

Commission for Sustainable Development, 20 September 2013.
Statement by Minister Counsellor Susan Eckey
NORWAY

Chair,

- The discussions coming out of the Brundtland Commission's report, "Our Common Future", in 1987 and leading up to the World Summit in Rio in 1992 concluded that sustainable development needed a dedicated home in the UN – and we created this commission
- Today - 20 years later – we still agree that sustainable development is an important global matter and reconfirm that the UN is the right home for the discussions on our common goals. From next week, this home will be the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
- In our future work, it is of the utmost importance that we use the lessons learned and the experiences we have gained during these 20 years – the positive and negative alike.
- The active participation of civil society and major groups has been crucial in our efforts to meet the Millennium Development Goals
- A sustainable future will require concerted action across sectors and involvement of a broad range of actors – both public and private. We agree with the many speakers today who underlined the importance of the voice and participation of women.
- Further we have learned that we need:
 - A UN body with a prominent place in the system,;
 - a body with capacity to handle sustainable development in an holistic, coherent and integrated manner;
 - a body that can demand follow-up and improve implementation;
 - a body that has the flexibility to address emerging issues.
 - a forum where leaders can come and exercise leadership;
 - an institution that, for these reasons, is attractive for high-level participation;
- As we have created the new High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development – we can with some emotion, but without regret close the book for CSD – and be optimistic for the Future We Want.