coherence, collaboration and synergies among the expert groups where relevant.
 22. The outputs of the Action and Support expert group will be presented to the Excom for consideration.
 23. Members of the Action and Support expert groups, including ad hoc members, who are not on the Excom may not act as representatives of the Excom.
 24. In keeping with the Mandate and Scope of Work in sections II and III above, expert groups may prepare knowledge products, outputs and other deliverables. The appropriate branding and disclaimers must be applied, as appropriate, based on guidance from the Excom, within the broader guidelines of the UNFCCC.

VI. Reporting

⁹ Support for the participation of Excom members eligible for support applies only to in-person meetings that the Excom has approved in advance.

¹⁰ The CMA at its second session established, as part of the WIM, the Santiago network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change (hereinafter referred to as the Santiago network), to catalyse the technical assistance of relevant organizations, bodies, networks and experts, for the implementation of relevant approaches at the local, national and regional level, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The Excom has been requested to include relevant information from the organizations, bodies, networks and experts that have reported on their progress under the Santiago network in its annual reports.

¹¹ Standard time frame used in the plans of action of Excom's expert groups has been two-years (e.g., TFD, TEG-CRM).

25. The Action and Support expert group will report to the Excom, on a regular basis, at the meetings of the Excom and by written reports, that include, to the extent possible, detailed information on the progress in implementing the plan of action, as appropriate.
26. The Excom will determine the contribution the expert group's reports might make to relevant synthesis reports for the technical assessment component of the global stocktake, in particular as described in decision 19/CMA.1 para 36(e).
27. Progress in the work of the Action and Support expert group will be captured in the report of the Excom.

VII. Confidentiality and conflicts of interest

28. The conflict of interest and confidentiality guidelines of the Excom will apply mutatis mutandis to all members of this expert group.