



CONCEPT NOTE

Ministerial Consultations on Funding Arrangements for Responding to Loss and Damage

ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA

22 September 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

CONTEXT

The establishment of new funding arrangements, including a dedicated fund for responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change by the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC at its 27th session was welcomed by many as a breakthrough. Through decision 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4, Parties acknowledged the urgent and immediate need for new, additional, predictable, and adequate financial resources to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate impacts – referring to both economic and non-economic losses, and extreme-weather events and slow-onset events, especially in the context of ongoing and ex-post action (including rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction). Parties also acknowledged that existing funding arrangements are not sufficient to address funding gaps related to providing action and support in responding to losses and damages associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

The IPCC estimates that around 3.3 to 3.6 billion people are currently living in regions classified as highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, with increasing scale and severity.¹ Moreover, the most vulnerable communities are the least equipped to cope and recover. There are many examples of both rapid and slow-onset events resulting in adverse impacts across developing countries, that illustrate the challenges of providing adequate support at scale. Pakistan served as a solemn example in 2022, with floods causing 1,739 deaths, affecting around 33 million people and causing economic losses estimated at around US\$ 40 billion. Almost a year since then, only 36% of the US\$816 million pledged has been mobilized.

It is in this context that delivering the mandate of 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4 will be a key outcome at COP 28. To achieve this outcome, Parties tasked a Transitional Committee of 24 members to make recommendations on the operationalization of the new funding arrangements and a fund for responding to loss and damage. The transitional committee has conducted three out of its four meetings, and we encourage them to provide clean recommendations for the consideration by COP28 and CMA 5.

¹ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2022/06/WGII_AR6_Presentation_SB56.pdf



OBJECTIVES

Consistent with paragraph 14 of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4 titled *Funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including a focus on addressing loss and damage*; the ministerial consultations will garner political engagement to advance consideration and understanding of possible outcomes at COP28 in Dubai, UAE.

PARTICIPANTS

The Consultative Ministerial Meeting will be co-chaired by H.E. Sameh Shoukry, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt and COP27 President, and H.E. Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technologies of the UAE and COP28 President-Designate. This meeting will be held at the Ministerial Level.

The envisaged format includes two segments. The first segment will focus on delivering on the Sharm El-Sheikh mandate on the new fund and funding arrangements for loss and damage. The second segment will focus on complementarity and coherence of the fund and funding arrangements. **We kindly ask you to please indicate under which of the two segments your minister may wish to intervene. Please communicate your choice of segment to TCsec@unfccc.int by 16 September 2023.**

The event will be open to one minister plus one delegate. In addition, the event will be opened to accredited observers and will also be shown live via webcast. Kindly note that, due to security requirements around the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, secondary passes will be required. We therefore kindly request your timely RSVP, in order to ensure smooth coordination. Logistical information, the link for the webcast and further details will be made available at <https://unfccc.int/event/LandDministerial> in due course.

OUTCOMES

The co-chairs of the dialogue will produce an informal summary of the key political messages to guide further work.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME	
Opening	
10:00 - 10:15	Opening remarks and scene setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COP 27 President and COP 28 President-Designate
10:15 - 10:30	Keynote speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of work of the Transitional Committee • Selected high-level pace-setting remarks
First Roundtable: Delivering on the Sharm El-Sheikh Loss & Damage mandate	
10:30 - 11:30	<p>1. Objectives: How can we define success in addressing loss and damage at COP28?</p> <p>2. Gaps: What are the priority gaps and needs that the new fund for loss and damage should address?</p> <p>3. Addressing needs: How can the fund and funding arrangements effectively meet the needs of vulnerable communities in developing countries, while maintaining the Convention and Paris Agreement principles?</p>
Second Roundtable: Ensuring Impact of the Loss & Damage Fund and Funding Arrangements	
11:30 – 12:30	<p>1. Objectives: How can we define success in delivering on the loss and damage mandate at COP28?</p> <p>2. Ensuring Complementarity and Coordination: What is the best format or platform to ensure seamless collaboration between the new fund and funding arrangements, both within and outside the UNFCCC?</p> <p>3. Fund operationalization, and resource mobilization: A meaningful outcome will depend on early activation of the new fund and funding arrangements. What broad sources may be considered to provide and mobilize new resources to address the needs?</p>
Summary and Closing	
12:30 – 13:00	Closing Remarks