

Resolutions in 2021 by the Parliamentary Committee for the Future

THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION PROPOSAL

The decision proposal of the Committee for the Future:

Parliament shall approve the statement on the Government report VNS 3/2020 vp.

The statement proposal of the Committee for the Future

Parliament requires that the Government do the following.

- 1. Describe in more detail in future Government reports on the 2030 Agenda how the other aspects of Finland's sustainable development policy are linked to the 2030 Agenda; ensure that the work related to the 2030 Agenda that is carried out by various committees, panels, roundtables, research teams and working groups forms a synergistic whole and is genuinely taken into account; secure the resources required for the coordination, performance and evaluation of the cross-sectoral and multi-actor work related to the 2030 Agenda by the Prime Minister's Office and ministries as well as other key stakeholders, such as the Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development, the Development Policy Committee, scientific panels and citizens' panels.*
- 2. Give particular emphasis, in sustainable development policy, to the repayment of Finland's ecological debt and actions that will solve problems related to the structural government deficit, the increase in government debt, the increase in the dependency ratio, urban concentration and spatial segregation of the population, including problems related to loneliness, mental health and sedentary lifestyles.*
- 3. Strengthen the role of municipalities and public procurement as drivers of the implementation of sustainable development, and develop the connection between the work for sustainable*

development by the Prime Minister's Office and the municipal policy work by the Ministry of Finance.

- 4. Promote the phenomenon-based operating model in sustainable development policy; identify and take into account the interdependencies, combined effects, cross-effects and spillover effects of the SDGs and actions under the 2030 Agenda, as well as the technological solutions related to them; develop a way to measure and report on the international spillover effects of Finnish consumption; seek to promote overall sustainability in the 2030 Agenda; develop indicators that assess and give practical expression to the SDGs and actions and that can be used to monitor the progress of sustainable development in the long term, across budgetary periods and parliamentary terms; make use of these indicators in things such as the Government Report on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda as well as budgeting for sustainable development, fiscal plans and budgets. Furthermore, qualitative analysis of progress and obstacles thereto is required alongside quantitative indicators.*
- 5. Develop and allocate resources to evaluation as part of evidence-based decision-making. Evaluation must be carried out both beforehand and afterwards, and the results of the evaluation must also be genuinely taken into account in the drafting of laws. There is a particular need for evaluation of sustainable development, assessment of the impact on children, assessment of the impact on businesses, assessment of the impact of technology on society and health, and information on the costs and economic impacts of the actions to promote sustainable development and carbon neutrality, the costs of alternative implementation methods and the price of inaction.*
- 6. Increase investments in research and development to 4% of GDP. Proportionate, well-targeted and sufficient public leveraging of sustainable growth can also speed up and increase private investments.*
- 7. Ensure teachers' competence and understanding of the sustainability transition and eco-social education; update the anticipation of educational needs in different industries and the operation of educational systems from the perspective of the skills needs and labour needs of the sustainability transition; direct*

lifelong learning and reskilling from the perspective of a just transition to industries and areas that will undergo the most substantial change as a result of the sustainability transition in particular; secure resources for liberal adult education and increase basic arts education at all levels of education; increase futures education in education and study and careers guidance, starting from the training of teachers and instructors as well as continuing education.

- 8. Promote the participation of the arts in solving difficult problems together with scientific, economic and public administration actors by drawing up a Creativity Roadmap.*
- 9. Promote the systemic sustainability transition of the economy through long-term development of key cutting-edge transitions, such as regulation and incentives supporting sustainable energy and the circular economy.*
- 10. Support regional cooperation between parties such as businesses, organisations, associations and educational institutions (from early childhood education and care to universities and higher education institutions) in a way that supports regional strengths; develop system-level expertise in design, planning, development, research and business as well as talent pools with new forms of cooperation around key sustainable growth projects; facilitate pilot projects related to sustainable growth, and also demonstration and pilot plants; and leverage large investments in sustainable growth.*
- 11. Prepare a Positive Handprint programme that is based on innovative and bold national expertise and that emphasises international impact in cooperation with the business community in order to develop sustainable technologies and solutions, improve multi-sectoral regulation and promote sustainable employment growth.*
- 12. Assess the impact of great power competition on sustainable development.*
- 13. Promote the acceptability, fairness and equality of the sustainability transition, as well as citizens' mental resilience, by allowing stakeholders and citizens to participate in the planning, implementation and assessment of solutions; ensure that the silent groups in society, such as children, young people,*

immigrants, people with disabilities and elderly people, are also made into active participants in the sustainability transition.

14. *Verbalise the 2030 Agenda and other similar programmes guiding sustainable development policy, as well as working methods engaging citizens and stakeholders in decision-making processes in particular, in a way that inspires hope. Decision-making processes require open information and values-based debate on both the opportunities offered by and threats posed to the sustainability transition, but the best way to inspire the necessary change is to use positive examples from Finland and around the world that are relevant to people's daily life. A sustainable future must be shaped to fit the human experience.*

Helsinki, 13 October 2021