



**Subsidiary Body for Scientific and
Technological Advice**

Forty-ninth session

Katowice, 2–8 December 2018

Agenda item 4

**Report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw
International Mechanism for Loss and Damage
associated with Climate Change Impacts**

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Forty-ninth session

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Agenda item 10

**Report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw
International Mechanism for Loss and Damage
associated with Climate Change Impacts**

**Report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw
International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated
with Climate Change Impacts**

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chairs

**Recommendation of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and
Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at their forty-ninth sessions, recommended the following draft decision for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-fourth session:

Draft decision -/CP.24

**Report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw
International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated
with Climate Change Impacts**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 3/CP.18, 2/CP.19 and 2/CP.20,

Also recalling Article 8 of the Paris Agreement,

Further recalling decision 4/CP.22, in which it recommended that a review of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts be held in 2019 and a technical paper be prepared as input, as well as that the subsidiary bodies finalize terms of reference for the review at their fiftieth sessions (June 2019),

Recalling decision 5/CP.23, in which it invited Parties, relevant organizations and other stakeholders to submit their views and inputs, by 1 February 2019, on possible elements to be included in the terms of reference for the review, for consideration by the subsidiary bodies at their sessions to be held in June 2019,

Noting the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C,¹

1. Welcomes:

(a) The annual report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts;²

(b) The progress made by the Executive Committee in implementing its five-year rolling workplan;³

(c) The report of the Task Force on Displacement⁴ and its comprehensive assessment of broader issues of displacement related to climate change in response to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 49;

(d) The report of the Suva expert dialogue,⁵ noting the role of the dialogue in informing the preparation of the technical paper referred to in decision 4/CP.22, paragraph 2(f);

2. Notes with appreciation the work undertaken by the organizations⁶ comprising the Task Force on Displacement in response to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 49;

3. Invites Parties, bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, United Nations agencies and relevant stakeholders to consider the recommendations contained in the annex when undertaking relevant work, as appropriate;

4. Welcomes the decision⁷ of the Executive Committee to extend the mandate of the Task Force on Displacement in accordance with terms of reference to be elaborated by the Executive Committee at its next meeting;

5. Encourages the Executive Committee:

(a) To seek ways to continue enhancing its responsiveness, effectiveness and performance in implementing activities in its five-year rolling workplan, particularly those under workstream (e);⁸

(b) To continue its work on human mobility under strategic workstream (d) of its five-year rolling workplan,⁹ including by considering the activities set out in paragraphs 38 and 39 of its report referred to in paragraph 1(a) above;

(c) To draw upon the work, information and expertise of bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as well as international processes, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, including when executing its work through the technical expert group on comprehensive risk management established under workstream (c) of the five-year rolling workplan;¹⁰

¹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 2018. *Global Warming of 1.5 °C: An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty*. Available at <http://ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>.

² FCCC/SB/2018/1.

³ Contained in the annex to document FCCC/SB/2017/1/Add.1.

⁴ Available at <http://unfccc.int/node/285>.

⁵ Available at <https://unfccc.int/node/182364>.

⁶ The names of the organizations comprising the Task Force on Displacement are listed in the annex.

⁷ See document FCCC/SB/2018/1, paragraph 36.

⁸ Strategic workstream (e): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

⁹ Strategic workstream (d): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to human mobility, including migration, displacement and planned relocation.

¹⁰ Strategic workstream (c): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to comprehensive risk management approaches.

- (d) To continue consideration of scientific information needs and knowledge gaps with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other scientific organizations;
- (e) To increase its consideration of groups vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change when implementing its five-year rolling workplan;
6. *Also encourages* Parties and *invites* relevant organizations to make available sufficient resources for the successful and timely implementation of the five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee, including, as applicable, the associated expert groups, subcommittees, panels, thematic advisory groups and task-focused ad hoc working groups;
7. *Expresses* its appreciation to the organizers of and participants in the Suva expert dialogue, held during the first part of the forty-eighth sessions of the subsidiary bodies under the guidance of the Executive Committee and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation;
8. *Invites* relevant organizations and other stakeholders to collaborate with the Executive Committee, including through partnerships, in developing and disseminating products that support national focal points, loss and damage contact points and other relevant entities in raising awareness of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage;
9. *Takes note* of the assistance provided by the Executive Committee to the secretariat in determining the scope of the technical paper referred to in decision 4/CP.22, paragraph 2(f);
10. *Invites* Parties:
- (a) To consider developing policies, plans and strategies, as appropriate, and to facilitate coordinated action and the monitoring of progress, where applicable, in their efforts to avert, minimize and address loss and damage;
- (b) To take into consideration future climate risks when developing and implementing their relevant national plans and strategies that seek to avert, minimize and address loss and damage and reduce disaster risks, as appropriate;
11. *Takes note* of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in this decision;
12. *Requests* that the actions of the secretariat called for in this decision be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

Annex

Recommendations from the report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts on integrated approaches to averting, minimizing and addressing displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change

1. The following recommendations of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts are based on the work of the Task Force on Displacement, established by the Executive Committee in response to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 49:

(a) Acknowledge the inputs and contributions from participants of the stakeholder consultation workshop of the Task Force on Displacement organized by the International Organization for Migration and the Platform on Disaster Displacement, and submissions from others;

(b) Take note of the report on the stakeholder consultation workshop of the Task Force on Displacement;

(c) Strengthen coordination, coherence and collaboration across relevant bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and institutional arrangements, programmes and platforms, with a view to enhancing understanding of human mobility (including migration, displacement and planned relocation), both internal and cross-border, in the context of climate change, as they undertake their work, and in collaboration with the Executive Committee;

(d) Invite bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as appropriate and in accordance with their mandates and workplans, to facilitate the efforts of countries to, inter alia, develop climate change related risk assessments and improved standards for data collection on and analyses of internal and cross-border human mobility in a manner that includes the participation of communities affected by and at risk of displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change;

(e) Invite the Adaptation Committee and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, in accordance with their mandates and workplans, and in collaboration with the Executive Committee, to assist developing country Parties in integrating approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change into relevant national planning processes, including the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, as appropriate;

(f) Invite Parties to facilitate the efforts of developing country Parties in the implementation of paragraph 2(g) below, as appropriate;

(g) Invite Parties:

(i) To consider formulating laws, policies and strategies, as appropriate, that reflect the importance of integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change and in the broader context of human mobility, taking into consideration their respective human rights obligations and, as appropriate, other relevant international standards and legal considerations;

(ii) To enhance research, data collection, risk analysis and sharing of information to better map, understand and manage human mobility related to the adverse impacts of climate change in a manner that includes the participation of communities affected and at risk of displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change;

- (iii) To strengthen preparedness, including early warning systems, contingency planning, evacuation planning and resilience-building strategies and plans, and develop innovative approaches, such as forecast-based financing,¹¹ to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change;
- (iv) To integrate climate change related human mobility challenges and opportunities into national planning processes, as appropriate, by drawing on available tools, guidance and good practices, and consider communicating these efforts undertaken, as appropriate;
- (v) To recall the guiding principles on internal displacement and seek to strengthen efforts to find durable solutions for internally displaced people when working to implement integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change, as appropriate;
- (vi) To facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people,¹² as appropriate and in accordance with national laws and policies, in the context of climate change, by considering the needs of migrants and displaced persons, communities of origin, transit and destination, and by enhancing opportunities for regular migration pathways, including through labour mobility, consistent with international labour standards, as appropriate;
- (h) Invite United Nations agencies, relevant organizations and other stakeholders, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates:
- (i) To continue supporting efforts, including finance, technology and capacity-building, of Parties and other actors, including with and for communities and local actors, in order to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change, at all levels, including the community, national, regional and international levels;
- (ii) To support and enhance regional, subregional and transboundary cooperation, in relation to averting, minimizing and addressing displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change, including for risk and vulnerability assessments, mapping, data analysis, preparedness and early warning systems;
- (iii) To continue developing and sharing good practices, tools and guidance in relation to averting, minimizing and addressing displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change, inter alia, in:
- a. Understanding risk;
 - b. Accessing support, including finance, technology and capacity-building;
 - c. Providing assistance to, and protection of, within existing national laws and international protocols and conventions, as applicable, affected individuals and communities;
 - d. Applying international legal instruments and normative frameworks, as appropriate;
- (i) Invite relevant United Nations agencies and other relevant stakeholders to provide the Executive Committee with information arising from their activities undertaken in relation to the work referred to in paragraph 1(h) above with a view to informing the work and future action of the Executive Committee and its expert groups, Parties and other stakeholders;
- (j) Invite relevant United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to engage with bodies under the Convention, especially the Executive Committee, when facilitating the efforts of States to address challenges and opportunities associated with climate change

¹¹ Forecast-based financing systems link climate and meteorological data with early warning systems and early action. They can play a supportive role in averting, minimizing and addressing impacts, including displacement, in the context of climate change.

¹² See United Nations General Assembly document A/RES/70/1.

related human mobility, including the Global Compact for Migration and the work of the international migration review forum, the United Nations Network on Migration and other relevant international frameworks and programmes of action, as appropriate, to avoid duplication on climate change aspects;

(k) Invite the Secretary-General to consider steps, including a system-wide strategic review, for greater coherence in the United Nations system to address human mobility in the context of climate change, and to facilitate the inclusion of integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change in the work of the envisaged high-level panel on internally displaced persons, as appropriate.

2. The technical members of the Task Force on Displacement are from the International Labour Organization, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Organization for Migration, the Platform on Disaster Displacement, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and civil society groups as represented by the Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility, which includes the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, the Norwegian Refugee Council, the Hugo Observatory, the Arab Network for Environment and Development, and Refugees International.
