



**Universal Periodic Review: 17<sup>th</sup> session  
Review of Mauritius  
Delivered by Ambassador Ellis  
23 October 2013**

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New Zealand welcomes the delegation of Mauritius to the Council. We value this opportunity to engage again on the human rights situation in Mauritius, building on engagement during Mauritius' first cycle review and the dialogue we enjoy through joint membership of the Commonwealth.

New Zealand acknowledges the progress made during the reporting cycle in strengthening Mauritius' human rights infrastructure, for example, through the establishment of the Police Complaints Division.

In our 2009 intervention New Zealand raised the issue of education for persons with disabilities. We welcome Mauritius' adoption of a policy of inclusive education and other steps taken to improve equal access to education for children with disabilities. Challenges remain, however, particularly in the implementation of inclusive education policies. In this regard, **New Zealand recommends that the Government works to ensure inclusive, quality and free primary and secondary education to children with disabilities on an equal basis with other children.**

New Zealand acknowledges that valuable steps have been taken to improve the rights of women but, as in our own country, some challenges remain. New Zealand raised the issue of on-going traditional attitudes and stereotypes concerning women in family and society in 2009. **New Zealand therefore recommends that Mauritius adopt policies to encourage women and girls to choose non-traditional fields of education and work, including technical and vocational training.**

New Zealand would like to thank the delegation of Mauritius for its presentation and for its continued engagement in the Universal Periodic Review process.