

## **CSD IPM - 1<sup>st</sup> mars**

### **Statement by the Norwegian Delegation on Interlinkages and Cross Cutting Issues**

Thank you Mr. Chairman;

First I would like to echo what has been said by the distinguished representative of the EU with regard to the need for a review mechanism on energy. Norway is of the opinion that the energy issue should be on the agendas of the CSD in 2010 and 2014. We also support the idea of compiling national goals on access to energy, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Mr. Chairman,

We must set the target of taking an integrated approach to energy, air pollution, climate change and industrial development. In this connection it will also be necessary to stress the importance of the cross-cutting issues, with a special focus on good governance, capacity-building, gender equality, health and innovative financial solutions, in order to arrive at relevant, cohesive policy recommendations.

We would like to use this discussion on inter-linkages and cross-cutting issues to highlight the role of women and gender equality.

At the CSD 14, we identified that access to affordable, reliable and sustainably sound energy for cooking and heating is particularly important for women. Ensuring women's access to decision-making processes is also crucial in order for us to address our particular needs in energy budgets and energy programmes. Further, we also need to enforce the legal status for women, including the right to assets, to joint and individual land titles and to inheritance. It is important to understand that these elements are all interlinked, and are together crucial means of improving the role of women.

We have to acknowledge the role of women as a valuable resource and capacity of knowledge and as important actors for a sustainable future. We would therefore propose the following policy-recommendations;

- Enhance research and data collection on women's energy use and needs in connection with developing energy policies and projects.
- Increase capacity-building and technical training for women as means of empowerment in order for women to take an active part in decision-making processes.
- Develop energy infrastructure and institutions that directly benefit women and the poor. Women should be included at all parts of the project, policy and development planning process both as energy providers and energy users.
- Promote the integration of gender and rights issues into energy projects to involve women in the choice and use of energy resources and technologies. This leads to a more flexible approach, with projects responding to the particular needs of women, and with regard to local priorities and contexts.

Thank you.