

Summary of decision points at Excom 8

As at 21 September 2018

Item 4: Collaboration and interlinkages with other bodies and work programmes under the UNFCCC

(a) Paris Committee on Capacity Building

(b) Gender

(c) Science and research

(d) Technology Executive Committee

- Took note of the oral reports on intersessional activities in relation to items 4(a)-(c).
- Agreed to benefit from the training on gender offered by the secretariat to constituted bodies, possibly in conjunction with Excom 9.
- Under item 4 (d), endorsed the draft concept note, jointly prepared with the Technology Executive Committee, for the development of the policy brief on technologies for coastal zones, as presented in document Excom/2018/8/2, and requested the secretariat to start engaging relevant organizations, in line with the concept note.

Item 5: Report by the expert groups

(a) Task Force on Displacement

- Took note with appreciation of the report of the Task Force on Displacement.
- Based on the report of the Task Force on Displacement, the Excom adopted the following recommendations:
 1. The Executive Committee decided to extend the mandate of the Task Force on Displacement, according to a terms of reference to be elaborated by the Executive Committee at its next meeting (Excom 9), to help execute the work of the Executive Committee in guiding the implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism, as appropriate, in an advisory role, as part of the five-year rolling workplan, strategic workstream (D) 'Enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to human mobility, including migration, displacement and planned relocation'.
 2. The Excom decided to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 3 to 5 below, and to consider the information and relevant approaches outlined in the report of the Task Force on Displacement when elaborating on the TOR as referred to in para 1 above;
 3. The Executive Committee decided to invite Parties and relevant organizations to provide information, by 15 January 2019, on sources of financial support they are providing for planning and implementation of integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address

displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change, with a view to informing the development of the technical paper referred to in paragraph 2 (f) of decision 4/CP.22.

4. The Executive Committee decided to, at its next meeting (Excom 9) consider steps to take forward inter alia the following:

- (a) Ensure that synergies are built between the strategic workstream on human mobility and the other workstreams of the Executive Committee's five-year rolling work plan, to advance work on displacement;
- (b) Continue to engage with civil society, experts, affected communities, as well as other relevant stakeholders on displacement, and the broader area of human mobility, in the context of climate change in the activities of the Executive Committee;
- (c) In collaboration with relevant organizations, compile existing knowledge, data, tools and guidance; and develop these in areas where there are gaps, where appropriate, in particular in relation to integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement and broader areas of human mobility related to the adverse impacts of climate change; and disseminate them, including through the UNFCCC website;
- (d) Facilitate action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for developing country Parties in their efforts, as appropriate, to integrate approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change into relevant national planning processes, including the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).
- (e) In collaboration with relevant bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement and relevant organizations as appropriate, facilitate capacity-building of developing country Parties related to mapping of risks of displacement, and identification and implementation of integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change;
- (f) Facilitate enhanced understanding and the provision of technical support for developing country Parties to bridge knowledge and capacity gaps regarding in particular to internal displacement related to the adverse effects of climate change.

5. The Executive Committee decided, in collaboration with the Standing Committee on Finance and relevant organizations, consistent with their mandates and work plans, to facilitate mobilization of financial resources for developing country Parties to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse effects of climate change.

(b) Slow onset events

(c) Non-economic losses

(d) Comprehensive risk management approaches

- Elected Ms. Ekaterine Mikadze as a member of the expert group on slow onset events.
- Elected Mr. Valeriy Sedyakin and Mr. Antonio Cañas as members of the expert group on non-economic losses.
- Took note of the progress made by expert groups and the initial plans of work for the upcoming intersessional period.

- Recommended that the co-chairs consider allocating time in future Excom meetings for expert groups to work among themselves to organize their intersessional work.
- Appreciated the preparation of the roster of experts and noted the relevance of this roster to the work of the expert groups.
- Thanked the experts who have already registered and encouraged others to register in the roster.

Item 6: Guidance for the Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management to facilitate stakeholder engagement and capacity building in the context of strategic work stream (c), activity 4

- Agreed that the Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management initiate work on activities 4 (a)-(c) of strategic workstream (c), by convening relevant stakeholders for a workshop, involving the full membership of the Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management, and, as appropriate, Excom members, with a view to providing input into activities 2, 5 and 6 of strategic workstream (c).

Item 7: Scoping of the technical paper on sources of financial support

- Forwarded the outcomes of the Excom’s work from this meeting to the secretariat, which consists of terms of reference, to assist the secretariat in determining the scope of the technical paper, referred to in paragraphs 2 (f) of decision 4/CP.22.

Item 8: Report of the Executive Committee

- Adopted the recommendations to be inserted in the annual report of the Excom.

Item 9: Communication strategy of the Executive Committee

- Endorsed the draft communication strategy of the Excom.¹
- Invited the expert groups to provide inputs to the Annex of the communication strategy.
- Agreed to:
 - the organization of a COP 24 side event by the Excom, in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD), with a view to promote the work of the Task Force on Displacement;
 - Invite the incoming COP Presidency, to consider hosting an event in collaboration with the Excom, which includes a poster session at COP 24, to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Warsaw International Mechanism.

Item 10: Engagement of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

- Noted the relevance of scientific information related to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts as provided by the assessment reports and special reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

¹ See annex I.

Item 11: Emerging needs and cross-cutting issues

- Decided to include this agenda item in every future meeting of the Excom.

Item 13: Any other matters

- Noting that there are no pre-identified events which should be taken into account as “extreme weather events” in the work of the Excom, agreed to take into account, where relevant, relevant climate-related events and hazards, such as wildfires, in its future work, as appropriate.

Annex I – Draft communication strategy of the Excom

I. Introduction:

1. At COP 19 (2013) Parties decided to establish the Warsaw International Mechanism for loss and damage associated with impacts of climate change (WIM) which addresses loss and damage from both extreme weather events and slow onset events. The WIM is further guided by Art 8 of the Paris Agreement. Its Executive Committee (Excom) is aiming to guide the implementation of the following functions:
 - a. enhancing knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches;
 - b. strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence, and synergies among relevant stakeholders;
 - c. enhancing action and support so as to enable countries to take action to address loss and damage.
2. This communications strategy aims to enhance the visibility and therefore strengthen the impact of the Excom’s output, both with respect to Parties and relevant stakeholders, as well as with respect to a wider audience and the informed public. It further aims to showcase the relevance and importance of the Excom’s as well as the WIMs output in the context of the Paris Agreement, in the context of the broader drive towards averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage and sustainable development. It will also highlight the coherence and synergies of bodies and organisations under and outside the UNFCCC working together to support Parties.
3. At its 6th meeting, the Excom adopted its five-year rolling workplan for 2017–2021, from which further valuable output is likely to flow. This communications strategy will also support and enhance the visibility and impact of the Excom’s output in particular for this period.
4. This strategy aims to set out the purpose of communicating the work of the Excom (the ‘why’), the audience (the ‘who’), the content and messages (the ‘what’), the means or vehicles for communicating (the ‘how’) and the timing of communicating (the ‘when’). These elements will be addressed in greater detail below.

This strategy as presented by the Excom in this document consists of two parts:

- a. an overall long-term strategy guiding the communication work of the Excom;
- b. a short and mid-term ‘living document part’ providing more detailed information on opportunities to follow up on. (see the Annex - also section V)

II. Purpose and objectives – “why”

5. The Excom believes that communication and information are essential and powerful instruments to raise the awareness, and build and share knowledge and tools on the issue of “loss and damage”, including through stimulating a dialogue and informing relevant actors and stakeholders within and outside the UNFCCC on the importance of and approaches to avert, minimise and address loss and damage.
6. The work of the Excom together with the outcomes of the strategic workstreams highlighted in the five-year rolling workplan have the potential to make a solid contribution towards averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage as well as towards sustainable development.

7. In order to maximise the potential of the Excom, and the impact of its work and products, there is a need to ensure adequate outreach and dissemination to a wider audience. Specifically, the products, the contents of which can function as a very useful tool to policymakers and other stakeholders, would need to be highlighted. Overall, such a promotion will have the added benefit of showcasing the achievements of the Excom. It will also contribute to showing the move towards implementation, thus taking forward the achievements reached annually.
8. The purpose of the communication strategy of the Excom thus is:
 - a. To increase the impact, visibility and to raise awareness of both the Excom itself as well as the work of the Excom,
 - b. To enhance the catalytic role of the Excom and the WIM in promoting and facilitating the sharing of the implementation of approaches to avert, minimize and address loss and damage in a comprehensive, integrated and coherent manner,
 - c. To collaborate with bodies under and outside the UNFCCC as well as relevant stakeholders in order to inter alia avoid duplication of work,
 - d. To ensure that the output of the Excom can be easily accessed and used by decision-makers, policymakers and other relevant stakeholders,
 - e. To communicate to a wider audience the coherence and synergies within the WIM as relevant bodies work together to support Parties implementing approaches to avert, minimize and address loss and damage,
 - f. To develop and disseminate, user-friendly information and communication products, through collaboration and partnerships with relevant stakeholders and organizations
9. Since its establishment, the Excom produces a wide range of information and knowledge products and will continue to do so when implementing the five-year rolling workplan. The information to be communicated should be carefully selected and tailored in order to have direct relevance to target groups, while supporting the strategic outcomes of the Excom's work as per its rolling workplan.

III. Target Groups and approach – “who” and “what”

10. UNFCCC stakeholders are a major target group for the communications of the Excom, including the dissemination of Excom recommendations, tools and reports. In this context, the climate community is expected to comprise the UNFCCC and its bodies and (expert) groups, individual Parties, NGOs, media and all other accredited institutions and companies.
11. Furthermore, the Excom is dedicated to building awareness on how to avert, minimise and address the impacts of climate change and encourages action to build resilience outside the UNFCCC process. This will be done by providing information and by engaging in dialogue where needed. Relevant actors and stakeholders outside the UNFCCC include a very broad audience, including national, regional and local governments and institutions, independent agencies, private sector, interest groups and individuals, the academic world and research institutes/organizations as well as the general public.
12. Therefore, the Excom aims to ensure that information generated from its work is converted into user-friendly products, such as tools and methods, and material for training modules as well as to

consider, through collaboration and partnerships, the development and the dissemination at all levels of user-friendly information and communication products.

13. The audience for the Excom's communication and information is therefore not homogeneous; it ranges from professionals inside the UNFCCC process to experts and citizens outside. The Excom recognizes that different groups may need different information to take informed decisions and be effective in their actions on the challenge of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage. In order for the Excom to be effective in sending clear, tailored, and easily understandable messages, it is essential for it to understand the nature of its different audiences.
14. In its communication efforts, the Excom will seek to build alliances and identify synergies with actors inside the UNFCCC process and with external stakeholders in order to inter alia promote the catalytic role of the WIM. Where possible and effective, the Excom will strive to align with, and support, communication initiatives and channels of relevant organizations, institutions and interest opinion leaders, trend setters and other 'champions' to disseminate the relevant message.
15. To be most effective the Excom will coordinate the release of its publications with relevant conferences and meetings held under the UNFCCC and, as appropriate, in collaboration with external stakeholders. The Excom intends to create an 'open window' for communication, with the aim of working closely with external stakeholders/observers to better identify opportunities, questions, target groups and other related issues for effective communication, information and outreach.

IV. Timeline and monitoring and review

16. This communications strategy is a living document. It will be updated and revised as may be deemed necessary by the Excom.
17. The Excom will periodically monitor and review the implementation of its communications activities, and hence the effectiveness of the communications strategy. The review may also be used to inform any future efforts and re-adjust the strategy, as required.

ANNEX

V. Suggestions for activities – “how” and “when”

18. This section provides suggestions for possible means of communication activities and associated timing, to illustrate the approach and identification of target groups as explained above.
19. General communication activities (short term):
 - a. Side event at COP 24 - TFD recommendations – organised by IOM, PDD in collaboration with Excom
 - b. Side event at COP 24 – celebrating the 5-year anniversary of the WIM

20. Communication activities in relation to the five-year rolling workplan (mid to long-term):

Explanatory remarks

a) relevant stakeholders: identify stakeholders that you want to reach with each product

b) desired impacts: what kind of impact would the product ideally have?

c) communication channels: which channels of communication should be used to reach identified stakeholders?

d) feedback: do contacts to stakeholders exist and can they be used to ask for feedback (e.g. which format would be best?)

e) kind of product: in what kind/form should the final product come?

Strategic workstream (a): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to slow onset events	
Relevant stakeholders	
Desired impact	
Communication channels	
Feedback	
Kind of product	
timeline	
Strategic workstream (b): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to non-economic losses	
Relevant stakeholders	
Desired impact	
Communication channels	
Feedback	
Kind of product	
timeline	

Strategic workstream (c): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to comprehensive risk management approaches	
Relevant stakeholders	
Desired impact	
Communication channels	
Feedback	
Kind of product	
timeline	

Strategic workstream (d): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to human mobility, including migration, displacement and planned relocation	
Relevant stakeholders	
Desired impact	
Communication channels	
Feedback	

Kind of product	
timeline	

<i>Strategic workstream (e): enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building</i>	
Relevant stakeholders	
Desired impact	
Communication channels	
Feedback	
Kind of product	
timeline	