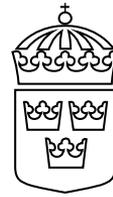


Policy for global development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda



Government Communication

2017/18:146



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The Government submits this communication to the Riksdag (Swedish Parliament).

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The main content of the communication

In the communication, the Government reports on, for example, its work on the policy for global development (PGD) during the years 2016–2017 within the scope of the 2030 Agenda and its Global Goals. The 17 goals and 169 targets are universal and indivisible and integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

A more in-depth report is provided in the communication regarding several areas in which the Government has expressed a particular ambition during the period. Within these thematic areas, the Government also reports potential conflicts of objectives and interests and how potential for improved harmonisation can be utilised. These areas are:

- feminist foreign policy
- sustainable business
- sustainable consumption and production
- climate and the sea
- flight of capital and tax flight

Finally, the Government establishes that Sweden shall be a leader in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda both nationally and internationally, and that PGD shall continue to be a key tool in the implementation.

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Extract from minutes of a Government meeting held on 15 March

2018

1 Introduction

Sweden is more than two and a half years into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Global Goals for sustainable development that were adopted at the UN summit in New York in September 2015. Sweden regards the 2030 Agenda and the Global Goals, the legally binding agreement concluded in Paris in December 2015, the outcome document from the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in July 2015 and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 as coherent parts of the global framework for sustainable development. The 17 Global Goals and 169 targets are universal and indivisible and integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

According to the UN summit, the Global Goals for sustainable development are:

Goal 1: No poverty

Goal 2: Zero hunger

Goal 3: Good health and well-being

Goal 4: Quality education

Goal 5: Gender equality

Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation

Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy

Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth

Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Goal 10: Reduced inequalities

Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities

Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production

Goal 13: Climate action

Goal 14: Life below water

Goal 15: Life on land

Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals

It is the Government's ambition that Sweden shall be a leader in implementing the 2030 Agenda, both nationally and internationally. Sweden shall be an active and constructive partner in the joint international work on implementing the 2030 Agenda. The multilateral work is perhaps more important now than any time in modern history.

A starting point for Sweden is that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda involves a process of successive transformation and further development of Sweden's societal model as a modern and sustainable welfare state, nationally and as part of the global system. This process must embrace all, and no one is to be left behind. It is fundamental for the work

that there is broad ownership of the 2030 Agenda among all parties in society; an ownership and participation that develop and deepen over time. This shared commitment, built on knowledge and understanding, from the local to the national and global level, is a necessary foundation.

The Government views the 2030 Agenda as a dynamic framework which globally opens up new possibilities for all societies and parties, both nationally and internationally. It is an agenda for a shared and long-term sustainable environmental, social and economic development, with the aim of fighting poverty, hunger and gender inequality within and between countries in order to build peaceful, fair and inclusive societies. Full respect for human rights shall be assured, gender equality shall be achieved and the empowerment of women and girls shall be promoted. Long-term protection for the planet and its natural resources shall be guaranteed.

The 2030 Agenda is an ambitious agenda but, within many areas, Sweden has even greater ambitions. This is the case not least as regards promotion of democracy, assurance of human rights and gender equality, both as a goal and as a means for sustainable development in its three dimensions – social, economic and environmental.

Sweden's focus in the international implementation of the 2030 Agenda is aimed at equitable and sustainable global development. The Government is conducting an ambitious policy coherence with this as a goal. The policy for global development (PGD) was adopted by the Riksdag in 2003 and, since 2014, has been applied with increased vitality through the relaunch of the policy that the Government has implemented. PGD constitutes a key tool in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The global challenges and the universal purport of the 2030 Agenda make more harmonious steps between policy areas into an important prerequisite for implementation.

Two perspectives guide Sweden's PGD work. The perspective of the poor as regards development means that it is their needs, interests and conditions which must serve as the starting point in the work of achieving fair and sustainable global development. The rights perspective entails that human rights, democracy and due process principles must be regarded as fundamental for development. Gender equality and the full enjoyment by all women and girls of human rights are a prerequisite for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in Sweden and globally.

2 Formulation of the policy

The Government announced a relaunch of PGD in the autumn of 2014. The relaunch took place against the background of the negotiation of the 2030 Agenda. The Government considered PGD to be an important tool in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and wished to vitalise the policy. The relaunch was also influenced by the Swedish Agency for Public Management's evaluation of the work methods and direction of PGD (report 2014:1), in which the Agency concluded that there was a need for further clarification of the policy, what was expected to be achieved by parties involved, and who bears responsibility for this. Several of the

recommendations of the Swedish Agency for Public Management have been addressed with the relaunch of PGD and the ongoing implementation of the 2030 Agenda with PGD as a tool.

As a consequence of the relaunch of PGD, the Government was able to formulate concrete goals for the work and clarify responsibility for its implementation. An interdepartmental working group comprising representatives responsible for PGD work on a unit manager level from all ministries was established under the leadership of the Director-General for International Development Cooperation. During 2015 all ministries produced internal plans of action as to how their activities contribute to the PGD work associated with the Global Goals. The plans of action relate to operational result goals for activities and the way in which authorities can be involved in the work. A selection of the goals established in the PGD plans of action at the end of 2017 were reported in the previous PGD communication and are reported in this communication.

Policy coherence in PGD is also directly linked to goal 17 of the 2030 Agenda. That goal addresses strengthening means of implementation and the global partnership for sustainable development, in which one of the targets involves strengthening coherence for sustainable development.

Synergies and conflicts of objectives and interests

The policy coherence, which is fundamental in PGD, plays a key role in contributing to the fulfilment of the Global Goals. PGD is aimed at the coherence of all policy areas contributing to fair and sustainable global development. It also means that conflicts of interests need to be highlighted and become the subject of conscious and carefully considered choices.

The links reported between different policy areas in this communication largely address elucidating and making better use of synergies for coherence between different policy areas. It is also a question of identifying and utilising the possibility for a more proactive approach in the PGD work within different policy areas. The communication also reports areas in which there may be various conflicts of objectives and interests which limit the possibility to achieve fair and sustainable global development, which may thereby limit Sweden's contribution to the fulfilment of the Global Goals.

Sweden's reporting to the UN's High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Several important steps have been taken in Sweden's implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In July 2017 the Government reported for the first time to the UN's High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

on the way in which Sweden is implementing the 2030 Agenda in Sweden and internationally. The report presents the Government's preliminary assessment as to how Sweden, in 2017, is living up to the Global Goals and targets in the agenda. The reporting is based primarily on a report from Statistics Sweden. On behalf of the Government, Statistics Sweden – in cooperation with a number of other Swedish authorities – has prepared an extensive reporting which, based on existing data and statistics, provides

an initial preliminary and systematic assessment per goal and target as to how Sweden is currently living up to the 2030 Agenda.

Statistics Sweden reports more than 120 indicators, of which approximately 100 exactly, partially or approximately concur with the global indicators. Out of all global indicators, Statistics Sweden makes the assessment that 49 indicators – i.e. 20 per cent of the global indicators – are fulfilled as far as Sweden is concerned. The final reporting of the engagement was presented by Statistics Sweden in October 2017. It contains proposals regarding a national indicator list, proposals concerning reporting mechanisms and controls, as well as proposals for integrated analyses. Statistics Sweden states in the report that not least measurement and monitoring are important in order to strengthen and promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Large parts of the 2030 Agenda address issues which have been on the Government's agenda for a long time, such as unemployment, industrial injuries, health, reducing gender inequality, access to housing, a fossil-free economy and consumption with sound husbandry of natural resources in accordance with environmental goals, well-functioning schools, health care and social care, a functioning legal system, codetermination and international cooperation. With respect to these issues, the 2030 Agenda and monitoring thereof can make it easier for the Government and other parties in society to see more clearly connections and links between different areas, and thereby structure policy more effectively. More structured monitoring within the scope of the 2030 Agenda can also become an important tool.

Sweden's voluntary report to the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2017 demonstrates that there are several positive results and strengths – and a number of important challenges for Sweden in the continuation of the work to 2030. The report was produced in a broad consultation process, with data and contributions from a large number of parties in society in different reference groups. In the report, the Government notes that Sweden is in favourable starting position for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Fundamental factors are the peaceful and democratic conditions that have characterised the country for a long period of time and which include a developed collaboration culture between different parties in society – politically, economically and socially.

Another important reason for Sweden's beneficial starting point is that it has enjoyed strong economic growth over time. There are positive results in several areas, for example in terms of poverty and hunger, gender equality, education, health, water and infrastructure. With respect to the climate goal, Sweden's greenhouse gas emissions fell by 25 per cent between 1990 and 2015. However, there are still clear challenges as regards identifying methods for rapidly and effectively contributing to addressing climate change both in Sweden and in other parts of the world. This applies also as regards the goals for sustainable sea and marine resources. Sweden faces significant challenges as regards the goal of achieving sustainable consumption and production in and outside Sweden. In Sweden, there are also a number of challenges related to gender inequality – reducing income disparities, including income differences between men and women for the same work, and increasing the disposable incomes of certain vulnerable groups and achieving equal health and equal

opportunities for lifelong learning. Individuals with functional impairments, new arrivals, those of non-European birth and young people encounter greater difficulties in establishing themselves on the labour market. Discrimination in daily life faced by various groups in society must be counteracted and prevented. In addition, there are still challenges in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

In the report to the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the Government notes that PGD and work on the Addis Ababa Agenda on development financing are important tools and means for implementing the 2030 Agenda, both within Sweden and in terms of Sweden's contribution to global implementation of the Agenda. There is a need to harmonise approaches in all stages, from formulation of the policy to actual implementation.

Coordination and organisation

The Government's work on implementing the 2030 Agenda with PGD as one of several tools is taking place through ordinary processes. The work has been focused on ensuring that PGD does not become a parallel track, but rather an effective tool in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The coordination function for PGD within the Government Offices is located at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where the responsible minister is the Deputy Prime Minister (who is also the Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate). However, as with the 2030 Agenda, it is incumbent on the entire Government, and therefore on all ministers, to implement the policy. With respect to implementation of the 2030 Agenda, two ministers also have particular overarching responsibility. The Minister for Public Administration is responsible for coordinating and promoting implementation of the agenda nationally in Sweden. The Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate (who is also Deputy Prime Minister) is responsible for presiding over the work as regards Sweden's contribution to international implementation through the policy for global development and Swedish development cooperation.

Directly beneath the ministerial level there is a small consultation group for the 2030 Agenda, comprising state secretaries from the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation.

Under the Government's relaunch of PGD, unit heads with responsibility for PGD were appointed at all ministries. The Director-General for International Development Cooperation convened an interdepartmental working group in which these unit heads are included. The interdepartmental working group for PGD has, during 2018, been merged with the interdepartmental working group for the 2030 Agenda. Each ministry has been tasked with designating one or two focal points for the national and international implementation of the 2030 Agenda (in which PGD is included), to be included in the interdepartmental working group. Where needed, relevant unit heads are summoned to the working group in order to strengthen ownership of the agenda and afford an opportunity to discuss strategically important issues. The following goals guide the working group:

- **Increased knowledge:** Increased knowledge and understanding of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Global Goals for sustainable development within the Government Offices.
- **Strengthened ownership:** Strengthened awareness, motivation and ownership for implementing the 2030 Agenda within the Government Offices.
- **Developed tools:** To facilitate the work on the 2030 Agenda within the Government Offices by developing aids for implementation of the agenda.

Diplomatic missions are working actively on implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In 2016 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs tasked all of Sweden's diplomatic missions (more than 100 in number) with reporting on how they are working on, and promoting, implementation of the 2030 Agenda with PGD as a tool. The task included describing the way in which the host country is implementing the agenda. Approximately one half of the diplomatic missions provided answers and a summary of them demonstrates that the missions are actively working on the 2030 Agenda. The four goals on which the missions stated that they have worked most on were: goal 5 on gender equality, goal 8 on inclusive economic growth and decent working conditions, goal 13 on climate and goal 16 on peaceful and inclusive societies. Several embassies have sustainable development as an overarching goal for their activities and joint work is taking place between the different sections at the missions with respect to, for example, analysis, reporting and public diplomacy.

A number of diplomatic missions believe that more needs to be done to integrate the 2030 Agenda work in the overall work of the mission, including by increasing knowledge of the agenda, integrating it in the planning of activities and other instruments, and developing partnerships with different parties. Some 30 diplomatic missions are active in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' communication endeavour #FirstGeneration, which is an international campaign aimed at creating involvement, strengthening communication and broadening public support for the 2030 Agenda. The diplomatic missions were also requested to report on their work on identifying synergies and conflicts of objectives in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Several diplomatic missions emphasised that they do not work systematically to identify and synergies between the specific goals in the agenda, and that the work on seeking synergies and identifying and avoiding conflicts of objectives might be strengthened, e.g. by PGD being included in the planning of activities.

The national action plan for the 2030 Agenda

A national action plan for the 2030 Agenda is to be produced during the spring of 2018. The Ministry of Finance is supervising the work, to which all ministries are contributing. The action plan focuses on national implementation, but relates also to Sweden's contribution to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda. PGD represents an important tool for this work. The aims of the national plan, which is now to be produced for the years 2018–2020 are:

- to identify existing policies and measures already decided upon that contribute to achieving goals;
- to reflect on the analysis by the 2030 Agenda of the extent to which the agenda's targets correspond to existing Swedish national goals;
- to take measures within a number of key cross-sectoral issues, including through instructions to public authorities;
- to facilitate coordination by the Government Offices of the national goals in relation to goals in the 2030 Agenda, including structures for more systematic monitoring and assessment;
- to encourage and facilitate contributions by local authorities to achieving goals; and
- to encourage and facilitate contributions to achieving goals by the business community, civil society, academia and individuals.

The basis for the national action plan comprises, among other things, the interim report by the 2030 Agenda delegation (Fi 2016:01), which was submitted to the Government on 1 June 2017 and contains proposals for a national action plan. In the report, the delegation presented proposals for six prioritised areas in which Sweden's challenges are considered to be the largest, but where the possibility for solutions has also been identified. These areas are: a society of social equality and gender equality, sustainable cities, a socially beneficial and circular economy, a strong business community with sustainable business models, sustainable and healthy foodstuffs, and strengthened knowledge and innovation.

The national report on Sweden's implementation of the 2030 Agenda to the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development also constitutes a basis for formulation of the national action plan. On 8 June 2017 the Government decided on, and stated, both central starting points and certain content in the continued work. In addition, the national action plan is based on documentation in the form of reports from some 90 government authorities, ministerial reports on the work at each government department based on the areas of responsibility of the relevant minister, as well as relevant policy documents that take into account the 2030 Agenda, for example the Government's communication entitled Policy framework for Swedish development cooperation and humanitarian aid (communication 2016/17:60) and this PGD communication.

PGD will constitute an integral part of the national action plan and be subject to statistic-based monitoring. An initial global indicator list for the 169 targets in the 2030 Agenda was presented by the United Nation's Statistical Commission in March 2016. Sweden is represented by Statistics Sweden in Inter Agency and Expert Group on SDG indicators (IAEG-SDG), which produced the proposal for the global indicator list and which is continuing to work on development of the indicators. In Statistics Sweden's final report on statistic-based monitoring of the 2030 Agenda (October 2017), proposals are presented for a number of national indicators as well as responsible authorities for the targets in the 2030

Agenda. The proposal is currently under preparation within the Government Offices as part of the work on the national action plan.

The global indicator for harmonisation for sustainable development involves a number of countries which have mechanisms in place for strengthening this work. The Government believes that the indicator is too overarching and, therefore, intends to develop a national indicator in order to monitor PGD and measure harmonisation nationally.

The 2030 Agenda and PGD in the EU

The EU has, by treaty, undertaken to promote harmonious development. This means that consideration must be given to development goals when taking decisions in various policy areas that impact on developing countries. Sweden has played an active part in discussions on how harmonious development policy is to be included in the Council conclusions regarding implementation of the 2030 Agenda that were adopted by the European Council on 20 June 2017.

The EU and its member states comprise the world's largest provider of development aid. Development cooperation constitutes a key part of the EU's foreign policy. Following intensive negotiations, the EU's new policy for development cooperation entitled New European consensus on development – Our world, our dignity, our future, was adopted in June 2017. The policy was approved at the Council meeting on 19 May 2017. The policy is politically binding on EU institutions and EU member states and is based on the 2030 Agenda and the Global Goals for sustainable development. The EU's new policy for development cooperation also establishes that the EU and its member states shall apply the principle of political harmonisation to development. It shall also take into account the goals for development cooperation in all external and internal policies that are implemented and which may be assumed to impact on developing countries.

During the negotiation of the Council conclusions concerning the EU's implementation of the 2030 Agenda, Sweden worked particularly for an overall raising of the ambition level, among other things by ensuring that the agenda is integrated in the EU's current and future policy work. The issues which Sweden has particularly promoted address gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, the environment, peace and security, aid goals, sustainable enterprise, trade, social dialogue, tools for harmonious development, including sustainable development, and active participation of stakeholders in the EU's work on the agenda. Most of the Swedish positions were positively received and Sweden is positive to the Council's proactive work on the EU's implementation of the agenda.

In order to better address the implementation phase of the 2030 Agenda which the EU is now entering, a permanent Council working party is being established which will coordinate and promote the work on the EU's internal and external implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The group will function as a support to other Council constellations which continue to be responsible for substantive parts of the 2030 Agenda and the Global Goals.

Sweden is actively participating in expert groups for harmonisation within both the EU and the OECD. These expert groups are aimed at discussing methodology and exchanging experiences. The OECD has

3 Reporting of the Government's work on thematic PGD areas 2016–2017 linked to the Global Goals

The Government believes that strengthened and more intensive work on Sweden's policy for global development (PGD) can contribute to more effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its goals. The Government presents below examples of various thematic PGD areas. The report is not comprehensive but, instead, illustrates various themes that are relevant in the PGD work linked to the Global Goals.

Within several thematic areas in which the Government has expressed a particular ambition during 2016–2017, the Government reports its work in greater detail. Within these areas, i.e. feminist foreign policy, sustainable enterprise, sustainable consumption and production, climate and the sea, as well as flight of capital and tax flight, the Government reports potential conflicts of objectives and interests and the lack of utilised potential for harmonisation. The aim is to identify and address contradictions between the Government's goals within various policy areas and the goal of fair and sustainable global development where consequences for sustainable development, respect for human rights and for the perspective of the poor as regards development must be taken into account.

3.1 No poverty

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

3.1.1 Example of PGD area: Social protection systems

(Primary responsibility: Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Employment, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Issues within the social policy area are being strongly developed in terms of the contribution to fair and sustainable global development and meeting Global Goals. Social protection systems are regarded globally, and by an ever increasing number of countries and to an ever increasing extent, as a useful tool for fighting poverty and as an investment in long-term sustainable development and welfare on a global, national, regional and local level. The fact is that few countries have succeeded in reducing poverty and improving living standards without having introduced a social

protection system. Social protection is a human right and strongly linked to several of the Global Goals, e.g. regarding gender equality and reduced social inequality. Basic social protection can also strengthen resilience to humanitarian crises, conflicts and climate changes, and also contribute to sustainable ecosystems. Development of basic social protection systems in countries in which such are lacking or are deficient is of major importance for reducing social inequality, vulnerability and poverty, which among other things is stated in recommendation (no 202) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on national floors of social protection. Social protection is particularly important for children, women, the elderly and individuals with functional impairment, as well as vulnerable groups. Basic social protection throughout the life-cycle, already from birth, contributes to ensuring other human rights such as health and education. This is particularly important for the development of children and for enabling them to achieve their full potential. Social protection systems can also provide increased opportunity to participate in working life, in both the formal and informal sectors of the economy and particularly for women, and can also contribute to increased demand and thereby to increased consumption and growth. National social protection systems must be based on long-term, sustainable financing through the countries' own systems for financing, such as tax collection. In order to contribute to the work on inclusive social protection systems on a global, national, regional and local level, harmonised measures are required between different policy areas such as social policy, finance policy, labour market policy, business policy, foreign policy, environmental policy and energy policy.

The Government's work

An increasing number of countries are noting the need for inclusive social protection systems. The trend within the area has advanced strongly. Most countries have some form of social protection system, albeit that only 29 per cent of the world's population enjoys a comprehensive basic social protection. The trend in many developing countries means that skills and training are in demand. The Government is participating in the international and global dialogue on basic social protection, e.g. within the scope of the EU, the UN and the ILO. In addition, internationally requested information and knowledge is disseminated concerning the Swedish social insurance system.

In addition, the Government has encouraged the EU and international financial institutions, such as the World Bank Group and the ILO, to assist developing countries with advice concerning the structuring of social protection systems, as well as capacity development in the tax administrations of the developing countries.

The Government has initiated a network of relevant authorities, such as the Swedish Public Employment Service, the Social Insurance Agency, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Swedish Tax Agency, and the Swedish Pensions Agency. The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency is currently investing in the development of social protection systems in nine countries in Africa, a global programme for capacity development and for small catalytic investments which thus far have been carried out in some seventy

countries, as well as research support. Additional cooperation programmes are being developed. In 2018 the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency is also planning to initiate an International Training Programme regarding social protection systems. Several Swedish authorities are participating in various EU-financed projects regarding basic social protection. For example, the Swedish Public Employment Service is participating in projects in Cambodia, Belarus, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Cambodia, Morocco and Tunisia, while the Swedish Tax Agency is participating in projects in Bosnia, Cambodia, Kenya, Kosovo and Mozambique.

Sweden shall work for, and contribute to, international work of strengthening the independent capacity of developing countries to build up, based on their own national priorities, broad and inclusive social protection systems as well as effective and sustainable systems for national financing. The use of aid for financing and capacity development of national systems may serve as a complement to the country's own national endeavours, but in the long-term systems must be fully financed by the country in question. Therefore, national ownership of an issue is important, as well as functioning and effective financing systems, e.g. for tax collection or financing through fees in developing countries. Several Swedish authorities, for example the Social Insurance Agency, the Swedish Pensions Agency and the Swedish Tax Agency, have great skills to contribute in this regard.

The Government will continue to provide internationally requested information and knowledge regarding the development of social protection systems for all. It is important that international financial institutions and the ILO assist developing countries with advice concerning the structuring of social protection systems for all, and that the work on capacity development in the developing countries' social protection systems and tax administrations continues.

The Government will continue to promote increased possibilities for Swedish authorities, based on their core skills and resources, to contribute to capacity development endeavours where there is an expressed need and demand from developing countries, within areas in which Sweden possesses relevant systems knowledge, e.g. within institutional and system development as well as public investments.

3.2 Zero hunger

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

3.2.1 Example in PGD area: Food security

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, the Ministry of Health and Social affairs, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

The number of people suffering from hunger or who are malnourished has, since the start of the century, increased by almost 40 million and is currently approximately 815 million. Armed conflicts and effects of climate change are believed to be the main causes of this increase. Sufficient food is produced to feed the world's population, but due to production losses and waste one-third of production disappears between cultivation and consumption. At the same time, there are more people in the world who are overweight than hungry. In many countries, there are problems of both malnutrition and overweight, the 'double burden of malnutrition'. The reasons are many and complex. They are institutional, individual and structural. Improved conditions for, and increased sustainable investments in, agriculture and the food production sector are needed on all levels. Water is a prerequisite for the world's food and energy production. Sustainable fishing and forestry are also important industries for a secure supply of food.

Agriculture is a very important industry in most developing countries. Many people who live in poverty are dependent on agriculture, both as a source of income and for the supply of food. One important question is the right to own, use and inherit land, which is also a key gender equality issue in many developing countries. In some developing countries a significant proportion of the country's supply of food is imported, which makes these countries particularly vulnerable to price changes for agricultural raw materials on the world market. Reducing these countries' dependence on imports through investments in the agricultural sector thus plays an important part in the work for a secure supply of food. Better functioning markets – internationally, regionally and locally – play a key part. A secure supply of food and access to markets and international trade are also important drivers for the economic empowerment of women and for their health. The interests of the developing countries need to be met in various international negotiations linked to trade in agricultural products. The development of crops and sustainable agricultural practices needs to be adapted to local conditions.

There are many conflicts of objectives and interests within the area of achieving food security. They may, for example, relate to various subsidies within the agricultural sector which can counteract the possibilities of developing countries to export and trade, or various regulations, e.g. within the EU, which impact on the possibility of developing countries to export and trade. For example, requirements in conjunction with the importation of plants, animal products or ecological products lead to difficulties for certain developing countries in living up to such requirements. 'Land grabbing', i.e. that economically strong forces buy up (or lease over a long period of time) large areas of land constitutes a problem in certain developing countries, especially in countries with weak institutions, ambiguous ownership conditions and the lack of a land register, or where existing legislation is not applied. In many countries, women's rights are weak with respect to the ownership and inheritance of land.

Harmonised measures are required between different policy areas, such as agriculture, trade, the environment, energy, social and foreign policy, in order to achieve improved and more effective work on a secure food supply.

The Government's work

Sweden will continue to play an active part in the international work on achieving food security, among other things by promoting long-term sustainable productivity development within agriculture in developing countries, adapted to local conditions, and through endeavours for increased gender equality, training, research and innovation. Sweden is working within, among other bodies, the UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), which is one of the most important international organisations for securing the global supply of food. One important issue for Sweden, among others, is preventative work through, e.g., measures to improve the health of animals and to counteract antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and capacity-enhancing endeavours, e.g. the development of transparent systems for user rights and access to land in developing countries. Other issues prioritised by Sweden in its involvement in the FOA include domesticated genetic diversity and sustainable use of water and fishing. Collaboration between sectors and different parties, including the private sector, is considered to be a key factor for achieving food security.

Sweden will continue to play an active part in various trade negotiations and endeavour to ensure that the interests of developing countries are taken into account in various international trade negotiations, not least within the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Subsidies within the agricultural sector that reduce the possibilities of developing countries to export and trade must be limited. Sweden would like to see a continued reform of the EU common agricultural policy, with further increased market orientation and taking into account the interests of developing countries, and that the Commission's assessments of the common agricultural policy take into account its impact on developing countries, particularly those with deficient food security. It is also important that consideration be given to the interests of developing countries when preparing EU legislation in the sanitary and phytosanitary area, and Sweden will continue to support capacity-enhancement measures in the area in order to promote the export possibilities of developing countries. The OECD's analysis work on policy recommendations in relevant areas should continue to be supported.

High priority continues to be given to measures to reduce the use of antibiotics in animal husbandry. In order to achieve food security, it is also important to work with capacity-enhancing measures in developing countries and to increase collaboration between parties and sectors, including the private sector.

3.3 Good health and well-being

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

3.3.1 Example in PGD area: Antibiotic resistance

Skr. 2017/18:146

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, the Ministry of education and Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR), particularly antibiotic resistance, is a transboundary and cross-sectoral threat to the health of humans and animals which is increasing in scale in the world. Antibiotic resistance results in increased economic costs and has adverse consequences for the work on sustainable development globally. Antibiotic resistance can risk undermining a number of the successes that have been achieved in fighting poverty and for fair and sustainable global development. Low- and middle-income countries are disproportionately affected by antibiotic resistance and its consequences. Lack of access to water, sanitation and medication and generally weak systems for human and veterinary health are some of the reasons. In many countries, antibiotics are used on animals and humans in an often unsuitable manner, which together with discharges of antibiotics into the environment contributes to antibiotic resistance. Measures are needed to prevent and manage the occurrence and distribution of antibiotic resistance, such as resistance monitoring, infection-prevention measures, responsible use of antibiotics and innovation and research. Antibiotic resistance must be fought cross-sectorally (One Health). This means that measures are required within a number of areas such as human and veterinary health, the environment, research, training, trade and international development cooperation. Strong international cooperation and measures are required at different levels.

The Government's work

The Government is giving high priority to the issue of antibiotic resistance, both in terms of national work as well as within the European Union (EU) and internationally. With respect to international work, the Government is emphasising the importance of leadership in the multilateral processes, within the EU and through bilateral contacts and collaboration. The Government believes that the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development constitutes a key framework for the work against antibiotic resistance.

The Government's prioritisation of the antibiotic resistance issue is evident, among other things, from its strategy for work against antibiotic resistance from 2016, the national safety strategy from 2017, the bill entitled Knowledge in collaboration – For society's challenges and strong competitiveness (Government Bill 2016/2017:50), the previous communication on global development policy in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (communication 2015/2016:182), and the communication on the policy framework for Swedish development work and humanitarian aid (communication 2016/17:60). In light of the transboundary nature of the antibiotic resistance issue, Sweden has endeavoured to ensure that the issue gains a place on the global agenda. Important advances have been made in recent years, such as the work on the global action plan on AMR and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General

Assembly on antimicrobial resistance. Sweden is also actively working within the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (Codex Alimentarius) to bring about trading standards for the production of healthy animals and safe foods. These standards include rules regarding the use of antibiotics throughout the food production chain and serve as guidance for the WTO in trade disputes. At Sweden's initiative, the EU is promoting the issue of collaboration on reduced use of antibiotics in animal production in order to counteract AMR within the scope of the EU's free trade negotiations with, among others, Mercosur (Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay) and Mexico. In addition, the Government has issued a renewed mandate regarding a national collaboration function involving a number of authorities and non-governmental bodies in order to promote coordinated cross-sectoral work against antibiotic resistance. The mandate has resulted in a revised cross-sectoral action plan against antibiotic resistance which is in line with the Government's strategy and thus also emphasises international work. In Sweden, a number of parties have, for a long time, been engaged in the issue of antibiotic resistance and there is a developed body of expertise and experience which is in demand internationally. The Public Health Agency of Sweden has been charged with providing support for the implementation of the global action plan on AMR. Sweden is also working to promote increased environmental consideration in the EU's pharmaceuticals legislation and internationally, e.g. in connection with the future EU strategy for pharmaceuticals in the environment and in EU negotiations concerning veterinary pharmaceuticals. The Swedish Research Council plays a key role in international research collaboration within the AMR area through what is referred to as the Joint Programming Initiative on AMR.

The Government's priorities on the antibiotic resistance issue must be regularly translated into initiatives and activities within different sectors and on different levels. It is important to maintain momentum and to take long-term, concrete and effective measures globally. The work must be based on the Swedish strategy for the work on combating antibiotic resistance and take into account both work in Sweden and within the EU and globally. High priority continues to be given to measures to reduce the use of antibiotics in animal husbandry (see section 3.2.1). On an international level, the work must contribute to the implementation of the global action plan on AMR and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on AMR. The work must also contribute to implementation of the updated EU action plan on AMR which, among other things, emphasises that the EU must contribute to development on a global level.

3.4 Quality education

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning for all

3.4.1 Example in PGD area: Education for sustainable development

Skr. 2017/18:146

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Education and Research. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Employment, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Education for sustainable development means that all people shall have access to good quality education which provides the individual with knowledge and skills to make conscious choices for a sustainable lifestyle and promotes sustainable development in its three dimensions. In this work, the school plays an important role in developing, strengthening and entrenching values regarding human rights, democracy, freedom, social equality, gender equality and tolerance. Education constitutes a fundamental human right, a goal in itself and a key tool for contributing to social changes, sustainable development and fighting poverty. Access to good quality education and lifelong learning also constitutes a fundamental aspect of the development of a country's capacity and is unavoidable for sustainable economic development. Education provides the individual with tools to make a living and knowledge to actively participate in, and affect, the development of society. Education also contributes to increased participation and democracy as well as increased employment. Investments in education, particularly the education of girls, is also one of the most effective tools for promoting gender equality and contributing to a country's development. Harmonised measures are needed to strengthen the work on education for sustainable development. Important policy areas include education policy, employment policy, business policy, environmental policy and foreign policy.

The Government's work

Extensive international work is conducted within the education area, which contributes to enhancing the quality of education both nationally and globally. Through dialogue and exchanges of experience, improved conditions are created for addressing shared challenges. The work on the Global Goals permeates the work in several international organisations in which Sweden is an active voice. Within the scope of its membership of UNESCO, Sweden has been a driving force with respect to increasing the possibility to obtain access to good sexual instruction and has promoted the issue of gender equality in goal 4 within the 2030 Agenda. During its period on UNESCO's board, Sweden has promoted the issue of training for sustainable education and global citizenship. In its EU work, Sweden has continued to promote attainment of the goals set out in the EU's strategic framework Education and Training 2020 (which are clearly connected to the Global Goals for sustainable development) and, among other things, has emphasised the importance of an inclusive education and access to lifelong education. Sweden will continue to be a driving force internationally for the education goal, among other things in UNESCO and within the EU.

Swedish support for education within development cooperation is based on a holistic approach to learning, with a focus on national education

systems, including good quality teacher training and in-service training which lead to sustainable development. A large part of the Swedish support for education, which is primarily administered by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, is allocated to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) for the promotion of national education plans. Support for primary education through GPE focuses largely on the education of girls, gender equality and children with special needs. Sweden also contributes to the GPE's policy work with opportunities to influence the promotion of integration of different dimensions of education for sustainable development.

The Government believes that an international perspective is important in the school in order to understand one's own reality in a global context. In the curricula for the different types of schools there is a clear connection to the Global Goals, including democracy, gender equality, human rights and sustainable development. Sweden's universities and colleges are actively engaged in internationalisation issues and, in accordance with Högskolelagen (the Higher Education Act), have a clear duty in their activities to promote sustainable development.

Sweden will continue, in various international forums, to be a driving force for the work on goal 4 of quality education for all. Education for sustainable development is an issue on which Sweden is particularly engaged within the scope of its membership of UNESCO. In the EU area, Sweden will continue its active work on achieving goals in the EU strategic framework Education and Training 2020. It is important, in the international work, to continue to promote issues regarding possibilities for children with functional impairment to start and complete elementary education, among other things through further development of statistics and indicators, including gender-related differences. Another prioritised issue is that an increasing number of higher education students are receiving an international perspective in their education, among other things due to the fact that an increasing number of students, teachers and researchers are studying or working abroad, and through improved internationalisation at home. Related to this, an improved system is needed for application and study fees, stipends, recruitment and assessment of residence permits for foreign university students. There is also a need to monitor the work of universities and colleges for promoting sustainable development in education and research.

3.5 Gender equality

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

3.5.1 Example in PGD area: A feminist foreign policy

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and other ministries.)

Fair and sustainable global development is not possible without gender equality between women, men, girls and boys. The global normative framework for gender equality and empowerment of women and girls and enjoyment of human rights is based, among other things, on the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the declarations and plans of action from the UN's women's conferences, population conferences and follow-up conferences, as well as UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, and subsequent resolutions. The 2030 Agenda entails a clear and systematic increase in ambition level, in which gender equality constitutes an integral part of social, economic and environmentally sustainable development. Gender equality is a goal in itself (goal 5) but also a condition for the achievement of all Global Goals. The principle of leaving no one behind also sheds light on mutually reinforcing forms of discrimination and places focus on the poorest, the most marginalised and excluded women and girls.

Women and girls in the world still experience a flagrant lack of rights, representation and resources. Although important global successes have been achieved for gender equality and the enjoyment of human rights by women and girls, there are still extensive barriers within all areas of society. Gender-related violence, which includes violence in familial relationships, sexual violence, human trafficking for sexual purposes and injurious practices such as child marriage and forced marriage, honour-related violence and oppression and female genital mutilation, are a global problem and a serious impediment to the enjoyment of human rights by women and girls. A global estimate is that one-third of all women are exposed to violence during their lifetime. Many countries nowadays have legislation against gender-related violence, but compliance is ineffective and often involves no penalties. At the beginning of conflicts and in conflict and post-conflict situations, gender-related violence increases and women and girls are particularly vulnerable. Research shows that societies with gender equality are more peaceful and there are clear indications that peace processes become more sustainable when both women and men participate in them.

Maternal mortality rates have almost halved since 1990 but are still unacceptably high. Each day, hundreds of women and girls die from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. Illegal and unsafe abortions lead to severe suffering and death. The lack of access by women and girls to sexual and reproductive health and rights constitutes a serious impediment to their enjoyment of human rights and restricts the empowerment of women and girls.

The lack of access to economic and political power and influence by women and girls continues to be a major challenge and discriminatory legislation is common in many countries. Lack of economic rights and resources, not least in terms of ownership and rights of inheritance, restrict development. Women make up almost one half of the world's agricultural labourers, but they nevertheless often lack the legal right to the land they work. Gender differences remain in terms of occupation and women are overrepresented in the informal sector. The responsibility women and girls bear for unpaid domestic and care work limits their opportunities for education, formal work and participation in all aspects of life in society.

Structurally unequal power relations, patriarchal structures and destructive social norms and attitudes regarding the roles and positions of women and girls, men and boys, prevent gender equality and undermine sustainable development. The involvement of men and boys is a prerequisite for a change in social norms and for increased gender equality. The work on gender equality and a feminist foreign policy requires coordination with several parties, an integrated approach and harmonised measures within all policy areas.

The Government's work

Sweden is the first country in the world to be conducting a feminist foreign policy. The feminist foreign policy constitutes an agenda for change and is aimed at enhancing the rights, representation and resources of all women and girls. The work is based on knowledge, analysis and consultation.

A follow-up conducted by the foreign service bears witness to intensive implementation of the policy, which has left an impression on an international and regional level, and on a country level. During its membership of the UN Security Council, Sweden has made women, peace and security a top priority. Sweden has also established and encouraged networks of female mediators. Sweden has contributed both female and male personnel to UN initiatives and initiatives within the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and remains committed to ensuring that a larger proportion of women should participate in these initiatives. Within the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, Sweden is actively engaged in ensuring that the gender equality perspective impacts on processes related to international arms control, for example as regards the UN Arms Trade Treaty. In addition, Sweden has promoted the compilation of statistics broken down by gender and has thereby contributed to elucidating the way in which the distribution of small and light weapons, and armed conflict, particularly affects women and girls.

Sweden has intensified its work on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in pace with the challenges. Sweden is working normatively and operatively within the EU, multilaterally and bilaterally, for example through alliance building, positions on boards, development work and dialogue, including by initiating the #SheDecides global movement. On a country level, the work has contributed to, among other things, more midwives and improved access to education on sexuality and interpersonal relations, contraceptives and safe abortions. Sweden has been able to interest several countries in the Swedish legislation prohibiting the purchase of sexual services and is actively involved in the work conducted by international organisations against human trafficking, among other things through the ambassador against human trafficking appointed by the Government in 2016. In particular, Sweden has emphasised the need to protect women and girls against human trafficking for sexual exploitation and taken measures aimed at reducing demand for people to be exploited, for example as unpaid labour or in prostitution.

With respect to the economic empowerment of women and girls, Sweden has worked to promote the access by women and girls to decent and productive work, not least through the Global Deal initiative. Sweden has also promoted gender equality work in sustainable enterprise and in its trade policy. For example, Sweden has promoted the Declaration on Trade

and Women's Economic Empowerment on the Occasion of the WTO Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires in December 2017. Through Swedish support, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has produced the first systematic tool for analyses of how trade policy measures affect women (trade and gender toolbox). Sweden has also regularly promoted the gender equality perspective in the development banks and environmental and climate funds. One example is the World Bank Group, in which Sweden has contributed to gender equality being one of five prioritised areas for the organisation's International Development Association (IDA). This entails obligations such as to use statistics broken down by gender, to analyse segregation on the labour market, to improve knowledge regarding gender differences and to increase access to maternal care and reproductive health care. The World Bank Group, supported by Swedish financing, has also been engaged in a project regarding legislation and female economic empowerment based on a gender equality perspective. Another example comprises Sweden's dialogue with the Asian Development Bank, in which Sweden has promoted, and ensured that the Bank has established, gender equality goals in its Clean Energy Fund (CEF). Within the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Sweden has given its support to the Gender and Diversity Division, which among other things is aimed at promoting gender equality, fighting discrimination and strengthening the economic, social and political empowerment of women in the region.

3.5.2 Conflicts of objectives and interests: Setbacks in the global work on gender equality and the rights of women and girls require a harmonised policy

Recent years have witnessed setbacks in the global work for gender equality and the enjoyment of human rights by women and girls. Political fluctuations and increasing – and not infrequently well mobilised – conservative, nationalistic and extremist forces are affecting the global gender equality agenda. International obligations and normative frameworks concerning gender equality and human rights are being increasingly called into question. The reintroduction and expansion of the 'Mexico City Policy' risks reducing the access by women and girls to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). In many countries, women's rights as regards inheritance, property and the right to divorce are restricted. Several countries have adopted laws that are aimed at restricting the space of civil society in various respects and the shrinking space of civil society is also noticeable on the international level, not least at multilateral forums. This has a particularly detrimental effect on women's rights organisations. Therefore, civil society's space must be a clear subject for foreign policy dialogue. The role of individual defenders of human rights is linked to the possibility for civil society to act, and they play a key role in the establishment of a vibrant civil society. The existence of an independent and strong civil society, not least a women's rights movement, is crucial to the work on promoting national legislation for gender equality and the rights of women and girls must be realised and be

implemented. Women's rights organisations are also key players in the work against gender-related violence.

Violence and threats against women's rights defenders and female journalists have increased. The Government intends to strengthen the safety of journalists, among other things by strengthening the demand that those responsible be held to account in the case of use of violence, threats of violence and other types of harassment which occur in both the physical and digital world.

This situation in the world imposes greater demands for collaboration and harmonisation, between various like-minded parties and between various policy areas. Strategic alliances and normative lobbying are becoming increasingly important. One area in which harmonised measures are required between, e.g., foreign policy, development policy, defence policy and migration policy is the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions regarding women, peace and security. The Government has adopted Sweden's third action plan for women, peace and security and linked thereto a working group which includes public authorities and civil society organisations. In order to ensure support for, as well as the relevance and implementability of the third action plan, a broad consultation process has taken place in Sweden and, for the first time, also in five conflict and post-conflict countries. The national action plan elucidates the overarching strategic focus and also identifies which parties are to implement the plan, and ensures the allocation of responsibility and roles. The action plan also states 12 focus countries for implementation and monitoring. As a leading party within global work for gender equality and human rights, Sweden is able to contribute by strengthening collaboration and cooperation with different parties in order to protect and strengthen the rights perspective and the global normative framework. Therefore, a feminist foreign policy is needed more than ever and the work must be conducted with undiminished vigour. The Government will strengthen and deepen the work for the full enjoyment of human rights by women and girls, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, the participation by women and girls in peace work, political action by women and girls and their economic empowerment, as well as freedom from all forms of violence. In 2018 an international gender equality conference will be arranged in Stockholm aimed at exchanging experiences, methods and tools for strengthening gender equality work and to contribute to shared solutions to global challenges. The Government will produce a new strategy within the development cooperation for global gender equality and the rights of women and girls 2018–2022. An important aspect of the strategy will be to serve as a support for women's rights organisations, but also as a support for strengthening gender equality statistics, research, methods and approaches which are a condition for strengthening the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda.

The Government will continue its work, within the Government Offices, of integrating a gender equality perspective in all activities (S2016/01917/JÄM, S2016/04472/JÄM). The work of the foreign service is also governed by annual plans of action for the feminist foreign policy. The goal of the feminist foreign policy is to contribute to gender equality and the full enjoyment of human rights by all women and girls. In 2018

the work will focus, among other things, on the rights of women and girls in humanitarian situations, in flight and in migration, and on counteracting women and girls falling victim to prostitution and human trafficking for sexual purposes by disseminating information about the Swedish legislation prohibiting the purchase of sexual services. Violence against women and girls in all its forms must be tackled and prevented, not least in conflict and post-conflict situations.

The basic causes of violence must be addressed and norms which link masculinity with violence must be countered. Men and boys must be involved in the work. Work must continue on strengthening the participation of women and girls in preventing and resolving conflicts, and in developing peace after conflicts, among other things by promoting the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions. Women human rights defenders, women journalists and women's rights organisations must be protected, supported and promoted. Work must continue on gender equality integration in relevant organisations within international trade, gender equality in sustainable enterprise and with female involvement and rights on the labour market. The work on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) must be intensified in pace with the challenges, among other things by defending the rights of all individuals to decide over their own body, reproduction and sexuality without discrimination. Work must continue on fighting coercion, early marriage and child marriage, on preventing sexual harassment, and on increasing access to education regarding sexuality and interpersonal relations, advice and lawful and safe abortions.

3.6 Clean water and sanitation

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

3.6.1 Example in PGD area: Sustainable management and secure access to water and sanitation

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of the Environment and Energy. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Water is a prerequisite for all life on earth and also for fair and sustainable global development. In addition to health aspects, access to clean water and adequate sanitation is also of crucial importance for ecologically socially and economically sustainable development, and for achieving most of the goals set out in the 2030 Agenda. Sweden has a long-term commitment to development work as regards water, sanitation and hygiene.

Water is a key resource for the world's development and a vulnerable natural resource which requires sustainable management. Access to clean water is a human right. But a very large proportion of people who live in

poverty lack access to clean water and basic sanitation. Women and girls are affected particularly hard in terms of, e.g., health, safety, education, income opportunities and family relations. Water is also a prerequisite for the world's production of food and energy and thus water shortages can cause conflicts, not least when transboundary watercourses are involved. But water can also function as an integrating force, both between countries and between different Global Goals. Integrated water resource management and transboundary cooperation are the key. Successful implementation of goal 6 in the 2030 Agenda will, therefore, contribute to the success of many other goals, primarily health and education for children, gender equality, sustainable cities and sustainable ecosystems in water and the seas.

Climate changes and the lack of clean water go together. The adverse impact of climate change on water resources is clear, constitutes a serious risk as regards poverty and threatens to undo decades of development work. The effects of climate change are manifesting themselves early and clearly in changed access to water. There is an urgent need for global solutions. The fact that we now have joint goals strengthens our shared endeavours to achieve sustainable development. Harmonised measures are needed between different policy areas such as the environment, energy, agricultural, health, gender equality, security and foreign policy.

The Government's work

The Government has continued to work on realising the goal of secure access to water as a basic right, as a natural resource which is transboundary in nature, a conflict-prevention issue, as a basis for economic development and for the health and well-being of humankind, not least for women and girls. The Government is applying a broad approach. The breadth of the goal underscores the fact that many building blocks must be in place for sustainable development and the attainment of goal 6. Internationally, Sweden is working on sustainable water resource management through the UN Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE) and through bilateral work. In particular, the Government has supported the Source-to-Sea platform. A large number of Swedish authorities are contributing to the work, for example the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. For example, SMHI is continuously promoting an open data policy internationally in, among other bodies, the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (Eumetsat), The European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), and is working to make water and climate statistics available.

Sweden has a long-term involvement in development cooperation as regards water, sanitation and hygiene and is one of the world's largest donors in the area. Our work for improved access to water and sanitation is also not limited to the period covered by this communication. The Government's ambitions are based on Sweden's long-term involvement in the area and on a long-term commitment which extends until 2030.

In the UN Security Council, the Government has also raised the importance of conflict-prevention measures within transboundary watercourses as a necessary condition for achieving global development.

The new policy framework for international development cooperation which the Government has adopted provides guidelines for the work going forward. The framework clarifies our position on water and sanitation, as well as on water resource issues generally within various aspects of development cooperation.

Priority needs to be given to global, concrete measures for implementation of goal 6 and related targets. Successful implementation of existing and future strategies within various areas in the Swedish cooperation work and other policy areas plays an important role. More countries need to accede to UNECE's Water Convention. Knowledge needs to increase regarding integrated water resource management, as well as an understanding of the Source-to-Sea approach, i.e. the impact of water from source to sea, and the link between goals 6 and goal 14. It is important to work for a more open data policy which increases access to water and climate statistics. Among other things, this is taking place through the work of SMHI.

3.7 Affordable and clean energy

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

3.7.1 Example in PGD area: Sustainable and inclusive energy systems

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of the Environment and Energy. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Energy is of major importance for the possibilities to achieve fair and sustainable global development, for reducing poverty and strengthening human rights, social equality and gender equality. More than one billion people in the world still lack access to electricity. The way in which energy is produced, distributed and used in society has an extensive impact on climate and environment, as well as on economic and social development. Energy, water and food production are closely linked together and of major importance for sustainable development, including for the possibility for women, men, girls and boys who live in poverty to improve their situation. The energy sector accounts for approximately two-thirds of total greenhouse gas emissions. In order to counteract climate change and to contribute to achieving the ambitions set out in the Paris Agreement, all countries need to switch over to more renewable energy and sustainable energy systems. The technical development and research concerning renewable energy is constantly moving forward and has strengthened the conditions for necessary restructuring to a sustainable energy system. There are also clear security policy aspects to a country's energy supply.

Investments in energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy can contribute to securing a country's domestic energy resources, reducing sensitivity to fluctuating fuel prices and reducing dependence on imported energy. Sustainable energy constitutes an important condition for achieving many of the Global Goals. The work on sustainable energy requires an integrated approach and strong harmonisation between different policy areas such as climate, energy, finance, business and foreign policy.

The Government's work

Sweden's energy policy shall serve as a model and relevant Swedish experiences and solutions shall contribute to the global work on sustainable energy. Sweden will also learn lessons from, and be active in, international and global work concerning sustainable energy.

It is the Government's ambition that Sweden will be the world's first fossil-free welfare state with an energy system based on 100% renewable energy. Sweden is currently the country within the EU which has the largest use of biofuel in its energy system. Swedish work has come a long way in phasing out the use of fossil fuel for electricity and heat production. Sweden also has the highest share of renewable energy in the transport sector within the EU. In order to achieve its ambition for Sweden's energy sector, among other things the Government has increased and extended the electricity certificate system in order to promote renewable electricity production, has increased economic support for solar energy, and has proposed goals for more efficient energy use. The Government intends to present a bill regarding overarching goals for its energy policy to create conditions for long-term sustainable energy supply. The Government has also presented a number of measures within the climate policy area which are also contributing to the transition to a fossil-free energy system.

New technology and increased production of, for example, solar panels, wind power plants, turbines and batteries are required to achieve the goal. The increased production will entail increased demand for, e.g., vanadium, cobalt, graphene and lithium. Accordingly, the Government has provided funds to step up the work on identifying minerals and metals that are necessary for, among other things, the climate restructuring, and for ensuring access to high-quality raw materials through responsible and environmentally sustainable extraction and recycling.

The Government is promoting a global phasing out of subsidies for fossil energy. One example is Sweden's involvement in Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform. Sweden is also supporting the introduction of pricing for carbon dioxide emissions, among other things through participation in Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition and by supporting Partnership for Market Readiness and Transformative Carbon Asset Facility.

Access to, and the allocation of energy in, developing countries is often uneven. Improved access to energy at reasonable prices, not least on a local level, thus creates conditions for people living in poverty and who are vulnerable to improve their conditions of life. Purposeful, effective and transparent institutions, laws and regulations are a crucial factor in creating a sustainable and inclusive energy sector. Improved tax systems and increased tax revenues can also facilitate investments in a more inclusive

and sustainable energy sector. Capacity development in developing countries plays a key role, not least as regards transfers of knowledge and technology regarding new research and innovation concerning environmental technology, new alternative renewable solutions and the procurement of sustainable energy systems. One example is Sweden's contribution of expertise to the Clean Energy Solution Centre. This work is aimed at providing developing countries with direct and cost-free access to advice regarding instruments and regulations for the promotion of sustainable energy. This may cover everything from how to establish political climate and energy goals and frameworks, development of individual instruments, and to how to establish a research institute to develop domestic skills.

Per capita, Sweden is also one of the largest donors to several of the major global environmental and climate funds where the aim is to reduce the impact on climate, among other things by promoting energy efficiency improvements and investments in renewable energy. Examples of Swedish involvement include the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, Sustainable Energy for All, International Energy Agency (IEA) and the International Renewable Energy Agency. Within the scope of the IEA, the Government has decided on Sweden's contribution to the Clean Energy Transitions Programme with the aim of reducing energy-related greenhouse gas emissions in emerging countries by strengthening their institutional capacity and developing frameworks for policy development and the promotion of innovation.

One aspect of Sweden's global involvement in sustainable energy relates to work in the international financial institutions. These institutions play an important role in supporting the energy supply of regions and countries, not least poor countries, and in promoting renewable energy solutions. The Government continues to aim at increasing the ambition level, so that energy investments by the institutions will be more climate friendly and environmentally friendly. The Government is also working to ensure that the institutions strengthen their work in phasing out countries' subsidies of fossil fuel and support the work of introducing pricing systems for carbon dioxide emissions, such as carbon dioxide taxes and trading in emission rights. The Government believes that the institutions' investments in, and support for, fossil energy should be phased out in favour of increased investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements in order that climate goals might be achieved. The Government also believes that the institutions should adopt ambitious targets, with deadlines, for increasing the proportion of investments in renewable energy and increased energy efficiency and for promoting policy reform and procurement criteria in borrower countries, in order to reduce the institutions' carbon footprint. The Government is working proactively in an attempt to change the institutions' energy and climate policies. The Government is working on influencing the institutions through bilateral meetings, dialogue with other owners and donors in the institutions, and through ongoing board work; however, the Government has also set markers in individual projects, and intends to continue to do so when necessary.

The Government also intends to work towards the goal of Sweden becoming the world's first fossil-free welfare state with 100% renewable

energy. In addition, the Government is promoting strong international work involving policy exchanges and capacity development for effective instruments for a sustainable energy and climate policy. Going forward, the restructuring of energy systems in emerging countries in particular will lead to a more sustainable energy supply and reduced energy-related greenhouse gas emissions becoming important for achieving globally established goals. International financing institutions will also need to adopt ambitious goals, with deadlines, for an increased share of investments in renewable energy, with a long-term goal of phasing out the institutions' investments in, and support for, fossil energy. Focus on sustainable extraction and recycling of minerals and metals will also become necessary in the development of sustainable and renewable energy.

3.8 Decent work and economic growth

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

3.8.1 Example in PGD area: International labour market issues and Global Deal

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Employment. Other relevant bodies include the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Education and Research and the Ministry of Finance.)

On a global level, the role of employment and working life issues in the fight against poverty has been further strengthened through the 2030 Agenda. Goal 8 shall promote inclusive and long-term sustainable economic growth, as well as full and productive employment with decent working conditions for all. More than one half of the workers in the world find themselves in insecure and unsafe employment, often entrapped in a vicious cycle of low productivity jobs with poor pay and limited access to training and social insurance. This applies to women to a greater extent than to men. In addition, over the next 20 years the global workforce is expected to increase by 800 million, which will demand major endeavours to create new jobs. Goal 10 shall promote reduced gender inequality and is also of major importance for ensuring that profits from globalisation are shared more fairly. Today, there are many who feel that globalisation has resulted in increased disparities, which may constitute fertile ground for populist forces. The promotion of macroeconomic stability, employment and decent working conditions are important factors for sustainable development. Trade is an important instrument for sustainable and inclusive economic growth. The Government is promoting free and fair trade through both its trade policy and development cooperation. Harmonised measures are needed within various policy areas such as

labour market, social policy, business and trade policy, as well as integration, foreign aid and foreign policy.

Skr. 2017/18:146

The Government's work

Sweden seeks international relations that are governed by standards and regulations. Global rules on the labour market are important for ensuring human rights in working life, but also for promoting free and fair trade.

The Prime Minister, together with the ILO and OECD, has initiated Global Deal, which was presented in September 2016. Global Deal is a global partnership focused on improved labour market relations and social dialogue as a tool for improved working conditions and inclusive growth. Global Deal contributes to achieving, primarily, goal 8 on decent working condition and goal 10 on reduced gender inequality, but also goal 17 on global partnerships in the 2030 Agenda.

The work in Global Deal focuses on the following:

- Encouraging the partners to strengthen their work through voluntary undertakings in accordance with Global Deal's objectives. This may involve already existing work as well as new initiatives.
- Increasing research and the knowledge base regarding social dialogue and sound labour market relations.
- Providing a platform for communication in which parties can share positive examples and exchange experiences.

Just over a year after being launched, some 80 parties have already signed up to Global Deal. Sweden is playing a leading role in the work but, during 2018, the secretariat will be transferred to an international organisation – as was decided when Global Deal was launched.

In March 2017 the establishment commenced of a support function for Global Deal, which is located at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A number of high-level meetings, seminars and outreach activities have taken place within the scope of Global Deal. Global Deal extends over several policy areas and also has a clear role to play in, for example, trade and foreign aid policy.

In September, the first Global Deal high-level follow-up meeting was held in New York in cooperation with WEF, with the participation of Prime Minister Stefan Löfven. In November, Sweden – together with the WTO – arranged a high-level meeting regarding Global Deal and trade and labour law, with the Prime Minister as one of the hosts. At the ILO, a Senior Officials meeting was also held with all parties who provided comments regarding the future work. In addition, an international group of senior advisers was launched, tasked with providing advice and guidance.

At a social summit focused on promoting fair jobs and growth, which Sweden arranged together with the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, France announced that it was joining Global Deal. In total, 17 French parties have joined, including 15 businesses, and France has also created its own Global Deal Platform.

Minister for EU Affairs and Trade Ann Linde has participated at a Global Deal seminar in Tunisia which was aimed at sharing experiences of social dialogue with parties on the Tunisian labour market and discussing the way forward for cooperation in line with Global Deal, and for contributing to the democratisation process.

In order to further enhance the impact of Global Deal, among other things two studies have been presented which elucidate the importance of social dialogue based on a private sector perspective. Sweden has also hosted a visit from Chile by a tripartite delegation.

In line with the work within Global Deal, decent working conditions and social dialogue have been clearly raised in development cooperation, in which the Government considers employment to serve as a bridge between economic development and fighting poverty. Goals as regards economic development are to be found in approximately one-half of the strategies for bilateral development cooperation. It is also important to provide information that growth and emission reductions can be achieved simultaneously. Sweden is able to provide a concrete example – between 1990 and 2013 carbon dioxide emissions fell by 22%, at the same time as GNP rose by 58%. Especially in developing countries, diplomatic missions play an important role in contributing to capacity development in line with Global Deal.

In the ILO, the Government has internationally driven questions concerning decent and productive employment. The Government has, through the EU, contributed to the signing of a cooperation agreement between the ILO and Qatar to improve conditions on the labour market. In a recommendation adopted by the ILO in 2017, the Government has also actively promoted highlighting the key role that productive employment and decent working conditions have to play in the transition from crisis to sustainable and inclusive societies. In addition, in 2017 the ILO appointed a Global Commission on the Future of Work, co-chaired by the Prime Minister. The Commission is tasked with identifying challenges on today's labour market and what must be done to meet them.

Within trade policy, Sweden has worked to ensure that the EU's bilateral and regional trade agreements will promote the ILO's global standards and, primarily, the core conventions. Sweden has also contributed text to the Interpretive Declaration on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the EU and Canada, which clarifies respect for collective agreements and the right to strike. Issues concerning decent working conditions and rights in working life are of key importance for the Government. One important aspect is to counteract exploitation of immigrant labour coming to Sweden. Sound working conditions for immigrant labour, in Sweden, within the EU and globally, represent a prioritised issue for the Government. The Government intends to continue the work on actively counteracting the exploitation of immigrant labour, among other things by supporting the development of International Recruitment Integrity Systems for certification of companies who are committed to ethical recruitment, and by actively addressing the issue of the opportunities and rights of immigrant labour within the scope of the global migration framework.

In 2018 the Government will promote the implementation of the transfer of the secretariat of Global Deal to an international organisation.

The Government will also endeavour to ensure that more parties sign up to the initiative, and that the parties provide commitments and implement them, and increase the bilateral outreach activities. An important part of the work will be the first Global Deal Flagship Report, to be compiled by the OECD and ILO. This report will be published every second year. Sweden will also continue to promote ratification and application by the ILO's member states of the organisation's core conventions. It is also important that the development work and field activities contribute to the goals of the 2030 Agenda and ratification and implementation of the ILO's standards, based on the specific conditions of each country. On an EU level, it is important that the EU's bilateral and regional trade agreements promote the ILO's global standards and, in particular, the core conventions. Sweden will continue to work actively to counteract exploitation of immigrant labour, among other things by supporting the development of International Recruitment Integrity Systems for certification by businesses that commit to ethical recruitment and by actively engaging in issues regarding the opportunities and rights of immigrant labour within the scope of the global migration framework.

3.9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

3.9.1 Example in PGD area: Sustainable business

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, the Ministry of Employment, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Culture.)

The activities of businesses affect societal development in all countries and the daily lives of millions of people throughout the world, not least through the products and services they produce and provide. Businesses are key parties in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and for the attainment of the Global Goals. Through increased sustainability in production and consumption and through innovative products and services that meet the various social and sustainability challenges, businesses are able to contribute to a fairer and more sustainable development. Through trade and investments, businesses also contribute to creating jobs, transfers of technology and knowledge, and increased tax revenues. For many developing countries, it is important to utilise growth potential within everything ranging from product processing to cultural and creative branches of the economy. The total investments by the business community in developing countries are appreciably greater than total aid. However, women, men, boys and girls who live in poverty do not automatically benefit from the activities of businesses. Often, interaction is required between the state and the business community in order to

ensure an inclusive and sustainable economic development which can contribute to reducing poverty.

Sustainable enterprise involves operating businesses in a responsible manner to contribute to socially, economically and environmentally sustainable societal development. According to the Government's definition, sustainable enterprise includes human rights, decent working conditions, consideration of the environment and climate, and anticorruption. In addition, gender equality, the perspective of the rights of the child, diversity, business ethics and taxation are also included. Coordinated and harmonised work for sustainable enterprise is required in which several parties and policy areas are involved. Important policy areas include business, trade, labour market, environment, climate and energy, finance, culture and foreign policy.

Many Swedish businesses are actively engaged in sustainable enterprise and there are numerous examples of how businesses, in their daily operations, contribute positively to development in society. It is the businesses that are responsible for sustainable enterprise, but the development constitutes an interaction between several different parties. The state is responsible for the development of institutions and rules which, among other things, promote sustainability criteria in conjunction with investments. Parties on the labour market are able, through collective agreements and global frameworks, to ensure conditions and rights for employees. Civil society organisations can identify challenges, propose measures and contribute with knowledge, not least regarding developments in poor countries. Civil society also has an important role to play in terms of demanding that parties be held responsible. Investors, customers and consumers are able to influence, decide against or reward businesses' products and services.

The Government's work

In 2015 the Government developed a new and more ambitious policy for sustainable enterprise. In December 2015 a communication was submitted to the Riksdag (communication 2015/16:69) containing the Government's view on a number of issues linked to sustainable enterprise. In August 2015 a national action plan for businesses and human rights was presented, containing some 50 measures to translate the UN's guiding principles in the area into practical action. In the spring of 2016, based on the communication the Government prepared a guidance platform for sustainable enterprise directed at Swedish businesses. This platform sets out the Government's expectations regarding the sustainability work of businesses, recommendations as to how the work should be conducted, as well as the Government's measures to support businesses.

The Government has a clear expectation that Swedish businesses will act in a sustainable and responsible manner. Swedish businesses are expected to base their work, in Sweden and on other markets, on the international guidelines for sustainable enterprise.

In February 2018 the Government Offices presented a follow-up of the previously issued action plan for businesses and human rights. Based on the follow-up, it can be concluded that a number of measures have been taken to support and promote sustainability work by businesses. Among other things, clearer sustainability requirements on businesses have been

included in Swedish legislation, for example as regards mandatory sustainability reporting for large businesses and three new laws regarding public procurement, in which the conditions for imposing sustainability requirements in conjunction with procurements are stated more clearly. Another example comprises new rules to make it easier for investors to assess which sustainability aspects are taken into account in conjunction with the management of unit trusts. The Government has tasked the Swedish Agency for Public Management with making an assessment as regards Sweden's compliance with the UN's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights ("Base Line Study"), which is to be presented in March 2018. Sustainability and human rights issues have also been strengthened in collaboration with the business community within development cooperation, and Sweden has emphasised the importance of environmental, social and economically sustainable procurement vis-à-vis the UN and international financing institutions, including the World Bank Group.

The Government will continue to support businesses in their sustainable enterprise work. The follow-up of the action plan for business and human rights, together with the assessment by the Swedish Agency for Public Management as regards Sweden's implementation of the UN Guiding Principles, will constitute a basis for work going forward. One important issue is to strengthen the link to the 2030 Agenda.

State-owned companies

The Government has highly ambitious goals as regards sustainable enterprise in state-owned companies. Owner directives are aimed at ensuring that companies act in an exemplary manner within the area of sustainable enterprise. Guiding principles for this work include the 2030 Agenda and the Global Goals for sustainable development, but it also involves companies working actively to comply with international guidelines on sustainable enterprise, including the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, as well as reporting in accordance with Global Reporting Initiative or another international framework for sustainability reporting. At the end of 2016 the Government decided on the State's owner policy and guidelines for state-owned companies in 2017.

The ambition level for the sustainable enterprise work of companies has been further raised through the 2030 Agenda and the Global Goals have been included in the owner policy in order, together with the international guidelines, to guide the companies in their work. Within the scope of their operations, state-owned companies shall analyse the Global Goals in the 2030 Agenda in order to identify the goals which companies, through their operations, affect and contribute to. In the revised owner policy, the Government also clarifies that the Paris Agreement must serve as guidance for businesses in their work for achieving reduced impact on climate and the environment. Tax issues are particularly highlighted; responsible behaviour by companies within the area shall, among other things, include policy decisions on a board level. Companies shall also identify relevant areas within sustainable enterprise in their business strategies and in strategic goals for sustainable enterprise adopted by the

board, which are subsequently monitored through owner dialogue and in connection with implementation of sustainability analyses.

With respect to state-owned companies, the Government Offices apply a sustainability analysis which sheds light on relevant areas within sustainable enterprise for each company. The result of the analysis is used in the active management and monitoring of companies, including in conjunction with the nomination of directors. In order to increase knowledge regarding the UN Guiding Principles, in 2015–2017 the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation held a number of workshops with state-owned companies. Greater scope has also been accorded to human rights in owner monitoring of the work of companies. Where needed, questions have also been monitored in dialogue with the owner. The work on strengthening knowledge concerning human rights will continue in 2018.

In the spring of 2017, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation conducted a survey as to how well state-owned companies communicate their work on human rights. The work will be used to enable state-owned companies to continue to strengthen their work on human rights, in line with the UN Guiding Principles. The Government is also endeavouring to ensure that, when appropriate, state-owned companies implement consequence analyses aimed at assessing and managing significant risks as regards human rights. For further information regarding sustainable enterprise and state-owned companies, reference is made to the 2016 annual report for state-owned enterprises.

3.9.2 Conflicts of objectives and interests: Doing business in difficult markets

Many Swedish businesses operate on an international arena, through global supply chains and business relations. In the autumn 2015 the Government launched an export strategy involving measures to further strengthen the export and internationalisation possibilities of Swedish companies on important emerging markets around the world. The export strategy will contribute to enhanced competitiveness, employment and growing businesses in Sweden. Several of these emerging markets are characterised by political, social and environmental challenges, e.g. as regards respect for human rights, gender equality and working conditions, as well as problems of corruption, weak institutions, and flight of capital and tax flight.

In the Government's assessment, the presence of Swedish businesses on difficult markets is important. Contacts and trade between people and countries is essentially positive and can benefit values such as openness, democracy, social equality, gender equality and respect for human rights, and can contribute to work on environmental and climate challenges. In that way, societal development can also be influenced in a more sustainable direction. Increased exports and internationalisation also contribute to economic development in the countries with which Swedish businesses trade and invest in. Therefore, synergies and harmonisation must be sought between the work on export goals and the contribution to

fair and sustainable global development. The Government's policy for sustainable enterprise constitutes an important aspect of this.

On difficult markets, it is particularly important that Swedish businesses act in a sustainable manner and serve as a model in line with international guidelines. This strengthens synergies with the goal of fair and sustainable global development and can counteract the occurrence of conflicts of objectives and interests. Swedish companies shall serve as a model as to how issues of social and environmental responsibility are to be integrated in business operations. They must take into account the environment and respect for human rights in all of their operations, which among other things demands special attention when transactions are carried out in countries in which these issues and rights are weak or not fully respected in legislation and the exercise of public authority. The Government also expects Swedish companies to apply a clear anticorruption policy and encourages companies to develop a tax policy and an internal control system.

In recent years, the Government has taken a large number of measures to strengthen support to companies with respect to sustainable enterprise within the scope of export promotion; see also section 3.9.1. In 2016 and 2017 Business Sweden received increased resources from the Government in order to raise skills levels within sustainable enterprise, among other things in connection with export promotion trips abroad. Companies that wish to participate in an export promotion trip are expected to sign a commitment regarding the importance of sustainable enterprise. In the autumn of 2017 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched online training to enhance knowledge regarding sustainable enterprise at Swedish embassies, to enable them to more actively support Swedish companies abroad. In April 2017 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published 135 new country reports on the status of human rights, democracy and due process principles. The reports have, among other things, been developed in order to provide better guidance to companies regarding the situation in different countries.

Sustainable enterprise is also an important aspect in the guidance exercised by the Swedish Export Credit Agency (EKN), the Swedish Export Credit Corporation (SEK) and Swedfund International AB. Both SEK and EKN exercise particular caution and an in-depth review of sustainability in the case of transactions in conflict areas. SEK also carries out an annual assessment of the risks of business causing, contributing or being linked to violations of human rights, including employment conditions. Respect for human rights is also an integral aspect of Swedfund's analyses pending new investments and the work was scrutinised in 2016 to ensure that it is taking place in accordance with the applicable directive.

Monitoring of the sustainable enterprise measures carried out is important, particularly as regards small and medium-size companies. Other possibilities are to act to strengthen the EU's commitment to sustainable enterprise and to investigate the conditions for strengthening Sweden's National Contact Point (NCP) as regards the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises. The State's owner policy stipulates that state-owned companies must act in an exemplary manner within the area of sustainable enterprise, and this may take place through regular monitoring

of the strategic goals for sustainable enterprise as adopted by companies' boards of directors, and continuing the work on integrating human rights into the governance of state-owned companies and strengthening knowledge regarding human rights and the responsibility of boards of directors.

3.10 Reduced inequalities

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

3.10.1 Example in PGD area: Refugee flows, migration and development

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Justice. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Employment, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Ministry of Education and Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

In light of the fact that the number of refugees and displaced people in the world is now the highest since the Second World War – close to 66 million people of whom more than 22 million are refugees – migration and refugee issues occupy a prominent place on the agenda of Sweden and the EU, and on the international agenda. In addition to meeting immediate needs, focus is being placed on long-term global solutions and on promoting the positive effects of migration on development.

It is estimated that there are 258 million international migrants in the world. The fact that people migrate represents a strong human driver with great potential for economic and social development – for the individual migrant and their family, for the country of origin and for the country of destination. The international contact networks to which migration gives rise and the involvement of diaspora groups can also promote increased investments, increased trade and development in both the country of origin and the recipient country. Remittances sent by migrants can contribute to important incomes for families in poor countries and to investments in health, education and housing. Women as senders or recipients of remittances often prioritise more immediate needs that improve the family's quality of life. In general, they also remit a larger share of their savings than men and their remittances often benefit larger groups of people. However, women encounter greater obstacles than men in accessing financial services. Remittances can also contribute to macroeconomic development and constitute one of the largest sources of financial flows to low- and medium-income countries. The global flow of remittances is estimated to amount to approximately USD 440 billion, but is considered to be much larger since large amounts are transferred through informal channels. Trade contributes to economic resilience in the home countries and is also an instrument for refugees and migrants to become active economic parties in the recipient countries.

Migration is comprehensively included in the 2030 Agenda, and Sweden was involved and promoted this in the negotiations. Note has been given

to the positive contributions of migrants to growth and sustainable development. One obligation involves facilitating safe, orderly, regulated and responsible migration with full respect for human rights and a humane treatment of all migrants, refugees and displaced persons. Obligations to reduce transaction costs for remittances are also on the agenda, as are obligations regarding the rights of migrant workers. The outcome document on development financing (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) also includes several obligations concerning migration. Many policy areas are affected by the issues such as migration, refugee, development, labour market, finance, education, foreign and security policy, trade policy and legal issues.

The Government's work

Sweden has assumed major global responsibility as regards the handling of streams of refugees and, within the EU, is pursuing a more even distribution of those in need of protection and asylum seekers, as well as globally for an increased sharing of responsibility as regards refugees.

In order to create safe and responsible mobility of individuals, migration must take place in orderly and regulated forms with respect for human rights. There are few legal ways to seek asylum in Europe and the number of asylum seekers is extremely unevenly distributed within the EU. In December 2017 the Government presented a committee report on the conditions for creating legal ways to seek asylum in the EU (SOU 2017:103).

One of the main goals of Swedish migration policy is to utilise and take into account the development effects of migration. The comprehensive coverage of migration in the 2030 Agenda can contribute to improved policy development within this area on a national, regional and global level. One example of the way in which migration can promote positive development effects is through remittances. On an EU level and on a global level, Sweden is monitoring that measures to counteract money laundering and terrorist financing – which is a global goal *per se* – do not unnecessarily make it more difficult and expensive to send remittances. In order to contribute to the objective in the 2030 Agenda of reducing transfer costs, since 2013 the Swedish Consumer Agency has been tasked with providing an online information service regarding remittances. The service is aimed at creating transparency as regards different means of transfer and the costs thereof, and thereby increasing competition so that transfer costs can be reduced. Since 2018 the Swedish Consumer Agency has been provided with additional funds for continued provision and development of the service. The costs for sending remittances from Sweden have, in certain cases, fallen relatively sharply. However, the Swedish Consumer Agency's information service states that the costs are no longer high in all channels. This is the case as regards, for example, bank account to bank account transfers, not least in relation to remittances within the EU, where Sweden has the lowest transfer costs of all Member States.

One particularly important aspect of the work is a close and well-functioning cooperation with the business community. The Government Offices have commenced a dialogue with the Swedish Bankers' Association on the question of transaction costs for remittances.

Sweden is a leading humanitarian party within the UN system and was the seventh largest donor to the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) in 2016. In line with this, Sweden has expressed its clear support for the production of a Global Compact on Refugees, aimed at an increased global sharing of responsibility for refugees. The objective is to ease the pressure on host countries, expand possibilities for self-sufficiency, increase the number of resettlement places and promote conditions that facilitate the voluntary repatriation of refugees. In the work on the global refugee framework, Sweden has prioritised issues of increased global sharing of responsibility by, among other things, emphasising measures to meet the needs of refugees and host societies, and methods for increased resettlement.

For many years, Sweden has been a driving force for improved international cooperation concerning migration and has actively worked for the incorporation of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in the UN (on 19 September 2016, IOM was incorporated in the UN as a Related Organisation) and for increased solidarity and shared assumption of responsibility for both refugees and migrants in the New York Declaration. The incorporation of IOM in the UN system is regarded as an important part of the work on facilitating a well-functioning migration policy and the continued work on producing a global framework for migration (Global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration).

In the work on a global migration framework, the Government is endeavouring to protect the human rights of migrants; to facilitate safe and regulated mobility for migrant workers with decent conditions, especially female migrant workers; to rectify irregular migration by strengthening capacity to handle migration, fight human trafficking and human smuggling, and ensuring effective and safe repatriation and promoting reintegration; to strengthen the development effects of migration and migrants' integration in the host society; and to improve international cooperation and control of migration.

The Government is endeavouring to ensure that all EU Member States contribute in solidarity and, among other things, resettle refugees and others in need of protection in cooperation with the UNHCR. In addition, focus is being placed on facilitating mobility and circular migration while at the same time working against exploitation of workers as well as human trafficking and human smuggling. Measures are also being taken to ensure effective and safe repatriation and to promote reintegration. A climate of cooperation based on confidence and a broad dialogue between the countries of the world and improved implementation of international obligations in the global refugee and migration area, including migration and development, are prerequisite for the work.

The Government is promoting a coordinator role for IOM within the UN in the migration area and that states undertake to make voluntary financing contributions to strengthen capacity to address migration globally.

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

3.11.1 Example in PGD area: Sustainable urban development

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of the Environment and Energy. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.)

Sustainable development of the world's cities represents a global challenge. Today, more than one half of the world's inhabitants live in cities and global urbanisation is expected to increase. One billion people live in slum areas in or near cities. Growing cities can contribute to increased social discrepancies and strains on the environment and ecosystem, but also create new opportunities for economic growth and innovation. With urban planning that takes into account sustainable development in its three dimensions – social, economic and environmental – urbanisation can contribute to inclusive societies and reduced environmental footprint. Sustainable urban development proceeds based on a holistic perspective with integrated planning of housing, residential areas, workplaces, communications and infrastructure. Important aspects include access to clean water and sanitation, waste management and clean air, as well as access to services, work, schools and recreational activities, etc. through functioning transport systems. Reducing air pollution in cities contributes to improved health and counteracts millions of premature deaths each year. Sustainable building and sustainable physical planning constitute fundamental conditions for creating sustainable urban development with good living environments. Through use of and access to smart technology, among other things information and citizen influence are facilitated. Important aspects within the development, planning and construction of all cities are gender equality and the possibility for women to participate in decision processes, as well as consideration of the needs of various groups, such as persons with functional impairment, children and the elderly. Other key areas of urban planning for the creation of good living environments and sustainable urban development are to utilise and develop culture, cultural environments, cultural inheritance and architecture. Disaster mitigation and the rebuilding of homes in areas following conflict make an important contribution to sustainable development. Sustainable urban development requires cooperation between many different sectors, parties and levels in society. Many policy areas are involved, such as housing, public health, law, transport, culture, innovation, the environment, climate, energy and foreign policy.

The Government's work

Sweden has long experience of working on sustainable urban development and, in the global work, is contributing with new solutions and new

technology. Many Swedish companies are world leaders within the area and several parties possess important experiences and roles, such as municipalities, organisations and public authorities. Sweden has adopted a new target for sustainable cities, which was announced in the Budget Bill for 2018. The Government has appointed “Rådet för hållbara städer” [Council for Sustainable Cities], which shall serve as a forum for public authorities and municipalities in implementing the Government’s policy for sustainable urban development. The Council’s work will focus on measures and strengthen the work of sustainable urban development. The Platform for Sustainable Cities, in which five authorities (the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, the Swedish Energy Agency, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth and the Swedish Transport Administration) carried out the task on behalf of the Government since 2014, has served its purpose and concluded its work simultaneously with the start of the work of the Council for Sustainable Cities.

Stadsinnovationsstödet (Urban Innovation Support) (2016–2019) is administered by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency in cooperation with the National Board for Housing, Building and Planning and the Swedish Energy Agency and is aimed primarily at pre-studies and project planning to increase the use of cutting-edge technology and advanced system solutions for sustainable urban development. As part of the Swedish presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2018, the Government has initiated a project regarding sustainable Nordic cities with a focus on climate-smart mobility. The project is aimed at contributing to sustainable urban development by supporting a switch to fossil-free and sustainable passenger and goods transport in Nordic cities and urban regions.

The Swedish National Heritage Board and the county councils play important roles in sustainable urban development, not least as regards the promotion of diversity of cultural environments that are preserved, used and developed so that cultural values can be utilised in societal development. In order to create improved conditions for utilising the potential which the cultural environment constitutes for a sustainable society, in 2017 the Government decided to task 10 public authorities with developing guiding strategies for cultural environment issues (journal no. Ku2017/01563/KL). The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) is a contact point as regards Sweden’s obligations within the scope of the UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. The framework is aimed at reducing the risks and consequences of accidents and disasters. One focus area in the framework addresses strengthening rebuilding following a disaster. The Sendai framework, with its strong focus on resilience and risk mitigation measures, is strongly contributing to attainment of goals in the 2030 Agenda. The Sendai framework shall stimulate UN member states to take measures which strengthen the ability to withstand disasters and thereby contribute to sustainable development.

On a global level, work within UN-Habitat is of major importance for achieving goals regarding sustainable cities. Sweden is following this work and supports UN-Habitat’s various projects through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. Implementation of the

New Urban Agenda declaration is crucial in this work and also constitutes the basis for Sweden's work in the area.

Road safety work constitutes a global public health issue with a bearing on, among other things, particularly vulnerable groups, gender equality and quality of life. 90% of all fatal accidents on the roads take place in low- and middle-income countries, despite the fact that these countries have barely 50% of the world's vehicles. Almost half of road fatalities comprise vulnerable groups: pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists. In low- and middle-income countries, these vulnerable and unprotected groups on the road consist to a high degree of women. Between 20 million and 50 million people are the subject of road accidents every year, many of which result in disability, which can lead to increased poverty. Road accidents are a growing problem in cities and, unless measures are taken, it is estimated that road accidents will become the fifth most common cause of death in the world by 2030.

In 2010 the UN General Assembly adopted an action plan to reduce the number of fatalities and injuries in road traffic: Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020. The action plan's goals are to halve the number of people killed in road traffic in the world by 2020. The action plan is drawing to a close without having achieved the goal. As a consequence, Sweden has put itself forward to serve as a candidate for hosting the third global high-level conference on road safety at the end of 2019/beginning of 2020. The conference will contribute to focusing on road safety and its public health aspects. It is also a way of contributing globally to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda's goals in the road safety area as well as other goals established by the UN.

The Government is also working so that Sweden's work and skills in sustainable urban development are utilised in international contexts for the benefit of developing countries, e.g. with respect to efficiency improvements, new solutions and new technology. This applies, among other things, to the implementation of a number of pre-studies and project planning regarding cutting-edge technology and advanced system solutions for sustainable urban development.

The Government also intends to present a communication regarding living cities to the Riksdag in the spring of 2015. The communication will set out the Government's policy for sustainable cities and its relationship to the 2030 Agenda and the Global Goals will be reported.

Through urban environment agreements, municipalities and county councils receive co-financing to promote cycling and public transport in cities, with the aim of achieving climate goals and the environmental quality goal, Well Developed Environment. By supporting green cities, the Government wishes to strengthen the conditions for developing cities into green, healthy and secure places. The Government also believes that the international work of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency on disaster mitigation and early rebuilding can contribute to the PGD work.

Hosting the third global high-level conference on road safety in Sweden at the end of 2019/beginning of 2020, in collaboration with WHO, will, through its broad approach to road safety, be able to contribute to specifying international goals in the area and thereby contribute to, among other things, health and reduced poverty.

3.12 Responsible consumption and production

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

3.12.1 Example in PGD area: Sustainable consumption and production

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of the Environment and Energy. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Ministry of Education and Research, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Production and consumption of goods and services affect fair and sustainable global development, not least in developing countries and as regards people living in poverty. The impact on, for example, the environment, climate and health arises locally and globally both before and after consumers purchase and use a product or service. It takes place during the extraction of raw materials, manufacture, transportation, in the use of products and in the management of waste. Certain developing countries are affected to a high degree by this environmental impact, which entails increased poverty and reduced welfare. For example, a growing proportion of the production and use of hazardous chemicals is taking place in developing countries, where chemical inspections and waste management are often deficient. Chemicals are also spread globally in large quantities by air, water and goods. The use of plastics is increasing globally, which represents a particular problem in the case of deficient waste management. Plastics are difficult to decompose and leak out into the environment. This leads to contamination of, primarily, the water environment. The importance of the work on reducing environmental contamination in developing countries is underscored by the fact that the contaminants have a significant impact on human health and the environment.

The 2030 Agenda places renewed focus on sustainable consumption and production; among other things, emphasis is placed on the ten-year global framework of programmes for sustainable consumption and production which were adopted at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio in 2012. Associated with sustainable consumption and production are issues such as resource efficiency and circular economy, as well as sustainable urban development, sustainable management of chemicals and waste, sustainable lifestyles, climate, natural resources and ecosystems. Work on sustainable consumption and production requires harmonisation between a number of policy areas such as business, industry, agriculture, fishing, foreign policy, trade, food, health, consumer, labour market, education, the environment, climate and energy policy. 2018 is an important year in which goal 12 will be included as a topic at the UN political high-level forum for sustainable development in July, at which a half-time review of the global framework will be presented.

The Government's work

In accordance with its 'generation goal' [viz. to leave to the next generation a society in which major environmental problems have been resolved, without causing increased environmental and health problems beyond Sweden's borders], the Government wishes to reduce the adverse global environmental impact of Swedish consumption, including in developing countries. The Government's work on sustainable consumption and production is based, among other things, on the UN ten-year framework of programmes for sustainable consumption and production. According to the decision adopted in Rio, the OECD countries shall play a leading role and support the developing countries in their restructuring work. The goal is to guarantee the framework's contribution to addressing global challenges, such as climate changes and adaptation, fighting poverty, social well-being, efficient management of resources and conservation of biodiversity.

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency serves as the national focal point, charged with coordinating and presiding over the implementation of the framework in Sweden. The Agency's work is primarily focused on sustainable consumption. Sweden is leading the programme on sustainable lifestyles and education together with Japan. Several of the focus areas include textiles, communication and disseminating good examples of sustainable lifestyles. The framework's other programmes address consumer information, sustainable buildings and construction, sustainable tourism, consumer information, sustainable public procurement and sustainable food systems.

In 2016 the Government presented a strategy for sustainable consumption, which is aimed at what the state is able to do to make it easier for consumers to act in a sustainable manner. The strategy focuses on cooperation between different parties, information to consumers and a more efficient use of resources. Areas which account for a significant portion of emissions from consumption – foods, housing and transport – are emphasised in particular. The Swedish Consumer Agency has been tasked with establishing a forum for environmentally smart consumption and stimulating environmentally smart consumption patterns.

Through cooperation programmes, the Government points to five Swedish strength areas in which, together with partners, we are investing in the future. Through cooperation between public bodies, the business community and academia, new, innovative solutions which strengthen competitiveness are being found and are contributing to sustainable development and creating more jobs. By cooperating and joining forces together concerning investments in innovation, Sweden is obtaining the best possible result from the resources invested. It appears that 2017 will turn out to have been the warmest year measured on earth since measurements began in 1880. The climate challenge is one of the most urgent challenges to be addressed today. The Circular cooperation programme and a bio-based economy focus on sustainable utilisation of natural resources and a switch to a fossil-free society. Cooperation between parties in society throughout the value chain, with a focus on innovative products and business models, is a prerequisite for this switch.

The Government's basic approach is that the negative effects of sustainable development from Swedish production and consumption must

be reduced, at the same time as the positive effects must increase, both within and beyond Sweden's borders. All countries need to take measures, with the developed countries taking the lead, and with consideration being given to the development and conditions of the developing countries. The environmental dimension of sustainable development is reflected in Sweden through, among other things, the 'generation goal' and the sixteen environmental quality goals adopted by the Riksdag. The 'generation goal' states the direction for societal restructuring which must take place so that a society is handed over to the next generation in which the major environmental problems have been resolved, without causing increased environmental and health problems beyond Sweden's borders. The 'generation goal' establishes that Sweden shall have consumer patterns which minimise environmental and health problems. This applies to both public sector and private consumption and relates to environmental and health problems both nationally and globally. The goal also involves secure ecosystem services, biodiversity, resource-efficient recycling, renewable energy, conservation of natural resources and safe management of chemicals and waste. The goal provides a signal to parties in society as to what the Riksdag and the Government wish to achieve through the environmental policy and serves as guidance for environmental work in all parts of society, including in the business community. Environmental goals, and in particular the 'generation goal', thus constitute an important basis for Swedish work on sustainable consumption and production.

Sustainable consumption and production play a key role in a circular and bio-based economy. A circular economy involves sustainable production and consumption throughout the life-cycle, which is predicated on recycling which is non-toxic and resource efficient. However, in order to achieve restructuring to fossil-free energy, for a period of time going forward it will also be necessary to extract primary raw materials. Therefore, it is important that Sweden continues to develop sustainable primary extraction. Geological Survey of Sweden (SGU) has therefore reported on how the UN's classification system for raw materials might be applied in Sweden. In addition to a reduced environmental and health impact, a circular economy stimulates innovation in everything ranging from use of materials to new business models and creates new business opportunities, jobs and increased welfare. The Government intends to strengthen the work on a circular economy through dialogue with the business community, review of instruments, policy integration and collaboration between public authorities, among other things by establishing a delegation for a circular economy. A circular economy which takes into account global value chains, i.e. product and supply chains throughout the world, plays a key role in achieving a more efficient allocation of resources and globally sustainable development. Here, strengthened transparency and assumption of responsibility constitute important components. In line therewith, the Government intends to continue to participate in initiatives that support the restructuring of developing countries to a green economy, such as the UN's environmental programme initiative, Partnership on Action for a Green Economy.

Sustainable management of chemicals and waste is a cornerstone of sustainable consumption and production, as well as for a circular economy, and therefore globally sustainable development. It is also connected to a

number of other policy areas such as health, fighting poverty, water quality and climate. The Government will continue to work for achieving sustainable management of chemicals and waste on a global level by 2020. Among other things, this will be done through bilaterally supporting the work of developing countries on sustainable management of chemicals and waste, as well as multilaterally, primarily within the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and the global conventions in the area. The Government will host the second meeting of the intersessional process meeting for SAICM and the Beyond 2020 process. The Government intends, in connection with the meeting, to initiate an informal high-level discussion on a new ambitious framework for chemicals and waste after 2020.

Public procurement

Clear guidelines for effective and sustainable procurement constitute a powerful means for achieving the Global Goals of the 2030 Agenda. Public sector procurements will play a crucial role in Sweden's national implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in Sweden's global development policy. Sweden shall be at the forefront and continue to serve as a model in terms of responsible procurement. The Government's national procurement strategy emphasises this. It also emphasises the way in which public procurement can be used as a strategic tool to achieve environmental goals.

It is the Government's ambition to actively contribute to sustainable development in national procurements and to promote modern and sustainable procurement in its cooperation countries. Both the UN system and the international financial institutions are increasingly using procurement proactively as a means to promote sustainability. Within bilateral development cooperation, Sweden has emphasised sustainable public procurement as an important instrument for sustainability in the cooperation countries. Harmonisation between how Sweden acts on a national level and in the EU, on the one hand, and internationally and multilaterally, on the other hand, is important.

The work of the National Agency for Public Procurement on producing sustainability criteria and other tools such as utility analysis tools enables procuring authorities and entities to carry out environmentally and socially responsible procurements. With respect to sustainable production conditions, the National Agency for Public Procurement has been specifically tasked by the Government with promoting more reliable information about production conditions in other countries in conjunction with public procurements.

3.12.2 Conflicts of objectives and interests: private consumption and sustainable global development

Swedish consumption affects fair and sustainable global development. The ecological footprint from consumption by Swedes is on a level which is not compatible with long-term sustainable global development within planetary limits. Examples of areas in which the Swedish ecological footprint is increasing include electronics imports, textile imports and

increased consumption of imported meat. With respect to the impact on climate, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency makes the assessment that measures to limit climate impact from air travel and consumption of meat are particularly important.

Many consumers wish to contribute to sustainable development. In order to make it easier for consumers to act, social structures such as public transport and waste collection systems are required with good availability. Economic instruments in the form of, among other things, green car premiums, tax deductions for repairs and maintenance of white goods carried out in the home and lower VAT for repairs of certain goods as well as product marking, e.g. energy marking, voluntary environmental marking and information regarding the fuel consumption and emissions of cars, constitute examples of important tools for enabling consumers to make environmentally smart and climate smart choices. Voluntary environmental marking can also facilitate sustainable public procurement. The growth of various marking systems contributes to a restructuring of production and consumption patterns. At the same time, it is important that the growth of different marking system does not contribute to barriers to trade for companies and exporters, particularly in developing countries.

The Government is working to ensure that Sweden will be a pioneer for free and fair global trade through, among other things, ensuring that issues such as acting against protectionism and promoting issues of development, the fight against poverty, working conditions, gender equality and the environment are incorporated into trade policy. Sweden is also a significant provider of trade-related development cooperation.

Sweden is working to achieve progressive international trade agreements in which barriers to trade are abolished and issues such as development, fighting poverty, working conditions, gender equality, the environment and health are integrated. The EU's free trade agreements with third countries must contribute to social justice and improved public health and environment. Agreements must also encourage the implementation of international employment law agreements and environmental agreements. Cooperation is taking place on issues that are relevant to the countries in question, e.g. sustainable fishing, use of chemicals and questions concerning sustainable enterprise.

Education on all levels, as well as research and the application of research results, play a crucial role in providing citizens with knowledge and skills to contribute to a restructuring process and for meeting the needs of businesses for the correct skills for a greener restructuring.

In order to promote sustainable consumption, it is also important to introduce measures in the countries of production, as close as possible to the source of the problem. This may, for example, involve capacity development by relevant authorities in developing countries and help in restructuring production in those countries. It is important that the scientific and technological capacity of developing countries is strengthened and supported, in order to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Sustainable food systems and a reduction in food waste are key issues. Waste occurs throughout the food chain, from producer to consumer. In developing countries, primary production accounts for a large part of total

waste, while in the developed part of the world it is households that throw away most.

Agriculture, as well as the extraction of products from the sea, has an environmental and climate impact. The Government has presented a food strategy which, among other things, includes increased ecological production and a reduction in food wastage from a life-cycle perspective. Sustainable agriculture represents a challenge for many developing countries. For example, primary production often requires large volumes of water and energy – resources of which there is often a shortage in developing countries, particularly for people in those countries who are living in poverty. An unsustainable use of pesticides has serious negative consequences for human health and the environment. There is great potential to reduce these environmental problems by adapted measures in agricultural production, and also by reducing unnecessary food wastage in the food chain.

The Government intends to strengthen the role of the public sector as a customer for innovative environmental technology with high environmental performance and by promoting increased consideration of environmental issues, including resource-efficient social and economic effects in public procurements, both nationally and internationally. Among other things, this is being done by producing guidance for coherent action vis-à-vis multilateral organisations to ensure sustainable procurement by those organisations. There are also positive conditions for trustworthy marking with exacting environmental and resource effective requirements which can guide consumers to environmentally smart and climate smart choices, while at the same time not becoming a barrier to trade. The strategy for sustainable consumption will be implemented. There is an ambition also to disseminate knowledge regarding the need of, and tools for, sustainable consumption and education to achieve sustainable development globally through leadership together with Japan for the global programme for sustainable lifestyles and education.

Strengthening sustainable consumption and production and the transition to a resource-efficient circular economy on a global level are important and can take place, among other things, through dialogue with the business community, the establishment of a competitive intelligence delegation for a circular economy and flight tax. Cooperation is also taking place in the Nordic region concerning industrial timber construction for increased climate benefit and increased residential construction. The cooperation relates also to architecture and design solutions for sustainable consumer and production patterns and is being conducted in the work of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

3.13 Climate action

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

3.13.1 Example in PGD area: Climate and development

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of the Environment and Energy. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other ministries.)

The 2015 Paris Climate Agreement creates conditions for increased support for developing countries, both in limiting emissions and in adapting to climate changes. Poor and vulnerable countries which lack resources to adapt, as well as women, men, girls and boys living in poverty and vulnerability are particularly hard-hit by climate changes. The enjoyment of human rights can be affected by environmental destruction and climate changes, including the rights of indigenous peoples. The fight against poverty runs a risk of grinding to a standstill or collapsing unless climate change is arrested; this is due to the effects of climate change such as drought, cloud-bursts and storms, which in turn also affect, e.g., access to water and food production, as well as stability and safety and migration flows. Sendai activities aimed at reducing the risks and consequences of accidents and disasters are also important for the adaptation to a changed climate.

The Government's work

Sweden shall be at the forefront on climate issues, which represents one of humankind's greatest challenges. All countries must switch to being sustainable societies with low emissions and a high resilience to the effects of climate change. Coherent global and national climate work is required as well as the fact that climate work, both emission reductions and adaptation, must be integrated in a harmonised manner in all policy areas. Sweden will continue to be a driver for the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement, not least in relation to developing countries. OECD countries such as Sweden have a particular responsibility to show the way through ambitious emission goals. Upon a proposal from the Government, the Riksdag has adopted a climate policy framework with a statute and several of the world's most far-reaching climate goals. Sweden shall be the world's first fossil-free welfare state. Within the EU, Sweden is conducting an ambitious climate policy and is actively working with other countries and parties to strengthen alliances and collaborations. Sweden is also one of the most active countries in the EU when it comes to promoting the development of an ambitious sustainability chapter in the EU's regional and bilateral free trade agreements. Among other things, focus is being placed on issues concerning the environment and health (cooperation concerning sustainable fishing, the use of chemicals, sustainable consumption, etc.). The Government is also conducting a Sustainability Impact Assessment regarding the effects of the agreement on sustainable development, which will gain greater influence both during negotiations and in the monitoring of agreements. In 2017 the EU's strategy for trade-related development cooperation (Aid for Trade) has been revised and Sweden has gained support for texts which emphasise the importance of including environmental and climate considerations.

Sweden is a leading donor to, and an active board member of, a number of global climate funds and is working to facilitate access to climate

financing, not least for the poorest and most vulnerable countries. In addition, Sweden is actively working in, for example, the Green Climate Fund, with strong connections between the funds' work and gender equality and conflict perspectives. Sweden is also supporting ICTSD (the International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development), which engages in trade and environment-related issues. Sweden is contributing to promoting capacity development, technical development and innovative solutions to reduce emissions and for climate adjustment, not least in developing countries. Sweden will also contribute to supporting the implementation by developing countries of the national climate plans. The links between development strategies and climate plans should thereby also be strengthened. It is, however, important that developing countries, too, have obligations under the new agreement and that more countries are encouraged to contribute to climate financing.

In the Budget Bill for 2018, the Government has presented an investment of SEK 30 million for 2018, and SEK 50 million from 2019, to international climate measures aimed at contributing to enhancing ambitions in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The investment is one of several which are to finance climate measures that develop new international forms of cooperation and result-based climate financing within the scope of the Paris Agreement.

Sweden is taking cogent measures to support developing countries in their implementation of their National Determined Contributions in their national development plans and budgets. Sweden is also supporting measures aimed at capacity development and distribution of technology to support implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement.

The Government is also working to increase synergies between the work on reducing air pollution and limited climate impact. Sweden is president of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2018. Through the presidency, we are strengthening the potential for a green restructuring and increased focus on ambition, leadership and exchanges of experience within the climate area. Sweden is contributing to the work of developing countries in raising the ambition in their climate work through the new allocation of funds for international climate measures and continued ambitious contributions to the global climate funds. Sweden's co-chairmanship of the board of the Green Climate Fund in 2018 entails an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in multilateral climate financing and thereby entrench Sweden's important role in international climate negotiations.

Sweden is also promoting the setting of ambitious goals in the environmental and climate area by international financing institutions, including appreciably increased investments in renewable energy, at the same time as investments in fossil energy are phased out; promoting increased transparency in the procurement rules of the financing institutions; concrete and ambitious goals in the results frameworks of the institutions; and strengthening policy formulations in the area. Sweden is also endeavouring to ensure that the EU Commission (DG Echo), in its work on disaster mitigation, takes into account questions such as sustainable development, climate and environment, and that the EU's bilateral and regional trade agreements promote the implementation of

international environmental conventions and stringent protection levels in environmental aspects.

3.14 Life below water

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

3.14.1 Example in PGD area: Sustainable seas

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of the Environment and Energy. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

The sea's resources are important for the global food supply, not least in many poor countries and regions. This is the case to a high degree for people dependent on coastal fishing. The work which is taking place within the scope of the WTO negotiations against fishery subsidies that result in unsustainable fishing is of key importance. The development and introduction of scientifically based management plans aimed at restoring fish stocks to in excess of the levels which can generate a maximum sustainable return is necessary to ensure the food supply, not least in developing countries. Another key part of the work for globally sustainable fishing is to stop illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, referred to as IUU fishing, which is estimated to account for up to 15 per cent of annual catches globally, and to strengthen global fishing management and access to scientifically based data. The sea's resources and ecosystem services are also of great importance for the development of a blue economy which is sustainable in the long-term. For example, the development of coastal tourism contributes to economic and social development in many developing countries.

The condition of coastal waters and seas is extremely serious. Ecosystems and thereby the sea's ecosystem services are adversely affected by, among other things, climate changes, ocean acidification, the extracting of minerals and unsustainable fishing methods, marine littering and environmental toxins. The resilience of the sea and its ability to absorb and break down nutrients and toxins, adjustment of climate, etc. is decreasing. Many fish stocks are being sharply reduced and species are dying out. The environmental condition represents a serious threat to sustainable fishing stocks. Maritime waste is adversely affecting coastal and sea-based economies. For example, fish and other marine life confuse plastic with food and risk undernourishment. Tourism depends on attractive environments with healthy coastal waters.

In order to contribute to the work on sustainable seas, cooperation is required across national boundaries and harmonised measures are needed between several policy areas, including the environment, fishing, agriculture, business, maritime, education and foreign policy.

The Government's work

Since the 2030 Agenda was adopted in 2015, Sweden has assumed a leading role in the implementation of goal 14. Sweden and Fiji initiated and chaired the UN high-level conference “The Ocean Conference” in New York in June 2017. An ambitious and measure-focused political declaration, “Call for Action”, was adopted. The declaration adopts a holistic approach to the challenges facing the seas and aims to actively turn around the downward trend and promote sustainable development of the world’s seas. The conference contributed to global momentum on the issue of the seas and a clearer placing of the issue on the global development agenda. This is reflected not least through the appointment of a UN Special Envoy for the Ocean. During the conference, more than 1,400 voluntary undertakings were registered by states, organisations and businesses. The Government registered or participated in 26 undertakings, most of which were within the areas prioritised by the Government prior to the conference, as follows: 1) reduced emissions of contaminants and littering of the seas; 2) sustainable utilisation of resources within marine-based economies; and 3) clarification of the connection between seas, coasts and climate.

In connection with the holding of the conference, Sweden has strengthened the marine aspects in its cooperation with a number of organisations, for example GEF, UNDP and FAO. Sweden has promoted the issue of the seas within the UN system and has worked to strengthen the implementation of international agreements and conventions. In 2017 the Government also gave focused support to organisations and conventions such as Unep, IUCN, CBD, Icri, Unesco, Siwi, The Ocean Foundation, etc. for their work on the marine environment within the scope of development cooperation.

The Government is continuing to promote long-term sustainable marine-based economies. Among other things, within the scope of WTO it is promoting work on prohibiting detrimental fishing subsidies which contribute to unsustainable fishing. By supporting the Pacific – European Union Marine Partnership (Peump), Sweden is contributing to strengthening regional, national and global measures for a sustainable blue economy which promotes the most vulnerable groups, including women, children and young people.

The Government has, in particular, emphasised the issue of marine pollution and marine waste, among other things at the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 3). The Government is working to strengthen implementation of existing instruments, including the discussion on a globally binding agreement regarding marine waste. The Government is also working to achieve a binding international framework as regards hazardous chemicals. Measures close to the source are fundamental for effectively counteracting land-based contamination and marine waste reaching the sea. A well-functioning reception of waste from marine economies at ports is a prerequisite for reducing marine littering. Measures which promote sustainable urban development and environmentally sustainable and safe chemical and waste management play a key role. During 2017–2020 Sweden is contributing to the IUCN’s work on making it possible for stakeholders in Africa and the Pacific area to reduce plastic littering in the sea.

The Government is actively working to strengthen development cooperation in the EU's maritime policy and in the EU's fisheries policy. Sweden is also active in the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in order to contribute to a reduction in the environmental impact from international shipping. The Government's maritime strategy from 2015 constitutes an important starting point in the national work for sustainable seas.

The Government is also working to achieve an ambitious implementation agreement to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) for the conservation of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdictions (BBNJ). One important aim with the new agreement is to develop a cooperation organisation and create coordination and cooperation between organisations to cover gaps in the global management system.

3.14.2 Conflicts of objectives and interests: Climate and the sea

Climate changes are already having a major impact on the seas. Emissions of greenhouse gases are affecting the climate, heating up and acidifying the oceans and leading to oxygen deficiencies. Climate changes are also resulting in an increase in sea levels and thereby to increased vulnerability of coastal ecosystems and societies. This is having disastrous consequences for biodiversity. The impact on coastal ecosystems such as seaweed beds, mangrove swamps and coral reefs is, in turn, affecting fish stocks and thereby endangering the food supply. This is particularly the case in the least developed countries and in small island nations under development and other developing countries. Climate changes are also leading to more extreme weather, with storms and flooding which affect in particular coastal areas and coastal buildings.

The world's oceans are of major importance for the earth's climate system. The seas produce one-half of the oxygen in the atmosphere and absorb approximately one-third of our carbon dioxide emissions. Marine biological diversity is of importance for reducing risks and adaptation. Certain coastal ecosystems have a great capacity to store carbon, at the same time as they can also leak out carbon dioxide if their ecosystem functions deteriorate or are destroyed.

Therefore, long-term protection and conservation of biodiversity in the seas and in coastal areas is of importance for dampening the greenhouse effect. Thus, the creation of resilience, i.e. the power to withstand and the ability to recover, in coastal ecosystems through improved measures for protection and conservation, is of ever-increasing importance to counteract the consequences of climate change.

In the switch to a more renewable and fossil-free energy system, investments are taking place in sea-based wave and wind power. Conflicts of objectives can arise in the ambition to develop fossil-free energy systems and to protect marine environments, such as to increase maritime transportation to reduce carbon dioxide emissions globally. An example of another conflict of goals is the work on fighting poverty, among other things by developing tourism which, on the one hand, leads to the

exploitation and development of the coastal zone and which, if it is carried out incorrectly, can undermine resilience to climate changes. A clear example is the exploitation of mangrove swamps and seaweed beds.

The Government is working to draw attention to the connection between the oceans and climate in the work on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Issues concerning the resilience of the seas and climate adaptation have been included also successively in several various global conventions and processes, e.g. within CBD and UNEA. Also in regional cooperation regarding the seas, e.g. UNEP's Regional Seas Programme, Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO) and the regional economic cooperation projects, climate changes are an issue of growing importance. Therefore, the Government believes that improved control and cooperation on issues relating to the seas are necessary on a global and regional level, including within development cooperation. This is needed in order to develop synergies between different agendas, avoid conflicts of objectives, and contribute to increased harmonisation and effective marine environment work in the climate area. It is particularly important to strengthen cross-sectoral cooperation between the environment, fishing, marine-based energy production and the development of tourism.

In order to create conditions for long-term sustainable use of coastal and marine areas, an increasing number of countries are choosing to develop physical planning, referred to as coastal zone and marine spatial planning. With planning based on an ecosystem, considerations are made as to how an increased human impact and several impact factors on coastal and marine areas (emissions, shipping, fishing, energy) are to be managed, in order to be able, at the same time, to protect and conserve the sea's biodiversity and ecosystem services. A network of protected marine areas constitutes another important tool. It is important that these networks are actively planned and structured to take into account climate changes. One example is protecting areas which, in the long term, can become important as play and juvenile growth areas for fish or as refuges for coral reefs. This is promoted, for example, through support to the newly established Blue Action Fund, in which Sweden is an observer on the board, but also through continued focused support and close cooperation with regional and international organisations.

The protection and planning of coastal and marine environments are of great importance for the development of a sustainable blue economy. The Government intends to continue to elucidate the integrated goal structure in the sustainable blue economy, and to endeavour to achieve an ecosystem-based management, and to strengthen incentives for sustainable maritime activities. Within the scope of maritime activities, the EU's integrated maritime policy and the 2030 Agenda, the Government is endeavouring to achieve a sustainable blue economy which has "Competitive, innovative and sustainable maritime economies that can contribute to increased employment, reduced environmental impact and an attractive life environment."

The Government will also continue to attach great importance to marine issues in the international development work and will contribute to the global implementation of goal 14 and related targets. The Government's new global strategy for the environment, climate and the seas as well as

sustainable utilisation of natural resources 2018–2022, will play a key role in strengthening the work for sustainable seas within development cooperation.

Just as before the Ocean Conference in June 2017, Sweden is currently working based on a number of prioritised areas, all of which have a bearing on targets in goal 14. Particular priority is being given to 1) strengthening ecosystem-based management and protection of marine areas; 2) promotion of sustainable maritime economies; 3) reduced contamination and marine littering; and 9) strengthening marine issues in climate work.

Sweden stands behind, and will continue to work with, the results of the Bonn Climate Change Conference held earlier this year (COP23), in which progress was made in drawing attention to the marine issue in climate negotiations. In order to promote this, Sweden will, among other things, co-chair the Ocean Pathway initiative, which is aimed in particular at studying the possibilities for clarifying the role of the seas in climate work within the climate convention, including the climate undertakings of member states. Sweden will also continue to support and work for wider dissemination of the 'Because the Ocean' declaration.

Sweden will continue to promote global cooperation regarding the seas in the implementation of international agreements and understandings which affect the seas or maritime activities.

Strong support is needed for Kenya and Portugal's initiative for a follow-up UN conference on the sea in 2020. The UN's Special Envoy for the Ocean can contribute to the UN working more effectively and in a more coordinated fashion on marine issues. The ambition is also that negotiation conferences for a binding agreement to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for the conservation of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdictions (the BBN process) will result in an implementation agreement in 2020. In order to continue to strengthen regional cooperation regarding the sea and to deepen work on sectoral integration, it is important to achieve the Global Goals regarding protection for coastal and marine areas, and to develop ecosystem-based marine spatial planning and a more sustainable management of marine resources. The international work with the Source to Sea approach, i.e. the impact on water from sources to the sea, needs to be strengthened, and the link between goal 4 and goal 14 needs to be made clearer. This is important in order, in the long term, to reduce the flow of marine waste and microplastics in order to develop an environmentally sustainable and safe waste management and sustainable urban development. The use of microplastics in products must be reduced. The external dimension in the EU's common fisheries policy needs to be monitored and the conditions of developing countries need to be included. Within the UN climate convention, attention needs to be drawn to the link between seas and climate, and the importance of sustainable protection and management of the ecosystems of the seas and coasts in order to maintain the seas' resilience.

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

3.15.1 Example in PGD area: Cooperation within the International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of the Environment and Energy and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Employment, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education and Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

Functioning ecosystems and biodiversity are the basis for the processes that provide us with food, water, energy, clothing, etc. Protection, conservation and sustainable use and restoration of ecosystems and natural resources, as well as conservation of biodiversity, are thus necessary. The important connections between economic and social development and the need to protect and conserve ecosystems, including biodiversity, need to be made clearer. The ongoing impoverishment of biodiversity affects, to a high degree, people living in poverty, who often subsist on natural resources. Many of them are women. The work in the convention regarding biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets are important for achieving several of the Global Goals.

The Government's work

The Government is engaged in regular work on increasing consideration being given to biodiversity and the value of ecosystem services in relevant policy areas and processes, including through the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Conservation and sustainable utilisation of biodiversity and functioning ecosystems play a key role in the subsistence and survival of the poor. Functioning ecosystems are important for providing products such as medicines, food or firewood and ecosystem services, such as clean water, or a buffer against disasters such as flooding, drought and tidal waves. Access to, and a fair sharing of, benefits and gains from biodiversity, as well as consideration for the knowledge, roles and rights of local and indigenous peoples, are a key factor. It is, therefore, important, as a starting point, to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services in ongoing programmes and projects in development cooperation, for example through integration in country strategies.

According to goal 6 in the EU's biodiversity strategy, not later than 2020 the EU shall have increased its contribution to counteract biodiversity losses on a global level. This will take place through, among other things, ensuring biodiversity within the scope of development cooperation; reducing the effects of the EU's consumption patterns; promoting the contribution of trade policy to conservation and sustainable utilisation of biodiversity, and taking into account potential adverse

consequences. This will be done by systematically including the issue in negotiations and dialogues regarding trade with third countries, phasing out and discontinuing detrimental subsidies, and mobilising additional resources for conservation and sustainable utilisation of biodiversity on a global level, and supporting assessments of natural capital in recipient countries, as well as proposing legislation regarding access to, and fair sharing of, profits from the use of genetic resources.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency's activities shall, among other things, be based on and permeated by an integrated environment and climate perspective. As regards biodiversity, this means that sustainable forestry and agriculture are developed so that biodiversity is conserved, as well as ecosystems' important functions. This involves, for example, ensuring access to water, reduced soil erosion and deforestation, and making it easier for people to support themselves and take themselves out of poverty. In order to ensure that these issues are developed effectively on a global level, during the period 2017–2020 the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency is providing core support in the amount of SEK 155 million to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN. Together with different types of project support, this entails a contribution to IUCN of approximately SEK 50 million per year. The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency makes the assessment that the organisation's operations are of major importance for promoting biodiversity as an important component in global sustainability work and, therefore, for several decades the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency has contributed with framework agreements for the organisation's measures.

IUCN is of great importance for the global work on biodiversity and ecosystem services and the work on integrating these issues into sustainable development and climate work. Among the IUCN's projects, particular emphasis may be placed on the organisation's world-unique role in developing global knowledge regarding biodiversity.

IUCN is also of great importance for developing nature-based solutions to other important global issues such as sustainable development and the climate issue. IUCN enjoys a good reputation in a large number of countries in the world, and the Government Offices have been a member for a long time. The organisation also plays an important role in the work on the 2030 Agenda. Among other things, the organisation is working on indicators for monitoring and will actively assist in the implementation of goals.

Forests and sustainable development

Sustainable forestry is important since, among other things, it affects the climate, sustainable renewable energy, a secure supply of food, economic growth and the fight against poverty. Illegal logging and trade in associated timber products have negative effects on forests and on people who live from and in those forests. Developing countries have particular needs for technical and scientific knowledge, as well as resources, to develop, conserve and sustainably use forest ecosystems, including reforestation. Work on sustainable forestry within the scope of sustainable development requires harmonised measures between different policy areas such as business, agriculture, the environment, climate and foreign policy.

As a forestry nation with significant expertise and long experience, Sweden will continue to work actively for sustainable use of forests and conservation of biodiversity globally. Among other things, Sweden is promoting long-term ownership and use of land, active dialogues with bearers of knowledge and stakeholders on different levels, increased gender equality and decent working conditions within the forestry sector. Within the EU, for example, Sweden is engaged in the structuring and implementation of the EU's forestry strategy which is relevant from a development perspective with a bearing on, e.g., EU FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade) and related partnership agreements as well as the EU Timber Regulation. More responsible and transparent businesses, as well as more sustainable production and consumption, are important with respect to products from the forest. Sustainable forestry is a key issue in Swedish international cooperation, and therefore Sweden is actively engaged in, among other things, the UN Forum on Forests, where a strategic plan is being drafted for the forest-related goals in the 2030 Agenda. Sweden is involved in the convention on biodiversity and the climate convention, which include forest-related aspects in, for example, the Paris Agreement.

The Government will continue to encourage a more harmonised and integrated promotion in which Swedish interests such as export and investment promotion are linked together with Swedish aid and global development policy. Sustainable forestry will be emphasised in the aid, as well as the way in which it can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and sustainable societal development in developing countries.

The role of forestry in an increasingly circular and bio-based economy is a key Swedish global issue. Active participation in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's national committee is important as well as participation in the UN expert group under the auspices of the UN Forum on Forests, and work in the UN Strategic Plan for Forests. Sweden will continue to actively participate in relevant international negotiations regarding biodiversity, for example at future international party meetings at international environment conventions.

The importance of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in relevant sectors must be emphasised, also in relevant forestry policy forums internationally.

Work is continuing on implementing the national strategy for biodiversity and ecosystem services. Knowledge and tools for addressing the importance of ecosystem services in a growing circular and bio-based economy constitute an important part of the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda.

The conditions of developing countries need to be taken into account in the review of the FLEGT action plan and the EU Timber Regulation. The capacity of developing countries to produce forestry statistics and monitor indicators for forestry-relevant goals in the 2030 Agenda, and the integration of biodiversity in forestry, need to increase.

3.16 Peace, justice and strong institutions

Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

3.16.1 Example in PGD area: Security and development

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of the Environment and Energy.)

Work on security and development is fundamental to implementation of the 2030 Agenda in its entirety. Fighting poverty, environmental and climate work and peacebuilding go together. Peace and security cannot be achieved without fighting poverty and climate changes, and vice versa. Protection of the individual's human rights is a key aspect of international peace, security and development work.

The number of people affected by violent conflicts has increased dramatically since 2010. Approximately 1.4 billion people, as well as an ever-increasing proportion of the world's poorest, live in conflict-affected and failing states.

At the same time, the largest refugee catastrophe in modern times is taking place. In 2016 there were 65 million refugees in the world. Extreme poverty is concentrated, to a growing degree, in states affected by conflict and failing states. The world over, people are falling victim to violations of human rights, which increasingly often result in conflicts and war. In addition, climate changes and increased pressure on natural resources are contributing to conflict and thereby, to an ever greater extent, are constituting a global security threat, such as an increased threat of terrorism and global health threats.

Work on peace, security and development requires a holistic approach and coordination and harmonisation. Many policy areas are affected, such as defence, the environment, social policy, culture, migration and foreign policy, as well as legal issues.

The Government's work

The Government is addressing the security policy challenges, among other things within areas such as terrorism, climate, refugee flows and migration, pandemics and human smuggling. Measures for democracy, human rights and due process principles are based on peacebuilding work. Armed conflicts and violence are often caused by gross violations of human rights. Sweden is contributing in various ways to strengthening action and protection for human rights in the world. The promotion of human rights is a priority within Swedish foreign policy and is largely integrated in most policy areas.

In 2017 the Government produced new global strategies for development work within sustainable peace and within human rights,

democracy and rule of law principles. The strategy for sustainable peace focuses on the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and the Folke Bernadotte Academy and also includes financing in local situations in which there is an enhanced need for prompt and flexible support.

Sweden has strengthened its peacebuilding commitment within the UN. Throughout the period 2016–2017, several important steps forward were taken in international cooperation in the peace, security and development area. The 2030 Agenda, in which the world's states undertake to double their endeavours to resolve or prevent conflicts, was followed in April 2016 by resolutions of both the UN Security Council and the General Assembly on sustaining peace, a new and broader way for the UN to build peace and prevent conflicts. Upon taking office in January 2017, the UN's new Secretary General declared a vision of making the UN into an organisation for peace with conflict prevention as one of its priorities.

In January 2017 Sweden arranged an open debate on conflict prevention at the UN Security Council, with broad participation. This was also the newly incumbent Secretary General's first meeting with UN member states. This is being followed up with a series of events in and outside the UN, as support for the Secretary General's peace vision. Sweden has also retained its chairmanship of the UN Peacebuilding Commission, Liberia Configuration.

In September 2017 parts of a report were launched based on a study called "Pathways for Peace-Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict", which was carried out in a unique cooperation project between the UN and the World Bank. This study points to the importance of an adaptation-focused work method, focusing on supporting countries in managing conflicts through peaceful means and inclusive policies.

The Government has strengthened its support for peacebuilding processes and conflict-prevention measures, and intensified the work on effective participation by women in peace processes. The overall focus is to address the root causes of conflicts, to contribute to inclusive peace processes, and to support national processes for achieving sustainable peace and development. The Government is also placing long-term focus on mediation. Together with the Folke Bernadotte Academy, a Swedish network of female mediators is working to support women's participation in peace processes. This network has been involved in a number of peace processes. A support function for political dialogue and peace processes has also been established within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to provide support to this work.

In 2016–2017 Sweden continued to co-chair the international dialogue for peacebuilding and state building together with Sierra Leone. This dialogue brings together both OECD countries and developing countries for discussions on the principles within the New Deal and goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda. Sweden is also supporting the work of the African Union as regards peace, security and development. Within the World Bank Group, Sweden is endeavouring to ensure that additional resources are allocated to states affected by conflict and failing states, and that the gender equality perspective is integrated into all activities.

The Government is also endeavouring to increase knowledge and to draw attention to climate-related security risks, such as drought, lack of water and lack of resources. Among other things, Sweden is a driving force for strengthening the UN's capacity to identify and address climate-related security risks, not least as part of the conflict prevention work.

The Government regards harmonisation of civil and military crisis management as a key to promoting sustainable peace. Armed conflicts are the most serious obstacle to development in many poor countries. Among other things, poverty as a consequence of war, combined with access to weapons, is also a breeding ground for terrorism and the occurrence of new conflicts. A broad, integrated approach vis-à-vis conflict and post-conflict countries is important. Sweden is driving to develop the EU's coherent approach towards conflict and post-conflict countries, as well as for strong harmonisation between crisis management measures and long-term development cooperation, and for improved synergies between civil and military activities. Swedish contributions to international endeavours of police and other civil personnel, as well as military contributions, constitute an important contribution to capacity development and security sector reform. In 2017 the Government submitted a communication to the Riksdag which reports the focus of international civil and military crisis management operations.

At the beginning of 2017 the Government adopted its national security strategy. Since then, an ever increasing part of the Government's work has been devoted to coherently addressing national security issues. In December 2017 a sub-report was presented regarding implementation of the national security strategy.

Within the EU, in 2016 the EU's global strategy for the EU's foreign policy action was launched. In 2017 Sweden worked to strengthen the EU's ability for civil and military crisis management beyond the Union's borders. Within the scope of the joint security and foreign policy, a permanent structured cooperation – PESCO – was established with the aim, through cooperation, of strengthening the EU's military capability in the EU's military crisis management. In 2017 a roadmap was also adopted in order, in 2018, to concretely further develop and strengthen the EU's civil crisis management capability.

The European Institute of Peace, of which Sweden was a participant founder in 2014, will contribute to and supplement the EU's global peace work. During 2017 the organisation engaged in important mediation and dialogue efforts in, among other places, Iraq and Yemen, and initiated an EU-financed project in Afghanistan and a project aimed at counteracting violent extremism in the Horn of Africa.

Women, peace and security

The Government has strengthened its policy within the area of women, peace and security. Work for sustainable peace and security must take into account entire populations and societies in order to be effective. However, statistics and empirical evidence show that women's rights to political participation and influence are not respected, with the consequence that peace processes and peacebuilding lose legitimacy, quality and sustainability. The Government has an increased focus on strengthening women's influence and meaningful participation in the work of promoting

peace and security. The Government's feminist foreign policy, with its goals, among other things, of contributing to the participation of women and girls in preventing and resolving conflicts and in peacebuilding after conflicts, constitutes an important basis for the work. The Government is regularly engaged in methodology and training work with respect to women, peace and security. Important parties in this work include the Swedish Defence Research Agency, the Swedish Forces International Centre, and the Folke Bernadotte Academy.

The Government has adopted Sweden's third action plan for implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions regarding women, peace and security. Sweden's working group for implementation of the action plan comprises authorities and civil society organisations, and it is convened twice yearly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2017, in cooperation between authorities and civil society organisations, a matrix was produced for implementation and monitoring of the action plan. The Government has also allocated funds for a new professorship and research programme for women, peace and security at the Swedish Defence University.

Sweden is working actively for women, peace and security in the EU and to ensure that this issue is discussed in all relevant country situations, and is an aspect in mandates, reporting and monitoring of the EU's civil and military crisis management endeavours. Sweden is supporting the EU's adviser on gender equality and women, peace and security by contributing expert personnel to the adviser's office. Sweden took the initiative which resulted in the establishment of the EU's new stabilisation measures in Iraq and is endeavouring to ensure that work as regards women, peace and security becomes an integral part of the endeavour.

Women, peace and security are a prioritised area during Sweden's membership of the UN Security Council in 2017–2018. Sweden has actively contributed to strengthening the mandate for the UN peace measures with respect to women, peace and security, and has actively raised the issue in country-specific discussions in the Security Council and contributed to a number of civil society representatives being invited to inform the Security Council regarding the situation of women. Sweden is also chairing the Security Council's informal expert group on women, peace and security.

The Government intends to continue to strengthen its support for peacebuilding processes and conflict-prevention measures. Particular importance will be attached to intensifying the work on the active participation of women in peace processes, including contributing to the participation of women and girls in preventing and resolving conflicts. Another prioritised issue is to increase knowledge and attention to climate-related security risks such as drought and shortages of water and resources. The Government also intends to contribute to developing the EU's overall approach to conflict and post-conflict countries, as well as strengthening harmonisation between crisis management measures and long-term development work.

Disarmament and non-proliferation

Illegal and uncontrolled dissemination of weapons seriously risks destabilising societies and limiting the security of individuals, as well as

their political, economic, social participation and influence. Such dissemination can also directly and indirectly contribute to gender-related violence and other serious violence directed at women and children. This risk is particularly large as regards irresponsible transfers of small and light weapons. Unregulated flows and a broad access to weapons limit society's possibilities to create fundamental security, including economic and social development and the conditions for ensuring human rights. Sweden is actively engaged internationally in disarmament and non-proliferation. The conditions for fair and sustainable global development, as well as the need for international support to developing countries, is emphasised in Swedish addresses to state party meetings within relevant conventions and agreements to which Sweden has acceded. Sweden is also endeavouring to ensure that drivers for conflict in developing countries, such as flows and destabilising collections of weapons, are counteracted within the scope of the processes for implementation of the UN Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and in the work against illegal dissemination of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), including the review and implementation of the UN action plan against illegal trade in SALW (UNPoA). Sweden is also contributing actively with financing and expertise for dealing with landmines, cluster ammunition and other explosives left over from wars, e.g. risk training and support for survivors of landmines in developing countries.

The Government is regularly working to ensure that a gender equality perspective is included in the disarmament and non-proliferation work. Women are heavily underrepresented in international negotiations and discussions regarding disarmament and non-proliferation. The Government is promoting the integration of a gender equality perspective in discussions, final documents and relevant resolutions in the disarmament and weapons control area. The Government intends, together with relevant parties, to work for gender equality in international organisations in the disarmament area and to work for gender-equal participation in discussions regarding disarmament and non-proliferation. This is taking place, among other things, through regularly drawing attention to gender equality aspects in addresses at, and in discussions with representatives of, organisations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO) and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and at meetings of the UN General Assembly's First Committee, the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the UN action plan against illegal trade in SALW (UNPoA). Sweden is working to monitor research into, particularly, the impact on women and girls of nuclear weapons and small and light weapons, e.g. by advocating strong international data collection with a particular focus on a breakdown of statistics by gender. The Government is also working to ensure that sexual and gender-related violence is noted and followed up within the scope of the UN Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

Arms exports

In October 2017 the Government submitted a bill to the Riksdag with a proposal for a series of tighter restrictions on arms exports (Govt. Bill 2017/17:23). The bill largely implements the broad political agreement

regarding tighter rules, as proposed by the Parliamentary Arms export review committee (KEX) in its report SOU 2015:72. The proposals in the bill involve, among other things, that the democratic status of the recipient country shall constitute a key condition for licence assessment. The assessment shall also take into account whether the export would be contrary to fair and sustainable development in the recipient country. Also in the future, the licence assessment will take place based on an overall assessment. It is proposed that the legislative changes enter into force on 15 April 2018. In other respects, the Government Offices (the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) have, through seminars, offered skills training for, among others, the Inspectorate of Strategic Products (ISP), as regards sustainability aspects in criterion eight of the EU's Common Position on Arms Exports, as well as gender aspects and risks of gender-based violence in the application of Article 7.4 of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

Illegal financial flows

In 2017 Sweden took further steps to reduce illegal financial flows both within the country and across its borders, without unnecessarily making it more difficult for migrants to send remittances, the promotion of which is a global goal *per se*. A key part of the work has comprised implementation of the EU's Fourth Money Laundering Directive, which has resulted in relatively extensive changes to Swedish domestic law. The Directive is based on recommendations issued by the international body FATF (Financial Action Task Force). As one of FATF's 37 members, Sweden has also participated in the long-term work on fighting money laundering, the financing of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Access to information and protection of basic freedoms

Goal 16 also addresses ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements. The principle of public access to documents and the provisions of the Instrument of Government regarding fundamental freedoms and rights constitute cornerstones of our democratic form of government. Through the regulation, public access to information and the protection of fundamental freedoms is guaranteed.

In 2017 the Swedish Arts Council and the Swedish Arts Grants Committee were mandated, in an international context, with promoting the role of culture for freedom of expression and democratisation. The mandate continues also during 2018. The authorities shall also encourage synergies between cultural policy and aid policy measures. The Swedish Arts Grants Committee has promoted this by, among other things, cultural exchanges with parties in developing countries. In addition, Arts Council representative sent abroad have received new guidelines which, where appropriate, provide representatives with the possibility to promote the role of culture in advancing democratisation and human rights in the development cooperation work.

The Government has also promoted Sweden being an active voice for the free word by offering shelter cities to persecuted artists.

The Swedish Arts Council shall encourage more shelter cities for persecuted artists and for the development of a shelter city system in

Sweden. In a regulatory letter for 2018, it has been particularly pointed out to the Swedish Arts Council that funds must be allocated for a national coordinator for the shelter city system in Sweden. Sweden is currently the country with the most shelter cities (24 in number) and the greatest number of artists in shelter cities (14 in number). Within the scope of Sweden's presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2018, the Swedish Arts Council will arrange a conference on the theme of shelter cities. One aim is to create networks and conditions for increasing cooperation for promoting freedom of expression and the shelter city system in a Nordic, European and international context.

Sweden shall be a strong voice in the world and promote freedom of opinion, expression and media, and protect the safety of journalists and artists. Important parties and arenas for the work include the UN, Unesco the EU and the Council of Europe. Development cooperation contributes, among other things, to increasing safety for journalists and preventing journalists and artists from being exposed to arbitrary deprivation of liberty. Sweden shall also continue to actively contribute to implementation of the UN Action plan for the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity which was adopted by the UN in 2012. The Government proposes that measures be taken which contribute to Sweden shedding light in particular on issues of threats to the safety of female journalists, including exposure to threats and hatred. As noted in the Government's action plan entitled "In defence of the free word – measures against the exposure of journalists, elected representatives and artists to threats and hatred," in these and other multilateral forums Sweden shall continue to emphasise the issues of freedom of expression and freedom of the press, as well as the safety of journalists and artists. The Government intends in particular to elucidate questions regarding the safety of female journalists, including exposure to threats and hatred.

3.17 Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

3.17.1 Example in PGD area: Flight of capital and tax flight

(Primary responsibility: The Ministry of Finance. Other relevant ministries include the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

The fact that private individuals and businesses pay tax constitutes a fundamental condition for building and sustainably financing a society that functions in the long term. Reduced flight of capital and tax flight are therefore an important issue for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, which among other things is set out in goal 1 and goal 17.

Fighting the flight of capital and tax flight is a prioritised issue for the Government. The Government's work primarily has a two-pronged

approach. The Government is working to strengthen the international framework against tax flight and tax avoidance and for facilitating increased exchanges of information in the area. The Government is also contributing to developing sound tax procedures and efficient tax administration in developing countries. In this way, countries can strengthen necessary tools to counteract international tax flight and tax avoidance.

With respect to strengthening the international framework against tax flight and tax avoidance, Sweden has been active in the common G20/OECD project Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS). This project is focused on 15 measures to prevent businesses paying too little or no tax. This BEPS package was published and approved by the G20's Heads of State and Government in the autumn of 2015. In 2014 the OECD noted that developing countries should be more involved in BEPS and that attention should be drawn to the issues which the developing countries prioritise. Several developing countries are now involved in the BEPS work. Together with other international institutions and regional organisations, it has been decided to produce a number of tools focusing on the specific challenges facing developing countries, including issues of tax incentives and possibilities to apply transfer pricing rules. Sweden is supporting this work both politically and financially. More than 100 jurisdictions – including developing countries and financial centres – are participating in the Inclusive Framework on BEPS which is implementing and monitoring the BEPS measures.

The Government believes that the issue of the participation of developing countries in the work on preventing tax base erosion and flight of profits is of key importance. This is particularly the case as regards work in the OECD, which is the main standard-setting body in the area. The Government is therefore engaged to ensure that, also in the future, developing countries will be able to participate in the work of implementing the result of the BEPS project on the same terms as the OECD countries.

At the UN, work is being conducted, which Sweden supports, that is similar to the work within the BEPS project to prevent tax base erosion and flight of profits. In its work the UN's tax committee is focusing in particular on the perspective of the developing countries. Since 2013 Sweden has contributed to the UN work with both expertise and resources through a Swedish expert being a member of the UN tax committee. It is important for Sweden that the agreements reached at the conference on development financing in Addis Ababa regarding the UN's tax committee actually lead to a strengthened development perspective in the international tax work.

Sweden is actively supporting the work in the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes (Global Forum). This is an international forum which monitors the implementation of the international standard for transparency and exchanges of information in the tax area. Global Forum evaluates countries' frameworks and how the standards are being implemented through a peer review process. Global Forum has also been tasked by the G20 with monitoring the new international standard for automatic exchanges of information. For several years, there has been major focus in the work of Global Forums on

developing countries, which includes capacity development. The OECD has noted that developing countries are facing a series of challenges with respect to the introduction of automatic exchanges of information, with respect to technology, data protection and political willingness, and has encouraged the OECD countries to support developing countries in the work. However, Global Forum's work with developing countries has had the consequence that several of them have now signed up to the standard for automatic exchanges of information. Sweden will work actively to ensure that more countries, including developing countries, sign up to the work in the Global Forum. Strengthened cooperation between Global Forum and other international organisations will be a goal for the work going forward.

In international financial institutions, Sweden is working to counteract flight of capital and tax flight as well as tax avoidance. Sweden supports the work within the institutions which primarily takes place through guidelines for investments and through capacity enhancement measures. Sweden is encouraging strict rules for the institutions' own investments with respect to the use of jurisdictions which fail to satisfy criteria from Global Forum.

Sweden is contributing capacity development measures in developing countries, primarily through projects conducted by the Swedish Tax Agency. The work involves, among other things, modernising the tax authorities of developing countries, which can contribute to generating increased domestic resources that can contribute to fighting poverty and to sustainable development. The Swedish Tax Agency and other Swedish authorities are cooperating in the implementation.

In the autumn of 2017 the Government decided to task the Swedish Tax Agency and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency with arranging and, together with the Government, extending invitations to an international conference on capacity development. The conference will take place in Stockholm on 30–31 May 2018.

Sweden is a member of an international initiative which was launched at the conference on development financing, the "Addis Tax Initiative". The members of the Addis Tax Initiative have adopted a declaration which contains three undertakings. Undertaking 1 entails that the donor countries commit to doubling technical support measures globally within the tax area. In accordance therewith, by 2020 the Government will double the capacity support within the tax area. Undertaking 2 entails that the developing countries agreed to increase the domestic resource mobilisation to promote development and to achieve the Global Goals. Undertaking 3 entails that all parties shall endeavour to improve coordination between the various parties and the various levels in order to promote development in accordance with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The work on the Addis Tax Initiative is being led and monitored by a steering group. The steering group comprises two large donor countries and two developing countries. Sweden is contributing with its skills through a Swedish expert being elected to the steering group.

The conference on capacity development in the tax area in Stockholm, as well as the increased Swedish support to capacity development in the tax area in low- and middle-income countries, constitute a part of the Government's 12 measures to counteract tax flight, tax evasion and money

laundering. The aim of the conference is, through dialogue and exchanges of experience, to contribute to an effective implementation of capacity development in the tax area in low- and middle-income countries. A broader purpose is to strengthen the role of these countries as parties, as well as the possibility to participate on the issue in international contexts.

3.17.2 Conflicts of objectives and interests in the work on flight of capital and tax flight

It is estimated that a large proportion of flight of capital and tax flight from developing countries comprise transactions within multinational companies aimed at avoiding tax. Flight of capital and tax flight within multinational companies thus present an obstacle to development. One conflict of goals and interests within the area concerns the allocation of tax revenues from the operations of multinational companies, between for example countries in which sales take place and countries in which research and development are conducted.

The Government believes that businesses have an important role to contribute in poor countries achieving sustainable taxation. The tax issue, not least issues concerning flight of capital and tax flight, are an important part of the work on sustainable enterprise. The Government is encouraging multinational companies to comply with the OECD's guidelines for multinational companies concerning tax, and to pay the tax which they are obliged to pay by law. Work on business ethics, tax issues and anticorruption constitute important parts of the Government's new and more ambitious policy for sustainable enterprise. The Government is encouraging businesses, when developing appropriate principles for a tax policy, to pay particular attention to the needs and administrative capacity of low-income countries. For example, in the State's owner policy for 2017, which was adopted in December 2016, the Government clarified that companies must act responsibly within the tax area, which among other things shall include policy decisions on a board level. Tax issues are now being emphasised in particular in the owner policy in order to support a higher degree of transparency in the work and to clearly show the Government's position on the issue.

One way of increasing the possibility to discover tax flight is to order companies to report per country of operations. Within the scope of BEPS, decisions have been taken that multinational companies over a certain size must report information regarding the company's operations on a country by country basis (including sales, number of employees, profit and tax paid). The reporting will be reviewed by the tax authority of each relevant country. Corresponding provisions have also been included in EU law. The Government believes that this country by country reporting can strengthen the tax authorities' material for identifying tax flight. With respect to the financial sector, the EU has gone a step further and ordered companies in that sector to publicly report country by country. Strong international rules and strong international cooperation are necessary to counter flight of capital and tax flight. Sweden will continue to work to ensure that countries with weak voices, including many low-income countries, are included in the international processes and that their interests are met as

regards flight of capital and tax flight. Sweden will also continue to promote, and contribute to, strengthening capacity and ability to counter flight of capital and tax flight in developing countries, including their tax administrations. The Government supports developing countries in the fight against flight of capital and tax flight. It is important that the work on introducing automatic exchanges of information and capacity development in the tax area continues. In order for this to contribute effective support to the tax administrations of developing countries, coordination between the various parties in the international arena must be improved. The conference on capacity development in the tax area on 30–31 May 2018 in Stockholm constitutes part of this coordination work. Sweden's participation in the Addis Tax Initiative is another important aspect for including developing countries in the international processes.

3 Conclusions

Political decisions taken in Sweden often have a global impact. The core of PGD is that measures and decisions taken in Sweden must also contribute to fair and sustainable global development. In Sweden's first report to the UN Political High-level Forum for sustainable development 2017, the Government noted that Sweden will be a leader in the work of implementing the 2030 Agenda and that PGD is an important tool in that work. The Government has ambitious goals, which in some cases go further than those expressed in the 2030 Agenda. In this communication, the Government has provided examples of such areas: work regarding the climate and the seas, sustainable enterprise, gender equality, sustainable consumption patterns and work against flight of capital and tax flight. The common thread in Sweden's work on PGD is the perspective of poor people and the rights perspective. Sweden shall be an active and constructive partner in joint international work on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and is working consistently based on these perspectives. In the spring the Government will adopt a national action plan for the 2030 Agenda, in which PGD is an integral part. The Government intends to return in its next communication with a continued report on the work with PGD within the scope of Sweden's implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Extracts from minutes taken at a Government meeting held on 15 March 2018

Present: Prime Minister Löfven, chairman, and Ministers Lövin, M Johansson, Baylan, Hallengren, Bucht, Hultqvist, Hellmark Knutsson, Bolund, Bah Kuhnke, Shekarabi, Fridolin, Eriksson, Skog, Ekström, Fritzon, Eneroth

Presenter: Minister Lövin

The Government decides on communication 2017/18:146 Policy for global development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda