Code: UNFCCC/2/1
Committee: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties
Subject: International Mechanisms to Address Loss and Damage

The Conference of the Parties,

Affirming the existing successes and principles of the UNFCCC Adaptation Fund,

Recognizing the progress made by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action under the Convention as provided for by the Bali Action Plan,

Acknowledging the 2008 proposal by the Alliance of Small Island states entitled The Multi-Window Mechanism to Address Loss and Damage from Climate Change Impacts that sought to address loss and damage and improve post disaster response,

Taking note with regret the plight faced by persons subject to natural disasters leading to status as refugees and internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the organizational consequences of a lack of legal documentation with regard to property rights, land ownership, and individual records,

Emphasizing the drastic improvements to coordination in pre and post disaster situations as a result of the increased cooperation with Regional Economic Integration Organizations,

Seeking increased financial consideration for The Adaptation Fund, Special Climate Change Fund, and the Least Developed Countries Fund from voluntary private and state party donations,

Remembering the importance of attention towards the adverse effects of climate change to enhance adaptive capacity as mentioned in decision 7/CP.17 (Work Program on Loss and Damage) in 2011, as well as 3/CP.18 (Approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change to enhance adaptive capacity) in 2013,

Bearing in mind the work of the Subsidiary Body for Adaptation which has provided a strong framework for diminishing the adverse effects of climate change,

Guided by the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage Associated With Climate Change Impacts established under the 19th session of the Conference of Parties which encourages cooperation and coordination between the Parties for disaster relief on a regional level,

Commending the work of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in cooperation with the UNFCCC within the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action Under the Convention which draws attention to the role of climate change in human displacement,

Taking note with remorse the devastation caused by the recent typhoon Haiyan that struck the Leyte Province of the Philippines,
1. *Decides* to establish the Multi-Window Mechanism to Address Loss and Damage from Climate Change Impacts (MWM) to be implemented by the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Implementation in conjunction with the UNFCCC Secretariat;

2. *Encourages* the inclusion of advisory mechanisms regarding land ownership auditing and property mapping into the Risk Management Section of the MWM;

3. *Determines that* the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Adaptation expand upon the MWM to include:
   a. Educational programs post disaster and preparation within areas vulnerable to climate related disasters as a component of risk management;
   b. Expanded use of public private partnerships in the post disaster rehabilitation process as well as the promotion of green technology incentives;
   c. Further implement bilateral and multilateral use and allocation of Information and Communication Technologies and Green Technologies for disaster relief and prevention;
   d. Active support and response for refugees and internally displaced persons caused and effected by natural disasters;

4. *Calls for* the expansion of the UNFCCC Adaptation Fund to broaden its scope to include funding for:
   a. Sudden climate related crises;
   b. Slow onset events such as ocean level rise and desertification;
   c. Expansion of the existing program to fund long term sustainable projects and programs;

5. *Strongly suggests* the Parties, particularly Least Developed Countries and those States with limited infrastructural capabilities in regards to record-keeping, cooperate with developed parties and Regional Economic Integration Organizations (REIO) to undertake more efficient and comprehensive record-keeping capabilities and standards;

6. *Determines* that the Subsidiary Body for Implementation expand the scope of the existing framework within the MWM to include developed and developing states equally;

7. *Endorses* the involvement of regional bodies and organizations, specifically REIOs, in the process of:
   a. Information-sharing in regards to efficient and transparent record keeping;
b. Loss and damage assessment oversight with the assistance of region-specific experts and local scholars;

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8. *Invites* the UNHCR to cooperate with the Green Climate Fund, in order to expand the allocation of funds to the MWM, specifically for climate refugees and internally displaced persons;

9. *Requests* that the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties look into further methods to incentivize the continued funding by state parties and private stakeholders for the aforementioned programs.
The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision on the “Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts”, in particular Article 13 of the decision and its call for multi-level approaches,

Further Recalling decisions 1/CP.16, 7/CP.17, 3/CP.18, and their previous commitment to international mechanisms for loss and damage associated with climate change,

Guided by General Assembly resolution 66/288 “The Future We Want” and its acknowledgement for the need of voluntary information sharing among all Member States, as well as Article 4 of the Convention, which recommends cooperation in the exchange of information and technology and the overall technology framework,

Bearing in mind the unequal vulnerability to climate change disasters felt by some regions of the world, as first asserted by the Report of the intergovernmental negotiating committee for a framework convention on climate change on the work of the second part of its fifth session, held at New York from 30 April to 9 May 1992, adopted on 16 October 1992 (A/AC.237/18),

Cognizant of the severe consequences of climate related natural disasters such as the recent typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines,

Recognizing the disparities in capacities to respond to natural disasters, as discussed in the Hyogo Framework of Action,

Emphasizing the Cancun Adaptation Framework, especially its call for implementation of national adaptation plans, support from developed Parties and stakeholder engagement and encouraging cooperation towards adaptation efforts at all levels,

Acknowledges the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, under 1/CP.17, and the desired continuation for preventative international response to addressing climate change and its effects on loss and damage resulting from natural disasters,

Realizing the importance of rebuilding communities affected by natural disasters associated with climate change through relief mechanisms, psychological assistance, as well as rehabilitation efforts,

Highlighting the efforts of the World Health Organization (WHO) in adopting the Psychological First Aid Guide for psychological assistance following high stress events implemented in 2011 alongside the War Trauma Foundation (WTF) as well as World Vision International (WVI),

1. Recommends the establishment of a multi-level mechanism, under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), to systematically address loss and damage by preparing
Parties, especially the most vulnerable, with an all-inclusive approach to respond to the increased magnitude and frequency of natural disasters by:

1. **Providing a preparation framework for Parties susceptible to natural disasters through the domestic, regional, bilateral and international levels;**

2. **Subsequently creating a subsidiary body to address psychological impacts of disasters;**

2. **Encourages** coordinated and collaborative domestic efforts to increase risk assessment through state-specific plans which should:

   a. Emphasize finding weaknesses in infrastructure and agriculture in order to be aware of points of improvement, similar but not limited to the efforts which are undertaken by the National Emergency Management Agency of Nigeria;

   b. Focus on implementation of the Technology Needs Assessment for Climate Change provided by the UNFCCC and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to assist domestic risk assessment;

   c. Allow states to realize their areas of vulnerability so other levels of assistance may be targeted and effective;

   d. Be assisted in their implementation, upon request, through cooperation with UNEP and United Nations Office for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR);

3. **Expresses its hope** for regional cooperation to build upon the internal risks assessed within states by but not limited to:

   a. Making successful use of knowledge and information sharing platforms such as the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN);

   b. Building capacity in states with a lack of resources by conducting feasibility studies and engaging in dialogue in order to speed the development and implementation of new technologies and innovative solutions;

   c. Transferring technologies through best practice sharing as outlined by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT);

   d. Coordinating and synthesizing information to ensure accuracy and relevance through partnership through the UN Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), under the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) which builds upon regional space-based solutions for disaster management, emergency response and environmental monitoring to effectively prepare implementation of response and reconstruction by:
Implementing a state-by-state presence of Regional Support Offices (RSO) and have more collaboration between the offices of each Party in every region;

Allowing Parties unable to fund their own RSO to collaborate through regional offices;

Collaborating with regional offices outside of a Party’s region in order to understand the ongoing effects of climate change and with this knowledge predict future patterns;

4. *Invites* Parties to increase bilateral and multilateral cooperation among especially vulnerable and developed countries in order to make up for discrepancies in regional cooperation by:

a. Sharing information on diverse methods of preparing for natural disaster in order to ensure best practices in all Parties through;

i. Providing technical information and software such as development plans of renewable energy sources and data management;

ii. Training in climate prevention software similar to the Pacific Islands Climate Prediction Project in partnership with Australia;

iii. Assisting in the planning of policy platforms for National Action Plans, similar to the Building Nigeria’s Response to Climate Change (BNRCC) in cooperation between Canada and Nigeria;

iv. Sharing knowledge gained from scientific advancements through innovation initiatives such as the Danish Renewable Energy Development (RED) programme to support sustainable development;

b. Collaborating in bilateral partnerships initiated under UN-SPIDER as modeled after the US-Russia Bilateral Presidential Commission Working Group on Emergency Situations to:

i. Further allow for expert cooperation in disaster response operations and to study the latest practices for preparation purposes;

ii. Increase the ability to forecast emergency situations through the exchange of experience and training of emergency response personnel;

5. *Further reminds* the Parties of the importance of existing international cooperation, emphasizing the necessity to prepare for all means of humanitarian aid to be available in the case of an emergency by:

a. Setting aside tensions such as territorial disputes in times of climate-related disaster in order to:

i. Increase the effectiveness of response and recovery to prevent further damage and loss of life;

ii. Address the lack of capacity of some Parties to access required resources in times of disaster;
iii. To be overseen by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), upon authorization by the UN General Assembly, and if requested by cooperating Parties to act within its mandate;

b. Ensuring necessary resources such as access to food and water are available to assist Parties facing climate change-related disasters and that remediation efforts such as relief assistance and cleanup projects are available for rebuilding in post-disaster regions;

6. **Recommends** that UNEP explore the possibility of establishing a subsidiary coordinating body the establishment of a subsidiary coordinating body called the Disaster Relief Services and Counseling Program (DRSCP) under UNEP, which will hold the responsibility of providing counseling assistance and establishing youth programs to help victims of natural disasters from all ages to cope with loss and damage by:

a. Establishing eight regional branches in the areas of North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Central and South Asia, Africa, Middle East, Oceania and Asia-Pacific;

b. Providing experts from four different United Nations organizations including United Nations Volunteers (UNV), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) to work as counselors to provide psychosomatic treatment for victims;

c. Establishing a recreational community-based cleanup initiative for youth and adults alongside professionals from the International Development Association (IDA) to provide encouragements among environmentally damaged societies to make a collaborative effort to rebuild regions which were destroyed severely by sudden disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes and typhoons;

7. **Requests** a bi-lineal meeting for the Disaster Relief Services in Counseling Organization (DRSCO) on March 15 in the year of 2014, to be held in Tokyo, Japan:

a. Discussing which regions were recently hit by severe natural disasters through reviewing the extent of damage and allocating funds to the specific regions in need with the proper type of programs;

b. Providing reports on the current disaster situation in each Member State in the eight designated regions, to be further assessed by UNOCHA;

c. Utilizing funds from UNOCHA’s Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), pending authorization from the UN General Assembly, as well as contributions from willing and able Parties.
The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the decisions 4/CP16, 6/CP.17, and 8/CP.17 which outlined the goal of establishing and supporting international mechanisms to address loss and damage as a result of climate change,

Bearing in mind A/RES/66/198, which states that small island states and developing countries are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change because of their lack of capacity, and the urgent need to develop sustainably,

Recognizing the need for a more comprehensive definition of loss and damage due to climate change including slow onset events and sudden onset events as cited by decision 1/CP.18,

Also recognizing the urgent need for an effective and efficient international financial mechanism to address loss and damage from climate change impacts in the most vulnerable of countries as stated in decision 4/CP.16,

Reaffirming the role of the European Union in Durban Process, in order to further develop the goals reached by international community with the Kyoto Protocol, which must be considered as a starting point for future negotiation, focusing on developing and developed states as mentioned in decision 1/CP.17,

Recognizing the concept of climate-smart agriculture mobilized by Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Bank as a preventative measure and its components on managing natural resources, soil, water, and biodiversity sustainability, diversifying and introducing incomes to households and improving livestock productivity in an environmentally sustainable manner which integrates income security and adaptation,

Drawing attention to decision 1/CP.16 adopted in 2010, which underlines the creation and mandate of the Green Climate Fund as the operating arm of the financial mechanism under the Convention,

Noting the importance of sharing information about climate change on an international level to coordinate efforts and recognizing the existing platform of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) as a mechanism to address it in an effective way,

Recalling the 2012 decision 3/CP.18 and understanding that the cooperation between developed and developing states is crucial for climate change adaptation mechanisms,

Highlighting the partnership between the UNFCCC and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+), conservation of forests carbon stocks, sustainable
management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks as established by the sixteenth
Conference of the Parties and the role of such a relationship in mitigating climate change effects,

1. **Calls upon** the Parties to adopt a comprehensive international mechanism by:
   a. Adopting the definition of loss and damage as mentioned in [the annex] of this
document;
   b. Implementing adaption and prevention efforts;
   c. Supporting adaptation measures through financial mechanisms;

2. **Invites** the Parties to implement sustainable agricultural practices to improve food production
   while conserving the environment through the Green Revolution Program by:
   a. Welcoming the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) as well as
   the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to share modern
   and sustainable farming methods;
   b. Utilizing modern irrigation and agro-ecology practices in order to promote green
   environmental practices which increase food production;

3. **Suggests** the Parties to coordinate their decisions with the scientific community such as the
   Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);

4. **Invites** the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) to continue
   enhancing its work in sharing information and knowledge about programs that address
   preventing loss and damage due to climate change by:
   a. Increasing accessibility and ease of use for all Parties;
   b. Expanding their database to include the protection of cultural heritage sites;

5. **Encourages** the continued cooperation of all Parties in order to support developing countries
   in creating policies to promote awareness and capacity-building and to set up sustainable
   infrastructures:
   a. To promote knowledge about climate change effects on the territory and in the
   society by supporting educational programs modeled on specific issues relevant to
   individual nations;
   b. To encourage all countries to consider the importance of plans to adapt the territory
   and the infrastructures to the increasingly frequent adverse effects of climate change;
6. **Also encourages** developing country Parties to improve current public transportation infrastructure modeled after the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Transport Division in order to:

a. Provide developing Parties with transportation innovation in order to more efficiently structure roadways to cities and to lessen greenhouse gas emission (GHG);

b. Set regulations for increasing fuel quality;

7. **Emphasizes** the United Nations Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform’s standard on creating International Green Model Cities (IGMC) to motivate and aid governments, enterprises and social forces to create better transportation systems and create low carbon towns;

8. **Acknowledges** the need for an improvement of forestry management policies to prevent loss and damage and promotes the REDD+ Reducing Emissions from deforestation and forest degradation by:

a. Inviting academic and scientific institutions such as the European Union Horizon 2020 Framework and the African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) Environmental Observatory to collaborate with the REDD+ Monitor in order to enhance progress in the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of the protection of forestry efforts;

b. Encouraging the cooperation between REDD+ Monitoring fund, Green Climate Fund, and other funds pertaining to protection of forests, for the purpose of providing the adequate financial assistance to deforestation policies;

c. Calling upon NGOs to engage in grass-root movements to promote capacity building against loss and damage by increasing education, enhancing infrastructure, securing financial supports in local communities;

9. **Encourages** all developed and developing countries to provide financial contributions to the funding of international mechanisms to address loss and damage which enable vulnerable countries to adopt pre-emptive measures on adaptation to and mitigation of climate change impact though:

a. Collaboration by developed countries with regional development banks and the World Bank in cooperation with the Green Climate Fund;
b. Implementation of bilateral assistance programs from developed countries to assist
the vulnerable countries in their projects to mitigate and adapt to climate change
impacts;

c. Significant financial contributions by both developed and developing countries to the
Green Climate Fund based on their respective national capabilities;

d. Implementation of green technology programs among vulnerable countries by
subsidizing available green technology projects in their areas resulting to technology
transfer and the opening of green technology markets;

10. Encourages the Parties to engage international collaboration through regional organizations
such as Mercado Común del Sur (MERCOSUR), Economic and social Commission for Asia
and Pacific (ESCAP), European Union (EU), and African Union (AU), reaffirming the
important role of regional plans which could be considered as steps toward the international
goals of this committee;

11. Requests the Green Climate Fund to serve as the main institutional framework to oversee the
management of funds for vulnerable and developing countries by:

a. Formulating policies for the collection and administration of the Green Climate Fund,
an international climate fund dedicated to the goal of addressing loss and damage;

b. Facilitating transparency and information exchange through annual financial reports
by the Parties;

c. Providing the necessary funds by IGMC to implement projects in vulnerable and
developing countries that enable them to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of loss and
damage;

12. Further requests all the Parties to adopt their respective trading emission schemes modeled
upon the existing Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) by the European Union in order to
reduce the negative human impacts to the climate system by:

a. Providing revenue for global climate efforts through the allocation of funds collected
from the penalties of countries which exceeded their carbon-emission cap;

b. Opening a carbon-trading market linked together by the respective ETS of Parties;

13. Recommends the concept of climate-smart domestic practices initiated by the Food and
Agriculture Organization (FAO) sustainability diversifying incomes of households and
improving livestock productivity in an environmentally sustainable manner;

a. Maximizing availability and productivity on crop yields and livestock through
altering inputs, species and varieties of crops;
b. Water utilization through management of river basins for efficient irrigation services and prevent water logging and erosion;

c. Diversifying income through the integration of activities such as marketable crops, livestock raising, fish production in rice-field, bee-keeping, and non timber forest products;

14. *Proposes* the Parties to establish and implement a multilateral initiative under the UNFCCC named Sustainable Attainment of Resources For our Environment (SAFE) in order to better assist the most vulnerable countries as well as to provide clear, transparent guidelines for mitigation of loss and damage due to climate change by:

a. Providing community based conservation initiatives to combat non-economical losses due to climate change guided by the Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation Programme to:

i. Increase community awareness of the consequences of non-economical losses and assist small private enterprises, especially in developing countries, which initiate biodiversity related products and services such as the BioTrade Initiative;

ii. Request the implementation of ecotourism monitored by the UNF at world heritages site to preserve biodiversity as well as to generate income for local communities as fund to cope with the damages of climate change;

b. Establishing and enhancing approaches to reach the emissions reduction targets especially for developing countries by granting these countries Certified Emission Reduction (CER) credits for their energy efficient projects and initiatives to give them more flexibility in reaching the emission reduction targets set by the Kyoto guided and funded by the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and monitored by the CDM Executive Board;

c. Calling upon the United Nations conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to enhance the market for energy efficient products by:

i. Providing more incentives to these products in order to encourage more participation from the private sector investors;

ii. Enhancing the awareness of energy efficient products by labeling appliances with their efficiency rates in order to promote these products modeled after the Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards (CLASP) Programme.
The Conference of the Parties,

Defines loss and damage as follows:

a. Immediate event loss and damage which means loss and damage caused by climate change that occurs abruptly and results in immediate damage, requires immediate attention or result in displacement of persons, or destruction of property;

b. Slow onset loss and damages:

i. Loss and damage which result in the gradual degradation of human health, quality of life, or the availability of natural resources;

ii. Property loss and damage due to climate change which affect quality of life, for example but not limited to, losing national industrial productivity due to deforestation, vector borne diseases, rise in infectious, smog, yellow dust;

c. Economic loss and damage:

i. Economic loss and damage is damage which has direct correlation with economic impact in market terms;

ii. Loss and damage due to climate referring to the immediate financial cost of the individual, for example but not limited to, as medical cost and loss of personal possession;

d. Noneconomic loss and damages:

i. Noneconomic loss and damages cannot be completely assessed with standard market values;

ii. Loss and damage due to climate, which refers to intangible losses such as the destruction of historically relevant cultural heritage sites, psychological and health impact, and biodiversity.