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Fifty-ninth session

United Arab Emirates, 30 November to 6 December 2023

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

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 October 2022 and August 2023. It contains information on organizational and procedural matters, including meetings and events.



Abbreviations and acronyms

AC	Adaptation Committee
Annex I Party	Party included in Annex I to the Convention
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network
ExCom	meeting of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts
FWG	Facilitative Working Group
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
non-Annex I Party	Party not included in Annex I to the Convention
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity-building
SB	sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
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

* Used only in tables and figures.

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 the implementation of the functions of the WIM.¹ 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 on 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 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 on the progress of work of the Executive Committee between October 2022 and August 2023.

5. Two addenda will follow: one synthesizing information from 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 October 2022 and September 2023, including the outcomes of ExCom 19, scheduled to take place in September 2023.⁴

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

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/2023/4/Add.1–2.

⁵ Nothing in this report, including its issuance, prejudices Parties' views or prejudices outcomes on matters related to the governance of the WIM.

II. Organizational and procedural matters

A. Meetings and events

7. ExCom 18 was convened from 28 February to 3 March 2023. The hybrid meeting was webcast live and attended by observers, including representatives of Parties and observer organizations.⁶

8. Four of the five thematic expert groups of the Executive Committee held a total of seven meetings during the reporting period:⁷

(a) The expert group on action and support held its 4th meeting on 24 March 2023;

(b) The expert group on non-economic losses held its 3rd meeting on 20 April 2023;

(c) The expert group on slow onset events held its 3rd, 4th and 5th meetings on 4 May, 10 July and 31 July 2023 respectively;

(d) The task force on displacement held its 7th and 8th meetings on 6 October 2022 and 2 February 2023 respectively.

9. The Executive Committee held a side event on its next phase, “moving from policy guidance to solutions on the ground”, at COP 27⁸ and its annual outreach event on 16 December 2022⁹ to present its five-year rolling workplan for 2023–2027¹⁰ and the latest plans of action of the technical expert group on comprehensive risk management and the task force on displacement and to showcase how the Committee is catalysing support for action at the national, subnational and local level.

10. In addition, the Executive Committee held a side event at SB 58¹¹ to launch a call for entries for a photography exhibition on the theme of “Loss and damage in focus: 10 years of the Warsaw International Mechanism”, which will take place at COP 28 within the framework of an activity in the Committee’s workplan. The Committee is planning to focus on the same theme for its annual outreach event in 2023, scheduled to take place before COP 28.

11. Furthermore, the Executive Committee contributed to the 2nd Glasgow Dialogue,¹² held from 8 to 10 June 2023 in conjunction with SB 58 (see chap. III.B below).

12. ExCom 19 is scheduled for 19 to 22 September 2023.

B. Chairing and membership

1. Executive Committee

13. ExCom 18 re-elected Jerome Ilagan (Philippines) and Frode Neergaard (Denmark) as Co-Chairs of the Executive Committee to serve for a term of one year.

14. COP 20 decided that members of the Executive Committee shall serve for a term of two years and be eligible to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms of office.¹³ Rafik Aini (Tunisia), Jawad Ali (Pakistan) and Friederike Elisabeth Eppen (France) were elected as first-time members, and Camila Rodriguez (Dominican Republic) and Viktoriia Shtets (Ukraine) were re-elected as members at COP 27. During the reporting period, Larytha

⁶ Further details of the meetings are available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/loss-and-damage/workshop-and-meetings>.

⁷ Further details of the meetings are available via <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/loss-and-damage/workshop-and-meetings>.

⁸ See <https://unfccc.int/event/wim-excom-policy-guidance-solutions>.

⁹ See <https://unfccc.int/event/wim-excom-outreach-2022>.

¹⁰ Contained in annex I to document FCCC/SB/2022/2/Add.2.

¹¹ See <https://unfccc.int/wim-excom/L-and-D-in-focus-launch-event>.

¹² See <https://unfccc.int/event/gd2>.

¹³ Decision 2/CP.20, para. 7.

Fletcher (Jamaica) replaced Le-Anne Roper (Jamaica), who had resigned. Ashley Codner (Jamaica) subsequently replaced Larytha Fletcher following her resignation. The Executive Committee welcomed its new members. During the reporting period, the terms of office of five members came to an end and the nominations for these positions are pending.¹⁴ A list of the members of the Committee, indicating their terms of office, is available on the UNFCCC website.¹⁵

15. 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.¹⁶ Annex I contains a list of the Committee members with information on their engagement in the thematic expert groups as at 31 August 2023. In addition, the Committee designates members to serve as focal points for other bodies or entities. Annex II contains a list of such focal points as at 31 August 2023.

2. Thematic expert groups

16. The five thematic expert groups of the Executive Committee assist it in guiding the implementation of the functions of the WIM, as appropriate, in an advisory role, and they report to the Committee.¹⁷ They operate under the five strategic workstreams of the Committee’s five-year rolling workplan, namely slow onset events, non-economic losses, comprehensive risk management, human mobility, and action and support.

17. The Committee catalyses expert knowledge, technical expertise and support relevant to the five strategic workstreams from inside and outside the UNFCCC process. The members of the Committee co-facilitate the work of each thematic expert group, including by organizing meetings, updating it on the latest information from the Committee, such as on relevant progress made at the Committee’s meetings, and providing guidance on technical and knowledge products being prepared.

18. As at 31 August 2023, 65 technical experts were engaged as members of the thematic expert groups, comprising individual experts and representatives of constituted bodies and external organizations, many of which are accredited observers in the UNFCCC process (see the table below). The membership web pages of the thematic expert groups contain information on the experts and organizations engaged in the ongoing thematic work.¹⁸

Number of technical experts engaged as members of the thematic expert groups of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism as at 31 August 2023

<i>Expert group</i>	<i>United Nations and intergovernmental organizations</i>	<i>Admitted non-governmental organizations</i>	<i>Non-admitted external entities</i>	<i>UNFCCC constituted bodies</i>	<i>Individual experts</i>
Expert group on slow onset events	1	2	2	–	3
Expert group on non-economic losses	3	3	5	3	–
TEG-CRM	5	7	4	–	2
Task force on displacement	5	2	1	2	–
Expert group on action and support	3	2	5	5	0

¹⁴ For further details, see [https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/election-and-membership - General-membership-information](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/election-and-membership-General-membership-information).

¹⁵ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/2023.07.07_Current%20membership%20chart.pdf#page=3.

¹⁶ As at 29 August 2023, one position for a non-Annex I Party member for the expert group on slow onset events was vacant owing to a resignation.

¹⁷ As per decision 2/CP.20, para. 8.

¹⁸ Further information on the thematic expert groups is available via <https://unfccc.int/wim-excom>.

C. Integration of gender considerations

19. COP 22 requested the constituted bodies to include in their regular reports information on progress towards integrating a gender perspective into their respective processes.¹⁹

20. The five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee for 2023–2027 identifies gender as a cross-cutting consideration to be taken into account in its implementation. Activity 11 of the workplan concerns mainstreaming considerations relating to those at the forefront of climate change, with women among those explicitly identified, in the work of the Committee. The possible approaches identified for implementing the activity include fostering the collection, sharing, management and use of gender-disaggregated data, encouraging the thematic expert groups to mainstream gender and other human rights perspectives in their plans of action, and mainstreaming considerations relating to gender in the work of the Committee.

21. Three of the five members of the Executive Committee elected at COP 27 are women, resulting in gender-balanced membership of the Committee, as 10 of the 19 filled positions are currently occupied by women. The Committee also achieved gender balance among the speakers at its events during the reporting period:

(a) At the COP 27 side event referred to in paragraph 9 above, four of eight moderators, presenters or panellists were female;

(b) At the SB 58 side event referred to in paragraph 10 above, four of nine moderators or panellists were female;

(c) At its 2022 outreach event, on achievements and challenges in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage on the ground, three of three moderators or presenters were female.

III. Progress of work

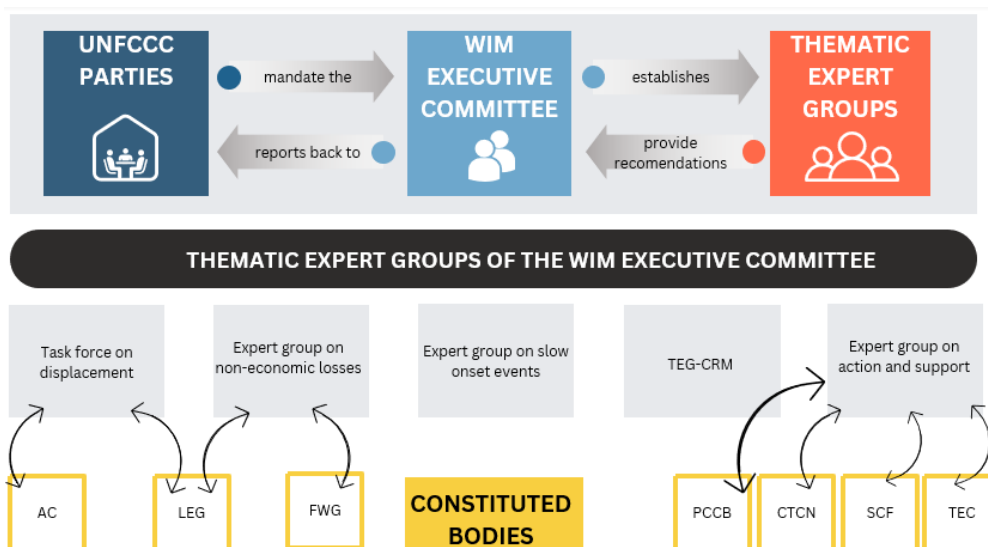
A. Coherence and linkages under the UNFCCC

22. The Executive Committee identified strengthened collaboration across constituted bodies as a cross-cutting element to be considered in implementing its workplan, which includes activities for strengthening collaboration with specific constituted bodies, namely the CGE, the FWG of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the PCCB, the SCF and the TEC.

23. The Executive Committee engages representatives of the constituted bodies as members of its thematic expert groups (see the figure below), which increases their access to information relevant to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. This modality of direct engagement between the Committee and the constituted bodies, also through the Committee designating members as focal points for the bodies, also facilitates the identification of synergies and potential areas of collaboration and coherence for knowledge management, action and support under the UNFCCC.

¹⁹ Decision 21/CP.22, para. 14.

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



24. The Executive Committee is collaborating with the LEG, within the framework of the third plan of action of the task force on displacement, on developing a technical guide on integrating linkages between human mobility and climate change into national climate change planning processes, such as the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans.

25. In the context of the current plan of action of the expert group on non-economic losses, a representative of the AC initiated co-coordinating with a technical expert member an activity for fostering existing and/or building new partnerships and cooperating with stakeholders engaged in work on non-economic losses.

26. The Executive Committee identified engagement of groups at the frontline of climate change, such as Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as a cross-cutting element to be taken into account in implementing its workplan. Indigenous Peoples and local communities are also identified as key stakeholders in implementing two cross-cutting activities (10 and 11) and activity 25 under workstream (b). During the reporting period, a representative of the FWG was invited to ExCom 18 to deliver a presentation that highlighted the crucial role of Indigenous communities and knowledge holders in responding to climate-induced loss and damage and developing associated solutions.

27. As part of efforts to strengthen collaboration with the CGE, the Executive Committee reviewed and provided inputs to the draft of the training material on reporting information related to climate change impacts and adaptation²⁰ to assist Parties in reporting loss and damage related information in national communications and biennial transparency reports under the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement. In addition, the Committee participated in two CGE hands-on training workshops and planned to participate in one more, on the enhanced transparency framework for the African and the Latin American and Caribbean regions aimed at informing country representatives about relevant support available through work under the WIM.²¹

28. The Executive Committee is encouraged 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.²² During the reporting period, the Executive Committee continued to consider how to strengthen the collaboration, including by inviting representatives of the secretariats

²⁰ Available at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/CGE%20Training%20materials%20A-BTR.pdf>.

²¹ For further details, see <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/consultative-group-of-experts/calendar-of-meetings/archive-of-meetings>.

²² Decision 19/CMA.3, para. 12(b), endorsed in decision 17/CP.26, para. 1.

of the GCF and the GEF to attend ExCom 18 in order to jointly explore the specificities of future collaboration.²³ The Committee welcomed information from the GCF and GEF secretariats and their suggestion of organizing follow-up information sessions. The Committee plans to invite a representative of the Adaptation Fund to attend ExCom 19 in order to initiate consideration of collaboration in a similar manner.

29. In addition, the Executive Committee submitted information relevant to the work of the PCCB under its 2023 focus area, namely capacity-building support for adaptation with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing national adaptation plans.

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

1. Santiago network

30. CMA 4 decided on the institutional arrangements for the Santiago network, which include a hosted secretariat.²⁴

31. CMA 4 set out the process for selecting the host institution of the Santiago network secretariat, including inviting the Executive Committee to designate four of its members, which was done at ExCom 18, to serve on the evaluation panel to consider and prepare a shortlist of the proposals to host the Santiago network secretariat for consideration at SB 58.²⁵ The panel considered the proposals on 5 April 2023 and prepared a report²⁶ with the assistance of the secretariat. The members of the Committee who participated in the panel are noted in annex I.

2. Glasgow Dialogue

32. 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. Organized by the SBI in cooperation with the Executive Committee, the Dialogue will take place each year at the first regular session of the SBI until it is concluded at SBI 60.²⁷

33. The 2nd Glasgow Dialogue was held during SB 58. COP 27 and CMA 4 decided that the 2nd Glasgow Dialogue should focus on the operationalization of the new funding arrangements and fund established in paragraphs 2–3 of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4, as well as on maximizing support from existing funding arrangements relevant for, inter alia, responding to economic and non-economic losses, slow onset events and extreme weather events.²⁸

34. ExCom 17 designated a group of Committee members to initiate the relevant work. It invited the SBI Chair, at ExCom 18 and subsequently in May 2023, to discuss with the Committee how to cooperate effectively in organizing the 2nd Glasgow Dialogue, which took place during SB 58.

35. The Executive Committee provided input to the SBI Chair on, inter alia, suggested themes, guiding questions, and proposed speakers for the scene-setting interventions to facilitate the discussions at the 2nd Glasgow Dialogue, which were reflected in the agenda. In addition, the Co-Chairs of the Committee provided opening remarks at the Dialogue.

36. Furthermore, one Co-Chair of the Executive Committee contributed to the scene-setting interventions at the start of the Dialogue, presenting information on the Committee's technical activities, including through its thematic expert groups, and how the activities could

²³ Activities 32 and 33 of the Committee's workplan focus on collaboration with the GCF and the GEF respectively.

²⁴ Decision 12/CMA.4, para. 3, endorsed in decision 11/CP.27, para. 1.

²⁵ Decision 12/CMA.4, paras. 18–23, endorsed in decision 11/CP.27, para. 1.

²⁶ FCCC/SB/2023/1.

²⁷ Decision 1/CMA.3, paras. 73–74.

²⁸ Decisions 2/CP.27, para. 9, and 2/CMA.4, para. 9.

provide useful information in the context of the focus areas of the Dialogue referred to in paragraph 33 above. This was complemented by information from a member of the technical expert group on comprehensive risk management that introduced loss and damage aspects in the context of national adaptation plans, which was based on the first knowledge product catalysed by the expert group's second plan of action during the reporting period.²⁹

²⁹ See <https://napglobalnetwork.org/resource/loss-and-damage-national-adaptation-plans/>.

Annex I

Members of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism and their engagement in its thematic expert groups as at 31 August 2023

<i>Member</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Thematic expert group(s)</i>
Rafik Aini	Non-Annex I Parties/African States	Tunisia	TFD
Jawad Ali	Non-Annex I Parties/Asia-Pacific States	Pakistan	–
Stella Brožek-Everaert	Annex I Parties	European Union	Non-economic losses
Ashley Codner	Non-Annex I Parties/small island developing States	Jamaica	–
Maude Dufort-Labbe	Annex I Parties	Canada	TFD
Friederike Elisabeth Eppen	Annex I Parties	France	Slow onset events
Jerome Ilagan	Non-Annex I Parties	Philippines	Non-economic losses
Nedal Katbeh-Bader	Non-Annex I Parties	State of Palestine	–
Mohammed Hafijul Islam Khan ^a	Non-Annex I Parties/least developed countries	Bangladesh	Action and support/TFD
Kajsa Fernström Nåtby	Annex I Parties	Sweden	TFD
Frode Neergaard ^a	Annex I Parties	Denmark	Slow onset events
Angela Rivera ^a	Non-Annex I Parties/Latin American and Caribbean States	Colombia	Non-economic losses/TEG-CRM
Camila Rodriguez	Non-Annex I Parties/Latin American and Caribbean States	Dominican Republic	Action and support/TEG-CRM
Meredith Ryder-Rude	Annex I Parties	United States of America	–
Viktoriiia Shtets	Annex I Parties	Ukraine	TEG-CRM
Evgeny Sokolov	Annex I Parties	Russian Federation	–
Faisal Al Swied	Non-Annex I Parties/Asia-Pacific States	Saudi Arabia	Slow onset events
Gemma Tanner	Annex I Parties	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Action and support/non-economic losses
Igor Tola Kogadou	Non-Annex I Parties/African States	Central African Republic	–
^b	Annex I Parties	–	–

^a Participated in the evaluation panel for the Santiago network secretariat.

^b The position is vacant as at 31 August.

Annex II

Members of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism designated as focal points for other bodies as at 31 August 2023

<i>Constituted body/entity</i>	<i>Non-Annex I Party member</i>	<i>Annex I Party member</i>
AC	Angela Rivera	Friederike Elisabeth Eppen
CGE	– ^a	Stella Brožek-Everaert
FWG	Camila Rodriguez	Maude Dufort-Labbe
GCF	Camila Rodriguez	Frode Neergaard
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	Camila Rodriguez	
LEG	Mohammed Hafijul Islam Khan	Kajsa Fernström Nåtby
PCCB	– ^a	Stella Brožek-Everaert
SCF	Angela Rivera	
TEC	Rafik Aini	Friederike Elisabeth Eppen

^a The slot is vacant as at 31 August 2023.