

UPR 17th SESSION
COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: NEW ZEALAND
Intervention by Turkey

Thank you Mr President,

We welcome the delegation of New Zealand and thank them for their successful presentation.

We applaud New Zealand's principled stance in transparency, accountability and the rule of law. In this respect, we share the **recommendation** made by some treaty bodies regarding the establishment of a parliamentary human rights select committee. We think such a committee may strengthen the human rights dimension of parliament's work through enabling comments to be registered in the committee on any bill that has human rights implications before the bill's final reading.

We commend New Zealand's determined efforts to tailor target-oriented approaches towards the elimination of existing socio-economic disparities amongst its population, including those that impact particularly the Maori, Pacific Islander, Asian, migrant and other groups.

We hope that these efforts broaden in scope to reach all those affected, and culminate in periodically updated national strategies that aim to minimize the disparities within the population.

We are also fully aware, and appreciate that New Zealand has been taking effective measures to reduce the ratio of children under the poverty line as well as the number of child abuse cases. Recent statistics, however, indicate that these two issues may still require further government intervention.

We note with appreciation New Zealand's efforts to fight human trafficking and illegal immigration. In that context we would like to refer to the Immigration Amendment Act and **recommend** New Zealand to make sure that implementation of the new legislation will not create unfair discrimination against genuine asylum seekers.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to once again **recommend** New Zealand to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention on the Protection of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.

Thank you Mr. President.