

RELEASE IN  
PART  
B1,1.4(D),B6

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**From:** Verveer, Melanne S <VerveerMS@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 14, 2010 9:29 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) published its statement

Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on 08/27/2015 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL ~ Reason: 1.4(D) ~ Declassify on: 12/13/2025

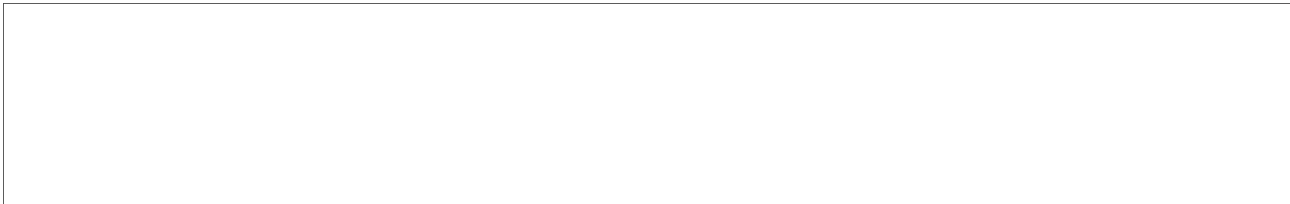
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**From:** [redacted]  
**To:** Verveer, Melanne S  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 14 21:21:04 2010  
**Subject:** Re: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) published its statement

B1  
1.4(D)

Dear Melanne:

B1  
1.4(D)



B1  
1.4(D)

Sent wirelessly via BlackBerry

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**From:** "Verveer, Melanne S" <VerveerMS@state.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, 14 Dec 2010 19:09:47 -0500  
**To:** <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Re: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) published itsstatement

Where do things stand at the moment?

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**From:** [redacted]  
**To:** Verveer, Melanne S  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 07 13:22:35 2010  
**Subject:** Fw: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) published itsstatement

Sent wirelessly via BlackBerry

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**From:** "Amiaud, Camille" [redacted]  
**Date:** Tue, 7 Dec 2010 10:48:52 -0500  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) published its statement

B6

B1  
1.4(D)

Dear all,

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD - directorate under the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) just published a new statement:

**Report on Norwegian assistance to Grameen Bank**

Norad submitted its report today on Norwegian support to Grameen Bank in Bangladesh in the 1980s and 1990s.

Minister of the Environment and International Development Erik Solheim requested Norad to prepare the report after the Norwegian television series "Brennpunkt" raised the question of where the Norwegian aid money had gone.

Norad's report shows that Grameen Bank transferred a total of NOK 608.5 million to its sister company Grameen Kalyan in 1996.

Norway's share of this amount is estimated to be approximately NOK 170 million. The Norwegian Embassy in Dhaka reacted immediately when it discovered the transfer in 1997. In the embassy's view, the transfer was not in accordance with the

agreement. The matter was raised with Grameen Bank. Following negotiations, it was agreed in May 1998 that NOK 170 million was to be transferred back from Grameen Kalyan to Grameen Bank.

“According to the report, there is no indication that Norwegian funds have been used for unintended purposes, or that Grameen Bank has engaged in corrupt practices or embezzled funds. The matter was concluded when the agreement concerning reimbursement of the funds was entered into in May 1998 under the government in office at the time,” said Mr Solheim.

The report will be made available in English at mfa.no as soon as possible.

Press contact: Christian Grotnes Halvorsen, mobile tel.: +47 48 153 748

Source: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs official website.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further information,

Best regards,

Camille Amiaud  
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