

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SCM/N/48/NOR  
19 October 1999

(99-4478)

Committee on Subsidies  
and Countervailing Measures

Original: English

## SUBSIDIES

Updating Notification Pursuant to Article XVI:1 of  
the GATT 1994 and Article 25 of the SCM Agreement

## NORWAY

The following communication, dated 14 October 1999, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Norway.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This report covers state aid programmes and schemes that were in operation in 1998. The amount of subsidies reported, refer to actual payments in the fiscal year 1998, with the exception of the agricultural sector where the figures are based on account figures from July 1997 to June 1998.

This report constitutes a supplement to Norway's last full report on subsidies, which were submitted for the year 1997. The report contains additional information for the fiscal year 1998 and information on changes to the full report for 1997. Thus taken together the two reports constitute a complete overview of the aid schemes in operation in Norway for 1997 and 1998.

## **2. ASSISTANCE TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **2.1 INDUSTRIAL R&D CONTRACTS**

#### **6. Amount of the subsidy**

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 55.1 million.

### **2.2 PUBLIC R&D CONTRACTS**

#### **6. Amount of the subsidy**

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 104 million.

### **2.3 SWEDISH-NORWEGIAN INDUSTRIAL FUND (SNI)**

#### **6. Amount of the subsidy**

The estimated net cost of financing of contracts, outstanding in 1998, to Norwegian companies is Nkr 7.8 million.

### **2.4 INDUSTRIAL R&D PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS**

#### **6. Amount of subsidy**

Actual payments in 1998 for new and current projects were Nkr 585.8 million.  
The average subsidy per project in 1998 was Nkr 0.7 million.

## **3. ASSISTANCE TO DISADVANTAGED REGIONS**

### **3.1 REGIONAL INVESTMENT GRANT**

#### **6. Amount of the subsidy**

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 654 million. This amount includes payments under the scheme "Regional grants for development of business industry".

Average subsidy per new project Nkr 0.4 million (The amount includes payments under the scheme "Regional grants for development of business and industry")

3.2 REGIONAL GRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 654 million. This amount includes payments under the scheme "Regional investment grant".

Average subsidy per new project Nkr 0.4 million. (The amount includes payments under the "Regional investment grant" scheme)

3.3 SCHEME FOR RESTRUCTURING REGIONS DEPENDENT ON A SINGLE INDUSTRY

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 79 million.

3.4 THE NORWEGIAN CORPORATION FOR INDUSTRIAL ESTATES AND DEVELOPMENT (SIVA)

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 29 million.

Average subsidy per new project was Nkr 0.8 million

3.5 NATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 72 million.

3.6 FUNDS FOR RESTRUCTURING OF THE COMMUNITY OF RANA

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998 was Nkr 1 million.

7. Duration of the subsidy

1995 was the last year that aid was granted under the scheme. However, there have been some minor payments in 1998 on commitments made in 1995. 1998 is the last year with such payments.

3.7 FUNDS FOR RESTRUCTURING OF THE COMMUNITY OF SØR-VARANGER

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998: Nkr 2.3 million.

7. Duration of the subsidy

Expiry date: 31 December 1999.

3.8 FUNDS FOR RESTRUCTURING OF GRENLAND AREA

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998 was From Nkr 12.9 million.

7. Duration of the subsidy

Expiry date 31 December 1999.

**4. ASSISTANCE TO SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED COMPANIES**

4.1 DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payments in 1998 were Nkr 272 Million, average payment pr new assisted project were Nkr 556 thousand.

4.2 THE PUBLIC ADVISORY SYSTEM

6. Amount of the subsidy

The grants given to the institutions in order to provide the services (all sectors) in 1998:

Norwegian Institute of Technology	Nkr	54.5 million
North Norwegian Institute of Technology and Innovation	Nkr	27.7 million
Norwegian Design Council	Nkr	7 million
Euro Info Centres	Nkr	4.2 million
County Business Advisory Service	Nkr	20 million

**5. ASSISTANCE TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT**

5.1 AID FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DIFFUSION OF CLEANER TECHNOLOGIES:

6. Amount of the subsidy

The programme was closed in 1997. Expenditures in 1998 are due to previous commitments.

Total payment in 1998: Nkr 10.6 million.

5.2 AID TO DIFFUSION OF COMPETENCE AND INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.

3. Policy objective of the subsidy

Promote diffusion of competence and information on environmentally friendly production and consumption.

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payment in 1998: Nkr 48.5 million.

5.3 LOAN GUARANTEES FOR INVESTMENT IN CLEANER TECHNOLOGIES, WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING

This scheme came to an end 1 January 1997.

5.4 GUARANTEE FOR LOAN FACILITY AND LOAN FACILITY TO THE COMPANY RESPONSIBLE FOR TREATMENT OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

6. Amount of subsidy

No new loans or guarantees were given under this scheme in 1998.

5.5 GRANT PROGRAMME FOR INTRODUCTION OF NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

1. Authority responsible for the subsidy

The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE).

6. Amount of subsidy

The budget for 1998 was Nkr 247 million.

**6. ASSISTANCE TO EXPORT PROMOTION**

6.1 STRATEGY PROGRAMME AND THE PROGRAMME FOR EXPORT DEVELOPMENT IN SMES

6. Amount of the subsidy

Total payments in 1998: Nkr 168 million.

6.2 EXPORT CREDIT FINANCING SCHEME

6. Amount of subsidy

Total payments in 1998: Nkr 44 million.

6.3 EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEES

6. Amount of subsidy

Net cost of government (NCG) in 1998 was Nkr - 413 million, i.e. negative amount of subsidy (NCG is calculated as costs of guarantees met in 1998, minus the fees and recoveries received in that year).

**7. ASSISTANCE TO SPECIFIC INDUSTRY SECTORS**

7.1 INTEREST RATE SUBSIDIES FOR THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY: LONG TERM FINANCING AND CONSTRUCTION LOANS

6. The amount of subsidy

Total amount of subsidies in 1998

Interest rate subsidies: Nkr 17.6 million  
Nothing was paid out as construction loan subsidies.

7.2 CONTRACT AND CONSTRUCTION LOAN SUBSIDIES TO THE SHIP-BUILDING

6. The amount of subsidy

Total payments in 1998: Nkr 1.3 million

7.3 EXEMPTION FROM/REDUCTION OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE (SO<sub>2</sub>) AND CARBON DIOXIDE (CO<sub>2</sub>) TAXES.

6. Expenditure under the scheme

(a) Mineral Oil:

An excise duty is levied on mineral oil. It consists of a CO<sub>2</sub> tax per litre and a SO<sub>2</sub> tax per 0.25 per cent sulphur content and per litre. Oil with lower sulphur content than 0.05 per cent is exempt from the SO<sub>2</sub> tax. In 1998 the CO<sub>2</sub> tax rate was 0.445 Nkr and the SO<sub>2</sub> tax rate was 0.07 Nkr. For 1999 the CO<sub>2</sub> tax rate was increased to 0.46 Nkr, while the SO<sub>2</sub> tax rate remained unchanged.

As from 1993 the paper and pulp industry and the fish-flour industry pay a CO<sub>2</sub> tax reduced to 50 per cent. The value of tax concessions in 1998 has been estimated at 50 million Nkr for the paper and pulp industry and at about 12 million Nkr for the fish-flour industry.

Sectors like the supply fleet in the North Sea, national air transport and coastal goods transport have from 1 January 1999 a reduced CO<sub>2</sub>-tax on mineral oil. The tax-rate is 0.26 Nkr per litre oil. International shipping and air transport are not liable to the CO<sub>2</sub>-tax on mineral oil.

(b) Coal and coke:

A CO<sub>2</sub> tax on coal and coke was established 1 July 1992. The tax rate in 1998 was 0.445 per kilo. For 1999 the rate is 0.46 Nkr.

Coal and coke used for energy purposes within production of cement and leca are exempt from the CO<sub>2</sub>-tax. In 1998 the value of these concessions have been estimated at 100 million Nkr for the cement and leca industry.

Industries using coal and coke as a reducing agent or as a raw material in industrial processes are not liable to the CO<sub>2</sub>-tax.

From 1 January 1999 coal and coke are also subject to a SO<sub>2</sub> tax. The tax rate is 0.013 Nkr per kilo and per 0.25 per cent sulphur content. Coal and coke with lower sulphur content than 0.05 per cent is exempt from the SO<sub>2</sub> tax.

7.4 PRESS SUBSIDIES

6. Amount of subsidy

Total payments in 1998: Nkr 187.9 million.

**8. ASSISTANCE TO THE FISHERY SECTOR**

**8.1 AID TO STRUCTURAL MEASURES AND RATIONALISATION IN THE FISH PROCESSING INDUSTRY**

The scheme has come to an end.

**8.2 TRANSPORT SUPPORT**

**6. Amount of subsidy**

Total payment in 1998: Nkr 33 million.

**8.3 SUPPORT FOR SPECIFIC FISHERIES**

**6. Amount of subsidy**

No new subsidy granted.

Transferred from the budget of 1997 to 1998:

- Crab fisheries: Nkr 775 000
- Coastal sprat fisheries: Nkr 164 000

**8.4 MARKETING FUNDS**

The scheme was terminated in 1995.

**8.5 INTEREST RATE SUBSIDIES FOR FISHING VESSELS FOR DOMESTIC DELIVERIES: LONG TERM FINANCING AND CONSTRUCTION LOANS**

**6. Amount of subsidy**

Total amount of interest rate subsidy in 1998: Nkr 5 million.

Nothing was paid out as construction loan subsidies.

**8.6 SUPPORT TO FISHING VESSELS FOR DOMESTIC DELIVERY; CONTRACT SUBSIDIES AND CONSTRUCTION LOAN SUBSIDIES**

**5. To whom and how the subsidy is paid**

The subsidy is given as a contract subsidy to the ship owner and is calculated as a percentage of the contract price of the ship. In 1998 the subsidy rates were limited to 7.5 per cent of the contract value for new ships and 3 per cent for extensive conversions.

**6. Amount of subsidy**

Total payment in 1998: Nkr 75.4 million.

8.7 GRANT FOR BUILDING OR PURCHASE OF VESSELS TO THE COUNTY OF FINNMARK

6. Amount of subsidy

No aid was paid in 1998.

8.8 SUPPORT TO LONG-LINE BAITING FACILITIES

5. To whom and how the subsidy is granted:

The subsidy is given to members of organised long-line baiting facilities. In 1998 the support was limited to Nkr 11 per 100 baited hooks.

6. Amount of subsidy

Total payment Nkr 13 million.

8.9 SUPPORT FOR ENERGY SAVING DEVICES ONBOARD FISHING VESSELS

The scheme came to an end in 1995.

8.10 SUPPORT FOR THE FORMATION OF MANAGEMENT GROUPS IN THE COASTAL FLEET

The scheme came to an end in 1995.

8.11 AID TO DEVELOPMENT AND RATIONALISATION IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY

The scheme has come to an end.

8.12 RESEARCH FISHERY

2. Legislation under which it is granted

A part of the yearly agreement between the Government and the Norwegian Fishermen's Association. (In 1997 the aid was granted through the ordinary budget of the Ministry of Fisheries).

6. Amount of subsidy

Budget 1998: Nkr 5 million.

**9. ASSISTANCE TO THE FORESTRY SECTOR**

9.1 TAX CONCESSIONS IN FORESTRY, THE FOREST TRUST FUND AND THE 5-YEAR AVERAGE TAX ASSESSMENT

6. Amount of subsidy

The Forest Trust Fund: In 1998, the amount distributed on a national basis from the Forest Trust Fund Accounts to investments eligible for the advantages, totalled Nkr 176 million. The non-taxable amount involved totalled Nkr 56 million. The subsidies involved depend on the individual owners tax rate, and have not been calculated.

The Average 5-Year Tax Assessment: The total non-taxable amount (tax assessment subsidies) for 1998 is estimated at Nkr 15-20 million (approx. 35 000 forest owners).

## 9.2 SUBSIDIES FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING

### 6. Amount of subsidy

The total expenditures for 1998 were Nkr 35.7 million.

On average, the subsidies per hectare of prepared forest management plans amounted to Nkr 65, which covers approximately 60 per cent of the costs.

## 9.3 SUBSIDIES FOR AFFORESTATION AND SILVICULTURE

### 6. Amount of subsidy

The total expenditures for 1998 were Nkr 106 million.

Afforestation support in 1998 averaged 30 per cent for the entire country, varying between 0 and 70 per cent. Site preparation/scarification was on an average subsidised by Nkr 580 per hectare. Supplementary work and maintenance of young forest (clearing and pre-commercial thinning) were on the average subsidised by Nkr 988 per hectare.

## 9.4 SUBSIDIES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOREST ROADS

### 6. Amount of subsidy

The total expenditures for 1998 were Nkr 66.2 million. The average annual subsidy to individual owners involved in a road project amounts to about Nkr 20 000.

## 9.5 SUBSIDY FOR HARVESTING OF ROUND WOOD IN DIFFICULT TERRAIN

### 6. Amount of subsidy

The total support expenditures for 1998 amounted to Nkr 9.6 million. The average subsidy equals Nkr 39 per cubic meter, corresponding to about 15 to 20 per cent of the harvesting costs. The number of recipients (forest owners) receiving support is estimated to between 700 and 800. Jobs created are estimated to an equivalent of 100 to 150 man-years.

## 9.6 SUBSIDIES FOR ROUND WOOD SALE AND TRANSPORT

### 6. Amount of subsidy

The total support expenditures for 1998 amounted to Nkr 7.4 million.

Nkr 5.7 million was paid as investment aid for construction of two co-operative log terminals in the west-coast region.

Nkr 1.7 million was paid as unit support per cubic meter transported in the northern region. The volume was approximately 55 000 cubic meter, giving a support of Nkr 30 per cubic meter.

## 10. ASSISTANCE TO THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The Tables 1 to 10 provide up-dated information on Agricultural Support in Norway as well as market information on major agricultural commodities. 1998 figures are provisional. Some figures provided last year were provisional and the present figures may differ from these.

Table 1

Chapter 1150, Agricultural Agreement, in million Nkr

	1998	1999
Agricultural Development Fund	515.3	580.0
Market Regulation	96.0	92.5
Price Support	2,485.6	2,467.4
Other direct payments to producers	7,282.1	7,509.4
Total	10,379.0	10,649.3

Table 2

Chapter 1150, Price Support, in million Nkr

	1998	1999
Milk and milk products	625.0	575.6
Beef, veal, sheep meat, pig meat	878.0	875.2
Cereals	671.0	715.6
Wool	172.2	166.9
Other	139.4	134.1
Total	2,485.6	2,467.4

Table 3

Chapter 1150, Other direct payments to producers, in million Nkr

	1998	1999
Structural income support	1,421.7	1,374.2
Headage support, animals	2,014.7	2,133.5
Acreage and cultural landscape scheme	3,384.6	3,341.9
Production support on market crops	70.3	96.3
Transport support, meat and eggs	80.7	80.7
Other	310.1	482.8
Total	7,282.1	7,509.4

Table 4

Base deficiency payment, amount per unit (Nkr per litre/kg)

	1.7.98-30.6.99	1.7.99-30.6.00
Milk	0.066	0.036
Beef and veal	2.70	2.92
Sheep meat	4.90	4.90

Table 5

Regionally deficiency payment, amount per unit (Nkr per litre/kg)

	1.7.98-30.6.99	1.7.99-30.6.00
Milk <sup>1</sup>	0.00/1.57	0.00/1.58
Meat <sup>2</sup>	0.00/13.00	0.00/13.00

Table 6

Cow's milk

Year	Received by diaries	Consumption, million kg	
	Million litres	Whole, low-fat and skimmed milk	Cream and sour cream
1995	1,709	682.5	28.6
1996	1,688	663.0	28.8
1997	1,684	665.5	29.2
1998	1,672	629.8	29.2
1999	1,651	not available	not available

Table 7

Cheese (1,000 tons)

Year	Production	Exports	Imports	Consumption
1995	83.4	23.1	2.4	61.5
1996	85.6	22.5	2.6	63.4
1997	87.2	24.1	2.6	64.6
1998	89.0	27.0	2.8	65.7
1999	not available	not available	not available	not available

Table 8

Butter (1,000 tons)

Year	Production	Exports	Imports	Consumption
1995	17.7	4.4	0.0	13.3
1996	16.2	2.4	0.0	13.1
1997	15.4	2.5	0.0	12.2
1998	14.2	2.0	0.0	12.0
1999	not available	not available	not available	not available

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<sup>1</sup>10 zones, varying rates, lowest and highest cited

<sup>2</sup>5 zones, varying rates, lowest and highest cited (varies also for kind of meat)

**Table 9**  
Cereals (in million kg)<sup>3</sup>

Year	Production	Imports <sup>4</sup>	Exports	Consumption <sup>5</sup>
<b>Wheat</b>				
1995	308.0	125.5	0.0	443.0
1996	245.6	232.5	2.3	448.6
1997	251.7	218.9	0.0	465.4 <sup>6</sup>
1998	331.2	168.1	0.0	469.5
1999	282.8	not available	not available	not available
<b>Rye</b>				
1995	14.3	25.3	0.0	10.0 <sup>7</sup>
1996	12.0	18.3	0.0	44.1
1997	9.9	20.3	0.0	35.3 <sup>8</sup>
1998	15.4	28.3	0.0	35.3
1999	14.8	not available	not available	not available
<b>Barley</b>				
1995	535.9	161.4	0.0	665.0
1996	586.7	195.5	0.0	700.5
1997	653.0	27.9	0.1	665.8
1998	621.0	105.1	0.0	711.3
1999	625.0	not available	not available	not available
<b>Oats</b>				
1995	347.4	60.0	0.0	326.0
1996	331.0	109.6	0.0	355.8
1997	354.1	58.4	0.0	406.8
1998	388.5	18.7	0.0	356.4
1999	350.9	not available	not available	not available

<sup>3</sup> Production + Import - Export may differ from consumption figures. These differences are due to changes in stocks and storing losses. Figures for import for 1998 are not available.

<sup>4</sup> Figures of import and export from 1995 and thereafter are based on External Trade Statistics by Official Statistics of Norway.

<sup>5</sup> Figures for consumption 1997 and 1998 are estimates.

<sup>6</sup> Includes grain for feeding purpose in the aquacultural sector

<sup>7</sup> Only rye for feed purposes

<sup>8</sup> Includes triticale

Table 10  
Meat (1,000 tons)<sup>9</sup>

Year	Production	Imports	Exports	Consumption <sup>10</sup>
<b>Beef and veal</b>				
1995	84.3	3.3	1.9	86.8
1996	85.2	5.2	1.7	89.1
1997	88.1	3.3	3.1	88.5
1998	90.8	3.7	3.7	91.5
1999	91.0	3.9	not available	93.6
<b>Mutton</b>				
1995	26.1	0.7	0.0	23.1
1996	26.6	0.3	0.0	22.8
1997	24.6	0.1	1.1	24.6
1998	23.3	0.2	0.2	24.4
1999	24.2	0.4	not available	24.9
<b>Pork</b>				
1995	95.6	4.6	0.2	100.2
1996	102.8	2.8	0.3	103.8
1997	105.5	1.6	4.3	105.5
1998	106.4	1.7	0.8	105.6
1999	108.2	2.0	not available	106.3
<b>Poultry meat</b>				
1995	28.6	1.1	0.1	28.1
1996	32.4	0.3	0.0	30.4
1997	33.4	0.2	0.0	32.6
1998	31.5	0.2	0.1	34.3
1999	34.3	0.2	not available	35.0
<b>Eggs</b>				
1995	49.3	0.2	0	49.0
1996	48.8	0.4	0.5	48.2
1997	48.1	0.4	0.9	46.3
1998	46.6	1.2	0.5	47.3
1999	46.9	1.5	not available	47.7

Sources:

Budget Committee for Agriculture (Budsjettnemda for Jordbruket)  
Norwegian National Grain Administration (Statens Kornforretning)  
External Trade, Statistics Norway (Statistisk Sentralbyrå).  
Proposition No. 67 (1997-98) to the Storting by the Ministry of Government Administration  
Proposition No. 75 (1998-99) to the Storting by the Ministry of Government Administration  
Proposition No. 1 (1998-99) to the Storting by the Ministry of Agriculture.

<sup>9</sup> Production + Import - Export may differ from consumption figures due to changes in stocks

<sup>10</sup> From 1999 a new methodology for calculating consumption has been used, and this also affects figures for previous years.