

Submission by **Ecuador** on behalf of the Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) on the institutional arrangements for the Santiago Network

The Like-Minded Developing Countries,

1. Recalling decision 1/CP.26 on loss and damage, and decision 7/CMA.3, Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, on the institutional arrangements of Santiago Network for Loss and Damage.
2. Stress as reiterated in paragraph 29 of the decision 1/CP.26, the urgency of scaling up action and support, as appropriate, including finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, for implementing approaches for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to these effects.
3. Welcome the further operationalization of the Santiago Network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, though its functions established in paragraph 9 of the decision in reference.
4. Welcome as well the invitation to present submission on the institutional arrangements of the Santiago Network and in that context, present the following inputs:

Operational modalities

The LMDC looks forward to having a network that can channel or guide Loss and Damage-related technical assistance and support to developing countries on the ground, undertake pilot projects as the CTCN does, unlock finance to implement actions on the ground, and provide relevant information to address gaps, knowledge needs, and capacity building requirements, as well as loss and damage **support actions** on the ground.

The Santiago Network on loss and damage (SNLD) should be strengthened and embedded into the institutional architecture of the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement, operating as part of the Warsaw International Mechanism.

Climate change-driven loss and damage-related technical assistance and other support to developing countries should be consistent with Parties' needs, including those outlined in their national climate policies, NDCs, and long-term sustainable development priorities;

It would be crucial to engage with developing country Parties to identify their technical assistance and support needs in relation to loss and damage.

Procedures must be simplified to facilitate the access by developing country Parties to the technical assistance and other support that can be provided by the SNLD and its members.

Structure

There should be an “Board of the Santiago Network” that can undertake the implementation of the functions of the Network as agreed at COP26, as soon as possible. It is essential all UNFCCC and Paris Agreement Parties are involved in a transparent and inclusive process to help expedite and empower the decisions required for the Network to be operational. Decision-making should be based on consensus. The Network must catalyze the provision of technical assistance of relevant organizations, bodies, networks and experts, for the implementation of relevant approaches for averting, minimize and addressing L&D at the local, national and regional level, in developing countries vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate.

The SNLD Advisory Board to have the following characteristics:

- Governed and supervise the work and activities of the SNLD
- Have responsibility for funding decisions on technical assistance related to losses and damages. **(suggest number of the advisory body that will consist of and the terms of serving along with the election procedure)**
- Members of the Board will have the necessary experience and skills, notably in the areas of losses and damages associated to the adverse impacts of climate change and development finance, with due consideration given to gender balance.
- WIM Ex Com and its experts will give technical support to the Body.
- It will meet at least three times a year and will connect their work with activities under the WIM, including **WIM EXCOM**.
- Receive guidance from the COP and the CMA, including on matters related to policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria.
- The Board will be composed of government representatives

SNLD Advisory Board shall have the following functions:

- Ensure the application of fiduciary standards, and legal and ethical integrity;
- Monitor, assess and evaluate the timeliness and appropriateness of the SNLD coordination body and secretariat to requests for technical assistance.
- Submit annual reports to the **(COP/CMA)** for its consideration and receive further guidance.
- Provide guidance on and approve the annual report of the SNLD coordination body and secretariat to the COP/CMA on the activities of the SNLD

The role of the Ex Com and its expert groups, task force and technical expert group

WIM Ex Com and its expert groups will provide technical support **to** the Advisory Board, including on matters related to policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria, and matters related thereto.

The role of Loss and Damage contact points and other relevant stakeholders

The loss and damage focal points should serve as the channel through which requests from their national governments and sub-national entities for technical assistance and other support (including financing) to be sourced from SNLD should be communicated to the SNLD coordination body and secretariat. The requests, once received from the focal points, should then be proactively communicated by the SNLD coordination body and secretariat to the SNLD members.

The focal point must raise the need with financing that leverages the SNLD and must be the visible face of the country, any assistance must go through them and not directly to the implementing organizations. Any financial and other assistance and intervention must be via the focal points rather than with the implementing organizations directly.

Possible elements for the terms of reference of a potential convening or coordinating body that may provide secretarial services to facilitate

The primary responsibility of the SNLD coordination body and secretariat should be to facilitate and coordinate SNLD members in providing technical assistance and other support related to loss and damage approaches through the implementation of the agreed functions of the SNLD.

Respond to requests by developing country Parties either by itself or by identifying the appropriate organizations in the SNLD in consultation with the requesting developing country Party.

This coordination body and secretariat for the SNLD should demonstrate:

- Understanding, experience and expertise in working on loss and damage-related policy and technical assistance and support areas at the national, regional, and/or multilateral levels in the context of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, in particular the challenges and opportunities within developing countries as well as the understanding of regional, sub-regional and sectoral issues and their differences.
- A long-term commitment to serve as the coordination body and secretariat for the SNLD, with demonstrated capacity to provide the necessary administrative and infrastructure support for the effective functioning of the SNLD.
- Financial and fiduciary capacity in managing, disbursing, and accounting for financial grants or contributions to it for:
 - (a) the financing of its operations as the coordination body and secretariat for the SNLD; and
 - (b) to support technical assistance for the implementation of relevant approaches to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in developing countries in support of the SNLD's agreed functions.
 - (c) on each funding project, 1% or 5% of that funding amount shall be provided to the SNLD Advisory Board for the continuation of that network and funds other Loss & Damage activities within the SNLD.**