



Technology Executive Committee

11 September 2018

Seventeenth meeting

Bonn, Germany, 25–28 September 2018

Draft concept note of a joint policy brief of the Excom and the TEC

Cover note

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. As per activity 18.1 of its workplan for 2016–2018, the TEC is to engage with the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (Excom) to exchange views and explore areas of common interest relevant to the work of both bodies.
2. The TEC and the Excom held a joint session on 16 March 2018, in conjunction with TEC 16, to discuss specific actions for collaboration between the two bodies and agreed to jointly develop a policy brief as an activity of the long-term collaboration between the two bodies.
3. The two bodies also agreed to establish an intersessional working group to elaborate terms of reference for the development of the policy brief, including its scope, with a view to demonstrating progress of work at COP 24. The TEC agreed to assign the intersessional work to the task force on emerging and cross-cutting issues.
4. At TEC 17, the taskforce on emerging and cross-cutting issues will be invited to report on the work of the intersessional working group and present the draft concept note for the joint policy brief.

B. Scope of the note

5. This cover note provides in the annex the draft concept note for the joint policy brief, including an indicative implementation plan which includes intersessional activities to be overseen by the joint working group, assisted by the secretariat.

C. Possible action by the Technology Executive Committee

6. The TEC will be invited to consider the draft concept note and provide guidance on further work for the development of the joint policy brief.

Annex

Draft concept note for a joint policy brief between the Excom and the TEC

I. Background

1. As part of the initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (Excom), the Excom sent, in October 2015, an initial communication to the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) to enhance coherence of the efforts under the two Committees.
2. The TEC taskforce on emerging and cross-cutting issues prepared the TEC recommendations for entry points for collaboration with the Excom, which were subsequently endorsed by the TEC at its 14th meeting in March 2017 and submitted to the Excom. At the same meeting the TEC revised its rolling workplan to incorporate any follow up activities as the results of submitting its recommendations.
3. Activity 3 of Strategic work stream (c) of the current five-year rolling workplan of the Excom reflects these recommendations. It provides the basis for collaboration between the Excom and the TEC, in following respect:
 - (a) **Development of a joint policy brief**, for example, on the area of technologies for coastal zones (activity 3(a));
 - (b) Collaboration on identifying technical experts who can contribute to expert groups and events/meetings organized by both bodies (activity 3(b)); and
 - (c) Exchange of inputs and advice between the two bodies to enhance their work, inter alia, on how enhanced measures of preparedness and resilience-building could help reduce and avert loss and damage (activity 3(c)).
4. The overarching purpose of this Strategic work stream is to enhance cooperation and facilitation in relation to comprehensive risk management approaches to address and build long-term resilience of countries, vulnerable populations and communities to loss and damage, including in relation to extreme and slow onset events, inter alia, through emergency preparedness, including early warning systems; measures to enhance recovery and rehabilitation and build back/forward better; social protection instruments, including social safety nets; and transformation approaches.
5. The two committees held a joint session on 16 March 2018 to initiate the collaboration, with a particular focus on the development of a joint policy brief, mentioned in paragraph 3 (a) above, where the two committees found useful to build on the experience of the TEC in producing TEC briefs, and noted the importance of capturing comprehensive risk management dimensions as well as ensuring value addition of the final product, noting that a wealth of related literature already exists in the domains of disaster risk management, adaptation and environmental protection.
6. At the joint session, the two committees agreed:
 - (a) To develop the joint policy brief of the Excom and the TEC with the general scope of the joint policy brief, which was agreed at the joint session of the Excom and the TEC;
 - (b) To establish a joint intersessional working group to elaborate a draft concept note for the development of the policy brief, with a view to reporting back at the next meetings of the respective committees; and
 - (c) To demonstrate progress of the joint work at COP 24.
7. This paper presents the draft concept for the development of the joint policy brief on technologies for coastal zones, including an indicative implementation plan which includes intersessional activities to be overseen by the joint working group, assisted by the secretariat.

II. Scope of the joint policy brief

8. The general scope of the joint policy brief as agreed at the joint session mentioned in paragraph 5 above is to explore technology options, including hardware, software and “orgware”:

(a) To observe and assess climate impacts on the coastal sector, including those associated with slow onset events, and including gaps and challenges for countries utilizing these technologies; and

(b) That can be used to both manage and accommodate these impacts in a comprehensive manner and by including technological solutions that could help address permanent and irreversible damage, if any.

9. Further scoping will take place in the initial phase of the collaborative work of the two committees with a view to developing draft structure, outline and indicative target audience of the policy brief as well as identifying potential sources of information.

III. Roles, responsibilities and modalities of work

10. The preparation of the joint policy brief will be coordinated by a TEC-Excom joint working group which includes two Excom liaison members¹ and two representatives² of the TEC task force on emerging and cross-cutting issues.³

11. This joint working group has the responsibility of advancing the work intersessionally, which include coordinating, with relevant experts and organizations and assistance by the secretariat, the gathering of technical inputs, consulting on contents and preparation of draft documents, including through organizing thematic dialogue/technical consultations, as appropriate. The joint working group will primarily work via electronic means and through teleconferences, etc. In - person meetings can be held as deemed necessary, subject to the availability of financial resources.

12. Relevant experts in the field of technologies for coastal zones and loss and damage will be engaged in on a voluntary basis, in the work of the joint working group, as appropriate. Such experts could be identified through various networks and databases available to the two committees.⁴ Different modalities could be used to reach out and engage interested organizations and experts, such as through invitation or reaching out to experts and organizations who are interested in this area of work, and/or thematic events subject to availability of resources, among others.

13. The secretariat will support the joint working group in the implementation of the joint work.

IV. Indicative milestones

14. The following table provides information on indicative milestones for the development of the policy brief.

Date	Activities	Lead / co-leads
May–late August 2018	Development of a draft concept note	Joint working group
September 2018 (TEC17 / Excom 8)	Endorsement of the concept note at TEC 17 and Excom 8	TEC, Excom
Rolling basis	Engagement of relevant organizations and experts in the scoping and drafting of the brief	Joint working group, secretariat

¹ Mr. Nedal Katbeth-Bader and Mr. Kimio Takeya.

² Ms. Adelle Thomas (TEC focal point for the intersessional work with the Excom) and Mr. Mareer Mohammad Husny.

³ See: <http://unfccc.int/tclear/tec/members.html#Task>.

⁴ Examples include: the roster of experts of the WIM, the network of partner organizations of the Nairobi work programme on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change, partner organizations and network members of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, etc.

Date	Activities	Lead / co-leads
December 2018 (COP 24)	Demonstration of progress at COP 24	TEC, Excom
Spring 2019 (e.g. back to back with the 1 st meeting of the Excom in 2019)	Organization of an expert dialogue*	Excom
Spring 2019 (Expert dialogue and TEC 18/ Excom 9)	Consideration of the structure, outline of the policy brief	TEC, Excom, relevant organizations and experts
Post-TEC 18/ Excom 9 – TEC 19/ Excom 10	Preparation of a draft policy brief	Relevant organizations and experts
	Provision of feedback	Joint working group
	Iteration of the draft policy brief	Relevant organizations and experts
Fall 2019 (TEC 19 / Excom 10)	Final inputs to / clearance of, the draft policy brief	TEC, Excom
Late fall 2019 (Post- TEC 19 / Excom 10)	Finalization of the policy brief	Relevant organizations and experts, joint working group
December 2019 (COP 25)	Release of the policy brief at/by COP 25	TEC, Excom

*The expert dialogue should be conducted at no or low cost, following the expert briefings modality. If an external organization expresses its interest to collaborate with the Excom and TEC by hosting or providing such expert dialogue/briefing/meeting this will be pursued and taken into consideration.