

*Permanent Mission of Italy to the*

*International Organizations in Geneva*

*Check against delivery*

**UPR 32 – New Zealand**

**21 January 2019**

**Delivered by H.E. Ambassador Ernesto Massimo Bellelli, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy**

**to the United Nations in Geneva**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Italy welcomes the distinguished delegation of New Zealand and thanks for its national report and today’s presentation.

Italy appreciates the improvements New Zealand made since the last UPR cycle. In particular, we commend the accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of persons with Disabilities.

Italy also appreciates the commitment of New Zealand Authorities to address family violence and sexual violence with the aim to making improvements for victims, family and perpetrators persecution.

Efforts carried out to reduce gender pay inequality, eradicate child poverty and address bullying in school, including cyberbullying, need also to be mentioned.

Italy seizes this occasion to present the following recommendations:

* *Step up efforts to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination, especially in the criminal justice system.*
* *Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.*

We wish New Zealand a successful review.

I thank you.