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Mr President

New Zealand welcomes the distinguished delegation from South Africa.

We **commend** South Africa for its efforts to combat gender-based violence, including at the highest political level, through the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide.

New Zealand **recommends** that South Africa:

1. Ensures the National Council works with civil society and is equipped with sufficient resources to implement the National Strategic Plan.
2. Provides further funding to StatsSA for the collection and analysis of disability data, as a step to support the greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in education and society more broadly.
3. Continues to give priority attention to the rights of Indigenous Peoples, in particular by recognising and revitalising Indigenous languages.
4. Continues to address the challenges of food insecurity, rights to resources, landlessness and employment that disproportionately affect Indigenous Khoi-San communities.

Thank you, Mr President.