

Parental leave, a key to prosperity – and other true stories

A high-level discussion on enabling gender equality in the world of work

Moderator: Ms. Femi Oke – International journalist

11:00 Welcome and introduction

(3:50 min) • Video – Nordic people working the balance

(3 min) • **Mr. Børge Brende** - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Norway

11:15 Accelerating progress towards SDG 5 and SDG 8 – getting to the gender effect to work

- (3 min) • **The pressing need for change**
By Mme. Phumzile
- **Benefits and economic gains deriving from investing in gender equality and women's participation in the work force?**

It's not only a matter of rights, but the smart thing to do - tools

- **Parental leave is a key to prosperity, a game-changer for businesses and society**
- **Work-life balance fundamental to change both at work and at home**
- **Working the balance** – What benefits and synergy effects can be found in the Nordic region as a result of the investment in a better work/life balance for both men and women – and what are the next steps?
- **What investments need to be made now ?**
Different challenges and needs in the Nordic countries and in other regions?

Challenging stereotypes now and in the future

- **Tapping from the entire talent pool, the true story**
- **Changing norms and roles**
- **Ensuring that no one is left behind**

12:00 Q&A from the floor

12:10 Closing comments

(2 min) • By Mme. Phumzile

(2 min) • By Ms. Oke