



# Daily Policy Updates for the Ninth Meeting of the Board of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD B9)

8-10 July 2026

[Manila](#) Philippines

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## Acknowledgements

This document has been prepared by the Loss and Damage Collaboration (L&DC), led by:

[Brenda Mwale](#)

We wish to thank the following for their valuable contributions:

[Hyacinthe Niyitegeka](#)

[Nicholas Gaulin](#)

**Cover Image:** Monument and clock tower of the Manila City Hall in Bonifacio Shrine, Manila, Philippines. (Photo: [Richie Chan / Shutterstock](#))

## Acronyms

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>B9</b>      | Ninth meeting of the Board   |
| <b>BIM</b>     | Barbados Implementation Modalities   |
| <b>CBDR-RC</b> | Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities                 |
| <b>CMA</b>     | Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement |
| <b>COP</b>     | Conference of Parties  |
| <b>CSS</b>     | Country Support System   |
| <b>FMCA</b>    | Fiduciary Management Capacity Assessment   |
| <b>GCF</b>     | Green Climate Fund   |
| <b>GEF</b>     | Global Environmental Facility  |
| <b>GI</b>      | Governing Instrument   |
| <b>HACT</b>    | Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers  |
| <b>HLD</b>     | High-level dialogue  |
| <b>FRLD</b>    | Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage   |
| <b>LDCs</b>    | Least Developed Countries  |
| <b>RMF</b>     | Results Measurement Framework  |
| <b>RMS</b>     | Resource Mobilisation Strategy   |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>SIDS</b>             | Small Island Developing States   |
| <b>Santiago Network</b> | Santiago network for averting, minimising and addressing loss and damage |
| <b>UNFCCC</b>           | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change                    |
| <b>USD</b>              | United States Dollar   |

## Introduction

The [ninth meeting](#) of the [Board](#) (B9) of the [Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage](#) (FRLD) will take place from 8-10 July and will be preceded by a one-day informal meeting on 7 July. The issues that will be discussed at B9 can be found on the [provisional agenda](#), with meeting documents available on the [meeting webpage](#).

## Overview of what happened at B9

This section will summarise the key agenda decisions for each agenda item across all days of B9. Detailed interventions and contributions from the Board meeting are presented in the following section.

### Highlights from day 3

### Highlights from day 2

The Board met in an executive session throughout the day, with discussions closed to observers, to make progress on some substantial agenda items.

The open session focused on two sub-agenda items related to operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities:

- **Country Support System:** The Board provided comments on the proposed operational modalities. The Secretariat will revise the document for the Board's consideration tomorrow. Board members expressed interest in adopting a decision at B9.
- **Updated list of accredited entities:** The Board requested the Secretariat to update the list to include the latest Green Climate Fund (GCF) accreditations before resubmitting it tomorrow. The Board also agreed that, if further discussion is required, the updated list could instead be adopted through a Between Board Meetings (BBM) decision to avoid delaying implementation.

## Highlights from day 1

Today marked the start of B9. Key decisions and takeaways from today's session include:

- **B9 agenda adopted:** The Board adopted the [B9 agenda](#), removing agenda item 18 on the dates and venues of future meetings. The Co-Chairs noted that the timing of B10 could be revisited later if needed during discussions on relevant agenda items.
- **B8 report adopted:** The Board adopted the [report of its eighth meeting](#).
- **Secretariat report noted:** The Board took note of the [Secretariat's report](#) on its activities and execution of the administrative budget. Key updates included:
  - **Progress on Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM) operationalisation,** including the assessment methodology, Country Support System, oversight fee policy, and the Results Measurement Framework (RMF).
  - **On resource mobilisation:** The Fund received 30 million USD in contributions from Austria, Italy, and the Walloon Region of Belgium.
  - **On complementarity:** The Secretariat established a coordination group with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Adaptation Fund (AF), and Climate Investment Funds (CIF), while

continuing collaboration with the Santiago Network and the Warsaw International Mechanism Executive Committee.

- **Secretariat staffing:** 12 of the planned 23 staff positions have been filled.
- **Commitment authority:** The Board considered the [report on the Fund's commitment authority](#) covering 1 January - 30 April 2026.
- The Board took note of the Interim Trustee's [report on the status of the FRLD Trust Fund](#). As of 7 July, the report indicated that the Fund's commitment authority could increase by an additional 30 million USD compared with the previous status reported as of 31 May.
- **Results Measurement Framework:** The Board provided feedback on the [revised results measurement framework](#) for the BIM. Discussions will continue over the next two days after the secretariat incorporates Board comments.
- **Civil society dialogue:** During the dialogue with civil society, civil society called on the Board to prioritise frontline communities, focus on tangible livelihood outcomes, strengthen direct access for local actors, and safeguard the decision-making voice of developing countries as climate impacts intensify.

## Day 3. 10/07/2026

The webcast for day two is [here](#).

The agenda items to be discussed today include:

- Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities
  - Updated list of entities accredited to the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility
  - Results measurement framework
- Guidance from the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the seventh

session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

- Report of the Board to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its thirty-first session to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its eighth session
- Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities
  - Matters relating to funding requests
  - Additional funding allocation for the Barbados Implementation Modalities
- Matters relating to resource mobilisation
- Updated workplan of the Board
- Additional administrative budgets of the FRLD for 1 January - 31 December 2026
- Matters relating to the Hosting Agreement and Trustee Agreement
- Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities
  - Country support system
  - Financial agreement template
- Matters relating to observers
  - Policy on active observers
  - Guidance on consultative forums
- Reports from Board committees
  - Budget Committee
  - Executive Director Performance Oversight Committee
- Second high-level dialogue
- Report on the activities of the Co-Chair
  - Report on the activities of the Co-Chairs
  - Procedures from decision making in absence of consensus
- Other matters
- Closure of the meeting

## **Agenda item 8: Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities**

### **g. Updated list of entities accredited to the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility**

**Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavarez, Dominican Republic:**

- Welcomed Board members and thanked them for their continued engagement during the previous day's discussions and constituency meetings.
- Outlined the programme of work for the morning, including concluding outstanding agenda items, opening discussions on COP guidance and the Board's report to the COP, and then returning to the remaining core agenda items.
- Reopened Agenda Item 8 on the updated list of entities accredited to the AF, GCF and GEF.
- Recalled that the Secretariat had been requested to update the list to include the entities accredited by the GCF at its most recent Board meeting and confirmed that the revised list had been circulated overnight.
- Invited the Board to adopt the updated list contained in Revision 1 as the current list of accredited entities for the purposes of the Board's decision.

**Ibila Djibril, Benin:**

- Requested clarification on why the Bank of Niger no longer appeared on the list of accredited entities.

**Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavarez, Dominican Republic:**

- Clarified that the Bank of Niger had been removed because it is no longer accredited to the Adaptation Fund.
- Seeing no further objections, declared the decision adopted and closed the agenda item.





**b. Results measurement framework**


Presentation from the secretariat

**Sandra Romboli, FRLD Secretariat:**

SECTION 2 - UPDATE SUMMARY B.9 - RMF

**What has been updated:**

-  **Track 2** has been moved and put into a separate annex
-  **Resource mobilization management** has been taken out of Track 2
-  **Indicators /text** adjustments made
-  **RMF Guidance documents** will come to the Board for information

 **Decision text** has been updated

01

- Presented the key revisions made to the RMF following Board feedback.
- Explained that Track 2 had been removed from the RMF and presented as a separate annex in response to Board requests.
- Confirmed that the resource mobilisation management section had been removed from Track 2 because the Board has not yet adopted the relevant policies, while noting that key indicators such as pledge conversion would continue to be reported through other Board processes.
- Noted that several indicators had been revised to reflect Board comments and that the guidance documents would now be shared with the Board for information before being applied.
- Confirmed that the draft decision had been updated to reflect Board guidance and that both clean and tracked-change versions of the revised document had been circulated.

## Comments from the Board

Richard Sherman, South Africa:

- Thanked the Secretariat for its work while observing that, in future, greater emphasis should be placed on Board-to-Board discussions rather than bilateral exchanges between individual Board members and the Secretariat.
- Welcomed the relocation of Track 2 into a separate annex and expressed overall satisfaction with the revised RMF.
- Requested clarification that references to "alternatives" under the non-economic loss and damage indicator should not allow external technical reviewers to question nationally determined approaches to protecting cultural heritage and practices.

- Emphasised that decisions on cultural heritage must remain nationally determined and should not be overridden by external assessments seeking lower-cost alternatives.
- Raised concerns that the indicator on multi-hazard early warning systems could be interpreted as expanding the Fund's mandate into adaptation or resilience-building activities rather than responding to loss and damage.
- Indicated that, subject to these clarifications or assurances, he was prepared to support adoption of the RMF.

**Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway:**

- Clarified that Secretariat engagement with individual Board members was intended only to clarify comments and accurately reflect them in revised drafts, rather than negotiate Board positions.
- Thanked Sandra and the Secretariat for the extensive technical work undertaken to incorporate Board feedback.
- Invited Board members to consider whether the remaining issues could be addressed through the meeting report, decision text or another appropriate mechanism rather than reopening the document.
- Asked whether the Board was ready to move towards adoption of the RMF.

**Tamim Alothim, Saudi Arabia:**

- Thanked the Secretariat for reflecting the majority of Board comments and expressed support for the revised document.
- Welcomed the understanding that the RMF would return to the Board as it evolves.
- Requested that the Co-Chairs continue keeping the Board informed as reporting templates are developed to ensure consistency with paragraph 63 of the Governing Instrument.
- Confirmed support for proceeding with adoption.

**Jan Dusik, European Union:**

- Thanked the Secretariat, particularly Sandra, for the extensive revisions made to the RMF.
- Reaffirmed that the RMF is intended as a learning framework for the BIM that will continue evolving over time.
- Suggested qualifying the reference to "alternatives" with wording such as "appropriate alternatives" to address concerns regarding cultural heritage.
- Reiterated support for clarifying that the early warning systems indicator relates to early or anticipatory action, while confirming willingness to proceed regardless.

Adao Soares Barbosa, Timor-Leste:

- Thanked the Secretariat and described the revised RMF as a significant improvement.
- Supported Richard's concerns regarding the indicator on multi-hazard early warning systems.
- Reiterated his earlier proposal to remove the reference to "and/or improved management practices" under the cultural heritage indicator and offered to provide drafting language.

**Jetter Michelsen, Denmark:**

- Proposed adding the principle of "leaving no one behind" to the RMF guiding principles, noting that it reflects the Fund's mission and overarching objectives.

**Ali Taqueer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Supported Richard's observation that substantive negotiation should take place among Board members rather than through bilateral exchanges with the Secretariat, reinforcing the Board's governance role and collective ownership of decisions.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Confirmed that having his concerns formally reflected in the meeting record would provide sufficient assurance.
- Clarified that he was not seeking to reopen or amend the RMF itself but wanted the Board's discussion on nationally determined approaches to cultural heritage to be documented for future reference.
- Confirmed that, with that understanding, he was able to support adoption of the Results Measurement Framework.

Agenda adopted as follows:

The Board, having considered document FRLD/B.9/8/Rev.1 titled “Results measurement framework for the Barbados Implementation Modalities”:

(a) Approves the results measurement framework for the Barbados Implementation Modalities, as contained in document FRLD/B.9/8/Rev.1;

(b) Also approves the results measurement framework indicators, as contained in annex [I] to this document;

(c) Further approves the FRLD effectiveness and operational performance indicators, as contained in annex [II] to this document;

(d) Requests the Secretariat, under the guidance of the Co-Chairs, to develop a strategic learning framework for the Barbados Implementation Modalities with a view to ensuring structured, consistent and continuous learning for the purposes of generating lessons and evidence, feeding into adaptive management, and informing the work on the long-term vision of the Fund’s operational model, consistent with decision B.5/D.4, paragraph (q);

(c) Further approves the FRLD effectiveness and operational performance indicators, as contained in annex [II] to this document;

(d) Requests the Secretariat, under the guidance of the Co-Chairs, to develop a strategic learning framework for the Barbados Implementation Modalities with a view to ensuring structured, consistent and continuous learning for the purposes of generating lessons and evidence, feeding into adaptive management, and informing the work on the long-term vision of the Fund’s operational model, consistent with decision B.5/D.4, paragraph (q);

(e) Affirms that the results measurement framework and the indicators referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) above do not constitute eligibility, selection or approval criteria for funding requests under the Barbados Implementation Modalities, without prejudice to the funding criteria adopted by decision B.7/D.4, and do not in any way limit, indicate or direct the types of activities eligible for funding under the Barbados Implementation Modalities;

(e) Affirms that the results measurement framework and the indicators referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) above do not constitute eligibility, selection or approval criteria for funding requests under the Barbados Implementation Modalities, without prejudice to the funding criteria adopted by decision B.7/D.4, and do not in any way limit, indicate or direct the types of activities eligible for funding under the Barbados Implementation Modalities;

(f) Decides that the guidance documents referred to in paragraph 19 of document FRLD/B.9/8/Rev.1, including mid-term and final evaluation guidelines and the monitoring and reporting handbook, shall be developed under the guidance of the Co-Chairs and shared with the Board for information prior to the application of said guidance documents, consistent with paragraph 63 of the Governing Instrument;

(g) Affirms that, pursuant to decision B.4/D.3, paragraph (g) which emphasizes that activities implemented during the first phase of operation of the FRLD will not prejudice nor necessarily set precedent for the development of the long-term operational modalities of the Fund, the results measurement framework referred to in paragraph (a) above applies solely to the Barbados Implementation Modalities.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Requested clarification on the implications of adopting the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) for funding requests already submitted under the BIM.
- Asked whether countries would need to revise or resubmit existing funding requests to align with the newly approved RMF, or whether the Secretariat would manage the transition through the review process.

**Sandra Romboli, FRLD Secretariat:**

- Clarified that countries will not be required to revise or resubmit their funding requests solely because the RMF has been adopted.
- Explained that the Secretariat will integrate the RMF through the ongoing technical review process by working directly with countries to refine indicators and learning elements where necessary.
- Emphasized that most proposals are already of high quality and will require only minor refinements rather than fundamental redesign.
- Noted that the broad and flexible nature of the RMF allows existing proposals to be aligned relatively easily during the review process.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Sought further clarification on how implementation and reporting would work in practice.
- Asked whether funding requests would be aligned with the RMF before being presented to the Board for approval, or whether countries would only report against the RMF indicators during implementation.

**Sandra Romboli, FRLD Secretariat:**

- Confirmed that the Secretariat will quality-assure every funding request during the review process to ensure appropriate alignment with the adopted RMF.
- Explained that this quality assurance process will not require countries to redesign their proposals but will ensure that proposed results can be appropriately reflected within the RMF.
- Clarified that portfolio reporting to the Board will use the categories established under the RMF while remaining driven by the actual content of approved funding requests.
- Noted that the composition of the approved portfolio—for example, whether projects focus on social protection, cash transfers or other interventions—will determine how results are aggregated and reported back to the Board.

## **Agenda Item 12: Guidance from the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement**

Camila

- Introduced the agenda item on the Board's response to guidance received from COP30 and CMA7, recalling that under paragraph 13 of the Governing Instrument the Board is required to receive guidance from the COP and CMA, take appropriate action in response, and report annually on its implementation.
- Presented document FRLD/B.9/19/Rev.1, which summarizes the guidance received and proposes actions for the Board and Secretariat in response.
- Thanked Board members for their comments and noted that the revised document sought to reflect the feedback received.
- Ibrahimia
  - Emphasized the importance of the guidance received from the COP and CMA and reaffirmed the Secretariat's commitment to supporting the Board in responding to and implementing that guidance.
  - Stressed that the Secretariat takes its responsibilities under the Governing Instrument seriously and remains committed to supporting timely and effective implementation.
- Michai
  - Recalled that paragraph 13(b) of the Governing Instrument requires the Board to take appropriate action in response to guidance from the COP and CMA, reflecting the Fund's accountability to Parties.
  - Explained that the document updates the version prepared for B.8, which was not considered by the Board.
  - Highlighted key updates, including:
    - progress in implementing the Board's work plan in response to COP/CMA guidance;

- expedited work on the long-term Resource Mobilization Strategy;
  - progress on outstanding policies required under the Governing Instrument;
  - efforts to avoid disproportionate bureaucratic barriers under both the BIM and the long-term operational model;
  - implementation of fiduciary, environmental and social safeguard standards; and
  - consideration of relevant provisions of CMA guidance in the Board's work.
- Explained that the draft decision proposes that the Board take note of the response document and request the Co-Chairs to include progress on implementing COP and CMA guidance in the Board's annual report.
- Jan
  - Supported taking note of the document and including the Board's response in the annual report to the COP and CMA.
  - Requested that the report also capture the additional decisions and actions adopted during B.9 so that it reflects the Board's most recent progress in implementing the guidance.
  - Noted that responding to COP and CMA guidance is an iterative process that should continue to evolve.
- Camila
  - Confirmed that Jan's suggestion would be addressed under the subsequent agenda item on the Board's report to the COP and CMA.
- Lorelei
  - Asked why the revisions made in Revision 1 were not clearly identified, noting that the late circulation made it difficult to compare the changes.
  - Encouraged the Secretariat to broaden its engagement on complementarity and coherence beyond the Warsaw International Mechanism institutions.
  - Suggested that, as the Fund matures, the Secretariat should strengthen collaboration across the wider loss and damage architecture to improve coherence and complementarity.
- Tamim
  - Thanked the Secretariat for preparing the report and expressed support for the proposed response to the COP and CMA guidance.
  - Reiterated that references relating to decisions arising from the review of the Warsaw International Mechanism should not be treated as guidance directed to the FRLD Board.

- Suggested that WIM review matters are more appropriately discussed under the agenda item on complementarity and coherence, where coordination among the WIM Executive Committee, the Santiago Network and the FRLD can be considered more comprehensively.
- Confirmed support for proceeding with the document on that understanding.

### **Agenda Item 13: Report of the Board to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its thirty-first session to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its eighth session**

### **Agenda Item 8: Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities**

**e. Matters relating to funding requests**

**f. Additional funding allocation for the Barbados Implementation Modalities**

### **Agenda Item 14: Matters relating to resource mobilisation**

**Agenda Item 9: Updated workplan of the Board**

**Agenda Item 6: Additional administrative budgets of the FRLD for 1 January - 31 December 2026**

**Agenda Item 11: Matters relating to the Hosting Agreement and Trustee Agreement**

**Agenda Item 8: Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities**

e. Country support system

d. Financial agreement template

## **Agenda Item 16: Matters relating to observers**

**a. Policy on active observers**

**b. Guidance on consultative forums**

## **Agenda item 7: Reports from Board committees**

**a. Budget Committee**

**b. Executive Director Performance Oversight Committee**

## **Agenda Item 15: Second high-level dialogue**

## **Agenda Item 10: Report on the activities of the Co-Chair**

a. Report on the activities of the Co-Chairs

b. Procedures from decision making in absence of consensus

## **Agenda Item 19: Other matters**

## **Agenda Item 20: Closure of the meeting**

## Day 2. 09/07/2026

The webcast for day two is [here](#). Schedule for day two is [here](#).

Agenda items to be discussed today include:

- Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities
  - Pipeline status report
  - Matters relating to funding requests
  - Country support system
  - Updated list of entities accredited to the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility
  - Funding agreement template
- Matters relating to resource mobilisation
- Updates workplan of the Board
- Reports from Board committees
  - Budget Committee
  - Executive Director Performance Oversight Committee
- Matters relating to the Hosting Agreement and the Trustee Agreement

⚡ 15:18hrs Manila time: The Board is in the executive session which is not open to observers since morning. ⚡

⚡ 16:08: Open session of the Board resumed ⚡

### **Agenda item 8: Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities**

#### **e. Country support system**

##### **Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway:**

- Recalled that the Board had already held an informal discussion on the draft operational modalities for the CSS.
- Noted that the Secretariat had revised document FRLD/B.9/11 to reflect comments and requests for clarification raised during the informal session.

- Confirmed that Board members also had document FRLD/B.9/12 before them for consideration.
- Proposed proceeding directly to substantive discussions, as the Board had already completed an initial round of deliberations on both documents.

**Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, FRLD ED:**

- Introduced the CSS as a targeted mechanism designed to strengthen countries' capacity for project preparation, institutional development, and implementation of FRLD-funded activities, based on lessons learned from engagement under the BIM.
- Emphasised that the CSS is distinct from traditional readiness or technical assistance programmes, as it is specifically tailored to address countries' identified capacity gaps in responding to loss and damage.
- Recalled that, at B8, the Board decided to operationalise the CSS under the BIM, with an overall allocation of US\$7.5 million and up to US\$250,000 available per approved initiative under the Executive Director's delegated authority.
- Stated that the objective at B.9 is to formally launch the CSS so that countries can begin accessing this support.
- Highlighting that the Secretariat's engagement with countries has confirmed significant institutional and technical capacity gaps, reinforcing the need for the CSS to ensure equitable access to the Fund.
- Noted that implementation authority has been delegated to the Executive Director, supported by an accountability framework to ensure transparent decision-making and regular reporting to the Board.
- Described the CSS as a timely initiative that can help ensure countries are not excluded from accessing the Fund because of limited capacity.
- Confirmed that the Secretariat revised both the policy paper and presentation to reflect comments and suggestions received during the Board's earlier informal discussions.

**Jihyea Kim, FRLD Secretariat:**

## Mandate – Decision B.8/D.6

**The Board:**  
[...]  
Requests the Secretariat to develop the **operational modalities for the country support system** for the Board’s consideration and adoption at its ninth meeting, including:

- (i) Funding cycle, funding criteria, additional access modalities, oversight fees, and monitoring, reporting and evaluation requirements;
- (ii) Terms of reference for the call for country support system requests and a country support system request template;
- (iii) A proposed budget for operationalizing the country support system, in consultation with the Budget Committee, as appropriate;
- (iv) Accountability framework for delegating authority to the ED to approve country support system projects.

- Recalled that, through Decision B.8/6, the Board requested the secretariat to develop detailed operational modalities for the CSS for consideration at B.9.
- Noted that the proposed operational modalities cover the funding cycle, funding criteria, additional access modalities, oversight fees, monitoring, reporting and evaluation requirements.
- Confirmed that the secretariat also developed the terms of reference for the call for CSS requests and a standard funding request template for the Board's consideration.

### OPERATIONAL MODALITIES FOR THE CSS

## B.8 Decisions on the Country Support System

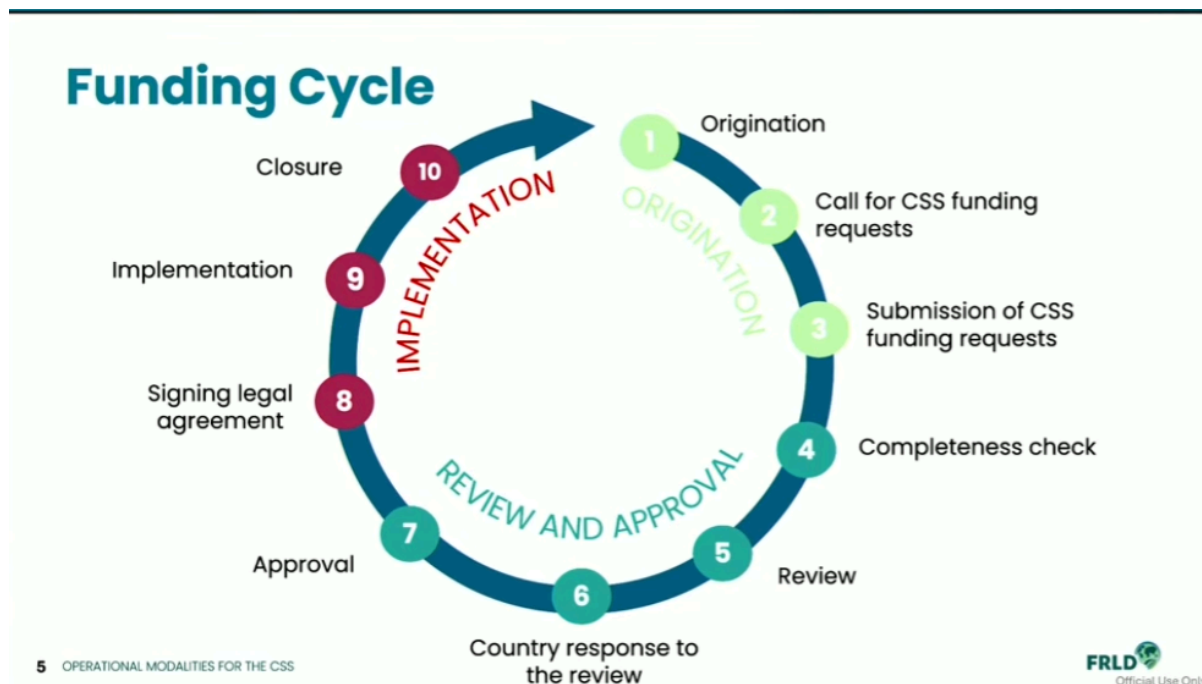
|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Funding amount and cap</b></p> <p><b>USD 7.5 M</b><br/>Total per year</p> <p><b>USD 250,000</b><br/>Cap per country</p> | <p><b>Disbursements</b></p> <p>Same arrangements as for the <b>BIM</b> (through interim Trustee)</p>  |
| <p><b>Access modalities</b></p> <p>Same access modalities as under the <b>BIM</b></p>   | <p><b>Scope</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Funding request development for FRLD</li> <li>› Setting up systems &amp; capacities for enabling access</li> <li>› Institutional strengthening &amp; capacity-building of national ministries (incl. NFPPs) and national AEs for implementation</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Approvals</b></p> <p>Approvals on a <b>rolling basis</b>, with delegated authority to ED/Sec</p>                        |   |

- Recalled that, through Decision B.8/6, the Board requested the Secretariat to develop a proposed budget for operationalising the CSS, in consultation with the Budget Committee as appropriate.
- Noted that the Board also requested the Secretariat to develop an accountability framework governing the Executive Director's delegated authority to approve CSS funding requests.
- Explained that document FRLD/B.9/11 presents the proposed CSS operational modalities and has been revised to incorporate both written and verbal comments received from Board members, with the updated version circulated ahead of the discussion.
- Recalled the key decisions adopted at B8, including:
  - An annual CSS funding envelope of 7.5 million USD, subject to available commitment authority.
  - A funding cap of 250,000 USD per country.
  - Application of the same access modalities as those used under the BIM.
  - Delegation of authority to the Executive Director to approve CSS funding requests.
  - Use of the same disbursement arrangements as those applied under the BIM.



- Outlined that the proposed operational modalities for the CSS cover the full operational framework, including the funding cycle, funding criteria, additional access modalities, risk management framework, oversight fees, monitoring, evaluation and learning, and budget and capacity requirements.

- Explained that the proposal also includes an accountability framework governing the Executive Director's delegated authority to approve CSS funding requests.
- Noted that the accountability framework has been presented as a separate addendum to the main operational modalities paper for the Board's consideration.



- Presented a proposed ten-step CSS funding cycle aligned with the BIM, covering the stages of origination, review, approval, implementation and closure.
- Explained that CSS requests will be accepted on a rolling basis for up to one year or until the annual funding envelope is fully committed.
- Confirmed that countries with existing BIM funding requests are also eligible to apply for CSS support.
- Noted that requests submitted by entities must include a signed endorsement letter from the relevant national focal point.
- Explained that the secretariat will review all requests on a rolling basis, beginning with a completeness check to ensure compliance with the Board-approved operational modalities, terms of reference and funding criteria.
- Indicated that requests meeting all requirements will be designated as ready for approval, while countries with incomplete requests will be invited to provide additional information and resubmit within the specified timeframe.

- Stated that the Executive Director will consider all requests deemed ready for approval on a monthly basis and approve them in accordance with the Board-approved accountability framework.

**OPERATIONAL MODALITIES FOR THE CSS** B.9 - CSS

## Funding criteria

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>Expected results and activities</b><br>To ensure that the request includes activities and leads to results that are aligned with the scope of the CSS.   | <b>1</b> |
| <b>Bottom-up, country-led and country-owned responses to priority gaps</b><br>To ensure that the request is addressing a demonstrated need and priority gaps in responding to loss and damage, as identified through bottom-up, country-led and owned approaches. | <b>2</b> |
| <b>[Complementarity and coherence of activities]</b><br>To ensure that the proposed activities are not duplicating existing support in the country  | <b>3</b> |

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- Explained that the secretariat initially proposed two funding criteria for the CSS, but introduced a third criterion on complementarity and coherence in response to Board comments, noting that this criterion remains bracketed due to differing Board views.
- Presented the three proposed funding criteria:
  - Expected results and activities.
  - Bottom-up, country-led and country-owned responses to priority gaps.
  - Complementarity and coherence of activities.
- Confirmed that the Board-approved resource allocation parameters for the BIM, established under Decision B.4/5, will also apply to the approved CSS portfolio.
- Proposed that CSS funding requests submitted through national CSS entities be prioritised during the secretariat's review process and in recommendations for approval.

B.9 - CSS

## OPERATIONAL MODALITIES FOR THE CSS

# Access modalities

| A Access in partnership with entities accredited to the GEF, GCF, and AF                       | B Access through national ministries  | C Access through additional national, regional or international entities  |
|--|---|---|
| Entities on the list of FRLD access entities as adopted by the Board in decision FRLD/B.7/D.4. | National ministries that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have at least one FR approved under direct access via DBS</li> <li>• Has been assessed and approved under HACT/FMCA in last 5 years</li> </ul> | Additional national, regional and international entities that have been assessed and approved under HACT/FMCA in last 5 years |

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- Recalled that, under Decision B.8/6, countries may access the CSS through the same access modalities adopted for the BIM.
- Explained that the paper proposes three access modalities, including two that are already operational under the BIM, to broaden access to the CSS.
- Described the proposed access modalities:
  - Modality A: Access through entities accredited to the AF, GCF or GEF, as adopted by the Board at B.7.
  - Modality B: Direct access for national ministries with an approved BIM funding request through direct DBS, as well as national ministries assessed under the FMCA or HACT that have received disbursements within the previous five years.
  - Modality C: Access for national, regional and international entities assessed under the FMCA or HACT that have received disbursements within the previous five years.
- Noted that recognising entities assessed under the FMCA and HACT expands the pool of eligible national, regional and international entities able to access CSS support.

## Risk management framework

- ✓ Identification of risks and mitigation measures is responsibility of CSS entity
- ✓ Project/programme related risks classified as low by default
- ✓ Zero tolerance for prohibited practices applies for the CSS
- ✓ Secretariat will conduct screening of proposed risk mitigation measures and provide recommendations only if necessary

## Oversight fees

All existing requirements in BIM Policy on Oversight Fees would apply

[Proposed increase of cap to 9%]  
(total allocation of USD [600,000]  
[675,000] to CSS to cover  
oversight fees)

8 OPERATIONAL MODALITIES FOR THE CSS



- Confirmed that the risk management framework adopted by the Board under Decision B.8/3 will also apply to the CSS.
- Explained that each CSS funding request will include risk mitigation measures that are proportionate to the nature, scope and scale of the proposed activities.
- Noted that, given the limited scope and nature of CSS activities, project-related risks are considered low by default.
- Confirmed that the Fund's zero-tolerance policy on prohibited practices will apply to all CSS-supported activities.
- Proposed applying the same oversight fee policy adopted under the BIM to the CSS.
- Noted that, based on benchmarking against similar funds, the Board may consider increasing the oversight fee cap to up to 9% for CSS activities, although this proposal remains bracketed due to differing views among Board members.

## Monitoring, evaluation & learning · budget & capacity B.9 - CSS

### MONITORING, EVALUATION & LEARNING

- 1 Annual simplified **results reporting**, with core indicators applied based on relevance.
- 2 Continuous **learning and adaptive management**.
- 3 **Final evaluation** at the end of implementation.

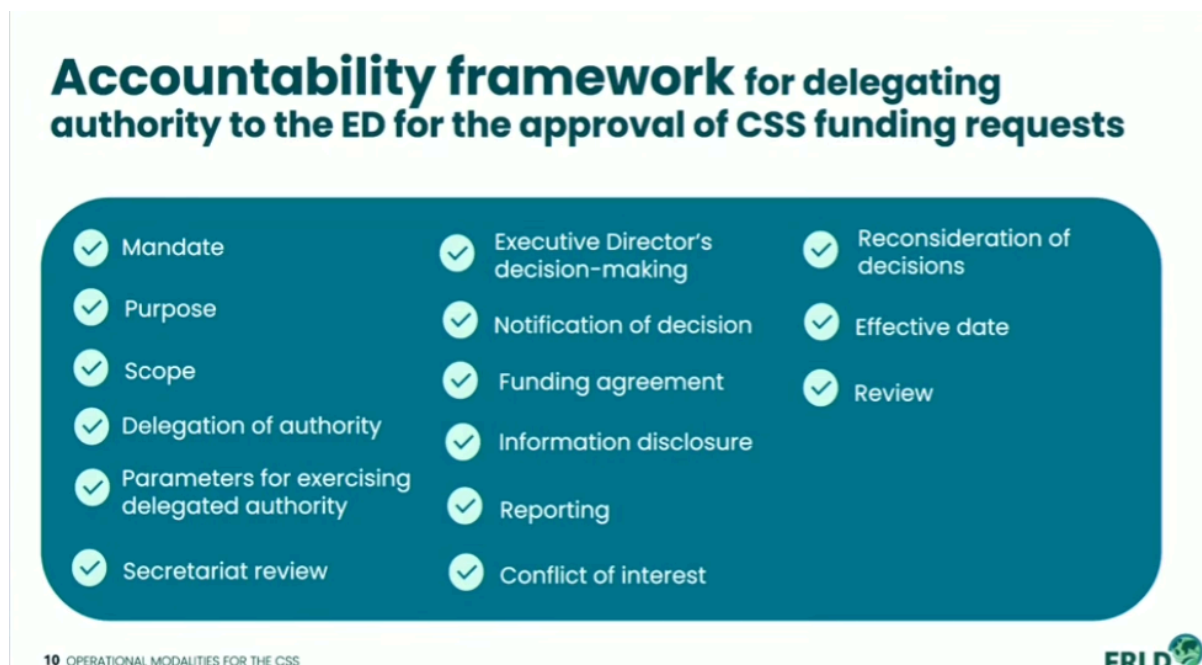
### BUDGET & CAPACITY

Additional human resources of up to 7 full-time equivalent staff.

Virtual and in-person **outreach and engagement**.

- Proposed a simplified monitoring, evaluation and learning approach based on annual results reporting, with core indicators applied only where relevant to supported activities.
- Explained that the CSS will embed continuous learning and adaptive management to help countries capture lessons and improve implementation over time.
- Noted that a final evaluation will be conducted at the end of each CSS activity to assess overall performance and achievement of expected results.
- Highlighted that the Secretariat's current staffing capacity was planned before the Board decided to operationalise the CSS and is already fully utilised in managing the BIM pipeline and portfolio.
- Stated that dedicated additional capacity is therefore required to implement the CSS efficiently without affecting the delivery of BIM activities.
- Explained that the CSS team will be recruited progressively as the volume of funding requests and the portfolio expands.
- Noted that the proposed additional budget also includes resources for outreach and engagement to support countries in understanding and accessing the CSS.
- Confirmed that the Secretariat consulted the Budget Committee on the proposed additional budget for operationalising the CSS.
- Explained that, pursuant to Decision B.8/6, the Secretariat developed an accountability framework to govern the Executive Director's delegated authority to approve CSS requests.

- Noted that the accountability framework is informed by benchmarking against other multilateral climate funds and is designed to ensure transparency, oversight and accountability to the Board in the exercise of delegated approval authority.



Comments from the Board

**Tamin Alothim, Saudi Arabia:**

- Requested a brief pause in the discussion, noting that the accountability framework had not been circulated with the meeting documents, making it difficult for Board members to take informed decisions without first reviewing it.

**Kamal Djemoul, Algeria:**

- Welcomed the revisions to the CSS proposal but reiterated concerns about positioning the CSS under the BIM, arguing that this could create the perception that it is only available to countries that submitted BIM funding requests, rather than serving the broader FRLD.
- Sought clarification on how the secretariat plans to manage the expected volume of CSS requests, including whether the earlier estimate of around 30 requests per year still applies, how requests will be prioritised, and whether the process will operate on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Expressed concern that, at the proposed pace of approvals, it could take several years before all eligible countries receive CSS support.

- Questioned the eligibility requirements under Access Modality B, noting that limiting direct access to countries with approved BIM projects could unintentionally exclude many countries during the pilot phase and require them to rely on international entities.

**Nona Budoyan, Armenia:**

- Thanked the Secretariat for preparing a comprehensive and balanced proposal that reflects previous Board guidance.
- Welcomed the country-led approach, particularly the requirement for national focal point endorsement, as an important safeguard for national ownership and alignment with national priorities.
- Supported the proposal to strengthen the Secretariat's staffing capacity, noting that delegated approval authority requires sufficient institutional capacity to ensure timely and effective implementation.
- Observed that experience from other climate funds demonstrates how rapidly readiness programmes can overwhelm Secretariat resources if adequate staffing is not in place.

**Jette Michelsen, Denmark:**

- Recalled the Board's previous emphasis on complementarity with the Santiago Network and suggested strengthening the operational modalities to more explicitly encourage collaboration rather than focusing solely on avoiding duplication.
- Supported retaining complementarity and coherence as a funding criterion, while proposing revised wording that better reflects collaborative engagement with the Santiago Network.
- Suggested prioritising CSS support for countries that have already submitted BIM funding requests to strengthen implementation of the current pilot phase and build institutional capacity for the Fund's future operations.

**Abdulla Ahmed Balalaa, United Arab Emirates:**

- Emphasised that the CSS should remain practical, demand-driven and responsive to country priorities, with particular attention to the needs of the most vulnerable countries.
- Called for transparent, accountable and balanced implementation of the Executive Director's delegated authority, supported by regular reporting to the Board.

- Stressed that the CSS should improve access, readiness and response times without creating additional administrative burdens or unnecessary procedural layers.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Expressed concern that the proposed access modalities significantly expand the number of eligible entities despite the limited number of CSS approvals expected under the current funding envelope, potentially placing an unnecessary burden on the Executive Director and Secretariat.
- Questioned the rationale for further expanding eligibility beyond the list of entities already adopted by the Board under the BIM.
- Requested clarification on how functional equivalency requirements under the Trustee Agreement would apply, particularly under Access Modality B.
- Questioned the practical value of using the CSS to support BIM funding requests given the limited BIM resources currently available.
- Sought clarification on how countries without approved BIM projects are expected to apply the Results Measurement Framework.
- Suggested that performance indicators measuring Secretariat processing times, approval timelines and disbursement speed should be captured either within the CSS or under Track 2 of the Results Measurement Framework.

**Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Welcomed the CSS proposal as an important building block for the Fund's long-term operational model and supported strengthening institutional capacity within the Secretariat rather than outsourcing implementation.
- Requested clarification on why complementarity and coherence appeared to be absent from the CSS funding criteria, arguing that the same three criteria applied under the BIM should also guide CSS requests to ensure consistency across the funding pathway.
- Asked how the CSS being operationalised under the BIM relates to the longer-term CSS reflected elsewhere in the Board's work plan.
- Requested clarification on whether the current CSS is intended as a temporary mechanism that will transition into the long-term model, or whether it will evolve into the permanent CSS through future revisions.

**Manuela Glass, Germany:**

- Welcomed the significant improvements made to the revised CSS proposal and expressed confidence that the Board should be able to conclude its consideration and adopt the paper at B9.

- Expressed confidence that countries will understand the purpose of the CSS as intended by the Board.
- Welcomed the stronger linkage between the CSS and the BIM, particularly in supporting future funding requests as the Fund transitions towards its long-term operational model.
- Appreciated the explicit recognition of the Santiago Network and strengthened collaboration between the two secretariats, highlighting its importance for complementarity and coherence.
- Emphasised that the CSS reflects not only technical support for countries but also the spirit of solidarity and cooperation needed to strengthen responses to loss and damage.

**Adao Soares Barbosa, Timor-Leste:**

- Welcomed the revised CSS proposal and acknowledged that it reflects comments previously submitted by Board members.
- Opposed the inclusion of complementarity and coherence as a separate third funding criterion, arguing that the existing criterion on bottom-up, country-led and country-owned responses to priority gaps already captures this objective.
- Recommended removing the reference linking CSS activities to the BIM RMF, noting that countries will address RMF requirements when preparing funding proposals and should not use limited CSS resources for this purpose.
- Expressed broader concern that the proposed operational process remains relatively cumbersome and cautioned that additional procedural steps and funding criteria could create unnecessary barriers for countries with limited institutional capacity, particularly LDCs.
- Indicated that the constituency would submit further written comments to support refinement of the proposal.

**Co-Chair, Georg Børsting, Norway:**

- Clarified that the B.8 decision explicitly places the CSS under the BIM and includes support for funding requests, noting that any change to this arrangement would require a Board decision.

**Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, FRLD ED:**

- Clarified that the CSS is established under the BIM but is not exclusively a CSS for the BIM, emphasising that it is intended to remain accessible to all eligible developing countries.

- Confirmed that the secretariat aims to process around 30 CSS approvals annually, while expressing confidence that demand could exceed BIM levels because the CSS application process and templates have been simplified.
- Reassured the Board that the secretariat intends to make the CSS process simpler and more accessible than the BIM funding process.
- Explained that seven dedicated staff are required to implement the CSS without undermining the secretariat's capacity to review BIM funding requests, and that CSS implementation will be scaled up progressively with regular reporting to the Board.
- Noted that complementarity and coherence could either remain as a standalone funding criterion or be considered sufficiently addressed through the criterion on responding to priority gaps, leaving the final decision to the Board.

**Jihyea Kim, FRLD Secretariat:**

- Clarified that Access Modality B provides two pathways for national ministries to access the CSS.
- Explained that the first pathway provides automatic eligibility for national ministries with an approved DBS funding request under the BIM, without requiring any further assessment.
- Noted that the second pathway allows national ministries that have not received BIM approval, or have not submitted a BIM request, to access the CSS if they have been assessed under either the HACT or the FMCA, thereby significantly expanding access for developing countries.
- Confirmed that the Secretariat consulted UN agencies and the Green Climate Fund in developing these eligibility pathways to maximise coverage across national institutions.
- Welcomed Board suggestions on refining the CSS funding criteria and invited members to submit specific drafting proposals for incorporation into the revised text.
- Explained that complementarity and coherence will be assessed by the Secretariat regardless of whether it is retained as a standalone funding criterion, incorporated under another criterion, or removed entirely, leaving the final decision to the Board.
- Clarified that the CSS RMF is not separate from the BIM RMF but contributes directly to it, with CSS performance indicators feeding into track 2 on institutional effectiveness, including processing times and operational performance.
- Indicated that the secretariat is willing to strengthen the explanation of these linkages in the paper.

- Clarified that the operational modalities under consideration apply only to the CSS operating under the BIM, while preserving flexibility for the Board to establish different operational arrangements for a long-term CSS in the future.
- Confirmed that eligibility for the CSS is not limited to countries that have submitted BIM funding requests, and that all developing countries eligible under the Fund may access the CSS regardless of whether they have previously applied under the BIM.

**Wolfgang Diernhofer, Austria:**

- Thanked the secretariat for the revised CSS proposal and expressed support for operationalising the CSS as an important component of the Fund's work.
- Acknowledged the proposed budget and staffing requirements but stressed that the increase in secretariat capacity should be gradual and implemented in close consultation with the Budget Committee.
- Welcomed improvements to the monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) framework and thanked the secretariat for incorporating previous Board comments.

**Walter Schuldt, Ecuador:**

- Reiterated that the CSS is established under the BIM, but is not exclusively for the BIM, and supported maintaining access for all eligible developing countries irrespective of whether they have submitted BIM funding requests.
- Supported operationalising a robust, accessible and country-driven CSS, noting that the simplified funding cycle, delegated approval authority and streamlined review process are appropriate for enabling timely support while maintaining accountability.
- Emphasised that the CSS should support a broad range of country needs beyond proposal preparation, including national loss and damage planning, institutional strengthening, financial needs assessments, capacity development of direct access entities and improved access to Fund resources.
- Welcomed stronger recognition of complementarity and coherence with the Santiago Network while stressing that collaboration should reinforce, rather than replace, the CSS as the Fund's dedicated support mechanism.
- Encouraged strengthening qualitative indicators alongside quantitative measures to better assess the effectiveness, relevance and transformational impact of CSS support.
- Suggested further simplifying access requirements for smaller-scale requests, noting that a streamlined approach would be more proportionate given the maximum allocation of 250,000 USD

- Reiterated that resource allocation parameters such as geographical balance, thematic distribution and portfolio considerations should be assessed across the overall BIM portfolio rather than individual CSS applications.

**Tamim Alothim, Saudi Arabia:**

- Supported removing the proposed third funding criterion on complementarity and coherence, arguing that additional criteria should not unnecessarily restrict access during the Fund's early operational phase.
- Recommended further simplifying the CSS funding cycle in Annex V, noting that the proposed process appears disproportionate for grants of up to 250,000 USD and could consume valuable country resources.
- Called for the delegated authority framework to explicitly require consideration of geographical balance and avoidance of over-concentration when approving CSS requests.

**Lorelei Lankester, France:**

- Clarified that placing the CSS under the BIM signifies that it forms part of the Fund's pilot phase and learning process, rather than limiting eligibility to countries or projects that have submitted BIM funding requests.
- Encouraged strengthening the document's explanation of the learning dimension so that lessons from CSS implementation can directly inform development of the Fund's long-term operational model.
- Suggested retaining complementarity and coherence as a supportive rather than restrictive criterion, potentially using flexible language such as "where applicable."
- Emphasised that complementarity should extend beyond avoiding duplication to include leveraging additional resources and strengthening collaboration with other initiatives.
- Welcomed the expanded access modalities while stressing the importance of managing expectations regarding what the CSS can realistically deliver under the current funding envelope.

**Tomas Soley Perez, Costa Rica:**

- Thanked the secretariat for the revised proposal and welcomed the incorporation of earlier comments on the funding criteria.
- Recommended explicitly linking priority gaps under criterion 2 to technical and institutional capacity-building for responding to loss and damage, consistent with paragraph 19 of the document.

- Proposed adding language requiring the secretariat to avoid over-concentration of CSS approvals and to ensure balanced geographical distribution across countries and regions, consistent with Decision B7.
- Suggested strengthening monitoring and reporting by providing the Board with strategic information on approval patterns, access modalities, regional distribution and implementation lessons while preserving the efficiency of delegated authority.

**Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, FRLD ED:**

- Reassured the Board that the proposed seven additional staff would be recruited gradually, based on the growth of the CSS pipeline rather than all at once, with planning based on an estimated pipeline of around 200 active submissions.
- Confirmed that geographical balance could be addressed either through the accountability framework or directly in the Board decision, and committed to considering regional balance when exercising delegated approval authority and reporting back to the Board.
- Emphasised that staffing levels were designed to ensure the CSS would not undermine the Secretariat's ability to process BIM funding requests and that capacity would continue to scale according to demand.

**Jihyea Kim, FRLD ED:**

- Agreed to further strengthen the qualitative and outcome-focused dimensions of the CSS indicators and reinforce the learning elements across the framework.
- Committed to reviewing the funding cycle to identify additional opportunities for simplification while maintaining essential review steps.
- Proposed alternative options for addressing complementarity and coherence, including retaining it as a separate criterion using flexible language such as "where applicable" or integrating it into Criterion 2.
- Indicated willingness to narrow the proposed access modalities, including the option of removing Modality C or limiting eligibility to national and regional entities.
- Confirmed that the Board's resource allocation parameters already apply to the CSS and would consider reinforcing this in the accountability framework.

**Jan Dusik, European Union:**

- Stressed that complementarity and coherence should remain reflected in the funding criteria, either as a standalone criterion or integrated into Criterion 2, while expressing overall satisfaction with the framework.

**Antonella Baldino, Italy:**

- Thanked the Executive Director and Secretariat for preparing the CSS operational modalities and welcomed them as an important step towards implementing the Fund's mandate.
- Supported delegating approval authority to the Executive Director, provided it is accompanied by a robust accountability framework with transparent procedures and regular reporting.
- Emphasised equitable access, noting that the rolling funding cycle should not advantage countries with stronger institutional capacity or earlier submissions.
- Welcomed the monitoring, evaluation and learning framework as essential for accountability and continuous improvement.
- Encouraged stronger complementarity with the Santiago Network while recognising their distinct mandates.
- Stressed that oversight fees should remain proportionate to the relatively small size of CSS grants.
- Highlighted the strategic importance of the CSS as many countries' first practical engagement with the Fund and suggested that regional approaches could support the long-term model.

**Ibila Djibril, Benin:**

- Welcomed the funding criteria, particularly the emphasis on country ownership and allowing countries to define their own priorities.
- Highlighted paragraph 19 as the core of the proposal because it empowers countries to identify stakeholders and determine their own priorities rather than following externally driven agendas.
- Supported the approval process, noting that it enables countries to assess the completeness and quality of their requests before submission.
- Asked how the secretariat would handle cases where countries are unable to resubmit revised CSS requests within the specified timeframe due to capacity constraints, requesting flexibility and support where needed.
- Considered complementarity already implicit within the framework and supported the overall proposal.

**Kamal Djemoul, Algeria:**

- Appreciated the Secretariat's clarification that the CSS is established "under" rather than "for" the BIM, while noting that this distinction has important operational implications.
- Observed that paragraph 47 of the Governing Instrument establishes the CSS as a support system for the Fund and suggested explicitly stating that all FRLD-eligible developing countries are eligible to access the CSS.
- Proposed exploring more efficient arrangements for signing CSS funding agreements following Executive Director approval, within the limits of the Trustee Agreement.
- Requested clarification of the allocation parameters and their relationship to the Board decision.
- Raised questions about references linking the CSS to BIM-specific requirements, including the Results Measurement Framework, outreach activities, monitoring and evaluation, and direct budget support, arguing that these references could unintentionally exclude countries without BIM funding requests.
- Encouraged revisions to ensure the CSS remains fully accessible to all eligible developing countries.

**Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway :**

- Clarified that the Board had explicitly decided at B8 to establish the CSS under the BIM and emphasised the need to remain consistent with that mandate rather than reopening previous Board decisions.
- Proposed that the secretariat prepare a further revised version of the document reflecting the latest comments.
- Encouraged Board members to take a pragmatic approach so that the CSS could be approved and launched during B9.
- Invited Board members to review the revised draft decision before the discussion resumed the following day.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Argued that Decision B.8/6 refers to "funding request development for the FRLD" rather than specifically for the BIM, and suggested that the same wording should be reflected in the CSS documentation.
- Stated that he could not support adoption of the decision until the issue of who would sign CSS funding agreements was resolved.
- Explained that, under the Trustee Agreement, funding agreements cannot be signed unless the receiving entities are determined to be functionally

equivalent, raising concerns about the operational feasibility of the proposed arrangements.

- Suggested two possible solutions: authorising the Co-Chairs to sign agreements following Executive Director approval and any necessary waivers, or requiring the Board to determine functional equivalence before the Trustee signs agreements.
- Warned that failure to resolve this issue would prevent implementation of the CSS despite its approval.

### **John Leo Algo, YOUNGO:**

- Reiterated support for the CSS as an important mechanism for strengthening countries' capacity to access the Fund, particularly during the BIM phase.
- Noted that although the CSS operates under the BIM, its benefits extend beyond the pilot phase by strengthening countries' long-term engagement with the FRLD.
- Warned that the CSS could experience oversubscription similar to the BIM, reinforcing the need to scale up the Fund's resources.
- Supported incorporating stronger qualitative indicators to capture the outcomes and impacts of CSS implementation.
- Encouraged the Secretariat to use lessons emerging from the BIM funding request pipeline to help identify priority areas for CSS support while maintaining country ownership.
- Reiterated the importance of complementarity and coherence with the Santiago Network.

### **Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, FRLD ED:**

- Clarified that any confusion between the terms "under" and "for" the BIM was unintentional and reaffirmed that the Executive Director is not a legal entity and therefore cannot sign funding agreements.
- Explained that aligning outreach on the CSS and the BIM is intended to make engagement with countries more efficient by discussing both during the same missions.
- Confirmed that the secretariat would continue reviewing written comments and making further revisions before launching the CSS.

### **Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway :**

- Invited the secretariat to prepare a final revised version of the CSS operational modalities reflecting the latest Board comments.

- Encouraged Board members to continue informal consultations with a view to reaching agreement quickly.
- Expressed confidence that one further revision would allow the Board to adopt the operational modalities and formally launch the CSS at B9.

Agenda closed for today

## **g. Updated list of entities accredited to the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility**

### **Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavarez, Dominican Republic:**

- Introduced Agenda Item 8 on the updated list of entities accredited to the AF, GCF, and GEF, following the Board's decision at B7 to periodically update the list.
- Noted that the updated list includes newly accredited entities and removes entities that no longer meet the Board's access modality requirements.
- Clarified that, if the CSS is approved, the updated list would also apply to access modality A under the CSS.
- Confirmed that the secretariat would update the list to include the latest GCF accreditations and proposed returning to the agenda item the following morning for adoption.
- Indicated that, if further discussion proved necessary, the updated list could instead be approved through a Between Board Meetings (BBM) decision process.

### **Jihyea Kim, FRLD Secretariat:**

- Presented the updated list of entities accredited to the AF, GCF and GEF as of 24 June 2026 for the Board's consideration.
- Explained that the update enables newly accredited entities to participate under the BIM and, if approved, access modality A of the CSS.
- Noted that one new AF entity had been added, two AF entities removed, and 14 newly accredited GCF entities added since the previous update, while no new GEF entities had been accredited.
- Clarified that the entities accredited at the most recent GCF Board meeting were not included because they were accredited under the GCF's newly reformed accreditation framework, which differs from the framework considered by the FRLD Board at B7.

- Recommended that the Board first consider the implications of the GCF accreditation reforms before automatically recognising entities accredited under the new framework.

**Walter Schuldt, Ecuador:**

- Informed the Board that his country's National Development Bank had recently been accredited by the GCF and requested that it be reflected in the next update.
- Supported Richard's proposal to update the list immediately to include newly accredited GCF entities because the information is already publicly available.
- Argued that the Board's previous decision recognised the accreditation systems of the AF, GCF and GEF as they evolve, without limiting recognition to a particular version of those accreditation systems.
- Expressed concern that requiring the Board to reconsider every accreditation reform undertaken by another fund would go beyond the original Board decision.
- Noted that the GCF accreditation reforms strengthened rather than weakened the accreditation system and therefore should not delay recognition of newly accredited entities.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Suggested that the Secretariat update the list overnight and bring back a revised decision the following day, or alternatively receive delegated authority to issue a procedural update through a BBM process.
- Emphasised that the FRLD Board had already decided to rely on the accreditation systems of the AF, GCF and GEF and should simply update the list as accreditation decisions are made.
- Argued that any concerns regarding changes to accreditation frameworks should be addressed at the project review stage rather than through the entity list itself.
- Supported automatic recognition of newly accredited entities to avoid unnecessary delays for entities that have completed lengthy accreditation processes.
- Recommended amending the Board decision, if necessary, to explicitly authorise the Co-Chairs to circulate an updated list between Board meetings.

**Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Thanked the Secretariat for keeping the accredited entity list up to date.

- Asked how the Board could better understand the capabilities of accredited entities, noting that some entities may have little or no experience implementing projects, particularly those related to loss and damage.
- Suggested that, as the Fund develops its long-term operational model, it should consider ways of assessing the implementation experience and capacities of accredited entities beyond simply relying on existing accreditation lists.

### **Tamim Alothim, Saudi Arabia:**

- Stated that his understanding had always been that updates to the accredited entity list would occur automatically as entities are accredited by the recognised climate funds.
- Supported maintaining this automatic approach, while remaining guided by whatever formal decision the Board considered necessary.

### **Agenda closed for today.**

## **Day 1. 08/07/2026**

The webcast for day one is [here](#), and the provisional schedule is [here](#).

Agenda items to be discussed today include:

- Opening remarks
  - Remarks by the Co-Chairs of the Board
  - Remarks by the Executive Director
  - Remarks by Secretary Cuna
- Opening of the meeting
- Organisational matters
  - Adoption of the agenda
  - Organisation of the work of the meeting
- Report of the eighth meeting of the Board
- Report of the Secretariat
  - Report on the activities of the secretariat
  - Report on the execution of the administrative budget
  - Report on the available commitment authority
- Report by the interim Trustee on the status of the FRLD Trust Fund resources
- Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities

- Results measurement framework
- Country support system
- Updated list of entities accredited to the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund, and the Global Environment Facility
- Dialogue with civil society

## Opening Remarks

B9 started with opening remarks from the co-chairs of the Board, the Executive Director of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD), and the guest of honour, Acting Secretary, Honourable Juan Miguel T. Cuna, speaking on behalf of the government of the Philippines.

The Co-Chairs stressed that the Board's decisions over the coming days will advance the operationalisation of the BIM, shape the Fund's long-term operational model, and begin translating the Fund's ambition into tangible support through consideration of the first funding requests.

The Executive Director of the FRLD, Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, highlighted two key issues in his remarks:

- The Board will consider its first funding requests while responding to unprecedented demand, with 176 funding requests from 119 developing countries demonstrating both the Fund's relevance and the urgent need to deliver support.
- The current priority now is to ensure adequate resources reach vulnerable countries and communities, keeping people affected by climate change at the centre of the Fund's mission.

Speaking as the guest of honour, and on behalf of the government of the Philippines was Acting Secretary Juan Miguel T. Cuna.

Key points highlighted in his speech include:

- Reaffirmed the commitment of the Philippines to advancing the full operationalisation of the FRLD so it can deliver timely, accessible, and effective support to vulnerable developing countries.
- The Philippines, as ASEAN Chair, emphasises strengthening regional cooperation through improved climate risk management, data sharing, technical capacity, and faster support for countries affected by extreme weather events.
- He called on the international community to close the gap between political commitments and the real needs of vulnerable communities, highlighting the importance of translating global decisions into practical support.

- He also welcomed progress on the operationalisation of the Fund, the work of the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) and the Santiago Network's (SN) efforts to strengthen technical assistance and simplify access for grassroots communities.
  - He underscored the need to enhance complementarity and coherence between all the three bodies to support access to the Fund.
- He reminded the Board that the Fund is more than a financial mechanism, reflecting the principles of international cooperation, solidarity, and shared responsibility for countries that are disproportionately affected by climate change despite contributing the least to global emissions.
- He closed by announcing the establishment of a Board secretariat office at the Philippine International Convention Center which reaffirms the commitment to supporting the Board's work and hosting future meetings.

## **Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting**

- The meeting was opened by the co-chairs, starting with Co-Chair Georg Børsting of Norway who informed the Board on the changes to the Board membership since B8 in Livingstone, Zambia as follows:
  - Immaculada Paniagua Brieva (Spain) has replaced Ana Paula Rodrigues (Portugal) as a Board member representing developed countries.
  - Tamim Al Othaimi (Saudi Arabia) has replaced Abdurrahman Al-Erobid (Saudi Arabia) as a Board member representing the Asia-Pacific States.
  - Jette Mikkelsen (Denmark) has replaced Jens Føhn (Denmark) as an Alternate Board member representing developed countries.
  - Kassie Moll (New Zealand) has replaced Sarah Short (New Zealand) as an Alternate Board member representing developed countries.
  - Ana Cameira (Portugal) has replaced Immaculada Paniagua Brieva (Spain) as an Alternate Board member representing developed countries.
  - Seyed Mohammad (Islamic Republic of Iran) has replaced Gholamhossein Darsi (Islamic Republic of Iran) as an Alternate Board member representing the Asia-Pacific States.
- Temporary changes to the Board membership for B9.
  - Manuela Glass (Germany) is replacing Natasha Pinske (Germany) as a Board member representing developed countries.
  - Pilar Caballero (Spain) is replacing Immaculada Paniagua Brieva (Spain) as a Board member representing developed countries.
  - Kaori Shiotsu (Japan) is replacing Katsuo Taguchi (Japan) as a Board member representing developed countries.

- Ahmed Al Gardaka (United Arab Emirates) is replacing Abdullah Ahmed Balalaa (United Arab Emirates) as a Board member representing the Asia-Pacific States.
- Ambassador Roleta Camacho Tomas (Antigua and Barbuda), replacing Mr. Peter George Junior Abraham (Antigua and Barbuda) as a Board member representing the Small Island Developing States.
- Wolfgang Dinhöfer (Austria) is replacing Mr. Georges Gilles (Luxembourg) as an Alternate Board member representing developed countries.
- Takeshi Takiguchi (Japan) is replacing Orla Kilkullen (Ireland) as an Alternate Board member representing developed countries.
- Takeshi Takiguchi (Japan) is replacing Shuichi Hiwakai (Japan) as an Alternate Board member representing developed countries.
- Anders Mæhlum (Norway) is replacing Odd Magnellud (Norway) as an Alternate Board member representing developed countries.
- Şatik Tastemirova (Kazakhstan) is replacing Didar Ittamenov (Kazakhstan) as an Alternate Board member representing the Asia-Pacific States.
- Finally, Kamal Jamai (Algeria) is replacing Ambassador Mohamed Nasr (Egypt) as a Board member representing the African Group.
- He also appreciated Board and alternate members who could not make it to this meeting as follows:
  - Natasha Pinske, Germany.
  - Immaculada Paniagua Brieva, Spain.
  - José Delgado, Austria.
  - Katsuo Taguchi, Japan.
  - Abdullah Ahmed Balalaa, United Arab Emirates.
  - Mohammed Ibrahim Nasser Salem, Egypt.
  - Peter G. Abraham Jr., Antigua and Barbuda.
  - Karima Ostadi, Italy.
  - Orla Kilkullen, Ireland.
  - Georges Gilles, Luxembourg.
  - Shuichi Hiwakai, Japan.
  - Odd Magnellud, Norway.
  - Didar Ittamenov, Kazakhstan.
  - Camila Muñoz Uribe, Colombia.
  - Seyed Mohammad Sadeghinejad, Islamic Republic of Iran.
  - Soumaya Ahmed Sakiel Den Ahmad, Sudan.
- He also reminded the Board that the meeting is open to observers unless it is a closed session.

## Agenda item 2: Organisational matters

### a. Adoption of the agenda

#### **Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavarez, Dominican Republic:**

- She invited the Board to adopt the provisional agenda contained in the document FRLD/B.9/Rev.1 with a request to remove agenda item 18, dates and venues of future meetings and proposed to have a revised agenda reflecting this in document FRLD/B.9/Rev.2

#### **Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Requested procedural clarification on agenda item 10(b), specifically what action the Co-Chairs intend the Board to take under that item.
- Raised concerns about the timing of the discussion, citing an insufficient consultation process.
- Stated that the delegation is not in a position to adopt the document at this Board meeting and believes it requires further consultation before any decision is taken.
- Asked the Co-Chairs to clarify the intended way forward, noting that, depending on the response, they may request the deletion of the agenda item.

#### **Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavarez, Dominican Republic:**

- Clarified that a decision will only be taken if the Board is ready to do so, and there is no expectation that the document must be adopted at this meeting.
- Noted that agenda item 10(b) is part of the Board's agreed work plan and is intended to clarify the Board's expectations on the consultation process and the determination of when consensus has been exhausted.
- Explained that the discussion aims to gather members' views, understand their positions on the document, and identify an appropriate way forward.
- Emphasised that the immediate objective is to make progress through discussion and exchange of views, with adoption only occurring if the Board reaches sufficient readiness and consensus.

#### **Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Stated a preference for not including the agenda item for adoption but accepted the Co-Chair's explanation on how it would be handled.
- Clarified from the outset that the delegation is not in a position to join consensus or adopt the document at this Board meeting.

- Indicated that concerns to be raised under the agenda item are primarily procedural, with some substantive issues also remaining.
- Agreed to proceed with the discussion on the understanding that it is intended to exchange views rather than require adoption at this meeting.

**Kirsty McNichol, Australia:**

- Supported the proposed caveat and welcomed the flexibility it provides for the Board to revisit the dates and venue if needed during substantive discussions.

**Agenda Adopted**

**Jan Dusik, European Union:**

- Recalled the previous informal discussion on the conflict of interest policy and noted the expectation that the Board will consider adopting a comprehensive policy at B10 through the work plan.
- Emphasised the importance of operationalising the existing conflict of interest provisions in the Rules of Procedure, particularly while a comprehensive policy is still under development.
- Highlighted the need for appropriate arrangements when the Board considers decisions that could give rise to conflicts of interest, especially funding approval decisions under the Barbados Implementation Modalities.
- Requested that the Co-Chairs consider how the existing provisions can be applied when preparing the agenda for B10 to ensure the integrity of the Board's decision-making process.

**b. Organisation of the work of the meeting**

**Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway:**

- Informed the Board that the daily schedule will be announced each morning.
- Thanked Board members and participants for their flexibility, noting that adjustments to the schedule may be required to accommodate key deliverables.
- Assured the Board that any changes to the meeting schedule will be communicated promptly and transparently.

**Kajsa Natby, Sweden:**

- Expressed support for operationalising the existing conflict of interest provisions contained in the Rules of Procedure, echoing a point raised by another Board member.
- Raised concerns about the late circulation of Board documents, while acknowledging the efforts of the Secretariat and all those involved in preparing the meeting.

- Emphasised that timely distribution of documents is essential to enable Board members to prepare adequately and make the best use of meeting time.
- Took note that Board meetings require significant resources, which could otherwise support activities on the ground, underscoring the importance of focusing meeting time on substantive deliberations rather than reviewing newly circulated documents.
- Encouraged earlier circulation of documents ahead of future Board meetings to improve preparedness and the effectiveness of discussions.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Requested that the Co-Chairs share a draft organization of work covering the full three days of the meeting, while recognising their flexibility to adjust the schedule as needed.
- Clarified that the request was not intended to negotiate the agenda or sequencing of agenda items.
- Emphasised that an indicative schedule would help Board members consult with their constituencies and prepare more effectively for upcoming discussions.
- Suggested that a provisional schedule, clearly marked as subject to change, would provide useful forward planning while preserving the Co-Chairs' discretion to revise the programme of work.

### **Agenda item 3: Report of the eighth meeting of the Board**

**Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway:**

- Introduced the agenda item on the adoption of the report of the eighth Board meeting (FRLD/B.8/20), noting that it had been circulated to Board members on 28 June 2026.
- Invited the Board to consider adoption of the report.
- With no objections raised, confirmed the adoption of the report of the eighth Board meeting.

Agenda adopted

### **Agenda item 4: Report of the Secretariat**

**a. Report of the activities of the secretariat**

**Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway:**

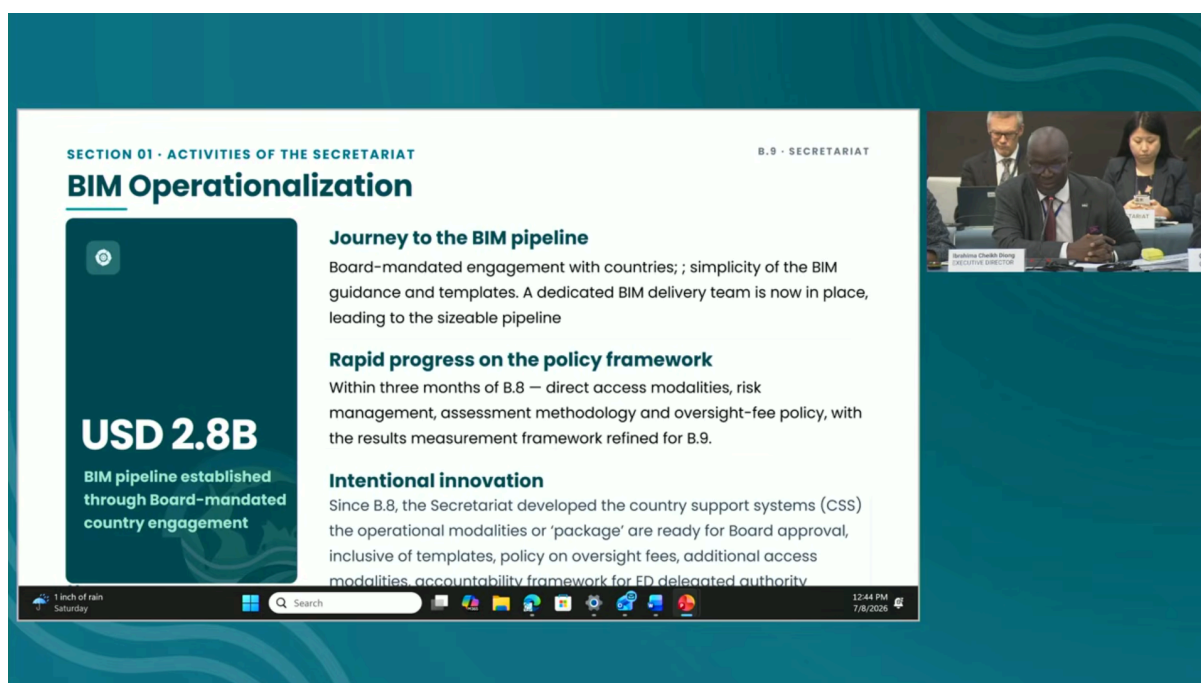
- Introduced agenda items 4(a) and 4(b) on the Report on the Activities of the Secretariat and the Report on the Execution of the Administrative Budget, proposing that they be considered together.

- Referred the Board to document FRLD/B.9/2/Rev.1, which includes the Secretariat's activity report and, in its annex, the administrative budget execution report for the period 1 January–30 April 2026.
- Recalled that the Board approved the Fund's 2026 administrative budget at B7 through Decision B.7/D.1.
- Invited the Executive Director to present an update on the Secretariat's activities, progress in implementing Board mandates, and the execution of the administrative budget.

### Ibrahima Diong Cheikh, FRLD ED:

Presentation:

- The report covers the period between 27 March and 16 June



### BIM Operationalisation

- Reported significant progress in operationalising the BIM pipeline since its launch at COP30, including simplifying application guidelines and templates to improve accessibility for countries.
- Confirmed that the BIM Delivery Team has been successfully established and is now helping to address Secretariat capacity gaps by assessing funding requests with a diverse pool of technical expertise.
- Highlighted progress in developing key operational policies and frameworks, including support for the Direct Access Modality and Risk Management work,

- the Assessment Methodology, and the Board-approved Oversight Fee Policy.
- Noted that work on the Results Measurement Framework is ongoing and will be discussed later during the meeting.
- Stated that the Secretariat has completed the necessary preparations to operationalise the Country Support System (CSS) and is ready to launch and implement it immediately if approved by the Board at B9.
- Emphasised that these initiatives have strengthened the Secretariat's operational capacity, policy framework, and readiness to deliver on the Fund's mandate.

SECTION 01 · ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT B.9 · SECRETARIAT

## Resource Mobilisation & Complementarity

**Resource Mobilisation**

**USD 30M**

transferred this period from Austria, Italy and Walloon region of Belgium

**Conversion of pledges**

As guided by the Board, the Secretariat sought to accelerate the conversion and worked with the trustee and contributors to convert pledges.

**Policy progress**

The Secretariat supported the Co-Chairs in leading the development of the replenishment background note (to support discussions of the first replenishment process) and resource mobilization strategy (RMS) Stage 1, organized consultations with the Board on the draft RMS Stage 1 during June 2026.

**Complementarity & Coherence**

**UNFCCC regime engagement**

Leveraging FRLD presence at the UNFCCC subsidiary bodies session to engage with FRLD focal points, access entities ahead of the deadline for the BIM;

**MCF Taskforce integration**

Enhancing cooperation with other multilateral climate funds through the official integration into MCF Taskforce with the ultimate objective of working as a simplified system which avoids bureaucracy and best serves countries

**Santiago Network Collaboration**

Continuing efforts to collaborate with the Santiago Network to achieve complementarity with other providers of support for loss and damage

### Resource mobilisation and complementarity

- Reported continued progress in converting pledges into signed contributions, identifying this as a key priority for the secretariat in line with the Board's guidance.
- Acknowledged the close collaboration with the World Bank as Trustee in negotiating contribution agreements and thanked contributing countries for their support.
- Noted that approximately US\$30 million in additional contributions had been secured since the previous Board meeting, with further details to be presented under the commitment authority agenda item.
- Highlighted the Board's guidance, including support for engagement with the Government of Italy, as instrumental in advancing pledge conversion efforts.
- Reiterated the Secretariat's commitment to reporting regularly to the Board on progress in converting pledges into actual funding.



### Capacity and stakeholder engagement

- Reported that the Secretariat has prepared background papers on the first replenishment process and the Stage One Resource Mobilization Strategy, following the Board's two-step approach agreed at B8, and is seeking further guidance from the Board on both processes.
- Highlighted progress in strengthening complementarity and coherence through outreach on the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM), including engagement with UNFCCC focal points ahead of the 15 June deadline, with support from the Co-Chairs and coordination with the G77 and China.
- Announced the establishment of a coordination group comprising the five major climate funds (FRLD, GCF, GEF, Adaptation Fund and CIF) to enhance complementarity, avoid duplication, promote co-financing, share knowledge, and exchange lessons on replenishment processes through a rotating chairmanship.
- Reported continued collaboration with the Santiago Network and noted that, should the Board approve the CSS, additional opportunities for coordination and synergies would be pursued.
- Updated the Board on Secretariat capacity, noting progress towards the target of 23 staff by the end of 2026, with 12 staff onboarded, 10 under recruitment, and one additional position to be advertised, while reaffirming the commitment to maintaining a lean and efficient Secretariat.
- Announced that the FRLD Secretariat has moved into its permanent headquarters in Washington, recognising the support of the World Bank and the leadership of the Deputy Executive Director in establishing the office.
- Reported ongoing engagement with governments, the COP Presidency, multilateral development banks, the UN Secretary-General's Office, and other stakeholders, while emphasising efforts to manage travel costs through virtual engagement where possible.
- Acknowledged concerns over the late circulation of Board documents, apologised to Board members, and committed to improving the timeliness of document distribution

despite the demanding schedule of three Board meetings each year.

- Highlighted the Secretariat's regular engagement with observers through monthly meetings and noted that observer-related policy documents would be considered during B9 to strengthen stakeholder participation and inform the Board's work.

**SECTION 3** **B.9 - SECRETARIAT**

## Key lessons learnt

- 👤 **Strengthening the secretariat through remaining staff recruitment.**
- 🌐 **Complementarity and coherence matter** – by joining forces with other MCFs, Santiago Network, and WimExCom we aim to increase our support to those most vulnerable without duplicating efforts
- 📌 **Intentional engagement increases the Fund's impact** – the BIM pipeline demonstrates how the targeted engagement and support of the Secretariat reached those most vulnerable, and this lesson carries on the Fund's work
- 👤 **Secretariat engagement with observers for transparency and collaboration.**

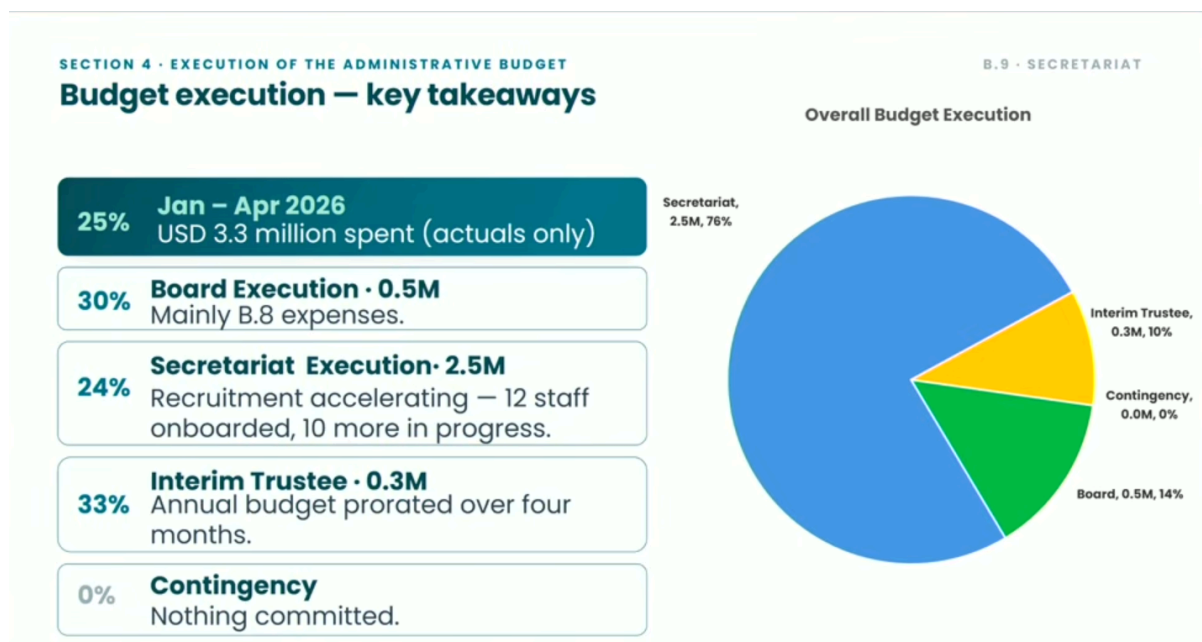
### Lessons learnt

- Reported continued progress in strengthening the secretariat's capacity and committed to accelerating recruitment to keep pace with the growing work programme and increasing Board mandates.
- Reaffirmed the commitment to maintaining a diverse, gender-balanced, and globally representative secretariat, noting that the current team reflects these principles.
- Emphasised that complementarity among climate funds is becoming increasingly important, citing feedback from countries on the need to avoid duplication and highlighting the establishment of the climate funds coordination group as a response.
- Highlighted the importance of sustained country engagement beyond launching funding calls, noting that outreach, clarification of guidelines, and partnerships such as with the Caribbean Development Bank, significantly contributed to the increase in BIM funding requests from 10 at B8 to 176 at B9.
- Reiterated the Secretariat's commitment to transparency and inclusiveness by maintaining regular engagement with observers and ensuring that their perspectives are communicated to the Board to inform decision-making.

Presentation combined with agenda b below:

### **b. Report on the execution of the administrative budget**

**Mathilde Laurans, FRLD Deputy ED:**



- Presented the report on the execution of the 2026 administrative budget, covering expenditures for the Board, Secretariat, Interim Trustee, and contingency budget as of 30 April 2026.
- Noted that the report had been reviewed and endorsed by the Budget Committee.
- Explained that expenditures are reported on a modified cash basis, meaning they are recorded when payments are made rather than when commitments are incurred.
- Clarified that, as a result of this accounting approach, some expenditures relating to activities undertaken in 2025 are reflected in the 2026 budget execution report.

## SECTION 4 · EXECUTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

B.9 · SECRETARIAT

**Overall budget summary**

| S. No | Item                            | Approved 2026 Budget | Actuals          | Balance           | % Spent    |
|-------|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 1     | Board                           | 1,592,662            | 471,430          | 1,121,233         | 30%        |
| 2     | Secretariat                     | 10,602,969           | 2,513,875        | 8,089,094         | 24%        |
| 3     | Trustee                         | 1,009,200            | 336,400          | 672,800           | 33%        |
| 4     | <b>Total before contingency</b> | <b>13,204,831</b>    | <b>3,321,705</b> | <b>9,883,126</b>  | <b>25%</b> |
| 5     | Contingency                     | 301,200              | —                | 301,200           | 0%         |
|       | <b>Grand total</b>              | <b>13,506,031</b>    | <b>3,321,705</b> | <b>10,184,326</b> | <b>25%</b> |

- Reported total administrative budget expenditure of US\$3.3 million as of 30 April 2026, representing 25% of the approved annual budget of US\$13.5 million.
- Noted that Board expenditure totalled US\$0.5 million (30% execution), mainly covering travel support for Board members and advisers attending B8, with venue and logistics costs of approximately US\$366,000 to be reflected in the next reporting period once payments are made.
- Reported Secretariat expenditure of US\$2.5 million (24% execution), reflecting continued institutional development, recruitment, consultant support, technical missions, Board preparations, and operational activities, while noting that recruitment of 12 staff onboarded and 10 ongoing recruitments has required significant staff effort.
- Indicated that the Interim Trustee's expenditure stands at 33% of its annual budget, based on a pro rata allocation, and confirmed that there were no expenditures or commitments under the contingency budget.

Floor open for comments from the Board

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Commended the secretariat for its leadership and the significant progress made since the previous Board meeting, particularly the extensive work undertaken to operationalise the BIM.
- Requested that the secretariat provide the Board with regular updates, potentially on an annual basis, on the work of the group of multilateral climate funds, particularly regarding complementarity, co-financing opportunities, and operational collaboration with other climate funds.

- Suggested that the Board receive greater transparency on discussions among climate funds to better inform its oversight role and engagement with other fund boards.
- Requested greater transparency on administrative costs, including a clearer breakdown of Interim Trustee and World Bank hosting costs, to strengthen accountability for administrative expenditure.

**Kajsa Natby, Sweden:**

- Commended the secretariat for its strong recruitment efforts and the high quality of staff supporting the Board.
- Emphasised that collaboration with the Santiago Network, WIM ExCom and other climate funds should focus on practical operational coordination, including alignment of implementation approaches, templates, criteria and results frameworks.
- Encouraged the secretariat to expand complementarity efforts beyond climate funds by strengthening collaboration with humanitarian, disaster risk reduction and development actors.
- Stressed the importance of prioritising technical delivery, Board preparation and BIM implementation while maintaining low administrative costs, and requested clarification on the significant increase in ICT costs for the previous Board meeting.

**Walter Schuldt, Ecuador:**

- Thanked the secretariat for its work while reiterating concerns about the late circulation of Board documents, noting that this limited members' ability to adequately prepare for discussions.
- Requested an update on regional representation within the secretariat, particularly regarding Latin America and the Caribbean, and sought progress on converting the remaining outstanding pledges into signed contributions.
- Encouraged broader secretariat engagement across Latin America and the Caribbean through regional events and strengthened outreach to National Focal Points.
- Requested that future administrative budget reports cover periods closer to Board meetings and sought clarification on the continued use of consultants for editorial support and travel coordination, questioning whether these represent ongoing rather than short-term needs.

**Jan Dusik, European Union:**

- Welcomed progress in recruiting permanent secretariat staff while requesting a more complete picture of overall Secretariat capacity, including consultants, to assess its ability to deliver Board mandates.
- Reiterated the importance of receiving Board documents well in advance, particularly BIM funding proposals, to enable informed decision-making.
- Encouraged the Secretariat to clearly communicate what is realistically achievable within its available capacity and timelines so that Board expectations remain aligned with delivery.
- Confirmed that efforts to convert outstanding pledges into signed contributions remain ongoing and that progress is expected as discussions continue.

**David Chama Kalua, Zambia:**

- Commended the secretariat for the progress made in operationalising the Fund and encouraged continued efforts to strengthen its work.
- Called for higher-level advocacy and political engagement to match the scale of the Fund's mandate, including engagement with ministers, heads of government and other senior decision-makers.
- Emphasised that strategic, high-level outreach should support resource mobilisation, complement the high-level dialogue, and help close the Fund's financing gap.
- Encouraged the Secretariat to ensure that advocacy efforts remain focused on advancing the Fund's objectives and delivering greater impact.

**Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Thanked the secretariat while expressing concern about the late circulation of documents and revised versions, noting that this complicated the Board's review process.
- Observed that related agenda items should be better aligned and presented together to improve coherence and avoid confusion.
- Commended the clear reporting on administrative budget execution but questioned the substantial increases proposed under the subsequent budget agenda, particularly the 32% increase in secretariat and Board expenditures and the approximately 280% increase in the contingency budget.
- Requested greater consistency across Secretariat, Trustee and budget reports by using the same reporting periods and sought a detailed explanation for the significant increase in the proposed contingency budget.

**Kamal Djemoul, Egypt:**

- Thanked the Government of the Philippines for hosting the meeting and commended the secretariat for its work, recognising the significant progress made despite its limited capacity.
- Asked whether the secretariat, the Santiago Network and the WIM ExCom are collaborating on loss and damage planning, noting that such planning tools could strengthen complementarity, coherence and country support.
- Requested information on how the Secretariat intends to strengthen engagement with National Focal Points, particularly as the CSS is rolled out.
- Noted that the secretariat had already prepared draft documents on replenishment and RMS, and requested clarification on when the Board would receive them to enable meaningful deliberations during the meeting.

**Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway:**

- Clarified that the draft replenishment document had already been circulated to Board members.
- Noted that the draft RMS had undergone Board consultation and would be discussed under the relevant agenda item.
- Thanked Board members for providing constructive feedback on the draft RMS and confirmed that the Secretariat had taken those comments into account.
- Invited the Secretariat to respond to the questions and requests for clarification raised by Board members.

**Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, FRLD ED:**

- Explained that the Secretariat's collaboration with other climate funds focuses on shared operational challenges such as capacity-building, results reporting, programming, readiness support and country engagement, and announced plans for a joint event at COP31 to showcase the collective work of the climate funds.
- Clarified that the climate funds coordination group is a Secretariat-led initiative with a rotating chairmanship and is not intended to direct or replace Board decision-making.
- Confirmed that complementarity efforts extend beyond climate funds to include other relevant institutions and expressed willingness to expand future Secretariat reports to better reflect these broader partnerships.
- Noted that Secretariat priorities are determined through regular coordination with the Co-Chairs and are guided by Board decisions, with current priorities focused on BIM implementation, resource mobilisation and strengthening Secretariat capacity.
- Highlighted that country engagement has evolved from raising awareness about the Fund to supporting implementation of the BIM, with approaches

tailored to regional needs and informed by continuous dialogue with countries and partners.

- Reaffirmed the Secretariat's commitment to diversity and regional representation, reporting that approximately 15 nationalities are represented within the Secretariat while committing to further strengthen representation from Latin America and encouraging Board members to promote Secretariat vacancies within their regions.
- Reported continued outreach in Latin America, including virtual BIM engagement, confirmed that 18 National Focal Points are from the region, and invited Board members to identify additional regional engagement opportunities.
- Explained that consultants and full-time staff are engaged based on the expertise required to support the Board's work, while emphasising the need to align Secretariat capacity with the Board's expanding work programme and available resources.
- Updated the Board on contributor engagement, noting that most contribution agreements have now been signed and that regular communication with contributors is supporting the conversion of pledges into contributions.
- Reaffirmed the Secretariat's commitment to managing travel and administrative costs prudently, noting that travel is undertaken only when necessary and balanced against the need to prepare for Board meetings and deliver mandates.
- Emphasised the importance of high-level champions in supporting resource mobilisation and replenishment, citing Heads of State, the UN Secretary-General and leaders from beneficiary countries as key advocates for capitalising the Fund.
- Concluded by stressing that outreach and advocacy are institutional responsibilities shared across the Secretariat rather than the responsibility of the Executive Director alone.

**Mathilde Laurans, FRLD Deputy ED:**

- Clarified that the budgets for the Interim Trustee and the World Bank as Host Institution are reported separately because they cover distinct functions, with hosting costs reflecting administrative support such as IT, HR, office space and other operational services.
- Explained that the higher ICT expenditure for B8 resulted from exceptional logistical requirements, including transporting equipment internationally, and

noted that lessons learned will improve planning and cost management for future Board meetings.

- Confirmed that administrative budget reports follow an established reporting and Budget Committee review process, while committing to report expenditure as close as possible to future Board meetings and to continue providing annual expenditure reports.
- Explained that editorial support and Board travel coordination are delivered through external consultants because these functions fluctuate around Board meetings, while permanent Secretariat capacity continues to expand through ongoing recruitment.
- Noted that consultants are primarily engaged for specialised technical functions, including the BIM Delivery Team and the future CSS, with long-term functions progressively transitioning into permanent secretariat positions.
- Indicated that detailed explanations on the proposed budget increase and contingency budget would be provided under the relevant agenda item, and clarified that different reporting dates across documents reflect different reporting processes rather than inconsistencies.
- Reaffirmed that complementarity and coherence with the Santiago Network and the WIM ExCom are embedded across the secretariat's work, including collaboration on Board papers, the CSS and the Results Measurement Framework, with regular technical exchanges to strengthen coordination.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Requested that the budget presentation more clearly identify the World Bank hosting costs as a separate budget line and, if possible, provide a more detailed breakdown of the costs to improve transparency.
- Clarified that the request was not intended to revisit the agreed arrangement, but rather to provide greater visibility into what the reported lump-sum expenditure covers.

**Mathilde Laurans, FRLD Deputy ED:**

- Confirmed that the Secretariat would consult with the World Bank Host regarding the possibility of providing a more detailed breakdown of the hosting costs.

**Ali Taqueer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Clarified that his concern related to the presentation and coherence of financial reports rather than the proposed budget increase itself.
- Suggested that, where different reporting cut-off dates are used across Secretariat and Trustee reports, the documents should either align those dates or include a clear explanation to avoid confusion and inconsistent interpretation by Board members, Parties and observers.

- Encouraged greater consistency and coherence across all financial and accounting-related Board documents.

#### Co-Chair Georg Børsting, Norway:

- Noted the comments made by Board members and indicated that the Secretariat had taken note of the recommendations.
- Invited the Board to take note of the Report on the Activities of the Secretariat and the Report on the Execution of the 2026 Administrative Budget contained in document FRLD/B.9/2/Rev.1.

Report is noted by the Board

#### c. Report on the available commitment authority

Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavaréz invited the secretariat to make a presentation on the commitment authority.

Mathilde Laurans, FRLD Deputy ED:

| <b>Available Commitment Authority</b>                    |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Description</b>                                       | <b>USD (Millions)</b> |
| Cash receipts  | 429.12                |
| Unencashed Promissory Notes (PNs)                        | 26.84                 |
| Investment Income earned                                 | 22.76                 |
| <b>Total resources received</b>                          | <b>478.72</b>         |
| Less:  |                       |
| Approved Administrative budgets                          | -31.93                |
| Currency risk reserve for unencashed PNs                 | -4.03                 |
| BIM allocation at B.5                                    | -250                  |
| BIM Allocation of oversight fee at B.8                   | -20                   |
| Country Support System                                   | -7.5                  |
| <b>Sub-total</b>   | <b>-313.46</b>        |
| <b>Available Commitment Authority as at May 31, 2026</b> | <b>165.26</b>         |

- Explained that the commitment authority calculation is based on the status of resources received by the World Bank as Trustee of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, and that this report will be presented at every Board meeting.
- Reported that the Fund has generated US\$22.76 million in interest earnings, bringing total cash resources to approximately US\$478 million.

- The calculation deducts current reserves, the allocation for the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM), and the annual allocation for the Country Support System (CSS), resulting in total commitments of approximately US\$346 million.
- After these deductions, the available commitment authority as of 26 May 2026 stands at US\$165.20 million.
- The available commitment authority does not include soft allocations.
- Beginning with B10, the commitment authority report will be presented at the start of Board meetings to provide a forward-looking view of available resources, while emphasising that it is intended to inform discussions and not to pre-judge future Board decisions.

| <b>Net Available Commitment Authority<br/>after accounting for soft commitments</b> |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| <b>Description</b>  | <b>USD<br/>(Millions)</b> |
| <b>Available Commitment Authority as of May 31, 2026</b>                            | <b>165.26</b>             |
| Less: soft allocations at B.09  |                           |
| 2026 additional budget request  | -4.8                      |
| 2027-28 staffing additional budget request  | -10.3                     |
| Oversight fee for CC  | -0.68                     |
| <b>Sub-total</b>  | <b>-15.78</b>             |
| <b>Net Available Commitment Authority at B.09</b>                                   | <b>149.49</b>             |
| Less: soft allocations at B.10  |                           |
| Admin budgets at B.10   | -22                       |
| 2029 staffing additional budget request   | -11                       |
| Country Support system Allocation for 2027  | -7.5                      |
| <b>Sub-total</b>  | <b>-40.5</b>              |
| <b>Net Available Commitment Authority at B.10</b>                                   | <b>108.99</b>             |

- Soft commitments include the stalking budget, oversight fee, all three add up to 15.73 million USD. The Commitment authority could be 109 million USD at B9.
- Expected admin budget of 22 million, 11.27 million for staffing budget. 7.5 million USD for the second year of CSS.
- Leads to 109 million USD commitment authority at B10.
- Net commitment authority is 109 million USD.

Comments from the Board

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Sought clarification on the inclusion of uncashed promissory notes in the commitment authority calculation, questioning whether resources that have not yet been encashed should be counted as available for commitments given the potential risk that they may not be realised when needed.

- Requested clarification on how the forthcoming agenda item on a possible additional allocation for the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM) could affect the available commitment authority, noting that the Board had not yet received the relevant documentation.
- Asked why the document refers to a 2029 staffing budget request, seeking clarification on the purpose of including this forward-looking element within the commitment authority discussion.
- Indicated that additional questions relating to financial matters would be raised under the subsequent agenda item on the Trustee's report.

**Ali Taqueer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Welcomed the early discussion on commitment authority and sought clarification on whether the reported available commitment authority excludes the proposed increase in the Secretariat's administrative budget under Agenda Item 6.
- Observed that the commitment authority calculation does not reflect the substantial demand represented by the funding requests submitted under the BIM, noting that these requests significantly exceed currently available resources.
- Requested the development of longer-term financial projections showing how the Fund's available commitment authority is expected to evolve over the coming years under different expenditure scenarios.
- Suggested presenting the Board with graphical scenarios illustrating the Fund's remaining financial headroom and when it may move from a sustainable position to a cautionary or critical funding situation.
- Encouraged stronger cross-referencing between the commitment authority, Results Measurement Framework, administrative budget, resource mobilisation strategy and replenishment discussions so that Board members have a more integrated understanding of the Fund's financial outlook.

**Antoine Bergerot, France:**

- Supported the request for clarification regarding the inclusion of promissory notes, noting that the Board had previously agreed to include them in the commitment authority because they constitute unconditional and legally enforceable commitments that can be called when required.
- Suggested that, if promissory notes are not fully unconditional, their inclusion in the commitment authority should be reconsidered.

- Agreed that the Board would benefit from a more forward-looking financial picture, while noting that such projections may be more appropriately presented under a different agenda item.
- Suggested replacing the term "soft commitment" with terminology such as "forward-looking financial projection" to better reflect the purpose of the information presented.
- Clarified that the reference to the 2029 staffing budget should be understood as a forward-looking projection linked to agreed financial triggers rather than an immediate funding request.

**Kristy McNichol, Australia:**

- Thanked the secretariat for presenting the financial planning table, noting that it provided helpful clarification on the budget implications of the decisions before the Board.
- Requested that future Board documentation include a similar summary table, particularly the section outlining current financial commitments, as part of the Commitment Authority paper or another budget-related document.
- Sought clarification on the forward-looking "soft allocations" presented for B10, asking whether these reflect Board papers that have already been circulated or are included solely for financial planning purposes.
- Asked whether any relevant documentation had been overlooked or whether the figures are simply indicative and intended to support forward-looking planning.

**Mathilde Laurans, FRLD Deputy ED:**

- Clarified that uncashed promissory notes are included in the commitment authority because they represent valid and legally enforceable commitments, even if they have not yet been encashed.
- Explained that the second half of the financial planning table provides forward-looking estimates, including projections for 2027 and anticipated staffing costs through 2029, with these figures informing long-term financial planning rather than immediate budget decisions.
- Noted that the 2027 and 2028 estimates are reflected in the first half of the table, while the 2029 staffing projection is included separately to support the Fund's established three-year staffing planning approach.
- Acknowledged the Board's request to include similar forward-looking financial information alongside the commitment authority calculation in future Board documentation.

- Indicated that the forthcoming presentation by the World Bank as Trustee would provide additional information on pledge conversion and the expected availability of resources in the near term.
- Confirmed that the Secretariat had addressed the technical questions raised by Board members regarding the commitment authority calculation and financial projections.

**Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Acknowledged the clarification provided on promissory notes but noted that he did not recall agreeing to their inclusion in the commitment authority and remained uncomfortable with treating them as available resources.
- Expressed concern that promissory notes are not yet cash held in the Fund's trust account and argued that the reported resource figure may overstate the amount immediately available for commitments.
- Recalled previous instances where encashment of a promissory note had been delayed because a contributor was unable to honour it at the requested time.
- Suggested that the distinction between cash and uncashed promissory notes could be reflected more clearly in future reporting without reopening the Board's previous decision.
- Emphasised the importance of ensuring that the Board does not commit resources beyond what is prudently available.

**Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavarez, Dominican Republic:**

- Reassured Board members that prudent financial management is a shared objective of the Board.
- Clarified that the financial planning table had been prepared to support the Board's discussions and improve understanding of the Fund's financial position.

**Antoine Bergerot, France:**

- Clarified that promissory notes differ from contribution agreements with scheduled disbursements because they are legally enforceable financial instruments rather than contractual payment commitments.
- Explained that, although promissory notes are not cash, they are generally treated as equivalent to cash for liquidity management purposes due to their enforceable nature and standard financial practice.
- Noted that, if this understanding proved incorrect, he would support Richard's recommendation to distinguish them more clearly.

### **World Bank:**

- Explained that a promissory note is a legally binding banking instrument that is regarded as equivalent to cash for financial management purposes.
- Clarified that, when the Board requires the resources, the Trustee can request encashment from the Bank of England, where the promissory notes are held, and receive the funds within a matter of days.
- Noted that promissory notes are accounted for separately from cash holdings and that minor currency reserves are maintained to manage exchange rate differences between the Fund's holding currencies (USD and GBP).
- Reaffirmed that promissory notes constitute firm and enforceable financial instruments that can be converted into cash promptly when required.

### **Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Acknowledged the clarification on promissory notes but recalled that similar discussions in previous years had reflected differing interpretations of their treatment.
- Accepted the Board's previous decision while reiterating the importance of exercising prudence before committing resources backed by promissory notes.
- Suggested that the issue could be revisited during discussions on the contribution policy, noting that experience from other funds shows that promissory notes can present practical challenges.
- Emphasised that the Board should adopt a cautious approach to spending, even where current practice treats promissory notes as available resources.

### **Ali Taqueer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Agreed that the Board must exercise responsible financial management, particularly as funding approvals under the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM) will rapidly reduce the Fund's available commitment authority.
- Noted that approving only the first four BIM funding requests would commit approximately US\$80 million, highlighting the importance of understanding the implications of future funding decisions.
- Requested forward-looking financial projections showing different BIM funding scenarios to help the Board assess how funding approvals would affect the Fund's financial position and inform discussions on replenishment and resource mobilisation.

Report on the available commitment authority noted.

## **Agenda item 8: Operationalising the Barbados Implementation Modalities**

### **b. Results measurement framework**

#### **Co-Chair, Camila Minerva Rodriguez Tavarez, Dominican Republic:**

- Opened the agenda item recalling the B8 decision B.8/D.4, in which the secretariat was requested, under the guidance of the co-chairs, to revise the RMF presented at B8.
- The revision was to reflect the Board's inputs by the agreed dateline.

#### **Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, FRLD ED:**

- Reassured the Board that the secretariat has continued to engage with Board members and incorporate feedback received since B8 into the revised Results Measurement Framework.
- Emphasised that the framework, originally requested by the Board at B5, is a key component of the policy framework underpinning the BIM, particularly for measuring results, impact and learning.
- Noted that the revised document reflects a collaborative effort across the secretariat, with close coordination between the Results, Evaluation and Learning team and the programming team.
- Highlighted that the framework is intended to support the BIM's early implementation phase through a learning-by-doing approach, enabling the Board to draw lessons and strengthen the Fund's results system as it scales up.

#### **Sandra Romboli, FRLD Secretariat:**

- Presented the key revisions made to the Results Measurement Framework in response to feedback received from Board members since B8.
- Explained that Track 2, focusing on operational effectiveness and efficiency, has been elevated to the same level as Track 1 to reflect its importance as a foundational element of the framework.
- Reaffirmed that Track 1 remains the primary track for measuring the results and impacts of the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM).
- Highlighted a stronger emphasis on learning throughout the framework to capture lessons from the BIM's early implementation and inform the development of the Fund's long-term operational model.

SECTION 1 B.9 - RMF

## Background & context

**Governing Instrument - paragraph 63**  
**A results measurement framework, with guidelines and appropriate performance indicators, will be developed,** considered and approved by the Board. The performance of projects/programmes and budget support and other activities against these indicators will be reviewed periodically in order to support the continuous improvement of the impact, effectiveness and operational performance of the FRLD.

**OTHER DECISIONS ON THE RMF**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>B.5/D.4 - 19(m)(i)</b> | Mandates an RMF for the BIM.   |
| <b>B.7/11 - Annex II</b>  | Specifies MEL, plus mid-term and final evaluations.                    |
| <b>B.8/D.4 - (d)</b>      | Requests the Secretariat to revise document FRLD/B.B/10/Rev.1 for B.9. |

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The governing instrument (GI) is foundational.

SECTION 3 B.9 - RMF

## Rationale & objectives for the BIM's RMF

**MAIN OBJECTIVE** Provide a structured approach to assess results from activities funded under the BIM.

**Articulates what the BIM achieves — and how**

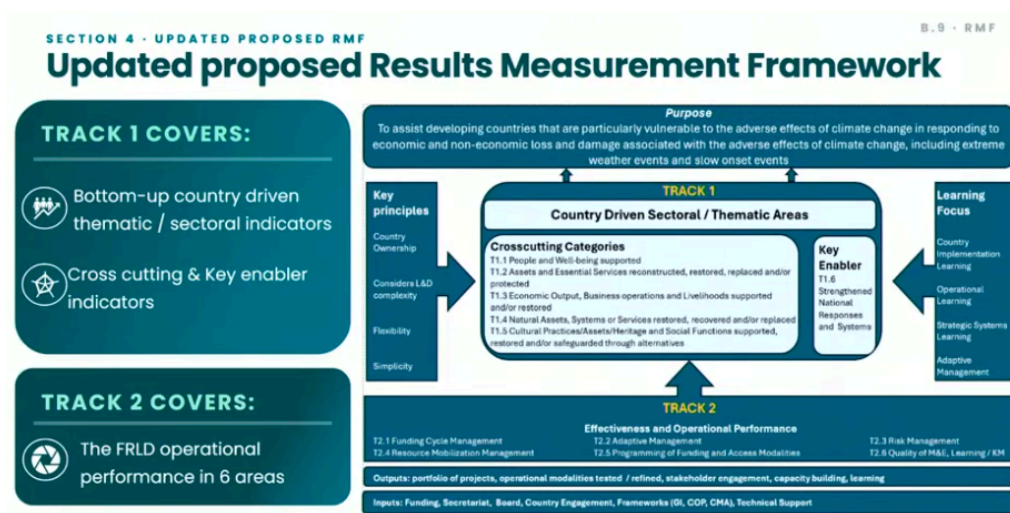
- “Unpacks” the eligible activities under BIM and demonstrates how funded activities generate measurable results and contribute to the overall BIM/FRLD mandate and purpose
- Captures BIM funding criteria — country-led; **results & impact**; coherence & complementarity.
- Aggregates funded activities to outcomes on the pathway to impact.

**The RMF is also important to**

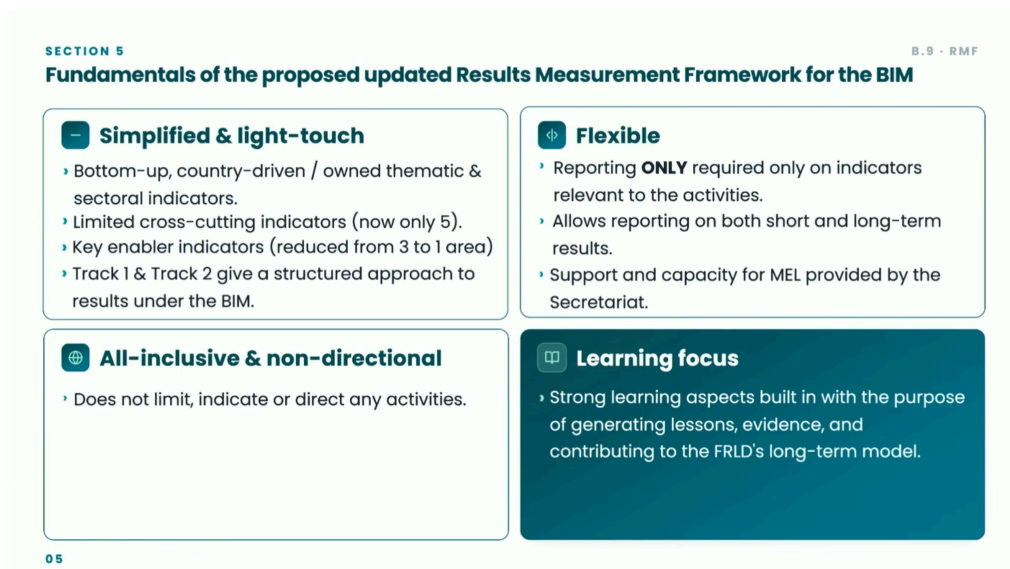
- Improve decision-making and flag areas not progressing well — adaptive management.
- Ensure consistency, data quality, accountability and transparency across all supported activities.
- Facilitate learning and continuous performance improvement.

**SUMMARY** It is a core part of operationalizing the BIM, and will help us show achievements and measurable results at the Country level and at the Fund level.

- Explained that the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) is designed to capture what the Fund aims to achieve and provide a structured approach for measuring results and impact under the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM).
- Emphasised that the framework is country-led and country-owned, with countries identifying the indicators they wish to use to measure progress across key sectoral areas, distinguishing it from approaches used by other climate funds.
- Highlighted that the RMF follows a bottom-up approach focused on demonstrating measurable results and impacts at both the country and Fund levels.
- Noted that the framework will enable the Fund to track achievements, demonstrate the effectiveness of BIM implementation, and generate evidence to inform future programming and learning.



- Track 1 is about measuring results, track 2 is about the performance of the FRLD.



- Explained that the RMF is designed to be simplified, flexible, and light-touch, with a limited number of cross-cutting indicators and a single key enabling area to minimise reporting burdens.
- Clarified that funding recipients are only required to report on indicators relevant to their approved activities, allowing the framework to accommodate interventions of varying duration, from short-term projects to programmes lasting up to eight years.
- Highlighted that the framework is supported by monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) capacity provided by the Secretariat to assist countries in implementation and reporting.
- Emphasised that the RMF is inclusive but non-prescriptive, enabling countries to pursue context-specific activities without being constrained by the framework.

- Underscored the strong emphasis on learning, with lessons generated during the BIM phase intended to inform and strengthen the Fund's long-term operational model.

SECTION 6 - PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS B.9 - RMF

### From design to implementation

- 1 Detailed guidance on how to implement the RMF in practice will be issued **following its Board approval** (e.g. indicator definitions, methods, reporting templates etc.).
- 2 All indicators will be applied **if and when relevant only**.
- 3 Results reporting will have an annual frequency.
- 4 Mid-term and final evaluations will be undertaken.
- 5 As part of the regular review process for funding requests, consistency with the RMF will be ensured.

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- Explained that the Secretariat will provide additional implementation guidance to support the transition from framework design to implementation, including detailed guidance documents, methodologies, and templates for mid-term and final evaluations.
- Clarified that indicators will be applied only where relevant to approved activities, helping maintain a proportionate and flexible reporting approach.
- Noted that results reporting will be conducted annually, enabling the Secretariat to regularly report to the Board on the progress and performance of the BIM portfolio.
- Confirmed that the RMF will be reviewed periodically to ensure consistency and continuous improvement, while welcoming further guidance from the Board on its implementation and refinement.

#### Comments from the Board members

##### **Ali Taqueer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Welcomed the revised Results Measurement Framework (RMF) and sought clarification on the repositioning of the indicator on non-economic loss and damage (NELD), which had been moved under the Cultural Practices and Social Functions indicator.
- Asked whether the change reflected a deliberate policy decision to narrow the scope of NELD or was simply an editorial restructuring following revisions made after B8.

- Noted that no discussion or Board guidance at B8 had suggested reducing the prominence of NELD and requested clarification on the rationale for the change.

### **Tamim Alothim, Saudi Arabia:**

- Welcomed the revised RMF, describing it as a significant improvement that better reflects a bottom-up, country-led and country-owned approach to measuring loss and damage results.
- Highlighted the flexibility of the framework in allowing countries to select indicators most relevant to their national circumstances, making it suitable for diverse contexts affected by both slow-onset events and extreme weather events.
- Emphasised that the RMF should serve solely as a results reporting framework and should not be used as a mechanism for assessing or filtering funding proposals.
- Raised a procedural question regarding the secretariat's planned development of templates, noting the need to balance Board oversight under paragraph 63 of the GI with operational flexibility for the Secretariat.
- Expressed reservations about including the RMS under Track 2 of the RMF, suggesting it should instead be reported separately.
- Commended the secretariat for its work in developing a country-led and country-owned framework.

### **Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Thanked the Secretariat for the revised Results Measurement Framework (RMF) while noting that he had been unable to participate in the consultation process due to competing responsibilities across multiple climate funds.
- Observed a recurring pattern where detailed Secretariat proposals are substantially simplified following Board consultations, cautioning against reducing substantive policy discussions in favour of overly simplified frameworks.
- Suggested separating Track 1 and Track 2 into distinct components, with Track 1 serving as the project and programme results framework and Track 2 functioning as a separate performance framework for assessing BIM implementation.
- Raised concerns about the wording of several core indicators, particularly the use of broad terms such as "people supported", arguing that indicators should more clearly capture recovery, rehabilitation and livelihood restoration outcomes.

- Requested greater precision in the indicator on cultural practices and assets, warning that references to "alternatives" could unintentionally undermine culturally significant practices, particularly in relation to non-economic loss and damage.
- Sought clarification on the purpose and relevance of the key enabling indicators, questioning whether they could unintentionally imply that certain policy or institutional conditions are prerequisites for responding to loss and damage.
- Expressed concern about language referring to "mitigating the impacts of loss and damage", noting that the Fund's mandate is to respond to loss and damage rather than mitigate it.
- Requested clarification on whether the Board was approving only the framework itself or also the accompanying narrative, and whether the explanatory text required negotiation.
- Questioned the continued emphasis on early warning systems and climate information systems, suggesting these are more closely associated with preparedness than with responding to loss and damage.
- Raised concerns about references to private sector engagement, noting that many developing countries continue to rely primarily on publicly delivered services.
- Echoed concerns regarding Track 2, questioning whether some proposed indicators reflected unresolved policy issues rather than performance measurement and suggesting that certain institutional performance indicators may be more appropriately included in the Secretariat's work plan.
- Proposed including an indicator measuring the time taken from funding request submission to approval as a useful measure of Secretariat efficiency.
- Sought clarification on the sequencing of the long-term RMF, expressing concern that the framework should not wait until completion of BIM implementation before being developed, but rather evolve alongside the Fund's longer-term operationalisation.

**Nona Budoyan, Armenia:**

- Thanked the secretariat and the co-chairs for the substantial work undertaken to revise the RMF following the discussions at the previous Board meeting.
- Welcomed the positioning of the RMF as a learning instrument for the BIM, recognising its role in supporting testing, learning, and continuous improvement during the Fund's start-up phase.
- Commended the secretariat for explicitly situating the RMF within the broader loss and damage architecture, recognising the complementary roles of the WIM Executive Committee, the Santiago Network and the Fund, while

highlighting the importance of collaboration on results, evaluation and learning to avoid duplication and strengthen coherence.

- Emphasised that implementation of the RMF should remain simple, flexible and proportionate so that reporting requirements support, rather than burden, countries with limited institutional and technical capacities.
- Welcomed the country-led approach that allows countries to define indicators based on their own priorities and circumstances, describing it as an innovative feature that strengthens country ownership.
- Encouraged the Secretariat to share observations from its quality assurance process when presenting funding requests, enabling the Board to understand how country-defined indicators are being applied and what implementation lessons are emerging, without requiring Board approval of individual indicators.
- Highlighted the importance of continued cooperation between the Secretariat and countries throughout project implementation to strengthen learning and effective delivery.
- Expressed support for adopting the revised RMF, noting that it strikes an appropriate balance between accountability, learning and country ownership, while providing a strong foundation for informing the Fund's long-term operational model.

**Martin Larnemark, Norway:**

- Thanked the secretariat for the extensive work undertaken during and after B8 to revise the RMF, noting that Board feedback had been meaningfully incorporated into the revised document.
- Welcomed the balance achieved between maintaining a bottom-up, country-led approach and enabling sufficient aggregation of results at the Fund level, while allowing countries the flexibility to tailor indicators to their national contexts.
- Emphasised the importance of the qualitative dimensions of the RMF, recognising that not every Board priority should be explicitly reflected in the framework and expressing confidence in the Secretariat's flexibility to operationalise it.
- Encouraged the secretariat to use the RMF not only as a results reporting tool but also as a learning instrument to inform the development of the Fund's long-term operational model, including lessons on vulnerable groups, small-scale grants, innovative approaches and other priorities emerging from Board discussions.
- Expressed support for adopting the revised RMF, describing it as a strong foundation and an important milestone in the operationalisation of the BIM.

**Manuela Glass, Germany:**

- Commended the Secretariat for incorporating the extensive feedback provided by Board members, noting that the revised Results Measurement Framework (RMF) is now in a strong position.
- Suggested refining Core Indicator T1.1 by replacing the term "people" with "beneficiaries" and considering alternatives such as "reached" instead of "covered" to better reflect the Fund's intended impact.
- Encouraged the Secretariat to strengthen the framework's recognition of pre-arranged responses to loss and damage, including national response planning and anticipatory action, either within the current RMF or as it evolves into the Fund's long-term model.
- Recommended expanding Track 2 on resource mobilisation management to include indicators on private and innovative sources of finance, as well as additional financial instruments, in line with the Governing Instrument, to better reflect the Fund's distinctive mandate

### **Sandra Romboli, FRLD Secretariat:**

- Explained that the thematic and sectoral categories included in the previous version of the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) had been replaced with higher-level language in response to Board feedback, providing a more practical and flexible approach while avoiding lengthy debates over sectoral classifications.
- Welcomed the Board's positive feedback on the revised RMF and committed to refining the language relating to paragraph 63 of the Governing Instrument to provide flexibility for implementation guidance documents while respecting the Board's oversight role.
- Acknowledged suggestions to revise Track 2, including separating it from Track 1 and reconsidering the inclusion of resource mobilisation indicators, expressing openness to further discussion and Board guidance on the most appropriate structure.
- Clarified that indicators such as "people supported" are supported by extensive technical methodologies and suggested that detailed measurement guidance should be contained in implementation handbooks rather than in the Board-approved framework, while remaining flexible on the terminology used.
- Explained that the key enabling indicators draw on both the Governing Instrument and Board feedback, and confirmed the Secretariat's willingness to further refine or adjust these indicators based on Board guidance.
- Clarified that mid-term and final evaluations refer to implementation-level project reviews required under the Oversight Policy and previous Board decisions, rather than independent evaluations, while noting that a separate independent evaluation function will be established by the Fund in the future.

- Committed to strengthening the learning dimension of the RMF and incorporating more qualitative analysis into annual reporting alongside quantitative results.
- Highlighted that, in addition to the core Fund-level indicators, countries will develop project-specific indicators that will contribute to monitoring, reporting and learning throughout implementation.

**Adao Soares Barbosa, Timor-Leste:**

- Welcomed the revisions made to the Results Measurement Framework (RMF), noting that the Secretariat had incorporated many of the constituency's proposals and that the revised framework now better reflects a flexible, country-driven and bottom-up approach.
- Suggested moving paragraph 41 to paragraph 13 to place greater emphasis on responding to the actual impacts of loss and damage, including rehabilitation and displacement.
- Reiterated the view that Track 2 should be separated from the RMF, as it relates to institutional performance rather than results measurement.
- Proposed refining several core indicators, including deleting references to "protected" under Core Indicator T1.2 and "brought under improved management practices" under Core Indicator T1.4, arguing that these do not directly measure responses to loss and damage.
- Recommended removing the sub-theme key enabler indicators and the related text in paragraph 38, allowing countries to develop context-specific indicators that better reflect their national priorities and systems.
- Questioned the inclusion of paragraph (c) in the draft decision, suggesting that a strategic learning framework would be more appropriately developed alongside the long-term Results Measurement Framework rather than during the BIM phase.

**Antoine Bergerot, France:**

- Thanked the Secretariat for the extensive work undertaken to develop the Results Measurement Framework (RMF), describing it as a key component of the Fund's operational framework and expressing support for its adoption during the meeting.
- Highlighted the challenge of balancing a Fund-level results framework with the bottom-up, country-led nature of the Barbados Implementation Modalities

(BIM), commending the Secretariat for developing an innovative and adaptable approach that accommodates diverse country interventions.

- Welcomed the clarification that the RMF is intended for results reporting rather than filtering funding requests and supported the Secretariat's development of implementation guidance, manuals and templates without requiring prior Board approval.
- Suggested distinguishing between Track 1 and Track 2 in future revisions, with Track 2 on institutional effectiveness reviewed more regularly as the Fund evolves, while Track 1 remains relatively stable throughout the BIM phase to provide consistency for funding requests.
- Requested greater clarity on when Track 1 would be reviewed in relation to replenishment and the development of the Fund's long-term operational model.
- Noted that the distinction between key enabling indicators and cross-cutting indicators was helpful but suggested that some overlap between the two could be further clarified.
- Recommended relocating the indicator on the number of countries receiving support from resource mobilisation management to a more appropriate category, noting that resource mobilisation indicators should focus primarily on contributors and the mobilisation of financial resources.

#### **Water Schuldt, Ecuador:**

- Reaffirmed support for the overall direction of the RMF, welcoming its flexible, learning-oriented approach and its recognition of both economic and non-economic loss and damage, including impacts on cultural practices, traditional knowledge, social functions, and vulnerable communities.
- Emphasised that reporting, monitoring, and evaluation requirements should remain proportionate to countries' capacities, encouraging the Secretariat to maintain simplified, flexible reporting approaches that build on existing national systems and reflect the scale of funded activities.
- Recommended strengthening the framework's focus on the quality of finance by considering indicators related to the predictability, timeliness, and grant-based nature of financial support, in addition to the volume of resources mobilised and disbursed.
- Suggested reinforcing country ownership by strengthening indicators on direct access and the role of national institutions in managing Fund resources, thereby supporting national capacity, leadership and long-term sustainability.
- Encouraged refining Track 2 indicators to better capture the Fund's operational responsiveness to sudden-onset events, particularly through measuring the timeliness of funding approval and disbursement processes.

- Welcomed the emphasis on complementarity and coherence while stressing that coordination with other financing sources should preserve the principle of additionality and should not substitute existing development or humanitarian finance.
- Recommended improving the clarity of indicators on beneficiaries by distinguishing between direct and indirect beneficiaries and placing greater emphasis on the quality, accessibility, inclusiveness and sustainability of outcomes.
- Expressed concern over references to the private sector under Indicator T1.6(e), noting that innovation and technology should not be perceived as originating exclusively from the private sector.
- Concluded that the revised RMF provides a strong foundation for the BIM and expressed support for incorporating the proposed refinements and adopting the framework during the current Board meeting.

#### **Jan Dusik, European Union:**

- Emphasised that the Board is close to finalising the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) and encouraged its adoption during the current meeting so that it can guide the first generation of Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM) projects.
- Proposed expanding paragraph 41(a) to explicitly recognise the effective engagement of people and communities in climate-vulnerable situations, consistent with previous COP decisions.
- Suggested strengthening Indicator T1.1 by explicitly including children, persons with disabilities, migrants and displaced persons among vulnerable groups, while remaining flexible if there is a shared understanding that they are already covered.
- Recommended clarifying that the country-led approach under Indicator T1.6(c) applies across all levels of governance and replacing the term "involvement" with "participation" to better reflect active stakeholder engagement.
- Proposed linking the reference to multi-hazard early warning systems under Indicator T1.6(f) with early or anticipatory action to clarify the intended objective of the indicator.

#### **Isaac Glassie Ryan, Cook Islands:**

- Thanked the Secretariat for the revised RMF and commended the consultation process, noting that most of the constituency's comments had been incorporated and expressing support for the framework in its current form.

- Raised a concern regarding the reference to "protecting" under thematic area T1.2, seeking a common understanding that the Fund is not intended to finance pre-emptive retrofitting or the protection of large infrastructure.
- Supported retaining the reference to "alternatives" under non-economic loss and damage, explaining that it reflects the reality that, where losses are irreversible, communities may pursue imperfect but meaningful alternatives to preserve cultural practices and traditions.
- Emphasised that alternatives should not be interpreted as full replacements for irreplaceable cultural losses but rather as measures to safeguard cultural heritage where possible, drawing on experiences from Pacific communities.
- Concluded that the revised RMF represents substantial progress and expressed support for its adoption at the current Board meeting.

### **Antonella Baldino, Italy:**

- Welcomed the overall direction of the Results Measurement Framework (RMF), highlighting its country-driven, flexible, simple and learning-oriented approach as well suited to the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM).
- Commended the bottom-up approach that allows countries to define thematic and sectoral indicators through their funding requests and welcomed the framework's commitment to evolve based on implementation experience.
- Considered the RMF to strike an appropriate balance between accountability, flexibility and proportionate reporting requirements.
- Proposed reinstating Key Enabler Indicator T1.9 on financial resources mobilised and disbursed for loss and damage, accompanied by a footnote clarifying that it does not create any expectation for projects to leverage additional financing or co-financing.
- Argued that retaining the indicator would better capture the Fund's contribution to financing, align with Decision B.5/4 and the Governing Instrument, and generate valuable learning to inform the Fund's long-term operational model.
- Expressed support for adopting the RMF subject to this refinement.

### **Ali Taqueer Sheikh, Pakistan:**

- Reiterated concerns regarding the treatment of non-economic loss and damage (NELD), arguing that the revisions should not be interpreted as reflecting Board guidance to narrow its scope, as no such proposal had been made during consultations.
- Emphasised that both economic and non-economic loss and damage are fundamental pillars underpinning the Governing Instrument, Board documents and funding requests, and therefore should continue to be reflected comprehensively within the RMF.

- Proposed reinstating Indicator T1.6(b) in its original form, suggesting that if clarification is required, the definition should be expanded rather than relocating NELD under cultural practices and heritage.
- Requested that the constituency's written comments, although submitted after the consultation deadline, be formally reflected in the meeting record and considered by the Secretariat during further refinement of the framework.

**Kajsa Natby, Sweden:**

- Supported the Secretariat's continued use of a flexible and agile approach in implementing the RMF, noting that the CSS could play an important role in helping countries apply the framework effectively.
- Recognised that the revised RMF had been significantly streamlined to better support a simple, bottom-up, country-led approach.
- Observed that the key enabler on coherence and complementarity, including priority gaps, had been removed, while noting that many Board members were proposing additional revisions to the framework.
- Encouraged the Board to take a strategic approach by limiting changes to those that are essential and placing trust in the Secretariat to operationalise the framework.
- Emphasised that the BIM is a pilot and learning phase, and therefore, the RMF should remain focused on the minimum requirements necessary to support implementation and learning.

**Kamal Djemoui, Egypt:**

- Thanked the secretariat for the substantial work undertaken to revise the RMF, acknowledging that many of the comments raised during the previous Board meeting had been incorporated.
- Noted that some sectors and activities previously proposed by the constituency were still not reflected and encouraged the Secretariat to revisit earlier comments to determine whether additional elements could be reintroduced.
- Welcomed the overall quality of the revised document while observing that Track 1 is primarily focused on the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM), effectively making it a results framework for the start-up phase.
- Requested greater clarity on how the RMF is expected to transition from supporting the BIM to supporting the Fund's long-term operational model, including a clearer distinction between indicators intended specifically for the BIM and those that will remain relevant beyond the pilot phase.
- Sought clarification on whether the implementation guidance documents and tools to be developed following adoption of the RMF are intended solely for the

BIM phase or are also expected to support the Fund's future long-term operational model.

**Liane Schalatek, joint intervention on behalf of all the active observers:**

- Thanked the Government of the Philippines for hosting the meeting and welcomed the revised RMF, particularly its bottom-up, country-led approach that allows thematic and sectoral indicators to be developed through country proposals and technical engagement with the Secretariat.
- Emphasised that flexibility should be accompanied by robust project-level baselines and the systematic collection of disaggregated data by gender, age and other intersectional factors, while encouraging the CSS to strengthen national capacity for data collection and results measurement.
- Highlighted the opportunity for the Fund to address existing data gaps on loss and damage and stressed that monitoring and evaluation should support countries in improving future planning, budgeting and implementation.
- Welcomed the inclusion of cross-cutting indicators but argued that the framework should place greater emphasis on non-economic loss and damage and incorporate more qualitative measures to better assess the quality and impact of Fund-supported interventions.
- Recommended that annual, mid-term and final evaluations include stronger narrative reporting on implementation quality and impacts, with CSS supporting countries in developing context-specific qualitative indicators.
- Expressed concern that Track 2 indicators on institutional effectiveness and operational performance are overly detailed and predominantly quantitative, suggesting they are disproportionate to the limited timeframe and scale of the BIM pilot phase.

As a way forward on this agenda item, the secretariat, in consultation with and under the guidance of the co-chairs, will outline next steps and encourage Board members who wish to submit written comments to do so by midnight tonight. The agenda item is packed

**Agenda item 17: Dialogue with civil society**

The observers were invited to make interventions to the Board on different agenda items and find the interventions as below:

**Liane Schalatek-WGC:**

- Welcomed the dedicated dialogue with civil society and observers, noting that opportunities for observer engagement may become more limited as Board discussions move into decision drafting, and expressed hope that such dialogue would continue throughout the Fund's work.
- Explained that the interventions had been coordinated across several UNFCCC observer constituencies to ensure broad representation, while noting that the absence of some constituencies did not imply a lack of interest or views.
- Encouraged the Board to ensure sufficient time for meaningful dialogue and exchange between Board members and observers.

### **Edward Atuin-LGMA:**

- Welcomed the Board's continued work on observer participation, active observers and consultative forums, emphasising that meaningful participation is essential to the legitimacy and effectiveness of the Fund.
- Highlighted the central role of local and regional governments in responding to loss and damage, calling for the Fund to strengthen engagement at territorial levels where climate impacts are experienced.
- Supported maintaining recognition of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency and ensuring country-level engagement includes local and regional governments where relevant.
- Emphasised that meaningful observer participation requires timely access to documents, opportunities for written and oral input, transparent arrangements for observer representation, and continuity during the Fund's early operational years.
- Encouraged consultative forums to influence Fund policies and operational approaches rather than serving solely as information-sharing platforms, while calling for earlier regional and thematic consultations before the proposed global forum in 2029.

### **Liane Schalatek-WGC:**

- Welcomed progress on the Active Observer Policy and Consultative Forum Guidelines, stressing that their adoption at B9 is essential for ensuring transparency, accountability and meaningful observer participation as the Fund enters implementation.
- Supported travel support for active observers from developing countries but expressed disappointment that the proposed policy does not provide for representation of affected groups not formally recognised under the UNFCCC constituency system.

- Raised concerns over limiting observer participation to two designated seats during the dialogue with civil society, advocating for more flexible arrangements that enable broader observer contributions.
- Called for stronger commitments on information sharing, transparency and stakeholder engagement beyond Board meetings, while encouraging consultative forums to be grounded in human rights and established early enough to influence key operational policies.
- Requested greater transparency by publishing Board comments and observer submissions on the draft policies and urged the Board to finalise the observer policies without further delay.

**John Leo Algo- YOUNGO:**

- Highlighted the unprecedented demand for the Fund, noting that 176 funding requests worth approximately US\$2.8 billion demonstrate both the scale of country needs and the success of the Fund in attracting proposals.
- Expressed concern about limited public access to detailed funding proposal documentation, particularly annexes, arguing that greater transparency is necessary to assess stakeholder engagement and ensure accountability.
- Warned that available Fund resources are insufficient compared to the volume of funding requests, risking competition among developing countries for limited resources.
- Called for significantly increased financial contributions to enable the Fund to fulfil its mandate and convert funding requests into tangible support for vulnerable countries.

**Grace - ENGO:**

- Expressed concern that the updated Board work plan no longer includes the community grant modality despite its explicit recognition in the Governing Instrument, and called for clarity on when work on this modality will begin.
- Welcomed the planned development of a Fund-specific Information Disclosure Policy and urged the Board to adopt a proactive disclosure approach while engaging observers early in the policy development process.
- Called for the inclusion of Fund-specific Gender and Indigenous Peoples policies within the Board's work plan, supported by benchmarking studies and legal analysis.
- Emphasised that development of these policies should not delay resource mobilisation, replenishment or access to the Fund for developing countries.

**Aleijn Reintegrado - IPO:**

- Drew attention to the escalating impacts of climate change, including Super Typhoon Inday and El Niño, to underscore the urgency of adequately capitalising the Fund.
- Expressed concern over the Fund's limited commitment authority and the large gap between available resources and the US\$2.8 billion funding pipeline.
- Called on the Board to accelerate conversion of outstanding pledges, improve transparency around contribution agreements and prioritise ambitious replenishment and resource mobilisation efforts.
- Emphasised that grant-based public finance from developed countries should remain the primary source of Fund capitalisation, while encouraging exploration of additional financing sources and continued engagement with rights-based constituencies throughout replenishment processes.

**Charles Zander Deluna- RINGO:**

- Welcomed the collaborative process undertaken to develop the Active Observer Policy and Consultative Forum Guidelines, describing it as a valuable learning experience involving the Secretariat, observers and UNFCCC constituencies.
- Encouraged the Board to adopt both policies at B9 without further delay while recognising that they should continue evolving as living instruments.
- Emphasised that consultative forums should provide meaningful stakeholder engagement and remain grounded in human rights.
- Called for greater transparency through publication of Board comments and observer submissions on the draft policies, noting that this would strengthen confidence in the Fund's governance and decision-making processes.

Comments from the Board

**Karina McGinley, Ireland:**

- Thanked observers for their sustained engagement, noting that their advocacy and outreach have helped raise the profile of the Fund and contributed to the strong response to the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM) call for funding requests.
- Recognised that the growing pipeline of funding requests reflects the escalating impacts of climate change, including the threats posed by Super Typhoon Indai and the continuing effects of Super El Niño.
- Welcomed the informal dialogue with observers on the Country Support System (CSS), suggesting that this format could be considered for future Board meetings.
- Acknowledged observers' continued engagement in developing the Active Observer Policy and noted support for strengthening the representation of

particularly vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, migrants and displaced people.

- Expressed support for further institutionalising observer participation as the Fund moves into full implementation.

**Walter Schuldt, Ecuador:**

- Thanked observers for their longstanding contribution to establishing the Fund, shaping its policies and supporting implementation of responses to loss and damage.
- Highlighted references to the impacts of the approaching typhoon and Super El Niño, noting that these reinforce the urgency of the Board's work and the realities faced by affected communities.
- Recognised the importance of integrating human rights considerations into the Fund's work and highlighted the recent Human Rights Council resolution on human rights and climate change, which includes references to loss and damage, the Fund, and the importance of replenishment and resource mobilisation.
- Noted that recent Human Rights Council resolutions recognise the disproportionate vulnerabilities faced by different groups and reaffirmed support for continued constructive engagement with observers during discussions on observer-related policies.

**Jette Michelsen, Denmark:**

- Reaffirmed the constituency's commitment to meaningful dialogue with civil society and welcomed the active engagement of UNFCCC observer constituencies in the Fund's work.
- Recognised that civil society, local communities, Indigenous Peoples and marginalised groups are often the first responders to climate impacts and should therefore be meaningfully involved in decisions on responding to loss and damage.
- Welcomed the recent Human Rights Council resolution on the human rights implications of climate change, emphasising the importance of human rights and Indigenous Peoples' rights in the Fund's work.
- Highlighted that the impacts of Super El Niño demonstrate that responding to loss and damage requires complementarity across humanitarian, development and climate finance, rather than relying solely on the Fund.

**Manuela Glass, Germany:**

- Echoed previous Board members' appreciation for the important contributions made by observers and acknowledged their role in advancing the Fund's work and maintaining momentum towards implementation.
- Thanked observers for their active engagement in developing the Active Observer Policy.
- Expressed support for working closely with observers under the new policy and welcomed their continued contributions to strengthening observer participation in future Board meetings.

**Tamim Alothimin, Saudi Arabia:**

- Emphasised the important role of observers across all aspects of the Fund's work, encouraging their continued participation beyond discussions on the Active Observer Policy and Consultative Forum Guidelines, particularly on the Resource Mobilization Strategy (RMS).
- Encouraged minimising the use of closed or executive sessions during resource mobilisation discussions to enable continued observer engagement.
- Highlighted observers' reminder of the legal obligations of developed countries to replenish the Fund, noting that the oversubscription of funding requests underscores the urgency of securing additional resources.
- Reiterated the importance of strengthening diversity within the Active Observer Policy by enhancing representation from the Global South and ensuring greater participation by institutions from developing countries.
- Invited observers to share recommendations on how the Board could better support participation from the Global South, including measures to strengthen financial and institutional support for observer engagement.

**Kristy McNichol, Australia:**

- Thanked observers for their continued engagement and recognised the significant commitment required to participate in Board meetings and support the Fund's work.
- Highlighted the importance of observers' interventions on El Niño, noting that it is an emerging global issue with significant implications for the Fund and the wider climate change agenda.
- Encouraged observers to continue raising awareness and advocating on climate-related risks such as El Niño, recognising their global relevance.
- Expressed support for adopting the Active Observer Policy during the current meeting and noted that implementation of the policy would be the next important step in strengthening observer participation.

**Adao Soares Barbosa, Timor-Leste:**

- Thanked observer constituencies and civil society organisations for their sustained contribution to establishing and advancing the Fund, recognising their important role throughout its development.
- Welcomed the inclusion of travel support for observers from developing countries, emphasising that it is essential for ensuring the participation of voices from communities most affected by climate change.
- Viewed the Active Observer Policy as an opportunity to learn through implementation and progressively strengthen observer participation over time.
- Encouraged continued dialogue and engagement with observers as an integral part of the Fund's governance and implementation processes.

**Liane Schalatek, WGC:**

- Thanked Board members for their constructive engagement and welcomed the clear commitment expressed to advance the adoption of the Active Observer Policy and Consultative Forum Guidelines during the current Board meeting, cautioning against further delays that could indefinitely postpone their implementation.
- Encouraged continued informal dialogue between observers and Board members to resolve outstanding issues and facilitate agreement on the remaining elements of the two policies.
- Emphasised that while the Active Observer mechanism is important, it cannot be the sole avenue for participation, and called for broader engagement through national focal points, regional forums, advisory groups, consultative mechanisms and Board committees to ensure that affected communities are meaningfully represented.
- Stressed the importance of travel support for observers from developing countries, noting that it is essential for enabling participation by affected communities and Global South organisations, many of which lack dedicated funding to engage in Board processes.
- Welcomed references to the recently adopted Human Rights Council resolution on climate change and loss and damage, highlighting that inadequate financing for responding to loss and damage also has significant human rights implications.
- Reiterated the call for the Board to prioritise the development of the community small grants modality, describing it as a distinctive feature of the Fund's GI that should remain a priority rather than being deferred to a later stage.

**Aleijn:**

- Emphasised that many Global South civil society organisations operate with limited capacity and cannot realistically review hundreds of pages of Board

documentation, calling for more targeted and accessible information to enable meaningful participation.

- Stressed the importance of maintaining travel support for observers from developing countries, noting that such support is essential for ensuring equitable participation by Global South organisations.
- Highlighted the need for complementarity between the Fund and other sources of finance, including humanitarian and development finance, while noting that declining Official Development Assistance (ODA) makes it even more important to scale up the Fund.
- Reiterated that financing for the Fund should be new and additional, consistent with Article 4 of the UNFCCC, and cautioned that contributions outside the UNFCCC financial mechanism are difficult to track and do not adequately reflect historical responsibilities and legal obligations of developed countries.

Charles:

- Emphasised that meaningful observer participation requires not only representation but also adequate resources to enable effective engagement in the Fund's processes.
- Called for greater transparency through the timely sharing of draft documents to facilitate informed participation by observers.
- Highlighted the importance of engaging institutions that have trusted relationships with affected communities to strengthen the Fund's responsiveness.
- Encouraged prioritising experts from the Global South, recognising that lived experience is a valuable form of expertise that complements technical and policy knowledge.

John Leo:

- Emphasised that consultative forums are essential for cascading the Fund's work and impacts to national and local levels.
- Suggested that regional desks could be effectively linked with consultative forums to strengthen stakeholder engagement and implementation.
- Highlighted the value of sharing best practices and lived experiences through these forums to inform the development of the Fund's long-term operational modalities.

LGMA:

- Highlighted the critical role of local governments in delivering both immediate relief and long-term recovery in response to loss and damage.

- Emphasised that the success of the Fund depends on meaningful engagement with local actors who are at the forefront of responding to climate impacts.
- Reaffirmed the constituency's commitment to supporting the development of an equitable and inclusive FRLD.

Agenda item closed.

## **e. Country support system**

## **g. Updated list of entities accredited to the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environmental Facility**

### **Agenda item 5: Report by the interim Trustee on the status of the FRLD Trust Fund resources**

The co-chair invited the World Bank to make a presentation to the Board.

#### **World Bank:**

- Announced that the Fund's commitment authority can immediately be increased by approximately US\$30 million, reflecting two newly finalised contribution agreements.
- Reported that, as of 7 July 2026, Italy had signed a contribution agreement of €20 million and Australia had signed a contribution agreement of AUD 10

million, with both amounts converted to US dollars using the previous day's exchange rate.

- Confirmed that, as of 7 July 2026, 25 contributors had signed contribution agreements with the Fund, representing a total of approximately US\$614 million in signed contributions.
- Noted that these updated figures strengthen the Fund's available commitment authority and demonstrate continued progress in converting pledges into legally binding contribution agreements.

| WORLD BANK GROUP<br>Development Finance |                           | STATUS OF CONTRIBUTIONS, RECEIPTS AND RECEIVABLES |  |                     |                       |  |  |  |  |   |                 |  |         |
|---|---------------------------|---|--|---------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|---|-----------------|--|---------|
| Contributor                             | Pledge currency           | Pledge amount in original currency                | Pledge amount in USD eq as of July 7, 2026 | Contribution status | Amount received (USD) | Additional amount to be received in 2026 (USD eq)* | Additional amount to be received in 2027 (USD eq)* | Additional amount to be received in 2028 (USD eq)* | Total Contribution Agreements signed (USD eq)* | Pledges not yet signed into CA in original currency | Pledge currency | Pledges not yet signed into CA (USD eq)* |         |
| 1                                       | Australia                 | AUD   | 50.00                                      | 34.06               | Signed                | 21.58  | -  | 12.48  | -  | 34.06   | -               | AUD                                      | -       |
| 2                                       | Austria                   | EUR   | 25.00                                      | 27.51               | Signed                | 21.80  | -  | 5.71   | -  | 27.51   | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 3                                       | Canada                    | CAD   | 16.00                                      | 11.63               | Signed                | 11.63  | -  | -  | -  | 11.63   | -               | CAD                                      | -       |
| 4                                       | Denmark                   | DKK   | 175.00                                     | 24.66               | Signed                | 24.66  | -  | -  | -  | 24.66   | -               | DKK                                      | -       |
| 5                                       | Estonia                   | EUR   | 0.05                                       | 0.05                | Signed                | 0.05   | -  | -  | -  | 0.05  | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 6                                       | European Union            | EUR   | 25.00                                      | 28.55               | Drafted               | -  | -  | -  | -  | -   | 25.00           | EUR                                      | 28.55   |
| 7                                       | Finland                   | EUR   | 3.00                                       | 3.52                | Signed                | 3.52   | -  | -  | -  | 3.52  | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 8                                       | France                    | EUR   | 100.00                                     | 110.17              | Signed                | 53.07  | -  | -  | -  | 53.07   | 50.00           | EUR                                      | 57.10   |
| 9                                       | Germany                   | EUR   | 92.00                                      | 98.24               | Signed                | 98.24  | -  | -  | -  | 98.24   | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 10                                      | Iceland                   | ISK   | 400.00                                     | 3.14                | Signed                | 0.60   | -  | -  | -  | 0.60  | 320.00          | ISK                                      | 2.54    |
| 11                                      | Ireland                   | EUR   | 25.00                                      | 28.10               | Signed                | 28.10  | -  | -  | -  | 28.10   | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 12                                      | Italy                     | EUR   | 100.00                                     | 114.32              | Signed                | 22.96  | -  | -  | -  | 22.96   | 80.00           | EUR                                      | 91.36   |
| 13                                      | Japan **                  | USD   | 20.00                                      | 20.00               | Signed                | 10.00  | -  | -  | -  | 10.00   | -               | USD                                      | ** 0.00 |
| 14                                      | Korea                     | USD   | 7.00                                       | 7.00                | Signed                | 2.15   | 2.43   | 2.43   | -  | 7.00  | -               | USD                                      | -       |
| 15                                      | Latvia                    | EUR   | 0.05                                       | 0.05                | Signed                | 0.05   | -  | -  | -  | 0.05  | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 16                                      | Luxembourg                | EUR   | 15.00                                      | 17.13               | Not started           | -  | -  | -  | -  | -   | 15.00           | EUR                                      | 17.13   |
| 17                                      | Netherlands               | EUR   | 15.00                                      | 15.78               | Signed                | 15.78  | -  | -  | -  | 15.78   | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 18                                      | New Zealand               | NZD   | 10.00                                      | 5.66                | Signed                | 5.66   | -  | -  | -  | 5.66  | -               | NZD                                      | -       |
| 19                                      | Norway                    | USD   | 25.00                                      | 25.00               | Signed                | 25.00  | -  | -  | -  | 25.00   | -               | USD                                      | -       |
| 20                                      | Portugal                  | EUR   | 5.00                                       | 5.59                | Signed                | 2.16   | 1.14   | 1.14   | 1.14   | 5.59  | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 21                                      | Slovenia                  | EUR   | 1.50                                       | 1.69                | Signed                | 0.44   | 1.26   | -  | -  | 1.69  | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 22                                      | Spain                     | EUR   | 40.00                                      | 44.01               | Signed                | 44.01  | -  | -  | -  | 44.01   | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| 23                                      | Sweden                    | SEK   | 200.00                                     | 20.85               | Signed                | 5.33   | 7.76   | 7.76   | -  | 20.85   | -               | SEK                                      | -       |
| 24                                      | UAE                       | USD   | 100.00                                     | 100.00              | Signed                | 15.00  | 35.00  | 25.00  | 25.00  | 100.00  | -               | USD                                      | -       |
| 25                                      | United Kingdom            | GBP   | 40.00                                      | 53.03               | Signed                | 53.03  | -  | -  | -  | 53.03   | -               | GBP                                      | -       |
| 26                                      | United States of America  | USD   | 17.50                                      | 17.50               | Signed                | 17.56  | -  | -  | -  | 17.56   | -               | USD                                      | (0.06)  |
| 27                                      | Walloon Region of Belgium | EUR   | 3.00                                       | 3.38                | Signed                | 3.38   | -  | -  | -  | 3.38  | -               | EUR                                      | -       |
| TOTAL                                   |                           |   | 620.63                                     | 670.63              |                       | 485.76   | 47.59  | 54.52  | 26.14  | 614.01  |                 |  | 196.61  |

\* Amounts based on signed contribution agreements, at FX rates as of July 7, 2026  
 \*\* Japan had paid USD 10 million to finance the FRLD interim secretariat through UNFCCC before FRLD Trust Fund was established.  
 In addition, Japan paid USD 10 million to the FRLD Trust Fund. This USD 10 million is counted in the total amount received

- Reported that, based on the current contribution schedule, the Fund expects to receive an additional US\$48 million by the end of the 2026 calendar year.
- Noted that cash receipts have increased by US\$30 million over the past five weeks.
- Reported that the US\$459 million received in cash has generated approximately US\$24 million in investment income, an increase of US\$3 million since B8, and that this income is included in the commitment authority.
- Stated that cumulative resources available to the Fund since inception now stand at close to US\$510 million.
- Noted that the Board has allocated US\$32 million for the administrative budget.
- Indicated that total Board-approved allocations are approximately US\$700 million, though the exact figure was not fully clear from the intervention.

**AVAILABLE RESOURCES IN THE FUND**

| Resources                                       | Amount (USD Eq)    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Currently Available</b>                      | <b>474 million</b> |
| <b>Indicative Expected by December 31, 2026</b> | <b>521 million</b> |

*Of these amounts, the FRLD Board has set aside USD 277.5 million for the BIM+CSS*

Trustee contact emails: [frldtrustee@worldbank.org](mailto:frldtrustee@worldbank.org) ; [dstangu@worldbank.org](mailto:dstangu@worldbank.org)

<https://fiftrustee.worldbank.org> – ▼ Select a Fund ► Fund for responding to Loss and Damage

- Expressed concern that the Fund had lost approximately **US\$6 million** due to currency fluctuations since 31 May, noting that these losses appear to reduce resources available for future allocations, including the CSS.
- Observed that the Trustee's presentation, while informative, does not sufficiently support the Board's objective of maximising available commitment authority or provide a clear picture of how future inflows will address the growing funding gap.
- Suggested that the financial tables could be presented in a more strategic and forward-looking way, including clearer information on resources available to sustain Secretariat operations and future commitments.
- Reiterated concerns about the slow pace of pledge conversion, stressing the urgency of converting pledges into cash contributions given that three years have passed since the Fund was established at COP28 in Dubai.
- Reaffirmed his longstanding reservations about extended encashment schedules for contributions, arguing that the Fund's mandate requires rapid and predictable resource availability to support timely responses to loss and damage.

#### **Richard Sherman, South Africa:**

- Expressed concern that the Fund had lost approximately **US\$6 million** due to currency fluctuations since 31 May, noting that these losses appear to reduce resources available for future allocations, including the CSS.
- Observed that the Trustee's presentation, while informative, does not sufficiently support the Board's objective of maximising available commitment authority or provide a clear picture of how future inflows will address the growing funding gap.

- Suggested that the financial tables could be presented in a more strategic and forward-looking way, including clearer information on resources available to sustain Secretariat operations and future commitments.
- Reiterated concerns about the slow pace of pledge conversion, stressing the urgency of converting pledges into cash contributions given that three years have passed since the Fund was established at COP28 in Dubai.
- Reaffirmed his longstanding reservations about extended encashment schedules for contributions, arguing that the Fund's mandate requires rapid and predictable resource availability to support timely responses to loss and damage.

#### **Nourhene:**

- Welcomed the additional **US\$30 million** in signed contributions and sought clarification on how investment income is reflected within the commitment authority calculation.
- Noted that, when considered alongside the previous commitment authority presentation, the Trustee's report provides a more comprehensive understanding of the Fund's overall financial position.
- Welcomed the inclusion of forward-looking financial information, including signed contributions and outstanding pledges, as useful planning tools for the Board.
- Encouraged continuing this approach at future Board meetings so that members can monitor progress on contribution agreements, strengthen confidence in the Fund's financial outlook, and support longer-term planning.

#### **World Bank:**

- Confirmed that all investment income earned by the Fund is retained within the Fund and included in the calculation of the available commitment authority.
- Clarified that questions relating to forward-looking financial projections and soft commitments fall within the Secretariat's responsibility rather than the Trustee's mandate.

#### **Adao Soares Barbosa, Timor-Leste:**

- Welcomed the recent contributions and signed contribution agreements, thanking Austria, the Region of Belgium, and Italy for strengthening the Fund's resource base, while also acknowledging all contributors that have pledged or committed resources.

- Expressed concern that nearly one quarter of pledged contributions have yet to be converted into signed contribution agreements and encouraged contributors to accelerate both the signing of agreements and the transfer of funds to the Trust Fund.
- Noted that several contribution agreements include disbursement schedules extending to 2027 and 2028, raising concerns about the Fund's ability to respond to the immediate financing needs reflected in the heavily oversubscribed Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM).
- Emphasised that timely conversion of pledges into contribution agreements, and agreements into cash contributions, is essential for reducing programming uncertainty and maintaining the credibility of the Fund.
- Requested clarification on how investment income generated by the Fund is treated and whether it creates any repayment obligations.

### **World Bank:**

- Explained that resources held in the Trust Fund are invested by the World Bank, with all investment returns flowing back into the Fund as additional cash resources.
- Clarified that investment income is automatically reinvested and subsequently becomes part of the Fund's available resources for allocation through grants.
- Confirmed that the investment income does **not** constitute a loan, does **not** create any repayment obligations, and belongs entirely to the Fund.
- Compared the process to earning interest on a savings account, where deposited funds generate additional income that remains available to the account holder.

The agenda has been taken note of by the Board.