Intervention by Norway at the High Level Event on Anticipatory Action 9 September 2021

- A recent report from the World Meteorological Organization found that a disaster related to a weather, climate or water hazard occurred every day on average over the past 50 years, killing 115 people and causing 202 dollars million in losses daily.

- Anticipation saves lives! It is more dignified and cost efficient. We all seem to agree on this and on the need to move away from re-action to anticipatory action where possible.

- As for Norway, anticipatory action fits well with our policies for humanitarian assistance and long-term development cooperation.

- In our humanitarian assistance, we support efforts to promote preparedness, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation as part of an integrated approach to reducing vulnerability and humanitarian needs. WFP, CERF and DREF are important partners for us.

- In dealing with this challenge, our humanitarian strategy and long-term strategies go hand in hand.

- We are increasing our support for climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction and the fight against hunger in our long-term development efforts.

- Last April we launched a strategy on Climate Change, Hunger and Vulnerability. It is the policy framework for scaling up support in this area.

- Innovative financing, including anticipatory action is a priority. Weather and climate services is another.

- We must explore new, innovative methods to avoid losses and reduce humanitarian needs.

- Capacity building in weather and climate services has been an important part of Norway’s climate development cooperation in the last decade. It is now being scaled up. This includes the development of improved seasonal forecasts.
• Anticipatory Action is a good example on how development efforts and humanitarian action combined can be efficient for building resilience and strengthening disaster risk reduction.

• Norway is committed to providing flexible, un-earmarked humanitarian financing and to bridging the gap between long-term development and humanitarian assistance. We must overcome the budgetary and regulatory challenges. There is still a way to go.

• Norway wants to be a constructive partner on the way ahead and we welcome this opportunity to take some important steps in the right direction.