

#### SNAB/2025/04/04

02 April 2025

Fourth Meeting of the Advisory Board of the Santiago network

15 - 17 April 2025 Geneva, Switzerland

# **Report of the Santiago network Advisory Board Co-Chairs**

## September 2024 - March 2025

#### Summary

The document provides an update on the activities of the Advisory Board Co-Chairs in the period between the third and fourth meetings of the Advisory Board.

In line with the rules of procedure of the Advisory Board, the Co-Chairs have fulfilled their responsibilities by chairing meetings of the Advisory Board and related intersessional work, reporting to the governing body or bodies on behalf of the Advisory Board, and representing the Advisory Board in external meetings, for which they shall report back to the Advisory Board. This document provides an update on the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

This document has linkages with the <u>Rules of procedure of the Advisory Board of the Santiago</u> <u>network</u> and the <u>initial two-year work programme of the Santiago network</u> approved by the Advisory Board at its first meeting. It is recommended that it should be reviewed in parallel with the 'Report of the Santiago network Secretariat' (SNAB/2025/04/03) and the '<u>Annual report</u> <u>of the Santiago network 2024</u>'.

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#### I. Introduction

- 1. This document reports on the activities of the Co-Chairs in the period between the third and the fourth meetings of the Advisory Board.
- 2. In line with the rules of procedure of the Advisory Board, the Co-Chairs have fulfilled their responsibilities by chairing meetings of the Advisory Board and related intersessional work, reporting to the governing body or bodies on behalf of the Advisory Board, and representing the Advisory Board in external meetings, for which they shall report back to the Advisory Board. The following sections provide details on the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

#### II. United Nations Climate Change Conference 2024<sup>1</sup>

- 3. The <u>first annual report</u> of the Santiago network was submitted to Parties in Baku as a joint report with the Warsaw International Mechanism Executive Committee (WIM ExCom), following approval by the Advisory Board, facilitated by the Co-Chairs. The report contains information on progress over the reporting period from 7 March to 6 September 2024, as well as recommendations to the governing body or bodies of the WIM. The joint report, along with the review of the WIM, will be considered by the Subsidiary Bodies at their 62<sup>nd</sup> session (June 2025) with a view to recommending a draft decision or decisions for consideration and adoption by the governing body or bodies at the session(s) to be held in November 2025.
- 4. The Co-Chairs participated in the following Santiago network <u>events</u> during COP29/CMA6 in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 11-22 November:
  - a. High-level event hosted by the President of COP29 "Scaling-up action on loss and damage: full operationalization of the Santiago network" convened by the Advisory Board and the COP 29 President, H.E. Mukhtar Babayev. Some Advisory Board members, the Co-Chairs of the WIM ExCom, and the Co-Chair of the Board of the FRLD were among the participants.
  - b. Catalyzing technical assistance for enhanced resilience held at the Resilience Hub at the blue zone of COP29
- 5. The Co-Chairs participated on behalf of the Advisory Board in the Launch of the High-Level Dialogue convened by the Co-Chairs of the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage, in preparation of the High-Level Dialogue on Strengthening Response(s) on Loss and Damage.

#### III. Intersessional work of the Advisory Board

- 6. The Co-Chairs provided guidance to the Secretariat in the organization and scheduling of intersessional work as decided by the Advisory Board during its third meeting, including:
  - a. Intersessional meeting of the Advisory Board, 11 December 2024, addressing regional presence and date and venue.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 29) to the UNFCCC (and related meetings).



- b. Intersessional meeting of the Advisory Board, 20 February 2025, addressing regional presence and date and venue.
- c. Informal meeting of the Advisory Board, 11 March 2025, addressing regional presence and minimum percentage of technical assistance funded directly by the Santiago network directed to communities particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
- 7. The development of the key documents prepared during this intersessional work was characterized by a rigorous consultative process, incorporating multiple phases of feedback and input from the Advisory Board. This iterative approach facilitated a comprehensive review and refinement of the documents, integrating diverse perspectives and specialized knowledge from pertinent stakeholders within the Advisory Board.
- 8. The Co-Chairs cleared the reports and the follow-up actions from the intersessional meetings above, for transmission by the Secretariat to the Advisory Board.

#### IV. Preparations for the fourth meeting of the Advisory Board

- 9. The Co-Chairs held regular calls with the Santiago network Secretariat with the presence of the co-hosts, to discuss organizational and substantive arrangements for the fourth Advisory Board meeting.
- 10. On the organizational side, the Co-Chairs provided guidance to the Secretariat regarding the date and venue of the fourth Advisory Board meeting. Following guidance from the Advisory Board, the Secretariat explored the option of convening the fourth Advisory Board meeting back-to-back with the fifth meeting of the Board of the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) in Barbados. Due to the proximity of the meeting and in the absence of confirmed arrangements, the Advisory Board decided, through an intersessional decision, to hold the meeting in Geneva from Tuesday, 15 April 2025 to Thursday, 17 April 2025, in Geneva, Switzerland, with an informal meeting on Monday, 14 April 2025.
- 11. The Co-Chairs formally communicated the decision on date and venue for the fourth Advisory Board meeting to Her Excellency Amb. Elizabeth Thompson, Deputy President of the Senate of Barbados and Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary with Responsibility for Climate Change, Small Island Developing States, and Law of the Sea, expressing their appreciation for Barbados's consideration of the potential hosting of the Advisory Board meeting of the Santiago network.
- 12. On the substantive side, the Co-Chairs provided guidance and cleared the provisional agenda for the fourth meeting of the Advisory Board, considering the feedback received from Advisory Board members under paragraph 39 of the rules of procedure. The provisional agenda was circulated to the Advisory Board on 17 February in line with paragraph 40 of the rules of procedure. The Co-Chairs also provided guidance on the preparations for the Informal Advisory Board meeting to be held on 14 March, 2025.

#### V. Intersessional decisions

13. In line with the rules of procedure, "The Advisory Board may take a decision without meeting on an extraordinary basis when, in the judgment of both co-chairs, such a decision

should not be postponed to the next Advisory Board meeting. In such a case, the secretariat, with the approval of the co-chairs, shall transmit to Board members a proposed decision with the invitation to approve the decision on a non-objection basis for a prescribed period (generally 21 days but in urgent cases no less than one week)."

- With the approval of the Co-Chairs, the following intersessional decision was transmitted by the Secretariat to the Advisory Board on 5 March 2025 with a no-objection period ending on 12 March: SNAB/2025/ISD/01 - Intersessional decision on date and venue. Copies of the proposal were provided to the representatives for their information.
- 15. Following the prescribed no-objection period, the decision to hold the fourth Advisory Board meeting from Tuesday, 15 April 2025 to Thursday, 17 April 2025, in Geneva, Switzerland, with an informal meeting on Monday, 14 April 2025; was deemed taken (SNAB/2025/ISD/01).