

Introductory Intervention, to the Examination of Norway's 7<sup>th</sup> Report by the CEDAW Committee United Nations

Check against delivery

**STATEMENT** 

By

Ms Arni Hole
Director General
Royal Ministry of Children and Equality

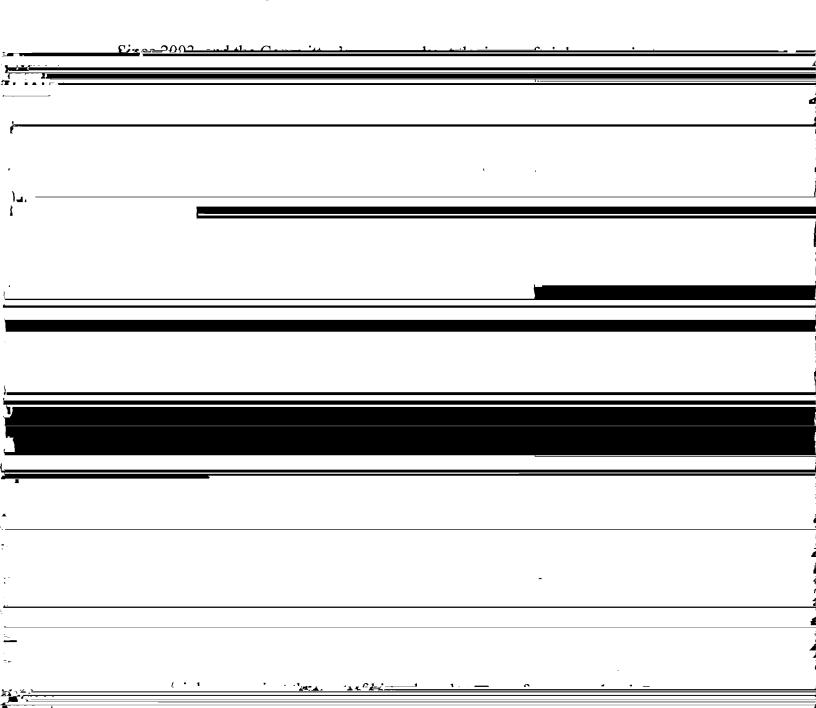
New York, 1 August 2007

IUIIIII AACIII IIA ACA

Madam Chairperson, distinguished members of the Committee, On behalf of the Norwegian government, I am honoured to meet the Committee for a constructive dialogue on Norwegian practises and policies for periodic examinations by treaty bodies to be a crucial part of international monitoring of legally binding conventions and covenants on human rights. 

I would like, however, first to draw your attention to the following: When the present cabinet took office, the name of my ministry was changed to the "Ministry of Children and Equality", underlining the importance of equality issues, and in accordance with Committee remarks from 2003.

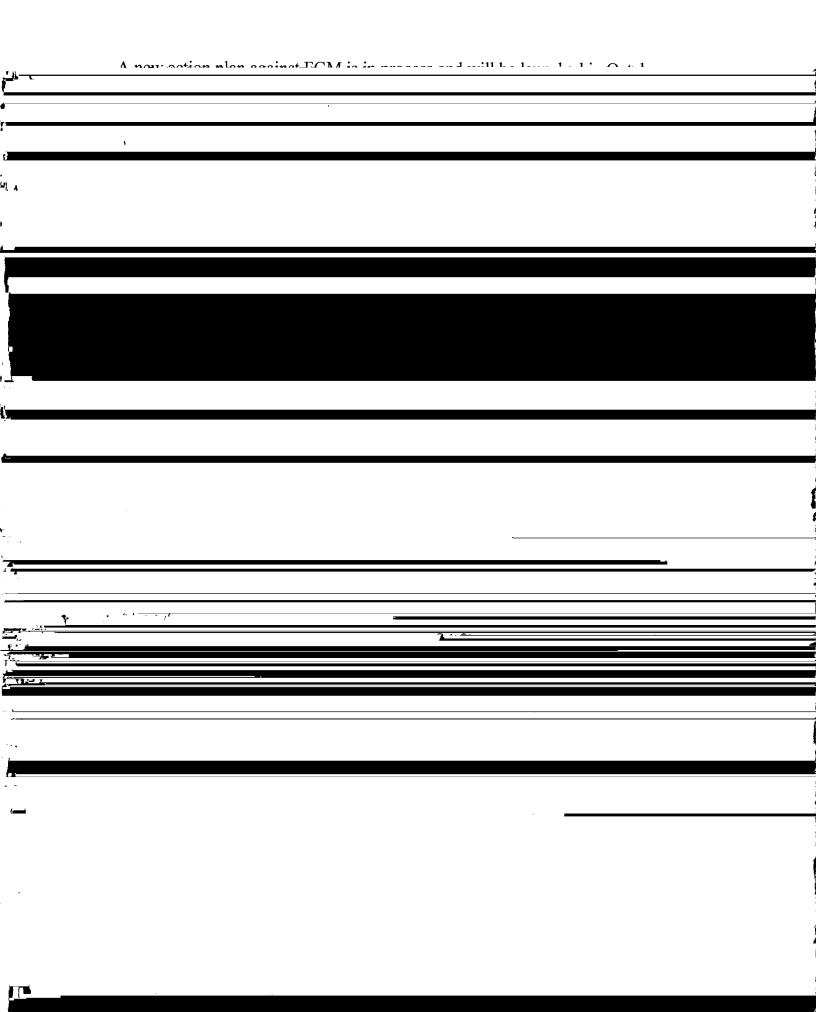
And secondly, we are pleased that women's NGO's and other stakeholders have contributed to the producing of 7<sup>th</sup> report in a constructive way, as also noting the fruitfulness of the making of a "shadow report" from the NGO's as well as their separate meeting with the Committee.



We have learned that it is necessary to apply a double or even triple approach to combat violence; to focus on treatment of abusive men, strengthen the support to women and children and also investigate in various prophylactic measures on local levels. There is a strong need for the municipalities to coordinate their work better and to train staff in the different sectors – to take action as early as possible when domestic violence is detected.

Moreover, a cross-ministerial group has been appointed to consider a specific law to secure low threshold, free of charge services, to all women who are victims of violence, building upon the existing crisis centres. The group will also consider what type of services and the quality of those, in reasonable proximity to women's homes. Further, five regional centres of competence are set up to help coordinate, guide and support the local work against violence, corresponding with the National Centre of Research on Violence and Traumatic

	1 1 1	1 , , 11 ,	 1	
7-7- <u></u>				
_				
_	•			
2				
	1			
•				
•				
			15	
<u> </u>				
<u> </u>				
_				



in mind that the companies involved either have a broad spread of shares  (PLC's) or represent the society allarge (the state_owned companies)  To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to		culture. The arguments of fairness and democracy of course are strong bearing
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to	,	The arguments of fairness and democracy of confre are grond hearing
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to	<u> </u>	
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to		
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to	 -	
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to		in mind that the companies involved either have a broad spread of shares
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to		
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to	•	
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to		
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to		
To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to		
	<u>.</u>	
	<u> </u>	<u>.</u>
		To support the legal reforms, several databases have been set up for women to
	<u>.                                    </u>	
	Paris .	
	-	
	-	
	· <u> </u>	
	<b>h</b> ie	
- (		
į		
į		
t		
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Y ·	·
	7.	
F		
	1 /	

	This autumn will see elections for the Municipal and Count	s autumn will see elections for the Municipal and County Councils. A series						
	6							
14		<del></del>						
		•						
<del>'.</del>								
	•							
-	-							
	,							
_								
*-								
*-								
*-								

party lists, and on the top! Such nominations are challenging, since they are not regulated by parity laws. Still only one out of six mayors (431) are women; this is not a good score at all. But campaigning seems to work! After a pre-election campaign in 2005, the Saami Parliament has increased the number of women from 18 to 51 % in the 2005 election.

We certainly do have a quota demand in our Local Government Act; when municipal councils appoints political committees, at least 40 % shall be women. This system has improved the numbers of women in political positions, but still almost 1 out of 3 committees fails to comply. The county governors have the task to control, and they have received strong instructions from the ministries to take actions.

immigrant women. A National Action Plan for integration and inclusion targeting the immigrant population was initiated in 2006 and well funded, one target group beeing girls and women.

Programmes are set up and networks are being build, to pre-qualify immigrant girls and women for the labour market; as well as the Introduction Programme – focussing on language learning and social studies – mandatory for all refugees and available also to other immigrants.

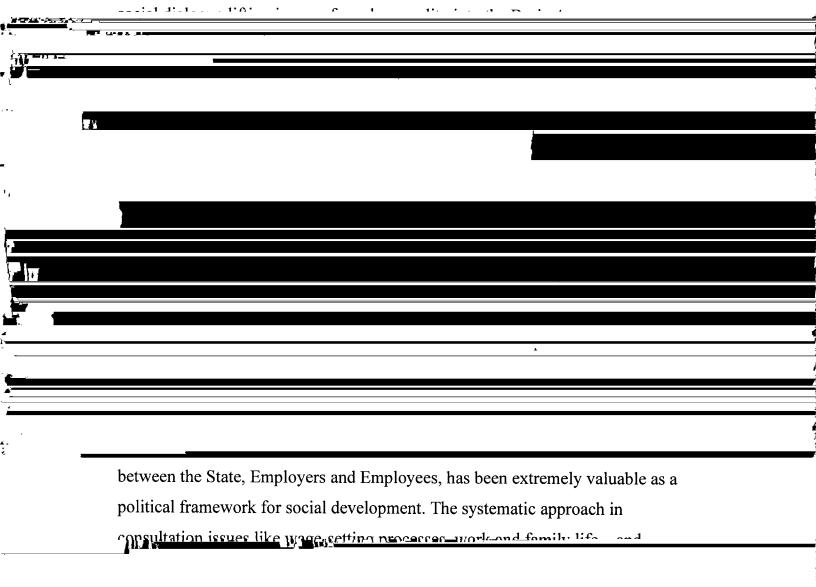
The nation wide system of Family Counselling Offices has taken up the task of

Quite a score of young immigrant girls are receiving their Masters at our universities; this is a very good trend.

March 8th this year, saw a special celebration for immigrant girls and women,

concerning women on its own footing; as to promote gender equality. The Ombud runs the Norwegian programme within the European Equal Opportunity year, as well as being partner in national and international gender equality projects. Dialogue meetings with my ministry is held 4 times a year, providing statistics and results from the work. The new machinery will be evaluated next year, as asked for by the parliament, when voting upon the new system and the law.

Furthermore, I will underline that the Norwegian tradition of tri-partism and



	We believe that boys and men play a crucial role in reaching gender equality.
1	We will never the second secon
<u> </u>	
,≱ <del>u. r =ı</del> :=-	
( <u>)</u>	
(D)	
<u> </u>	
<b>}</b>	
<del>-</del> -	
	,
1	
4	
·	
<b>_</b>	
•	
<u> </u>	
<b>a</b> .	
	gandan. Wa are nameronaira White Demonstrum 1, 1 1 1,
	1
· -	
i b	