

Norwegian submission to ADP on Workstream 2 on pre-2020 ambition

Norway is pleased to present views on the process of Workstream 2 under Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, on unlocking opportunities for pre-2020 ambition.

Increased action to close the pre 2020 emission gap, is necessary to keep the global temperature increase below two degrees. Time is running out, and enhanced efforts should be made to boost mitigation actions up to 2020. We welcome the outcome from Warsaw on Workstream 2 with the focus on areas and opportunities for actions with high mitigation potential. The outcome and work under Workstream 2 could not only lead to increased ambitions before 2020, but can help build capacity and readiness for a long term transition towards low-emission societies and by this contribute also to more ambitious outcomes under the new agreement after 2020. The useful discussions and presentations we have seen under workstream 2 so far can also help in our preparations for the UN summit in September, focusing on climate action.

Further work with the 2020 mitigation targets

The level of ambition in the current 2020 targets is not nearly high enough to close the pre 2020 emission gap. Norway would welcome a collective discussion on how we can create the broader political conditions that enable countries to raise their targets. We see the ministerial meeting in June on enhanced ambitions as an important opportunity to discuss this.

Norway also encourages more countries to contribute and present emission reduction targets for 2020. There are still over a hundred countries that have not put forward a pledge for emission reductions up to 2020. Several of these countries are planning and undertaking mitigation actions, but have not sought the international recognition that a stated target gives.

We need further work to understand the underlying assumptions for the 2020 pledges, and what they imply for reduced GHG emissions. Thus, substantial outcomes from the work programs under SBSTA and SBI will be important. Also the information from the Biennial Reports and Biennial Update Reports to be submitted in 2014 will be important in order to understand better the progress towards the implementation of the pre-2020 ambitions.

International initiatives and collaborative actions

Warsaw showed strong emphasis on international initiatives and collaborative work to achieve further results. We believe that the discussions on international initiatives and collaborative actions have potential to unlock opportunities for pre-2020 ambition. The discussions should continue to be practical, results-oriented and build on existing plans and initiatives. In this way, Workstream 2 can help overcome barriers and increase ambition.

We welcome efforts made in organizing the Technical Expert Meetings focusing on specific areas with high mitigation potential. Much of the technical basis has already been analyzed and presented. The technical paper from the secretariat has been useful in that regard, and we look forward to an update. We recommend that the discussions focus on the sharing of experiences of policies and measures at national and sectoral level. Involvement of non-governmental experts and relevant organizations, as well as implementing agencies and private sector actors, at the technical expert meetings will be essential in this regard. They can bring forward new analysis, ideas or proposed solutions for overcoming barriers for

implementation. Norway also encourages all Parties to bring their domestic experts to the Technical Expert Meetings, to help focus the discussions in the most relevant manner.

The Technical Expert Meetings in Bonn during the March session showed the huge opportunities for further mitigation action that lie ahead, and also that a large number of partnerships, initiatives and institutions are working to deliver on implementation. Barriers to implementation of emission reduction measures at the national level have been overcome by the use of economic as well as regulatory instruments in different countries. However, many also emphasized country specific challenges and opportunities, and that there are no one-size-fits-all set of policies.

One important reminder from the Technical Expert Meetings on renewable energy and energy efficiency is that we already have established institutions and processes under the UNFCCC that we must take advantage of in the work on pre 2020 ambitions. We would mention in particular the Technology Mechanism, which has been set up to work on the development and transfer of technologies, including technologies for renewable energy and energy efficiency. They have already set up task forces on these areas; they are ready for business and should be made use of.

Process for future Technical Expert Meetings:

Norway would particularly want to see emphasis put on the following issues with high mitigation potential moving forward under the Workstream-2-agenda:

- **Reduced deforestation and forest degradation**

According to UNEP, forestry amounts for up to 18 % of global mitigation potential until 2020. For tropical forest countries, reduced deforestation, as well as forest protection, forest restoration and reforestation is also critical to long-term economic and social development, as well as increasing climate resilience. Most deforestation is caused by a mix of market and policy failures, which go beyond the forest sector. International climate finance offers a lever to correct these failures, by incentivizing tropical forest countries to undertake ambitious land use sector reforms, including governance and institutional reforms, as well as to catalyze private capital for green growth/low carbon development investments.

Significant methodological progress has been made on REDD+ and with the adoption of “The Warsaw framework for REDD+” at COP 19 the technical rulebook is largely completed. We also have extensive experience with the implementation of REDD+, with more than 50 countries engaged in readiness activities, and several years of experience with piloting results-based payments in key tropical forest countries and jurisdictions. Further discussions on REDD+ under the UNFCCC should now focus on how to scale up results-based finance and action in line with agreed frameworks. In this regard it is important that REDD+ is integrated in the larger discussions on for example climate finance and not remain a separate subject on its own.

Norway welcomes the technical expert meeting on land use and forest at the Bonn session in June 2014 as an opportunity to advance our thinking on how REDD+ finance and actions can be accelerated. We think the expert meeting should identify the barriers to scaling up results-based finance and action, while also exploring possible solutions and best practices for results-based REDD+. In such an expert meeting, it would be important to include external

experts with experience of REDD+, climate finance and sustainable commodity supply chains.

- **Short lived climate pollutants**

Compelling scientific evidence indicates that fast action to reduce short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), especially methane and black carbon, has the potential to slow down global warming by up to 0.5°C between 2010 and 2050, as well as to prevent more than two million premature deaths each year and annual crop losses of more than 30 million tones after 2030. In addition, introducing alternatives to HFCs will help prevent the increasing emissions of these highly potent greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Norway has committed to strive for increased action to reduce the emissions of SLCPs at national, regional and international level. Internationally, we work with the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC). Norway has also been active in pursuing the adoption of appropriate measures under the Montreal Protocol to reduce the production and consumption of HFCs.

We believe that focusing on SLCPs at one of the Technical Expert Meetings under the UNFCCC will increase awareness of the importance of SLCP. In addition to emphasizing the related benefits to climate and health, a meeting could as well as show-case the national and international efforts that are already in place to reduce these pollutants. We encourage the CCAC secretariat to have a lead role in such a Technical Expert Meeting, and that the meeting should focus on implementation, economic and regulatory barriers for increased investments, as well as possible solutions to overcome these barriers. The multilateral and regional development banks should be invited to join the discussion, as they to aim to mainstream their considerations about SLCPs into their financial portfolio.

Furthermore, it would be helpful if the discussions under the Technical Expert Meeting on SLCPs aimed at quantifying the effects of increased actions to reduce SLCPs, especially the effects on climate, but also on health and environmental benefits. Also, Norway suggests that phase down of HFCs, which is a key priority area for us, should be a sub-issue of a Technical Expert Meeting on SLCPs.

- **Carbon capture and storage (CCS)**

Due to its large mitigation potential, Norway has prioritized the development of carbon capture and storage as a mitigation option. As a petroleum producer Norway strives to reduce the emissions from the production and refining of petroleum. The carbon capture and storage projects already in operation, the Sleipner and Snøhvit projects, and the approved Gudrun project, are in the petroleum sector. Norway has taken steps to disseminate information and lessons learned from these projects, including through international fora such as the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum and Clean Energy Ministerial, and through bilateral cooperation with both developing and developed countries. We also see the usefulness of sharing experience and discussing options for mitigating GHG emission through the use CCS under the Workstream 2 Technical Expert Meetings.

- **Follow up on renewable energy and energy efficiency**

We would like to see a process to follow up the constructive dialogue from the March sessions. An update of the technical paper should incorporate the useful presentations that were given at the March session. The Technology Mechanism under the UNFCCC, comprising of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) have been set up to work on the development and transfer of technologies, including technologies for renewable energy and energy efficiency. We would

like to see TEC being tasked to take forward some work in the Technical Expert Meetings, and that they can draw upon expert organizations such as IEA and IRENA when considering solutions to transfer knowledge on policy options that was shared in the Technical Expert meetings. The CTCN has the potential to play an important role as we go forward, as it was set up to provide assistance for developing countries that seek to advance national policy on technical questions, including on the energy sector. We encourage countries to make full use of the CTCN, to help accelerate policy planning and implementation Norway would suggest that time is allocated to one or more future Technical Expert Meetings on renewable energy and energy efficiency during upcoming sessions in 2014, so as to focus more specifically on what TEC and CTCN can contribute with in scaling up pre 2020 ambitions relating to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

- **Carbon pricing, including phase out of fossil fuels subsidies**

Most international analyses point to carbon pricing as the most important policy instrument in the work to combat climate change. Carbon pricing gives incentives to reduce emissions, finance climate measures and stimulates development and deployment of new climate friendly technology. Prices should reflect costs, including for externalities. Thus, about 80 per cent of the Norway's domestic emissions are part of the European Emissions Trading System (EU-ETS) or/and subject to a tax on greenhouse gases. Norway believes that the best way to reduce emissions on a global scale in line with the two degree target is to set a global price on carbon. A global price on carbon will ensure cost effective mitigation actions between different countries and regions and secure equal treatment of all emitters and all countries. We would therefore propose that one of the Technical Expert Meetings under Workstream 2 focus on carbon pricing, including the phase out of fossil fuels subsidies. Fossil fuels subsidies are negative carbon pricing, and thus has precisely the opposite effect of what we need. The removal of such subsidies has a significant potential for emission reductions also up to 2020. Social concerns need to be taken into account when phasing out such subsidies, with special consideration for the poor and vulnerable.

- **Urbanization and cities**

We hope the planned Technical Expert Meeting on urbanization and cities in June will showcase and build on experiences from climate actions taken by cities in different countries, in a way that further initiatives can build on. International initiatives, such as C40, can give valuable contributions. Moreover, some of the initiatives under the Climate and Clean Air Coalition's (CCAC), especially on waste management, are cooperating with cities. CCAC should therefore also be considered a role in the Technical Expert Meeting. Showing the win-win benefits for climate, local air pollution and public health will be an important aspect that could be highlighted during the Technical Expert Meeting, as well as local planning and transportation aspects.

As for the **process for such Technical Expert Meetings**, Norway would propose the following:

- Focus the discussion on implementation of relevant policies and possible barriers for increased investments. Possible solutions to overcome the barriers should be discussed. Here, sharing as much relevant experience as possible could help
- Focus primarily on options to increase ambitions before 2020, but where relevant also include possibilities for increased ambitions also after 2020
- Make the discussions as interactive as possible, leaving enough time for discussions

- Show-casing country specific options for increased action that have shown to worked, as well as show-casing collaborative action through relevant initiatives
- Address how already existing institutions and processes under the UNFCCC can contribute to increase ambitions
- Involve external experts and relevant organizations, as well as implementing agencies and private sector actors
- Encourages all parties to bring their thematic national experts