THE FUTURE WE WANT FOR ALL: NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS IN NORWAY ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA















EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is a summary of the Norwegian consultations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The report provides recommendations regarding the structure, funding and implementation mechanisms for a new development agenda and suggestions for goals, targets and indicators within different thematic fields. The national consultations also pledge for a Norwegian leadership and increased development effort both at national and international level.

STRUCTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POST-2015 AGENDA

- A development agenda that includes ambitious and universal goals.
- Targets and indicators for each development goal should be defined at international, national and local levels.
- Implementation of national strategies in every state, including Norway. UN National Development Assistance Framework will be crucial in this work.
- Monitoring mechanisms and peer to peer reviews at international and national levels (like The United Nations Periodic review in the Human Rights Council).
- A stand-alone goal on open, accountable and inclusive governance with commitments to ensure participation of civil society and grass- root movements.
- Innovation in fundraising: Implementation of international and national tax systems like financial transaction tax or environmental tax, focus on private-public partnership, increase private fundraising within the UN-system itself (e.g. UNICEF-model) and prevent illicit capital outflows in order to meet increased needs of funds for achieving ambitious new development goals.
- Continued need for states to maintain adequate public spending from national budgets

THEMATIC FOCUS

EQUALITY AND EQUITY

- Equality must be promoted by preventing structural barriers and economic, social, environmental and political discrimination.
- A human rights-based approach to the Post-2015 Agenda.
- A standalone goal on gender equality and mainstreaming of gender into all goals, targets and indicators.
- All targets to be disaggregated by gender, location, age, ethnicity, physical and intellectual disability and wealth in order to track inequalities and ensure no one is left behind.
- Protection of persons with disabilities from social exclusion and to be given possibility to participate in society.
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT)-rights must be protected in all societies.
- Include a definition of poverty that goes beyond measuring poverty by the \$ 1, 25 a day and lack of material goods. The definition should also include social exclusion and the absence of a meaningful way of political participation.
- National indicators of poverty and inequality must be included in all goals to best ensure that no one is left behind.

• Universal birth registration and elimination of all forms of violence against children, including violent deaths, trauma, injury, abuse and exploitation.

EDUCATION

- Universal access to free, quality, inclusive and empowering primary and secondary education for all is necessary in order to realize children's rights to education, and meet current and future global challenges.
- Quality and inclusive education should be defined in a socio-cultural context with an increased attention to prevent dropouts. The fact that there is a higher proportion of girls dropping out of school due to gender specific factors such as early marriage, insecurity, sexual harassment and lack of female teachers must be addressed.
- One of the important tasks of a quality education system is to bridge the gap between education and labor market and ensure *decent* job opportunities for all.
- Ensure that 100% of children complete quality pre-primary education.
- Access to vocational training and tertiary education should be provided to tackle youth unemployment.

HEALTH

- Ensuring universal access to free, inclusive and quality basic health services
- Ensuring universal access to clean and healthy water, nutrition and sanitation facilities.
- Eliminating all preventable pregnancy-related mortality, child and maternal death and illness of both women and children.
- Eliminate severe acute malnutrition and hunger.
- Eliminate micro-nutrient deficiencies among children and women.
- Ensuring full immunization of every child.
- Increase rates of exclusive breastfeeding.
- Preventing non-communicable diseases (NCDs) by addressing the four shared risk factors: tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, physical inactivity and unhealthy diet.
- Promote mental well-being and care and reduce challenges for persons with mental disorders.
- By 2035, reduce the national under-five mortality rate to 20 or fewer deaths per 1,000 live births.
- 40% reduction of child stunting globally by 2025.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

- Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including holistic, comprehensive and high quality sexual and reproductive health services.
- Universal access to comprehensive and youth friendly sexual education.
- Universal access to a choice of safe and affordable contraception.
- Universal access to safe and legal abortion.
- Universal access to safe and quality treatment of sexual transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS.

ENVIRONMENT

- Strengthen international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development.
- Human rights-based approach to environmental sustainability recognizing that the realization of human rights depends on a healthy environment.

- Strengthen the role of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda.
- Recognize the potential of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) contributing to sustainable development.
- Increased focus on the protection of the marine environment and prevent the reduction of biodiversity.
- Provide education and training programs about sustainable practices in primary and secondary school.
- Adopt and implement sustainable agricultural, ocean and freshwater fishery practices, bearing in mind that women are responsible for 60-80% of agricultural activities in many countries.
- Reduce postharvest loss and food waste.
- Reduce deforestation and increase reforestation.
- Ensure equal access to natural resources and the benefits of a healthy environment, with specific focus on women's participation in decision making in relation to management of natural resources.
- Strengthen the resilience of children, women, families and communities to shock and stresses related to disaster, violence, conflicts, climate change and epidemics.

CLIMATE AND ENERGY

- Decrease Black- and increase Blue- and Green carbons.
- Secure universal access to clean and sustainable energy sources, bearing in mind the importance of both genders in decision-making processes
- Synergize all ongoing international energy programs and build on "sustainable energy for all".
- Eliminate all preventable deaths from cook stoves and open fireplaces.
- Implement and improve carbon tax mechanisms for financing renewable energy.
- Ensure integrated approach to community and business development.

GREEN ECONOMY, PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE JOB MARKET

- Establish trade markets where countries with low BNP can participate.
- Developing countries must be empowered and enabled to generate economic growth, which enhances effective and sustainable use of natural resources.
- Enhance the private sector to play a key role in supporting and financing development of businesses and decent job opportunities, focusing on equal access to decent jobs for men and women.
- Provide access to electricity and financial support for innovation and creation of sustainable job opportunities.
- Innovate and implement affordable and sustainable food production systems.
- Enhance public-private partnership in order to develop innovative/support innovative technology to prevent, control and treat emerging and large health issues.

NORWAY AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- The Norwegian government should raise international focus on: Equality, gender equality, energy, health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, biological diversity, social protection and education, including a human rights-based approach to the new development goals.
- Norway should continue the high level of Official Development Assistance (ODA) and have a strong focus on contribution of regular resources to the UN system.
- Norway should push innovation in fundraising for the new Post-2015 Development Agenda

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE POST-2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA IN NORWAY

Norway should be a pioneer within implementing the new development goals in Norway after 2015. Norway should therefore develop a national strategy which includes mechanisms for effective involvement of national actors, such as the civil society and grassroots movements at national and local levels. The national goals, targets and indicators could be developed amongst others on the basis of recommendations from the UN, international human rights institutions, complaint mechanisms, and human rights courts. New monitoring mechanisms/peer to peer reviews at international/national levels for the new development goals could be essential for national implementation.

NATIONAL TARGETS AND INDICATORS:

- Reduce the number of children living in poverty.
- Reduce the number of students who do not complete their schooling.
- Address issues of gender inequality and gender-based violence.
- Conditions of detention of children in conflict with the law.
- Implement policies to protect the rights of migrants and minority groups.
- Conditions of young gays and lesbians who live outside large cities and for those who live in multicultural communities.
- Ensure qualified teachers in pre-school and the rest of the school system.
- Implement measures against bullying in schools.
- Promote a healthy life style among adolescents.
- The development of mental health care and adequate treatment.
- Adopt and implement sustainable agricultural, ocean and freshwater fishery practices.
- Reduce postharvest loss and food waste.
- Reaching national targets of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)
- Implement Norwegian national climate agreement ("Klimaforliket")

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1. INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The purpose of the report is to present a summary of the main inputs that emerged from each of the thematic consultations on the new development goals after 2015 (Post-2015) in Norway. The report recommends overarching principles for the Post-2015 framework and underlines the importance of the three dimensions (social, environmental and economic) of sustainable development. Each of the thematic chapters provides an introduction and includes general comments on specific development goals and suggests both universal and national targets and indicators. All the recommendations are based on inputs the facilitators received during the entire National Post-2015 Consultation process.

2. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

From October 2012 to October 2013, the UN related organizations in Norway: FOKUS - Forum for Women and Development (Norwegian National committee for UN Women in Norway), UNEP-related GRID-Arendal, UNDP Nordic and UNDP Governance Centre, the Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO, UNICEF Norway and the United Nation Association of Norway co-led and facilitated national thematic consultations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. UNICEF Norway has acted as the secretariat for the consultation with financial support from The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO.

AN OPEN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The facilitators of the national consultations have emphasized the importance of an inclusive process that is open for everyone. The invitation for each of the consultations has been distributed in social media and to an email list of 1800 representatives of the civil society, embassies, universities, public and private sector, as well as other individuals. The stakeholders that attended the consultations represent different specters of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, cultural, social and economical interests and concerns. Around 1000 people have participated in the seminars and the rise in numbers of visitors on <u>www.fndebatt.no</u> shows that there is an increasing interest for the new development goals.

Each consultation has been documented by summary reports that have been made available online at <u>www.fndebatt.no</u>. When available, speeches and further information have been made accessible on the web page. The number of views (12000) of the webpage has been tripled since the National Post-2015 consultation started in October 2012.

UNICEF Norway has received 37 written submissions in addition to the inputs received during each consultation and interactive activities.

THEMATIC CONSULTATIONS

15 thematic consultations have been facilitated in Norway. Two in Arendal during the political festival of Arendalsuka and 13 in Oslo.

OVERVIEW OF CONSULTATIONS

Opening seminarEnviroIndicators in new development goalsThe rolEducation for what? Youth, skills and workSexualSharing for prosperity – the role of EducationUsingEnergy in post-2015RealizFamily- first line of protection: children's rights in post-2015Will thThe right to equality in post-2015ClosinHealth in post-2015- immunization and NCDsNotes

Environment and climate change The role of the business sector for development Sexual and reproductive rights in Post-2015 Using technology to monitor new development goals Realizing the MDGs before 2015 Will the world agree on new development goals? Closing seminar

Youth issues have been mainstreamed throughout the consultation process in cooperation with the National Youth Council of Norway (Landsrådet for Norges barne- og ungdomsorganisasjoner – LNU). LNU has decided to organize a national campaign in 2014 on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the UN-organizations in Norway will contribute in that work.

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS PARTICIPATING ON THE SEMINAR:

Anthony Lake, Executive Director UNICEF Yoka Brandt, Deputy Executive Director UNICEF Anna Nordenmark Severinsson, Programme Specialist, Child Protection Section, UNICEF Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe John Hendra, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director Policy and Programme, UN Women Olav Kjørven, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP Veerle Vandeweerd, Director of the Environment and Energy Group of the UNDP Jordan Ryan, Director Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, UNDP Seth Berkley, CEO Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization - GAVI Blerta Perolli Shehu, National Programme Development Director SOS Children's villages Kosovo Hamidou Boukary, Chief education specialist, Association for the Development of Education in Africa Owain James, Director of External Relations IPPF Sun-Geun Baek, President of Korean Educational Development Institute

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE MDGS

The conceptual framework of the new development goals will have great impact on how successful the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda will be. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have proven to be an excellent roadmap in mobilizing global development effort. The global society should build on the success and experience of the MDGs to make an even stronger framework for sustainable development in the 21st century.

Remarkable achievements have been made since the implementation of the MDGs. By generating political will and action, the MDGs have contributed to: extreme poverty being halved; 45 million more children attending primary school; more women in parliament than ever before; child mortality has reduced by 47 percent; maternal mortality nearly halved; HIV infections reduced by 20 percent; over 1 million deaths of malaria averted; over two million people gaining access to better water sources and successful global partnership making a real difference¹.

The combination of economic growth, government policies, civil society engagement and the global commitment to the MDGs has led to this remarkable progress. But we still have a long way to go. It is necessary to continue the work to reverse the increasing gap between rich and poor, the continuing environmental degradation and the consequences of climate change that are affecting the most vulnerable people and ecosystems of the world.

It is important to keep in mind that the MDGs have been criticized for treating the symptoms rather than the reasons behind poverty and global inequality, and for diverting resources from important causes not included in the MDGs. Thus, the consultations advocate for an integrated framework for sustainable development.

AN INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

2015 is fast approaching, and various processes have been initiated in order to define the Post-2015 Development Agenda. With "*The Future We Want*" declaration of Rio +20 there is common understanding in the world about "the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions". Furthermore there is a widespread agreement that a more vigorous commitment to human rights and structural changes imply a different development agenda for post-2015.

THE FUTURE WE WANT - RIO +20

The participants attending the consultations shared the vision of a new development agenda that promote common objectives while embracing different realities. This requires transformative actions that effectively integrate environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development, where the people are the center. It is therefore endorsed that the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda reflects the recommendations of the Rio + 20 declaration, in addition to the report presented by the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons.

¹ MDGs Report 2013: <u>http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/report-2013/mdg-report-2013-english.pdf</u>

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL OF EMINENT PERSONS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The national consultations on the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda reflect the support and acknowledgement of the work by the UN High Level Panel of Eminent Persons (HLP) when presenting the report: *"A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development"*.

The HLP report and the twelve illustrative goals presented reflect a real commitment to sustainable development, and the clear recommendation on eradicating poverty, and the focus on the needs of those left behind, is particularly welcomed.

The consultations want to highlight and underline some of the most important conclusion of the HLP report:

- **Put sustainable development at the core**. All three dimensions of sustainable development (social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainability) must be fully integrated throughout the whole agenda and reflected in the universal goals and national targets.
- Monitoring system, with regular opportunities to report on progress and shortcomings at a high political level. To fulfill the aim of universal goals and national targets in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, it is necessary to define ways to ensure the accountability and responsibility of every government and effective monitoring of the implementation of the development agenda at an international and a national level.
- Leave no one behind. The aim must be to leave no one behind and carry everyone forward. New goals should be designed to focus on reaching excluded groups, for example by making sure we track progress at all levels of income, and by providing social protection. The Post-2015 Development Agenda should explicitly identify the most vulnerable groups of people and address the root causes of inequality, discrimination, stigma and marginalization that they face.
- **Concrete targets.** The national consultations call for a development agenda that includes ambitious goals and targets. And enhance the importance of implementing national strategy plans.

REALIZATION OF A NEW DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

CRITERIA FOR EACH OF THE GOALS

The HLP report recommends that the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda is shaped in line with the Rio + 20. The national consultations support the following criteria for the goals as presented in the HLP report:

Each goal should:

- Solve a critical issue, and have a strong impact on sustainable development, based on existing research.
- Encapsulate a compelling message on issues that energize people, companies and governments.
- Be easy to understand and communicate.
- Be measurable, using credible and internationally comparable indicators, metrics and data, and subject to monitoring.

- Be widely applicable in countries with different levels of income, and in those emerging from conflict or recovering from natural disaster.
- Be grounded in the voice of people, and the priorities identified during consultations, especially with children, youth, women and marginalized and excluded groups.
- Be consensus-based, whenever possible built on UN member states existing agreement, while also striving to go beyond previous agreements to make people's lives better.

MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Accountability must be an integral part of the new development agenda. It is necessary to have indicators and follow-up mechanisms at international, national, regional and local levels in order to keep authorities accountable and responsible in their commitment to achieve the Post-2015 Development Goals.

It is recommended that national strategies are developed, that include clear national targets and measurable indicators. Nations should be able to receive assistance by the UN National Development Assistance Framework in this work.

To follow-up targets in national strategies will require increased data collection and quality, as well as better monitoring mechanisms. The national consultations therefore advocate for:

- Monitoring mechanisms and peer-to-peer reviews at an international level for example after the model of the Universal Periodic Review in the UN Human Rights Council.
- Inclusive participation in decision-making processes, which include effective processes at national, regional and local levels. This requires inclusive follow-up mechanisms and legal complaint mechanisms to raise appeals. These processes must be gender sensitive and include measures for youth participation at all levels.
- Monitoring measurements and indicators for each development goal should be defined at international, national and local levels including national strategies to meet the goals.
- Mechanisms to ensure improved quality data collection at all levels.
- Increasing investments for development of **technology and innovation for sustainable development**.
- A stand-alone goal on open, accountable and inclusive governance with commitments to ensure participation (including marginalized and vulnerable groups, women and youths), open budgeting, freedom of speech and press, more equitable and effective delivery of public services and reduced corruption.

FUNDING

Official Development Assistance (ODA) alone cannot ensure the achievement of the Post-2015 Development Goals. Due to reduction of ODA support during the last two years, it is necessary to increase national income of states, and to find alternative and innovative ways of funding. The national consultations advocate for innovation in fundraising and ask the states and the UN system to consider following methods:

- Implementing international tax systems like financial transaction tax or environmental tax.
- Investing in the development and strengthening of national tax systems like the financial transaction tax in France.

- Promoting private-public partnership like the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) and the Global Partnership on Education (GPE).
- Increasing private fundraising by the UN system itself like the model of National Committees for UNICEF and UN Women. Today almost one third of the UNICEF budget is for example generated by the National Committees.
- Prevent illicit capital outflows: it is estimated that an amount equivalent to ten times the aid from the North to the South annually finds its way back to the North through illicit capital outflows.
- There is a need for countries to maintain adequate public spending from national budgets for key investments in people, including their health, nutrition, education, social protection and related services, such as clean water and sanitation.

NORWEGIAN LEADERSHIP

Norway presently ranks as the most developed country in the world according to UNDPs Human Development Index. Norway with the "Brundtland Report" is seen to have much ownership in the original definition and setting the agenda for Sustainable Development. And Norway as one of the greatest supporter to the UN and developing countries is highly recognized globally. All this puts Norway in a privileged position to both have increased influence on the global negotiations on a Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda as well as being able to "walk the talk" on the home front.

The participants of the national consultations communicated a broad agreement that Norway should play an active role in the planning and implementation of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda. The consultation in Norway recommends the Norwegian government to:

- Develop a Norwegian national strategy on the post-2015-agenda: Norway should be a pioneer state and illustrate how goals can be implemented and monitored in an effective and sustainable way. Norway should develop a national strategy to achieve the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and implement mechanisms for the grass root and civil society to keep the authorities accountable.
- Maintain a high level of ODA. Norway should keep up or strengthen the contributions to the UN system, as well as the ODA in general. 1 per cent of the GNI should be earmarked for the ODA budget.
- Focus on regular resources. A Norwegian focus on regular resources and soft earmarking is crucial in a time where the expectation to the UN is more ambitious than ever before, while the global ODA is decreasing.
- Advocate for thematic areas. The Norwegian government should pay strong attention both at national and international level regarding the following topics:

EQUALITY AND EQUITY

Norway should continue to push for a Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda which tackles **inequality in all its dimensions**, including gender equality, income inequality and inequality of opportunities.

Gender equality is central in Norwegian policies, and Norway should lead out in promoting gender equality and women's rights as such, and as a necessity in order to eradicate poverty both in Norway and internationally.

People around the world face violence and inequality based on whom they love and/or their sexual orientation. Norway is in a unique position to raise the importance of **LGBT-rights** both at home and internationally.

Norway should also ensure that rights of **persons with disabilities** are fulfilled nationally and internationally.

EDUCATION

Norway should perform global leadership in the process of **establishing free**, **inclusive**, **empowering and quality education for all** as one of the central goals in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

ENERGY

Norway should play a leading role in the energy sector and should strive to develop technology and innovative solutions for providing **sustainable energy for all** at home and abroad.

BIODIVERSITY

Norway as a country with a relatively low human population density and pressure on nature should be the leading country implementing targets of the **Convention of Biological Diversity** (CBD).

HEALTH

Global health. Norway should continue to play a key role in promoting healthy lives both at national and international levels. This includes continuing the work of universal health coverage, immunization of all children, preventing NCDs and mental health disorders.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Norway should show leadership in promoting and ensuring women's sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Norway should also continue to put a strong emphasis on girls and women's health and rights more broadly, and to ensure gender equality.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

Norway should protect its citizens and especially its children against violence and sexual abuse, and advocate for a stronger focus on the subject in the Post-2015 Agenda.

SUMMARY OF THE CONSULTATIONS

4. ERADICATING POVERTY AND PROMOTING EQUALITY

Poverty eradication must be at the center of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It is essential that the new framework retains the strengths of the MDGs. It must remain focused on ending poverty and promoting sustainable human development. At the same time the Post-2015 Agenda must have a clear and unambiguous focus on decreasing inequalities, speeding up action to improve the quality of life of the world's poorest and most marginalized people.

EQUITY

There has been considerable progress towards achieving the MDGs and the fulfillment of the right to survive, develop and to be protected, but still not everyone is included. A Post-2015 Development Framework must be equity-based and aim for a world where everyone have equal opportunities to survive, develop and reach their full potential without discrimination, bias or favoritism. An equitable approach to achieve internationally agreed development goals will accelerate progress towards eradicating extreme poverty across multiple dimensions.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

The Post-2015 Development should include targets and indicators that recognize how protecting children from violence, exploitation and abuse saves lives and is essential to sustainable development. States must be challenged to create social protection structures that tackle inequity and the inequitable distribution of wealth.

The new development agenda must ensure that national social protection floors include an absolute guarantee to housing, access to quality health care, education, and training, as well as social welfare benefits. It is especially important that these structures address the needs for those who are most marginalized, such as children and youth.

INEQUALITIES

Inequalities result from structural barriers in economic, social, environmental and political domains. Failure in one of the areas may undermine prospects for progress in any of the others. Inequalities impede inclusive economic growth and social development, constrain sustainable development and undermine people's well-being. Those experiencing multiple inequalities are prevented from enjoying equal status, dignity and freedoms, and from interacting as equals in society. Addressing inequalities is fundamental to the realization of human development, human rights and economic stability.

Participants at the consultations have highlighted the importance of addressing the link between inequalities and poverty. Inequalities affect different groups in various ways and this report gives special recommendations for addressing inequalities among three vulnerable groups; girls and women, disabled people, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

A SPECIFIC GOAL ON EQUALITY: WOMEN AND GIRLS

The fact that 70 percent of the people still living under the absolute poverty line are women, calls for a new and stronger gender equality approach in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Progress in reaching the MDGs and ensuring sustainable development can only be made if men and women participate on equal grounds. This emphasizes the need for a specific goal on gender equality, also in post-2015.

The right to equality regardless of age, cultural background, gender, disability, ethnicity, caste, race, religion, sexual orientation, social status, HIV/AIDS status and visual appearance, must be fully integrated in all goals of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

The consultation calls for a new development agenda that tackles inequalities in all its forms, ensuring social and economical inclusion, and build cohesive societies and communities. The following areas are recommended to be prioritized: decent jobs for women and men, social protection, freedom from fear and violence- including violence against women- together with access to justice, participation and freedom of expression.

PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Disabled people are more likely to experience poverty. There is a trend that people with physical and intellectual disabilities are excluded from the society and girls and women are especially vulnerable and exposed to exclusion, discrimination, abuse and violence. The consultation calls for a Post-2015 Development Agenda with a strong attention to breaking the cycle of poverty and disability and ensuring persons with disabilities have their human rights fulfilled on par with the rest of the society.

LGBT-RIGHTS

The non-discrimination paragraphs of international human rights conventions include human rights for all. This has also been made clear for LGBT, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which affirms that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration, without distinction of any kind.

People around the world face violence and inequality based on whom they love, how they look, or who they are. Sexual orientation and gender identity are integral aspects of our selves and should never lead to discrimination or abuse. The consultations request that these issues are included in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THE NORWEGIAN CONSULTATION

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- A zero goal for extreme income poverty.
- Address the link between inequalities and poverty.
- Equality must be promoted by changing structural barriers and combating economic, social, environmental and political discrimination.
- Human rights-based approach.
- Integrated approach to tackle inequalities.
- All targets in the Post-2015 Agenda should be disaggregated by gender, location, age, ethnicity, physical and intellectual disability and wealth in order to track inequalities and ensure no one is left behind.
- There should be recognition in the new Agenda of the key role of social protection measures, such as SP floors, in ensuring the human right to dignity and a basic livelihood for all people, particularly children need for protection and development.
- Protection of all girls and boys from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation.
- Fulfillment of the rights and wellbeing of migrants and their families.

GENDER EQUALITY

- There is a strong need for a standalone goal on gender equality, which is essential to concentrate policy commitment and funding. Such a goal must establish minimum standards and promote change in the following critical areas: freedom from violence, ensure women's capabilities and bodily integrity, access to resources, and ensure women's voice, participation and influence in decision-making processes.
- Gender should be mainstreamed into all other goals, targets and indicators, as recommended and supported by various intergovernmental commitments including: the Beijing Platform for Action and the Rio +20 report.

PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

- Deprived and marginalized people with physical and intellectual disabilities must be protected from social exclusion. Special attention should be given to the most vulnerable groups, including girls and women.
- The "Twin-Track approach" should be used to break the cycle of poverty and disability. This approach combines disability *specific* initiatives together with disability *inclusive initiatives*².
- All children with disabilities must be protected from discrimination, violence and abuse.
- Disability must become a cross-cutting issue in the Post-2015 Development Goals. Indicators on accessibility and participation must be included in all goals and targets.
- Disability must be recognized as a human rights issue. A framework that supports equal rights for all human beings will benefit all groups and people.

² Make development inclusive: <u>http://www.inclusive-development.org/cbmtools/part1/twin.htm</u>

LGBT-RIGHTS

- LGBT-rights should be protected in all societies. Every person should be able to enjoy the full range of human rights, without exception.
- All adults should have the right to enter consensual marriage without any limitations due to gender, race, nationality, ethnicity or religion.

Comments on targets and indicators: recommendations by the national consultation

GENDER EQUALITY

- Access to universal free, inclusive and quality education for all, including women and girls.
- Women must be given increased opportunities for economical empowerment.
- Equal opportunities for women to participate in decision-making by increasing the number of women in parliament.
- Ensure equal right of women through legislation to own inherited property, sign a contract, register a business and open a bank account and access to natural resources.

PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DISABILITIES

- Universal access to free, quality and inclusive education with no exceptions.
- Ensure that disabled people have access to health services, clean water and appropriate sanitation facilities.

LGBT-RIGHTS

- National legislation enabling LGBTpersons to participate in society without discrimination
- Consensual same-sex marriage

EXAMPLES OF NORWEGIAN TARGETS³

- Representation of women in political and public organs should fully reflect the diversity of people in Norway (rec. by Cuba).
- Conditions of detention of children in conflict with the law (rec. by Philippines).
- Issues of gender inequality and gender-based violence (rec. by Mauritius).
- Policies to protect the rights of migrants and minority groups (rec. by Netherlands).
- Conditions of young gays and lesbians who live outside large cities and for those who live in multicultural communities (rec. by Colombia).
- Reduce the number of children living in poverty⁴.
- Ensure that all children who are identified as victims of trafficking are placed under the care and assistance of the Child Welfare Services⁵.
- Norway should continue the implementation of the recently ratified Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Ensure that effective procedures are in place to strengthen the process of law for children whom have been reported as victims of violence or sexual abuse⁶.

⁵ Norwegian NGO-forum for Human Rights: (Shadow) *Submission for the Second Universal Periodic Review of Norway before the UN Human Rights Council 2013* ⁶ Norwegian NGO-forum for Human Rights: (Shadow) *Submission for the Second Universal Periodic Review of Norway before the UN Human Rights Council 2013*

 ³ Based on recommendations from other states in the <u>Universal Periodic Review in the UN Human Rights Council 2010</u>. Comments given by (country)
⁴ UNICEF: Innocent Research Centre, Report Card 10 - <u>Measuring child poverty: New league tables of child poverty in the world's rich countries</u> / Committee on the rights of the child: <u>Fourth periodic reports of States parties due in 2008 - Norway</u> M. 340.

5. EDUCATION FOR HUMAN, SOCIOECONOMIC AND JUST DEVELOPMENT

Quality education is a human right and contributes to the development of each individual with basis in their own ability and capacity. Quality education enables critical thinking that is a precondition for the development of a just and democratic society.

In addition education is a powerful tool to address inequality and to expand sustainable development that promotes social, ethical and cultural skills that can reduce inequalities among people and increase the opportunities for decent jobs. Enabling people to generate regular income will lift people out of poverty and promote equality. A systematic and strategic approach to education and training can lead a country from poverty to prosperity. This stimulates socioeconomic growth and improved quality of education.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THE NORWEGIAN CONSULTATION

Education and training is one of the best transformative instruments to meet current and future challenges and to break the cycle of poverty and inequality. Access to free, quality, inclusive and empowering primary and secondary education for all is referring to the result of good learning outcomes among all children. The national consultation on education advocate for a standalone goal on education and the following inclusions in the Post-2015 Development Agenda:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Universal access to free, quality, inclusive and empowering primary and secondary education for all is necessary in order to realize children's rights to education, and meet current and future global challenges.
- Quality and inclusive education should be defined in a socio-cultural context with an increased attention to prevent dropouts. The fact that there are a higher proportion of girls dropping out of school due to gender specific factors such as early marriage, insecurity, sexual harassment and lack of female teachers must be addressed.
- The Twin-Track approach should be applied in order to ensure that all children and young people with disabilities have access to free, quality, inclusive and empowering primary and secondary education and training.
- It is necessary to develop education programmes that emphasize training and skills to promote sustainable development.
- One of the important tasks of a quality education system is to bridge the gap between education and labor market. This is a way to prevent the trend of youth unemployment and ensure *decent* job opportunities for all. This requires increased social dialogue and cooperation between the various parties in work life and a specific focus on gender and age, as access to formal employment is considerably lower for woman and youth, than men and adults.
- Enhance integrated early childhood development in order to ensure basic livelihoods and the promotion of cognitive development of very young children.
- Education is a responsibility of national authorities.

Comments on targets and indicators: recommendations by the national consultation

- Ensure that all children, regardless of circumstances have access to free, quality and inclusive education.
- Ensure that 100% of children complete quality pre-primary education
- Ensure that all children, regardless of circumstances have access to qualified, professional teachers. Continuous in-service training should be offered throughout their carriers in order to improve the quality of education.
- Implement supportive and integrated programmes for families in poverty to promote early childhood development. This may include social welfare and cash transfer programmes.
- Ensure that girls who become pregnant are able to continue their education.

- Access to vocational training and tertiary education should be applied to tackle youth unemployment.
- Promote the inclusion of comprehensive sexuality education for girls and boys in and out of school
- Promote global education/education for sustainable development in every nation, building competencies, attitudes, values, knowledge and skills for a more just and sustainable world.
- The targets under the first goal in the HLPreport: "Increase by x% the proportion of children able to access and complete preprimary education". The Norwegian consultations emphasizes that this target should aim at giving all children (100%) access to complete primary education.

EXAMPLES OF NORWEGIAN TARGETS

- Ensure qualified teachers in both pre-school and the rest of the school system⁷.
- Ensure competence of teachers and preschool teachers when it concerning uncovering violence against children⁸.
- Implement measures against bullying in schools⁹.
- Reduce the number of students who do not complete their schooling¹⁰.
- Integrate human rights education and training in school programmes and other sectors such as the administration of justice and the police (rec. by Morocco/Viet Nam)¹¹.
- Evaluate and include inputs from Ombudsmen in Norway should be enhanced in education planning.
- Inputs could be based on The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) which created a complaint mechanism at the international level for persons' economic, social and cultural rights, which Norway is yet to ratify.

⁷ Based on recommendations from the report card 8: <u>The Child Care Transition, 2008</u>

⁸ Committee on the rights of the child: *Fourth periodic reports of States parties due in 2008 - Norway*

⁹ Committee on the rights of the child: <u>Fourth periodic reports of States parties due in 2008 - Norway</u>

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Based on recommendations from other states in the <u>Universal Periodic Review in the UN Human Rights Council 2010</u>. Comments given by (country)/ Committee on the rights of the child: <u>Fourth periodic reports of States parties due in 2008 - Norway</u>

6. HEALTH

Health is a human right, a matter of social justice, and a global good. Better and more equitable health outcomes increase productivity and resilience, reduce poverty and promote social stability. Given the importance of broader social and environmental determinants in affecting health outcomes, health is a measure of sustainable development across all sectors. The national consultation on health calls for a strong, broad and ambitious health goal with the aim of ensuring a healthy life for everyone.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THE NORWEGIAN CONSULTATION

It is necessary to ensure that health is recognized not just as a matter of individual well-being but also as a foundation of all pillars for sustainable development, including social and economical development, environmental protection, human rights and equality. Health should be regarded as a global public good. The national consultation recommends the following:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Ensuring universal access to free, inclusive and quality basic health services.
- Provide universal access to safe drinking water.
- Ensure universal access to clean sanitation facilities.
- End hunger and protecting the right of everyone to have access to sufficient, healthy and affordable nutrition and food. A healthy diet is essential to prevent illness, including stunting and NCDs.
- A health approach that enhances the importance of strengthening national health systems.
- Promoting intellectual well-being and providing care, promote human rights and reducing disabilities for persons with mental disorders.

Comments on targets and indicators: recommendations by the national consultation

- Universal target for inclusive, 100% effective coverage of basic health services, clean water and safe sanitation.
- By 2035, reduce the national under-five mortality rate to 20 or fewer deaths per 1,000 live births
- Ensuring full immunization of every child.
- Reduction of child stunting globally by 40% by 2025. The stunting rate among children under 5 should be used as a key indicator of poverty reduction and human progress. Each country is encouraged to adopt national plans under the *Scaling Up Nutrition Initiative*.
- Increase rates of exclusive breastfeeding.
- Eliminate micro-nutrient deficiencies among children and women
- Eliminate severe acute malnutrition and hunger.

- Eliminating all preventable pregnancyrelated mortality, child and maternal death and illness of both women and child.
- Increasing the focus on preventing and controlling NCDs as an increasingly large share of the burden of diseases comes from NCDs like cancer, diabetes, cardiac diseases and respiratory diseases. NCDs are universal and hit both rich and poor.
- Preventing NCDs by addressing the four shared risk factors: tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, physical inactivity and unhealthy diet.
- Reducing the burden of communicable diseases such as; HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases both through treatment and through preventative measures.

EXAMPLES OF NORWEGIAN TARGETS

- Access to affordable quality health care services.
- Ensuring full immunization of every child.
- Promote a healthy life style among adolescents.
- Speed up the development of mental health care so as to ensure that adequate treatment and care.
- Preventing NCDs by addressing the four shared risk factors: tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, physical inactivity and unhealthy diet.

7. SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) is fundamental for both physical and mental health and the well-being of every individual. Improved SRHR is important for social and economical development and to promote gender equality.

The national consultation on SRHR finds it important to strengthen sexual and reproductive health and rights and as it increases the opportunities for women and girls to participate in social, economical and political activities. To strengthen life opportunities for women is important both at individual and social levels in order to stimulate economic growth and sustainable development.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THE NORWEGIAN CONSULTATION

It is requested that Norway prioritize to play a clear and fearless defender role for the SRHR rights, both at national and international level. The consultation calls for:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including holistic, comprehensive and high quality sexual and reproductive health services.
- Universal access to comprehensive and youth friendly sexual education
- Universal access to a choice of safe and affordable modern contraception for girls and women (unmarried and married).
- Universal access to safe and legal abortions, and to post-abortion care regardless of the national laws on access to legal abortions.
- Ensure the opportunity for all girls and women to have control over and to decide freely and responsibly on all matters related to their sexuality free of coercion, discrimination and violence.
- Ensure the right for all individuals to decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality. Including their sexual orientation and sexual identity.
- Universal access to safe and quality prevention and treatment of STIs and HIV/AIDS

Comments on targets and indicators: recommendations by the national consultation

- Realize the sexual and reproductive rights of all women and men, especially young people, and ensure universal access to the respective health services and information, incl. safe abortion care and comprehensive sexuality education.
- Meet the need for affordable, acceptable and quality family planning, irrespective of marital status

- Adolescent birth rate
- Number of health care providers trained on providing abortion-related services
- Removal of punitive laws, policies and harmful traditional practices that undermine the sexual and reproductive rights of girls and women.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The MDGs have successfully gathered global will and effort for development and great progress has been made. However, the consultation on environmental sustainability argues that the MDGs have failed to include the environmental dimension of sustainable development.

Therefore, the paragraphs in the Rio +20 declaration on strengthening the environmental dimensions of Sustainable Development should be seen as particularly important. In this context paragraph 88 should also be specifically supported by Norway: committed "to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, that promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nation system and that serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

UNEP OUTLOOK

UNEPs latest Global Environment Outlook (GEO 5) warns of the continually deteriorating state of the global environment, pointing out that internationally agreed goals have only been partially met:

- The internationally agreed goal of avoiding the adverse effects of climate change is presenting the global community with one of its most serious challenges that is threatening overall development goals.
- The rate of forest loss, particularly in the tropics remains alarmingly high.
- At least 415 coastal areas have exhibited serious eutrophication and only 13 of these are recovering.

UNEP RECOMMENDATIONS

- Today, 80 per cent of the world's population lives in areas with high levels of threat to water security, affecting 3. 4 billion people, mostly in developing countries.
- Up to two thirds of species are threatened with extinction. Since 1970, vertebrate populations have fallen by 30 per cent and degradation has resulted in a decline of 20 per cent of some natural habitats.

UNEP therefore calls for policies that focus on the underlying drivers of environmental change (such as the negative aspects of population growth, consumption and production, urbanization) rather than just concentrating on reducing pressures or symptoms. The national consultation supports the following recommendations by UNEP:

- The use of timely and accurate data to inform decision-making
- Reversal of policies that generate unsustainable outcomes
- The creation of incentives to advance sustainable practices
- Strengthening access to information
- Urgent, ambitious and cooperative action by governments to meet internationally agreed goals
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- Urgent, ambitious and cooperative action by governments to meet internationally agreed goals

Urgent action is needed, and the consultation on environmental sustainability and climate change calls for an ambitious Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda that fully integrates the environmental dimension within all goals and targets.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THE NORWEGIAN CONSULTATION

The achievement of the current MDGs and future development goals depend on the integration of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development leading to multiple benefits. In addition to supporting UNEPs recommendations the consultation put emphasize on:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Recognizing the potential of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) contributing to sustainable development; lifting and merging some of the most advanced MEA-targets (e.g. the CBD 2020 targets) to measurable overarching global and national goals.
- Having greater focus on the protecting the marine environment
- A human rights-based approach to environmental sustainability, recognizing that the realization of human rights depends on a healthy environment

Comments on targets and indicators: recommendations by the national consultation

- Strengthen international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development.
- Strengthen the role of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda.
- Strengthen the resilience of children, families and communities to shocks and stresses relatec to disaster, violence, conflicts, climate change and epidemics.
- Adopt and implement sustainable agricultural, ocean and freshwater fishery practices
- Reduce postharvest loss and food waste
- Gender equality in access to water and sanitation
- Reduce deforestation and increase reforestation
- Provide education and training programmes about sustainable practices in primary and secondary school

EXAMPLES OF NORWEGIAN TARGETS

- Amount of political, financial- or in kind- (e.g. through GRID-Arendal) support to UNEP and international environmental governance.
- Amount of leading examples of sustainable fisheries (e.g. Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certified fisheries).
- Reduction of food waste and increase of ecologically produced food.
- Amount of further global support to The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD).
- Amount of global support to protect Blue Carbon.
- Amount of high quality natural forest area (and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified forest)

- Amount and quality of education in schools and public information centres.
- Amount of all MEA-targets met or exceeded.
- Norway should increase investments and continue the work to achieve all goals and targets in the Norwegian climate agreement (Klimaforliket) and future climate, environmental sustainability and protection agreements.

9. ENERGY

Energy drives opportunity, yet it has been a grossly neglected area of development issue. About 70% of sub-Saharan Africa's people do not have access to electricity. Access to energy is fundamental to achieve current and future development goals. The consultation argues that it is possible to provide access to sustainable and clean energy for all. This requires improved energy efficiency and intensified investments to establish renewable energy sources in both urban and rural areas.

It is recognized that women (especially in rural areas) most often are responsible for the household and its energy supply. Thus the consultation emphasizes the need to increasingly include women in decision-making processes regarding development and implementation of new energy solutions.

The national consultation on energy was facilitated before the High Level Meeting on Energy held in Oslo on April 9th 2013 co-hosted with Mexico and Tanzania. The key messages from the national consultation were submitted to the High Level Meeting in advance. The Norwegian Government is requested to continue to be a leading nation within the energy sector.

The participants in the consultation emphasized the importance of including energy aspects in the new development agenda. However, there was a discussion as to whether there should be a standalone goal on energy or rather a fully integrated energy aspect in all the goals. It is recommended to implement an integrated development approach where energy issues are raised in a sustainable development context, specifically in relation to poverty reduction, food security and climate change.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THE NORWEGIAN CONSULTATION

The national consultation on energy highlights main areas of concerns and principles rather than specific goals for the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The consultation underlined the following:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Universal access to clean and sustainable energy sources. Locally adapted solutions should be prioritized and local entrepreneurs, men and women, should equally be included in the implementation process.
- It is recommended to synergize all ongoing international energy programmes. The future development agenda should build on the experience from the UN initiative "sustainable energy for all".

Comments on targets and indicators: recommendations by the national consultation

- Provide universal access to clean and sustainable energy sources, bearing in mind the importance of including women, as well as men, in decisionmaking processes regarding development and implementation of new energy solutions.
- Implementation of carbon tax as a mechanism for financing renewable energy
- Eliminate all preventable deaths from cook stoves and open fireplaces
- Decrease of Black Carbon and increase of Blue- and Green Carbon.

EXAMPLES OF NORWEGIAN TARGETS

- Amount of Norwegian support to decrease Black Carbon in ODA countries
- Amount of Norwegian support to protect/increase Blue- and Green Carbon in ODA countries
- Amount of good examples and replication of best practice models through Norwegian ODA support for access to clean and sustainable energy sources
- Amount of good examples and replication of best practice models through Norwegian ODA support to eliminate preventable deaths from cook stoves and open fireplaces
- Participation in and public advocating of carbon tax as a mechanism for financing renewable energy

10. THE ROLE OF GREEN ECONOMY, THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE JOB MARKET

Employments, and the ability to generate a regular income, are elements for eradicating poverty. There is a call for green economic growth, innovative approaches to tackle health issues and inclusive quality education for all.

CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THE NORWEGIAN CONSULTATION

The consultation participants have often raised their concerns regarding the job market and opportunities for decent jobs. It is a common opinion that employment is at the core of the goal of sustainable development. Both inclusive economic growth and sustainable development requires innovation and cooperation across sectors, where the private sector plays a key role.

Even though we have come a long way to address women's equal access to education, this does not translate into equal access to the labor market, and least of all, to generate decent income. The unemployment rates for women is still a lot higher than for men, for example is Asia, were 45% of women remain outside the workplace compared to 19% of men.

Women receive only 10% of the world's total salaries, and it is obvious that in order to close the gap between men and women as regards poverty, it is crucial that a gender perspective is applied. Enhancing openness and inclusion throughout the corporate sector requires techniques, tools and practices that bring results. The Women's Empowerment Principles, provide a "gender lens" through which business can analyze current initiatives, benchmarks and reporting practices. The Principles help companies tailor existing policies and practices – or establish new ones – to realize women's empowerment.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people, should be a central goal of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda.
- Enhancing the private sector to play a key role in supporting and financing development of businesses and job opportunities for local people in developing countries. Innovation and sustainable investments should be awarded and prioritized.
- Enhancing the public understanding and support different forms and models of Green Economy.

Comments on targets and indicators: recommendations by the national consultation

- Increased examples of Green Economy models and incentives to replicate best examples.
- Increasing the number of beneficial, decent and sustainable work opportunities, including women and young people.
- Providing access to electricity and financial support for innovation and creation of sustainable job opportunities
- Innovating affordable and sustainable food production systems.
- Enhancing public-private partnership in order to innovate technology to prevent, control and treat emerging and large health issue.
- Establishing trade markets where countries with low BNP can participate. Developing countries must be empowered and enabled to generate economic growth, which enhances effective and sustainable use of natural resources.

EXAMPLES OF NORWEGIAN TARGETS

- Amount of and replication of good examples of Green Economy models
- Amount of Norwegian (ODA) support for establishing trade markets where countries with low BNP can participate. Developing countries must be empowered and enabled to generate economic growth, which enhances effective and sustainable use of natural resources.
- Amount of Norwegian support, which results in x number of enhanced public-private partnership in order to innovate technology, and to prevent, control and treat emerging and large health issues.

DISCLAIMER

This report is based on and reflects the national Post-2015 consultations held from October 2012 to October 2013 in Norway. Its content and recommendations do not necessarily reflect the official views of the UN related organizations in Norway that have been facilitating the consultations.

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