

(Check against delivery)

Bangladesh statement on UPR of New Zealand

My delegation welcomes the delegation of New Zealand. We are impressed by the level of seriousness with which the government has addressed its review during its first cycle.

My delegation would however, like to flag some concerns over continued discriminatory treatment against Maori, in particular Maori women, and Asian and Pacific communities and migrants.

We share the concerns expressed by several Treaty bodies at the situation of disadvantaged groups of women, the new social security legislation that would likely predominantly affect Maori women and reduce their social benefits, exploitative representation of women in the media and incidence of cyber-bullying. We also share the concern of CERD at reports of persistent discrimination against migrants, particularly those of Asian origin, in the labour market.

We recommend that the government of New Zealand,

1. Ensure protection of migrants and minority groups, in particular of those of Asian origin, from all forms of racial stereotyping and derogatory treatment, including in line with CERD recommendation to develop a comprehensive legislative framework for addressing the problem of incitement to racial hatred on the Internet.
2. Expedite the development of a new Maori language strategy.
3. Increase the level of its contribution of official development assistance (ODA) to attain 0.7 per cent of gross national income (GNI).