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# DRM: Fostering collaboration with existing international bodies

3<sup>rd</sup> SA IORAG Meeting  
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## BACKGROUND

- DRM one of 6 focus areas of IORA (both natural and man-made disasters)
- IORA's policy approach:
  - focus on knowledge sharing and capacity building within the region
  - places an emphasis on importance of “collection, compilation and dissemination of relevant knowledge and information on hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities
  - acknowledges the multidisciplinary nature of DRM
  - involvement of range of stakeholders – all spheres of government
  - cooperation



## BACKGROUND

- Jakarta Concord (2017) paragraph 16(d) sets out various objectives to enhance DRM
  - acknowledging the **vulnerability of coastal and Small Island Developing States** due to **climate change and ocean acidification** and working together to implement the provisions of the **Paris Agreement** on climate change;
  - strengthening **regional disaster preparedness, community resilience, and disaster risk management** in accordance with the **Sendai Framework** for Disaster Risk Reduction;
  - improving geodetic data-sharing, methods and infrastructure and further developing integrated **early warning systems** in the region for forecasting and communicating disaster-related risks and hazards; and
  - **Enhancing cooperation with stakeholders** in addressing issues related to disaster and climate change through **capacity building including sharing of information, experiences and best practices** to improve community resilience to minimize disruption of economic activities.



## AIM OF THE PAPER

- The aim of this paper is to determine whether or not there are grounds for collaboration between the IORA and the UNFCCC to further enhance and strengthen DRM within the region as set out in paragraph 16(d) of the Jakarta Concord



## THE REPORT ALSO LOOKS AT

- A brief description of the broad outline of DRM in certain IORA countries
- The implications of paragraph 16(d) of the Jakarta Concord
- The relevance of the Paris Agreement

Lastly, the report makes recommendations for opportunities to incorporate the work undertaken by the Warsaw International Mechanisms



## BROAD OUTLINE OF DRM IN IORA COUNTRIES

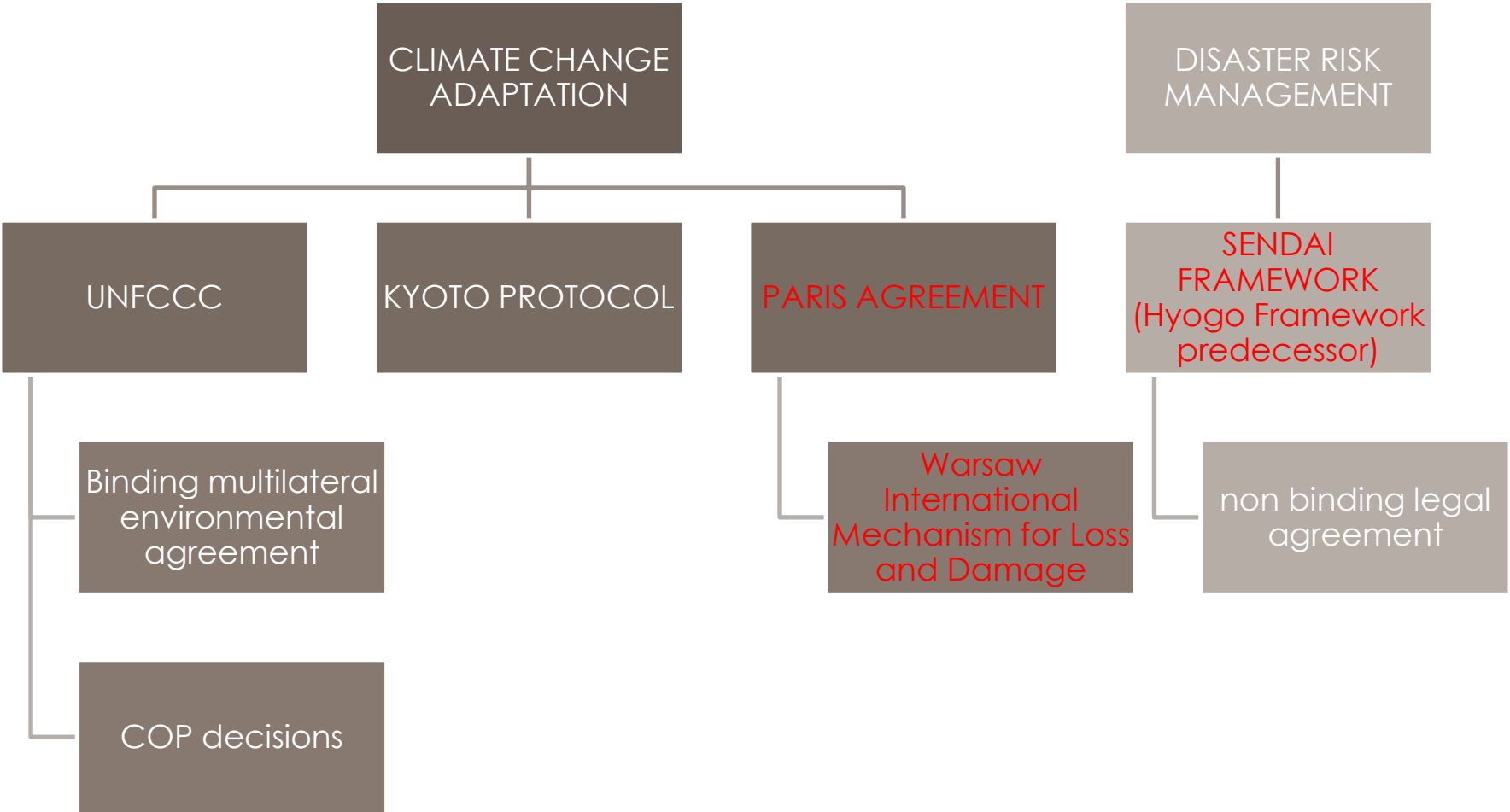
- Institutional structures for DRM in IORA countries generally consists of overarching national laws and regulations
- Most countries also have regional and bilateral agreements
- Most countries signed the Sendai Framework
- Capacity building and training priority
- Knowledge sharing and collaboration



## IMPLICATION OF PARA 16(d)

- One of the most important implications of para 16(d) is that it effectively brings two separate international policy instruments within the realm of IORA's focus to address DRM

# IMPLICATION OF PARA 16(d)







## THE PARIS AGREEMENT: BACKGROUND

- UNFCCC provides the basis to adapt to the impacts of climate change
- Conference of the Parties (COP)
  - Supreme body of the UNFCCC
  - Highest decision – making body
  - Meets annually
  - Adopts binding decisions



## THE PARIS AGREEMENT: BACKGROUND

- Disaster reduction strategies were first considered by the UNFCCC in 2007 when COP 13 adopted the Bali Action Plan
- The adaptation pillar of the Bali Action Plan considered means to address loss and damage suffered by countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change and to enhance action on adaptation, in particular it considers:
  - risk management and risk reduction strategies
  - disaster reduction strategies and means to address L & D in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change



## THE PARIS AGREEMENT: BACKGROUND

- Various COP decisions regarding L & D
- 2012 Doha Decision on L & D agreed on the UNFCCC responses to address L & D
- Took note of the Hyogo Framework as well as other work outside the Convention including:
  - Special Report on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation
  - Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction
  - Global Framework for Climate Services of the World Meteorological Organization



## THE PARIS AGREEMENT: BACKGROUND

- Doha Decision also acknowledges the further work necessary to advance the understanding of, and expertise on, L&D, which includes the following:
  - enhancing coordination, synergies and linkages among various organisations, institutions and frameworks, to enable the development and support of approaches to address loss and damage, including slow onset event and comprehensive climate risk management strategies, which would include risk transfer tools;



## THE PARIS AGREEMENT: BACKGROUND

- strengthening and promoting regional collaboration, centres and networks on strategies and approaches, including addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including slow onset events, including through risk reduction, risk sharing and risk transfer initiatives;



## THE PARIS AGREEMENT: BACKGROUND

- enhanced capacity-building at the national and regional levels to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change; and
- strengthening institutional arrangements at the national, regional and international levels to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change



## THE PARIS AGREEMENT: BACKGROUND

- Parties decided to establish an international mechanism to address L & D
- In 2013 (COP 19) the **Warsaw International Mechanism** was established (WIM)
- Functions of the WIM
  - enhance knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches;
  - strengthen dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders; and
  - enhance action and support, including finance, technology and capacity building.



## THE PARIS AGREEMENT

- Entered into force November 2016
- Article 8 Paris Agreement
  - 8(1) Parties recognize the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, **including extreme weather events and slow onset events**, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage
  - 8(3) Parties **should enhance understanding, action and support**, including through the Warsaw International Mechanism, as appropriate, on a cooperative and facilitative basis with respect to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change





## THE PARIS AGREEMENT

8(4) Accordingly, **areas of cooperation and facilitation** to enhance understanding, action and support may include:

- (a) Early warning systems;
- (b) Emergency preparedness;
- (c) Slow onset events;
- (d) Events that may involve irreversible and permanent loss and damage;
- (e) Comprehensive risk assessment and management;
- (f) Risk insurance facilities, climate risk pooling and other insurance solutions;
- (g) Non-economic losses; and
- (h) Resilience of communities, livelihoods and ecosystems.

8(5) The Warsaw International Mechanism **shall collaborate** with **existing bodies and expert groups** under the Agreement, as well as **relevant organizations and expert bodies outside the Agreement**



## COP 22

- Decision 3/CP.22
  - encourages Parties to incorporate the consideration of extreme events and slow onset events, non-economic losses, displacement, migration and human mobility, and comprehensive risk management into relevant planning and action, as appropriate, and to encourage bilateral and multilateral entities to support such efforts



## COP 22

- Decision 3/CP.22
  - invites the United Nations and other ‘relevant institutions, specialized agencies and entities, the research community and the private sector
    - to strengthen cooperation and collaboration, including through partnerships, with the Executive Committee on topics relevant to addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is a sufficient basis for collaboration with the WIM EXCO
- IORA as a body should consider this possibility
- This cooperation can be strengthened by presenting it to the IORA Council of Members to
  - include in its formulation of policies or
  - for consideration during decisions on new areas of co-operation in terms of its mandate



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Possible institutional vehicle to facilitate this process could be the Regional Disaster Coordination Mechanism recommended during the expert meeting held in 2015 (Tanzania)
- Also recommended that IORA member states form a loose coalition within the UNFCCC negotiation process
  - This would enable IORA Member States to develop a common negotiating position with regards to DRM issues and particular L&D issues within the region