



**Universal Periodic Review: 17th session
Review of China
Delivered by Ambassador Ellis
22 October 2013**

New Zealand warmly welcomes the Chinese delegation to the Council and thanks the delegation for this opportunity to engage on human rights issues.

New Zealand notes on-going progress in the areas of economic and social rights, particularly for women and children, persons with disabilities and rural communities, including through China's efforts to close the rural-urban income gap.

New Zealand continues to recommend that China move towards ratification of the ICCPR at the earliest possible date. New Zealand has welcomed China's gradual reform of the application of the death penalty and **recommends that China continue reform towards eventual abolition of the death penalty, including greater transparency around its use.**

New Zealand welcomes on-going discussion in China around the possible role and functions of a national human rights monitoring body and **recommends that China establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles.**

New Zealand has been a consistent supporter of dialogue to achieve meaningful outcomes that address the interests of all communities in Tibet and therefore **recommends that China resume the two-way dialogue in Tibet.**

New Zealand welcomes China's acknowledgement that human rights education is a critical area of work and stands ready to support China in this.

New Zealand thanks the delegation for their consideration of New Zealand's recommendations.