**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**46th Session of the UPR Working Group - Review of New Zealand**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**Geneva, 29 April 2024**

Mr. President,

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of New Zealand.

We commend the legislative, institutional and policy measures taken to further advance the protection and promotion of human rights, and the implementation of international human rights obligations domestically. This includes the establishment of the inter-ministerial human rights mechanism to better coordinate reporting on and follow-up of the country's treaty obligations.

Recalling our previous recommendation, we welcome that New Zealand has become a party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

We also commend the New Zealand’s commitment to gender equality and parity.

Montenegro recommends to New Zealand:

1. To withdraw its reservation to article 14 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and ensure the provision of fair and adequate compensation through its civil jurisdiction to all victims of torture;
2. To intensify efforts to combat all forms of violence against women, including by adopting comprehensive legislation criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence.

We wish New Zealand a successful UPR cycle.

Thank you.