



AOSIS VIEWS ON LOSS AND DAMAGE

**Joint meeting of Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management
& Pacific Climate Change Roundtable**

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Overview

- ◆ Objective of the Convention
- ◆ What is loss and damage?
- ◆ Loss and damage is failure to observe objective of Convention
- ◆ Scientific snapshots
- ◆ Loss and Damage under the UNFCCC
- ◆ What does AOSIS want?
- ◆ What does AOSIS expects from Warsaw?



Objective of the Convention

- ◆ “...stabilization of the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent anthropogenic interference with the climate atmosphere. Such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to allow food production not to be threatened and to allow economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner”



What is loss and damage?

- ◆ Loss and damage refers to the entire range of damages and permanent losses “associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change” that can no longer be avoided through mitigation or adaptation.
- ◆ Loss and Damage are both economic and non-economic.





Failure to fulfill objective the Convention

- ◆ Loss and damage addressed under the UNFCCC is a result of man made climate change.
- ◆ Loss and damage is linked to the failure to fulfill the ultimate objective of the Convention – preventing dangerous interference with the climate system.
- ◆ Given the current level of mitigation ambition, loss and damage is already happening and will be inevitable.



Scientific snapshot

- ◆ IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) underestimated the sea level rise prediction.
- ◆ IPCC's SREX Report clearly identifies the human contribution to climate change and the likely contribution to mean sea level rise.
- ◆ New study found that half of all coral reefs could be lost with a temperature rise above 1.2 degrees Celsius.
- ◆ Scientists concluded that “ there is little doubt...coral reefs will no longer be prominent within coastal ecosystems if global average temperatures exceeds 2 degrees Celsius” (Frieler et. al. 2012).



Loss and Damage under the UNFCCC

BALI ACTION PLAN (COP 13 in Bali 2007)

Decision 1/CP.13 Bali Action Plan

- ◆ Shared vision for cooperation for long term goal including a global goal for emission reductions; **enhanced action on adaptation; enhanced action on technology development and transfer and enhanced action on the provision of financial resources for mitigation and adaptation.**
- ◆ **Under Decision 1/CP.13, paragraph 1c(iii)**, on enhanced action on adaptation made reference to loss and damage but in the broader context of disaster risk reduction.



Loss and Damage in UNFCCC under the UNFCCC

CANCUN AGREEMENT (COP 16 in Cancun 2010)

Decision 1/CP.16:

- ◆ **Paragraph 13** “established the Cancun Adaptation Framework, objective of enhancing action on adaptation...”.
- ◆ **Paragraph 25** “recognize the need to strengthen international cooperation and expertise in order to understand and reduce loss and damage...”.
- ◆ **Paragraph 26** “establish the Work Programme on Loss and Damage...”.



Cancun Adaptation

Framework

Decision 1/CP.16

◆ Paragraph 28

- (a) Possible development of a climate risk insurance facility to address impacts associated with severe weather events;
- (b) Options for risk management and reduction, risk sharing and transfer mechanisms such as insurance, including options for micro-insurance, and resilience-building, including through economic diversification;
- (c) Approaches for addressing rehabilitation measures associated with slow onset events;
- (d) Engagement of stakeholders with relevant specialized expertise;



Loss and Damage in UNFCCC under the UNFCCC

DURBAN PLATFORM (COP 17 Durban 2011)

Decision 7/CP.17 requests the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to:

- Continue implementation of the Work Programme on approaches to address loss and damage and to make recommendations on loss and damage to the **COP at its 18th session.**
- Work Programme included several regional expert meetings and an expert meeting for SIDS in 2012.



Loss and Damage Under UNFCCC

Doha Gateway (COP 18 Doha 2012)

Decision 3/CP.18

- ◆ Paragraph 9, “decides to establish, at its nineteenth session, institutional arrangements, such as an international mechanism, including functions and modalities...
- ◆ Paragraph 10, request secretariat to carry out following interim activities under the work programme on loss and damage prior to the 39th session of SBI:
 - An expert meeting;
 - Technical paper on non-economic losses;
 - Technical paper on gaps in existing institutional arrangements within and outside Convention...



Loss and Damage under UNFCCC

Decision 3/CP.18

- ◆ Paragraph 11, request SBI to consider the technical paper referred to in paragraph 10 (c) in developing the arrangements referred to in paragraph 9.
- ◆ Paragraph 12, request also request SBI to elaborate at its 38th session, activities under the work programme on loss and damage, to further the understanding of and expertise on loss and damage...



What does AOSIS want?

- ◆ To address loss and damage from climate change that cannot be addressed by adaptation.
- ◆ To address current losses for which there is not capacity to cope, e.g. extreme events.
- ◆ To address loss and damage through an international mechanism that will sit under the UNFCCC COP.



What does AOSIS want from Warsaw?

◆ The **establishment of an international mechanism** that addresses the comprehensive needs of SIDS. Three components of multi window international mechanism:

1. A risk management component;
1. An insurance;
2. A rehabilitation/compensation component.



Mālō `aupito and thank you!