

India – Norway Joint Statement on Climate and Environment

February 25, 2020

Source: PIB

India marks the beginning of the super year of Biodiversity with the hosting of the 13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), an environmental treaty under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme, from 17th to 22nd February 2020 at Gandhinagar in Gujarat

On the side-lines of the COP, the Union Minister met a delegation led by Norwegian Minister of Climate and Environment, H.E. Mr. Sveinung Rotevan. India and Norway today agreed to jointly tackle concerns related to oceans, environment and climate matters.

Key highlights of India – Norway Joint Statement on Climate and Environment

- Meeting at the beginning of the '2020 Super Year' for the environment, the Ministers stressed that they will do their share to ensure that the 2020s will be a decade of rapid action on climate and environment.
- The two sides expressed interest to continue and strengthen the mutually beneficial cooperation on the environment and climate between the two countries, including **on ocean affairs**.
- The Ministers recognized that the **Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol for phasing down the use of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) could prevent up to 0.40C of warming** by end of the century, Further, noting that universal ratification of Kigali Amendment to the

Montreal Protocol shall allow the realization of its full potential.

- It was agreed to continue the projects for facilitating a smooth transition towards energy-efficient solutions and technologies while phasing down HFCs.
- The two Ministers were pleased with the progress that has been made under the MoU on **India-Norway Ocean Dialogue and the establishment of the Joint Task Force on Blue Economy** for Sustainable Development, including the establishment of the Marine Pollution Initiative.
- The Ministers also noted the importance of delivering concrete, scalable solutions for ocean health and wealth at the **UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon in June 2020**.
- The Ministers welcomed the **cooperation between India and Norway on the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants** and on the minimization of discharge of marine litter.
- **The Ministers emphasized a shared understanding of the global and urgent nature of marine plastic litter and microplastics** and underlined that this issue cannot be solved by any one country alone.
- The Ministers agreed to support and work together with other political leaders to prompt a global and effective response to **curb the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss**.
- They agreed to work together to deliver an ambitious, strong, practical and effective global **biodiversity framework at COP15 of CBD to be held in Kunming, China, in 2020**.
- **The Ministers further discussed the conservation of migratory species of wild animals. The Ministers recognized the importance of integrating ecological connectivity into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.**
- The Ministers stressed that international supply chains and finance must de-invest from deforestation and destruction of nature and invest in companies and

projects that improve smallholder livelihoods while promoting sustainable production and consumption

- The Ministers stressed that the **fifth United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme** offers a good **opportunity to call for greater international action on several environmental issues**, in particular strengthening action for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.