

**Statement by the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**18<sup>h</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of New Zealand**

**27 January 2014**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Mr. President,**

We take note with appreciation of the statement delivered by the delegation of New Zealand on its human rights achievements since the first cycle of the UPR. We would like to express its concern over a number of human rights issues in the Country as the following:

- Widespread discrimination against migrants and asylum seekers, particularly those of Asian origin,
- Insufficient safeguards to protect the rights of minorities from discrimination and marginalization, which posed them for a higher risk of torture and ill-treatment,
- Inadequate number of prison facilities; especially in the context of provision of mental health care and legal services to mentally ill inmates,
- The continued high and increasing levels of violence against women, particularly Maori, Pacific and minority women,

Taking into account the above mentioned concerns, we would like to make the following recommendations:

- To ensure that its counter-terrorism legislation as well as the national designation for terrorist groups are in full compliance with the legal safeguards enshrined in the ICCPR,
- To ratify the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, the Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,
- To establish appropriate national strategies with the aim to identify and address structural discrimination in the judicial system,
- To take immediate, effective and legal measures to prevent and combat violence against women in particular those belonging to minority groups,
- To commit fully to protecting and promoting indigenous rights through appropriate measure in law, policy and practice
- To take necessary measures in orders to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and abuse of vulnerable people especially girl children.

**Thank you**