



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the
32nd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of New Zealand

Geneva, 21 January 2019

Mr. Vice-President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of New Zealand for their presentation today.

We would like to put forward the following **recommendations**:

- to develop a national strategy to combat abuse and violence against women;
- to prioritise the enactment of legislation to reduce child poverty and advance child wellbeing, aligned with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Treaty of Waitangi.

Slovenia welcomes the progress made by the Government of New Zealand in several areas. At the institutional level through the amendments of the Human Rights Act and by forming an International Human Rights Governance Group regarding monitoring, reporting and accountability for meeting human rights targets.

However, some issues remain to be addressed, such as the Treaty of Waitangi's place in the country's unwritten constitution as well as the plan of action for the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

On a more horizontal level, violence against women remains one of the most pressing human rights issues. We note with concern the disproportionate affect domestic violence has on Maori women, Pasifika and disabled women, low level of reporting and the lack of a single integrated data source on domestic violence.

The persisting high number of children who experience poverty, where Maori children disproportionately carry the burden, remains a concern. In this respect, the Child Poverty Reduction Bill, introduced in January 2018, is a welcomed step forward.

Thank you!
