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**Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with
Climate Change Impacts**

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Forty-first session

Lima, 1–8 December 2014

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

**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*

Summary

This report contains information on the work of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, including its initial meeting, held from 25 to 28 March 2014 and on 17 and 18 September 2014 in Bonn, Germany. It also contains a list of nominated interim members of the Executive Committee and the initial two-year workplan for the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism.

* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the timing of the meeting of the Executive Committee.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its nineteenth session, established the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts,¹ which is to function under the guidance of, and be accountable to, the COP, to guide the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism.²

2. The COP requested the Executive Committee:

(a) To report annually to the COP through the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and make recommendations, as appropriate;³

(b) To develop its initial two-year workplan for the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism, taking into account the issues outlined in decision 3/CP.18, paragraphs 6 and 7, for consideration at SBSTA 41 and SBI 41.⁴

B. Scope of the note

3. This report contains information on the work of the Executive Committee in 2014, including its initial meeting, held from 25 to 28 March 2014 and on 17 and 18 September 2014 in Bonn, Germany. It also contains a list of nominated interim members of the Executive Committee, as well as its initial two-year workplan.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

4. The SBSTA and the SBI may wish to consider the initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee, as contained in annex II, and make recommendations to the COP for further action, as appropriate. The Executive Committee recommends that the COP endorse the workplan as contained in annex II.

II. Organizational matters: nomination of interim members of the Executive Committee

5. The COP, by decision 2/CP.19, decided that, as an interim measure, the Executive Committee would consist of two representatives from each of the following bodies under the Convention, ensuring that there is a balanced representation between developed and developing country Parties:

(a) The Adaptation Committee;

¹ Decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 2.

² The functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism are set out in decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5.

³ Decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 3.

⁴ Decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 9.

- (b) The Least Developed Countries Expert Group;
 - (c) The Standing Committee on Finance;
 - (d) The Technology Executive Committee;
 - (e) The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.
6. The secretariat received the nominations from the chair and vice-chair, or co-chairs, of these constituted bodies. A list of the nominated members is contained in annex I.

III. Work of the Executive Committee in 2014

A. Initial meeting of the Executive Committee

7. In accordance with decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 8, the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the President of the COP, convened the initial meeting of the Executive Committee. The first part of the meeting was held from 25 to 28 March 2014 in Bonn, and was co-facilitated by two members of the Executive Committee, Mr. Thiago de Araujo Mendes and Mr. Matti Nummelin. In addition to the 10 interim members of the Executive Committee, the meeting was attended by 47 observers from Parties and relevant organizations and stakeholders engaged in work related to addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts.⁵

8. During the first part of the meeting, the Executive Committee reviewed the relevant mandates and workplans of the five constituted bodies mentioned in paragraph 5(a–e) above, discussed strategies for completing the task entrusted to them by the COP and initiated their considerations on the initial two-year workplan. The discussion took place in plenary meetings and breakout groups where the observers actively participated in the discussions.

9. The first part of the meeting resulted in the clustering of a diverse range of elements into possible action areas together with specific activities. Recognizing the need for further deliberations in order to conclude the work, the Executive Committee suspended the meeting on 28 March with a view to it being resumed at a later date.⁶

10. The meeting was resumed on 17 September and was attended by 21 observers. A webcast of the meeting was also available. In addition, in order to facilitate consultations with a broad range of observers, provision was made to enable off-site observers to post comments online for the duration of the consultations of the Executive Committee with the observers present at the meeting.

11. The second part of the meeting was opened by the Executive Committee introducing the draft initial two-year workplan for further consultations with the observers with the objective of finalizing the workplan. In addition to the verbal inputs from the observers present at the meeting, the Executive Committee received 25 sets of comments electronically. The resumed meeting concluded on 18 September with all the interim members of the Executive Committee adopting the revised final version of the workplan.

⁵ For the details of the initial meeting, see <unfccc.int/8107>.

⁶ For further details of the proceedings and outcomes of the discussions at the first part of the initial meeting, see the co-facilitators' notes at <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/co-facilitators_note_3_june.pdf>.

12. The Executive Committee reiterated its appreciation for the active engagement of the observers, and expressed its confidence in their continued support in the implementation of the workplan in the future.

B. Work of the Executive Committee between the first and second parts of its initial meeting

13. In order to ensure transparency of the process of developing its initial two-year workplan, the Executive Committee held an information event on 12 June 2014 on the margins of the fortieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies. During the event, the Executive Committee provided an update on its work to date, and called for additional inputs to the draft initial two-year workplan as part of the process of fulfilling its mandate.⁷

14. In response, the Executive Committee received 17 sets of such inputs, totalling over 150 proposals for activities.⁸ The Executive Committee analysed these inputs with a view to consolidating them with the outcomes of the first part of the initial meeting. The Executive Committee continued its work through electronic means, including teleconferencing. In addition, some of the members, including the co-facilitators, met on 16 September to prepare for resuming the meeting on 17 September.

C. Initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee

15. In accordance with decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 9, the Executive Committee has developed its initial two-year workplan for the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism, taking into account the issues outlined in decision 3/CP.18, paragraphs 6 and 7, for consideration at SBSTA 41 and SBI 41. The workplan, as agreed by the Executive Committee, is contained in annex II.

⁷ For the details of the call for inputs, see <<http://unfccc.int/8410>>.

⁸ For the details of the inputs received, see <<http://unfccc.int/8422>>.

Annex I

Interim members of the Executive Committee

Mr. Thiago de Araujo Mendes (nominated by the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention)

Mr. Georg Børsting¹ (nominated by the Standing Committee on Finance)

Ms. Christina Chan (nominated by the Adaptation Committee)

Mr. Juan Hoffmaister (nominated by the Adaptation Committee)

Ms. Hilary Hove (nominated by the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention)

Mr. Krzysztof Klincewicz (nominated by the Technology Executive Committee)

Ms. Pepetua E. Latasi (nominated by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group)

Mr. Matti Nummelin (nominated by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group)

Mr. Moses Jura Omedi (nominated by the Technology Executive Committee)

Mr. Paul Herbert Oquist Kelley (nominated by the Standing Committee on Finance)

Ms. Willemijn Verdegaal² (nominated by the Standing Committee on Finance)

¹ Nominated by the Standing Committee on Finance on 21 June 2014 to replace Ms. Willemijn Verdegaal, who resigned on 6 May 2014.

² Resigned on 6 May 2014.

Annex II

Initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts in accordance with decisions 3/CP.18 and 2/CP.19

Action area 1: Enhance the understanding of how loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change affect particularly vulnerable developing countries, segments of the population that are already vulnerable owing to geography, socioeconomic status, livelihoods, gender, age, indigenous or minority status or disability, and the ecosystems that they depend on, and of how the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage can benefit them

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Invite the Adaptation Committee, the LEG, and other relevant constituted bodies under the Convention to consider making efforts to reduce and avert losses and damages among particularly vulnerable developing countries, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems that they depend on, as these bodies undertake their work, and to share the outcomes with the Executive Committee	July–Dec. 2015	Consideration of particularly vulnerable developing countries, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems that they depend on becomes a cross-cutting topic, and becomes integrated across the relevant work under the Convention
(b) Develop recommendations for actions and next steps, including consideration throughout the implementation of this workplan of how loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change affects particularly vulnerable developing countries, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems that they depend on, and how approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change can be designed and implemented to benefit these populations	Jan.–June 2016	Recommendations for actions and next steps considered for the report of the Executive Committee to the COP Consideration of particularly vulnerable developing countries, vulnerable populations and the ecosystems that they depend on becomes a cross-cutting topic, and becomes integrated across this workplan

Action area 2: Enhance the understanding of, and promote, comprehensive risk management approaches (assessment, reduction, transfer, retention), including social protection instruments and transformational approaches, in building long-term resilience of countries, vulnerable populations and communities

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Identify tools, technologies, good practices and lessons learned, including with respect to policies and data standards, instruments such as insurance and social protection, and transformational approaches, to facilitate comprehensive risk management	July–Dec. 2015	Identification of good practices and lessons learned
(b) Identify gaps and identify or develop methodologies to be used by national governments to enhance knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches, including issues related to finance, data, technology, regulatory environments and capacity-building, which may feed into NAPs and other relevant processes, as appropriate	July–Dec. 2015	Identification and/or development of methodologies to enhance knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches in order to inform planning and implementation
(c) Engage United Nations agencies, multilateral financial institutions, bilateral channels and the private sector to identify how to enhance the implementation of comprehensive risk management approaches related to addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change	Jan.–June 2016	Enhanced understanding of how comprehensive risk management can contribute to transformational approaches
(d) Establish a technical expert panel or group, extending invitations to relevant bodies under the Convention and relevant United Nations organizations, the private sector, expert bodies and relevant initiatives that could provide technical support and guidance on comprehensive risk management and transformational approaches (which could include issues related to action areas 5 and 7 of this workplan)	When appropriate	Development and approval by the Executive Committee of terms of reference Establishment of an expert panel or group to provide technical support and guidance
(e) Identify follow-up actions, as appropriate	When appropriate	Identification of appropriate follow-up actions

Action area 3: Enhance data on and knowledge of the risks of slow onset events and their impacts, and identify ways forward on approaches to address slow onset events associated with the adverse effects of climate change with specific focus on potential impacts, within countries and regions

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Take stock of organizations that are working on slow onset events and the scope of their current efforts	Jan.–June 2015	Mapping of organizations and their efforts carried out
(b) Foster the establishment or strengthening of collaborative channels, building from existing efforts, to strengthen dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies to enhance, share and manage knowledge and understanding of slow onset events and approaches to address them	July–Dec. 2015	Collaborative channels for collecting and sharing relevant information established or strengthened
(c) Invite relevant organizations and experts to collaborate with the Executive Committee to facilitate access to information, including through collaborative channels or databases, and technologies to track the impacts, and enable approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including slow onset events	When appropriate	Collaboration on access to information enhanced
(d) Assess and develop recommendations to improve the state of knowledge to understand, and capacity to address, slow onset events and their impacts, including the capacity of regional agencies	When appropriate	State of knowledge and capacity assessed Recommendations, taking into account regional dimensions, developed
(e) Identify follow-up actions, as appropriate	When appropriate	Identification of follow-up actions

Action area 4: Enhance data on and knowledge of non-economic losses associated with the adverse effects of climate change and identify ways forward for reducing the risk of and addressing non-economic losses with specific focus on potential impacts within regions

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Raise awareness of the nature and extent of non-economic losses and of how to integrate measures to reduce the risk of non-economic losses in comprehensive approaches to addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change	July–Dec. 2015	Wider dissemination of information related to non-economic losses

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(b) Establish an expert group to develop inputs and recommendations to enhance data on and knowledge of reducing the risk of and addressing non-economic losses, including how to factor these into the planning and elaboration of measures to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change	July–Dec. 2015 When appropriate	Development and approval by the Executive Committee of the terms of reference for the expert group Development of inputs and recommendation
<i>Action area 5: Enhance the understanding of the capacity and coordination needs with regard to preparing for, responding to and building resilience against loss and damage associated with extreme and slow onset events, including through recovery and rehabilitation</i>		
<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Invite relevant national disaster risk management and international humanitarian organizations and their partners, taking into account extreme and slow onset events and with a view toward comprehensive climate risk management:	Jan.–June 2015	Information provided by relevant national disaster risk management and international humanitarian organizations and their partners is documented and disseminated
i. To develop and conduct country-specific analyses of climate risk and associated loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in different sectors;		
ii. To identify institutional requirements to prevent, minimize or otherwise manage loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change		
(b) Invite relevant organizations at all levels to collaborate with the Executive Committee to assess, including through the use of existing relevant data and knowledge, the capacity of humanitarian and disaster risk management systems for:	Jan.–June 2015	Assessment of the capacity of humanitarian and disaster risk management systems documented
i. Emergency preparedness and response;		
ii. Taking anticipatory action to reduce risks;		
iii. Explicitly increasing resilience during post climate-related disaster recovery, rebuilding and rehabilitation		

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(c) Invite relevant institutions to collaborate with the Executive Committee to prepare a paper for activity 5(d) below, based on activities 5(a) and (b) above, including on methods for scenario analysis and stress testing, which can illustrate the potential challenges and requirements for preparedness and response, as well as resilience building	Jan.–June 2016	Information made available to Parties and relevant Convention bodies and others, at events such as the World Humanitarian Summit, with a view to incorporating it, as appropriate, into NAPs and other relevant processes Improved application of this knowledge in national planning processes, including supporting the development of improved analysis and planning frameworks
(d) Consult with experts to review the paper mentioned in activity 5(c) above, consolidate experiences and lessons learned, and identify priority areas for increasing capacity and investment	Continuous	Review of results, consolidation of experiences and lessons learned, and identification of priority areas and recommendations

Action area 6: Enhance the understanding of and expertise on how the impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of migration, displacement and human mobility; and the application of such understanding and expertise

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Invite relevant organizations and experts to provide scientific information on projected migration and displacement based on projected climate and non-climate related impacts in vulnerable populations	Jan.–June 2015	Enhanced understanding, based on sound science, of migration and displacement, including of characteristics of vulnerable populations that may become mobile owing to factors related to climate change impacts Enhanced understanding and collaboration Synthesized information made available on the relevant information, lessons learned and good practices from the activities of organizations and experts
(b) Invite United Nations organizations, expert bodies and relevant initiatives to collaborate with the Executive Committee to distil relevant information, lessons learned and good practices from their activities	Jan.–June 2016	
(c) Identify follow-up actions, as appropriate	July–Dec. 2016	Identification of follow-up actions

Action area 7: Encourage comprehensive risk management by the diffusion of information related to financial instruments and tools that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change to facilitate finance in loss and damage situations in accordance with the policies of each developing country and region, taking into account the necessary national efforts to establish enabling environments. These financial instruments and tools may include: comprehensive risk management capacity with risk pooling and transfer; catastrophe risk insurance; contingency finance; climate-themed bonds and their certification; catastrophe bonds; and financing approaches to making development climate resilient, among other innovative financial instruments and tools^b

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Encourage public bilateral and multilateral institutions and funds and private investors to incorporate climate risk and resilience into development projects and into investment criteria and decisions	Jan.–June 2015	Improved understanding by public bilateral and multilateral institutions and funds, private financial institutions and developed and developing countries on the range of financial instruments and tools to enhance action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change
(b) Encourage, promote and coordinate with research and development processes on financial instruments and tools that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change	Jan.–June 2016	
(c) Invite the SCF, in its next biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, to include information on financial instruments that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change	Jan.–June 2016	
(d) Invite Parties and relevant organizations to provide information on best practices, challenges and lessons learned from existing financial instruments at all levels that address the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change	July–Dec. 2015	
(e) Facilitate diffusion of comprehensive information through a section of the UNFCCC website, reports of the Executive Committee to the COP, side event(s) and an invitation to the SCF to dedicate its 2016 Forum to financial instruments that address the risks of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change	Continuous	

Action area 8: Complement, draw upon the work of and involve, as appropriate, existing bodies and expert groups under the Convention, as well as relevant organizations and expert bodies outside the Convention at all levels, as the Executive Committee executes the above-mentioned elements of the workplan

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Indicative timeline^a</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
(a) Analyse relevant mandates and workplans such as those of the Adaptation Committee, the NWP, the CGE, the TEC, the LEG and the SCF with a view to identifying linkages and areas for dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergy	July–Dec. 2015	An analysis of mandates and workplans of relevant Convention bodies Identification of entry points for dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies
(b) Identify and establish appropriate channels and modalities to foster relevant partnerships, dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergy with the public and private sectors at the international, regional and national levels	July–Dec. 2016	Relationships developed at multiple levels
(c) Consider the establishment of expert groups, panels, etc., to execute the work of the Executive Committee, as appropriate	Continuous	Development and approval by the Executive Committee of the terms of reference of expert groups Expert groups, panels, etc., established as appropriate

Action area 9: Develop a five-year rolling workplan for consideration at COP 22 building on the results of this two-year workplan to continue guiding the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism

Abbreviations: CGE = Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, LEG = Least Developed Countries Expert Group, NAP = national adaptation plan, NWP = Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, SCF = Standing Committee on Finance, TEC = Technology Executive Committee.

^a Timeline included in this workplan is tentative and is intended to serve as a basis for scheduling meetings and the overall work of the Executive Committee.

^b Specific examples of relevant institutions and instruments include, but are not limited to: the African Risk Capacity Insurance Company Limited (<<http://www.africanriskcapacity.com/>>); the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (<<http://www.ccrif.org/>>); the Inter-American Development Bank Contingency Loans; (<<http://www.iadb.org/en/topics/natural-disasters/idb-helps-latin-america-to-develop-natural-disaster-insurance%2C2719.html>>); the European Union Solidarity Fund (<http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/the_funds/solidarity/index_en.cfm>); the Climate Bonds Initiative (<<http://www.climatebonds.net/>>); the Green Bond Principles (<<http://www.ceres.org/resources/reports/green-bond-principles-2014-voluntary-process-guidelines-for-issuing-green-bonds>>); Mexico's National Disaster Fund (<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTDISASTER/Resources/8308420-1357776325692/FONDEN_final_FCMNB.pdf>); the special theme of climate change of the seventeenth replenishment of the International Development Association (<<http://www.worldbank.org/ida/ida-17-replenishment.html>>); the Pacific Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Program (<<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTFINANCIALSECTOR/EXTDISASTER/0%2C%2CcontentMDK:23093927~menuPK:8707838~pagePK:64168445~piPK:64168309~theSitePK:8308421,00.html>>); the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (<<https://www.gfdr.org/>>).