

## Feedback from Norway to Draft Outline Document of a Ministerial Outcome Document

1. Norway would like to thank the Estonian presidency for the opportunity to provide our views on a Ministerial Outcome Document. Norway remains a strong proponent of a negotiated outcome document which capture the most important messages and issues that arise from the Assembly itself.
2. Norway is of the view that a shorter and more focused political document would be an effective tool to communicate the key decisions, message and actions taken at UNEA 4. We believe this particular document should speak to the broadest possible audience. As was the case for UNEA-3, the outcome document itself should be action-oriented. Such actions should be linked to the resolutions of the Assembly or contained within the outcome document itself.
3. From the outset it should be clear that Agenda 2030 and the sustainable development goals provides the overarching framework for this Ministerial Outcome Document. This would be true for all the three sections of the draft. Given that the first Global Sustainable Development Report will be presented at the 2019 High Level Political Forum, which is taking place at heads of state level, it is especially important that this be reflected in with respect to Main Priority 1.
4. With respect to Main Priority 2: Norway welcomes the specific reference to marine litter and agree that sound waste management is indeed key to addressing this issue. Norway is proud of the outcome from UNEA 3 mandating the expert meetings and noted that many ministers highlighted this outcome of UNEA 3 in their personal reflections of the outcome from UNEA 3. Given that the outcome is in the process of being mandated and that one expert meeting has already taken place, with another scheduled for November. The expert meeting will produce a report/recommendations which will be presented at UNEA 4 and further considered there. This remains an issue where there is potential to take specific actions which we are convinced ministers will want to highlight in an outcome document. In order not to prejudge that outcome however, we propose a placeholder in the document on this issue. We will be happy to contribute to general text on this, but it is in our view essential not to foreclose the opportunity for ministers to jointly welcome a next step on the global fight to address marine litter.
5. There should also be placeholders around other processes, such as the Sixth Global Environment Outlook.
6. There is a temptation when trying to identify the elements which could be included to resort to ensuring that everyone's priority issues are mentioned. However this is likely to lead to a situation of 'losing sight of the forest for the trees', as it were. It will be a challenge to identify strategic, overarching message and key actions. We welcome the spirit of innovation which Estonia is committed to highlighting at UNEA-4 and Norway is confident that the Estonian presidency will also be able to harness that same inspiration to a more focused, more strategic outcome document.