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

Subsidiary Body for Implementation Fifty-seventh session

Sharm el-Sheikh, 6–12 November 2022 Item 15 of the provisional agenda

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Summary

This report covers the work of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts between November 2021 and July 2022. It contains information on organizational and procedural matters, including on meetings and events.

Abbreviations and acronyms

Annex I Party Party included in Annex I to the Convention

CMA Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris

Agreement

COP Conference of the Parties

ExCom meeting of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International

Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

GCF Green Climate Fund

non-Annex I Party Party not included in Annex I to the Convention

SB sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SBI Subsidiary Body for Implementation

TEG-CRM* technical expert group on comprehensive risk management

TFD* task force on displacement

WIM Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with

Climate Change Impacts

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^{*} Used only in the annex.

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

- 1. COP 19 established the WIM 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 established the Executive Committee to guide implementation of the functions of the WIM. Article 8, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement provides that the WIM shall be subject to the authority and guidance of the CMA.
- 2. COP 19 requested the WIM Executive Committee to report annually to the COP through the subsidiary bodies and to make recommendations, as appropriate.²
- 3. CMA 2 requested the Executive Committee to include in its annual reports information from organizations, bodies, networks and experts that have reported on their progress in providing technical assistance to developing countries under the Santiago network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, which was established as part of the WIM.³

B. Scope of the report

- 4. This report contains information on organizational and procedural matters, including on meetings and events, relating to the Executive Committee and its thematic expert groups (three expert groups, a technical expert group and a task force) and the progress of work of the Executive Committee between November 2021 and July 2022.
- 5. Two addenda will follow: one containing a synthesis of information provided by organizations, bodies, networks and experts on progress in providing technical assistance to developing countries under the Santiago network; and the other containing substantive information on the progress of work of the Executive Committee, including through the activities of its thematic expert groups, between November 2021 and September 2022, including the outcomes of ExCom 17, scheduled to take place in September 2022.⁴

C. Possible action by the subsidiary bodies

6. The subsidiary bodies may wish to consider the information contained in this report and its addenda and to recommend draft conclusions or draft decisions on the basis of the work of the Executive Committee for consideration and adoption by the appropriate body or bodies.⁵

II. Organizational and procedural matters

A. Meetings and events

7. The Executive Committee convened its 15th meeting⁶ from 5 to 8 April 2022 and its 16th meeting from 6 to 8 July 2022.⁷ The hybrid-format meetings were webcast live and

¹ Decision 2/CP.19, paras. 1–2.

² Decision 2/CP.19, para. 3.

³ Decision 2/CMA.2, paras. 43–45.

⁴ FCCC/SB/2022/2/Add.1-2.

Nothing in this report, including its issuance, prejudices Parties' views or prejudges outcomes on matters related to the governance of the WIM.

⁶ See https://unfccc.int/event/15th-WIM-ExCom.

⁷ See https://unfccc.int/event/WIMexcom16.

attended by observers, including representatives of Parties and observer organizations. Recordings of the plenary proceedings and meeting documents are available on the meeting web pages. The five thematic expert groups of the Executive Committee each held one meeting during the reporting period.⁸

- 8. The Executive Committee held side events at COP 26⁹ and SB 56,¹⁰ as well as an information event¹¹ on 14 December 2021, as part of preparing its input for the technical assessment component of the first global stocktake under the Paris Agreement. In addition, it co-organized an information event, held on 3 June 2022, on the synthesis reports prepared by the adaptation-related UNFCCC constituted bodies for the stocktake.¹²
- 9. Furthermore, the Executive Committee contributed to a technical workshop on the institutional arrangements of the Santiago network, ¹³ held from 4 to 6 May 2022, and the 1st Glasgow Dialogue, ¹⁴ held on 7, 8 and 11 June 2022 in conjunction with SB 56 (see chap. III.C below).
- 10. The Executive Committee plans to hold its 17th meeting from 19 to 23 September 2022 and its annual outreach event in the second half of 2022, which ExCom 15 decided will target loss and damage contact points and UNFCCC national focal points under the theme of achievements and challenges in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage on the ground.

B. Chairing and membership

- 11. ExCom 15 elected Jerome Ilagan (Philippines) and Frode Neergaard (Denmark) as Co-Chairs of the Executive Committee to serve for a term of one year. A list of the members of the Committee, indicating their terms of office, is available on the UNFCCC website. 15
- 12. Four Executive Committee members two from Annex I Parties and two from non-Annex I Parties represent the Committee in each of its five thematic expert groups. The annex contains a list of the Committee members with information on their engagement in the thematic expert groups as at 8 July 2022.

C. Integration of gender considerations

- 13. COP 22 requested the constituted bodies to include in their regular reports information on progress towards integrating a gender perspective into their respective processes.¹⁶
- 14. Of the 11 members of the Executive Committee elected at COP 26, 6 are women, resulting in gender-balanced membership of the Committee.
- 15. In implementing its current five-year rolling workplan, one of the cross-cutting considerations of the Executive Committee is vulnerability, including segments of the population that are already vulnerable to the impacts of climate change owing to, for example, gender.¹⁷
- 16. The Executive Committee is aiming to finalize development of its next five-year rolling workplan, for 2023–2027, at ExCom 17. Gender has already been identified as a cross-cutting consideration in updating and implementing the workplan.

Further details of the meetings are available at https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/loss-and-damage/workshop-and-meetings.

⁹ See <u>https://unfccc.int/event/progress-WIM-loss-damage</u>.

See https://unfccc.int/event/WIM-ExCom-Side-Event-SB56-Science-Policy-and-Practice-to-Address-Loss-and-Damage.

¹¹ See https://unfccc.int/event/WIMExcom-inputs-GST.

¹² See https://unfccc.int/event/information_event_synthesis-reports Adaptation-related-CBs.

¹³ See https://unfccc.int/event/tech-workshop-SN-Loss-and-Damage.

¹⁴ See https://unfccc.int/event/glasgow-dialogue.

¹⁵ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/2022 Membership chart 18.pdf#page=3.

¹⁶ Decision 21/CP.22, para. 14.

¹⁷ See document FCCC/SB/2017/1/Add.1, annex, para. 2(b).

17. In addition, the Executive Committee considered the goal of gender balance in selecting speakers for the events that it (co-)organized during the reporting period.

D. Organizational matters relating to the thematic expert groups

- 18. The five thematic expert groups of the Executive Committee assist it in guiding implementation of the WIM, as appropriate, in an advisory role, under the five strategic workstreams of the Committee's five-year rolling workplan, and they report to the Committee.¹⁸
- 19. As at 1 August 2022, 64 technical experts were engaged as members of the thematic expert groups, comprising individual experts and representatives of the constituted bodies and external organizations, many of which are accredited observers in the UNFCCC process (see table 1).

Table 1
Observer engagement in the thematic expert groups of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism

Expert groups	United Nations and intergovernmental organizations	Accredited non-governmental organizations	Non-accredited external entities	Individual experts and UNFCCC constituted bodies
Expert group on slow onset events	2	1	4	-
Expert group on non- economic losses	6	3	2	3
Technical expert group on comprehensive risk management	6	6	4	2
Task force on displacement	6	2	_	2
Expert group on action and support	3	2	5	5

- 20. The task force on displacement and the technical expert group on comprehensive risk management reported at ExCom 15 that they were nearing completion of the implementation of their current plans of action. In response, the Executive Committee provided guidance to them on developing new plans of action that frame their work for the next two years (2022–2024), including responding to a standing mandate from COP 25 for the thematic expert groups to develop technical guides within their work on their respective thematic areas.¹⁹
- 21. Accordingly, the two thematic expert groups held meetings on 4 July 2022 in conjunction with ExCom 16 to develop plans of action for 2022–2024.

III. Progress of work of the Executive Committee

A. Coherence and linkages under the UNFCCC

22. The Executive Committee engages representatives of the constituted bodies as members of its thematic expert groups (see table 2), which increases their accessibility of information on loss and damage, and facilitates coherence of action and support under the UNFCCC relevant to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts.

¹⁸ Decision 2/CP.20, para. 8.

¹⁹ Decision 2/CMA.2, para. 26.

Table 2
Constituted bodies represented in the thematic expert groups of the Executive
Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism

Constituted body	Thematic expert group(s)		
Adaptation Committee	Task force on displacement and expert group on non-economic losses		
Climate Technology Centre and Network	Expert group on action and support		
Facilitative Working Group	Expert group on non-economic losses		
Least Developed Countries Expert Group	Task force on displacement and expert group on non-economic losses		
Paris Committee on Capacity-building	Expert group on action and support		
Standing Committee on Finance	Expert group on action and support		
Technology Executive Committee	Expert group on action and support		

- 23. In the context of the plan of action of the expert group on non-economic losses, the representative of the Adaptation Committee in the group co-coordinates an activity that focuses on fostering existing and/or building new partnerships and otherwise cooperating with stakeholders engaged in work on non-economic losses.
- 24. In addition to the engagement of a representative of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform in the expert group on non-economic losses, the Executive Committee jointly considered with a representative of the Facilitative Working Group at ExCom 15 how to draw on the knowledge, practices and perspectives of indigenous peoples and local communities in updating the Committee's five-year rolling workplan.
- 25. Furthermore, the Executive Committee explored the potential for collaboration with the Consultative Group of Experts by inviting the Chair of the latter to provide at ExCom 15 information on the work of the Group relevant to the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement as it relates to loss and damage. Thereafter, the Executive Committee sent a formal letter to the Chair confirming the plan discussed at ExCom 15 for a joint meeting to further explore means of collaboration, including types of information sharing between the two bodies. Further, the Committee nominated two of its members to serve as the points of contact between the bodies.
- 26. The Executive Committee has been considering how to strengthen collaboration with the GCF and the Global Environment Facility in response to the encouragement to commence, continue and/or explore potential ways to enhance, as appropriate, collaboration with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to inform the work of the Committee and its expert group on action and support.²⁰
- 27. The Executive Committee invited a representative of the GCF secretariat to attend ExCom 15 in order to jointly explore the specificities of future collaboration. Ideas discussed were primarily at the programmatic level; for example, how matters related to training, guidance and knowledge-sharing on averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage related to the GCF results management framework could be addressed by the thematic expert groups of the Committee. The Executive Committee plans to invite a representative of the Global Environment Facility to attend ExCom 17 in order to initiate a dialogue and learn about its funding activities related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.
- 28. In addition, ExCom 16 decided²¹ to compile and submit via the submission portal,²² by 14 August 2022, information on technical products prepared under the WIM, which

 $^{^{20}\,}$ Decision 19/CMA.3, para. 12(b), endorsed in decision 17/CP.26, para. 1.

²¹ In response to decision 9/CMA.3, para. 17.

^{22 &}lt;u>https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx.</u>

Parties may find useful as they prepare for the deliberations on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance.

B. Contribution to the technical assessment component of the first global stocktake

- 29. The Executive Committee began considering its role in and contribution to the global stocktake at ExCom 11, adopted the annotated table of contents for its draft synthesis report at ExCom 14 and endorsed its synthesis report²³ at ExCom 15.²⁴
- 30. As part of preparing its synthesis report, the Executive Committee held an outreach event in December 2021 with more than 100 participants, including representatives of other constituted bodies, Parties and non-Party stakeholders. The event enabled the Committee to share information on its work in preparing its input to the global stocktake, facilitated identification and coordination of synergies across the contributions of the constituted bodies and provided opportunities for Parties and non-Party stakeholders to share reflections on their efforts to avert, minimize and address loss and damage, including lessons learned and remaining gaps.
- 31. The Executive Committee's synthesis report outlines the strategic approaches and key results for each of its workstreams in terms of contribution to the implementation of the functions of the WIM. It contains information on good practices, lessons learned from its work, challenges that may have hindered effective implementation of the functions of the WIM, as well as corresponding opportunities, including major areas of upcoming work, which may address some of the challenges identified.
- 32. In this regard, the synthesis report provides comprehensive information on collective efforts related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change and showcases the progress of work under the WIM, thereby contributing from this perspective to the information basis for the technical assessment component of the global stocktake.

C. Mandates from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its third session

1. Santiago network

- 33. With a view to further developing the institutional arrangements of the Santiago network, CMA 3 requested the secretariat to organize a technical workshop, to be held prior to SB 56, under the guidance of the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies and with inputs from the Executive Committee.²⁵ The hybrid workshop took place from 4 to 6 May 2022 in Copenhagen.²⁶
- 34. ExCom 15 began preparing those inputs and a set of questions²⁷ was made available on 28 April 2022 to guide the discussions at the workshop with a view to facilitating timely operationalization of the Santiago network.

2. Glasgow Dialogue

35. CMA 3 decided to establish the Glasgow Dialogue between Parties, organizations and stakeholders to discuss the arrangements for the funding of activities to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with the adverse impacts of climate change, to take place each year at the first session of the SBI until it is concluded at SBI 60 (June 2024), and

²³ Available https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ExCom_SR_GST_cleared.pdf.

²⁴ In response to decision 19/CMA.1, para. 24.

²⁵ Decision 19/CMA.3, para. 10(b), endorsed in decision 17/CP.26, para. 1.

Details of the event can be found at https://unfccc.int/event/tech-workshop-SN-Loss-and-Damage.

²⁷ The guiding questions are available at https://unfccc.int/event/tech-workshop-SN-Loss-and-Damage.

requested the SBI to organize the Glasgow Dialogue in cooperation with the Executive Committee.²⁸

- 36. The Executive Committee invited the Chair of the SBI, at and after ExCom 15, to discuss how the Committee could cooperate effectively in organizing the 1st Dialogue, which took place at SBI 56.
- 37. The Executive Committee submitted to the SBI Chair five guiding questions to facilitate the discussions at the 1st Dialogue,²⁹ which were fully reflected in the agenda. In addition, the Committee proposed speakers for the scene-setting sessions, and its Co-Chairs provided opening remarks at the 1st Dialogue.

²⁸ Decision 1/CMA.3, paras. 73–74.

²⁹ The guiding questions are on p.2 of the concept note available at https://unfccc.int/event/glasgow-dialogue.

Annex

Members of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism and their engagement in its thematic expert groups, as at 8 July 2022

[English only]

Member	Group	Party	Thematic expert group(s)
Mohammed Hafijul Islam Khan	Non-Annex I Parties	Bangladesh	Action and support
Le-Anne Roper	Non-Annex I Parties/Latin America and Caribbean States	Jamaica	Action and support/TEG-CRM
Gemma Tanner	Annex I Parties	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Action and support/non-economic losses
Sierra Woodruff	Annex I Parties	United States of America	Action and support
Stella Brozek-Everaert	Annex I Parties	European Union	Non-economic losses
Jerome Ilagan	Non-Annex I Parties	Philippines	Non-economic losses
Angela Rivera	Non-Annex I Parties	Colombia	Non-economic losses
Penehuro Lefale	Annex I Parties	New Zealand	Slow onset events
Frode Neergaard	Annex I Parties	Denmark	Slow onset events
Camila Rodriguez	Non-Annex I Parties	Dominican Republic	Slow onset events
Faisal Al Swied	Non-Annex I Parties	Saudi Arabia	Slow onset events
Nedal Katbeh-Bader	Non-Annex I Parties	State of Palestine	TEG-CRM
Alfonso Pino	Annex I Parties	Spain	TEG-CRM
Viktoriia Shtets	Annex I Parties	Ukraine	TEG-CRM
Maude Dufort-Labbe	Annex I Parties	Canada	TFD
Igor Tola Kogadou	Non-Annex I Parties	Central African Republic	TFD
Kajsa Fernström Nåtby	Annex I Parties	Sweden	TFD
Sumaya Zakieldeen	Non-Annex I Parties/African States	Sudan	TFD
Muhammad Imran Khan	Non-Annex I Parties/Asia-Pacific States	Pakistan	_
Evgeny Sokolov	Annex I Parties	Russian Federation	_

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