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Regional network

- Activity is increasing in most industries
- Favourable market outlook for the next six months
- Positive developments for export-oriented manufacturing
- Domestically-oriented manufacturing reports rising growth largely driven by stronger household purchasing power
- · Solid developments in the construction sector
- Few private sector operators have plans to increase investment
- Employment does not appear to be rising in pace with the increase in demand and activity
- · Stable to moderately increasing selling prices
- · Profitability is improving in most business sectors

%NB% Norges Bank Assumptions for money market rate and the krone exchange rate (I-44) in Inflation Report 2/04 and 1/04 10 110 3-month money market rate 8 Forward rate 4 March (IR 1/04) 100 6 Forward rate 24 June (IR 2/04) Forward rate 4 24 June (IR 2/04) 90 2 Forward rate Import-weighted exchange rate, 4 March (IR 1/04) I-44¹⁾ 80 0 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 ¹⁾A rising curve denotes a weaker krone exchange rate Source: Norges Bank 14

Projections for main macroeconomic aggregates IR 2/04				
2004	2005	2006	2007	
4¼	3¼	2¾	21/2	
5¼	4	2 ³ ⁄4	2³/	
2	1½	1½	1½	
3¾	4	4	3½	
10	5	5	-5	
5¼	3½	3	3	
7½	3¾	21⁄2	1½	
31⁄2	3	21⁄2	21/2	
1/2	1¼	3/4	3/2	
4¼	4	4	4	
1/2	1½	2	21/2	
3¾	41⁄2	4 ³ ⁄4	4³/	
21⁄4	3	4	4³/2	
- 1/4	1/4	1/4	1/	
	2004 4 ¹ / ₄ 5 ¹ / ₄ 2 3 ³ / ₄ 10 5 ¹ / ₄ 7 ¹ / ₂ 3 ¹ / ₂ 4 ¹ / ₄ ½ 3 ³ / ₄ 2 ¹ / ₄	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	





