

## Annex IV

### **Terms of reference of the expert group on action and support of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism**

#### **I. Background**

1. The WIM was established at COP 19 to address loss and damage associated with the impacts of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change; and its Executive Committee was also established to guide implementation of the functions of the WIM.<sup>1</sup>
2. COP 20 decided that the Executive Committee may establish expert groups, subcommittees, panels, thematic advisory groups or task-focused ad hoc working groups to help execute its work in guiding implementation of the WIM, as appropriate, in an advisory role, which report to the Executive Committee.<sup>2</sup>
3. COP 22 recognized that the Executive Committee may enhance its effectiveness by prioritizing activities in thematic areas for further work.<sup>3</sup>
4. COP 23 welcomed the annual report of the Executive Committee for 2017,<sup>4</sup> which includes its five-year rolling workplan.<sup>5</sup>
5. CMA 2 noted that the Executive Committee will evaluate progress in implementing its five-year rolling workplan in 2020 and at regular intervals at subsequent meetings.<sup>6</sup>

#### **II. Mandate**

6. Following the first review of the WIM, in 2016, COP 22 recommended that the Executive Committee may consider establishing, 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 in relation to loss and damage as provided for in decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c).<sup>7</sup>
7. CMA 2 requested the Executive Committee to establish, by the end of 2020, in accordance with its procedures and mandate, an expert group,<sup>8</sup> 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 expert group on action and support will assist the Executive Committee in implementing COP and CMA decisions and its five-year rolling workplan as it relates to action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, guided by workstream (e) of the workplan, as well as in addressing new mandates related to action and support arising from guidance provided by Parties to the Executive Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 2/CP.19, paras. 1–2.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 2/CP.20, para. 8.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 4/CP.22, para. 3.

<sup>4</sup> Decision 5/CP.23, para. 1.

<sup>5</sup> FCCC/SB/2017/1/Add.1, annex.

<sup>6</sup> Decision 2/CMA.2, preamble.

<sup>7</sup> Decision 4/CP.22, para. 4(b).

<sup>8</sup> Pursuant to decision 2/CP.19, para. 5(c).

9. Recognizing the urgency of enhancing mobilization of action and support,<sup>9</sup> the expert group shall develop a focused plan of action, avoiding duplication of existing efforts, at its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, on the following:<sup>10</sup>

- (a) The activities referred to in paragraphs 37<sup>11</sup> and 39<sup>12</sup> 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 Executive Committee 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 in line with paragraph 9 above, including in producing technical guides, the expert group shall draw on relevant information from various sources, including Parties' biennial transparency reports.

## IV. Membership

11. The expert group on action and support should consist of:

- (a) Balanced numbers of Executive Committee members representing Annex I Parties and non-Annex I Parties;
- (b) Technical experts;
- (c) Representatives of relevant constituted bodies under the Convention and/or the Paris Agreement.

12. The total number of members referred to in paragraph 11(a) above shall not exceed four at any time. The total number of members referred to in paragraph 11(b–c) above will range between 10 and 18. These numbers may be reviewed and revised by the Executive Committee, as appropriate.

13. The Executive Committee members referred to in paragraph 11(a) above will identify the technical experts referred to in paragraph 11(b) above from, inter alia, the WIM roster of experts, and propose the list of potential members of the expert group, including the representatives of relevant constituted bodies referred to in paragraph 11(c) above, as appropriate, for endorsement by the Executive Committee, following which the Executive Committee Co-Chairs will liaise with the technical experts and constituted body(ies).

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<sup>9</sup> Per decision 2/CMA.2, paras. 31–34.

<sup>10</sup> Per decision 2/CMA.2, para. 41.

<sup>11</sup> Per decision 2/CMA.2, paras. 31–34.

<sup>12</sup> Decision 2/CMA.2, para. 39: Requests the Executive Committee, in collaboration with the 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 Executive Committee, consistently with paragraph 38 of this decision, and to include information thereon in its annual reports.

14. The selection of the technical experts referred to in paragraph 11(b) above will take into account the needs for expertise from multiple regions and for regional balance, and will 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 addressing issues related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change corresponding to the expert group's mandate, including in priority thematic areas of work, as determined by the Executive Committee.

15. On the recommendation of the expert group, the Executive Committee can invite additional technical experts, including those listed on the WIM roster of experts and those from relevant organizations, to contribute to specific activities of the expert group, on an ad hoc basis, as needed:

(a) Ad hoc members with the requisite expertise may be invited to contribute to specific activities in keeping with the plan of action of the expert group;

(b) To the extent possible, a regional balance among members of the group will be pursued.

16. Technical experts in the expert group will serve for two years and their terms can be renewed or the experts replaced, as needed, in accordance with the prioritized topics under strategic workstream (e) of the five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee. For members representing constituted bodies, their term in the expert group will not exceed their term in the body they represent.

## V. Mode of work and outputs

17. The modalities of work of the expert group on action and support will comprise:

(a) Electronic means, for example email, videoconferencing and teleconferencing;

(b) In-person meetings, as necessary, held back-to-back or in parallel with meetings of the Executive Committee, sessions of the subsidiary bodies or relevant external events, as far as possible, with a view to maximizing overall efficiency and effectiveness;<sup>13</sup>

(c) Engagement with organizations, bodies, experts and networks, including the Santiago network,<sup>14</sup> engaged in providing technical advice, support and assistance to developing countries, through, inter alia, electronic means; workshops, including at the national and regional level; and outreach through other organizations, as appropriate.

18. The expert group will be co-facilitated by Executive Committee members.

19. The expert group will develop a rolling plan of action at its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting<sup>15</sup> in line with the mandate and scope of work defined in chapters II–III of these terms of reference and taking into account the respective strategic workstream of the five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee. The plan of action should include specific activities with associated deliverables, indicative time frames and the names of leads and co-leads, and will be subject to endorsement by the Executive Committee before implementation.

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<sup>13</sup> Support for the participation of eligible Executive Committee members applies only to in-person meetings that the Committee has approved in advance.

<sup>14</sup> The Santiago network was established by decision 2/CMA.2, para. 43, 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 Executive Committee has been requested to include in its annual reports information from organizations, bodies, networks and experts that have reported on their progress under the Santiago network.

<sup>15</sup> The standard time frame for the rolling plans of action of the Executive Committee's expert groups is two years.

20. The plan of action may be updated, as appropriate, on the basis of advice from the Executive Committee, guided by priorities identified in its five-year rolling workplan and, if applicable, by further guidance from the Executive Committee on the thematic areas of work.

21. In developing or updating its plan of action, the expert group will take into account information from the Santiago network, as appropriate, and the plans of action of the other expert groups of the Executive Committee to enhance coherence, collaboration and synergies, where relevant.

22. The outputs of the expert group will be presented for consideration by the Executive Committee.

23. Members of the expert group, including ad hoc members, who are not Executive Committee members may not act as representatives of the Executive Committee.

24. Keeping within the mandate and scope of work defined in chapters II–III of these terms of reference, the expert group may prepare knowledge products, outputs and other deliverables. The appropriate branding and disclaimers must be applied, as appropriate, on the basis of guidance from the Executive Committee and within the broader guidelines of the UNFCCC process.

## **VI. Reporting**

25. The expert group will report to the Executive Committee on a regular basis, at the meetings of the Executive Committee and via written reports, which include, to the extent possible, detailed information on progress in implementing the plan of action of the group.

26. The Executive Committee will determine the contribution of the expert group's reports to relevant synthesis reports for the technical assessment component of the global stocktake.<sup>16</sup>

27. The progress of work of the expert group will be captured in the annual reports of the Executive Committee.

## **VII. Confidentiality and conflict of interest**

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

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<sup>16</sup> Per decision 19/CMA.1, para. 36(e).