|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description: Description: Description: C:\Users\amessent\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\MN1HAVZZ\Brand NZ-no agency High Res.jpg | **Human Rights Council**  **48th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**  **Italy**  **Delivered by Deputy Permanent Representative Nathan Glassey**  **20 January 2025** |

Mr President,

We warmly welcome the delegation from Italy.

We welcome Italy’s work to support and promote human rights, including its efforts internationally promoting the rights of women, children, and persons with disabilities.

New Zealand **recommends** that Italy,

1. Ensure that asylum seekers and refugees, particularly unaccompanied minors and other persons in vulnerable situations, are afforded all necessary protections and social support.
2. Ensure sufficient resources for specialised programmes and law enforcement efforts are allocated to combat high rates of gender-based violence, this includes victim support services.
3. Improve accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities, by ensuring compliance with national accessibility standards, including in government buildings and in public spaces.
4. Accelerate the establishment of an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

We thank the delegation for their participation today and wish them a successful review.

Thank you Mr President.