

KEY ASKS for COP25 Asia Climate Change Consortium

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Asia hosts many of the low-lying and densely populated cities in the world. And the recent IPCC Special Report on the Oceans and the Cryosphere raised the alarm of increasing marine heatwaves, sea level rise, rising ocean heat content, ocean acidification, and the decline of oxygen in the oceans. Asia also has a vast number of upland communities dependent on the regularity of ice melts for water security and agriculture.

Thus, the scenario of glacier mass loss and snow cover decrease are alarming. These existing and potentially more devastating hazards challenge millions of Asia's population particularly those who are already vulnerable and marginalized. These climate challenges threaten humans and the ecosystems they are dependent on and impact on human, food, water, energy, livelihoods insecurity. ACCC recognizes not only the right of human beings and ecosystems to live but to also exist in their fullness and with integrity. Thus, unaddressed issues related to climate change is a failure in governance for States and governments whose reason for being is to protect its people and the ecosystems that sustain them.

Pursuant of the goals of the Paris Agreement which the Asia Climate Change Consortium affirms, we reiterate our following calls:

1. In the light of the review of the WIM (Warsaw Implementation Mechanism on Loss and Damage) governments should not ignore that the evolving climate hazards due to historical emissions continue to cause tremendous loss and damage on lives and assets, both human and natural. Of significance are the scientific assessments of the IPCC on 1.5°C affirming the deeply rooted causes of vulnerabilities, namely socio-economic inequities and inequalities, and, the degradation of natural environments that support ecosystem services, among others.

We remind the Executive Committee of the WIM that, over the years of implementation, there has been very little attention to improve pathways in averting loss and damage for those countries who no longer have time to adapt. Thus, is important that the WIM implementation support initiatives for biological and ecological coping and societal coping to both slow and rapid onset climate change-related events. The WIM must now commit time and resources, especially a separate financial facility, e.g. a dedicated GCF window, to address

loss and damage especially aimed at building resilience the soonest time possible so that loss of lives and assets may be averted.

2. The current greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere intensify climate hazards and worsen adverse impacts especially on vulnerable communities. Interventions that have co-benefits to mitigation, adaptation, and resilience This is the only way for its inhabitants of Asia to survive and thrive through current and future climate change. Many Asian governments have attempted to act on climate change concerns but are also limited by their own resolve to address the rising greenhouse gas emissions because of development ambitions or are limited by science, technology, and financial capacities to fully address the root causes of climate impacts.

2.1 Thus, we call on governments, especially from the more developed ones, to explicitly and, therefore, publicly state in their respective NDC's their commitment to 1) higher ambitions for mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and for adaptation with stronger protection of people and the environment; 2) legislate and finance the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energies in a manner that does not sacrifice climate justice and the wellbeing of communities and ecosystems and does not promote false solutions and geo-engineering; 3) enhance action and provide public finance on co-beneficial nature-based solutions for mitigation, adaptation, and resilience to avert losses and damages; and 4) ensure direct access of communities, including women and other vulnerable groups, to climate finance.

2.2 We call on the Parties to the CoP 25 to secure long-term climate financing that

- 2.2.1 can support the creation of a system, cognizant of physical, capacity building, social, economic, environmental dimensions, facilitating total shift to renewable energies with co-benefits to adaptation and resilience—including those that will be severely impacted by the shift of industries and livelihoods to climate risk-reducing options;
- 2.2.2 Can enable and empower countries-at-risk to ably adapt to the projected near, mid-, and far future climate hazards—giving special attention to the adaptation needs not only of peoples but also ecosystems relevant to food, water, energy, and livelihoods security.
- 2.2.3 Will allow women and children to build capacities for and provide opportunities to build their resilience, improve adaptive capacities, and ably contribute to mitigation commitments without prejudice to their gender and development goals. We finally call on Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and private banks to stop supporting projects that increase GhG emissions and worsen climate risks.

2.3 The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) recently released a [report that development finance is not aligned with the Paris Agreement](#). While 20% of the total development financing was allocated each year from 2013-17, covering both concessional and non-concessional ones, was allocated for climate change, 1.4% of the total development assistance in 2016-2017 was still being used for fossil fuel investments.ⁱ This needs to stop. Moreover, climate change adaptation, mitigation, resilience must be mainstreamed in all layers of development assistance.

ⁱ <http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/donors-must-do-more-to-align-development-finance-with-climate-goals.htm>