

**Statement by Hungary on New Zealand, UPR Session 18, 27 January
2014**

Mr. President,

Hungary warmly welcomes the delegation from New Zealand to this UPR. We thank the Government for their thorough national report prepared in consultation with a wide range of civil society organizations and appreciate its commitment towards creating even greater transparency regarding the follow-up to UPR recommendations.

My delegation congratulates New Zealand on its leadership in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities, both as one of the main sponsors of the Council's annual resolution on the issue and through its committed involvement in the Geneva Group of Friends to the CRPD. As an active participant of this Group, Hungary appreciates New Zealand's open and transparent approach to working with civil society and looks forward to seeing an even greater progress in advancing these rights. **We therefore recommend that New Zealand ratify the Optional Protocol to the CRPD.**

My delegation appreciates the significant efforts by New Zealand in addressing previous recommendations on Gender equality and the progress made in increasing women's representation in public and private sector. We share CEDAW's concern, however, about the continued high incidence of violence against women. **We recommend that New Zealand develop, in consultation with all relevant actors, including representatives of indigenous communities, a comprehensive action plan to target gender-based violence against women, with clear goals and timelines for their implementation.**

Finally, we are pleased to note that the mission of New Zealand in Geneva is playing an active and very positive role in the HRC in promoting the universal acceptance of human rights and the basic tenets of the rule of law.

Thank you Mr. President