

Check against delivery

Italian intervention

**UPR – New Zealand
(27/01/2014)**

Thank you, Mister President.

Italy welcomes the distinguished delegation of New Zealand and thanks it for its report and presentation.

Italy welcomes New Zealand's strong commitment in promoting and protecting human rights and encourages it to increase efforts aimed at ensuring the rights of persons belonging to the most vulnerable categories.

Italy welcomes the priority attention granted by New Zealand to violence against women and children, including domestic violence. In this regard, Italy **recommends** that New Zealand allocate adequate resources to implement the legislative and administrative measures taken in order to prevent episodes of violence against women and children, including domestic violence, and provide victims with prompt and full support. Furthermore, Italy **recommends** that New Zealand take appropriate measures to collect data on and combat the emerging of forced underage marriage and female genital mutilation practices.

Italy appreciates the steps taken by New Zealand to address child poverty. However, the rate of children living in poverty is still high: according to some recent report, 10 % of children in New Zealand are in severe and persistent poverty. In this regard, Italy would like to know further information on the outcome of the study "Growing up in New Zealand", in particular with regard to the factors influencing children's social and economic conditions, as well as the measures that the Government intends to take on the basis of the mentioned study. We also would like to learn more about the tools that New Zealand is using to monitor the trend in child poverty and assess the results of its policies aimed at reducing it.

I thank you, Mr. President