

## Decision 7/CP.17

### Work programme on loss and damage

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* decision 1/CP.16, whereby the Conference of the Parties decided to establish a work programme in order to consider approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change,

*Also recalling* the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-fourth session,<sup>1</sup>

*Recognizing* the need to strengthen international cooperation and expertise in order to understand and reduce loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather events and slow onset events,

*Noting* the significant amount of relevant ongoing work within and outside of the Convention process,

*Encouraging* Parties to make use of the relevant information contained in the *Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in considering approaches to address loss and damage, as appropriate,

*Recalling* the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-fourth session, whereby the Subsidiary Body for Implementation took note of the importance of the following three broad thematic areas in the implementation of the work programme on loss and damage: assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change and the current knowledge on the same; a range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather events and slow onset events, taking into consideration experience at all levels; and the role of the Convention in enhancing the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change,

*Recognizing* the value of national assessments undertaken by developing countries in order to provide national data and a quantification of loss and damage across all sectors associated with extreme weather events and slow onset events of climate change,

1. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to continue the implementation of the work programme on approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and to make recommendations on loss and damage to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration at its eighteenth session;
2. *Also requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to take into account the questions mentioned in the annex to this decision in implementing the work programme;
3. *Invites* Parties, relevant intergovernmental organizations, regional centres and networks, the private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders:

(a) To take into account the three thematic areas<sup>2</sup> when undertaking activities aimed at assisting Parties in enhancing their understanding of, and expertise that will help to address, loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in

<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBI/2011/7, paragraphs 106–116.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2011/7, paragraph 109.

developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

(b) To share the outcomes of their activities and provide information thereon, including lessons learned and good practices from the implementation of existing risk assessment and risk management options, with the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its subsequent sessions, as appropriate;

4. *Agrees* to engage a large and diverse representation of experts, in particular from developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, in undertaking the work under the thematic areas referred to in paragraph 3(a) above;

5. *Appreciates* the need to explore a range of possible approaches and potential mechanisms, including an international mechanism, to address loss and damage, with a view to making recommendations on loss and damage to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration at its eighteenth session, including elaborating the elements set out in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 28(a–d);

## **I. Thematic area 1: Assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change and the current knowledge on the same**

6. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to address issues related to this thematic area at the expert meeting mandated to be held before the thirty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation,<sup>3</sup> taking into account inputs from relevant organizations and other stakeholders, and drawing on expertise within and outside the Convention, with a view to generating an adequate knowledge base for the discussion under thematic area 2, detailed in chapter II below;

7. *Also requests* the secretariat:

(a) To make available the report on the expert meeting referred to in paragraph 6 above for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-sixth session;

(b) To prepare a technical paper, before the expert meeting mentioned in paragraph 6 above and in collaboration with relevant organizations and other stakeholders, summarizing current knowledge on relevant methodologies, and addressing data requirements as well as lessons learned and gaps identified at different levels, drawing on existing relevant work and documents;

## **II. Thematic area 2: A range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather events and slow onset events, taking into consideration experience at all levels**

8. *Further requests* the secretariat:

(a) To organize four expert meetings, three at the regional level and one for small island developing States, in conjunction with other related events where possible, reflecting regional priorities and experiences, to be held before the thirty-seventh session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, to address issues related to this thematic area,

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<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBI/2011/7, paragraph 111.

taking into account the outcomes of the expert meeting mentioned in paragraph 6 above and the inputs from relevant organizations and other stakeholders within and outside the Convention;

(b) To make available the report on the expert meetings referred to in paragraph 8(a) above for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation by its thirty-seventh session;

(c) To develop a technical paper on slow onset events, taking into consideration the outcomes of the regional expert meetings mentioned in paragraph 8(a) above;

(d) To conduct, in collaboration with relevant organizations and other stakeholders, and drawing on existing relevant work and documents, a literature review of existing information and case studies on the topics in the context of this thematic area, to feed into the expert meetings mentioned in paragraph 8(a) above;

### **III. Thematic area 3: The role of the Convention in enhancing the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change**

9. *Invites* Parties and relevant organizations and other stakeholders to submit to the secretariat, by 17 September 2012, taking into account the outcomes of the implementation of the work programme on loss and damage prior to that date, views and information on the possible elements to be included in the recommendations on loss and damage in accordance with decision 1/CP.16;

10. *Requests* the secretariat to compile those submissions into a miscellaneous document to be made available for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-seventh session;

11. *Also requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider issues related to this thematic area at its thirty-seventh session, taking into account the following:

(a) The outcomes of the activities completed prior to the session;

(b) The submissions referred to in paragraph 9 above;

(c) The actions undertaken by relevant organizations and other stakeholders in the context of the work programme;

(d) Inputs from processes relevant to these issues;

12. *Further requests* Parties included in Annex II to the Convention and other developed country Parties in a position to do so to provide financial and technical support, as appropriate, for the implementation of the work programme;

13. *Invites* interested organizations in a position to do so to provide financial and technical support, as appropriate, for the implementation of the activities of the work programme;

14. *Takes note* of the estimated budgetary implications to implement the activities contained in this decision, as provided by the secretariat;

15. *Requests* that the actions of the secretariat called for in this decision be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

## Annex

### Questions

#### **I. Thematic area 1: Assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change and the current knowledge on the same**

1. What are the data and information requirements for assessing impacts and climate risk, at different levels and for a broad range of sectors and ecosystems? What data are available and where are the gaps?
2. What methods and tools are available for risk assessment, including their requirements, strengths and weaknesses, and can they address social and environmental impacts?
3. What are the capacity needs for applying risk assessment methods on the ground, including for facilitating their application in developing countries?
4. How can the results of risk assessments be optimally formulated in order to support decision-making? What are the desired methods for presenting the results of risk assessment exercises so that they drive decision-making?

#### **II. Thematic area 2: A range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather events and slow onset events, taking into consideration experience at all levels**

5. What is the full range of approaches and tools that can be used to address the risk of loss and damage, at all levels and for a broad range of sectors and ecosystems, considering both extreme weather events and slow onset events? Such approaches and tools include, inter alia, conventional, non-conventional and innovative instruments to address specific types of loss and damage in the context of this thematic area, especially those driven by the multiplying, magnifying and intensifying effects of climate change at the national, subnational and local levels. What is known about the relative cost-effectiveness of these tools?
6. What are the foundational resource requirements (e.g. budget, infrastructure, and technical capacity for implementation) in order for different strategies and tools to be effectively applied?
7. What are the lessons learned from existing efforts within both the public and private sectors, considering elements of design, limitations, challenges and best practices?
8. What are the links and synergies between risk reduction and other instruments such as risk transfer? How can comprehensive risk management portfolios or toolkits be designed?
9. How can risk management approaches be tailored to national contexts? How can Parties and other stakeholders evaluate which tools might be most appropriate for their particular risks and circumstances?

*10<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting  
9 December 2011*