

UNFCCC Meeting Report (Negotiating Session)

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Session/Agenda Item: Matters relating to the Santiago network under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts- Informal Consultation -SBI 13 (b)/SBSTA 4 (b)

Location: UNFCCC COP 28, Dubai, UAE

Room Number: Meeting Room 5, Zone B1

Date and Time: 01 Dec. 2023, 11:00h - 12:00h

Participants (name and organization): Kuwait, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Somalia, Russian Federation, Thailand, Uganda, Botswana, Indonesia, Gambia, Liberia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Japan, Egypt, Philippines, Ecuador, Switzerland, Canada, Vanuatu, Argentina, Mexico, Austria, Norway, Ghana, Fiji, United Arab Emirates, United States, Sudan, Haiti, Pakistan, Australia, Guinea, India, Greece, Iraq, Bhutan, Yemen, Eswatini, etc.

Attachments: [Hosting of the Santiago network secretariat. Report of the evaluation panel](#)

Notes/Summary:

Co-facilitator (from Argentina)

- The mandate is to further consider the SB58 mandate and come to a resolution
- Proposed general approach is to consider the demands of key representatives in the room
- Hope to receive a mandate to create a draft decision text as soon as possible
- For today, they will need to decide how to proceed with their work
- Opened the floor for interventions

Cuba (on behalf of G77)

- Offered congratulations to colleagues on the L&D decision from the opening of the conference
- G77 is working on a draft decision that will be submitted by today that will be presented as a conference paper to be the basis for discussions
- Will go over the general elements
- They have worked with G77 and other constituents
- The draft decision highlights the most important elements for the operations of the Santiago network

- Have elements on the election of the board of the Santiago network
- Have elements on accessibility, which is important for developing countries, and complementarity
- Have other elements, including on the funding of the Santiago network
- Regarding this decision, they have been working on the text for quite a long time, including working on it this morning
- G77 still has a few elements of the text to work on, but hopefully at the time they present it, they will have a general agreement on it
- This cannot be postponed anymore
- Offered congratulations again on the operationalization of the L&D fund

Co-facilitator (from Argentina)

- Reminder that the mandate for this session is to choose the hosts

EU

- Yesterday was quite a historic day
- Many people in this room have spent hours to decades working toward that decision
- Offered congratulations on yesterday's decision
- On the Santiago network, it was started in Madrid, worked on in Glasgow, etc. until now
- Now to decide on the host of the Santiago network
- In Bonn they did not come to a decision on the host, so EU urges everyone today to work swiftly toward landing on the host
- EU has not yet expressed preference on the host, but will do so now
- Both options meet the criteria, but the UNDRRR is the EU's preferred host
- Glad to hear that G77 has been working on their addition to the text
- EU has been doing its own work on what they would like the text to look like
- EU offered to give input on the text

UAE

- Welcomes everyone to the UAE and reminds everyone that time is of the essence on this issue
- Says the UAE is here to support everyone and will do their best to make sure this is gotten across the line

Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

- Congratulations on the operationalization of the L&D fund/funding arrangements being adopted yesterday in the plenary

- Expresses support for Cuba's statement on behalf of G77 regarding the work that is to be done for catalyzing technical assistance on L&D through the Santiago network
- Hopes to get some useful decision on this so that we can address L&D
- Agrees with others on format

Mexico (on behalf of Environmental Integrity Group (EIG))

- EIG appreciates the work of the WIM ExCom
- Santiago network must start functioning ASAP so that technical assistance can be provided to frontline communities
- Speedily advance consultations and decide without further delay on the host
- Suggest that co-facilitators provide draft text
- Host should be able to reach all regions
- As for physical location, Santiago network host should be sited where it makes most sense for developing countries
- EIG supports Nairobi or B
- Geneva has also been mentioned as a possibility
- Switzerland is available to provide more information and would be ready to support the network's establishment in Geneva

United States

- Expressed disappointment that a decision on the host was not able to be made in Bonn
- Willing to provide \$2.5 million contribution to Santiago network, as stated yesterday during plenary
- Hopefully decision text can be adopted by the end of this two weeks
- The choice of the host is an important and challenging decision
- U.S. is flexible on the host of the secretariat
- It is crucial to come to a decision in Dubai and don't want to risk further delays
- Support co-facilitators working on draft decision text based on negotiations
- U.S. is happy to provide support to co-facilitators

Sudan (on behalf of AGN)

- Great success achieved yesterday on L&D
- Support for Cuba's statement on behalf of G77
- Still would like to underline the grave concern for the urgency of minimizing L&D
- IPCC – latest science on current and projected L&D we are likely to face
- This year marks 10 years of the WIM
- Africa has special circumstances
- Hopes to see a functioning network supporting them

- Has high hopes for the Santiago network
- Issues relating to recovery and reconstruction
- Countries will require assessments of L&D and identification of appropriate approaches to L&D
- Hope to see capacities emerging from this
- Spoke on behalf of Africa as a continent

Canada

- Encouraged by the adoption of fund & funding arrangements yesterday
- Additional mandate for Santiago network — finalizing the decision ASAP
- Full confidence in both options for host
- Can look at draft decision text
- Most of the work was already done in June
- Full confidence in co-chairs
- Also sending suggestion on how informal notes could be turned into draft text in order to support the co-chairs

Kuwait (on behalf of ?)

- For the sake of time and for keeping the momentum of yesterday's decision... [missed]

Colombia (on behalf of AILAC)

- Fully supports comments made by G77
- They want to reach an agreement concerning the technical assistance offered by the Santiago network
- Santiago network is very important for addressing L&D
- This is a high priority for AILAC
- Offering a bridging proposal for this negotiation
- Would like the opportunity to finalize their proposal
- Their work is based on the discussions from the SB session

UK

- Hopes to channel the collective ambition that went toward yesterday's decision toward today's negotiation
- Supportive of using co-chairs' informal notes from June
- Supportive of co-chairs providing draft text
- Process question: What are the next steps?

Australia

- Hopes to come to a rapid outcome for the Santiago network so it can be up and running ASAP
- Santiago network is crucial in offering assistance to countries facing impacts of climate change
- Laying the groundwork for the programmatic approach of the new fund
- Look forward to hearing preferences from colleagues, especially those who will benefit from the technical assistance of the Santiago network
- Flexible on the host
- Hopeful that whoever the host is will [missed]
- Process — want to see the hard work put to good use
- Welcome the proposal for the co-facilitators to use the informal note worked on in June for the draft text

Bangladesh

- COP28 has shown great momentum on L&D
- Would like to recall all negotiators involved in L&D negotiations
- Need to select the host for the Santiago network; it was supposed to happen at SB58
- The host should be independent and accountable to the COP and CMA
- The board should supervise the secretariat to ensure that technically assistance is offered to the *most* vulnerable countries, like Bangladesh
- Supportive of G77 and AGN's statements
- Looking forward to working with everyone on this

Norway

- Hope we can work off of yesterday's momentum and advance the work on the Santiago network
- Agree that we should build on the text from Bonn
- Hope that we can get to a conclusion on the draft text as quickly as possible
- Norway has already expressed a preference on the host but can be flexible
- Hopes to operationalize the Santiago network while here in Dubai

Japan

- How many times this year... [missed what was said]
- Use Bonn as a basis
- In terms of the host for the secretariat, Japan already mentioned their stance during Bonn
- Either UNDRR or the other working together with UNDRR

Guinea

- Support what G77 and AGN have said
- It will be very important that we create a legacy of fighting for developing countries
- Requests a moment of silence for the memory of Saleemul Huq

Philippines

- Fully supports the draft text of G77
- Hopes to operationalize Santiago network immediately — at this COP

Brazil

- Believes we will have operationalized Santiago network by the end of this COP
- Extremely important that it happens at this COP
- Supports G77's proposal

India

- Regarding the two proposals, India is not in favor of any particular candidate but would like to see each meet the criteria

Chile

- Supports G77 and AILAC
- Santiago will provide tangible support and technical assistance to developing countries
- Role of Santiago network is essential for addressing L&D
- Speaks up for most vulnerable, including women, youth, and indigenous people
- Based on principles of equity and human rights
- Celebrate adoption of text related to the fund
- The Santiago network should act synergistically with this COP
- Accessibility
- Including developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change

Cuba (on behalf of G77)

- Thanks countries for expressing their preferences on the host
- Thinks it will be better for these discussions if we use the text from Bonn as a basis, as it covers almost all the important elements
- Encourages all to acknowledge the sensitivity of this issue
- Santiago network is a key element of addressing climate change for developing countries
- Will engage with all colleagues in a constructive manner

Co-facilitator (from Argentina)

- Since there is a proposal from G77...
- We cannot start drafting any new proposal from the co-facilitators, so we propose that G77 and others that are willing to produce inputs to share so that everyone has a chance to see the new text, and then we can resume tomorrow so that everyone has had a chance to look at the new proposal and then we can go from there. At this point we don't see that it would be useful for us to come up with a new draft text proposal that you wouldn't have a chance to see.

Canada

- Our proposal is that the co-chairs draft a text based on the June informal notes
- G77 has a text, but several other groups and parties have notes
- Maybe those notes could be sent along to be considered in the drafting

Co-facilitator (from Argentina)

- Agrees
- G77 is still working
- There may be a time constraint for producing a text, but we'll see what can be done

EU

- Wants to clarify their proposal
 - Inputs from all
 - Co-chairs produce a text based on that
- Understands there is a time constraint
- Do we need a session tomorrow if we don't have a text to work on?
- Happy to provide inputs

Cuba (on behalf of G77)

- It would be difficult to have something by tomorrow
- Working on the basis of the G77 text
- Will get the draft in as soon as possible, but should tomorrow's session be postponed?
- Acknowledges the importance of getting this done at this COP, but recommends considering moving tomorrow's informal

Co-facilitator (from Argentina)

- May not be possible to postpone; would just have to cancel tomorrow's event and see, as the schedule is quite packed

Cuba (on behalf of G77)

- Suggestion: compilation — capture elements from different groups
- Apologizes, says he is just thinking out loud

United States

- Suggestion to switch tomorrow's slot on the Santiago network with Sunday's slot on the WIM ExCom

UK

- Supports suggestion for compilation text

Co-facilitator (from Argentina)

- Proposal: receive inputs from all parties
 - Deadline: tonight
- Cancel tomorrow's meeting
- Reconvene on the 3rd
- Will probably need to have many informal-informals between the 3rd and their concluding session
- If they receive a mandate, they can come up with something
- Thinks that receiving inputs from all parties would be the best solution

Meeting adjourned

Follow-up:

Parties will submit their input to the co-chairs by tonight, and the session planned for tomorrow on the Santiago network will be canceled and rescheduled for Sunday, December 3.

Take Away:

The main issue at hand is deciding on a host of the secretariat of the Santiago network so that it can be put to use as soon as possible. Furthermore, the parties were expressing preferences on how and by whom the draft decision text should be prepared. The two main options for consideration were a draft prepared by the G77 & China group that they've been working on for a while, or a draft created by the co-chairs based on the notes that came out of SB58 in Bonn, Germany, in June 2023. There were many parties expressing support on each side, but, in the end, the co-facilitator had suggested that they use G77's draft as a basis. Then, after follow-up statements from the U.S., U.K., and Cuba (on behalf of G77), the co-facilitator proposed that all parties submit their input by that night to be taken into consideration and used toward the draft. Then, they would reconvene at the next meeting on the 3rd and go from there.
