

CSD 15. Discussion on climate change.
Statement by the Norwegian Delegation. 1 May 2007

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is clear in the conclusions of its reports: *climate change is here already*. The enhanced greenhouse impact will affect everyone. But it is the poorest developing countries that will be hit earliest and hardest.

The need to adapt is huge. Development itself is key to adaptation. Much adaptation should be an extension of good development practice and reduce vulnerability by: promoting growth and diversification of economic activity; good governance and sound management of natural resources, investing in health and education; enhancing resilience to disasters and improving disaster management.

It is for the developing countries themselves to determine their approach to adaptation in the context of their own circumstances and aspirations. The CSD should recommend that climate change measures are integrated within poverty reduction strategies and national strategies for sustainable development. Multilateral development institutions should mainstream and support climate change measures across their assistance programmes and increase their support to strengthen developing countries' capacity to tackle adaptation to climate change.

Chairman,

Norway would like to see a strong message from CSD 15 with regard to climate change, thus giving political impetus to efforts under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol to reduce climate change emissions. In particular, we would like to see the following two issues reflected in the outcome of this session:

First, efforts to tackle climate change must be guided by the need to prevent global temperature increase above 2°C above the pre-industrial level. This will require radical changes in production and consumption patterns, and more than 50 % reduction in global greenhouse gas emissions by the middle of this century. These reductions must start soon.

Second, to steer the *global* development in the right direction, the developed countries must take the lead and a major share of the responsibility. But in order to achieve *adequate long and medium term goals* for global emission reductions, we must have a much broader participation in this process than today. In the future, *more* Convention parties must take on responsibilities – especially the rich countries that have failed to commit so far.

Chairman,

The Norwegian Government recently set three new commitments for our climate policy:

- We will commit ourselves to cutting emissions of greenhouse gases ***equivalent to 30 per cent*** of our emissions by 2020.
- Norway will ***sharpen*** our emission cuts obligations under the Kyoto Protocol by ten per cent in the period up to 2012.
- In the period up to 2050, Norway will undertake to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions ***equivalent to 100 per cent of our own emissions***, thus making Norway a ***carbon neutral country***.

Norway is ready to take its share of emission reductions in a far more ambitious and global effort, post 2012, to prevent a global temperature increase above 2°C.

Thank you!