



Climate Action Network-International  
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4th October 2017

***RE: Transparency in the Warsaw International Mechanism ExCom 6 and 5-year Workplan***

Dear Co-Chairs of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage and UNFCCC Secretariat staff,

CAN looks forward to the considerations to be made at ExCom6. The further elaboration of the ExCom's 5-year workplan will, in our view, be a key issue and key deliverable by the ExCom to COP23. It will shape the direction of travel and ambition of the WIM and will determine whether it will be able to actively respond to the request by COP22 to "enhance action and support" and to the needs that developing countries face in light of growing loss and damage. CAN has been actively engaging in this process and has previously forwarded a submission.

However, we would like to raise our concerns regarding the transparency and inclusiveness of the process around the 5-year workplan. While we appreciated the interactive and inclusive atmosphere at ExCom5 which allowed civil society and other observers to actively engage and contribute to the process, since then observers have been largely closed out from any further discussion.

We appreciate that now, a few days before the ExCom meeting, a mapping document for the 5-year workplan discussion has been made available on the ExCom website which will aide our preparation. We were hoping that the documents prepared intersessionally would have been available to the public much earlier, and that suggestions made for targeted consultations around those documents would have been actively responded to.

We understand that the ExCom members are having an informal space among themselves, based on the agreements at ExCom5, but regret that no updated information on the scope and approach of these pre-meetings is available publicly.

As the provisional agenda for ExCom6 includes a presentation on the further development of a set of activities for the workplan for "further observers' inputs", we expect that the meeting's schedule will include appropriate time for an active engagement on this very important matter. We hope that the ExCom does not intend to practically finalize the 5-year workplan in those closed meetings, potentially to keep difficult discussions out of the public space. This would send a bad signal and would unnecessarily risk undermining the credibility of the ExCom and losing the support of observers. Whilst we understand that in finalising sensitive issues, ExCom members may wish to hold closed meetings - it is hard to fathom how drafting a workplan could be considered a sensitive issue, unless certain Parties are planning to try and influence such discussions to ensure that some issues, such as finance, are never properly discussed.

Many countries and observer organisations have for many years put significant efforts, have worked intensively and have added significant value on the establishment and design of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage. We expect that the ExCom and the UNFCCC Secretariat continue to uphold its mandate to work in an inclusive and transparent manner at this crucial time which is essential for the WIM's future direction. We look forward in continuing to contribute proactively in enhancing the impact of the WIM for the benefit of those people and countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Yours sincerely,

Sven Harmeling (Working Group Coordinator)

On behalf of the Adaptation and Loss & Damage Working Group of Climate Action Network - International