

UPR18

CZECH REPUBLIC

STATEMENT ON NEW ZEALAND

Thank you, Mr. President.

*The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of New Zealand and thanks for the detailed responses on our questions sent in advance.*

We commend the Government of New Zealand for its favorable response to a number of recommendations made during the first UPR, including recommendations related to the elimination of violence against women. Nevertheless, we note with concern that the problem persists. We therefore **recommend** that the Government of New Zealand set up a system collecting and analyzing data on violence against women, and ensure that the implementation of legislation and policy concerning all forms of violence against women is effective and appropriately tailored to respond to real-life challenges on the ground.

The Czech Republic also commends New Zealand for adopting the Marriage Amendment Act, defining marriage as a union of two people regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

The Czech Republic would like to repeat its **recommendation** from the first UPR cycle that New Zealand ensure that immigration legislation is in accordance with its international human rights obligations. More concretely, we **recommend** that New Zealand do not concede asylum seekers' transfer to detention centers in third countries.

Finally, we **recommend** that New Zealand enhance its efforts in fighting discrimination and institutional biases against Maori and Pacific people.

I thank you.