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20th session, Human Rights Council
2nd Universal Periodic Review of Iran
Delivered by Carl Reaich
1 November 2014

Thank you Mr President

New Zealand welcomes the engagement by the Islamic Republic of Iran with this universal human rights mechanism, and the willingness expressed to work together on issues of shared concern.

In that vein, New Zealand encourages and **recommends** that Iran take all steps necessary to reform the discriminatory provisions of penal and civil laws against women.

New Zealand also **recommends** that the Iran continue to address measures that protect religious and ethnic minorities, in the interests of ensuring their full and equal participation in public and private life.

New Zealand further **recommends** that Iran fully comply with its binding international human rights obligations, in light of Iran's commitment towards improving the overall human rights situation in the country.

Thank you, Mr President