

**THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL
OR MINORITY LANGUAGES**

SIXTH PERIODICAL REPORT

NORWAY

Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation

2014

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Part I

Foreword

The Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopted the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (the Charter) in 1992. Norway ratified the Charter in 1993, and it entered into force in 1998. Under Article 15 of the Charter, the states must report every three years. This is Norway's sixth periodical report on the implementation of the Charter in Norway.

Sami (North Sami, Lule Sami and South Sami), Kven, Romanes and Romani are recognised as regional or minority languages in Norway and are thus ensured protection under the Charter. To facilitate the involvement of the affected groups in the preparation of Norway's sixth periodical report, the draft report is prepared in Norwegian.

The national minority organisations, Sami organisations and Sámediggi (the Sami Parliament) were informed about the reporting early on in the process. At the same time, the organisations and Sámediggi were informed of their opportunity to submit "shadow reports" to the Council of Europe.

Involving affected groups in work on matters that concern them is a fundamental principle of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Organisations with a basis in a national minority were therefore naturally included in the process of preparing the report. Relevant organisations have been given an opportunity to make oral contributions as well as written ones. (A list of the national minority and Sami organisations that have been briefed on the process and invited to the oral public hearing is provided in Appendix 7.)

The Ministry received a number of contributions from various organisations and bodies in connection with the public hearing. Some of this input has been included in the report. The consultative bodies have also raised a number of issues that do not directly concern measures taken to implement the Charter. The Ministry will deal with these comments in connection with other matters.

In Norway, the Ministry of Culture has general responsibility for adopting and implementing a comprehensive language policy and thus general responsibility for indigenous and minority languages. However, administrative responsibility for the Charter has been incorporated with responsibility for Sami and minority policy. In connection with the change of government in the autumn of 2013, this responsibility was transferred to the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation with effect from 1 January 2014. Consequently, the latter ministry now has the main responsibility for implementing the Charter. None of the organisational changes entail any substantive change for the policy area or for the implementation of the Charter in Norway. The Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation has prepared the sixth periodical report in collaboration with other ministries concerned. Norway's sixth periodical report on the Charter is available in Norwegian and English. Norway's fifth periodical report, the evaluation report from the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts and the recommendations from the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers have been translated into Norwegian. Documents relating to the reports submitted by Norway in 2005, 2008 and 2011 are available in Norwegian and English. All documents relating to Norway's periodical reports on the Charter are available on the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation's website:

http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/kmd/tema/nasjonale_minoriteter/midtspalte/minoritetspraktak.html?id=86936

As far as possible, an attempt has been made in this report to avoid repeating information provided to the Council of Europe in previous reports.

For further information on the work on implementing and reporting on the Charter, please contact:

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Users of regional or minority languages

The Council of Europe requests updated information on the number of users of regional or minority languages, the geographic distribution of the users and the general demographic situation.

No registers are currently kept in Norway based on ethnic background (with the exception of Sámediggi's electoral roll). For historical reasons, many members of the national minorities themselves are highly sceptical of registration based on ethnic background. In the hearing, some consultative bodies called for a study to map the situation of the minority languages. In the authorities' opinion, such a study would pose considerable challenges in terms of methodology, and the likelihood of obtaining reliable data is small. We otherwise refer to the information in Norway's fifth periodical report, under *Users of regional or minority languages*.

In the current school year, 822 primary and lower secondary school pupils are receiving instruction in Sami, while 916 pupils receive instruction in Sami as a first language and 1210 pupils receive instruction in Sami as a second language. In upper secondary school, 243 pupils receive instruction in Sami as a first language and 209 pupils receive instruction in Sami as a second language. A total of 594 pupils receive instruction in Finnish as a second language in primary and lower secondary school. (Source: *Grunnskolen's informasjonssystem (GSI)* (the information system for primary and lower secondary education).

In 2012, the Nordland Research Institute was commissioned by Sámediggi to conduct a survey of the use of Sami languages. The survey was financed by the then Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs, the Ministry of Education and Research and Sámediggi. According to the language survey, two out of five North Sami persons think that they speak their language "very well". This applies in particular to the older and younger age groups. As regards Lule Sami and South Sami, the survey showed that more young people understand these languages better than their parents' generation. The survey further showed that the efforts of dedicated individuals and organisations seem to have played a crucial role in promoting and revitalising Sami languages. This is particularly the case in areas outside the administrative area for Sami language. The efforts of the public authorities to safeguard and develop Sami languages in different municipalities vary substantially, even within the administrative area. The survey also showed that language promotion efforts have had best potential where municipalities and a relatively unified Sami community have worked together towards a common goal. According to the survey, schools are now one of the most important arenas for use of Sami languages. However, one third of the parents state that children are not receiving the instruction to which they are entitled, in part due to the lack of courses offered by the schools.

In 2012, on commission for the then Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs, NORUT Alta-Áltá, a social science research institute, prepared a report on the Sami perspective in the municipal sector (*Kartlegging av samisk perspektiv i kommunesektoren*). According to the report, a number of municipalities have broadly identified the following challenges: costs associated with being a bilingual municipality, a shortage of personnel with knowledge of the Sami language and culture, lack of clarity as regards funding responsibility, negative attitudes and poor knowledge, and a lack of procedures that take Sami needs into account. The report reveals major differences between municipalities in the administrative area for Sami language. In municipalities where local

politicians have a positive attitude towards Sami languages, there is usually a more proactive, practical approach. Collaboration between the municipality's political and administrative staffs on the one hand and Sami interest groups on the other appears to be a key factor in every municipality. The report also points out that in several municipalities, schools are the only place where Sami is spoken. Kindergartens and schools therefore play an extremely important role in preserving Sami languages.

With financial support from the Ministry of Culture, the Kvenland Federation conducted a project to provide training in reading and writing Kven/Finnish, and to build networks between Kvens and Norwegian Finns. The project findings indicate that there has been a significant decline in the last 20–30 years in the number of language users who speak Kven/Finnish well enough to be able to take part in an ordinary conversation. An overall report was presented in the spring of 2014. The Ministry of Culture will now consider the findings in the report more closely.

Policy, legislation and practice – changes

In connection with Norway's sixth periodical report, the Council of Europe requests that Norwegian authorities explain changes in general policies, legislation or practices in relation to regional or minority languages. The Council of Europe requests that the Norwegian authorities identify developments expected in the next monitoring period, such as changes in policy or budget, policy plans or other factors that may have direct or indirect effects on the situation for regional or minority languages in Norway.

Language Council of Norway – expanded sphere of activity and responsibility

The framework for a comprehensive language policy in Norway was discussed by the Storting (The Norwegian parliament) in 2009 based on a white paper on national language policies (St.meld. nr. 35 (2007–2008)); see further details in Norway's fifth periodical report. As announced in the white paper, the Language Council's sphere of activity and responsibility has been expanded to include responsibility for languages other than Norwegian. The Language Council is the consultative body for the Norwegian Government on language issues.

The Language Council's expanded sphere of activity and responsibility includes the national minority languages Kven, Romani and Romanes, as well as, in principle, all the more recent immigrant languages in Norway. One of the Language Council's main tasks is to promote increased use of national minority languages and to strengthen their status.

The work of the Language Council has initially been concentrated on Kven, as stipulated in the commissioning letter from the Ministry of Culture. It is further stipulated that the Language Council is to maintain contact with the Kven Institute in order to obtain up-to-date information on the results of standardisation activities and to discuss future allocation of responsibility and possible collaboration. The Kven Institute is discussed in greater detail later in this report; see the response to the Committee of Ministers' second recommendation and paragraph 13 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report. It is emphasised that the work of the Language Council in this field must be founded on as well informed a basis as possible and on documented studies.

In 2013, the Language Council appointed a special advisor on minority language issues and is now making good progress in building up an advisory service in this field and drawing up a work plan with priority tasks. Contact and dialogue have been established with several partners, and efforts are now being made to enter into closer collaboration and dialogue with minority language organisations and institutions. It is essential that the Language Council's work in the minority language field be conducted in close contact with the user organisations for the various languages.

Sámediggi has a statutory responsibility to seek to safeguard and develop Sami languages in Norway. At the same time, the Language Council can serve as a partner to Sámediggi and other actors in efforts to promote Sami languages. The initial foundation for collaboration between the Language Council and Sámediggi was laid at several meetings held in 2012 and 2013.

Norwegian Language Year 2013

2013 was the Norwegian Language Year, which was organised as a separate project under the auspices of the Centre for Norwegian Language and Literature. In the period 2010–2013, the Ministry of Culture provided a total of almost NOK 7.8 million in direct funding for the Language Year, in the form of development grants and basic financing. In addition, the Centre for Norwegian Language and Literature's ordinary budget was increased. The purpose of the Language Year was to create an inclusive and unifying celebration of linguistic diversity in Norway, thereby fostering greater appreciation of the value of such diversity.

A variety of participants organised special projects in the course of the year. In October 2013, a special Minority Language Day was arranged jointly with the Language Council of Norway to promote cooperation and exchanges of experience between national minorities. Several organisations with both Kven and Romani affiliations were represented. The need for such a forum was thus confirmed, and the Language Council will continue this work, thereby ensuring that this becomes an annual event. The Language Council otherwise celebrated the year by hosting, initiating and collaborating on a number of conferences, seminars, lectures and exhibitions all over the country, and by disseminating various types of information material.

In connection with the Norwegian Language Year 2013, Sámediggi launched the *Snakk samisk te mæ* (Speak Sami to me) language campaign, an inspirational attitude-shaping campaign targeting Sami youth. The aim of the campaign was to increase the use of Sami in more and new arenas, encourage young people to receive instruction in Sami and highlight Sami languages. Active use is made of social media in the campaign, and 24 adolescents have been engaged as language ambassadors. The campaign will continue in 2014.

The Centre for Sami Language in Education started a monthly writing contest aimed at improving the Sami reading and writing skills of Sami youth. In East Finnmark, a Sami literature festival was organised for the first time in a joint effort by the Isak Saaba Centre in Nesseby municipality, Nesseby public library, the Book Bus in Tana and Nesseby and the Varanger Sami museum. The purpose of the festival was to focus attention on Sami literature.

Kven language communities have taken active advantage of the Norwegian Language Year to develop several projects, many of which have received funding from the Norwegian Language Year budget. The Halti Kven IKS cultural centre produced the *Muisto ja toivo* (Memory and Hope) show with Norwegian Language Year 2013 project funding. The purpose

of the show was to relate the history of the development of the Kven language through narrative, song and music. The performers included children and young people from local Nord-Troms communities, the Kven song group *ihana!* and musicians Jan Johansson and Evgeny Kabeshov.

In the course of the Norwegian Language Year development project, no contact was made with the Romani or Romanes communities. In the spring of 2013, the Secretariat therefore began work on a survey, and eventually established contact with the Romani people/Tater organisations Romany National Association Norway (Romanifolkets Riksforbund), Taternes Landsforening, Landsorganisasjonen for romanifolket and Romanifolkets Kystkultur.

Action Plan for Sami Languages

The Action Plan for Sami Languages was presented in the spring of 2009 and spans a period of five years. The objective of the action plan is to lay the foundation for stronger efforts to promote the Sami languages – North Sami, Lule Sami and South Sami – in various sectors of society. The plan focuses on training and education, public services and care, and on highlighting Sami languages in the public sphere.

A status report on the Action Plan was presented in 2011 and 2013. The 2013 report was jointly submitted by the Government and Sámediggi. The Action Plan will run until the end of 2014. The Government and Sámediggi will jointly prepare a final report on the plan.

Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs

The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs develops expertise to combat discrimination based on ethnic origin and belief. This is a new field for the Directorate in 2014, and includes expertise on immigrants and their children, Sami people and national minorities. As a result of the expansion of the Directorate's sphere of responsibility, regional and minority languages will now feature on its agenda more often.

The language and culture of Sami children in the Child Welfare Service

The Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion has sought to strengthen efforts to ensure that the language and culture of Sami children are safeguarded in the Child Welfare Service. With effect from 1 May 2012, the Ministry has adopted amendments to the Regulations of 18 December 2003 No. 1659 on foster homes and to the Regulations of 11 December 2003 No. 1564 on the supervision of children in child welfare institutions for care and treatment. These amendments were made to highlight the need to ensure that the right of Sami children to preserve their language and culture is observed in foster homes and child welfare institutions.

The child's spokesperson in cases to be dealt with by the County Social Welfare Board

On 18 February 2013, the Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion adopted new regulations concerning the child's spokesperson in cases to be dealt with by the County Social Welfare Board. Under these regulations, when a spokesperson is appointed for a Sami child in the administrative area for Sami language, the child must be offered a spokesperson who speaks Sami and who understands the culture. In other areas, an attempt must be made to provide Sami children with such a spokesperson. This is also emphasised in the guidelines to the regulations. The guidelines further state that great importance must be attached to Sami children's request for a Sami spokesperson.

Public committee to examine the use of interpreters

In the autumn of 2013, the Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion appointed a committee tasked with presenting proposals for the coordinated, quality-assured and effective organisation of interpretation services in the public sector, including interpretation to and from Sami languages.

Action plan for improvement of the living conditions of Roma in Oslo

The Institute for Applied Social Science (Fafo) has been commissioned by the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation to conduct an evaluation of the Action Plan for improvement of the living conditions for Roma in Oslo. For more information on the Action Plan, see *Policy, legislation and practice – changes in Norway's fifth periodical report*. The evaluation report is expected to be completed in the autumn of 2014.

Norwegian Directorate of Labour and Welfare

Objectives related to the Sami perspective in the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV) are, as before, discussed and specified in the letter of allocation of funding to the Directorate of Labour and Welfare.

Sami translation service

A Sami translation service was established in the Norwegian Government Security and Service Organisation (GSSO) in 2010. The GSSO is responsible for translating news, press releases and information on specific topics published on the Norwegian government website regjeringen.no into the three Sami languages. The number of Sami translations on the website has increased since the service was established. In 2009, there were around 50 translations per year, while in 2012 the number of translations rose to 400. The number declined in 2013. The translation service is currently being evaluated. In the evaluation, the GSSO will also consider ways of increasing government ministries' use of the service.

Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers – measures for following up the recommendations

Measures for following up the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers:

1. Ensure that social and health care institutions within the Sámi Administrative District, particularly in relation to elderly people, offer services in North Sámi.

The three-year Sami portion of the dementia programme has been concluded, and a report was published in April 2013 (IS-2052 version 2). One of the most important results of the sub-programme is the increased awareness among personnel in the participating municipalities, especially of the significance of cultural factors for the activities and care services provided. A good deal of documentation has been collected, and in 2013 the Centre for Care Research Northern Norway was assigned two tasks:

1. Produce a booklet containing concentrated knowledge of eight different specialised nursing and care issues that have been identified as needs for Sami users (including palliative treatment)
2. Produce a booklet in Sami for use in teaching programmes for health and care personnel. The last section of the booklet will cover the following topics:

- The legal and historical basis for Sami policy in general and for health and care services in particular
- Cultural knowledge, local knowledge, identity and customised services
- Local services, programmes for specific groups and individuals

The Sami National Centre for Mental Health (SANKS) translates the following documents into North Sami:

- The letters sent to patients explaining their rights
- Various assessment tools
- A drawing and discussion booklet for children aged 4–10 with close family members in hospital
- An information folder on all the SANKS units

In 2013, SANKS also offered the Finnmark Hospital Trust a training programme in language and culture for its employees.

The Northern Norway Regional Health Authority has completed a two-year language interpretation project at Hammerfest Hospital that yielded positive results. In 2014, the Regional Health Authority has been assigned the task of funding the continuation of a Sami interpretation project.

With regard to incentives for recruiting health and care personnel to small municipalities, certain initiatives have been taken to encourage persons with a Sami background to apply, including wage compensation for Sami language skills.

The Sámi University College has previously offered courses on Sami language and culture for health and care personnel. Due to a lack of participants, this course has been discontinued. More generally, universities and university colleges, and other institutions responsible for Sami language and culture, offer postgraduate training and continuing education for different sectors. Employers may order such courses as needed.

2. Adopt a comprehensive structured policy for Kven, combined with an action plan, in cooperation with Kven speakers.

Norwegian authorities have established programmes and implemented measures in various areas in which Kven is spoken. Efforts to revitalise the Kven language are supported by the Norwegian Government, for instance through the provision of operational funding for the Kven Institute (Kainun institutti). The Kven Institute works to strengthen use of the Kven language and to develop, document and disseminate knowledge of and information on the Kven language and culture. The operating grant from the Ministry of Culture also covers efforts related to prescription and further standardisation of the Kven language.

The Kven Institute has received the following operating grants from the Ministry of Culture in the period 2011–2014:

| 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| NOK 4,823,000 | NOK 4,973,000 | NOK 5,137,000 | NOK 5,317,000 |

The Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation provide operational funding for the Kven newspaper *Ruijan Kaiku*, which is published about once a month.

In 2011, the Ministry of Culture granted funding for an adult education course in Kven run by Norske Kveners forbund, a Norwegian Kven organisation, and in 2013 the same organisation received a grant for a project aimed at encouraging Kven children to read, based on the first dual-language children's books in Kven and Norwegian.

Arts Council Norway, which administers the Norwegian Cultural Fund, has granted financial support for a number of projects related to Kven language and culture; see more detailed information in Appendix 5 to this report.

We also refer to the information on the Language Council of Norway's special advisory and information service for minority languages. This service is an important part of the overall efforts to strengthen the status of the Kven language in Norway. As stated in the detailed discussion on the Language Council under *Policy, legislation and practice – changes* above, the Kven language has been a priority area since the service was launched in early 2013. A great deal of the Ministry of Culture's financial support has otherwise been concentrated on the Norwegian Language Year 2013. In this connection, too, measures to strengthen and provide information on the Kven language have been an important aspect; see further information under *Policy, legislation and practice – changes*.

An additional appropriation of NOK 1 million was provided from the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation's budget for 2014 towards strengthening Kven language and culture. This appropriation supplemented the regular grant from the budget item for national minorities. Funding is also provided to the Kven Institute from this budget item (see Appendix 6).

3. Clarify the status of the Lule and South Sami languages in relation to Parts II and III of the Charter.

The Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation has reviewed the language provisions of the Sami Act, among other things assessing them in the light of Norway's international obligations. One of the questions considered was which language(s) is (are) covered by Part III of the Language Charter. After examining the source documents, the Ministry finds that at present only North Sami falls within the scope of Part III, while Lule and South Sami falls within the scope of part II. However, it is clear that, in practice, a number of the provisions applicable to North Sami are also implemented for South Sami and Lule Sami. Should it become relevant to accept the undertakings arising from Part III for more languages, this will be done in accordance with the procedures set out in the Charter; see Article 3 (2).

4. Continue their efforts to provide teaching in/of Lule and South Sami, including the development of teaching materials and teacher training.

The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training has had a number of guides and thematic pamphlets on kindergarten issues translated into South and Lule Sami. Guidelines have been drawn up for the subject curricula for Sami as a first language and Sami as a second language in all three Sami languages and published on <http://www.udir.no/Lareplaner/Finn-lareplan/Kunnskapsloftet-samisk/> (in Sami only).

The guidance material has not been revised since the curriculum revision in 2013. In connection with the revision, sample examination papers and examination guidance material were prepared for written examinations at lower secondary level and upper secondary level 3 (Vg3). The material for Sami as a first language is available in South, Lule and North Sami, while information on Sami as a second language is available in Norwegian. Previous examination papers in all the Sami languages have been published on www.udir.no.

The conferences on the use of South Sami in kindergartens and schools have been successful; see the response to paragraph 100 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report. The conferences are well attended and provide opportunities for networking and sharing of experiences. They also provide Sámediggi and the education authorities with important input on where the greatest challenges lie, including the need to develop South Sami teaching materials and aids. The Norwegian Directorate of Education and Training has initiated several translations in response to needs reported at the conference.

The Ministry of Education and Research has received a draft of a general strategic plan for Sami distance education from the Directorate of Education and Training. The South Sami communities have been actively involved in formulating the proposals in the report.

The Nordland County Governor focuses on providing information and guidance to school owners to ensure that the rights of Sami pupils who request instruction in South and Lule Sami are fulfilled. The information is provided at conferences and meetings and by posting notices on special websites and in the media.

The Directorate of Education and Training also informs school owners, administrators and teachers about current research on bilingualism, explaining that this does not constitute any disadvantage for pupils. In the Directorate's opinion, this could help ensure that teachers and school administrators do not view Sami language instruction as a burden on pupils or society. If the Directorate learns that a pupil's choice to receive instruction in Sami has been questioned by a teacher or school administrator, or that a pupil has been denied such instruction, the Directorate has immediately ensured that the pupil receives such instruction. The general impression is that the vast majority of schools now have effective procedures for dealing with this issue, but it is nonetheless still important to maintain focus on ensuring that the rights of Sami pupils to instruction in Sami are observed.

The national recruitment strategy for Sami higher education (*Nasjonal rekrutteringsstrategi for samisk høyere utdanning*) covers the period 2011–2014. The Ministry of Education and Research has granted a total of NOK 4.4 million towards implementing the strategy. These efforts are being continued in 2014. South and Lule Sami languages will also have special priority in the final year of the strategy period.

The University of Nordland offers bachelor's programmes in Lule Sami. The University of Tromsø now has a permanent associate professorship in South Sami literature.

The Nord-Trøndelag University College offers study programmes in South Sami Levels 1 and 2. In the 2011/12 academic year, the college collaborated with the University of Tromsø (UiT) on a bachelor's programme in South Sami (South Sami Level 3). UiT had academic responsibility, but the course was held at the college. The college also offers entry-level courses in South Sami.

The Aajege Sami language and competence centre (*Aajege – samisk språk- og kompetansesenter*) in Røros offers entry-level instruction in South Sami in cooperation with the Sámi University College. The Giellatekno Centre for Sami Language Technology at UiT has collaborated with Aajege on producing material for entry-level and advanced level (a one-term course) instruction in South Sami. Giellatekno and the Divvun group¹ have also produced a language learning program, a language learning app and a digital dictionary.

The Centre for Sami Language in Education has established a unit at Elgå in the municipality of Engerdal in the South Sami area. The Centre will focus on further developing South Sami teaching materials and terminology.

Every year, the Nordland County Governor organises both a South Sami and a Lule Sami conference for kindergarten and school staff, school owners, education authorities, education institutions, etc. The purpose of the conferences is to highlight special challenges to and possibilities for instruction in/of South and Lule Sami from kindergarten to college/university level, and to create a constructive dialogue for exploring ways in which instruction in/of South and Lule Sami can be strengthened and developed. Various networks have also been established for kindergarten and school employees.

The Divvun group at UiT and Sámediggi have jointly published a Lule Sami dictionary.

5. Strengthen the efforts to develop positive attitudes towards the Romani and Romanes languages.

This objective has been one of the aims of the Norwegian Language Year 2013, and we refer to more detailed information provided under *Policy, legislation and practice – changes* above. The establishment of the advisory and information service for minority languages in the Language Council of Norway will also significantly strengthen the efforts to create positive attitudes towards these two languages, which are the smallest of the three national minority languages in Norway; see further information above, under the section on the Language Council of Norway.

¹ The Divvun group is affiliated with the Centre for Sami Language Technology at the University of Tromsø. The group works on developing grammar-based language technology, such as text processing programs, language learning programs, digital dictionaries and synthetic speech, for Sami and other northern languages.

Part II

Part II of the Charter – Overview of measures taken to apply Article 7 of the Charter to the regional or minority languages recognised by the State

The Council of Europe requests information be provided in this part of the report on measures that the State has taken to apply Article 7 of the Charter to the regional or minority languages recognised by the State (Regional or minority languages are defined in Article 1 a of the Charter).

The Council of Europe further requests that it be informed of new measures taken since the previous report and that it be provided with a detailed account of legal and practical measures taken by the State to implement the encouragements and box recommendations given by the Committee of Experts in the previous evaluation report(s).

In this part of the report, we will provide information on measures taken by the State and an account of the follow-up of the encouragements given and box recommendations made by the Committee of Experts in the fifth evaluation report for each of the relevant languages. The numbering of the questions from the Committee of Experts is identical to that in the fifth evaluation report.

Article 7 –

Information on each language and measures to implement the Committee of Experts' recommendations

In the evaluation report, the Committee of Experts requests an update on the regional or minority language situation.

Presentation of the regional or minority language situation in Norway – an update

8. In the fifth periodical report, the Norwegian authorities mention that there has been a demand from the Finnish speakers to have Finnish protected under part II of the Charter. According to the authorities, the matter is being considered by the Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs. The Committee of Experts looks forward to information on this aspect in the next periodical report.

The Norwegian-Finnish Association has put forward demands that Finnish be recognised as a minority language under Part II of the Charter, in the same way as Finnish and Meänkeli are recognised in Sweden. The Ministry has informed the Norwegian-Finnish Association of its conclusion in a letter, which states, *inter alia*:

“In the Ministry’s view, the most obvious conclusion is that Kven is the language that has traditionally been used by the national Kven/Norwegian Finnish minority. This conclusion has been reached after attaching weight to the wording of Article 1 (a) of the Charter (‘traditionally used’), in addition to statements in the Explanatory Report to the Charter regarding ‘languages which have been *spoken*’ (our emphasis). Moreover, since Norway has defined Kven as a language in its own right, it is most natural to say that Kven is the language that has traditionally been used by

Kvens/Norwegian Finns, and that modern Finnish does not fall within the scope of the definition in the Charter.

[...]

The Ministry has reached the conclusion that the demarcation in Article 1 of the Charter is appropriate, and that expanding the obligations to include modern Finnish is not on the agenda. There are, however, national measures and programmes targeting the Finnish language, including instruction in schools, which benefit the entire Kven/Norwegian Finnish minority. The Charter places no limitations on the State as regards measures to promote languages other than those covered by the Charter.”

12. The Committee of Experts encourages the Norwegian authorities to continue their work to produce more reliable data on language use, especially in regard to Kven speakers, in co-operation with the speakers.

See the information on the survey of Sami languages under *Users of regional or minority languages*. See also the description of the Kvenland Federation’s project in the same section.

Particular issues arising from the evaluation of Norway’s fifth report

13. [...] The Committee of Experts has been informed that despite the measures taken by the authorities since the last monitoring round, the Kven language remains in a very precarious situation. The Committee of Experts notes that the process of standardisation is ongoing and encourages the authorities to continue their efforts. However, measures are needed to promote the language in the meantime, such as providing for Kven in education, including adult education, and strengthening its position in broadcasting and literature. Particular attention should be paid to develop its positions in education.

There is no doubt that the situation for Kven as a living language in Norway is difficult. Data obtained by the Kvenland Federation in connection with a language project funded by the Ministry of Culture seem to confirm this.

On the other hand, significant progress has been made in terms of prescription and standardisation of a written form of the Kven language. The standardisation work is organised and funded through the Kven Institute and is covered by the Ministry of Culture’s operational grant to the institute. A special body, the Kven Language Assembly, has been appointed to conduct the standardisation process. This was originally a decision-making body for the Kven Language Council, and functioned up until 2010. For the time being, the Kven Language Assembly’s term of office has been extended until the end of 2015.

A Kven grammar has been developed and is currently in the proofreading stage. The grammar is now being translated from Kven into Norwegian. This grammar has created an important tool for revitalising Kven as a spoken and written language. The plan is to produce and publish a special grammar for schools in the course of 2014.

In 2013, the Kven Language Assembly began planning work on word formation and vocabulary. In this connection, meetings were held with South Sami, North Sami and Norwegian language communities and with representatives of users of Meänkieli. The Kven Institute has been given a special grant to fund a position tasked with collecting and coordinating language material from both the Institute itself and from other language

communities, including private individuals. The project team member will also assist the Kven Language Assembly to produce source material for a digital dictionary. Work on the dictionary will be carried out in collaboration between the Institute and Giellatekno – the Centre for Sami Language Technology at the University of Tromsø. As part of this process, work has begun on developing an automatic morphological analysis program.

For further details on the situation of the language in broadcasting and literature, reference is made to the information provided below.

Later in this report, attention is drawn to the importance of learning minority languages and of providing information on the rights of pupils and the responsibilities of school administrators/school owners. The request for accurate, reliable statistics on the number of pupils who receive instruction about or in their mother tongue/minority language is difficult to meet as no statistics are kept of ethnic background, only of the language(s) in which pupils receive instruction; see the information under *Users of regional or minority languages*. Reference is made to the responses to paragraphs 140, 155 and 156 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report.

In cooperation with the Kven Institute, Giellatekno is working on the production of an interactive learning program for Kven.

16. [...] This question arose during the fourth monitoring cycle and has not been solved during the fifth monitoring round. The Committee of Experts recalls the fourth cycle recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on the matter and reiterates its encouragements to the Norwegian authorities to “[c]larify the status of the Lule and South Sámi languages in relation to Part III of the Charter” and to notify the Council of Europe in the appropriate manner.

Reference is made to the information provided under the Committee of Ministers' third recommendation.

Sami languages

Sami language centres

There are currently 12 Sami language centres. Sámediggi allocates funds every year to Sami language centres. The efforts of the language centres to revitalise Sami languages have produced positive results.

Spellchecking for Sami languages

The Divvun group develops grammar-based language technology for Sami and other northern languages, such as word processing programs, language learning programs, digital dictionaries and synthetic speech. A new website, Sátni.org, was launched on 6 February 2014, on which all online dictionaries are gathered in one place.

Election-related measures

The following material is translated into Sami languages in connection with elections:

- Announcements (North Sami) – four in 2013
- Texts on the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation's election portal: www.valg.no (North Sami)

- Information brochures on elections (North Sami, Lule Sami, South Sami)
- Posters for display in polling stations (North Sami, Lule Sami and South Sami)

The www.valglokaler.no website is available in North Sami. This is a mobile-friendly website where voters can locate the nearest polling station, check opening hours and access a map function. The Act of 12 June 1987 No. 56 concerning Sámediggi (the Sami Parliament) and other Sami legal matters (the Sami Act) and the Regulations of 19 December 2008 No. 1480 relating to elections to Sámediggi have been translated into North Sami. In 2013, certain amendments were made to the current regulations. The Ministry will ensure that the translation is updated to include these amendments.

Sámediggi is responsible for informing voters about the elections to Sámediggi.

Sami language prize – Gollegiella

Gollegiella, the Nordic Sami Language Prize, was established in 2004 by the ministers responsible for Sami matters and Sámediggi presidents in Norway, Sweden and Finland. The prize of EUR 15,000 is awarded every other year. In 2012, the prize was awarded jointly to Divvun and Giellatekno at the University of Tromsø for their work on designing technology tools for Sami languages, and to Aleksandra Andrejevna Antonova and Nina Jeliseevna Afanasjeva (both from Russia) for their efforts to promote the Kildin Sami language.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph c:

Lule Sami

56. The Committee of Experts notes the positive measures that have been taken and recalls that there is still a need for resolute efforts to be made in many areas such as the shortage of teachers, research, media, literature, development and production of teaching materials in Lule Sámi.

Support for literature in Sami, whether Lule Sami, South Sami or North Sami, is provided as part of the overall funding for cultural purposes which the Ministry of Culture makes available to Sámediggi every year. The annual appropriation from the Ministry is transferred to and allocated by Sámediggi. Sámediggi then distributes the funds to a variety of cultural activities including artists' stipends, library services, museums, theatres, festivals, cultural centres and other cultural institutions, and literature. Measures to promote Sami literature also benefit from project funding allocated through Arts Council Norway.

With respect to media, we refer to the comments in the response to paragraph 90 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report below.

Most of NRK Sápmi's radio and TV broadcasts are in North Sami, but there are also regular broadcasts in Lule Sami and South Sami. There are 30-minute radio programmes in both these languages every week as well as regular news pages on NRK's teletext service (Tekst-TV) and website NRK.no. The NordSaltén newspaper features pages in Lule Sami.

Since 2011, the Research Council of Norway has funded a research project on the Lule Sami spoken language through its Programme for Sami Research II. As from 2014, the programme is funding a project aimed at producing software for machine translations from North Sami to other Sami languages. Since 2001, moreover, the Research Council has provided funding for

several research and PhD projects on Sami languages in its two programmes for Sami research.

See also the response to the Committee of Ministers' fourth recommendation for information on teaching and education.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph c:

South Sami

63. The Committee of Experts notes the positive measures that have been taken but observes that there is still a need for resolute efforts to be made in many areas such as the shortage of teachers, research, media, literature, and the development and production of teaching and learning materials in South Sámi.

With respect to literature, we refer to the comments on Lule Sami in the response to paragraph 56 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report above. The same applies to South Sami.

Moreover, we refer to the response to paragraph 97 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report below.

See the response to the Committee of Minister's fourth recommendation for information on teaching and education.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph c:

East Sami/Skolt Sami

66. The Committee of Experts has also been informed by the Norwegian authorities about the Action Plan for Sámi Languages which foresees measures to revitalise Skolt Sámi. However, the Committee has no clear information as to whether this language is still spoken in Norway. It therefore asks the Norwegian authorities to clarify this issue in the next periodical report.

The Skolt Sami Culture across Borders project was a collaborative effort between three countries: Finland, Norway and Russia. The project period began on 1 April 2010, and a project report was presented on 20 December 2012. Strengthening and revitalising the East Sami/Skolt Sami² language was a pivotal goal of the project. The aim was to commence entry-level language instruction and to increase knowledge of and interest in the language in Norway and Russia. There were seven participants in the first East Sami/Skolt Sami language course ever arranged in Norway.

East Sami/Skolt Sami teaching materials are now available in Norwegian and Russian, and in digital form. The digital and sound materials are designed so that they can be used in teaching in all three countries. Østsamisk museum (East Sami museum) plans to continue this work by

² The Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation notes that the East Sami/Skolt Sami organisations have different opinions as to the name they wish to use. The Ministry therefore considers it most appropriate to use a version with a forward slash, i.e. "East Sami/Skolt Sami". However, the Ministry emphasises that individuals are entirely free, based on the principle of self-identification, to shape and express their identity and refer to their affiliation in different ways. The Ministry's choice of name for the group will not impose any obligation on free institutions (such as academic institutions, museums and language centres).

offering language courses in Norway and Russia in cooperation with the Sami Knowledge Centre in Lovozero, Russia. Giellatekno at the University of Tromsø and Østsamisk museum have jointly published a digital Skolt Sami dictionary.

According to organisations representing this population group, there are no Skolt Sami/East Sami language users in Norway today.

Sami languages

84. The Committee of Experts looks forward to precise information on the situation of the Sámi-speaking prisoners and the measures taken to ensure their rights in the next periodical report.

In 2013, the Norwegian Correctional Services, Northern Region, began work on translating texts into North Sami. Initial priority has been given to information provided to inmates prior to and while they are serving their sentence, and information for visitors. The translations are available on the information pages of Tromsø Prison and Vadsø Prison on the Norwegian Correctional Services' website www.kriminalomsorgen.no.

A working group was commissioned by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security and the Norwegian Correctional Services' central administration (KSF) to review prison conditions for Sami inmates and convicts. The working group submitted its report to the KSF in December 2011, and a consultation and cooperation conference was held in Karasjok municipality in May 2012.

The Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Services has drawn up an action plan designed to ensure that Sami inmates and convicts serve their sentences under satisfactory, equitable conditions. The action plan is based on the report of the working group and the consultation meeting in Karasjok, and has been prepared in collaboration with the Norwegian Correctional Services, Northern Region and Sámediggi. The plan consists of four main points on which further efforts will be focused:

- Ensure the language rights of inmates and convicts
- Further develop the quality of everyday life in prison and while serving a sentence in the community
- Increase recruitment of employees to the Norwegian Correctional Services with a knowledge of Sami culture and Sami language skills
- Increase the use of the National Mediation Service in the execution of sentences

The action plan was sent to the Norwegian Correctional Services, Northern Region, and Sámediggi on 10 February 2014. Responsibility for coordinating and implementing the measures in the plan has been assigned to the Norwegian Correctional Services, Northern Region.

Priority must be given to coordinating activities and protecting language rights. This means, first and foremost, that rules and regulations and necessary information must be translated into Sami, and made available electronically. Signs posted at the offices of the Norwegian Correctional Services in the administrative area for Sami language must be in Sami.

Lule Sami

90. The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to continue their efforts for the Lule Sámi language to be more present in public life.

The state-owned Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK) has three television channels and several radio channels, and is Norway's largest broadcasting institution. NRK Sápmi (formerly NRK Sámi Radio), which is organised as a special unit, produces programmes targeting the Sami population. In 2012, NRK Sápmi introduced a new programme in Lule and South Sami. NRK also broadcasts five children's programmes in Lule Sami in 2012.

Most of NRK Sápmi's radio and TV broadcasts are in North Sami. However, there are regular broadcasts in Lule Sami and South Sami consisting of 30-minute radio programmes every week and regular news pages on NRK's teletext service and website NRK.no.

Under NRK's Articles of Association, NRK is required to contribute towards strengthening Sami languages, identity and culture. It is also stipulated that NRK must have regular programming for children and youth in Sami. However, the Articles of Association do not differentiate between the various Sami languages, referring instead to the Sami population and to Sami language in general terms. NRK has editorial freedom to determine how the requirements are met.

Production grants are provided from the Ministry of Culture's budget for Sami daily newspapers. In addition, small grants are given for the production of newspaper pages in Lule Sami and South Sami in local Norwegian-language newspapers. In 2014, this support will amount to total NOK 25 million. The funding has increased from 2004 to 2014 to NOK 13.4 million, thereby more than doubling in this period. The grants for Sami newspapers and Sami-language newspaper pages are intended to facilitate democratic debate, opinion formation and language development in Sami communities.

For example, the *NordSalten* newspaper contains pages in Lule Sami.

Bodø municipality has erected place name signs in Norwegian and Lule Sami in Bodø.

South Sami

97. The Committee of Experts considers that, in view of the dispersal of South Sámi speakers, the presence of the language in electronic media and its visibility in the public space is especially important. It therefore encourages the authorities to continue their efforts for the South Sámi language to be more present in electronic media and in public life.

With regard to electronic media, we also refer to the general information on NRK provided in the response to paragraph 90 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report above.

In 2012, moreover, a specially produced documentary series on South Sami culture was shown on TV. NRK has also broadcast five children's programmes in South Sami.

As regards newspapers, we refer to the information regarding grants for Sami daily newspapers and Sami-language newspaper pages in the response to paragraph 90 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report above.

The newspaper *Snåsnningen* contains pages in South Sami.

Public buildings in Snåsa municipality have signs in Norwegian and South Sami.

Sami languages

115. The authorities also reported that closer transnational co-operation with Sweden in regard to all three Sámi languages [...] is being developed, including the elaboration of a proposal for a collaboration agreement between Sweden and Norway on Sámi tuition. [...] [The Committee] encourages the authorities to provide information about the agreement and how it is followed up in the next periodical report.

The collaboration between Sweden and Norway on Sami tuition has been expanded to include Finland, which means that emphasis will be placed on collaboration on North Sami, in addition to South and Lule Sami. At the latest meeting in Finland in November 2013, it was decided to establish a working group comprising two persons from each country to conduct a survey of Sami teaching materials in the three countries and propose ways in which the countries can make use of each other's materials. As it has taken some time to appoint the members of the working group, work will not begin until after the summer of 2014.

South Sami

132. The Committee of Experts [...] looks forward to receiving information on the results of the concrete actions taken by the Ministry of Education towards teaching in/of South Sámi and on the measures that have been taken by the County Governors of Troms, Nordland, Sør-Trøndelag and Nord-Trøndelag in cooperation with Sámediggi.

See the response to the Committee of Ministers' fourth recommendation.

East Sami/Skolt Sami

134. In the fifth periodical report the authorities state the actions that have been taken, in cooperation with Finland and Russia, for the strengthening and developing of the identity, language and culture in a transnational perspective.

135. The Committee of Experts looks forward for more information on the substance of the cooperation in the next periodical report.

The Skolt Sami Culture across Borders project was based on collaboration between three countries, Finland, Norway and Russia; see the response to paragraph 66 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report above. An important goal of the project was to strengthen collaboration between stakeholders at various levels in these countries and to create a transnational network for and conditions conducive to the intergenerational transfer of cultural traditions. Over 350 participants from Norway and Russia were involved in the project activities, which directly targeted the East Sami/Skolt Sami community. Information on East Sami/Skolt Sami, their cultural heritage and the project was disseminated regionally, nationally and internationally at open events. Strengthening and revitalising the East Sami/Skolt Sami language was a key focus of the project.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph g:

137. In the fifth periodical report no particular information is given on this point. The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to provide information on the results of the initiatives taken in the next periodical report.

In the administrative area for Sami language, all pupils of primary and lower secondary school age, regardless of ethnic affiliation, have a right to receive instruction in Sami. The municipalities in the administrative area may decide that all pupils in the municipality should receive instruction in Sami.

The municipalities are responsible for facilitating adult education, including in regional and minority languages. Both adult learning associations and municipal authorities may initiate courses if there is a desire for such activity.

Sámediggi has financed a five-year qualification and recruitment programme in Sami languages at the Sami University College. The college, which has served as project coordinator, has collaborated with several Sami language centres. The courses have been decentralised to enable more participants to receive instruction in Sami languages. The programme was terminated in 2013, and no funding has been allocated for its continuation. A final report will be prepared in the course of 2014.

See the information on entry-level instruction in Sami under the response to the Committee of Ministers' fourth recommendation.

Sami languages

Lule Sami

145. In the fourth evaluation report, the Committee of Experts noted the work done by the Árran centre on Sámi language issues, as a member of the University of the Arctic which coordinates the work of the Sami Institutions Network on High North Affairs and by the Bodø University College (Nordland County). It however mentioned that there is a lack of research in/on Lule Sámi in general.

146. The Committee of Experts has not received any new information on the matter.

The research institute for indigenous studies at Árran is a joint project between the University of Nordland and Árran aimed at strengthening research, education, development activities and dissemination of information from an interdisciplinary perspective. Research is to be linked to the Lule Sami area and focus on language and cultural research from a variety of perspectives, including an international indigenous perspective. The institute also aims to develop teaching programmes that focus on the knowledge and cultural traditions of indigenous peoples, High North issues and living conditions in the High North.

South Sami

148. In the fifth periodical report, the authorities state that there is one three-year undergraduate programme in the teaching of specific school subjects for bilingual teachers at Hedmark University College. A bachelor's degree allows students to specialise further in various languages including South Sámi as an optional course.

149. The Committee of Experts looks forward to receiving information on the number of students who attend these South Sámi classes.

This programme is no longer offered by Hedmark University College. Nord-Trøndelag University College offers entry-level courses in South Sami, South Sami Level 1 and Level 2 and South Sami language and culture. These subjects are offered separately and are not part of a complete bachelor's degree, but may be incorporated into the teacher training programme, the kindergarten teacher training programme or continuing education courses for teachers. The number of students in 2013/2014:

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|---|-------------|
| South Sami Level 2 (30 credits) | 10 students |
| South Sami language and culture (30 credits) | 14 students |
| South Sami entry-level instruction (15 credits) | 14 students |
| South Sami music course <i>Med joik som utgangspunkt</i> (15 credits) | 8 students |

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph i:

Sami languages

152. As mentioned above, closer transnational co-operation with Sweden on the main three Sámi languages [...] was studied, with the elaboration of a proposal for a collaboration agreement between Sweden and Norway on Sámi tuition [...]. [The Committee of Experts] encourages the authorities to provide information about the agreement and how it is followed up in the next periodical report.

See under the response to paragraph 115 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation. Norway's universities and university colleges are free to collaborate with Swedish institutions on Sami languages wherever appropriate. The Swedish and Norwegian authorities are also discussing potential collaboration. So far, no report has been produced on the results of this collaboration.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 2:

155. During the on-the-spot visit, the Committee of Experts was informed by representatives of speakers of various minority languages that there are some cases where the schools encourage parents not to demand any instruction in Kven or Sámi, for instance by telling them that the child then misses out on instruction in Norwegian or other basic subjects.

156. The Committee of Experts urges the Norwegian authorities to take the necessary measures for such discouragement to no longer take place.

None of the county governors in the four northernmost counties have received any indications that parents are being advised not to let their children receive instruction in Kven or Sami. However, the county governors have been told by teachers who give instruction in Sami and Kven of parental concern that pupils receive too little instruction in Norwegian, and that

instruction in Sami and Kven may also affect instruction in other subjects. This concern has arisen from the fact that the teaching hours for instruction in Sami and Finnish are largely taken from the teaching hours allocated to Norwegian instruction. The changes that have now been made in the distribution of subjects and hours may alter this situation, since there is now greater leeway to reallocate hours from one subject to another (up to 5%).

The Language Council of Norway states, for its part, that in the winter of 2013–2014 it has been contacted by language users who claim that they have been asked not to demand instruction in Finnish as a second language, or that the school administration has been slow to respond or has lacked knowledge about the actual application process. In these cases, the Language Council has informed the parents or guardians about the process, and about their right to lodge a complaint with the county governor of the county concerned. The Language Council has the impression that the threshold for lodging a written complaint with county governors is high for many parents/guardians.

The county governors have provided guidance to municipal school owners regarding the rules and regulations governing instruction in Sami and Finnish. The guidance emphasises the pupils' rights and the school owners' responsibility to ensure that schools give pupils information and facilitate instruction in Finnish and Sami. The county governors have also provided guidance to school owners and a large number of school administrators regarding the changes in the distribution of subjects and hours that offer greater flexibility in terms of facilitating instruction in Sami and Finnish and other languages.

The county governors of Troms and Finnmark hold annual meetings with teachers who provide instruction in Finnish and Kven to discuss issues related to pupils/parents' choice of these subjects and to the dropout rates for these subjects. This group of teachers is extremely dedicated to the subjects, and wish to help ensure that parents do not decline the offer of instruction in Finnish or Kven. On the other hand, it is the school administrators and school owners who usually meet with the parents and provide information on the subject. The county governors therefore consider it important that they are aware of the pupils' rights and can inform parents/guardians as fully as possible.

A survey is to be conducted to find out why pupils do not choose Finnish/Kven, in part in response to an inquiry from the Norwegian Kven organisation.

A special brochure has been produced on the right to instruction in Finnish and Kven. The brochure was prepared by the county governors of Troms and Finnmark.

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| 175. The Committee of Experts commends Lavangen municipality for the approach taken in the protection and promotion of Sámi in their community and looks forward to receiving information about the development and the results of the work in the next periodical report. |
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Lavangen municipality was incorporated into the administrative area for Sami language in October 2009. The Sami language centre in the municipality was opened in the autumn of 2009. Among other things, the language centre has offered adult education in Sami in cooperation with the Sámi University College. The centre is responsible for practical development of a project to adapt the Ulpan method to Sami; see the discussion of the Ulpan method in Norway's fifth report. Based on this, the centre has offered courses in, for example, language immersion methodology.

Five of the North Sami language centres cooperate with the University of Tromsø (UiT) in providing Sami language courses for adults and opportunities to sit examinations at UiT. The language centre in Lavangen has been involved in this cooperation project since 2012.

176. [...] The Committee of Experts has been informed that because of the internal migrations, Tromsø has become the biggest “Sámi urban centre”. Additional measures therefore seem to be needed to promote the use of Sámi in Tromsø.

In 2013, Tromsø municipality entered into a cooperation agreement with Sámediggi. The purpose of the agreement is to enable the Sami in Tromsø municipality to preserve their language and culture. The agreement contains provisions concerning information, language training, children and youth, health and care services and, not least, an intention to establish a permanent Sami meeting place in Tromsø. Based on this agreement, Tromsø municipality will draw up an action plan for Sami language and culture. At the same time, the municipality’s master plans should reflect the Sami population’s right to preserve and develop its culture, language and the way of life. The parties will cooperate on developing measures, projects and recreational activities for children and youth. Together, they will develop a Sami information pack for use in schools in Tromsø, with the stated objective of increasing the proportion of pupils receiving Sami education.

Kven

This sub-chapter opens with a brief discussion of the situation for the Kven language. This is followed by responses to the questions from the Committee of Experts regarding the Kven language.

We are currently in the start phase of developing an infrastructure for the Kven language. This applies both to language infrastructure, such as printed dictionaries, and to a normative grammar, in addition to technical infrastructure such as digital dictionaries, spellcheckers, interactive language learning tools, and other analytical tools.

The standardisation process aids active language use, particularly for a group that is reclaiming its language. We refer to the further discussion of the situation for Kven under the response to paragraph 13 of the Committee of Experts’ evaluation report above.

Based on their experience of language training for children and adults, the Sami language centres see a potential for becoming positive language arenas for language users at different levels. The same seems to apply for the language centre in Storfjord, which is a trilingual institution that aims to promote Norwegian as well as Sami and Kven language and culture.

A small range of teaching materials has also been produced for use in teaching Kven language and culture. Several new publications are under way.

The writer Alf Nilsen-Børsskog (1928–2014) has played a significant role in the development of a modern Kven written culture. He based his writing on his Kven dialect and on the principles of Finnish orthography. The third volume in the series entitled *Elämän jatko, Rauha* (2011) has been published since the previous report. Nilsen-Børsskog also published a collection of poems during this period: *Merimies muistele* (2013). The fourth volume in the *Elämän jatko* series has been submitted to the publisher.

Moreover, the writer Agnes Eriksen has published two dual-language children's books in Kven and Norwegian: *Kummitus ja Tähtipoika/Spøkelset og Stjernegutten 1* and *2*. The language centre in Storffjord has published some booklets, a local language dictionary and a multilingual reader (Bokmål (Norwegian), Finnish, Kven, North Sami and Nynorsk (New Norwegian)).

Questions from the Council of Europe to Norway in connection with the sixth periodical report:

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph a:

Kven

37. During the on-the-spot visit, the representatives of the Kven-speakers expressed the wish to establish a permanent constructive dialogue with the authorities [...].

One forum for dialogue between the authorities and the national minority organisations is the contact forum between government authorities and national minorities. The contact forum is arranged around once a year. The ministries also have continuous dialogue with various Kven/Norwegian Finn organisations. We also refer to information regarding the Language Council of Norway's activities and gatherings for minority languages under *Policy, legislation and practice – changes*.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph c:

45. During the on-the-spot visit, the Committee of Experts was informed that the Language Council of Norway has not yet started its work on the Kven language and that the Conference on the revitalization of the Kven language has not led to any concrete measures yet. The Ministry of Education, however, assured the Committee of Experts that the Conference will soon have a follow-up and the project was not off the agenda. The Committee of Experts looks forward to receiving information in this respect in the next periodical report.

The Language Council of Norway's work on the Kven language is under way. The Ministry of Culture³ assumes that the Language Council will base its work on the information and exchange of views that emerged at the conference on revitalisation of the Kven language in the summer of 2010; see the discussion under *Policy, legislation and practice – changes*.

³ The Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation assumes that the question should have been addressed to the Ministry of Culture, not the Ministry of Education and Research as stated in paragraph 45 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph c:

48. The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to continue their efforts on the standardisation of the Kven language and looks forward to receiving information on the follow-up to the Conference on the revitalization of the Kven language. The Committee of Experts has also been informed about the work presently being carried out in Sweden regarding the standardisation of Meänkieli. It believes it would be beneficial to the work on the standardisation of Kven to establish contacts with the same type of work going on in regard to Meänkieli.

The work on standardising Kven is now well established, and must be said to have acquired a fixed form through the system that was established by the Kven Institute; see the response to paragraph 13 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report and the preamble regarding Kven above. Representatives of Meänkieli speakers, among others, have been contacted in connection with planning future work on developing word formations and vocabulary. With regard to following up the conference on revitalisation of the Kven language, we refer to the response to paragraph 45 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report above.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph d:

Kven

73. As far as place names are concerned, the Committee of Experts urges the authorities to report on the practical implementation of the Act on Place Names and encourages them to take measures to facilitate the effective collecting of Kven place names.

Pursuant to the Act of 18 May 1990 No. 11 relating to Place Names, the Ministry of Culture appoints place name consultants for Norwegian and Kven place names and Sámediggi does likewise for Sami place names. The place name consultants provide advice and guidance on the spelling of place names.

Paikannimipalvelus, the Kven place name service, often notifies of the need for administrative decisions regarding the spelling of Kven place names on maps and signs. The procedural rules in the Act relating to Place Names ensure that an expert in language and names provides advice on spelling before names are adopted by the Norwegian Mapping Authority. The provisions in the Act relating to Place Names ensure that any place names that exist in Sami and Kven in addition to Norwegian are adopted simultaneously with the Norwegian names. Public bodies are responsible for using Kven names that have been adopted in their services, for example on signs.

A database has been created to document and publish Kven place names (www.kvenskestedsnavn.no). This is edited and updated by the Kven place name service. The place name service for Norwegian and Kven place names is administered by the Language Council of Norway. The Language Council has provided extra funding towards creating the database. The hope is that the database will serve as a source for anyone with an interest in place names, particularly those in Kven. Place names are bearers of identity and sources of both linguistic and cultural information, and are therefore suitable for use in other forms of dissemination such as teaching and research.

The database *per se* is not a tool for collecting names, but it is an important means of documenting and disseminating the names that have been gathered there. To date, the material

compiled in the database comprises some 10,000 names. The very existence of the database makes it easier to see the connection between collecting and publishing names.

In its 2014 budget allocation the Ministry of Culture earmarked funds to set up a grant scheme for collecting and registering old place names. This entails gathering and registering Norwegian Sami, Kven and, potentially, Forest Finnish place names. The scheme will be administered by the Language Council of Norway.

74. [...] The Committee of Experts encourages the Norwegian authorities to increase the support of the Kven Ruijan Kaiku newspaper in order for it to be published more frequently and to encourage and facilitate the training of Kven speaking journalists.

Ruijan Kaiku is a trilingual (Kven, Finnish, Norwegian) newspaper that is published roughly once a month. Since 1995, the newspaper has had a journalist editor in addition to several freelance journalists. The newspaper is owned by Nordavis AS (66%) and Norwegian Kven Organisation – Ruijan Kveeniliitto () (34%). The newspaper has 500 subscribers, and in 2014 it received grants totaling NOK 1,102,000 from the Ministry of Culture.

In addition, it received an operating grant of NOK 450,000 from the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation. In 2014, the newspaper received NOK 200,000 in funding from the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation to expand a staff member's part-time position, so the newspaper now has two full-time positions.

The newspaper has long had ambitions of expanding its activities so that it can publish weekly. One practical challenge is that it is difficult to find enough journalists with a command of all three languages, so the editorial desk would need a language consultant to translate between the languages.

77. The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to further enhance their support for Kven culture, through general and/or specific funding mechanisms and to make sure, through the establishment of a structured dialogue with the speakers, that they are supporting the measures which the speakers consider important.

Regarding the Kven language and culture, the Ministry of Culture considers it right to give priority to the support measures described in the response to the Committee of Ministers' second recommendation above. Additional to these are the opportunities open to Kven cultural initiatives to apply for project funding from Arts Council Norway. We refer to Appendix 2, which contains a summary of Kven projects that received such funding between 2011 and 2013.

Grants were also given to several Kven language initiatives from the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation's budget allocation; see Appendix 6.

[box] The Committee of Experts strongly urges the authorities to take appropriate measures to improve the presence of Kven in broadcasting.

Kven has been added as a language option on NRK's online weather forecast service, yr.no.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 7, subparagraph f:

Kven

105. [...] The Committee of Experts asks the authorities to make sure that the eventual closing of this school does not hamper the application of the Charter in Norway. [...]. It therefore urges [the Ministry of Education and Research] to take immediate contact with the Porsanger municipality with the purpose of ensuring that Kven education will be available for the pupils who want it in the forthcoming school year.

The municipalities have responsibility for primary and lower secondary education, including its structure. The Government cannot instruct a municipality to maintain certain schools. However, the Act relating to Primary and Secondary Education stipulates that when at least three pupils of Kven-Finnish stock attending primary and lower secondary schools in Troms and Finnmark request it, the pupils have the right to receive instruction in Finnish. This is a statutory right that must be fulfilled, regardless of school structure or of any plans to close down schools.

Kven

109. The Committee of Experts invites the Norwegian authorities to provide exact figures on the number of children attending Kven education at different levels and looks forward to receiving information on the development of school materials in the Kven language.

Number of pupils with Finnish as their second language in primary and lower secondary education, nationwide

Primary and lower secondary school pupils in Troms and Finnmark have the right to receive instruction in Finnish as a second language if at least three pupils of Kven-Finnish stock request it. Instruction is offered in Finnish as a second language from grades 1 to 10. Instruction in Kven is offered provided sufficient teaching resources are available and if pupils/guardians request tuition in Kven instead of Finnish. The curriculum for Finnish as a second language covers both Finnish and Kven language and culture.

Number of pupils with Finnish as their second language in primary and lower secondary education, nationwide:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| School year 2013/2014 | 594 pupils |
| School year 2012/2013 | 600 pupils |
| School year 2011/2012 | 657 pupils |
| School year 2010/2011 | 754 pupils |

The figures for the individual grades for the 2013/2014 school year are as follows:

| Grade | No. of pupils |
|----------|---------------|
| Grade 1 | 73 pupils |
| Grade 2 | 68 pupils |
| Grade 3 | 88 pupils |
| Grade 4 | 63 pupils |
| Grade 5 | 76 pupils |
| Grade 6 | 65 pupils |
| Grade 7 | 51 pupils |
| Grade 8 | 39 pupils |
| Grade 9 | 40 pupils |
| Grade 10 | 31 pupils |

The information system for primary and lower secondary educations (Grunnskolen informasjonssystem (GSI)) publishes figures showing the number of pupils receiving instruction in Finnish as a second language, but not whether this tuition is provided in Finnish or Kven.

Every year, the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training allocates over NOK 1 million towards developing teaching aids in Finnish as a second language, which includes Kven, and towards measures to improve the competence of teachers of the subject.

Three textbooks in Finnish as a second language have been developed in recent years: one for grades 3 and 4, one for grades 5 to 7, and one for the lower secondary level. A Norwegian–Finnish dictionary has also been developed. A textbook in Kven and a grammar (book) in Finnish are under development, as are various booklets in Finnish and Kven.

[box] The Committee of Experts strongly urges the authorities to develop a special curriculum for Kven in co-operation with the speakers and to improve the situation of the Kven language at all appropriate stages of education.

There are no immediate plans for a Kven curriculum. The Kven written language is undergoing a process of language prescription and standardisation. There are few qualified teachers and teaching aid developers. The curriculum for Finnish as a second language covers both Finnish and Kven language and culture.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 7, sub-paragraph h:

Kven

140. According to the representatives of the Kven speakers, the University of Tromsø and Finnmark University College provide courses in Kven. These courses are however not permanent, are offered at irregular intervals and only at undergraduate level. There are moreover no ear-marked funds and positions for the Kven language, literature or culture at the University of Tromsø, nor at the Finnmark University College. The Research Council of Norway's programme for research into Kven/Finnish/Forest Finnish issues was also terminated in 2008 and has not been continued.

[box] The Committee of Experts encourages the Norwegian authorities to take measures to promote a permanent offer of Kven language courses.

The University of Tromsø has established contact with the Kven-speaking communities. The size of the student base does not warrant offering language courses in Kven on a permanent basis, as the demand for such courses varies from year to year. The University of Tromsø therefore offers courses when the need accumulates. The courses in Kven are dependent on having students, and the Ministry of Education and Research is confident that the University will resolve this issue in the best interests of the students.

Romani

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph c:

Romani/Romanes

51. The Committee of Experts noted during the on-the-spot visit that there was an interest among the representatives of Romani/Romanes speakers as regards teaching of Romani/Romanes. It welcomes the measures taken and looks forward to receiving precise information on their effective results.

In cooperation with the then Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs, the Ministry of Education and Research has tried to find ways to develop teaching material in Romani/Romanes but has failed to find qualified persons to develop such material. The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training will further explore possibilities for developing teaching material in Romani/Romanes.

Legal authority for mother-tongue instruction in Romani/Romanes is provided by the Act relating to Primary and Secondary Education, sections 2-8 and 3-12.

Pupils attending the primary and lower secondary school, and upper secondary school, who have a mother tongue other than Norwegian or Sami “have the right to adapted education in Norwegian until they are sufficiently proficient in Norwegian to follow the normal teaching of the school. If necessary, such pupils are also entitled to mother-tongue instruction, bilingual subject teaching, or both”.

In other words, mother-tongue instruction in Romani/Romanes is linked to whether the pupil is sufficiently proficient in Norwegian to follow normal teaching.

The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training is developing material about national minorities, including the Roma and Romani people/Tater communities. This material is primarily intended for teachers; see the responses to paragraphs 113, 157 and 158 of the Committee of Experts’ evaluation report.

The Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation has given grants to a project that will develop a small ABC/teaching material in Romanes for Roma children. See Appendix 6.

Stiftelsen romanifolket/taternes kulturfond, a foundation for Romani people/Tater culture, awards grants to projects aimed at promoting Romani people/Tater language and culture. The foundation was allocated NOK 5 million for this purpose in 2014.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph d:

Romani/Romanes

80. The Committee of Experts welcomes the measures taken and underlines the necessity of such measures to fight against discrimination and negative stereotypes. It however notes that no measures are taken to specifically promote the use of the language in the media.

[box] The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to take measures to improve the presence of Romani and Romanes in public life, in particular in the media.

The current grant schemes for minority-language publications offer grants to publications that use different minority languages, including Romani and Romanes. The grant scheme for local broadcasting offers special grants for operational and investment purposes to local radio stations for ethnic and minority language groups. The general principle established is that particular consideration should be given to applications from ethnic and minority language groups for funding of local radio initiatives.

Romani/Romanes

112. During the on-the-spot visit, the representatives of the Taters mentioned a project aiming at collecting stories from old travellers and transcribing them. The transcribed text will then be used to develop a written standard. This project involves Taternes Landsforening, the national association of Taters, and a Professor in linguistics from the University of Oslo. The Committee of Experts is looking forward to receiving information on the progress of this project in the next periodical report.

Taternes Landsforening is conducting a language project in cooperation with the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies at the University of Oslo and the Queen Maud University College of Early Childhood Education. The aim for the project is to make Romani a complete written language.

In its reports, the association states that it has made tape recordings of elderly members of the Romani people/Tater communities around the country in order to document their language. It also wants stories about the Romani people/Taters to be translated into Romani so that Romani people/Taters and others can learn the language. According to the report, a language researcher at the University of Oslo has developed basic material for a book of stories told by Romani people/Tater persons, in Norwegian and Romani.

The Ministry of Culture has provided funding for this project amounting to NOK 278,000 in 2007 and NOK 300,000 in 2009, but no report on the project has yet been submitted. The information given here has been obtained from Taternes Landsforening's annual reports.

113. The Committee of Experts welcomes the measures taken and encourages the authorities to continue its support to projects aimed at protecting and promoting Romani and Romanes.

The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training notifies schools and kindergartens about the Romani and Romanes languages in its information material; see the responses to paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report. In 2014, the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training will also consider ways of developing teaching material in Romani and Romanes, among other languages.

Romani and Romanes

142. In the fifth periodical report, the Norwegian authorities state that the Research Council of Norway has for several years worked on initiating research into Romani and Romanes. This has been very difficult for various reasons, but the Research Council of Norway announced a PhD project position on the Romani language in 2012.

144. The Committee of Experts welcomes the new developments in this sphere and looks forward to receiving information on the PhD project in the next periodical report.

A PhD project in Norwegian Romani people/Tater languages was initiated in the autumn of 2013 and will run over three years. The project is based at the Center for Multilingualism in Society across the Lifespan at the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, University of Oslo.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 3:

158. The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to ensure that teachers have enough material and knowledge about the minority languages and the cultures they represent to positively include them in their teaching. It also encourages the authorities to support projects from the minorities that aim at sharing information on their languages and cultures, such as for example the project for a new Sámi house of culture in Oslo, as a replacement of the former one.

In addition to the information material mentioned in the response to paragraph 157 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report, the Ministry of Education and Research and the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training have supported a project on the Romani people/Tater since 2004. The project was originally an initiative launched by Taternes Landsforening. The main objectives of the project have been to promote knowledge about Romani people/Tater culture in schools and kindergartens and to foster a sense of pride among children and youth who use these languages. Programmes are again being conducted in schools and kindergartens this year. Among other things, drama is used as a method through which children and pupils learn about Romani people/Tater culture and history, and Romani songs are also included. Representatives for Taternes Landsforening participate in this initiative.

The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training has also begun work on developing an online resource dealing with the national minorities. This online resource is intended for use in teaching activities in schools and in kindergarten activities to promote knowledge about the national minorities among children and youth. The online resource will contain different forms of cultural expression from the five minorities, such as songs, recipes, pictures, personal narratives, and small language 'titbits'. The online resource will also contain suggestions for teaching plans and for plans for use in the kindergartens. This is being done in close cooperation with museums that hold collections related to the national minorities.

The association called Foreningen Samisk hus i Oslo (Sami House in Oslo) was formed in 2004 using operating funds from Sámediggi and the City of Oslo. In 2013 Foreningen Samisk hus i Oslo was turned into a private limited liability company with effect from 1 January 2014. Aksjeselskapet Samisk Hus AS comprises Sámediggi, Oslo Sámiid Searvi (an association for Sami people living in Oslo), the Sami People's Party, and Samisk sosialdemokratiskforening (a Sami association for social democrats).

Sámediggi has guaranteed the lease on the premises until August 2017. The purpose of the company is to run Samisk Hus Oslo as a cultural institution for use by Oslo's Sami population. According to the company's articles of association, the purpose of Samisk Hus Oslo is to promote and develop Sami language, culture, identity and community life from historical and contemporary perspectives.

An information booklet entitled *Gávnos* serves as a resource for local efforts to introduce Sami content in teaching plans. The booklet contains texts covering Sami culture, language, and social issues related to competence aims in Norwegian, religious and ethical education, social sciences, history, geography, and religion and ethics. Teachers in other subjects can also gain insight and ideas from *Gávnos*. The booklet is currently undergoing revision and will be ready for the new school year in August 2014.

Romanes

The international Gypsy festival Yagori

Since 2000, Yagori, the international Gypsy festival, has received annual funding from the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation. In 2014 this funding amounted to NOK 350,000. The festival presents some of the leading artists in international Gypsy music and dance. The Ministry regards this as a positive contribution towards dissemination of Roma language and culture.

See the discussion of measures relating to both Romani and Romanes under the sub-chapter entitled *Romani* above.

All languages

Measures that apply to more than one of the regional or minority languages

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph e:

100. The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to take new initiatives with a view to creating links or opportunities for exchange of views among representatives of all regional and minority languages.

We refer in this connection to the Norwegian Language Year in 2013 and to the lessons learned from it. The Language Council of Norway and the Norwegian Language Year arranged the Minority Language Day in Oslo in October 2013; see *Policy, legislation and practice – changes* above. The purpose of the event was to facilitate cooperation and experience exchange between the national minorities.

The contact forum between government authorities and national minorities was held on 26–27 May 2014. The topics for the meeting were non-discrimination and the national minorities' languages.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 3:
157. In the fifth periodical report, the authorities state that the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training is creating a brochure to provide an overview of and an insight into the five national minorities in Norway. During the on-the-spot visit, the Norwegian authorities mentioned that a school book on national minorities is being produced. The Committee of Experts welcomes these initiatives and encourages the authorities to provide information on the production and distribution of these documents in the next periodical report.

The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training is currently preparing information and guidance material on national minorities. The booklet contains information on the history, languages and way of life of the minorities, and is planned for publication in 2014. The purpose of the material is to enhance knowledge about the national minorities among staff in schools and kindergartens. The booklet also contains information on how school and kindergarten staff can disseminate knowledge about and encourage reflection on the minorities' situation, so that schools/kindergartens treat children and youth from the national minorities with respect and in a way that engenders trust.

A book entitled *Nasjonale minoriteter i det flerkulturelle Norge* (National Minorities in a Multicultural Norway) by Anne Bonnevie Lund and Bente Bolme Moen (ed.) was published in 2010, and deals with the different minorities and their respective histories. The target group for the book is students at bachelor and master level.

The Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation has developed an electronic educational programme on indigenous and national minorities for civil servants. The aim is to spread knowledge about these minority groups and to create understanding for the type of issues that affect them. The programme also covers aspects of history, social issues, and relevant laws and regulations.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 7, paragraph 4:
163. The Committee of Experts encourages the authorities to continue the dialogue with the minority language representatives, in matters related to their languages.

In connection with preparing information on national minorities, the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training has held meetings with and received input from the national minority organisations.

See also the response to paragraph 100 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report.

The Ministry of Education and Research holds regular meetings with Sámediggi to discuss issues related to measures in kindergartens and teaching in schools/educational institutions. These meetings are held four times a year. In addition, consultations are conducted when necessary, pursuant to the *Procedures for Consultations between State Authorities and the Sami Parliament*.

Part III

The Charter, Part III – Implementation of the undertakings and initiatives to follow up the Committee of Experts’ recommendations

The Council of Europe requests that in Part III a description be provided of how the undertakings under the Charter have been implemented, with a focus on new developments since the previous report.

The Council of Europe requests additional information in relation to the undertakings about which the Committee of Experts did not receive sufficient information in the previous round to evaluate their implementation.

For undertakings that the Committee of Experts believes were not met, we would request that the state indicate what measures have been taken to implement the provisions.

As far as the requests and so-called “box recommendations” of the Committee of Experts are concerned, the Council of Europe requests a detailed description of the legal and practical measures the Government has implemented.

Article 8 – Education

Summary of the number of pupils with Sami as their first, second or third language:

| Language | First language | Second language Sami 2 | Second language Sami 3 |
|------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| North Sami | 877 | 525 | 545 |
| Lule Sami | 19 | 44 | 30 |
| South Sami | 20 | 48 | 18 |

Source: GSI figures for school year 2013–2014

General comments

187. In the fifth periodical report, [...] the authorities also mentioned that in 2009, a working group on Sámi teaching materials was established with representatives from the Sámi Parliament, the Ministry of Education and Research and the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training. In June 2010, the group presented a report with proposals for measures for more efficient development and production of Sámi teaching materials. The Committee of Experts welcomes these positive initiatives and looks forward to receiving more information on their development in practice in the next periodical report.

Responsibility for following up the report from the working group that assessed measures for more efficient development and production of Sami teaching materials lies primarily with Sámediggi. It is the understanding of the Ministry of Education and Research that Sámediggi now follows up the projects it grants funding to more closely by, among other things, having more regular contact with publishers. Development and production of Sami teaching materials seem to be more efficient than before.

Article 8, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph i

The new national curriculum regulations for pre-school teacher education were adopted by the Ministry of Education and Research on 4 June 2012 and came into force on 1 July 2012. The national curriculum regulations for Sami pre-school teacher education were adopted by the Ministry of Education and Research on 20 August 2013. Programmes under the new curriculum applied for students who were admitted to them from the 2013/2014 academic year.

188. The Committee of Experts considered that the undertaking was fulfilled in the previous monitoring round.]It noted the new course at the University of Tromsø, where North Sámi is taught as a foreign language; the change on the teaching of North Sámi from a subject to mother tongue education at the University of Oslo; and the unification of the Sámi University College with the Nordic Sámi Institute, creating an institution which deals with both teacher training and research in various Sámi subjects. [...].

189. In the fifth periodical report, the authorities state the positive developments and strengthening of Sámi course provision at the University of Tromsø where tuition is provided in 11 Sámi subjects (on grammar, syntax, literature, cultural studies and history, etc.). [...].

190. The Committee of Experts considers that the undertaking is fulfilled and looks forward to receiving information on the results of the developments mentioned during the fourth and fifth cycles in the next periodical report.

The University of Tromsø offers courses in Sami literary science, Sami linguistics, Sami dialectology and language history, Sami history of textual interpretation and indigenous methodology, Sami cultural studies, and North Sami language up to master's degree level. The university also offers courses in North Sami as a foreign language. In the 2011/2012 academic year, it offered specialisations in South Sami in cooperation with North Trøndelag University College; see the response to paragraphs 148 and 149 of the Committee of Experts' evaluation report above. No courses in Sami are offered by the University of Oslo.

The Committee of Experts has the following question regarding Article 8, paragraph 2:

198. The Committee of Experts welcomes the information as regards the teaching of North Sámi in Oslo. It encourages the authorities to increase their efforts in this domain and invites them to provide information on Sámi education in Tromsø in the next periodical report.

The Sami kindergarten in Oslo is owned by the City of Oslo and has a citywide catchment area. The kindergarten has 28 children. The aim for the kindergarten is that children outside the Sami core areas should also have the opportunity to preserve and develop Sami language and culture. The kindergarten is a training site for Sami student kindergarten teachers and cooperates closely with the Sámi University College in Kautokeino. The kindergarten also disseminates language and culture to other university colleges in Norway. The kindergarten cooperates closely with Sámediggi, from which it receives earmarked funds for promoting Sami language and culture.

In the autumn of 2013, Samisk hus i Oslo arranged a decentralised study programme in North Sami language in cooperation with the Sámi University College. This course entitled students to earn 15 credits on completion of the examination. The course was part of Sámediggi's five-year adult education programme.

A summary of the number of pupils with Sami as their first, second or third language is provided in the introduction to Article 8 above.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Article 9, paragraph 1 Administration of justice in criminal and civil cases

Working group report on the Sami dimension of the judicial system

The working group published its report on the Sami dimension of the judicial system in 2011. The report was distributed for consultation among relevant actors and was positively received.

A competency strategy for the courts and the Norwegian Courts Administration for 2011–2015 (*Kompetansestrategien for domstolene og Domstoladministrasjonen 2011-2015*) describes the roles and responsibilities in competence development activities. Expertise-building measures related to the Sami dimension in the judicial system fall under the remit of the interdisciplinary working group. Competence development measures are elaborated in dialogue with relevant groups in the courts

In 2013, the Norwegian Courts Administration funded a competence development initiative to increase knowledge of Sami culture and traditions, arranged by the Sámi University College.

| |
|--|
| 207. The Committee of Experts [...] however encourages the authorities to continue their efforts to promote the use of North Sámi in courts. |
|--|

The Norwegian Courts Administration recently approved funding of an additional half-time language position. Indre Finnmark District Court now has the equivalent of one full-time language position. The reasoning behind the Norwegian Courts Administration's decision to improve its competence in North Sami is that this will promote the use of Sami in the courts.

Indre Finnmark District Court arranged a seminar in April 2013 dealing with language challenges and due process protection (*Språkutfordringer og rettssikkerhet*). The seminar was aimed at the courts, court interpreters, lawyers, law students, police personnel, Sami language personnel from different bodies, the Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Services, the Norwegian Mediation Service, Sámediggi and other stakeholders. The Norwegian Courts Administration reasons that if different actors are better informed about the court's capability to use Sami, this will in itself promote the use of North Sami in the courts.

Pursuant to the Act of 17 June 2005 relating to Legal Relations and Management of Land and Natural Resources in the County of Finnmark (Finnmark Act), a special court should be established to handle any disputes over rights that may arise once the Finnmark Commission has investigated rights in a particular field. According to the plan, the Uncultivated Land Tribunal for Finnmark will begin normal operations on 1 January 2015.

Five judges and two deputies were appointed in the Council of State. Account was taken of applicants' knowledge of history, culture and geography, and of different population groups and industries, including knowledge of Sami languages.

Article 9, paragraph 3 Translation

The courts

The Sami legal terminology project entitled *Samiske lovtermer* published its final report on 1 May 2013. The project was led by the Tana Sami Language Centre and the Sami Trade and Development Centre (SEG) and was funded by the then Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs, Sámediggi and Tana municipality. The project had its own group of experts and cooperated with Indre Finnmark District Court. The project translated terms from the General Civil Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Act and the Dispute Act. Parts of the Dispute Act, including the Lugano Convention, were also translated into Sami. The project also developed a list of phases and suggested amendments to the approved list of Sami legal terminology from 2005.

The project produced almost 3,000 terms, 700 of which were approved by Sámediggi's Language Council in 2005. Terminology projects that receive funding from Sámediggi must submit terms and language material to Sámediggi for approval. The Norwegian Courts Administration published the approved list of Sami terminology from 2005 on its website, and wants to publish the other terms once they are approved by Sámediggi. Indre Finnmark District Court has adopted the new terms to a large extent and will adopt new terms as and when they are developed.

The following laws and regulations have been translated into North Sami and published on the Ministry of Agriculture and Food's website (general overview):

- Act of 15 June 2007 No. 40 relating to Reindeer Husbandry (Reindeer Husbandry Act)
- Regulations of 21 June 2011 relating to the Reindeer Husbandry Development Fund
- Regulations of 14 June 2010 relating to early retirement in the reindeer husbandry industry
- Regulations of 17 June 2010 relating to grants for relief arrangements in the reindeer husbandry industry
- Regulations of 19 June 2008 relating to grants to prevent conflicts between the reindeer husbandry industry and other affected parties
- Regulations of 19 June 2012 relating to grants to siida members and semi-domestic reindeer
- Regulations of 14 June 2010 relating to grants for reindeer grazing areas and semi-domestic reindeer
- Regulations of 21 June 2011 relating to reporting of reindeer felled and reindeer meat stocks
- Regulations of 17 June 2009 relating to grants for transport of felled reindeer
- Regulations of 19 June 2008 relating to compensation for expenses, additional work and financial losses incurred by reindeer owners due to measures to prevent radioactivity in reindeer meat
- Supplementary regulations of 7 December 1999 relating to extended conversion pay for persons not subject to active conversion under the regulations relating to conversion pay, section 3.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

Article 10, paragraph 1 The Government's administrative areas

Article 10, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph a Oral and written enquiries

Sami in the justice sector – East Finnmark Police District, West Finnmark Police District, and the Norwegian Police University College

In 2010, the National Police Directorate revised instructions regarding resources to cover additional costs generated by use of Sami languages. The aim was that the instructions should now apply throughout the police force's area of responsibility. Furthermore, the Directorate is currently developing the police force's electronic case management system to better accommodate Sami languages. Prompt text has been developed for document templates in both North Sami and South Sami. This will be implemented during 2014.

In 2009, the National Police Directorate formed a contact group consisting of Sami-speaking police officers from the police districts of East Finnmark, West Finnmark and North Trøndelag. The purpose of the contact group is to discuss issues related to administration of Sami languages in the police force and to provide advice and guidance to the National Police Directorate in areas where there is a need to change systems or procedures. The contact group, which is headed by the Directorate, convenes regularly and attends meetings and seminars that are relevant to developing administration of Sami languages within the police force. Meetings are also held with Sámediggi, the Sami National Centre for Mental Health (SANKS) and other Sami institutions that are relevant to the work of the police.

Establishment of the contact group has proven highly useful for achieving continuity in the work on administering North Sami in the police force. The group has provided constructive input to the National Police Directorate in areas where improvements have been implemented in recent years. This particularly applies to the police force's electronic case management systems, where North Sami can now be used in several areas within the force's case management system, including management of criminal proceedings. The contact group has also contributed to strengthening contact between the police force's central administration and Sami institutions.

Statens Barnehus (Children's House) in Tromsø, which has responsibility for conducting judicial interviews of and following up children who have been exposed to violence or abuse, was in 2011 assigned national responsibility for following up Sami children. It was allocated funding to appoint a Sami-speaking clinical psychologist to fulfil this national responsibility.

A programme has been initiated to prevent domestic violence in Sami communities. The programme, which has been used successfully in Norwegian-speaking municipalities, comprises a film and a guidance scheme that is implemented in all Sami-speaking municipalities in Finnmark. The entire programme is conducted in North Sami.

North Sami on the Norwegian Tax Administration's website

In the spring of 2013, the Tax Administration's website skatteetaten.no was upgraded with a language option for North Sami. The language option leads to an overview page that provides users with general information and contact details in Sami. The language option/page also contains all the forms, guidelines and brochures available in North Sami.

Guidance from the Norwegian Tax Administration's information service

Taxpayers who write in North Sami to Skatteopplysningen, the Norwegian Tax Administration's information service, will receive a reply in North Sami. Taxpayers who call the information service must ask to be referred to a North Sami case officer. Current practice is that when the Norwegian Tax Administration's information service receives enquiries from taxpayers who require oral guidance in Sami, their contact details are entered into an internal log system, and a Sami-speaking case officer contacts them within 24 hours. The previous solution used by the Norwegian Tax Administration's information service automatically forwarded calls to Sami-speaking case officers, but this system was discontinued due to the low volume of enquiries.

Translation of legislation and guidelines to North Sami

Several of the brochures and forms issued by the Norwegian Tax Administration, such as the guidelines for completing tax returns, have been translated into North Sami. The forms are available in electronic versions that can be completed online. Printed versions were also produced up until the 2012 income year. There are still some forms and guidelines on Altinn⁴ that have not yet been translated into Sami.

Electronic tax returns

Electronic tax returns are not available in Sami. If a taxpayer selects the North Sami language option and enters Altinn to submit a tax return, a PDF file of the Sami-language version of the tax return is attached. Any amendments that need to be made to electronic tax returns must be done in Bokmål (Norwegian). Providing electronic tax returns in Sami will require costly alterations to the tax return processing system. (There are currently no plans to enable taxpayers to make amendments to tax returns electronically in Sami).

Information in Sami in the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration

Since the previous report in 2011, the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV) has translated four of its main brochures into North Sami. These brochures contain information on retirement pensions, work assessment allowances, daily cash benefits and recruitment assistance for employers.

With regard to the Sami menu item on nav.no, the agency has focused on monitoring visits to and use of the Sami web pages since 2011. The volume of visitors is relatively low. To better reach the Sami population with information, efforts are currently being made to determine why visitor volumes are so low.

User surveys in the administrative area for Sami language

NAV regularly conducts local user surveys in the administrative area for Sami language. The results provide a basis for improving the quality of the agency's services. Among other things, users are asked about how accessible they perceive their NAV office to be in terms of contacting the office in Sami and receiving a reply in the same language.

Users say that by and large they find that it is possible to arrange meetings with an advisor/case officer who speaks Sami. They also find that they can call their NAV office and make enquiries at their NAV office in Sami. However, they find it less easy to write to and receive a reply from NAV in Sami. In Finnmark, the average score for user satisfaction with

⁴ Altinn is a web portal for electronic dialogue between private individuals or businesses and the public sector.

NAV's service overall rose from 3.7 in 2011 (on a scale from 1 to 6) to 4.0 in 2012 and to 4.4 in 2013.

Translation of documents into Sami in the transport sector

The Norwegian Public Roads Administration has issued a safety brochure in North Sami for drivers of snow scooters (*På tur med snøscooter - En guide til sikker kjøring*). This brochure has been published on the Norwegian Public Roads Administration's website for the Northern Region. Moreover, the Norwegian Public Roads Administration is in the process of translating theory tests for passenger cars and belt-driven motorbikes into North Sami.

216. The Committee of Experts was furthermore informed that a new survey on the use of North Sámi by the public authorities has been done and that the results will be made public in May 2012. It looks forward to receiving the results of this new survey in the next periodical report.

217. The Committee of Experts encourages the Norwegian authorities to continue their effort in this domain and considers that the undertaking remains fulfilled.

Sami information on public web portals – survey of current status

In February 2012, the Agency for Public Management and eGovernment (Difi) published a report on the status of Sami information provided on public web portals (*Samisk informasjon på offentlige nettsteder – statuskartlegging*). The purpose of the survey was to find out how the political goals of increased use and visibility of the Sami languages were being followed up in public agencies' digital production and how many agencies had implemented the UTF-8 standard (the standard that makes it possible to present Sami characters on websites). The report was prepared in response to an assignment given in a letter of allocation from the then Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs.

The survey showed that approximately 80 per cent of agencies possessed the technical capability to publish in Sami. Thirty-six per cent of public agencies published content in Sami. Only 5 per cent of the agencies published information extensively in Sami, but many have started work on systematically updating their Sami-language content.

The survey shows that the amount of Sami-language content published on regjeringen.no by different ministries varies considerably. The report made particular mention of the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion at the time as ministries that published a considerable volume of content in Sami languages.

Article 10, paragraph 2 Local and regional authorities

Interpreting services

Finnmark Hospital Trust, Sámediggi and the Norwegian Centre for Integrated Care and Telemedicine have cooperated on a project to provide interpreting services in Finnmark Hospital Trust.⁵ The project mapped some of the needs for Sami interpreting services in

⁵ Furskognes, Ann-Karin, Eliassen, I., Molund, B., Christiansen, E.K. (2013): Project report "Tolkeprosjektet" (Interpreting Project), Norwegian Centre for Integrated Care and Telemedicine, University Hospital of Northern Norway Trust.

Finnmark Hospital Trust and conducted a pilot scheme using a Sami interpreter via video conferencing on a laptop.

The project developed an e-learning programme containing films, facts and a test section. The programme provides training in the use of interpreters, updated information on the rights of Sami patients and the duties of health care personnel. The project was completed and a report published in the spring of 2013. Northern Norway Regional Health Authority has been charged with following up the conclusions of the report.

Article 10, paragraph 2, sub-paragraph g,

Statistics Norway

Wherever relevant, Statistics Norway now consistently uses both Norwegian and Sami place names/municipality names in its tables. Statistics Norway also issues a publication entitled *Sami Statistics* every other year. It is published in both Norwegian and North Sami.

Article 10, paragraph 5 Use and introduction of last names

Use of Sami characters in the National Population Register

In the autumn of 2009 the National Population Register introduced the Sami character “Á”, which is the most-used letter in Sami names.

227. During the on-the-spot visit, the Committee of Experts was informed that the municipalities were granted a two-year extension to implement the new regulation on Sámi characters: from 2011 the municipalities have to add the new characters when they update their systems, but they have until January 2013 to fully implement the regulation [...].

228. The Committee of Experts [...] is looking forward to receiving information in the next periodical report on the results of the implementation of the new regulation which might lead to fulfilment of the undertaking.

229. Based on the information received, the Committee of Experts must conclude that at present the undertaking remains not fulfilled.

[box] The Committee of Experts encourages the Norwegian authorities to ensure that the national population registers and other public institutions accept Sámi names in their original form.

The regulations of 5 April 2013 No. 959 concerning ICT standards in the public sector (standardisation regulations) require public agencies to support⁶ Sami characters in their IT systems. All new internal systems and all internal systems that undergo extensive reorganisation must support all Sami characters. In addition, all agencies must support Sami characters in their electronic exchange of information with other agencies. These requirements were imposed on central government agencies from 1 January 2012 and on municipal agencies from 1 January 2013.

⁶ Support means that the systems and records should be able to receive, store and transmit Sami characters.

Some central registries (such as the Norwegian Cadastre) support Sami characters. The National Population Register implemented support for the character “À”, which is used in 95 per cent of Sami names, in 2009.

The replacement time for some public systems is relatively long, and it is therefore estimated that it will take time for all systems to be upgraded to a common character set. The Agency for Public Management and eGovernment (Difi) is currently conducting a study to take a closer look at which characters the public sector should support and how characters that are not supported should be represented in public administration. It is important to clarify how the public sector should manage Sami characters and personal, company and place names with characters that do not belong to the Norwegian alphabet.

We estimate that it will take a few more years before Norwegian authorities can guarantee full implementation as asked for by the Committee of Experts. Based on how the regulations have been adopted, we ensure a gradual transition to full support as new solutions are gradually developed. Faster transition would incur an unreasonably high cost. Work is being done to ensure that all public agencies set requirements for common character sets in all new systems and that all solution suppliers adapt as quickly as possible. This will reduce the cost of integrating solutions.

Article 11 - Media

Article 11, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph a, iii

See the discussion under *Article 11, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph c, ii*.

Article 11, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph c, ii

Radio and television programmes

In 2012, NRK Sápmi, the Sami-language division of the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, produced a total of 246 hours of television transmissions and 1,754 hours of radio transmissions. In 2012, NRK broadcast a total of 262 hours of news in Sami on radio and 153 hours on television. NRK Sápmi also broadcasts on the digital radio network (DAB) and broadcast a total of 414 hours of news in Sami and 127 hours of transmissions from Sámediggi. NRK also regularly produces Sami-language programmes for children and youth. A new radio series on Sami language, identity and culture was broadcast in 2012.

Since 2011, NRK has strengthened its Sami-language programming and has begun to use web TV as a platform for news and current affairs content.

Article 11, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph e, i

Support schemes for newspapers

The support given to Sami newspapers and Sami-language news pages is intended to facilitate publication of newspapers in Sami and thereby democratic debate, opinion formation and language development in Sami society. Allocations between 2004 and 2014 have increased by NOK 13.4 million, and have thus more than doubled during that period.

Article 11, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph f, ii

Audiovisual productions

The rules and regulations governing funding for audiovisual productions ensure equal status for the Norwegian and Sami languages in all support schemes administered by the Norwegian Film Institute.

Since 2009 the Ministry of Culture has given government grants to the International Sámi Film Centre (ISF) in Kautokeino. The state funding allocated to the film centre is intended to be used for developing and producing short films and documentaries, competence-building projects and projects for children and youth. In 2014, this grant amounted to NOK 3,158,000, representing a doubling of the first grant allocated in 2009 (NOK 1,500,000). ISF makes an important contribution to Norwegian and international film culture. The purpose of the centre is to develop Sami film and the Sami audiovisual production community, and to cooperate with indigenous film production communities worldwide. ISF seeks to promote Sami film-making and Sami film in Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia.

Subtitling and dubbing of children's films

The industry organisation Film & Kino funds several film initiatives through the Norwegian Cinema and Film Foundation. According to the regulations relating to films and videograms, the fund's resources may be used to, among other things, dub children's films into Sami. The Norwegian Cinema and Film Foundation's indirect tax revenues have been drastically reduced in recent years, making it increasingly difficult for Film & Kino to finance the different cultural initiatives set out in the regulations. The Ministry of Culture will look more closely at the division of responsibilities between the State and Film & Kino in a white paper regarding films to be issued in the near future.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Updated information on Sami cultural buildings

Cultural buildings – Østsamisk museum (East Sami Museum) in Neiden

The Ministry of Culture has contributed almost NOK 43 million towards the building of Østsamisk museum in Neiden. The grant includes funding for exhibitions and fittings. Sámediggi has administrative responsibility for Østsamisk museum, which is part of the Tana og Varanger Museumssiida foundation. The building has been taken into use but has not yet been opened to the public. The museum will open to the public once the final technical repairs and the work on the exhibitions are completed.

Cultural buildings – Saemien Sijte (South Sami Museum)

Saemien Sijte has responsibility for Sami museums throughout the South Sami region. Sámediggi has administrative responsibility for Saemien Sijte. Statsbygg (the Norwegian Government's key advisor in construction and property matters) has prepared a preliminary project for new premises for Saemien Sijte in Snåsa, on commission from the Ministry of Culture. If the Storting (The Norwegian parliament) approves commencement of the project, it will be included in the government property rental scheme (statens husleieordning).

Cultural buildings – Beaivváš Sámi Teáhter (National Theatre of the Indigenous Sami People in Norway)

Sámediggi has administrative responsibility for Beaivváš Sámi Teáhter. Statsbygg has elaborated a construction programme for a new theatre building for Beaivváš, on commission

from Sámediggi. The project will be processed according to the procedures for financing property rental for Sami cultural buildings.

Support to cultural activities

General

Support to cultural activities plays a particularly significant role in preserving and developing Sami languages. Since 2002, the Ministry of Culture's allocations to Sami art and cultural activities have for the most part been grouped under one item in the fiscal budget. The annual appropriations from the Ministry are transferred to and allocated by Sámediggi. Sámediggi distributes resources to various Sami cultural activities, such as museums, theatres, festivals, meeting places, library services, art stipends, literature, implementation of the language provisions laid down in the Sami Act, etc.

In 2014, the Ministry of Culture appropriated NOK 77.2 million to Sámediggi for cultural activities. By comparison, the amount appropriated in 2011 was NOK 67.4 million. The Ministry of Culture notes that Sámediggi places high priority on cultural activities.

The Storting (The Norwegian parliament) grants government stipends, including support for cultural activities. The Sami artist Mari Boine has received a government stipend since 2012.

Riddu Riđđu Festivála, international indigenous people's festival

Riddu Riđđu Festivála, the international indigenous people's festival, is held every year in July in Kåfjord, Troms county. The festival was established in 1991 by Gaivuona Samenuorat (Kåfjord's Sami youth organisation) under the name Jagi Vai Beavvi (Sami Culture Days). It is said to have been established as the result of a Coastal Sami youth rebellion against the hiding away of Sami culture. The purpose of the festival is to "highlight and develop Coastal Sami culture through encounters with its own essence and with other cultures".

In 2009, Riddu Riđđu Festivála was designated the status of a cultural hub festival (*knutepunktfestival*), making it eligible for combined state and regional funding of 70 per cent and 30 per cent respectively. The government grant in 2014 amounts to NOK 2,220,000. Festivals that are designated cultural hub events also undertake to develop their genre, cooperate with other bodies, etc. Criteria for considering and evaluating cultural hub events have been developed.

In 2013, the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation gave a grant worth NOK 330,000 to Riddu Riđđu Festivala to fund a project to promote all the languages in the Sami areas. The aim of the project was to generate interest in Sami languages and to document similarities and differences between them. The project looked at 10 different Sami languages. The work was presented in a brochure and through different forms of artistic expression.

Dramatikkens hus (Norwegian Center for New Playwriting)

Dramatikkens hus in Oslo is a national competence and development centre intended to promote the development of new plays and stage scripts and to participate in bringing about and performing Sami plays and stage scripts for instance. The government grant in 2014 amounts to NOK 14.4 million.

Beaivváš Sámi Teáhter (National Theatre of the Indigenous Sami People in Norway)

We refer to the discussion of Beaivváš Sámi Teáhter in Norway's fifth periodical report.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Article 13, paragraph 2, sub-paragraph c

236. In the fifth periodical report, the Norwegian authorities state that the problems identified in the previous rounds regarding the use of North Sámi in the health sector are on their way to be solved. Various measures have been taken in this sphere [...] The authorities also mention that “a special Sámi scheme is being implemented under the Directorate of Health’s dementia programme.”

237. During the on-the-spot visit, the Committee of Experts was informed by the authorities that the Norwegian Directorate of Health has initiated a three-year programme which is aimed at increasing the quality care for the elderly, in which eight out of nine Sámi municipalities are taking part, that a hospital in the County of Finnmark has introduced a compulsory two-day Sámi language training course for the health staff and that a specific project is aiming at using new technologies such as video conferences [...].

238. The Committee of Experts [...] asks the authorities to report on the results of these measures in the next periodical report. The Committee of Experts also encourages the authorities to study the possibility of establishing some economic incentive measures that would ensure the presence of qualified health staff in small municipalities.

See the discussion in the response to the Committee of Ministers’ first recommendation.

Article 14 – Transnational contacts

Transnational cooperation Tana–Utsjok

Utsjok School in Utsjok municipality on the Finnish side and Sirma School in Tana municipality on the Norwegian side collaborate on education in Sami language and culture. Some of the tuition is provided jointly. The same teaching materials are used on both sides of the border. The project also provides guidance to teachers. Utsjok and Tana municipality also cooperate on providing Sami education in kindergartens. The project arranges, for example, courses for kindergarten and school personnel in the municipalities and develops teaching material in Sami languages and natural sciences.

Appendix 1

Overview of Arts Council Norway's grants for Sami cultural projects provided from the Norwegian Cultural Fund's allocation for project-based cultural heritage work

| Year | Recipient | Title | Total grant NOK |
|------|--|---|-----------------|
| 2012 | Varanger Sami Museum/ Varjjat Sami Musea | Documentation project Traditional sheep products in Unjárga/Nesseby | 100 000 |
| 2012 | Center for Northern Peoples AS ¹ | Construction of traditional Sami dwellings (bealljegoahti) | 70 000 |
| 2012 | Stabbursnes Nature House and Museum | Documentation and a video installation based on Sea Sami and Reindeer Sami activities | 120 000 |
| 2013 | Elle Sofe Henriksen | Lihkastagat ja Lihkáhusat Movements and emotions – documentation of Sami movements | 100 000 |
| 2013 | Álttá Sámi Giellaguovddáš AS ² | Project on Sami place names in Alta and neighbouring coastal municipalities | 140 000 |
| 2013 | Center for Northern Peoples AS | Data collection and dissemination project: Seven (cookie) recipes – kitchen stories | 140 000 |

¹ The company is located in Manndalen in Kåfjord municipality, Nord-Troms. Its primary activities are the production and dissemination of culture, a cafeteria and a museum, all based on the culture of the Sea Sami and Northern Peoples. The center also houses the Riddu Riddu Festival, the Contemporary Museum for Northern Peoples, Ája Gáfedat, the Sami Language Centre, Sami library services for Troms, the public library, Nord-Troms Museum, NRK Sápmi, the Troms office of the Sámediggi, Sáve design, the K-sekretariatet IKS and a youth club. The center is part of the Sami cultural house structure and covers the Nord-Troms area in particular. The center is funded in part by operating grants from Sámediggi and Troms county.

² Álttá Sámi Giellaguovddáš AS was founded in October 2006. The company is established in Alta municipality, and rents premises in Álttá Siida. The purpose of the company is to promote, strengthen and preserve the Sami language and culture, primarily in Alta municipality. Highlighting Sea Sami history in the area and local Sami traditions is a pivotal focus.

Appendix 2

Overview of Arts Council Norway's grants for Kven cultural projects, provided from the Norwegian Cultural Fund's allocation for project-based cultural heritage work

| Year | Applicant | Title | Total grant NOK |
|------|---|--|--------------------|
| 2011 | Siivet AS | <i>Under en annen himmel</i> (Under a different sky) – Kven nature documentary | 200 000 |
| 2011 | Siivet AS | <i>Den store kjærligheten</i> (The great love) – Kven documentary | 150 000 |
| 2012 | Halti Kven Cultural Centre IKS | Video documentary - Paaskiviikko – Kven Cultural Days in Nord-Troms | 50 000 |
| 2012 | The Kven Association in Alta/Alattion Kvaaniserua | Samuli Paulaharju and the Kvens in Alta: A visual portrayal in photos, sketches and text – preliminary project | 6 000 |
| 2012 | Municipality of Nesseby | Documentation, preservation, teaching and presentation of weaving (<i>grindveving</i>) in Nesseby | 70 000 |
| 2013 | Siivet AS | <i>Hypätä ennen Wirkola</i> (Jumping before Wirkola) – a documentary film about the unknown history of a minority) | 200 000 |
| 2013 | Siivet AS | <i>Sydämen arre</i> (Treasures of the heart) – online publication of Kven films and documentation | 60 000 |

Appendix 3

Overview of Arts Council Norway's grants for projects for Romani or Romanes, provided from the Norwegian Cultural Fund's allocation for project-based cultural heritage work

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| 2011 | Kai-Samuel Vigardt | Documentation project: <i>Romanipanus rakrar avri!</i> – The Romani peoples' own stories | 100 000 |
| 2011 | Lowri Rees | Documentary film on the Roma and education (working title) – supplementary grant | 100 000 |
| 2012 | Kai-Samuel Vigardt | <i>Romanipanus rakra avri</i> –The Romani people's own stories – continuation and dissemination in 2012 | 100 000 |

Appendix 4

Overview of Arts Council Norway's grants for projects relating to the Sami, Kven and Romani or Romanes and museum and archive development projects, provided from the Norwegian Cultural Fund's allocation for general cultural purposes

Sami culture

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 2012 | Sámi Arkiiva / Sami Archives | Establishment of a joik song archive | 80 000 |
| 2012 | Sámi Arkiiva / Sami Archives | Contemporary sources | 100 000 |
| 2012 | RiddoDuottarMuseat | GOVVA MUITALA – Sami stories and history | 170 000 |
| 2012 | RiddoDuottarMuseat | Primus for Sami material in Sami | 125 000 |
| 2012 | Varanger Sami Museum | Digital guide Ceavccageadge/Mortensnes | 400 000 |
| 2013 | Sør-Trøndelag county | <i>Sørsamisk digitalt</i> (South Sami digitally) | 400 000 |
| 2013 | Sámi Arkiiva/Sami Archives | <i>Stemmer</i> (Voices). Legacy from the Nordic Sami Institute | 150 000 |

Kven culture

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|--|--|--------------------|
| 2012 | Varanger Museum IKS / Vadsø Museum – Ruija Kven Museum | <i>Levende minner</i> (Living memories) – Kven portraits from Varanger | 150 000 |

Romani culture

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|---|--|--------------------|
| 2011 | Hedmark County Museum AS, Glomdal Museum branch | <i>Historier ved bålet</i> (Stories around the fire) | 230 000 |

Roma culture

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 2011 | Oslo Museum | Roma in Oslo | 600 000 |
| 2012 | Oslo Museum | Roma in Oslo | 800 000 |
| 2013 | Oslo Museum | Roma in Oslo (multi-year) | 3 000 000 |

Appendix 5

Overview of Arts Council Norway 's grants for performing arts projects related to Sami culture, provided from the Norwegian Cultural Fund's allocation

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|---|---|--------------------|
| 2011 | Elle Sofe Henriksen, Finnmark | <i>Beatnaga ii galgga gulgii geahččat</i> (Don't judge a book by its cover) - Merlin Theatre – Budapest, Hungary - April 2011 | 90 000 |
| 2011 | Åarjelhsaemien Teatere Sydsamisk Teater, Nordland | <i>Gaaje</i> – Free performance art - theatre | 300 000 |
| 2012 | Elle Sofe Henriksen, Finnmark | <i>Jorggáhallan</i> – Free performance art - dance | 330 000 |
| 2012 | Johanne Eltoft, Troms | Reindeer dance – <i>Boazodánsa</i> – Other performing arts events / Dissemination/guest performances | 210 000 |
| 2012 | Barents Dance Festival, Finnmark | Elle Sofe Henriksen and Liu Qi: Connection & Refreshment – Short-term assignment - choreographer | 50 000 |
| 2012 | Simone Grøtte Pedersen, Troms | <i>Mannen som stoppet Hurtigruta</i> (The man who stopped the coastal steamer) – Free performance art – dance | 450 000 |
| 2013 | Åarjelhsaemien teatere Sydsamisk Teater, Nordland | <i>Elsa Laula - kvinne som sprengte grenser</i> (Elsa Laula – a trail-blazing woman) - Riddu Riddu Festival and South Sami Cultural Festival 2012 | 90 000 |
| 2013 | Márkomeannu, Nordland | Kristin Mellem et al. – <i>Kaffekopp og salmebok</i> (Coffee cup and psalm book) – Guest performance | 35 000 |
| 2013 | Elle Sofe Henriksen, Finnmark | <i>Jorggahallan</i> - Umeå Sami Association – Umeå – Guest performance | 100 000 |
| 2013 | Kastellet Kultursenter AS, Aust-Agder | <i>Beatnaga ii galgga gulgii geahččat</i> (Don't judge a book by its cover) Fjæreheia, Grimstad – Guest performance | 60 000 |
| 2013 | Elle Sofe Henriksen, Finnmark | <i>Lihkastagat ja Lihkáhusat</i> – Movements and emotions – documentation of Sami movements | 300 000 |
| 2013 | Yngve Sundvor, Akershus | <i>1814 Norga - en western fra vidda</i> - (A mountain plateau western) Performance text development | 75 000 |
| 2013 | Statsteateret, Akershus | 1814 Norga – Free performance art - theatre | 800 000 |

Appendix 6

Overview of grants for language projects, provided from the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation's grant budget¹

Grants for Kven projects

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|---|--|--------------------|
| 2011 | Halti Kven Cultural Centre | Documentation and dissemination of Kven culture in Nord-Troms | 250 000 |
| 2011 | The Kven Institute | Youth choir project: <i>Uet laulus - Ođđa lávlagat</i> – New songs | 50 000 |
| 2011 | The Kven Institute | Common Kven grammar | 100 000 |
| 2011 | ČálliidLágádus | Comic strip: <i>Kapteinens jul</i> published in Kven | 50 000 |
| 2011 | Storfjord Language Centre | Operating costs | 600 000 |
| 2012 | Halti Kven Cultural Centre | Kven language projects in Nord-Troms | 300 000 |
| 2012 | The Kven Institute | Youth choir project: workshop and concert | 100 000 |
| 2012 | Siivet AS | Kven documentary/video documentation | 50 000 |
| 2012 | Storfjord Language Centre | Operating costs | 600 000 |
| 2013 | Halti Kven Cultural Centre | Kven language projects in Nord-Troms | 500 000 |
| 2013 | Idut AS | Publication of a Kven novel | 150 000 |
| 2013 | The Norwegian Kven Association/Kven youth network | Language camp | 70 000 |
| 2013 | Siivet AS | Documentary film "Under a different sky" | 80 000 |
| 2013 | <i>Ruijan Kaiku</i> newspaper | Establishment of virtual editing | 130 000 |
| 2013 | The Norwegian Kven Association | Language courses for children | 70 000 |
| 2013 | Siivet AS | Development of manuscripts | 30 000 |
| 2013 | The Kven Institute | Kven sound course | 150 000 |
| 2013 | The Kven Institute | Conference | 61 000 |
| 2013 | Storfjord Language Centre | Operating costs | 620 000 |
| 2014 | Halti Kven Cultural Centre | Kven language projects in Nord-Troms | 505 000 |
| 2014 | Idut AS | Publication of a Kven novel and audiobook | 210 000 |
| 2014 | Stiftelsen Laboratoriet | Publication of a book on the Kven people | 50 000 |
| 2014 | The Kven Institute | Language and language technology project | 500 000 |
| 2014 | Siivet AS | Kven documentary | 100 000 |
| 2014 | Storfjord Language Centre | Operating costs | 620 000 |
| 2014 | The Norwegian Kven Association | Kven theatre project | 100 000 |

¹ Up until the end of 2013, grants were provided from the Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs' grant budget.

Support for other language projects

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2013 | La Lumake sjuvla | ABC book in Romanes | 100 000 |

Support for Sami language projects

| Year | Recipient | Project | Total grant NOK |
|------|--|---|--------------------|
| 2012 | County governor of Nordland | South and Lule Sami language projects in the Action Plan for Sami Languages | 2 400 000 |
| 2012 | Nord-Trøndelag county | Part-financing of a three-year (2010-2012) project manager position for a project to strengthen South Sami language and culture | 300 000 |
| 2012 | Municipality of Engerdal | South Sami school programmes 2012 (last year of pupils in the municipality) | 300 000 |
| 2012 | Municipality of Tana | <i>OVTTAS!</i> Sami language, school and kindergarten development in the Tana valley – last part of a four-year project | 200 000 |
| 2012 | Árran Lule Sami Centre | Sami place names in a Pite Sami area – last part of a three-year project | 300 000 |
| 2012 | The Arctic University of Norway | Project to develop a keyboard for indigenous languages in Russia | 635 000 |
| 2012 | The Arctic University of Norway | Sami administrative dictionary | 250 000 |
| 2012 | Aajege – Sami Language and Competence Centre | Development of South Sami language application | 120 000 |
| 2013 | Riddu Riddu Festivála | Sami language project to focus attention on all the Sami languages | 330 000 |
| 2013 | East Sami Museum | Skolt Sami language across borders | 700 000 |
| 2013 | The Arctic University of Norway | Sami administrative dictionary | 250 000 |
| 2013 | County governor of Nordland | South and Lule Sami language projects in the Action Plan for Sami languages | 2 450 000 |
| 2014 | County governor of Nordland | South and Lule Sami language projects in the Action Plan for Sami languages | 2 550 000 |
| 2014 | East Sami Museum | Skolt Sami language across borders | 700 000 |
| 2014 | The Arctic University of Norway | Sami administrative dictionary | 472 000 |

Appendix 7

A list of the national minority and Sami organisations that have been informed about the process and were invited to the oral public hearing on the draft report

Det mosaiske Trossamfund, Postboks 2722 St. Hanshaugen, 0131 Oslo
Det mosaiske Trossamfund, Postboks 3563 Hospitalløkkan, 7419 Trondheim
Club Romano, Platousgate 6, 0190 Oslo
International Romani Unions representative in Norway, c/o Raya Bielenberg, Kjelsåsveien 28F, 0488 Oslo
Den Norske Romforening, c/o Andreas Muller, Nordalsv. 19A, 0580 Oslo
Romani Kultura, c/o Jan Jansen, Innspurten 4b, 0663 Oslo
Sjuvliao Kerr, Martin Linges vei 10. 0692 Oslo
Romanifolkets Riksforbund, Postboks 701, 1509 Moss
Taternes Landsforening, Glommengata 29, 2211 Kongsvinger
Skogfinske interesser i Norge, c/o Terje Audun Bredvold, 2283 Åsnes Finnskog
Landsorganisasjonen for romanifolket, c/o Inger Kvernodd
Rindes vei 16 3950 Brevik
Foreningen Romanifolkets Kystkultur, Postboks189, 4330 Ålgård
Norske Kveners Forbund/Ruijan Kveeniliitto, Hansjordnesgt 9, 9009 Tromsø
Kvenlandsforbundet, c/o Bjørnar Seppola, 9143 Skibotn
Norsk-Finsk Forbund, c/o Nils Petter Pedersen, Nyborgveien 53, 9800 Vadsø
Samenes folkeforbund, samene@samene.no
Norske samers riksforbund, nsr@nsr.no
Sámi NissonForum, Postboks 110, 9730 Karasjok
Sárahkka c/o Kirsti S. Suongir, 9845 Tana
Foreningen for Øst-samene i Neiden, 9930 Neiden