

Written inputs in response to the invitation by the COP 26 Incoming President
22 July 2021

To: Incoming Presidency, COP26

From: International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at the Independent University Bangladesh (IUB), Dhaka, Bangladesh. Registered Observer with UNFCCC

Sub: Submission to the July ministerial as a Registered organisation with UNFCCC on the topic of Loss and Damage in COP26

Date submitted: 22nd July 2021

Dear incoming President of COP26,

I am pleased to submit this note for your consideration as you prepare for the July ministerial on 25th and 26th July 2021 in the United Kingdom.

I am writing on how to deal with the topic of Loss and Damage from human induced climate change in the upcoming COP26.

I write this note after watching over just the last few days alone on my TV screen the devastating heat dome in North America, the devastating floods in Germany, Belgium and now China. These extreme events are now quite unequivocally and with great scientific credibility now associated in their enhanced magnitude to human induced climate change which has already caused global mean temperature to rise over one Degree Centigrade above pre industrial times.

Hence I believe that we have now already entered the era of loss and damage from human induced climate change and that from now onwards everyday will see a record broken somewhere on the planet and every year will see more severe impacts than the year before.

Already we have seen Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany allocate several hundred million Euros (which is likely to rise to over a Billion Euros, perhaps even more, soon) to pay her own citizens for the loss and damage they have suffered.

While it is quite right for Chancellor Merkel to provide such funds to her own citizens for the tragic loss and damage they have suffered, it is important to recall that the vulnerable developing countries have been asking for similar finance for them to deal with the loss and damage that goes beyond both adaptation as well as insurance.

I would therefore like to ask the incoming COP26 Presidency to kindly take note of this longstanding demand from the many different groups of vulnerable developing countries in the UNFCCC process and ensure that this issue is adequately dealt with in COP26 in November.

I will end with the three key demands on this issue that have already been articulated by many parties and groups:

1. The decision agreed at COP25 to set up the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage (SNLD) needs to be developed as a functional and effective entity (more than just another website!) Under the aegis of the UNFCCC, and not outside it.
2. Funding for loss and damage in addition to Adaptation and insurance needs to be seriously explored under a paradigm of global solidarity (without invoking liability or claiming compensation) .

Written inputs in response to the invitation by the COP 26 Incoming President
22 July 2021

3. Loss and Damage should be made a standing agenda item for COP26 as well as future COPs going forward. This request has already been submitted by several parties to the UNFCCC Secretariat and I hope that the incoming COP26 Presidency will not oppose it for inclusion in the COP26 agenda.

Finally let me also request you to consider appointing a Loss and Damage Envoy in the COP26 Presidency team with whom these discussions can take place before the COP starts in November 2021.

I look forward to your hosting a successful July ministerial meeting in the UK and then to a successful COP26 in November.

With best regards
Saleem

Dr Saleemul Huq
Director
International Centre for Climate Change and Development
Independent University Bangladesh
Bashundhara
Dhaka
Bangladesh
Website: www.icccad.net
Phone number: + 88 177 975 4662