

ECO

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We Want You to Panic - This is a Climate Emergency

Dear Delegates,

Some of you might have read the famous Harry Potter books and may remember thinking: 'How implausible to create a story where a bunch of children have to show up at the government ministry to warn adults about the dangers threatening the very existence of their world!'

Well... it's 2019 and much has happened since 16-year-old Greta Thunberg spoke at COP24. Last month, 1.5 million young people took to the streets of 120 countries, refusing to accept inaction on climate change. The climate emergency is here - and young people are telling us it's time to act!

ECO is glad many of you want to contribute to climate action at SB50 and - you would have never guessed - we have some great advice for you. From now on, no meeting of governments on climate can be business as usual. SB50 takes place just before a series of international meetings - MoCA, G20 Summit, the Abu Dhabi meeting, and the G7. Keeping these events in mind and working towards the UNSG Summit, the GCF replenishment meeting and COP25, ECO wishes to see many informal and formal conversations on expectations and plans to deliver political progress in three key areas: **Support, Climate Impacts, and Ambition.**

All countries, especially big emitters, need to commit to enhanced ambition that will catalyse the transformational change required to set the world on a 1.5°C pathway. Contributor countries must close the gap in finance

and provide predictable, transparent and sufficient finance: \$100 billion by 2020 and act to ensure that contributions are doubled at the GCF replenishment conference. Contributor countries also need to provide adequate technology and capacity building support.

Regarding support, ECO thinks you have an excellent opportunity in Bonn to indicate increased GCF contributions, to support a replenishment that goes significantly beyond doubling the initial resource mobilization. The Long-term Finance workshop is a great place to build trust in the replenishment process and to discuss a transparent, science-based, and inclusive negotiation process for the post-2025 financial goal. But you can also use SB50 to advance work to ensure that both the Paris Committee on Capacity Building and the Consultative Group of Experts effectively support Parties in implementing the Paris Agreement.

What's more, we cannot forget the **devastating impacts** of climate change and how to increase support for loss and damage at SB50. COP25 must operationalize the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM), by putting in place a finance arm and by agreeing on new sources of finance. We know you have read this before. But in Bonn, it is finally time to agree on the terms of reference for the review of the WIM, and ensure at last that it will be adequately resourced.

On top of the extreme events, a 10 million year record-high atmospheric CO₂

concentration of 415ppm reached in May is a sign that we urgently need to work on **ambition** at SB50.

There is the unfinished business from COP24 to deliver ambition: Robust guidelines for Article 6 that deliver overall reduction of global emissions, prevent any form of double counting and include social, environmental, and human rights safeguards. Secondly, 5-year common timeframes allow to far better respond to the emergency we are facing. ECO heard it's just a few Parties who are preventing agreement on this matter.

And, of course, NDC enhancement: ECO suggests making the best use of agenda items that provide room for discussing ambition raising and enhancing NDCs, such as SBSTA item 6 to assess progress towards alignment with a 1.5°C pathway, or the Multilateral Assessment and the Facilitative Sharing of Views that can serve to identify areas for NDC enhancement, and gaps to 1.5°C compatible pathways.

Last but certainly not least, ECO expects Parties and the incoming Presidency to consult on and share expectations for a political outcome on NDC enhancement at COP25. The incoming Presidency should use SB50 to consult with Parties on what they are going to announce at the UNSG Climate Action Summit with regards to enhancing NDCs by 2020 and on how to create a political space at COP25 to ensure that commitments made in New York are carried forward and reflected in the process and work plan for next year.

Loss and Damage is a Core Cure for the Climate Emergency

Just recently, Cyclones Idai and Kenneth killed more than 1,000 people in Mozambique and neighbouring countries, forcing the sixth poorest country in the world to take on an extra US\$118 million in debt. The climate crisis' impacts are increasing, and it is imperative that the international community start addressing them adequately.

Six years after its establishment, it is high time to fully operationalize the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM), by putting in place a finance arm and by agreeing on new scalable sources of finance. The review of the WIM that Parties will perform at COP25 needs to fulfill its promise to enhance action and support. For that, Parties need to engage in a full-fledged discussion on the availability of finance to address loss and damage (L&D) beyond

adaptation and similar finance provided, the needs of vulnerable countries, and potential sources to reduce the gap between the two.

At SB50, ECO would like to see Parties agree on the terms of reference for this review, ensuring it is fit for purpose and enables the WIM to meet its objectives and fulfill its functions. This needs to include whether (i) the mechanism is meeting the challenge of loss and damage currently faced by vulnerable developing countries, and (ii) if it is capable of meeting future loss and damage needs. The review should address any gaps in the implementation of its original mandate, and in the current and future needs of vulnerable developing countries.

And, dear negotiators from developed countries, do not forget: the WIM has been set up to assist particularly

vulnerable developing countries. So ECO expects that you have all read the submissions on the WIM review by LDCs, AOSIS and the African Group of Negotiators, and that you have taken their key suggestions to heart. ECO will watch out for your responses.

But ECO also feels the need to keep an eye on the UNFCCC Secretariat's approach. How can its main press release on expectations for the SB50 session NOT even mention the WIM and preparatory work for the review? Is talking about "accelerating resilience-building efforts" an attempt to downplay the importance of loss and damage? ECO struggles to imagine a legitimate excuse for this, particularly for those vulnerable countries whose challenges need to be at the core of the loss and damage discussion.

You had one job!

For nearly 30 years climate negotiators have been focused on building a global climate regime that can leverage the ambitious action we need to limit emissions, the resulting climatic disruptions, and to respond to unavoidable impacts. Although there is still some work to be done, the rules are now largely in place.

The time has now come for climate negotiators and their governments to direct a laser focus on the primary reason the UN Climate Convention and the Paris Agreement were created – limiting warming and facilitating fair and ambitious climate action to reduce emissions and protect and enhance sinks. After all, everything that has been done for the past three decades has been either to lay the groundwork for this effort, or to deal with the impacts and consequences of our failure to act fast enough.

So let's get on with it!

This means, first and foremost, taking every opportunity to ensure that the central instrument of the Paris Agreement – Nationally Determined Contributions – live up to their world-changing potential. NDCs 1.0 clearly have a lot of bugs and are not up to the task. It's a no brainer that every country must revisit their plan and prepare to submit a revised version by 1 September 2020 at the latest, in line with their fair contribution to putting the world on a 1.5°C path. Adequate support must be put in place to do this.

The consideration here in Bonn of the IPCC 1.5°C report and setting the scope of the Second Periodic Review of the global goal both provide an opportunity to inform the level of ambition – for emissions reductions, adaptation, and loss and damage – required from Parties and other actors.

In Bonn, and going forward, every intervention, every

bilateral, every hallway encounter, should be informed by the need to close the mitigation, support, and resilience gaps i.e. closing the Ambition gap! Negotiators and parties should use every opportunity to encourage each other to share ideas, progress, and proposals for more action, financing, and other support, and to create partnerships and coalitions to implement actions, when opportunities arise.

NDCs 2.0 should build not only on the policies and actions of national governments, but also on the efforts of non-State actors, sub-national governments (cities, states, provinces, etc.), companies, financial institutions, investors, civil society, and others. Many of these actors are already putting in place ambitious targets, initiatives and interventions showing that much more is possible if we treat climate change with the seriousness and determination that it deserves, and if we work together.

Parties can use their time in Bonn to discuss how to support and strengthen the efforts of both state and non-party stakeholders, by getting behind a transformative role for the Technical Examination Processes on Mitigation and Adaptation and also the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, both of which need to be reinvented and strengthened in the post-2020 period.

Nothing less than a concerted and coordinated effort by all actors will be required to put the world on a sustainable and equitable path to limiting warming to 1.5°C. Achieving this is the primary task of negotiators in Bonn and beyond. But this is not the only task. Finance for adaptation and loss and damage is also urgently needed. Continued failure to meet mitigation goals will only increase the costs and gap related to adaptation, resilience and loss and damage.