



Permanent Mission of Norway
to the United Nations

**EMRIP, 9th session – Item 7 The Sustainable Development Goals
and the rights of indigenous peoples**

13 July 2016

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Thank you Chair,

The 2030 Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals is a transformative global roadmap for our national and international efforts aimed at eradicating extreme poverty, while protecting planetary boundaries and promoting prosperity, peace and justice.

It is a universal agenda, grounded in the UN Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments, to which all countries and all relevant stakeholders can and must contribute.

The commitment to “leave no one behind” and to “reach the furthest behind first” provide a clear mandate to ensure that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals contributes to promote and protect the human rights of indigenous peoples.

Norway is among 22 countries that has contributed with a Voluntary National Review at the ongoing High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in the UN. The review process has included a range of stakeholders, including from the Government and civil society.

The Sami Parliament has been actively involved in the process and invited to participate in the Norwegian delegation to the High-Level Political Forum.

As stated in the report, Sámediggi will be involved in the follow-up of the SDGs through dialogue with the line ministries and the established procedures for consultations between the Sámi Parliament and state authorities. When measures to reach the Sustainable Development

Goals are developed, Sámediggi will be consulted on matters that may affect Sami interests directly.

The Norwegian review reflects challenges linked to gender equality, and efforts to prevent and combat violence. As stated in the review, recent research shows that Sami women are more often subjected to violence than women in the population as a whole. The Sami Parliament and the Government have initiated further research on this topic. The review also recognize that Sami people face some challenges relating to access to culturally adapted health and care services.

The review acknowledges the importance of sustainable ecosystems for Sami culture, and affirms that Norway facilitate the maintenance of traditional Sami fisheries, in accordance with international law.

As we move forward with the implementation of Agenda 2030, Norway will be a strong advocate for participatory and inclusive processes, where the rights of indigenous peoples are clearly respected, promoted and protected.

Thank you.