**STATEMENT**

**UPR47
Review of Norway**

1. **November 2024**

 **Statement delivered by Legal Adviser Ingrid HVIDSTEN, Ministry of Justice and Public Security**

*Check against delivery*

1. I thank Costa Rica, the Maldives, Morocco and Slovenia for giving us the opportunity to reflect on Norway’s commitment to securing a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, which is a necessary precondition for the enjoyment of human rights for present and future generations.
2. Norway co-sponsored Human Rights Council resolution 48/13 and voted for UNGA resolution 76/300 recognising the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right, while underlining that the recognition through these resolutions is political and without legal effect.
3. Norway is a party to the European Convention on Human Rights and to most of the Core International Human Rights Instruments of the UN, and is fully committed to implement and apply them.
4. Section 112 of the Norwegian Constitution sets out a right for “every person to an environment that is conducive to health and to a natural environment whereby productivity and diversity are maintained”. This provision reflects an obligation for national authorities to implement policies and measures that ensure a healthy and good environment, and to assess and take into account environmental impacts in their decision-making.
5. I would like to give some specific examples on how the Government is working to secure the right to a clean and healthy environment:

	1. The Government in September 2024 presented a white paper on sustainable use and conservation of nature to the Parliament. The paper includes an action plan for biodiversity in order to follow up the goals and targets under the Convention on Biological Diversity.
	2. We are working to improve our climate policies on a yearly basis. Every autumn the Government presents a new climate status and plan. The latest one was presented in October, and sets out a strengthened climate policy for next year in several areas.
	3. The Government’s proposal for a new climate target for 2035 was recently sent on public hearing. The new target will be presented in spring of 2025, together with a new climate action plan for achieving the target.
	4. Also, the Government aims to present a proposal for new food waste legislation to the Parliament in the spring of 2025. The Government, together with the food industry, has set as an aim to halve food waste in Norway. These measures will not only save resources, but have also been estimated to produce emission reductions corresponding to 1.2 million tons of CO2 equivalents by 2030.
6. Norway participates in ongoing work in the Council of Europe on human rights and the environment, including a recent recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member States. This inter alia recommends that member states reflect on the nature, content and implications of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and on that basis actively consider recognizing at the national level this right as a human right that is important for the enjoyment of human rights and is related to other rights and existing international law.