

SUBMISSION BY PAKISTAN

APPROACHES TO ADDRESS LOSS AND DAMAGE ASSOCIATED WITH CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND CAPACITY BUILDING UNDER THE CONVENTION AND KYOTO PROTOCOL (SBI)

Pakistan welcomes this opportunity and would like to submit its views on Approaches to Address Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of Climate Change to enhance adaptative capacity and Capacity Building under the Convention and Kyoto Protocol.

Key Considerations

2. Climate change is today an inescapable reality for Pakistan and is beginning to manifest itself through increasing intensity and ferocity. Pakistan is a country which, owing to its particular geographical circumstances, is highly impacted by any changes in climate making it one of the most vulnerable countries. Yet, it is one of the smallest contributors to the problem of climate change and can, thus, be termed one of the worst victims of “climate injustice”. The 2010 flood was the worst flood of Pakistan as per records available in terms of people killed, affected as well as economic losses. This flood is categorized as 8th most severe among the top 10 flood disasters worldwide in term of economic damages costs at country level (EM-DAT, 2011).

3. Dealing with climate change is no longer a choice for the country – it is an imperative which it has to cope with and adapt to in the foreseeable future. The country does not have the luxury of an “exit” strategy when it comes to facing up to the climate challenge. The costs associated with loss and damage need to be estimated to a reasonable degree of accuracy and provide adequate technical and financial support to plan and strategize to adapt to this challenge. The major likely impacts are the following:

- Enhanced melting of glaciers and reduction of snow cover leading to alterations in the seasonal flow patten of the Indus River system
- Increased flooding in the rivers for a few years followed by declining river flows.
- Increased chances of formation of glacial lakes with risk of GLOFs or glacial lake outburst flows.

- Higher frequency and intensity of extreme climate events coupled with erratic monsoon rains could cause high floods followed by droughts.
- Increased water demand due to high evaporation rates at elevated temperatures
- Increased chances of water stress of the shared water resource potentially leading to cross border conflict

4. The above stated adverse impact of Climate Change retarding the socio-economic challenges may be considered and measures for addressing these challenges may be incorporated under the SBI work programme (FCCC/SBI/2011/L.20, Paragraph 5), as well as Capacity Building under the Convention (SBI). (FCCC/CP/2006/5/Add.1, decision 4/CMP12 Paragraph 1(a) and Capacity Building under the Kyoto Protocol (SBI). (FCCC/KP/CMP/2006/10/Add.1, decision 6/CMP2, Paragraph 1(a&b))