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*Statement made by Amb. Sabine Böhlke-Möller, Ambassador/Permanent Representative
UPR of New Zealand, 18th Session of the Human Rights Council
UN HRC Working Group on the UPR, 27 January 2014, 09:00-12:30*

Mr. President,

Namibia warmly welcomes the delegation of New Zealand to its UPR. My delegation commends New Zealand for the open and constructive manner in which they have conducted their UPR Preparation. Namibia further commends the New Zealand Government for the tremendous efforts it has taken to improve the lives of persons with disabilities, including through the Ministry of Education special education, and through the Funding Family Care Scheme that pays family caregivers.

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations for the consideration of the Government of New Zealand:

1. Put in place effective legislation that ensures that all men and women are equal before the law.
2. Take measures to address obstacles to accessing free education.
3. Intensify efforts to increase the levels of education for Maori and Pacific families while protecting and promoting their cultural heritage;
4. Consider relinquishing the use of electric taser weapons by the police;
5. Strengthen measures to combat violence against women, and abuse and neglect of children.

I thank you Mr. President

All official correspondence should be addressed to the Head of Mission