



Climate Action Network

Comments on ADP 2.11 text Adaptation and Loss and Damage

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Climate Action Network International (CAN-I) is the world's largest network of civil society organizations working together to promote government action to address the climate crisis, with more than 950 members in over 110 countries. www.climatenetwork.org

Adaptation

The Paris Agreement must signal a comprehensive long-term vision of a world freed of poverty through the social and economic opportunities created by the transition to a low-emission and climate resilient future. Safeguarding developments from climate change impacts will be essential to be able to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and climate adaptation and tackling the residual impacts and loss and damage are essential strategies to that end. The higher the expected temperature increase as a consequence of inadequate mitigation, the more difficult it will be to close the adaptation gap. Adequate provisions in the Paris core agreement need to ensure political parity of mitigation, and adaptation, and loss and damage, with the latter two on equal footing, and providing a long-term framework for action, while concrete progress needs to be achieved through concrete initiatives, additional finance and further work under the UNFCCC before 2020.

Thus the Paris core agreement should include:

- A global adaptation goal which advances adaptation to help build resilience for all communities and ecosystems, recognizing that rising temperatures will require greater adaptation efforts taking into account the expected temperature increase, and that achieving this goal is a common responsibility including support to developing countries based on the principle of CBDR-RC and other equity principles and indicators.

Article 4.1 should **include a reference to the fact that ensuring vulnerable developing countries have sufficient capacity to be able achieve this goal is a common responsibility and requires support.**

Art. 4.2 Parties recognize that, the greater their mitigation efforts, the less adaptation will be needed, **requiring the continuous consideration of the projected levels of warming and its implications for adaptation efforts and support needs.**

- The affirmation of key principles of gender equitable, participatory, community and ecosystem-based adaptation as overarching guidance applied to all adaptation action. The text contained in Art 4.3 which uses agreed language from the Cancun Adaptation Framework should be defended. If possible it should be strengthened in some regards.

Art. 4.3 Parties acknowledge ~~affirm~~ **responsive, rights-based** that adaptation action should follow a country-driven, gender-sensitive ~~responsive, rights-based~~, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be based on and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional and indigenous knowledge, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate.

- Commitments by all Parties to regularly communicate planned national adaptation actions to the UNFCCC in a flexible manner, through preferred channels (e.g. NAPs, NDCs, National Communications) which also serves as a basis for scaling-up adaptation action and support.

Article 4.6 and 4.7: Each country shall engage in national adaptation planning processes and also regularly communicate on planned efforts, but in a flexible manner. This is captured in the proposed articles.

- A commitment by all countries to promote the integration of climate risks into planning and action, with financial and technical support for vulnerable developing countries. This is addressed in Art. 4.3

Article 4.8: Among others, the adaptation communications referred to in Art. 4.7 should also feed into the Global Stocktake – which need to be beefed up to become an ambition acceleration mechanism - referred to in Art. 10.

Furthermore, Parties should promote adaptation efforts before 2020 through:

- Increasing efforts to support the preparation and implementation of NAPAs and NAPs for countries which want to make use of these instruments.
- Identifying support and cooperation needs at local, national and trans-boundary level in order to achieve the speedy implementation of additional adaptation actions and components in the INDCs and the NAPs, including through a Technical Examination Process (TEP) triggered by the ADP workstream 2, additional adaptation finance, etc.

The Adaptation Committee should play a central role in coordinating these functions.

Loss and damage

The concept of loss and damage is increasingly important because we have not mitigated or adapted to climate in time: whatever we do now, there will still be losses and irreversible impact. Thus Loss and Damage should be treated as a separate pillar under the new agreement. The Paris agreement should give this issue its due recognition.

The Paris core agreement should:

- Anchor loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in the Paris Agreement as a stand-alone issue, including by establishing a link to mitigation and adaptation efforts as these impact on the level of loss and damage; and reflect the need for additional financial support to be provided by those countries and actors most responsible for causing the problem.

- Ensure that institutional arrangements under the Paris Agreement will further strengthen the work on loss and damage as the problem evolves (building on but not limited to the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM)).

Art. 5.1 *[loss and damage]* Parties acknowledge the importance of addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, **noting that loss and damage associated with the adverse impacts of climate change includes and in some cases involves more than what can be reduced by adaptation. Developed country parties and others in a position to do so shall provide new and additional financial, technical and capacity building support, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, including through the institutional arrangements set out in Article 5.2 below.** ~~[, including through the institutional arrangements as defined in [this Agreement][decision 1/CP.21],~~

Art. 5.2 **The Warsaw International Mechanism shall serve this Agreement, without prejudice to future decisions on institutional arrangements and functions in accordance with Art. 12.4 and Art. 15. Parties shall take appropriate steps, including through the Warsaw Mechanism, to further explore the development of appropriate legal and policy frameworks to address loss and damage including in relation to climate displacement, and rehabilitation.**

Art. 5.3 Developing country Parties, especially those particularly vulnerable, are eligible for support under the provisions of Articles 5.1 and 5.2 above, ~~including through the Warsaw International Mechanism and any further institutional arrangements that may be developed in the future.~~

Furthermore, as part of the COP decision, Parties should:

- Agree that the WIM will continue its work beyond the planned 2016 review.
- Ensure the mandate for the WIM is strengthened in particular with regard to exploring and establishing financial instruments (with the first step being the establishment of a financial panel with a mandate to make recommendations to ensure finance flows to support vulnerable communities facing the worst impacts)
- Promote additional concrete actions that assist the poorest and most vulnerable in facing loss and damage (e.g. the development of redress schemes, adequate regional insurance approaches, etc.) in support of the mandate of the Warsaw Mechanism
- Coordinate and develop legal and policy frameworks in the area of loss and damage, for example in relation to climate displacement and migration by exploring the potential role of a coordination facility through the WIM, as well as non-economic loss.
- Provide for full and effective public participation in the work of the mechanism, particularly by the communities most affected by loss and damage and their representatives.