

Technical workshop on the institutional arrangements of the Santiago Network of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

4 to 6 May 2022

Draft concept note (ver. 20 April)

Background

In 2019, COP 25 established, as part of the Warsaw International Mechanism, the Santiago Network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.¹ The Santiago Network was established with the aim 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.

In 2021, COP 26 agreed on a set of functions² for the Santiago Network that catalyze demand-driven technical assistance to respond to the priority needs of developing countries, and decided on a process for further developing its institutional arrangements.³ It also decided that, in support of its functions, the Santiago Network will be provided with funds.⁴

Mandate

As part of the process to further develop the institutional arrangements of the Santiago Network agreed in Glasgow, the COP requested the secretariat to organize a technical workshop prior to the 56th sessions of the subsidiary bodies, under the guidance of the Chairs of those bodies, with inputs from the Executive Committee and the participation of Parties and relevant organizations, bodies, networks and experts, to elaborate on the submissions on the following aspects of the Santiago Network:⁵

- a) Operational modalities;
- b) Structure;
- c) The role of the Executive Committee and its expert groups, task force and technical expert group;
- d) The role of loss and damage contact points and other relevant stakeholders at the subnational, national and regional level;
- e) Possible elements for the terms of reference of a potential convening or coordinating body that may provide secretarial services to facilitate work under the Santiago Network.

Objective

To elaborate on ideas presented in the submissions received by the secretariat, prior to the workshop, on the aspects of the institutional arrangements of the Santiago Network. The discussions will be arranged along the five elements of the call for submissions.

Output

No formal report or conclusions of the workshop is mandated. Presentations and other relevant materials from the workshop will be archived on the event page at <https://unfccc.int/event/tech-workshop-SN-Loss-and-Damage>.

Submissions received

As at 20 April, submissions have been received from the following Parties: Australia; Bangladesh; Canada; Chile on behalf of AILAC; Ecuador on behalf of the LMDC; France on behalf of the European Union; Indonesia; Kenya; Norway; Uganda; United States of America; Vanuatu.

¹ Paragraph 43, Decision 2/CMA.2

² Paragraph 9, Decisions 19/CMA.3 and 17/CP.26

³ Paragraph 10, Decisions 19/CMA.3 and 17/CP.26

⁴ Paragraph 67, Decision 1/CMA.3

⁵ Paragraph 10(b), Decisions 19/CMA.3 and 17/CP.26.

Submissions have also been received from the following observer organizations: Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN); Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR); World Meteorological Organization (WMO); International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); Action by Churches Together (ACT) Alliance; Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB); International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA); The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII); Oxfam International; Practical Action.

Modality

The workshop will be held in a hybrid format in accordance with the mandate.⁶

Participants

- Up to 70 representatives from Parties and observers from accredited organizations, bodies and networks;
- Of the in-person participants, approximately 35 developing country Party representatives eligible for funding under the UNFCCC will be supported to attend. A few observers from developing countries may also be supported to attend, subject to the availability of additional funding.
 - Developing country Parties to be supported will be based on:
 - Those who made submissions;
 - Representatives of regional groups;
 - Regional balance;
 - Observers to be supported will be based on:
 - Those who made relevant submissions;
 - Regional balance;
 - Those proposed by Parties.

Time and Venue

UN City, Copenhagen, Denmark, from 4 to 6 May 2022.

Proposed agenda

The technical workshop will be organized around five sessions focusing on the five elements as outlined in the call for submissions:

1. Operational modalities;
2. Structure;
3. The role of the ExCom and its expert groups;
4. The role of L&D contact points and other relevant stakeholders at the subnational, national and regional level;
5. Possible elements for the terms of reference of a potential convening or coordinating body that may provide secretarial services to facilitate work under the Santiago network.

Each session will be organized as structured around an introductory presentation from two Parties (Annex I and Non-Annex I) who will reflect on the relevant portion of their respective submissions, followed by interventions from submitting observers and an open discussion.

All submissions received by the secretariat are available online. Other inputs received will be posted on the workshop webpage on a rolling basis (*for more details see draft Agenda*).

⁶ Footnote 8 of Decisions 19/CMA.3 and 17/CP.26.

Annex: Functions of the Santiago Network

The functions of the Santiago Network, as per decision 19/CMA.3, paragraph 9, are:

(a) Contributing to the effective implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism, in line with the provisions in paragraph 7 of decision 2/CP.19 and Article 8 of the Paris Agreement, by catalysing the technical assistance of organizations, bodies, networks and experts;

(b) Catalysing demand-driven technical assistance including of relevant organizations, bodies, networks and experts, for the implementation of relevant approaches to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change by assisting in:

(i) Identifying, prioritizing and communicating technical assistance needs and priorities;

(ii) Identifying types of relevant technical assistance;

(iii) Actively connecting those seeking technical assistance with best suited organizations, bodies, networks and experts;

(iv) Accessing technical assistance available including from such organizations, bodies, networks and experts;

(c) Facilitating the consideration of a wide range of topics relevant to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage approaches, including but not limited to current and future impacts, priorities, and actions related to averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage pursuant to decisions 3/CP.18, and 2/CP.19, the areas referred to in Article 8, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement and the strategic workstreams of the five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee;

(d) Facilitating and catalysing collaboration, coordination, coherence and synergies to accelerate action by organizations, bodies, networks and experts, across communities of practices, and for them to deliver effective and efficient technical assistance to developing countries;

(e) Facilitating the development, provision and dissemination of, and access to, knowledge and information on averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage, including comprehensive risk management approaches, at the regional, national and local level;

(f) Facilitating, through catalysing technical assistance, of organizations, bodies, networks and experts, access to action and support (finance, technology and capacity building) under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement, relevant to averting, minimising and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including urgent and timely responses to the impacts of climate change.
