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**Subsidiary Body for Scientific and  
Technological Advice**

**Fifty-ninth session**

United Arab Emirates, 30 November to 6 December 2023

Item 4(a) 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**

**Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

**Fifty-ninth session**

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Item 13(a) 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**

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

**Addendum**

*Summary*

This addendum provides information on the progress of implementation of the second five-year rolling workplan (for 2023–2027) of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, including through its expert groups, technical expert group on comprehensive risk management and task force on displacement, between October 2022 and October 2023, and the recommendations of the Committee. It also contains organizational and procedural information.



## Abbreviations and acronyms

AF	Adaptation Fund
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
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
FWG	Facilitative Working Group
GCF	Green Climate Fund
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LCIPP	Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
NAP	national adaptation plan
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
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
WIM	Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

## I. Organizational and procedural matters

### A. The 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee

1. ExCom 19 took place from 19 to 22 September 2023 in a hybrid format and was open to observers. Recordings of the plenary discussions and the meeting documentation, including a summary of the decision points adopted at the meeting, are available on the UNFCCC website.<sup>1</sup>

2. Six external speakers were invited to speak under specific items at ExCom 19:

(a) Under agenda item 8, “Work related to strategic workstream (b) on non-economic losses”, a representative of the FWG of the LCIPP spoke about the importance of taking into account Indigenous traditional knowledge and values in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage, identifying the work of the Executive Committee on non-economic losses as an integral area for collaborative action between the two bodies;

(b) Under agenda item 10, “Work related to strategic workstream (d) on human mobility”, a representative of the LEG provided an update on activities the LEG is undertaking and discussed how the work on NAP support can complement work related to loss and damage, including in terms of helping countries to integrate consideration of aspects of human mobility and non-economic losses at the country level;

(c) Under agenda item 11, “Work related to strategic workstream (e) on action and support”, a representative of the GCF secretariat presented its preliminary analysis of how its current portfolio relates to the five strategic workstreams of the Committee’s workplan;

(d) Under agenda item 12, “How the latest climate science can inform policy-making relevant to averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage”, representatives of UNDRR and the World Meteorological Organization presented on the Early Warnings for All initiative, specifying how it contributes to efforts to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with climate change;

(e) Under agenda item 13, “Collaboration with the Adaptation Fund”, a representative of the AF secretariat presented on AF support for activities related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage;

3. In addition, under agenda item 17, “Any other matters”, one Committee member presented a working document intended to clarify what is expected of the members of the Committee and the Committee’s thematic expert groups that complements the rules of procedure and terms of reference of the thematic expert groups.

4. Representatives of the following organizations who serve as members of the Executive Committee’s thematic expert groups described knowledge products published and activities undertaken since ExCom 18 under their respective plans of action: IFRC, International Organization for Migration, Platform for Disaster Displacement and UNDRR. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the thematic expert groups for their contributions to work on loss and damage and for keeping it informed of their progress in this regard.

5. The Executive Committee published a policy brief on technologies for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in coastal zones, which was developed jointly with the TEC in 2020. On the margins of ExCom 19, the Co-Chairs and other interested members held a meeting with the TEC to consider future areas for collaboration in developing similar knowledge products, using the work of the TEC on the Early Warnings for All initiative and activity 21 of the Committee’s five-year rolling workplan as entry points<sup>2</sup> (see chap. II.A.1 below).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://unfccc.int/event/WIMExCom19>.

<sup>2</sup> Activity 21 concerns facilitating continued collaboration with the TEC to highlight nationally relevant technologies for averting, minimizing and addressing slow onset events in coastal zones.

6. ExCom 19 adopted the recommendations of its expert group on action and support on the input of the Executive Committee to the draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism for submission to and consideration of the SCF, and endorsed the Committee’s contribution to a booklet on adaptation and resilience-building under development by the informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

7. ExCom 19 adopted a set of recommendations on the basis of the work undertaken (see chap. III below) for consideration at SB 59.

## B. Future meetings and events

8. ExCom 20 is scheduled to take place in the week commencing 4 March 2024. At that meeting, the Executive Committee will:

(a) Include in the provisional agenda items that consider synergies between its work and that under the Santiago network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including possible areas for collaboration, and that consider ways of improving the visibility of its work, including by reviewing progress in implementing its communications strategy;

(b) Focus on traditional and Indigenous knowledge under the standing agenda item to consider how best available science can inform relevant policymaking;

(c) Invite the SBI Chair to discuss ways to enhance cooperation between the SBI and the Committee on the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Glasgow Dialogue.

9. ExCom 21 is scheduled to take place in the week commencing 9 September 2024. The Executive Committee plans to hold a meeting of its five thematic expert groups in conjunction with either ExCom 20 or ExCom 21.

10. In addition, the Committee plans to hold a high-level event at COP 28 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the WIM and to open an accompanying photography exhibition to visually promote the story of people and communities on the front lines of climate change.<sup>3</sup> The Committee decided to combine its annual outreach event with this high-level event in 2023 and to consider holding its 2024 outreach event in conjunction with the regional climate weeks to increase the visibility and the effectiveness of its activities by focusing on the dissemination of knowledge products, outreach and stakeholder engagement.

11. On the margins of ExCom 19, the TFD scheduled meetings for 14 November 2023, 4 June 2024 and 9 October 2024. Information on future meetings of the other thematic expert groups will be published on the UNFCCC website<sup>4</sup> once the dates have been set.

## C. Update on the membership of the Executive Committee

12. ExCom 19 reviewed the Executive Committee’s arrangements for designating its members (1) to co-facilitate the work of the thematic expert groups and (2) to represent the Committee vis-à-vis other bodies and in relation to topics such as gender and disaster risk reduction. See table 1 for the current representation of the Committee in its five thematic expert groups and table 2 for the names of those who serve as focal points to other bodies.

Table 1

**Members of the Executive Committee engaged in thematic expert groups**

<i>Thematic expert group</i>	<i>Members from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention</i>	<i>Members from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention</i>
Action and support	Gemma Tanner	Camila Rodríguez

<sup>3</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/L-and-D-in-focus/photo-gallery>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/loss-and-damage/workshop-and-meetings>.

<i>Thematic expert group</i>	<i>Members from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention</i>	<i>Members from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention</i>
	Meredith Ryder-Rude	Mohammed Hafijul Islam Khan
Non-economic losses	Stella Brožek-Everaert Gemma Tanner	Jerome Ilagan Angela Rivera
Slow onset events	Friederike Elisabeth Eppen Frode Neergaard	Ashley Codner Faisal Al Swied
TEG-CRM	Meredith Ryder-Rude Viktoriiia Shtets	Camila Rodríguez Ashley Codner
TFD	Kajsa Fernström Nåtby Maude Dufort-Labbe	Mohammed Hafijul Islam Khan Rafik Aini

Table 2  
**Focal points and liaison members of the Executive Committee**

	<i>From Parties included in Annex I to the Convention</i>	<i>From Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention</i>
Adaptation Committee, including its NAP task force	Friederike Elisabeth Eppen	Angela Rivera
Advisory Board of the Santiago network	Stella Brožek-Everaert	Angela Rivera
CGE	Stella Brožek-Everaert	Jawad Ali
FWG of the LCIPP	Maude Dufort-Labbe	Jerome Ilagan
GCF	Frode Neergaard	Rafik Aini
Gender	Friederike Elisabeth Eppen	Jerome Ilagan
IPCC	Meredith Ryder-Rude	Ashley Codner
LEG	Kajsa Fernström Nåtby	Mohammed Hafijul Islam Khan
PCCB	Stella Brožek-Everaert	–
SCF	Meredith Ryder-Rude	Camila Rodríguez
Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	Friederike Elisabeth Eppen	Jerome Ilagan
TEC	Friederike Elisabeth Eppen	Rafik Aini

## II. Progress of implementation of the workplan of the Executive Committee

13. The Executive Committee guides the implementation of the functions of the WIM through its five-year rolling workplans. The current plan, for 2023–2027,<sup>5</sup> comprises five strategic workstreams: slow onset events, non-economic losses, comprehensive risk management, human mobility, and action and support. The thematic expert groups established under these workstreams carry out related activities through their respective plans of action.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2022/2/Add.2, annex I.

<sup>6</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2023/4 for details on the meetings held by the thematic expert groups during the reporting period.

14. In view of the increasing number of activities resulting in the need for technical guides or knowledge products to be produced by the thematic expert groups, ExCom 18 clarified the various types of products, how they will be developed and which types of products will be branded with the Committee's full ownership. These distinctions and the clarified process have helped to guide the work of the thematic expert groups and have helped the groups to deliver the mandated outputs effectively.

15. This chapter provides an overview of the progress of the thematic work under the five strategic workstreams between October 2022 and October 2023.<sup>7</sup> The Executive Committee expresses its appreciation to the organizations and experts that contributed to the work of its thematic expert groups during the reporting period.

## **A. Thematic work**

### **1. Slow onset events**

16. Strategic workstream (a) of the workplan of the Executive Committee concerns enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to slow onset events.<sup>8</sup> The expert group on slow onset events<sup>9</sup> assists the Executive Committee in fulfilling relevant mandates and undertaking activities relating to slow onset events.

17. ExCom 18 decided to advance work in 2023 on technical guides pertaining to matters related to sea level rise, desertification and glacial retreat (the three focal areas of the plan of action<sup>10</sup> of the expert group on slow onset events). Accordingly, the expert group was supported in preparing these guides, which are set to be published in 2024. These technical guides will also aim to describe the interplay among different slow or incremental climate change impacts and how associated compound and cascading risks can be understood and reduced from a systemic perspective.

18. The technical members of the expert group on slow onset events are invited to serve for a term of two years as per the terms of reference of the group.<sup>11</sup> The Executive Committee reviewed the current membership to ensure that the members collectively have the necessary expertise and resources to respond to the increasing need for knowledge products and activities under this workstream. As a result, four new expert members were newly invited to serve in the expert group during the reporting period to enhance the group's expertise in issues related to desertification and interactions between slow onset events and non-economic losses. The Executive Committee is in the process of identifying additional experts, including from organizations with expertise in glacial retreat and related impacts, to engage as members of this group to ensure the delivery of the technical guide referred to in paragraph 17 above.

19. Noting the need to share information on integrating consideration of slow onset events into national planning and policy, the Committee initiated a dialogue with the Technology Executive Committee, at ExCom 19, to explore how the two bodies could collaborate in this area, which resulted in the Committee's plan to develop knowledge products in 2024 that highlight nationally relevant technologies for averting, minimizing and addressing slow onset events in coastal zones.

20. The Executive Committee decided to use the regional climate weeks as a platform for its outreach events to showcase knowledge products on slow onset events, including the technical guides to be rolled out in 2024 in collaboration with its expert group on slow onset events, and to include activities that correspond to this decision in the next plan of action of

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<sup>7</sup> Information on the non-thematic work undertaken between October 2022 and August 2023 is contained in the parent document (FCCC/SB/2023/4).

<sup>8</sup> Slow onset events include sea level rise, increasing temperatures, ocean acidification, glacial retreat and related impacts, salinization, land and forest degradation, loss of biodiversity and desertification. See decision 1/CP.16, para. 25.

<sup>9</sup> For the current membership, see <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/SOEs/membership>.

<sup>10</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2021/4, annex II.

<sup>11</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/TOR\\_slow\\_onset\\_events.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/TOR_slow_onset_events.pdf).

the expert group on slow onset events, which will be prepared before the next meeting of the Committee.

## 2. Non-economic losses

21. Strategic workstream (b) of the workplan of the Executive Committee concerns enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to non-economic losses.<sup>12</sup> The expert group on non-economic losses<sup>13</sup> assists the Committee in fulfilling mandates and undertaking activities relating to non-economic losses through its plan of action,<sup>14</sup> which was endorsed at ExCom 13 in April 2021.

22. ExCom 18 identified updating the technical paper<sup>15</sup> on non-economic losses and preparing a technical guide on averting, minimizing and addressing non-economic losses in the context of human mobility as priority work under this workstream.<sup>16</sup> Outlines for these documents were prepared and subsequently endorsed by the Executive Committee during the reporting period. The Executive Committee facilitated collaboration between the expert group on non-economic losses and the TFD in determining the scope and focused types of non-economic losses for the technical guide.

23. To inform the further development of the paper referred to in paragraph 20 above, as well as the future work of the expert group on non-economic losses, organizations were invited to submit information in relation to existing policies and plans for preventing and responding to non-economic losses and action taken on the ground to respond to such losses at different levels, as well as practical examples of available tools and methods for assessing non-economic losses. More than 30 submissions had been received as at 30 September 2023.<sup>17</sup>

24. The Committee continued to develop its inventory of organizations working in the area of non-economic losses with a view to establishing partnerships with stakeholders engaged in relevant work.<sup>18</sup> Organizations are invited to express their interest in contributing to the work of the expert group through an online form, and their details are compiled to create the inventory. More than 40 organizations had provided relevant information as at 30 September 2023.<sup>19</sup>

25. Since Indigenous Peoples and local communities are on the front lines of climate change, taking into account Indigenous and local knowledge in planning and implementing approaches to respond to loss and damage is critical. The Executive Committee therefore takes such knowledge into account in a cross-cutting manner in implementing its workplan. Thematically, the workstream on non-economic losses serves as the main entry point for the nexus between the work under the WIM and the FWG through which Indigenous Peoples' perspectives are channelled. The expert group on non-economic losses therefore has a member from the FWG with a view to enhancing the exchange of information between the Committee and the FWG and coherence of overall efforts under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. To raise awareness of the important role of traditional knowledge in averting,

<sup>12</sup> Non-economic losses refer to a broad range of losses that are often not readily financially quantifiable or commonly traded in markets. They may impact individuals (e.g. loss of life or health), society (e.g. loss of territory, cultural heritage, Indigenous or local knowledge, or societal or cultural identity) or the environment (e.g. loss of biodiversity or ecosystem services).

<sup>13</sup> For the current membership, see <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/NELs/membership>.

<sup>14</sup> Contained in document FCCC/SB/2021/4, annex III.

<sup>15</sup> See document FCCC/TP/2013/2.

<sup>16</sup> In the context of activities 7 and 4 of the plans of action of the expert group on non-economic losses and the TFD.

<sup>17</sup> <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/executive-committee-of-the-warsaw-international-mechanism-for-loss-and-damage-wim-excom/expert-group-on-non-economic-losses/submissions-on-the-information-sources-related-to-averting-minimizing-and>.

<sup>18</sup> In the context of activity 26 of the workplan of the Executive Committee and activity 5 of the plan of action of the expert group.

<sup>19</sup> <https://unfccc.int/wim-excom/NELs/organization-mapping>.

minimizing and addressing non-economic losses,<sup>20</sup> ExCom 20 will explore this topic under a standing agenda item on the nexus of science and policymaking.

26. Technical members of the expert group on non-economic losses serve for a term of two years as per the terms of reference of the group. During the reporting period, the Committee began reviewing the current membership to ensure that the technical members collectively have the necessary expertise and resources to respond to the increasing need for knowledge products and activities under this workstream.

### 3. Comprehensive risk management

27. Strategic workstream (c) of the workplan of the Executive Committee concerns enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to comprehensive risk management approaches (including assessment, reduction, transfer and retention) to address and build the long-term resilience of countries, vulnerable populations and communities to loss and damage. The TEG-CRM<sup>21</sup> assists the Committee in fulfilling mandates and undertaking activities relating to comprehensive risk management.

28. ExCom 18 identified three knowledge products to be made available under this workstream as a priority. During the reporting period, the Executive Committee facilitated the work of the TEG-CRM in preparing these products as part of its second plan of action<sup>22</sup> and subsequently endorsed them between June and September 2023.

29. The first product aims to enhance the understanding of comprehensive risk management in the context of loss and damage based on the best available science. It is in the final stage of development, which was led by a member of the TEG-CRM, representing IFRC, in collaboration with other members, namely those from the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis and Climate Analytics. This knowledge product summarizes key findings from the contribution of Working Group II to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report<sup>23</sup> in relation to impacts, risks, exposure, vulnerability, adaptation limits, measures and enabling conditions relevant to loss and damage and comprehensive risk management.<sup>24</sup> Other knowledge products catalysed by the Committee and are available on the UNFCCC website.<sup>25</sup> is a report by the International Institute for Sustainable Development<sup>26</sup> that analyses information contained in NAPs on issues related to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, and a paper by IFRC<sup>27</sup> that provides a humanitarian perspective on climate risk and information on how early warning that leads to early action could support building longer-term resilience and minimizing loss and damage in communities at risk from climate change related disasters.

30. In addition, as part of its contribution to the work of the TEG-CRM, UNDRR developed a leadership training module<sup>28</sup> on comprehensive disaster and climate risk management, which highlights linkages between planning disaster risk reduction and adaptation, given their shared objective of reducing risk and vulnerability, and explores how such synergies in these areas can enhance understanding, action and support in relation to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>20</sup> In the context of activity 25 of the workplan of the Committee.

<sup>21</sup> For the current membership, see <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/TEG-CRM/membership>.

<sup>22</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2022/2/Add.2, annex II.

<sup>23</sup> IPCC. *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Edited by HO Pörtner, DC Roberts, M Tignor, and ES Poloczanska. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/>.

<sup>24</sup> In the context of activity/output 1 of the plan of action of the TEG-CRM.

<sup>25</sup> <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/TEG-CRM>.

<sup>26</sup> In the context of activity/output 6 of the plan of action of the TEG-CRM.

<sup>27</sup> In the context of output 8 of the plan of action of the TEG-CRM.

<sup>28</sup> Available at <https://www.unssc.org/courses/thought-leadership-course-synergizing-disaster-risk-reduction-and-climate-change-adaptation>.

<sup>29</sup> In the context of output 3 of the plan of action of the TEG-CRM.



31. The current workplan of the Committee includes an activity to update the compendium on comprehensive risk management approaches,<sup>30</sup> which was last updated by the Executive Committee in 2019, in order to reflect recent developments in the understanding of how countries and communities respond to climate change impacts that may result, or have already resulted, in loss and damage. The compendium is a collection of good practices and lessons learned in relation to different facets of managing risks in an anticipatory manner at different levels of governance as well as options for approaches to respond to those risks, and how they are supported in this regard by agencies, institutions and entities at the relevant governance levels. ExCom 19 agreed on a process and timeline for updating the compendium with a view to releasing the new product in 2024.<sup>31</sup>

32. The Executive Committee currently shares information on risk transfer solutions that complement comprehensive risk management through the Fiji Clearing House for Risk Transfer,<sup>32</sup> mandated by COP 21 and launched at COP 23 to serve as a depository for such information. Operation of its interactive component, RISK TALK, was ceased,<sup>33</sup> and under its current workplan, the Committee has an activity to improve the usability of the remaining contents of the Clearing House and promote the Clearing House at its outreach activities.<sup>34</sup>

#### 4. Human mobility

33. Strategic workstream (d) of the workplan of the Executive Committee concerns enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to human mobility, including migration, displacement and planned relocation. COP 21 established the TFD to develop recommendations on integrated approaches to averting, minimizing and addressing displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change. The TFD prepared the recommendations, which were subsequently adopted at COP 24,<sup>35</sup> on the basis of the outcomes of its first plan of action. Its third plan of action (for 2022–2024),<sup>36</sup> endorsed at ExCom 17, focuses on activities to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations, and on developing user-friendly technical guides on topics relevant to this workstream.

34. ExCom 18 identified three technical guides as priority knowledge products to be made available under this workstream, on (1) integrating linkages between human mobility and climate change into relevant national climate change planning processes, such as the process to formulate and implement NAPs, in collaboration with the LEG, and nationally determined contributions, (2) accessing finance for averting, minimizing and addressing the impacts of displacement, in collaboration with the expert group on action and support, and (3) non-economic losses in the context of human mobility, in collaboration with the expert group on non-economic losses.

35. Members of the TFD jointly determined the scope of and approaches to collecting information for the first two technical guides referred to in paragraph 34 above and prepared outlines for them. The Executive Committee facilitated collaboration between the expert group on non-economic losses and the TFD in determining the scope of non-economic losses for the third technical guide.<sup>37</sup> The annotated outlines of these technical guides will be available for further consultation, including in the margins of COP 28, and the finalized technical guides will be released in 2024.

36. To increase the visibility and impact of the work of the TFD, TFD members actively engaged in events, workshops and meetings throughout the reporting period, including at the 2023 NAP Expo and contributed to discussions on further integrating consideration of

<sup>30</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/resources/compendium-on-comprehensive-risk-management-approaches>.

<sup>31</sup> See the note by the comprehensive risk management champions for activity 29, available at <https://unfccc.int/event/WIMExCom19>.

<sup>32</sup> <http://unfccc-clearinghouse.org/>.

<sup>33</sup> RISK TALK was developed and maintained by Fiji Clearing House for Risk Transfer partner InsuResilience Secretariat using StarMind technology. The maintenance service by the InsuResilience Secretariat was terminated which resulted in the cessation of the RISK TALK.

<sup>34</sup> In the context of activity 28.

<sup>35</sup> See the annex of decision 10/CP.24 for the adopted recommendations.

<sup>36</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2022/2/Add.2, annex III.

<sup>37</sup> In the context of activity 30 of the workplan of the Committee.

human mobility into NAPs.<sup>38</sup> In addition, the TFD organized technical briefings at ExCom 18 and ExCom 19 to inform the Committee's deliberations on issues related to the nexus between human mobility and climate change.<sup>39</sup>

## 5. Action and support

37. Strategic workstream (e) of the workplan of the Executive Committee concerns 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. The expert group on action and support<sup>40</sup> assists the Executive Committee in implementing mandates regarding action and support, and enabling countries to undertake enhanced action for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage.

38. In line with a function of the WIM,<sup>41</sup> the plan of action<sup>42</sup> of the expert group on action and support, developed in 2021, includes the annual production of written inputs to the draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism on financial matters related to loss and damage.<sup>43</sup> The champion members of the Executive Committee prepared, in consultation with the SCF representatives to the expert group on action and support, the written inputs for consideration by the Committee, which were subsequently adopted in full and forwarded to the SCF.

39. ExCom 18 identified priority knowledge products to be made available under this workstream, including a report on the types of projects funded by the GCF that are related to the strategic workstreams of the five-year rolling workplan with a view to clarifying how developing country Parties may access funding from the GCF for the development of funding proposals related to the workstreams.<sup>44</sup> The current draft report includes several case studies that cover collectively a range of activities relevant to loss and damage supported by the GCF in developing countries. The Executive Committee plans to finalize the report by the end of 2023.

40. The Executive Committee continued to strengthen collaboration with the GCF, including by engaging with its Board at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the GCF and the UNFCCC constituted bodies held at COP 27. At the meeting, the Committee shared, inter alia, the key gaps in existing financial support identified at the 1<sup>st</sup> Glasgow Dialogue and noted that the Committee's workplan includes activities that aim to (1) increase responsiveness to country-level needs by conducting needs assessments and mainstreaming information on averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage in national planning and policymaking, and (2) help countries to better assess long-term climate risks and identify approaches to managing those risks by facilitating the development of a series of technical guides that will also contain information on available resources for supporting those approaches.

41. In addition, the Committee invited the GCF secretariat to attend the regular meetings of the Executive Committee to continue exploring areas of possible collaboration. For example, the representatives of the GCF secretariat provided at ExCom 19 an update on the analysis of activities funded by the GCF<sup>45</sup> relevant to the workstreams under the WIM, while noting the challenges relating to the boundaries of activities between workstreams because they sometimes overlapped, which required the GCF to use its own discretion for the analysis.

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<sup>38</sup> TFD members representing the International Organization for Migration and the Platform on Disaster Displacement at the TFD.

<sup>39</sup> In the context of activity 2 of the plan of action of the TFD.

<sup>40</sup> For the current membership, see <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/Action-Support/membership>.

<sup>41</sup> Decision 2/CP.19, para. 5(c)(ii).

<sup>42</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2021/4, annex III.

<sup>43</sup> Activity a.1 of the plan of action of the expert group on action and support.

<sup>44</sup> In the context of activity 32 of the workplan of the Executive Committee.

<sup>45</sup> Currently, around 60 per cent of activities funded by the GCF (excluding readiness activities) include components on loss and damage relevant to the workstreams of the Committee, with support for comprehensive risk management approaches representing the largest portion of activities funded.

42. The Executive Committee also invited to its regular meetings representatives of the Global Environment Facility and other entities external to the UNFCCC that provide financial support for activities relevant to loss and damage. During the reporting period, the work of the Committee was also informed by presentations by and interactions with the Global Environment Facility and the World Bank at ExCom 18,<sup>46</sup> and presentations by the AF at ExCom 19,<sup>47</sup> following which the Committee identified ways to collaborate with the AF by, for example, using AF case studies in developing its knowledge products and considering organizing joint events on topics of mutual interest, including during sessions of the COP and regional climate weeks and other relevant occasions.

43. In addition, the Executive Committee plans to continue inviting to its regular meetings representatives of sources, funds, processes and initiatives under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement that contribute to the implementation of activities to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts with a view to exploring possible opportunities for collaboration.

44. The Executive Committee participates in meetings of the informal coordination group for capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, enabling regular contributions to relevant work. During the reporting period, the Executive Committee responded to two calls for inputs issued by the PCCB: one on capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing NAPs, and another on adaptation and resilience-building. Inputs were also provided to the LEG on activities of the Executive Committee that are relevant to NAPs.

45. ExCom 19 decided to update the plan of action of the expert group on action and support and review its membership following COP 28 in order to respond to the changing landscape of loss and damage support under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

## **B. Cross-cutting work**

### **1. Communications**

46. The Executive Committee developed its most recent communications strategy at ExCom 8 in September 2018. ExCom 19 reviewed the strategy to take into account the activities under its workplan and the plans of action of the thematic expert groups. The updated strategy,<sup>48</sup> adopted at the same meeting, is aimed at enhancing the visibility of outputs under the WIM and thereby strengthening their impact, including on Parties, relevant stakeholders and the public, in the context of the Paris Agreement and the broader drive towards sustainable development and averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage.

47. The updated communication strategy identifies social media, the UNFCCC website, newsletters and the communication channels of partner networks as platforms for communication activities. In this context, the Executive Committee decided to start a regular newsletter to share information on the activities of the Committee, targeted at its stakeholders and the general public, including youth, loss and damage contact points, national focal points, members of thematic expert groups, experts on the WIM roster of experts and members of relevant organizations.

### **2. Tenth anniversary of the Warsaw International Mechanism**

48. 2023 marks 10 years since the establishment of the WIM and its Executive Committee. Work under the WIM over the last decade has catalysed the development of a range of approaches, scalable solutions and good practices, and has facilitated the undertaking of novel tools and sharing of the learning thereof, to enhance the understanding of the scale, temporal dimension and compound nature of climate-related risks and associated policy options. The WIM has also successfully engaged an extensive array of

<sup>46</sup> See [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GEF\\_Presentation%20to%20the%20Excom.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GEF_Presentation%20to%20the%20Excom.pdf) and [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/PH\\_CCDR\\_Presentation\\_WMI%20Feb%202023.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/PH_CCDR_Presentation_WMI%20Feb%202023.pdf).

<sup>47</sup> See [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/AF\\_19th\\_WIM.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/AF_19th_WIM.pdf).

<sup>48</sup> The updated communication strategy is an internal document; the Committee will continue to monitor its implementation and review its effectiveness, and revise it when deemed necessary.

communities of practice under one umbrella to channel knowledge and expertise to the countries in a coherent and coordinated manner with regard to loss and damage. The outcomes of the activities of the WIM led to increased international cooperation on loss and damage. Accordingly, the work under the WIM was reviewed by Parties twice in the past 10 years<sup>49</sup> in a way that, each time, resulted in new agreements that furthered support for implementing relevant actions in developing countries. The outcomes of the work under the WIM have also provided irrefutable evidence that there are gaps in supporting the full spectrum of developing countries' efforts on loss and damage and the areas in which more support, including finance, is needed in this regard. This work has been crucial in driving the loss and damage agenda forward by putting in place complementary provisions that focus on technical assistance under the WIM and finance for responding to loss and damage.

49. The workplan of the Executive Committee includes an activity to organize a series of events and develop knowledge products to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the WIM.<sup>50</sup> In this context, the Committee held a side event at SB 58 to launch a call for submissions of photographs that visually tell the stories of the people and communities on the front lines of climate change.<sup>51</sup> The photographs submitted will be displayed at an exhibition at COP 28 entitled Loss and Damage in Focus, which will illustrate action taken to respond to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, such as efforts to restore damage to the built environment, rehabilitate ecosystems or prepare for incremental impacts, or to other actions relating to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts.

50. In addition, the high-level event that will be held at COP 28 (see para. 10 above) will provide an opportunity for Parties and other stakeholders to reflect on advances and challenges in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage with a view to furthering opportunities for catalysing relevant knowledge, strengthening coordination and synergies and enhancing action and support. The event will also open the accompanying photography exhibition mentioned above.<sup>52</sup>

### **3. Collaboration with the Consultative Group of Experts**

51. One of the cross-cutting activities under the workplan of the Executive Committee is to strengthen collaboration with the CGE, including by continuing to provide inputs to training materials developed by the CGE and by participating in their outreach events to introduce relevant tools available under the WIM.<sup>53</sup>

52. During the reporting period, the Executive Committee reviewed and provided comments on the CGE draft training material on reporting information related to climate change impacts and adaptation and participated in its regional hands-on training workshops on reporting such information for the African, Latin American and Caribbean, Asia-Pacific and Eastern European regions. During the workshops, the Committee informed participants of knowledge resources and support available under its purview.

## **III. Recommendations**

53. On the basis of the work undertaken during the reporting period, the Executive Committee agreed on the following recommendations. Parties may wish to:

- (a) Welcome:
  - (i) The continued efficient progress of the Committee which is informed by the best available science, including in implementing its workplan and the work of its thematic expert groups in implementing their plans of action, including in advancing,

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<sup>49</sup> The first review of the WIM took place in 2016 and the second review took place in 2019.

<sup>50</sup> Activity 1 of the workplan.

<sup>51</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/wim-excom/L-and-D-in-focus>.

<sup>52</sup> See the online gallery for the photos submitted at <https://unfccc.int/L-and-D-in-focus/photo-gallery>.

<sup>53</sup> Activity 7 of the workplan.

the development of knowledge products and technical guides,<sup>54</sup> and activities to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the WIM;

(ii) The cooperation between the Committee and the Chair of the SBI on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Glasgow Dialogue;

(iii) The organization of regional workshops under the Santiago network that will provide crucial inputs to the Santiago network secretariat and Advisory Board on, inter alia, matters such as possible types of technical assistance for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage that may be needed and requested by developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

(b) Express appreciation to:

(i) The members of the Committee and its thematic expert groups for their work on implementing activities under the workplan and plans of action;

(ii) The constituted bodies that have collaborated with the Committee, including through its thematic expert groups, such as the Adaptation Committee, the CGE, the FWG, the LEG, the PCCB and the TEC;

(iii) The organizations, bodies, networks and experts that have submitted information pursuant to paragraphs 44–45 of decision 2/CMA.2 relevant to the Santiago network, and noted in decision 2/CP.25;

(iv) The observers and non-Party stakeholders that have contributed to the Committee's work;

(v) The secretariat for supporting the Committee and its thematic expert groups;

(vi) Those who submitted photographs for the photography exhibition, and Parties and non-Parties stakeholders engaged in activities related to the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the WIM;

(c) Encourage the Committee to continue to:

(i) Make outputs of the Committee and its thematic expert groups available to broader audiences, including relevant practitioners and women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and persons with disabilities who are on the frontline of climate change, to expand the Committee's reach and to promote the technical expertise and products of its thematic expert groups;

(ii) Facilitate synergies between the thematic expert groups in implementing their plans of action, including by convening meetings of the groups in conjunction with Committee meetings;

(iii) Strengthen collaboration, synergies, coordination and coherence with relevant bodies and organizations under and outside the Convention and the Paris Agreement undertaking efforts relevant to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage;

(iv) Cooperate with the Chair of the SBI on organizing the Glasgow Dialogue by providing inputs for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dialogue in a timely manner;

(v) Promote the use of, and be informed by, the best available science by, inter alia, creating spaces for discussing matters related to science pertaining to averting,

<sup>54</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/executive-committee-of-the-warsaw-international-mechanism-for-loss-and-damage-wim-excom/upcoming-key-knowledge-products-2023-2024> for a list of key knowledge products for 2023–2024, which includes the report *Addressing Loss and Damage: What Can We Learn from Countries' National Adaptation Plans?* and the paper *Role of Early Warning Early Action in Minimizing Loss and Damage*, both of which were catalysed by the second plan of action of the TEG-CRM; technical guides on slow onset events; an update to the 2013 technical paper on non-economic losses; a technical guide on access to finance for averting, minimizing and addressing the impacts of displacement associated with climate change impacts; and a document on the types of projects funded by the GCF related to the strategic workstreams of the five-year rolling workplan.

minimizing and addressing loss and damage with the scientific community and Indigenous, traditional and local knowledge holders and strive to disseminate key information shared under the standing agenda item “How the latest climate science can inform policymaking relevant to averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage” to a broader audience;

(d) Encourage the Committee to:

(i) Support the operationalization of the funding arrangements and the fund established in paragraphs 2–3 of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4 in the context of its workplan and the plans of action of its thematic expert groups, in guiding the implementation of the functions of the WIM:<sup>55</sup>

a. Enhancing knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including slow onset impacts;

b. Strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders;

c. Enhancing action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change;

(ii) Collaborate, for example through developing joint programmes, with the bodies associated with the funding arrangements and the fund established in paragraphs 2–3 of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4, and the Advisory Board of the Santiago network, including through the Committee members serving on it;

(iii) Consider translating relevant outputs of the Committee and its thematic expert groups, such as a synopsis of technical papers, into all official United Nations languages and other relevant languages so as to maximize their added value and promote their dissemination.

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<sup>55</sup> Decision 2/CP.19, para. 5.