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Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Industry

THE CASE OF NORWAY

OECD – PSI WORKSHOP 31.05.06

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Key stages

- **1987:** The first memo on PSI in the Ministry of Administration – reputedly in 1987
- **1994:** First official Norwegian report on PSI in 1994 – an inventory of issues
- **1994-2001:** Rapid market developments in key sectors
- **2002:** Strategy for electronic content
- **2003:** The impetus from abroad – The EU PSI-directive
- **2004:** Public report on implementation strategy and beyond
- **2006:** Implementation and new pricing issues



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Where we are... and how we get...

- A comprehensive PSI-regime has become part of a revised Freedom of Information Act in spring 2006
- Transparency, price-limit, access, non-exclusivity etc. covered in law
- Pricing to be set by government regulation.
- Architecture of planned regulation: Three different tiers under and up until the limit set by the EU PSI-directive.



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... where we are going

- By 2008, a holistic policy shall be implemented that ensures efficient re-use of public data to increase value creation and development of new services, based on a no cost principle.
- Sole rights' agreements for use of official data, which conflict with the EU directive concerning re-use of public sector information, shall be reviewed and changed by 2007.



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... in the greater scheme of things

- The government's aims:
- We will create conditions that are conducive to Norway becoming one of the world's leading innovative, dynamic and knowledge-based economies.
- Welfare and a favourable business environment are created through co-operation between the private sector, the work force and the public sector.

... PSI-policy is a part of this. Especially to foster a thriving service sector.



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Challenges

- Each new sector of demand for PSI seemingly have to go through a similar learning experience.
- In some areas PSI-policy challenges already established frameworks for data exchange
- Some public institutions have invested resources and pride in bringing PSI-based products to the end users
- The field of cultural and educational content raises a number of issues.



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Lessons learned

- Implementing PSI-regimes is a long process... which raises complex policy issues... with many stakeholders.
- Implementing PSI-regimes is an educational process. The PSI debate is changing with experience
- Articulate PSI-users should be encouraged. They are the real motors in each sector
- International regimes and examples are really helpful. OECD has a role to play – guidelines might be a good idea