



## **Views and Recommendations on Elements of Guidance for the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage**

In light of the escalating climate threats facing our planet, the Republic of Iraq underscores the urgent need to accelerate the operationalization of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD). The increasing frequency and severity of climate-related disasters—such as extreme droughts, devastating heatwaves, and water scarcity—demand immediate and decisive action. These impacts are not only causing profound damage today, but also represent an existential threat to future generations and the sustainability of life on Earth.

Iraq, in particular, is experiencing intensifying climate vulnerabilities, including prolonged and severe drought, excessive rise in temperatures, and the degradation of natural ecosystems. These compounding risks are undermining livelihoods, social stability, and national development efforts.

Delays in delivering support are no longer an option. The activation of the FRLD, with accessible, predictable, and grant-based finance, is essential to help countries like Iraq address the irreversible impacts of climate change and to protect the rights, dignity, and future of vulnerable communities, including marginalized populations such as the Marshland (Ahwar) inhabitants.

Iraq welcomes the prioritization of grants as the primary financial instrument during the start-up phase of the FRLD.

It is essential that all contributions pledged to the Fund be accompanied by clear timelines for disbursement, ensuring transparency, predictability, and accountability.

The Fund should establish direct budget support mechanisms and enable timely disbursement across all funding modalities.

All developing countries must remain eligible, and allocation criteria must not create barriers to access.



Iraq urges the Board to ensure simplified and streamlined access procedures that are responsive to the specific needs of developing countries, including those most vulnerable to climate-induced loss and damage.

The Fund's resource mobilization strategy should align with the Baku to Belém Roadmap to \$1.3 trillion, aiming to triple annual disbursements and reflect the scale of needs in developing countries and the Finance must be new, additional, predictable, and adequate.

The Fund's operations should be guided by country-led and country-owned approaches, while fully acknowledging of national contexts .

The operations of the FRLD should Include a wide range of grant-based that effectively address slow-onset and rapid-onset climate events, as well as both economic and non-economic dimensions of loss and damage.

Iraq underscores the urgency of operationalizing the Fund and delivering support to vulnerable communities like women and children already experiencing irreversible impacts.

The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its support and stands ready to cooperate with all Parties to ensure that the Fund fulfills its promise to address the urgent needs of vulnerable developing countries.