Textual proposals submitted by Norway on the draft overarching Framework of engagement with non-state actors and the four specific policies contained in the annex of document EB136/5

To whom it may concern;

Reference is made to the message from the Secretariat February 4 (below) on specific proposals for amendments, inclusions or deletion of text from Member States to the draft overarching framework of engagement with non-State actors;

In this regard, Norway would like to submit the following comments/proposals;

- Engagement with particular industries (para 44); Norway fully supports WHO not engaging with the tobacco or arms industries. The present wording also encourages particular caution when WHO engages with other industries. We believe this provides sufficient safeguards concerning potential engagement with other industries and would not want to see any additional industries or sectors specified, keeping in mind that the purpose of the framework should be for the WHO to manage risk rather than attempting to eliminate it.
- Role of private sector/use of funds provided by non-state actors to support the salary of WHO staff etc; the final framework must retain the possibility for NSAs to earmark financial contributions as appropriate, and for WHO to spend part of such contributions on staff salaries as appropriate, provided that the contributions fall within the priorities and activities reflected in any adopted programme budget and when all relevant safeguards in the framework has been applied.
- Engagement; rationale and principles; Norway supports the objectives laid out in relevant para.s (including 2 and 7) with regards empowering WHO to fulfill its leadership role in global health and to proactively engage with non-state actors. It is important to preserve the needed balance in the document between the safeguards to protect WHO against undue influence on the one hand, and the need for WHO to fulfill its leadership role and to foster the use of non-state actors' resources on the other. This is however not first and foremost a question of the para.s mentioned, but to preserve such a balance in the entire document.
- Applicability of the Framework to all levels of the organization and all 6 regions; with reference to the importance of One WHO and coherence between all the 6 regions and the three levels of the organisation respectively, the final framework must apply organization wide.