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<p>Det norske Skogselskapet (the Forestry Society) is a nationwide member organisation providing information on the importance of and the benefits of the forest to the public. The Forestry Extension Institute provides further education for forest owners and forest workers. Both institutes have important roles in communicating forestry knowledge to children and young people. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food supports a project called “Learning with the Forest”, which is an interdisciplinary teaching program designed for all levels from kindergarten to college level. The state owned company State Forests is also involved in this project. State Forests has an important task in providing access to forests for the public.</p>		
<b>Attachments</b>		

the UN Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the ILO Convention 169, have been taken into account.

Specifically, the law addresses the influence of the Sami people and local communities in local resource management. The land owned by the state in this county has been transferred to a new corporate body called "Finnmarkseiendommen" (Finnmark Land Property). The area in question comprises about 95 % of the county, or approximately 45 000 km<sup>2</sup>. The new corporate body is managed by representatives officially appointed by the Finnmark County Council and the Sami Parliament. The Finnmark Act contains rules for the use of the natural resources, which are to be managed in a sustainable and balanced way to benefit the Sami culture and heritage, reindeer husbandry, as well as other inhabitants and the public of the community and the county. The law stipulates that the local people as well as the public in general are entitled to use and employ to the best purpose the renewable resources, including forest resources. It ensures that the diversity and productivity of the nature should be preserved. Due to the climatic conditions, this region contains only modest forestry resources and little forestry activities.

Several special reports has been vital to the writing of the Finnmark Act the most important being the Sami Rights Commission report published in NOU1997: 34 "Naturgrunnlaget for samisk kultur" (The nature as a basis of the Sami culture).

The Sami Rights Commission II started working on the Sami areas south of Finnmark in 2001, and in 2007 a report was presented. In the same way as the previous report, this report deals with existing rights and land use as well as the utilisation of natural resources in areas with Sami population. The report suggests a number of law amendments in order to comply with the obligations under international law. The report is currently on public hearing. The participation and influence of the Sami population as well as other local people will be addressed in this report too.

The Sami Parliament, which was instituted according to the Sami Act of 6 June 1987, is an advisory body entitled to comment on all matters affecting the Sami people as an indigenous people. In accordance with the Sami Act the scope of the Sami Parliament includes all matters and cases which the Parliament in their own understanding finds of concern to the Sami people as a minority or ethnic group. The Sami Parliament was in this respect entitled to comment on the draft of the Forestry Act.

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