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Norwegian policy and the new development goals for 2015–2030

Report on policy coherence for development 2014



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1 What is policy coherence for development?

The policy of individual countries in areas such as trade, investment, agriculture, defence, education and research, health, the environment, climate, energy can have positive or negative effects on other countries. These may be direct, for instance as a result of discriminatory import protection, or indirect, for instance through their effects on the global public goods that we all depend on, not least developing countries. An example of the latter is the emission of greenhouse gases in developed countries, for instance from transport and electricity generation from fossil fuels, which are contributing to a global rise in temperature and increasing drought and crop failure in poor countries in Africa.

Policy coherence for development means ensuring that policy that is primarily developed to safeguard a country's own interests is adapted as far as possible to avoid undermining poor countries' development opportunities. This includes avoiding indirect effects, for example on global public goods that the social and economic development of these countries depends on.

2 Norwegian policy coherence and the post-2015 development goals

This report focuses on how Norwegian policy that is primarily developed to safeguard Norwegian interests could affect efforts to achieve the various goals in the new post-2015 development agenda, and also in the last phase of the [UN's Millennium Development Goals](#) (MDGs). It considers whether Norwegian positions and the issues that Norway is promoting in international forums are in line with the goals that Norway is giving top priority to, or are impeding their realisation.

This report has been drawn up in response to the Storting's request as set out in the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs concerning the white paper *Climate, Conflict and Capital. Norwegian development policy adapting to change*. However, it is not the objective of this report to recommend changes to policy. Policy development in the various areas covered by the report

takes place in various arenas involving interaction between the business sector, civil society and the political sphere where all legitimate Norwegian interests and various other considerations are taken into account. It is therefore the Ministry responsible for the policy area in question that determines overall policy aims and objectives, including considerations of the needs of developing countries.

All the authorities with responsibility for policy development should respect the principle of 'do no harm', which means avoiding doing anything that could be expected to have a negative effect on developing countries if there are less harmful alternatives. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has drawn up a policy development checklist that will help to ensure that this principle is applied. The checklist is included at the end of the report.

2.1 What will the new goals be?

There are a number of issues that could be included in the post-2015 global development agenda. The aim is for the new goals to be limited in number and designed to mobilise the necessary resources and action. They are to be global, i.e. they must be measurable at global, but not necessarily national, level. The Rio+20 process has emphasised the need to incorporate the three dimensions of sustainable development – social, economic and environmental – in order to achieve lasting results. In addition, the goals are to be universally applicable to all countries, recognising our mutual dependence in a globalised world. This means that all countries also need to make an effort at the national level to achieve the goals. Many countries do not wish to be compelled to do this, and a considerable degree of flexibility will probably be needed, for example in terms of how individual countries work towards achieving the goals. The goals are intended to inspire sustainable political and economic choices by showing that the various goals can be realised concurrently, and are mutually reinforcing. The universality of the new goals can thus be seen as promoting policy coherence.

The new goals are to be subdivided into targets that address key aspects of the policy area in question. Indicators will also be identified to measure goal achievement.

Discussions on the new set of goals and targets have been taking place for some time in a number of forums, from web-based consultations, via the report of [the High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda](#), the work of the [Open Working Group](#), and the informal consultations of the UN General Assembly, to input provided by researchers, think tanks and civil society. The Open Working Group, which has been tasked with following up Rio+20, has proposed 16 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), each of which has been broken down into several targets. An additional goal, Goal 17, addresses the implementation of the other goals, partnerships and financing, in a similar way to the current MDG 8. A preliminary discussion of the outcome of these processes will be held during the UN General Assembly in 2014. The *Synthesis Report of the Secretary-General on the post-2015 sustainable development agenda* will probably be presented at the end

of the year. It is expected that the SDGs will be adopted by the UN General Assembly in the autumn of 2015.

2.2 Norway's priorities

Norway's top priority is the eradication of extreme poverty by 2030 and Norway attaches¹ particular importance to the following five fields: education, good governance and human rights, women's empowerment and gender equality, energy, and health. A major effort has been made to promote these issues. Other priorities are conservation and sustainable and knowledge-based use of the marine environment, natural resources and biodiversity, climate change, food and nutrition security, and peace and stability. The development of the post-2015 agenda will require a coherent approach that brings together all the elements necessary for sustainable development. The Government will highlight the importance of sustainable economic growth, investment in the private sector, good governance and fundamental rights in the ongoing discussions.

The main focus of this report is on Norwegian policy areas other than development aid. However, in order to illustrate the connections between these areas, and the role of aid as a catalyst, major aid initiatives of particular relevance are mentioned under each policy area.

2.3 Financing

For many countries, it will not be possible to meet some of the targets in the new agenda without official development assistance (ODA). This type of aid will have to play a part in the financing process, and some UN member states believe that it should play a major role. Norway and many other countries hope that the discussions on financing will conclude that a considerable proportion of the financing needs of all countries should be met by mobilising resources at national level, for example through sound management of natural resources and more effective taxation, i.e. not through aid. Several of the proposed targets may require adjustments to countries' domestic policy, as well as to their policy vis-à-vis other countries. This may mean that countries need to make legislative and institutional changes to increase investment, trade and revenue from other sources.

A UN conference on the financing of the SDGs is to be held prior to or following the UN General Assembly in 2015, where the new goals are to be discussed. Norway and Guyana have been asked to coordinate preparations for this conference.

The Open Working Group has proposed a separate goal on means of implementation (Goal 17). This sets out the means that will be needed to implement the other goals and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development. The targets are grouped under seven headings: financing, technology, capacity-building, trade, policy and institutional coherence, multi stakeholder partnerships, and data, monitoring and accountability. The targets

¹ As of September 2014

focus mainly on financing through aid and demands put forward by developing countries in other contexts such as those relating to trade.

3 Good governance, human rights, the rule of law and democracy

3.1 What is good governance and why is it important for development?

Governance is not a clearly defined concept. It encompasses a number of mutually reinforcing elements that have been shown to be important for regulating the relationship between those who govern (politicians), the governed (citizens) and the public administration (the authorities).

Standards of governance vary from country to country. An essential feature of good governance is that citizens' rights and interests are safeguarded. Once fundamental rights are protected, citizens can be confident that politicians and authorities will carry out their duties to the benefit of society as a whole.

Over a period of more than 60 years, Norway and the other Nordic countries have seen considerable social development and economic growth and a reduction in social disparities, and they have combined this with sound management of natural resources. There is every indication that these countries are so successful precisely because they follow the principles of good governance. This suggests that making good governance one of the post-2015 sustainable development goals could help to bring prosperity and development to all countries.

Norway and the other Nordic countries have identified the following as the four most important elements of good governance: respect for human rights; development of the rule of law; development of key institutions; and the establishment of democracy. This was clearly expressed in [the Nordic statement on human rights and good governance](#), which was presented to the UN by Minister of Foreign Affairs Børge Brende in June 2014.

Respect for human rights is an essential basis for safeguarding the health and safety of citizens and for protecting people against arbitrary treatment. All people must be able to express their opinions and protest against unfair treatment without fear of persecution. Similarly, the right of access to information through independent media and the internet and the right to freedom of assembly and association are crucial in enabling individual citizens and civil society to hold politicians to account. Upholding these rights is essential for ensuring the peaceful resolution of labour disputes, promoting social and economic rights and providing citizens with a secure framework for setting up and running enterprises that can create economic growth and boost social development.

The rule of law, justice for all and an independent judiciary provide the essential basis for ensuring that human rights are respected.

Property and user rights must be guaranteed and contracts fulfilled without certain groups gaining an improper advantage. Arbitrary practices when it comes to establishing rules and law enforcement create insecurity and can lead to illicit financial flows and reduce long-term investments. Legislation must be put in place and properly enforced to safeguard the rights of women and children and prevent discrimination of marginalised groups.

Institutions. Effective police authorities, independent courts, non-discriminatory and inclusive decision-making processes, access to legal assistance and a free legal identity for all citizens are essential to a well-functioning state governed by the rule of law. Independent audit institutions and effective inspection and monitoring mechanisms that ensure responsible banking and business practices, reduce corruption and illegal capital transactions and encourage companies to show greater social responsibility are also vital.

Effective institutions are needed to ensure access to high-quality education and health services, reliable energy supplies, transport services and other infrastructure that is necessary for business activity. Efficient tax authorities are also vital for ensuring that funding is available for job creation, sustainable growth and for safeguarding the safety and security of citizens.

Democracy. Politicians must be held accountable to citizens through free and fair elections. Political power must be handed over voluntarily to the election winners.

Even in countries where democratic systems appear to function well in that there are various political parties, nominations and elections, nepotistic political elites may find opportunities to consolidate their own economic interests at the expense of others. All countries should therefore seek to develop a culture where citizens not only have the right to elect their politicians in free elections, but where the other elements of good governance are in place.

3.2 [International ambitions for the post-2015 period](#)

The Open Working Group (OWG) has proposed a combined goal for promoting peace and good governance – Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Ten targets are proposed under this goal, and an additional two targets related to means of implementation. The targets are as follows: 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere; 16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children; 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; 16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organised crime; 16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms; 16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels; 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels; 16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in

the institutions of global governance; 16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration; 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements. The two targets related to means of implementation are: 16.a Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime; 16.b Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.

This is a less ambitious set of targets than those Norway proposed for good governance and human rights in the OWG discussions. However, with the exception of target number 10, which seems to involve the relativisation of human rights, Norway will have no difficulty in promoting the achievement of these targets. The absence of clear targets relating to freedom of expression, access to free information and democratic rights is a problem at this stage. However, it remains to be seen which goals and targets will be included in the final post-2015 agenda and it therefore makes sense for Norway to continue to promote the targets it views as particularly important in the discussions. These are:

- Securing freedom of speech, assembly and the right to peaceful protest and access to independent media;
- Promoting the rule of law, democratic governance and public participation in political processes at all levels;
- Guaranteeing the right to information, access to public data and access to courts of law;
- Ensuring legal identity for all, including birth registration
- Combating corruption and ensuring that politicians and public employees are held accountable to the electorate;
- Strengthening legal protection and government institutions to create a favourable environment for the private sector and investment, and to promote growth and job creation;
- Building robust, professional and effective institutions in all areas.

Thus, the Government's view is that human rights, the rule of law, effective institutions and democracy are all so closely linked that they should be promoted as parts of a coherent whole. This was also made clear in the June 2014 Nordic statement on human rights and governance. International efforts to promote good governance and the ways in which Norwegian policy promotes or could be used to promote the achievement of these aims are described below.

3.3 [What is being done to promote good governance internationally?](#)

The [Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights](#) (OHCHR) in Geneva is the UN's leading authority on human rights. It monitors UN member states' compliance with their obligations under the UN human rights conventions and responds to human rights violations. It is also tasked with mainstreaming human rights in all UN activities, plays a key role in UN peace operations and provides advice to UN personnel working in the field. OHCHR has regional offices and

representatives in countries with significant human rights challenges. It also provides assessments and advice in areas where the human rights situation is particularly difficult.

The [UN Human Rights Council](#) plays a key role in international efforts to promote and protect human rights. It carries out the [Universal Periodic Review \(UPR\)](#), a review of the human rights records of all UN member states, organised in a four-to five-year cycle. Under the review, countries are required to state what actions they have taken to fulfil their obligations under the human rights instruments to which they are party.

The [Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee](#) of the UN General Assembly, the Third Committee, is an important global forum for discussions relating to freedom of expression, press freedom, freedom of assembly and the protection of human rights defenders. Reports of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council are also discussed in the Third Committee.

[The International Labour Organization \(ILO\)](#) is a key actor in the field of human rights and its eight core conventions, which relate to issues such as freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the abolition of child labour, the elimination of forced or compulsory labour and discrimination, are regarded as human rights instruments. All member states are required to report annually on ratified and unratified conventions. Norway will be a member of the ILO Governing Body for the period 2014–17 and plays an active role in reviewing compliance with ILO conventions.

ILO standards and their implementation have played a key role in the democratisation processes in a large number of countries, such as Chile, Poland and South Africa, and more recently Myanmar.

Free trade agreements concluded by the EU and EFTA also refer to the ILO conventions. The EU does not grant trade preferences to countries if the ILO Committee of Experts has reported serious violations of the conventions.

The OECD carries out important [anti-corruption work](#) globally – particularly in connection with the activities of multinational enterprises. A number of countries have ratified the [OECD Anti-Bribery Convention](#) and the organisation monitors implementation of the Convention by its parties and others.

The International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions ([INTOSAI](#)) has a large number of member countries and promotes the basic principle of good governance that public-sector auditing should be carried out by institutions that are independent of the government. It provides a forum for discussion of key issues relating to public-sector auditing and provides expert assistance for the development of national audit institutions in developing countries. Together with the [Inter-Parliamentary Union \(IPU\)](#), INTOSAI has called for the principles of transparency and verifiability to be reflected in the new sustainable development goals.

The IPU brings together the parliaments of 166 member countries. Priority areas for the IPU include human rights and the promotion of representative democracy. IPU member countries range from well-functioning democracies to authoritarian and repressive regimes. IPU is therefore an important forum for discussions relating to issues such as human rights and democracy.

The [International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance \(International IDEA\)](#) carries out research and analysis of electoral processes, constitution building, political participation and representation, democracy and development, and conflict and security. International IDEA supports sustainable democratic change by providing knowledge to national organisations working to promote democracy.

The adoption of international conventions and treaties has also led to significant improvements in governance in a number of areas. The Convention on Biological Diversity and the chemicals conventions are good examples in this context. The improvements mainly concern the development of institutional capacity and effective distribution of roles between different governance levels and expert bodies.

A number of international organisations provide expert assistance for institutional and capacity building in poor countries in many sectors that are relevant to good governance. The World Bank and the regional development banks play a dominant role in this context, but a number of other organisations are also involved. The IMF provides advice on economic policy and regulation of financial markets and provides assistance for the development of institutions that are important for good economic governance.

3.4 [How Norwegian policy promotes good governance in developing countries](#)

Norwegian policy in areas other than development assistance probably has most influence on governance in countries where governance is weak through Norway's direct dialogues with the countries concerned and through offices and positions Norway holds in international bodies.

Norway raises human rights issues in bilateral talks with various countries, taking as a starting point the human rights conventions the country concerned has ratified. Specific violations of human rights are also discussed.

Norway was a member of the Human Rights Council from 2009–12, has participated in reviews of several other countries as part of the UPR process and itself underwent a review in 2009 and 2014.

Norway intends to give greater priority to civil and political rights and was a key advocate for the establishment of a working group under the Human Rights Council on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice.

In the 2014 white paper on direct ownership in state-owned enterprises (Meld. St. 27 (2013–2014)), the Government sets out the standards it expects companies that are wholly or partly state-owned to follow as regards human rights and workers' rights. These are also relevant to the companies' operations in developing countries.

Companies are expected to respect fundamental human rights and to require the same of suppliers and business partners. They are also expected to carry out human rights due diligence in line with the recommendations of the [United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#) in order to prevent violations of human rights, and to play a part in ensuring that fundamental labour standards and rights are upheld and that employees are paid a decent wage.

The Government expects the companies to use the ILO core conventions as the minimum standard for their operations, and expects them to monitor conditions in the value chain. The companies are also expected to be at the forefront when it comes to standards for health, safety and the environment and to take a responsible approach to restructuring processes, in dialogue with employees and the local community.

Several aspects of Norwegian policy can influence the governance situation in developing countries. Norwegian policy relating to the integration of immigrants is one such area. Courses in Norwegian language, culture and history for immigrants to Norway give them a better understanding of how Norwegian society works. This can speed up the integration process for the people concerned and may lead to information on human rights, good governance and the rule of law being spread to their countries of origin.

All Norway's ministries participate in intergovernmental forums, enabling Norway to take part in and seek to influence the discussions that take place there. Topics raised in these forums that are relevant to governance and the rule of law include women and gender equality, working conditions in different countries and migration. The international debate on corporate social responsibility is also important.

Although there are companies that exploit weak labour legislation and other legal loopholes, Norwegian companies that adhere to Norwegian standards and accepted international practices in their international operations presumably promote good governance in the countries where they are operating. Most major Norwegian companies operating in other countries appear to comply with both Norwegian legislation and that of the host country, and many of them participate in the Government's consultative body on matters relating to CSR, KOMpakt, where human rights and other issues relating to governance are discussed.

Civil society frequently calls for aspects of corporate social responsibility that are currently voluntary to be made statutory requirements, and from time to time further elements of CSR are incorporated into legislation. For example, after amendments to Norway's Accounting Act were introduced at the end of 2013, large undertakings and public-interest entities that are active in the extractive industry or logging of primary forests are required to report on their profits on a country-by-country basis.

Civil society has also called for companies to be required to report on pay and working conditions in each country in which they operate, including conditions earlier in the value chain, as well as on tax payments and other payments made to

the host countries, and on how this revenue is used. There have also been calls for multinational companies based in Norway to disclose who their real owner or owners are. The UK has recently introduced a new legal obligation requiring UK companies to provide information on beneficial ownership.

Norway plays an active role in [Interpol](#) and supports the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime ([UNODC](#)), and the work of both these organisations to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Norway is also involved in efforts to reduce illicit financial flows, for example by supporting the work of the [Financial Action Task Force \(FATF\)](#) and participates in other cooperation forums to combat international crime, for which weak governance structures create a breeding ground. This type of cooperation helps to set standards for law enforcement in individual countries and thus promotes better governance. Norway has ratified the global anti-corruption conventions, and has amended Norwegian legislation so that Norwegians and employees in Norwegian companies can be prosecuted for any involvement in corruption even outside Norway.

State-owned companies are expected to exhibit the maximum degree of transparency with regard to financial flows, including taxation, to follow the guidelines on taxation set out in the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and to avoid using tax havens that do not comply with OECD standards and that are unwilling to enter into tax information agreements with Norway. These companies are also expected to have guidelines and systems in place to combat corruption and to carry out assessments and implement measures to this end.

Norwegian social partner organisations maintain a dialogue with their counterpart organisations in various countries, including developing countries, on the development of effective negotiation mechanisms and institutions. Although this dialogue is not a direct outcome of official Norwegian policy, it is linked to the way Norwegian society has developed as a result of the country's governance policy.

Norway supports the development of national audit institutions and improved government auditing through the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions.

Norway also works to ensure non-discriminatory access for developing countries and organisations to radio and TV frequencies and the internet, by supporting the work of international bodies such as the [International Telecommunication Union \(ITU\)](#). The aim is to improve public access to information and enhance working conditions in many countries.

The Storting is represented in the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), which is mentioned above and which is an important forum for discussions on a wide range of issues including human rights and democracy.

Norway also promotes democracy and good governance through its participation in the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly.

3.5 Using aid to promote good governance

This section describes some examples of how Norwegian aid is being used in ways that promote good governance. An estimated 180 000 women in Niger participate in savings and loan groups, supported by Norway through CARE. The cooperation encompasses some 7 000 savings and loan groups and about 200 seed banks. Women's groups receive training in basic banking principles and loans are awarded on the basis of good investment ideas. The women concerned feel empowered economically and politically and find that their status in the family is improved.

Norway provides funding for election observers in many countries through the [Norwegian Resource Bank for Democracy and Human Rights \(NORDEM\)](#). NORDEM also deploys experts to assist in efforts to strengthen good governance and democratic institutions, develop independent media, monitor the human rights situation, and to provide training in a number of areas including human rights protection and promotion, the development of an independent judiciary and legal reform, women's rights, pluralism and security sector reform.

Between 2000 and 2009, Norway provided support for a number of programmes designed to promote [democracy in Guatemala](#), carried out under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). NOK 93.2 million in funding was provided to strengthen civil society organisations and legal protection for indigenous peoples through the criminal justice system. According to an evaluation report, the programme has had a positive effect.

Norway uses aid funding to support International IDEA and shares the fundamental view that transparency and steps to strengthen citizens' influence and knowledge are essential for the development of real, and not merely formal, democracies.

Norway's Oil for Development programme provides capacity-building assistance to partner countries in the areas of resource management, environmental management, financial management and safety management. Good governance, transparency, gender equality and corruption are key considerations throughout. Support is also provided for the development of political and legal frameworks and for the provision of training to parliamentarians, civil society and the media, which is important for ensuring democratic control of petroleum resources management. In East Timor, for example, the Oil for Development programme has helped the country establish a petroleum fund currently valued at approximately USD 11 billion.

The Norwegian Climate and Forest Initiative is pushing for the adoption of sustainable development goals that address the need to improve political and economic governance, build viable local communities and reduce poverty. Weak governance, poor institutional capacity and poverty are key drivers of deforestation in developing countries. Efforts to promote the rights of indigenous peoples, increase access to information, map land rights and combat corruption and crime in the forestry sector as part of the initiative have brought about improvements in governance. Improvements in political governance are also being catalysed through initiatives that promote political processes and cross-sectoral cooperation and lead to reform of natural resource

management. Initiatives to improve governance in natural resource management can be a significant contribution to state-building in tropical forest countries.

Cooperation between the tax authorities in Norway and Zambia under the Tax for Development programme was launched in 2011. The cooperation is designed to enhance the Zambia Revenue Authority's insight into the activities of the international mining companies. With the help of funding from Norway, annual revenues from the mining companies have been increased by about USD 200 million, and these companies have been required to pay some NOK 322 million based on previous years' tax audits.

In 2004, the Norwegian Ministry of Justice established the Norwegian Crisis Response Pool (Styrkebrønnen), which consists of judges, defence lawyers, public prosecutors, police lawyers, military prosecutors and personnel from the prison and probation services. Personnel are seconded to international organisations such as the UN, the EU and the OSCE, or are deployed under bilateral agreements. They provide advice and assistance, for example in connection with the development of independent courts, the rule of law and democracy.

4 Education

4.1 Education is crucial for development.

Education is a human right and a key to improving people's lives, and to increasing awareness about health, democracy and the rule of law. There is a clear connection between education and economic growth, and no country has achieved sustainable growth without having a population with good literacy and numeracy skills.

Unemployment, particularly among young people, is very high in many developing countries. It is therefore important that education beyond primary level is geared towards the particular challenges in these countries, and young people must be given the knowledge they need to create a future for themselves. The curriculum at lower and upper secondary level in many countries needs to be much better adapted to local conditions and there is great need for vocational training.

Girls and women are discriminated against in the area of education in many countries. Children with disabilities tend to be excluded from education opportunities more than other children. This means that many countries fail to miss out on important resources that could have boosted economic growth as well as public health. Knowledge is in itself the most powerful means of breaking down barriers to education. However, change will not be possible unless the authorities in the countries concerned see the potential of providing education for all, regardless of gender and level of functioning, and have the political will to make this possible.

4.2 Progress towards the education MDG and ambitions for the post-2015 period

Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 2 on achieving universal education by 2015, and Target 3A on eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education have been a driving force for improving education in many countries. Both developing countries and donor countries have mobilised resources to meet these aims. Progress has been reported in most countries and at the global level. Already in 2010, 90 % of children worldwide were enrolled in primary school. In sub-Saharan Africa, the proportion increased from 53 % in 1990 to 77 % in 2011. However, progress is not on track. For example, there are still 58 million children (31 million of whom are girls) who do not attend primary school. The Norwegian Prime Minister, Erna Solberg, who attaches particular importance to education as an engine for development, is co-chairing the [Millennium Development Goals Advocacy Group](#) with President of Rwanda Paul Kagame. The Advocacy Group was established by the UN Secretary-General to mobilise global action to achieve the MDGs by the deadline of 2015.

Ensuring that all girls receive an education and removing cultural and religious barriers to progress will continue to be a challenge in many countries long after 2015. A lack of security for girls on their way to and from school and inadequate security for schools in conflict areas are also problems that the authorities have a responsibility to address. Improving the quality of education is another priority. The MDGs have spurred a huge effort to get more children enrolled in school. However, many drop out before they have completed their schooling, and many leave without proper literacy and numeracy skills. More attention must be given to the quality of education, with a focus on teachers and teaching materials, and to providing education in the pupils' mother tongue.

The Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals has proposed the following goal for education: Goal 4, Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. There are seven targets under this goal:

4.1 by 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes

4.2 by 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education

4.3 by 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university

4.4 by 2030, increase by [x] per cent the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

4.5 by 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

4.6 by 2030, ensure that all youth and at least [x] per cent of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy

4.7 by 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

In addition, three 'means of implementation' targets are proposed for the education equality goal:

4.a build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all

4.b by 2020, expand by [x] per cent globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing states and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries

4.c by 2030, increase by [x] per cent the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing states.

In the negotiations Norway has given priority to the following:

- Increase the percentage of girls and boys who have equal access to pre-school care and education of a high standard.
- Ensure that all girls and boys have the opportunity to complete a free, nine-year primary education with good learning outcomes.
- Ensure that all girls and boys have basic literacy and numeracy skills after four years' primary education.
- Eradicate adult illiteracy.
- Increase the proportion of young women and men who have access to, and complete, upper secondary education or vocational training that includes basic technical, vocational skills needed in the labour market.
- Ensure high-quality education by training and employing enough qualified teachers.

In line with these priorities, the recent white paper entitled [*Education for Development*](#) identifies three main objectives for Norway's global education effort, setting out that:

- all children have the same opportunities to start and complete school;
- all children and young people learn basic skills and are equipped to tackle adult life; and

- as many as possible develop skills that enable them to find gainful employment, and that improve the prospects of economic growth and sustainable development in the broadest sense.

The white paper focuses mainly on what Norway is doing to promote education through its development cooperation, but it also discusses the responsibilities of developing countries themselves and other approaches that can be taken.

4.3 What is being done to promote gender equality internationally?

The list of targets for the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on education reflects the main challenges that it is generally agreed that developing countries in particular are facing in the field of education. In the global debate on how the new development agenda is to be financed, it has become clear that aid and other forms of targeted support from rich countries can only meet some of the financing needs for education in the poorest countries, fragile states and countries in conflict. Aid can also finance advisory services to help develop sound and robust education systems in countries that do not have expertise in this area.

In the long term, however, the ability of the countries themselves to finance their education sector will be far more important than the external support they receive. In order to maintain a satisfactory standard of education, the authorities need sufficient tax revenues to cover basic investments and pay for ongoing education services. In countries that give priority to education in their public budgets, higher revenues to the state will also help to improve education standards.

Apart from the allocation of ODA (official development assistance), rich countries' domestic policy plays only a small part in improving primary and secondary education in poor countries. However, improving the quality of education in rich countries also enhances the body of knowledge on education and teaching methods. This information is available internationally and can also be made use of by poor countries.

In the higher education field, there is considerable cross-border mobility of teachers, students and information. At this level, rich countries help to strengthen education standards in poor countries through the transfer of knowledge and skills that takes place when students return to their home countries. However, due to the huge differences in income and living standards, many students from developing countries choose not to return to their home countries.

An increasing number of higher education institutions offer online courses, which make it possible for students in developing countries to gain qualifications without travelling abroad. Some of these courses are free; fees are charged for others. Universities in the US in particular offer an extensive range of online courses. This is a development that could improve the level of education in developing countries both directly, and indirectly because teachers will be better qualified.

In the area of research, open access to information free of charge is a key to enhancing knowledge in all countries. Many countries, and many institutions in

rich countries, follow the open access principle and make the results from research they finance readily available on the internet. However, there is still a lot of research that is important for knowledge development in poor countries that is not readily available, and some important journals charge subscription fees for their online publications that universities in developing countries may not be able to afford. There is still a good deal that can be done by those who finance research to make knowledge more widely available.

Security is another factor that is of crucial importance for ensuring that children can attend school. In some conflict areas, schools are even taken over by military forces. The [*Lucens Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict*](#) have been developed to address this issue.

4.4 How Norwegian policy promotes education in developing countries

In general terms, a high standard of education in Norway will help to raise standards in poor countries, for example when new educational approaches are made known internationally. Foreign students in Norway benefit from our high standard of education. However, this benefit will not be passed on to their home country unless they return after completing their studies. Incentives for overseas students to return home and institutional cooperation can play an important role in this respect.

In line with Norway's internationalisation policy, higher education institutions are encouraged to cooperate with institutions in other countries with a view to mutually improving the quality of higher education. Norway attaches importance to reciprocity, quality and relevance in this cooperation. Thus, the higher education sector in Norway helps to improve the quality of education in developing countries as well.

The white paper on research policy presented by the previous Government (Meld. St. 18 (2012–2013)), sets out that Norwegian research institutions should engage in international cooperation, including with institutions in low-income countries, with a view to fostering development.

In principle, Norway takes the view that access to all research that is wholly or partly publicly funded should be open and freely available, and supports UNESCO's [Open Education Resources](#) initiative. Norwegian universities and university colleges have individual and shared open digital archives, which are important in this context. The [Current Research Information System in Norway](#) provides research information for health trusts, universities and university colleges and various other institutions, and also coordinates the efforts to provide open access to scientific articles. The Research Council of Norway requires the results of projects that it wholly or partially funds to be publicly available.

Work is under way at both national and international level to make research data in fields such as health, sociology and the natural sciences from sources such as biobanks, health registers and major population surveys openly available to researchers.

At present, Norway only has a limited range of massive open online courses (MOOCs), but a recent Official Norwegian Report on MOOCs (NOU 2014: 5) makes a number of recommendations for promoting online education. These are currently being considered. Norway has a number of advantages in this field, and has already established specialised courses in areas such as fisheries, fish farming, and shipping and offshore technology. These courses, which are targeted at industry and the job market, could form the basis for MOOCs.

Norway is taking active part in the efforts under UNESCO to develop a global convention on the recognition of higher education qualifications.

Norway will also promote internationally the adoption and use of the *Lucens Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict*.

4.5 Aid for education and development

Aid for education can play an important role both as a catalyst for development of the education sector in poor countries and as a bridge builder in situations where resources are limited. However, it is important to prevent too much dependency on aid. In Africa, aid accounts for between 10 and 15 % of the total funding for the education sector.

The Government has decided that Norway will play a leading role in aid efforts to promote education, and will seek to ensure that the SDG on education is based on established international human rights obligations. Norway's position is that the gender perspective should be integrated, and that particular consideration should be given to marginalised groups. The Government's view is that the new goal should cover all levels of education, and should focus on school completion, the quality of education, learning outcomes, education for young people and adults, and the acquisition of the skills needed to secure gainful employment and to function well in society. This is clearly set out in the white paper *Education for Development*.

In the short term, the main focus is on achieving MDG 2 on universal primary education and the remaining target under MDG 3 on eliminating gender disparity in education. Looking further ahead, Norway will take an active part in the efforts to achieve the new SDG on education by taking a thorough and long-term approach that will include tackling the need for fundamental structural changes as well as changes in attitudes.

As representative of our regional group in UNESCO, Norway is chairing the [Education for All Steering Committee](#) and has provided input to the post-2015 process, including to the discussions of the Open Working Group and the UN Secretary-General's Synthesis Report.

Norway will promote education in all relevant forums. In the UN and other multilateral arenas, we will seek to ensure that education is high on the agenda, we will make use of the most effective channels, and we will require the institutions working with global education to perform effectively; we will also provide financial support for good projects

and programmes. Norway will also help to develop international partnerships and alliances that have the political and financial weight to be able to produce good results.

In close cooperation with the authorities in the countries concerned, Norway will select a group of pilot countries that will be given priority in a broad effort on education. The aim is to strengthen the authorities' own efforts in this field in a longer perspective.

Norway will also cooperate with, and draw on the expertise of, other donors, multilateral organisations, relevant experts in Norway and other countries, and civil society organisations.

If the work of the [Global Partnership for Education](#) proceeds in line with the priorities it has set, Norway is planning to increase its annual support over the next three years from NOK 290 million a year to NOK 590 million in 2017. The Global Partnership brings together relevant partners in a common effort, and will be an important channel for Norway's increased support for education.

Norway is contributing funding for a pilot project on adapting the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), [Pisa for Development](#), so that developing countries can also take part. In developed countries, these assessments provide information to the authorities about the performance of pupils in various subjects, and thus the standard of teaching. They have made it easier to identify where the education system can be improved. The programme could be used in a similar way in developing countries and help them to analyse shortcomings that the authorities need to address.

5 Women's empowerment and gender equality

5.1 What are the issues?

In many developing countries, the legal position of women in relation to men is traditionally weak. Education is one of the fields where girls and women are given lower priority, and this has major consequences for social development in general.

Women also face discrimination in other areas of society, including the business sector, in many developing countries. Despite the fact that they do a large share of the work in the agricultural and trade sectors, women in many societies have no property or inheritance rights, and are not able to take independent decisions about their own finances.

Gender equality and women's empowerment are important not only in terms of respect for human rights, but also for the national economy. It has been shown that women in developing countries have a huge untapped potential as entrepreneurs. As soon as they have the opportunity, they become actively and successfully engaged in activities such as microfinance and mobile phone rental, in the health and education sectors, and in the development of clean energy. Experience in Norway shows that women's participation in the formal economy makes a significant contribution to growth in GDP. In countries where the authorities both have a positive attitude to improving the women's status and are

seeking to speed up development, giving women more formal economic power can be a way of achieving both objectives.

In addition to good health services, factors that are important for women's reproductive health are an education, an income and greater personal freedom. These all influence child mortality and the number of children women need to give birth to. Women who receive an education have fewer children, and give birth to their children later than they would have done otherwise. This is better for their health and for the national economy. Lower population growth in low-income countries where the population has been growing fast can make it easier to provide services and take care of marginalised groups. Today, girls and people with disabilities are among the most marginalised groups in the world.

Mobilising women and girls so that they can take active part in society requires changes to the balance of power and social structures. However, before such changes can take place, it is necessary to address the underlying attitudes, traditions and practices that have led to the oppression and discrimination of women. Men's attitudes also have to be challenged, and outdated ways of organising society must be changed.

5.2 Progress towards the gender equality MDG and ambitions for the post-2015 period

Millennium Development Goal 3 is to promote gender equality and empower women.

According to the UN, there are now nearly as many girls as boys in primary education at the global level, although few countries have achieved gender parity at all levels of education. Poverty is a major barrier, particularly for older girls, who are expected to help look after the family.

In 2011, 40 % of paid jobs outside the agricultural sector in developing countries were held by women. This is progress in comparison with 1990, but according to [*The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013*](#), they also tend to have less secure jobs and receive fewer social benefits than men, and are generally paid less than men for the same work.

The proportion of women members of parliament in developing countries has risen from 12 % to 30 % between 2000 and 2014.

Violence against women is continuing to undermine the efforts to achieve the gender equality MDG.

The post-2015 goals

The Open Working Group has proposed the following gender equality goal: Goal 5, Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. There are six targets under this goal:

5.1 end all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere;

5.2 eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation;

5.3 eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation;

5.4 recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and family as nationally appropriate;

5.5 ensure women's full participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

5.6 ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.

In addition, three 'means of implementation' targets are proposed for the gender equality goal:

5.a undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws;

5.b enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women;

5.c adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.

Norway and the other Nordic countries would like to see a separate goal on gender equality and women's empowerment in the final set of goals, and have agreed to promote the following targets in particular:

- eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and other harmful practices, including female genital mutilation, child, early and forced marriage and 'honour' killings;
- ensure gender equality in management and leadership positions and full participation in decision-making at all levels;
- ensure that women have equal rights to economic resources, including ownership and control of land and other property, equal rights to credit and inheritance, and access to natural resources and new technology;
- ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health services and rights.

Efforts are being made to include gender equality targets under other goals, such as those on poverty, agriculture, education, decent work and participation in conflict prevention and peace processes.

5.3 What is being done to promote gender equality internationally?

The status of girls and women in developing countries is influenced by many factors relating to other countries' policies outside foreign and development policy. Studies such as UNCTAD's [*Who is benefiting from trade liberalization in Angola? A gender perspective*](#) show that the effects of changes in economic and trade policy on women may vary from one country to another. For example, the dominance of the extractive industry in the Angolan economy has not improved employment levels for women because of a lack of diversification in the business sector and limited job creation. In contrast, women in Cape Verde have benefited from the country's integration into the world economy through access to jobs in the textile industry. Norway is taking part in mapping these effects, for example through the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, [UNCTAD](#), and in advising countries on how they can take full advantage of the opportunities offered by globalisation to boost women's economic empowerment.

At the normative level, legally or politically binding commitments within the framework of the UN to promote gender equality and women's empowerment have been shown to influence countries' policies in this field and lead to improvements in women's status. For example, such commitments can provide civil society with a tool to push for reforms, and can also help to change attitudes to the role of women.

One important normative instrument is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women ([CEDAW](#)), which has been ratified by more than 190 countries. Countries that are parties to the Convention must submit national reports on how they are implementing the Convention in practice.

[UN Women](#) promotes women's leadership, political participation, empowerment, respect for women's rights, and the elimination of violence against women. UN Women also works in various ways to change traditional attitudes and customs. Other UN bodies are responsible for integrating the gender perspective into their own work. A good example is the Food and Agriculture Organization ([FAO](#)), which estimates that the number of people who are hungry worldwide could be reduced by 150 million if women farmers in developing countries had the same rights to property and other resources as men.

Countries that have made more progress towards gender equality can, through their input in various international contexts, set an example of what can be achieved through good gender equality policy. When companies, public bodies and other organisations from countries like Norway actively seek to appoint women to key positions, this can also set a good example for countries where women are disadvantaged.

5.4 How Norwegian policy promotes gender equality in developing countries

The signal effect of Norwegian policy is important. Norway's many high-profile female politicians have attracted attention worldwide, including in developing countries, although it is also true that many countries with traditionally

misogynous cultures also have a number of women politicians, who are frequently recruited from the elite. Norway has for many years had a separate ministry that seeks to ensure equality for both genders and protects the interests of children and minorities, and this is another feature of our policy that attracts international attention.

The provision of Norwegian company law requiring the boards of Norwegian companies to include at least 40 % women and 40 % men has also attracted international attention. Further, there is reason to assume that our rules relating to the recruitment of women (or men) to professions and trades where one gender is in a minority have a signal effect in developing countries, at least when these countries are aware of them.

Norwegian companies in which the state has an ownership interest are expected to draw up and implement strategies to promote gender equality and diversity in their operations. This may also attract attention in countries where such companies operate.

Norway maintains clear and consistent positions on women's empowerment and gender equality, which we present clearly and unambiguously in all the international forums we participate in. These matters are also raised on a regular basis in our bilateral dialogue with other countries.

5.5 Aid for gender equality and women's empowerment

Winning acceptance for the importance of women's rights, and safeguarding these rights, is crucial for enabling poor people to take carefully considered decisions relating to pregnancy, birth, protection against HIV, and safe sex. Norway provides strategic support to key organisations such as [International Women's Health Coalition](#), [IPAS](#), [ARROW](#) and [International Planned Parenthood Federation](#). These organisations are engaged in lobbying, training activities, and dialogue with authorities and religious actors to promote sexual and reproductive rights. At country level, efforts are being made to eliminate the barriers to sexual and reproductive health services experienced by girls, women and sexual minorities in particular. Prevention of unsafe abortion is part of these efforts.

Some of Norway's ODA (official development assistance) is channelled to a range of organisations that work with young people's rights, including young women's and girls' rights, capacity-building and youth participation and leadership. For example, we support a project in Malawi on preventing teenage pregnancy by ensuring that girls have access to education. The [HIV Young Leaders Fund](#) provides support for youth-led initiatives that promote leadership, sexual and reproductive rights and capacity-building for marginalised young people, with particular focus on young women and HIV-positive young people. Several environmental organisations focus on supporting women, who are often more severely affected by natural disasters than men. Such organisations received just over NOK 30 million in 2014.

With a total contribution of NOK 705 million in 2013, Norway was the third largest donor to the United Nations Population Fund, [UNFPA](#), and thus made a

considerable contribution to UNFPA's efforts to reduce maternal mortality in developing countries. UNFPA also helps individual countries to improve their national distribution systems through capacity-building and the development of strategies and action plans. The proportion of countries that have schemes offering modern contraceptives increased from 37 % in 2010 to 44 % in 2012. UNFPA also helps to prevent HIV and AIDS among women, young people, and particularly vulnerable groups through public awareness campaigns and treatment for pregnant women who are HIV positive.

The UNFPA–UNICEF [Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting](#) is the largest initiative worldwide to combat this practice. Norway has been the most important contributor to this programme, providing a total of NOK 120 million. An evaluation of the programme for the period 2008–12 shows that it has had considerable impact at both global and local level, and that the number of communities stating that they had discontinued the practice increased from 1 677 in 2011 to 2 900 in 2012.

With a contribution of NOK 95 million in 2014, Norway is one of the largest contributors to UN Women. Norway also supports specific development projects organised by UN Women at country level.

6 Energy

6.1 The importance of access to energy for development

Reliable access to energy services is vital for development. At present, 1.2 billion people lack access to electricity, and 2.6 billion people are still using wood and charcoal for cooking and heating. Energy poverty is most serious in rural areas in developing countries, where a lack of electricity and the use of inefficient fuel types have major negative impacts on health and education and hamper business development. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 7 million deaths a year are linked to exposure to air pollution, particularly smoke and soot.

According to the contribution of Working Group III to the Fifth Assessment Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ([IPCC](#)), the energy supply sector was responsible for about 35 % of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions in 2010, making it the largest contributor to global emissions. Emissions in developing countries are rising in step with economic growth and population growth, particularly in emerging economies, but emissions are also expected to rise rapidly in the period up to 2030 in the poorest countries (see the white paper *Towards greener development*, Meld. St. 14 (2010–2011)).

It is a challenging task to increase access to energy for the poor in developing countries without at the same time increasing global emissions of greenhouse gases. The Government's overall objective is for the average rise in the global mean temperature to be limited to no more than 2° C above the pre-industrial level

(the two-degree target). This will require substantial cuts in greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. To achieve the ambitious two-degree target, it will be necessary to make much greater use of renewable energy sources and significantly improve energy efficiency.

More efficient technology and the resulting drop in prices has made energy supplies based on renewable sources such as water, solar, wind and biomass power, more competitive. According to [Renewables 2014 Global Status Report](#), the estimated renewable share of global electricity production is now just over 22 %. Many developing countries have abundant renewable energy resources. However, bioenergy in the form of wood and charcoal used for cooking and heating is often the dominant energy source, and has adverse health and environmental impacts. Using renewable energy sources instead of kerosene, diesel, oil and coal would make developing countries less dependent on importing fossil fuels, increase energy security, improve people's health and pave the way for local business development.

Most countries give high priority to ensuring reliable, stable energy supplies. The two-degree target will require fundamental restructuring of the energy sector and substantial investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency measures. The cost of generating greenhouse gas emissions must be made high enough to ensure a shift towards sustainable production and consumption and the development and deployment of new climate-friendly technology. So far, only a few countries have set a price on emissions. As a result, the price of coal is still relatively low. In addition, technological progress has increased recoverable reserves of oil and gas and thus weakened the incentive that increasing shortages and relatively higher prices might have provided for a shift to more sustainable energy use. Moreover, many countries are still subsidising the production and consumption of fossil fuels, which acts as a disincentive to further investment in clean energy. This illustrates how important it is to use the price mechanism to correct the external costs of greenhouse gas emissions. Measures that increase the cost of emissions provide stronger incentives for research and development in the area of renewable energy production as well as leading to direct reductions in emissions. In addition to putting a price on emissions, it may be necessary to take political action to trigger investments in renewable energy in commercial markets, because the investment costs are relatively high and it takes time for investments to produce returns. High investment costs often make private investment necessary for developing countries to exploit their own energy resources.

In global terms, coal is the largest source of electricity, and hydropower is the largest source of renewable electricity. Solar energy is growing most rapidly in terms of capacity, is less dependent on a well-developed distribution grid, and can become an important source of energy in rural areas in developing countries.

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), an increase in coal consumption without carbon capture and storage (CCS) is incompatible with global climate targets. Studies by the IEA show that natural gas can play an important role by replacing coal in the medium term and thus reducing

greenhouse gas emissions. The IPCC has also pointed this out. At the same time, the IEA has found that almost four-fifths of the CO₂ emissions allowable by 2035 if the two-degree target is to be met are already locked-in by existing power plants, factories, buildings, etc. If action to reduce CO₂ emissions is not taken before 2017, all the allowable CO₂ emissions will be locked-in by energy infrastructure existing at that time. In the longer term, CCS technology must be deployed in fossil electricity production. Against this backdrop, renewable energy sources and energy efficiency are vital for providing the world's poor with electricity and sustainable energy services, and at the same time dealing with climate change and environmental problems.

6.2 Energy in the SDGs - ambitions for the post-2015 period

Energy is sometimes referred to as the missing Millennium Development Goal. Given the major challenges posed by the need to ensure global security of energy supply and better access to energy for the poor and at the same time address climate change, many countries are advocating the inclusion of a separate stand-alone goal on energy in the post-2015 development agenda.

A stand-alone goal on energy would be in line with the three dimensions of sustainability – environmental, economic and social. Given the world's energy needs, the environmental dimension, which includes climate change, is clearly the most difficult to deal with. Progress towards social and economic sustainability is less dependent on the types of energy carriers used to improve access to energy, although reducing wood and charcoal use by households will improve public health in poor countries. An energy goal must be formulated in such a way that it takes into account the importance of energy production and use, as highlighted in the climate negotiations.

In 2011, Norway, in cooperation with the IEA, organised an international conference in Oslo on financing access to energy for the poor called [Energy For All](#). The UN Secretary-General's initiative Sustainable Energy for All ([SE4ALL](#)) was a central topic at the conference, and Norway's international initiative [Energy+](#) was also launched there.

Together with Mexico and Tanzania, Norway took on a special responsibility to ensure that energy was given proper consideration in the UN's global consultations on the new post-2015 goals, [The World We Want 2015](#). At the end of the first phase of these global consultations in 2013, the report [A Million Voices](#) was published by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and a [high-level meeting](#) on energy and the post-2105 development agenda was held in Oslo. This meeting reached consensus on a recommendation for a separate energy SDG in line with the SE4ALL objectives:

- ensure universal access to modern energy services;
- double the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix;
- double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.

The gender perspective is important in the context of these objectives, particularly the objective on universal access. Buildings, industry, agriculture and transport are important under the energy efficiency objective. Phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies for fossil fuels is another important goal in the context of SE4ALL.

SE4ALL is intended to function as an umbrella initiative for global efforts, which also include aid.

The set of sustainable development goals (SDGs) proposed by the Open Working Group includes one goal that largely coincides with the SE4ALL objectives. This is Goal 7, **Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**. Three targets are proposed under this goal, and there are an additional two targets related to means of implementation. The first three targets are: 7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services; 7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix; 7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency. The two targets related to means of implementation are: 7.a By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology; 7.b By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing states.

The energy targets apply at global level and do not contain obligations for individual countries to implement national measures to follow them up. The Open Working Group's proposal includes a separate goal on climate change.

Norway's efforts to promote investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency measures help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As mentioned in the section on development cooperation below, aid funding is used to promote private and commercial investments that can be channelled through international organisations and development cooperation projects. Norway can also play a part by taking part in projects under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) that earn certified emission reductions (CERs).

6.3 What is being done to promote access to energy and clean energy outside the aid sector?

There have been major discoveries of hydrocarbon deposits in a number of developing countries (for example offshore discoveries in East Africa, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Burma). In the long term, production from these fields can improve access to energy in the countries concerned and provide a basis for infrastructure development and other commercial activities, as well as increasing employment opportunities and export revenues. The investments that are made can also have positive spin-off effects for the countries' populations. However, some countries will need to adjust their policies in order to achieve other

development goals that they and the international community as a whole have adopted and that will be retained in the post-2015 development agenda. This applies particularly to countries that have not been using revenues from oil and gas production to improve public health and access to high-quality education.

Energy needs in developing countries are so large that considerable amounts of both clean energy and new fossil energy will be required to satisfy them. Many poor developing countries in this situation today have major undiscovered petroleum resources. An international price on emissions and efforts by the Norwegian Government and others to limit subsidisation of fossil fuels can help to reduce the impact of oil and gas extraction on the climate.

Many developing countries, not least in Africa, have considerable unused potential for increasing energy production, both fossil energy and renewable energy such as hydropower, solar power and in some cases wind power. In some countries, there is also great potential for increasing the use of gas. At present, a considerable proportion of electricity in developing countries is produced using diesel generators without emission control equipment. Many countries have access to cheap coal and for these countries, coal-fired power production is an alternative. If the carbon price is gradually raised to a level that is compatible with achieving the two-degree target, it will become more favourable for developing countries to develop gas and renewable energy rather than investing heavily in coal and oil.

However, such developments will not influence the use of charcoal and wood by rural households in the short term. Millions of people are dependent on these energy sources for cooking and heating. In this setting, making cheap small-scale solar systems and effective cooking stoves more readily available is one of the most important ways of reducing the problems of emissions, deforestation and desertification and the health problems associated with indoor use of open wood fires and charcoal in many areas.

6.4 [How Norwegian policy promotes renewable energy and access to energy in developing countries](#)

Norway has abundant energy resources, both oil and gas and renewable energy including bioenergy and hydro, wind and wave power. Because electricity production in Norway is almost entirely based on hydropower, greenhouse gas emissions from this source are very low. Electricity accounts for a considerably higher share of energy use in Norway than in other countries, partly because there is a large energy-intensive manufacturing sector and because electricity is more widely used for space heating and hot water than in other countries. Norwegian companies can offer solutions to developing countries based on renewable energy technology and expertise developed in Norway, particularly in the fields of hydropower and solar energy.

Norway produces and exports large volumes of oil and gas, which make an important contribution to world energy supplies. In accordance with the overall principles of Norwegian climate policy, effective economic instruments such as

the CO₂ tax and the EU [Emissions Trading System](#) (EU ETS) apply to the petroleum sector. The result of these instruments is that the industry pays a high price for emissions, which encourages cost-effective emissions cuts. In a world where coal will soon become the largest energy source, Norwegian gas production can help to reduce the growth in global CO₂ emissions. The IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report states that greenhouse gas emissions can be significantly reduced by replacing average coal-fired power plants with highly efficient gas-fired power plants, provided that emissions associated with gas extraction are low.

Norway is seeking to play a leading role in developing CCS technology, and is investing substantial resources in this work. The aims are to gain acceptance for the use of CCS as a mitigation measure, create broad understanding of the potential of the technology, reduce the costs of using CCS technology, and promote its deployment, both in Norway and abroad. In the longer term, CCS can provide a solution to the problem of how to improve poor countries' access to energy without allowing greenhouse gas emissions to rise. The focus on research, development and demonstration of CCS technology under the CLIMIT programme and at the Technology Centre Mongstad has generated new knowledge about CCS and how the technology can be further developed.

Norway produces coal in Svalbard. In 2013, the company Store Norske produced 1.8 million tonnes of coal. There is broad political consensus that this production is to continue as part of Norway's Svalbard policy and within the framework set by environmental and other legislation.

Norwegian energy companies in which the state has an ownership interest, such as Statoil and Statkraft, are involved in the development of fossil and renewable energy sources respectively in developing countries, thus providing these countries with revenue and helping to secure world energy supplies. Norwegian supplier companies also play an important role in assisting many developing countries to develop their own energy resources, for example offshore resources in Africa. Norwegian taxation rules are advantageous for oil and gas and related companies that make investments abroad. For domestic operations, Norway has high tax rates to ensure that the resource rent benefits the country as a whole, but it also has favourable tax deductions for investments for companies in the petroleum sector. This is a model that is attracting interest from developing countries.

Advantageous taxation rules for electric vehicles resulted in a doubling of the number of electric passenger cars registered in Norway, from about 8 000 at the beginning of 2013 to 17 700 at the end of the year. The proportion of buses in the larger towns that run on hydrogen fuel cells, biogas or electricity is increasing. In principle, this reduces the growth in greenhouse gas emissions in Norway.

The Government Pension Fund Global (GPF) is one of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds, and its management is monitored closely. Many countries have recognised the advantages of this model, and some have already established

or are considering establishing similar funds to manage the profits from the extraction of their petroleum resources.

Internationally, the GPFG was one of the first funds of its kind to include ethical, environmental and social considerations in its management regime.

The GPFG is not an instrument for promoting government investment in developing countries. Nevertheless, its level of investment in emerging markets is considerable, and includes activities and sectors that are relevant in the context of clean energy. Many of the companies in which the GPFG has invested have operations in poor developing countries.

In 2009, it was decided to establish environment-related investment mandates in the GPFG, which include investments in renewable energy. These investments are subject to the same requirements relating to returns and risk within the same management framework as the GPFG's other investments in equities and fixed income instruments. The upper limit for the environment-related mandates has recently been increased, and these investments are now required, under normal circumstances, to be in the range NOK 30–50 billion. It has also been decided to start an evaluation of the effects of further increasing investments in renewable energy.

In general, it can be concluded that Norwegian energy policy, including the regulatory framework for Norwegian energy companies, helps to maintain world energy supplies both by promoting the use of renewable energy and by supplying oil and gas, and related technology. Development of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency measures will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

6.5 Norwegian aid in the energy field

Norway has a long tradition of providing aid in the energy sector. Investment in clean energy can be an effective instrument of development and climate policy. Government initiatives in this field are designed to create incentives for countries to choose the most climate-friendly solutions in the energy sector, and to ensure that Norway's work has the greatest possible effect in terms of climate change mitigation. However, public funding alone is not sufficient to meet the large investment needs in developing countries. This is why it is important to ensure that public funding is also used to attract private and commercial investments.

The [Clean Energy for Development](#) Initiative was launched in 2007 and a major Norwegian initiative focusing on renewable energy and energy efficiency. It is intended to improve access to energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to make it attractive to choose low-emission options by increasing access to clean energy at an affordable price. The work is based on the expertise Norway has developed as regards long-term management of natural resources and effective energy use.

[Energy+](#) is intended to improve access to energy services and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries by supporting these countries' plans for developing renewable energy sources and promoting energy efficiency. Funding

for projects is based on payment for verified results. The initiative can help to ensure that limited public resources in developing countries are used more strategically to encourage profitable private investments.

[Norfund](#) is Norway's main instrument for investment in developing countries and invests heavily in the energy sector, where it has succeeded in securing private investment many times larger than its own. Norfund normally co-invests with other Norwegian and foreign sources of funding.

7 Health

7.1 The importance of health for development

Not only is there a human right to health; good public health is also important for a country's ability to fight poverty. If a country has a healthy, well-nourished population, it is possible for children to attend school and for adults to participate in the labour market and contribute to the country's growth and development. Globally, there is growing recognition of the fact that good health is an essential basis for sustainable economic and social development.

An important aspect of sexual and reproductive health is the right of women and girls to control their own bodies. This includes the right to a responsible, satisfying and safe sex life. Inadequate care in connection with pregnancy and childbirth, and a lack of access to safe, legal abortions create a significant health burden and increase pregnancy-related mortality. The sexual and reproductive health of many girls is undermined by early marriage, early pregnancy and the household tasks that they are traditionally expected to perform. Education is an important means of counteracting these negative factors.

Promoting good health is a sound poverty-reduction policy. Health services should primarily be financed by the individual country, but aid donors also contribute in cases where a country is unable to fulfil its responsibility towards its citizens. With economic growth, a number of countries have achieved middle-income status, and these should be expected to shoulder an increasing share of the responsibility for the health of their populations. Global health challenges need to be addressed by the international community as a whole.

In contrast to Norway, many developing countries have a double burden of disease. Fatal infectious diseases and malnutrition are still the two main health problems in developing countries, but non-communicable diseases and lifestyle diseases, which together are the most frequent cause of death globally, are also becoming a greater problem in developing countries. This means that many developing countries have to deal with a broader range of health problems than rich countries, with much more limited resources.

Tobacco, air pollution and alcohol are among the ten main causes of death and lost years of healthy life at the global level. According to the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO), [tobacco](#) kills almost 6 million people every year. Around

10 % of these deaths are due to passive smoking, and nearly 80 % of smokers live in low- and middle-income countries. In 2012, excessive alcohol consumption accounted for 3.3 million premature deaths. Air pollution in towns and cities is a huge and growing problem, particularly in certain Asian countries. In 2014, WHO reported that as many as 7 million deaths, i.e. one in eight, can be attributed to indoor or outdoor pollution. According to research carried out under the Global Burden of Disease initiative, indoor and outdoor air pollution together constitute the second largest health risk worldwide. These health problems affect almost all countries. These issues, and higher infection rates and the risk of pandemics as a result of globalisation and migration, have led to growing recognition of health as a global public good. The UN has identified illness and death due to non-communicable diseases as one of the greatest obstacles to development in the 21st century, as these diseases are undermining social and economic development in all countries and their prevalence is making it harder to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

There is a serious shortage of qualified health workers in many developing countries. There are several reasons for this. Not enough health workers are being trained, and in many places the quality of the training is too poor. In addition, those with the best qualifications often move to other countries to find better paid jobs.

7.2 Progress towards the health MDGs and ambitions for the post-2015 period

The global health agenda is extensive, and is perhaps most clearly summed up in the three health-related MDGs. These goals and their targets have provided a common focus for efforts, and aid from rich countries has helped to mobilise resources in poor countries and from organisations and the private sector. This has made it possible to make more progress in this area than would otherwise have been the case.

MDG 4 on reducing child mortality by two-thirds compared with the 1990 level can be achieved if efforts in developing countries are stepped up.

However, it will be difficult to achieve Target 5A (under MDG 5) on reducing the maternity mortality ratio by three-quarters and Target 5B on achieving universal access to reproductive health.

The targets under MDG 6 on reversing the spread of major infectious diseases and HIV/AIDS are unlikely to be achieved despite significant progress. The number of people living with HIV has increased, but the growth in new HIV infections has been slowing. One important reason why more people are living with HIV is that access to effective treatment has improved considerably in recent years with the emergence of new, cheaper and better medicines. However, the target of providing HIV treatment to everyone who needs it by 2010 has not been reached. Major progress is being made, but according to the new guidelines launched by WHO in 2013, the number of people now defined as needing treatment has doubled. The incidence of both malaria and tuberculosis is decreasing. It is important that efforts to achieve the health MDGs continue, while

attention also needs to be directed to the growing challenges arising from the increase in non-communicable diseases.

Aid provides an important share of the financing for the initiatives that have been most effective in many countries, although an increasing share of the costs of HIV and AIDS treatment is being covered by the countries concerned. Nevertheless, there is still a considerable need for aid, particularly for the groups that are most in need of treatment. Finding sustainable ways of continuing these efforts is a challenge.

The post-2015 goals

The Open Working Group has presented a proposal for nine targets and four 'means of implementation' targets under Sustainable Development Goal 3, Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. A separate goal has been proposed for water and sanitation, which is also an important area for health. The proposed health targets are:

3.1 by 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 live births;

3.2 by 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age;

3.3 by 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases;

3.4 by 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being;

3.5 strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol;

3.6 by 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents;

3.7 by 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes;

3.8 achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all;

3.9 by 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.

The four additional targets relating to means of implementation are:

3.a strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate;

3.b support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all;

3.c substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing states; and

3.d strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.

In the negotiations, Norway has presented the following set of measurable targets for the health SDG:

- Ensure that at least 97 % of newborns reach the age of five by 2030.
- Ensure that at least 99.9 % of women survive pregnancy and childbirth by 2030.
- Ensure sexual and reproductive health for men and women in all countries by 2030.
- Gain control of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in all countries by 2030.
- Reduce the incidence of premature death from non-communicable diseases by a third by 2030.
- Achieve universal health coverage in all countries by 2030.
- Reduce malnutrition in children under five (in connection with a nutrition goal).
- Ensure clean drinking water (in connection with a water and sanitation goal).

The Norwegian targets are fewer in number, but otherwise correspond closely with the Open Working Group's proposal.

7.3 [What is being done to promote global health internationally?](#)

WHO is the UN's normative body in the field of health and a key arena for Norway and all other countries seeking to address global health challenges.

WHO's objective is to ensure better health for all, and to act as the leading coordinating body for global health cooperation. WHO sets global norms and standards, and supports member countries in formulating national health policy; it also provides technical support to developing countries to put them in a position to implement recommendations and standards and provide national health services.

WHO monitors epidemics that could develop into pandemics and outbreaks of dangerous infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and polio, and makes recommendations to member countries on how they should be dealt with.

WHO is also involved in efforts to resolve the health workforce crisis. This is an issue where conflicting interests between countries have made it difficult to draw up clear recommendations or binding agreements. The World Health Assembly

has therefore drawn up the voluntary [Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel](#). Norway has decided to follow the code. Without sufficient qualified health personnel, developing countries will not be able to build up a well-functioning health system for their population or implement national and global plans and initiatives.

WHO also supports measures in its member countries to prevent and treat non-communicable diseases. Malnutrition, tobacco use, high intake of sugar, salt and alcohol, and insufficient physical activity are increasing the prevalence of lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, cancer and cardiovascular disease.

A number of Norwegian organisations and international organisations with operations in Norway, such as the Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières and Norwegian People's Aid, are engaged in health work in crisis situations and for refugees. Norway seeks to ensure that they have good framework conditions in Norway for this work. They also play an important role in Norway's humanitarian response capacity.

7.4 How Norwegian domestic policy promotes health in developing countries

Norway's engagement in global health outside its aid efforts is mainly focused on WHO and the World Health Assembly. Norway has been a major contributor to WHO for many years, and this has benefited developing countries. Norway's scientific contribution to WHO's efforts, for example on reducing antimicrobial resistance in both humans and animals, is to be strengthened.

The Norwegian health service generally follows WHO's standards and recommendations. The health authorities have drawn up emergency response plans and have a system for identifying the risk of epidemics arising within Norway and for responding to the risk of epidemics spreading from other countries.

Norway follows the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, and actively promotes its follow-up internationally. The first report on the implementation of the Code of Practice in Norway, which was presented in 2012, shows that very few health workers in Norway are from low-income countries with an insufficient health workforce. The Government still seeks to avoid active recruitment of skilled health workers to Norway to the detriment of poor countries. Norway expects to have a shortage of less skilled health workers by around 2020. However, it is assumed that this need can be met by health workers from the EEA.

Norway is involved in international cooperation with a number of organisations that are working to reduce the use of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs and the damage caused by these substances, and is engaged in the efforts to combat the illicit trade in tobacco products, and in the [European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction](#) and the [Pompidou Group](#).

The Government Pension Fund Global has excluded tobacco companies from its investment universe.

Norway works actively internationally through public institutions to reduce air pollution. One of these is the Norwegian Institute for Air Research, which has provided assistance with air quality management and institution building in many of the world's most polluted cities through mapping of air pollution, assessments of its health impacts, and recommendations for ways of reducing these impacts. The Institute will continue this work, with a stronger emphasis on the health impacts of air pollution.

Norway cooperates closely with the EU in the field of health, including on efforts to prevent infectious diseases from spreading across borders through trade in live animals, food and plants. The [European Food Safety Authority](#), which is responsible for assessing risks associated with the food chain and provides independent scientific advice, is a key partner.

Norway's most important efforts in the field of global health are financed under the aid budget in cooperation with private and public organisations and funds that are engaged in this field. There are close links between aid-funded activities and other activities in this area.

7.5 Aid for health

Through various cooperation projects with WHO, Norway is strengthening efforts to enable developing countries to establish core national surveillance and response capacity for infectious diseases in accordance with the [International Health Regulations](#).

Norway is a strong supporter of [GAVI](#) (the Vaccine Alliance), and is one of its most important donors. GAVI works to increase access to vaccination programmes for children in poor countries. Norway attaches importance to GAVI's close coordination and broad cooperation at country level, and its ability to see the provision of vaccination services in the broader context of other health services and efforts, so that health systems as a whole are strengthened at the same time as immunisation coverage increases. Norway provided around NOK 606 million to GAVI in 2014.

Norway is also a major donor to the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#). The Global Fund mobilises funding for efforts to achieve UN Millennium Development Goal 6 of combating AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in the areas of the world where the needs are greatest. Activities are carried out by the Global Fund's partners at country level in accordance with national plans and procedures. Norway provided NOK 450 million to the Global Fund in 2014.

Several programmes and funds in the UN and the World Bank are important channels for Norway's funding for global health. The World Bank's [Health Results Innovation Trust Fund](#) (HRITF) is supported by Norway and by the UK through the [Department for International Development](#). It is one of the largest health-related funds in the World Bank, and received NOK 168 million from Norway in 2013. It is currently supporting some 38 pilot programmes in 32 countries to test various forms of results-based financing. The Fund is linked to the World Bank's

[International Development Association](#) (IDA), which provides loans on very favourable conditions, and IDA funding more than quadruples the amount provided through the HRITF.

Family planning is an important focus area in the Government's initiatives for global health and sexual and reproductive health. Most of Norway's support for family planning and for the implementation of the recommendations of the UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children is channelled through multilateral funds and programmes. In 2013, a separate fund was established in the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), with Norway's support to provide funding for implementing the Commission's recommendations. Nine countries and 23 working groups received support from the fund in 2013.

Norway has taken independent steps to improve the availability of health workers in developing countries, for example by supporting the secretariat of the [Global Health Worker Alliance](#). WHO intends to integrate this field more closely into its own operations, and Norway will consider further funding in this connection.

Norway also provides training in certain health subjects for students from developing countries, and encourages them to return to their countries to work. Nevertheless, a small proportion of these students take up employment in the Norwegian health sector.

8 Policy development checklist

The purpose of Norway's reports on policy coherence for development is to outline positive and negative synergies between Norwegian development policy and other broad areas of Norwegian policy to which the Government and the Storting are giving priority in order to promote positive development in economic, social and environmental terms (including climate change) in developing countries.

The checklist below is intended as a policy development tool to help ensure that Norwegian policy does not have negative side effects for developing countries. It is based on the DAC Guidelines on Poverty Reduction (OECD, 2001) and the UN Millennium Development Goals. The checklist identifies key issues that should be taken into account by public bodies when developing policy, drawing up legislation and guidelines, and formulating Norway's positions in international forums where negotiations on rules and agreements take place. It highlights the possible positive effects of Norwegian policies on development, and can be used to prevent the introduction of policy measures that have unnecessary negative effects.

- Will the measure affect the ability of developing countries to engage in trade on equal terms with Norway and other OECD countries?

- Will the measure affect the debt situation of developing countries or the volume of aid they receive, or have any direct implications for these countries' state revenues?
- Will the measure have implications for developing countries' vulnerability to international financial and economic crises?
- Will the measure affect sustainability and the state of the environment and natural resources in developing countries, the environmental situation of the poorest segments of the population in these countries or the regional and global climate situation?
- Will the measure affect the distribution of revenue generated by natural resource extraction in poor countries?
- Will the measure affect the industrial structure and settlement patterns in developing countries?
- Will the measure affect income and wealth distribution in developing countries?
- Will the measure affect the level of corruption in developing countries or the risk of illicit financial flows?
- Will the measure affect the promotion of political and economic rights in developing countries? (Freedom of speech and of the press, the right to engage in democratic, political activity, freedom of association, the right of ownership, opportunities to engage in private enterprise, employment opportunities etc.)
- Will the measure affect the health situation or educational opportunities of poor people in developing countries?
- Will the measure affect the situation of indigenous peoples in developing countries?
- Will the measure have implications for gender equality in developing countries?
- Will the measure affect the situation of people with disabilities in developing countries?
- Will the measure have implications for the security of people in developing countries or of the countries themselves?
- Will the measure affect opportunities for people from poor developing countries to seek employment in other countries?
- Will the measure affect the ability of authorities in developing countries to make independent decisions, such as those relating to compliance with international legislation?