

LOSS AND DAMAGE YOUTH COALITION

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LDYC'S OBSERVATIONS ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF THE WIM EXCOM



PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY
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1 History of the WIM

In 2007 during the thirteenth Conference of Parties (COP 13), the term loss and damage was introduced for the first time as a means to demand enhanced action on adaptation¹. From 2007 to 2012, technical work on “loss and damage” started and at the 37th Subsidiary Body of Implementation (SBI 37), the Parties considered the progress made and made recommendations to be considered at COP 18. One of the recommendations was to establish an institutional arrangement on Loss and Damage at COP 19, hold experts' meetings to consider future needs, and prepare technical papers on non-economic losses and existing institutional arrangements on Loss and Damage outside the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (WIM) with the mandate to address loss and damage related to climate change impacts, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate change's adverse effects and its Executive Committee (ExCom); were established in 2013 at COP19 at the UNFCCC with three primary functions which are:

- **Increase knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches;**
- **Strengthen dialogue, coordination, and synergies between relevant actors; and**
- **Enhance action and support - including finance, technology, and capacity building - to address loss and damage.**

The ExCom comprises twenty members from UNFCCC Parties, and it implements the workplan through coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders under COP's guidance.

The activities of ExCom's workplan are carried out by five thematic expert groups on slow onset events, non-economic losses, comprehensive risk management, task force on displacement, and action and support.

2 LDYC WIM Review in 2021

In 2021, LDYC² prepared a report card on the WIM building on a report commissioned by Practical Action and conducted by independent researchers from University College London (UCL)³, identifying both successes and shortcomings in the delivery of work on loss and damage by evaluating the ExCom in relation to the overall mandate of the WIM and specific activities outlined in the ExCom's work plans; the overall grade was Failure (F). In our view, the WIM ExCom is under-resourced to match the scale of the need to address loss and damage on the ground. Our main recommendations to ExCom include scaling action and support, increasing the avenue for frontline communities and CSO participation, and providing guidance on how Loss and Damage can be mainstreamed in the Nationally Determined Contributions.

3 WIM at COP 27

During the COP27, Parties agreed on the next five-year rolling (2023-2027) plan of the ExCom⁴ which stipulates the inclusiveness of actors in Loss and Damage on the national and international level as well as the involvement of financial mechanisms of the UNFCCC in the implementation.

4 The 18th ExCom Meeting

As per the Excom member mandate, ExCom members meet at least twice a year in an open-to-observer meeting. From the 28th of February to the 3rd of March; they convened its 18th conference in Manila, Philippines⁵. Some of the agenda items discussed include ‘matters relating to the Santiago network’; ‘cooperation with the Subsidiary Body of Implementation (SBI) in the organization of the second Glasgow Dialogue’; among others.⁶

1 See: Decision 1/CP.13, para. 1c.

2 Loss and Damage Youth Coalition (LDYC) is a coalition of youth from both the global South and global North established after COP 25, when it became clear that youth engagement and leadership needed to be enhanced and amplified, particularly to take action in addressing loss and damage.

3 See: Warsaw International Mechanism Report by LDYC

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Key Outcome 1: Matters related to Santiago Network

The ExCom elected four members to support the panel that will evaluate the proposals for hosting the Santiago network secretariat stated its interest in enhancing synergies and coherence between the ExCom and the Santiago network's work; and requested the UNFCCC Secretariat to provide regular updates on progress in making public the requests it receives for technical assistance and in more actively communicating information on technical assistance available.

Key Outcome 2: On the Glasgow Dialogue⁷

Cooperation with the SBI in the organization of the second Glasgow Dialogue: The ExCom has requested that the group of champions prepare ExCom's input for the second Glasgow Dialogue for consideration and endorsement by the ExCom, and has further requested that the group of champions continue to liaise with the SBI Chair in the coming weeks to refine ExCom's input for the second Glasgow Dialogue.

We demand that the host secretariat will take into account how the Santiago Network will be responding to the needs of the developing countries, especially to provide technical assistance in identifying gaps and the need for concrete action to address loss and damage.

It was impressive to see ExCom make headway in selecting a group of champions to prepare contributions for the Glasgow Dialogue. We would like to emphasize the importance of the Glasgow Dialogue defining and identifying the institutional arrangements of the Fund by elaborating how the finance for action to address loss and damage will be mobilized by being new, additional, and accessible to developing countries that are especially vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change.

5 General comment on the WIM outcome

The WIM Excom was held in a developing country, which is an interesting shift to allow effective participation and interaction with frontline communities facing climate change's negative impact impacts. We take note and appreciate the participation of the Tebtebba, who presented lived experience from the frontline community in a policy-science interface.

We take note of the progress made by ExCom to nominate members who will be engaged in evaluating the secretariat host of the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage.

⁴ See: [Second five-year rolling workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism](#).

⁵ See: [18th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage | UNFCCC](#)

⁶ See: [A summary of decision points adopted at ExCom 18](#)

⁷ COP 26 established Glasgow Dialogue as a forum for UNFCCC Parties, relevant organizations, and stakeholders to discuss funding arrangements for activities to avert, minimize, and address loss and damage caused by climate change