

UNIDO IDB 20-22 November 2012

Norwegian statement on Agenda item 8.

Thank you, Mr. President/Chairman,

1. We highly appreciate the Co-Chairs' efforts and constructive guidance of our common work in the Informal Working Group on the future, including programmes and resources of UNIDO.
2. Norway would like to align itself with the main ideas in the EU statement. In addition to the important principles related to respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law, Norway, based on our own experience, would like to highlight the importance of the mainstreaming of gender issues and the role and importance of equitable distribution and equitable growth to development.
3. Women contribute tremendously to growth when they are given the opportunity to participate in all parts of society. Policies aiming at growth cannot afford to exclude one half of society's creative capacity in any area.
4. The world has seen substantial growth the last decade, and even though this growth has pulled millions out of poverty, others have been left behind, and an increasingly large share of the world's poor now live in middle income countries. Without more equitable growth, development will not be able to eliminate poverty and hunger. Also in the poorest countries, differences between the rich and poor are increasing. Without focusing on equitable growth, poverty will persist and remain an impediment to growth.

Thank you, Mr. President/Chairman.