

G77 and China Statement
Report of the WIM Executive Committee
Operationalization of the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage
2 November 2021

1. Guinea is speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. The Group would like to propose the following elements for a draft decision text under this agenda item in the form of paragraphs:
 - (i) Welcoming the WIM Executive Committee's 2020 and 2021 reports;
 - (ii) Welcoming the achievements and progress made in implementing the WIM Executive Committee's work plan and those of its expert groups, despite the extraordinary challenges faced in 2021 owing to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (iii) Appreciating the establishment and work of the Executive Committee's expert groups on action and support, non-economic losses, and slow onset events;
 - (iv) Expressing appreciation to all organizations and experts that contributed to the success of the work undertaken and to the constituted bodies that collaborated with the Executive Committee and its expert groups, including the task force on displacement;
 - (v) Welcoming the progress of the Executive Committee in preparing its contribution for the technical assessment component of the GST, and requesting the Executive Committee to ensure that its report for the GST will be comprehensive and provide Parties with information not only about the work of the Executive Committee in fulfilling its objective but also about the extent of loss and damage arising from the adverse effects of climate change in developing countries; the expected loss and damage under different temperature scenarios; actions and support, including finance for loss and damage; implementation and support gaps, barriers, challenges and opportunities; and recommendations on how loss and damage-related actions under the Convention and its Paris Agreement can be further enhanced;¹
 - (vi) Endorsing the recommendations contained in the WIM Executive Committee's 2020 and 2021 reports;
 - (vii) Expressing appreciation for and noting the contents of the reports submitted by organizations pursuant to paragraph 44, decision 2/CMA.2, and referred to by the 2021 Executive Committee report;
 - (viii) Recognizing that there is lack of clarity on the technical assistance made available to and accessed by developing countries and on information on the wide range of topics for which technical assistance is available, and further recognizing the need for more organizations, bodies, networks and experts to be engaged and reporting on their work, including those from sub-national, national, regional and international levels;² and where capacity is identified as limited, for countries to be supported in developing their own internal networks so as to complete these tasks, as identified;³
 - (ix) Recognizing that the objective of the Santiago Network established under paragraph 43, decision 2/CMA.2, to catalyze the provision of technical assistance on loss and damage to

¹ G77 and China Statement on Report of WIM Executive Committee, 1 November 2021.

² G77 and China Statement on Report of WIM Executive Committee, 1 November 2021.

³ G77 and China Statement on Report of WIM Executive Committee, 1 November 2021.

developing countries, needs to be further operationalized through clarifying the activities of the Santiago Network;

- (x) Agreeing that the Santiago Network should enable it and its members to deliver on the objective of catalyzing technical assistance for the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage by engaging proactively with Parties to assist them in identifying and prioritizing their technical assistance and other support needs in relation to loss and damage-related events, including slow onset and extreme weather events, and then actively assisting Parties to source technical assistance and their need for other support, through activities including: (a) channel, link or guide loss and damage-related technical assistance to where these are needed and requested on the ground; (b) disseminate relevant information; (c) undertake pilot projects through technical assistance to unlock larger packages of finance and other support; and (d) facilitate an integrated and coherent scaling up of technical assistance and other support over time to developing countries to address loss and damage under the Convention and its Paris Agreement.⁴ The Network would also provide a channel for the communication of the loss and damage-related needs of Parties to Network partners. These may evolve over time to better respond to the needs of developing countries;
- (xi) Recognizing that the technical assistance to be catalyzed by the Santiago Network to support Parties will include technical assistance and support for the implementation of existing approaches and the development and implementation of additional approaches to address loss and damage;
- (xii) Requesting the SBI and SBSTA to jointly initiate work during SBs 56 in 2022 to provide recommendations with respect to, inter alia, the Network's form, structure, or other institutional arrangements, including for its coordination and membership, that may be appropriate for achieving its objective and implementing its activities; and the selection of the host entity for coordinating the Network. These SBI/SBSTA recommendations on making the Network fully operational would be submitted for adoption to the COP/CMA at COP27/CMA4 in late 2022.⁵ Options for financing the Network should also be identified.
- (xiii) Calling for submissions no later than first quarter 2022 from Parties, non-party stakeholders, and organizations, networks, bodies and entities (ONBEs) on ideas, offers or suggestions on the institutional arrangements for the Santiago Network that would be fit for purpose in light of its mandate and its activities, to be compiled and synthesized by the UNFCCC Secretariat and circulated to Parties for their consideration in the work of the SBs regarding the institutional arrangements and hosting of the Santiago Network;
- (xiv) Requesting the UNFCCC Secretariat to provide the interim arrangements needed to achieve the objective and implement the activities of the Santiago Network pending agreement on the institutional arrangements of the Santiago Network at COP 27 / CMA 4. Such interim arrangements will be temporary and without prejudice to the outcome on the Network's institutional arrangements as may be agreed by Parties at COP27/CMA4;
- (xv) Recognizing that the institutional arrangements for the Santiago Network may further evolve in light of the experience gained in its operation;
- (xvi) Recognizing the need to ensure that the Santiago Network's institutional coordination arrangements are appropriately financed to enable it to achieve its objective and implement its activities effectively;

⁴ G77 and China Statement at the Virtual Information Consultation of HODs on Loss and Damage Issues, 3-4 August 2021.

⁵ G77 and China Statement at the Virtual Information Consultation of HODs on Loss and Damage Issues, 3-4 August 2021.

- (xvii) Recognizing the need for a financing stream on loss and damage to ensure that developing country Parties are able to adequately address the significant impacts currently associated with slow onset events, non-economic losses, comprehensive risk management, displacement, and other loss and damage-related issues;⁶ and
 - (xviii) Requesting Parties that have yet to do so to nominate their loss and damage contact points through their respective national focal points, who can serve as a national liaison between the Party and the Santiago Network;
3. The key ideas of the Group of 77 and China behind our proposed elements above with respect to the operationalization of the Santiago Network are that the Network should not simply be a matchmaking facility between technical assistance providers and developing countries or a virtual database. Neither should it be simply a passive receptor of technical assistance needs identified by developing countries.
 4. The rapid and early operationalization of the Santiago Network is very important to the Group of 77 and China. But equally important is the need to make sure that we get this operationalization right, so that all Parties contribute substantially and that the Network responds effectively to the loss and damage assistance-related needs in developing countries, within the context of the implementation and institutional framework of the WIM under the Convention and its Paris Agreement. Balancing these two imperatives will require both flexibility and commitment to being inclusive and Party-driven.
 5. Thank you.

⁶ G77 and China Statement on Report of WIM Executive Committee, 1 November 2021.