

2 May 2017

The Oslo Declaration on Nordic Climate leadership

We, the Nordic Ministers for Climate and the Environment from Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland:

1. *Emphasise* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing humanity and hereby *Reiterate* the Nordic countries common determination to combat climate change through ambitious climate action.
2. *Note with grave concern* as confirmed by the recent report Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic by the Arctic Council (Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program) that the Arctic is warming at more than twice the rate of global average, resulting in widespread impacts on the climate system. The rapid warming of the Arctic, loss of sea ice and snow cover causes changes to the Arctic energy balances, potentially impacting weather and climate condition at more southern latitudes. *Emphasize* that thawing permafrost may also release methane and start another feedback process leading to further warming, and that the melting of the Greenland ice sheet and other Arctic land based ice makes the Arctic a main contributor to global sea level rise with severe consequences for low lying densely populated coastal regions; *Note* the interlinkages between Arctic and global climate and that the Nordic countries and the whole Arctic region are clearly affected by climate change
3. *Reaffirm* our strong support for climate science and evidence based policy making and the Nordic countries long time support for the crucial work by the IPCC. *Welcome* the IPCC special report in 2018 on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways and its central role in informing the facilitative dialogue in 2018 to take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal; *Take note of* the scientific reports produced by the Arctic Council including crucial information about the changes in the Arctic and their global implications. *Reiterate* Nordic countries' continued commitment to advance the recommendations of these reports and raise awareness of this knowledge and information both within and outside the Arctic.



4. *Note with great concern* the gap between the current level of global ambition and what is required by science in order to keep the increase in the global average temperature well below 2°C above pre-industrial level and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial level.
5. *Stress* the strong linkage between implementing the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals and *Underline* the great potential for sustainable development for the parties to the Paris agreement provided by an ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030.
6. *Underline* the importance of developing and adopting a robust rule book for the Paris Agreement, to foster predictability and accountability through a rule-based multilateral framework and to promote increased global ambition over time. *Stress* that this work needs to be prioritized during the time up to its adoption in 2018.
7. *Express* Nordic countries determination to work towards an effective and well-functioning ambition cycle in the Paris Agreement with an ambitious facilitative dialogue in 2018 that informs all parties and leads them to consider increasing their ambition in 2020, in line with the latest science; as well as work towards the design of an ambitious Global Stocktake fit for its purpose.
8. *Recall* that the Nordic countries have a long-standing history of forward-looking climate and energy policies and *Stress* the positive experience in the Nordic region in combining effective mitigation actions with good economic growth and welfare showcasing that building green societies creates competitive jobs and spurs investments and innovation.
9. *Emphasise* Nordic countries determination to ambitious climate action through transformation of our societies towards highly energy efficient, low emissions and climate resilient economies with ambitious targets for greenhouse gas emissions, including for renewable energy and energy efficiency with a vision of sustainable climate neutrality; and *Resolve* to continue to demonstrate leadership through concrete measures domestically and by sharing Nordic experiences of taking early climate action that supports long-term economic development and prosperity; *Welcome* the Paris Agreement's call to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies as an important constituent to eliciting higher ambition and understand how short-term policy changes are linked to long-term targets.
10. *Underline* the importance of putting a price on carbon and phasing out fossil fuels subsidies in order to achieve transformative action and limit the temperature increase.
11. *Call* for strong solidarity with those countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and *Underscore* the need to support efforts aimed to enhance their adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability; *Recognize* the important contributions taken by the Nordic countries in the efforts to achieve the existing collective mobilization goal of USD 100 billion from 2020 and *Underline*



that the Nordic countries stay committed to mobilizing climate finance, including support to climate adaptation, and to be a driver of accelerated action for mobilizing private climate finance for developing countries.

12. *Stress* the importance of engaging all relevant stakeholders, respect human rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, labor rights, just transition, gender equality and women empowerment when taking action against climate change.