



ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF
CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
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Your ref

Our ref

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**Information regarding Norwegian National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
(NBSAP)**

With reference to notification SCBD/JBF/AY/NS/MAC/84888, we are pleased to inform the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity that the Norwegian National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan was approved as a White paper by the Cabinet in December 2015 and that it will be discussed in the Parliament in 2016.

The White paper is a direct result of the Aichi targets, which created a unique opportunity for the Norwegian government to evaluate challenges facing biodiversity and efforts needed to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of it. The previous national biodiversity strategy was presented 14 years ago.

Generally, the state of Norwegian ecosystems is relatively good and, if managed wisely, they will be capable of sustaining a flow of important ecosystem services. The administrative, economic and legal framework in Norway has been identified as an important reason for this situation. Still, biodiversity in Norway is under increasing pressure from a variety of sources. Land conversion and land-use change, climate change, invasive alien species, harvesting and pollution have been identified as the most important direct drivers for biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. The cumulative effects of these drivers are increasing the pressure on the ecosystems, making continued monitoring and efforts even more important.

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The new NBSAP requires that all Norwegian authorities, industrial sectors and other relevant actors play their part in efforts to ensure conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The government's policy for managing biodiversity in Norway can be summarized in the following main points:

- Ensure knowledge-based sustainable management of nature by identifying the desired state or condition for all main ecosystems, including the definition of "good ecological status" and efforts needed to reach agreed target
- Addressing climate change in natural resource policy and practice
- Building capacity at local level for better management of ecosystems and biodiversity
- Continuous efforts for the conservation of threatened species and habitats
- Systematic conservation planning to secure an ecological representation in conservation areas
- Strengthening the knowledge base for better management of biodiversity
- Provide tailor-made solutions for the management of the different types of ecosystems (marine and coastal ecosystems, fresh water ecosystems, forests, wetlands, mountain areas, cultural landscapes and open lowlands, polar ecosystems)

Electronic version of the White paper in Norwegian is available at:

<https://www.regjeringen.no/no/dokumenter/meld.-st.-14-20152016/id2468099/?ch=1&q=>

More information in English will be provided once the White paper is endorsed in the Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Ernst Inge Espeland

This document is electronically approved and sent without signature