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**32nd session of the UPR Working group**

**Consideration of the UPR Report of New Zealand**

**Statement by Pakistan**

**(Monday January 21, 2019)**

Mr. President,

Pakistan welcomes the delegation of New Zealand and thanks them for presentation of their national report.

My delegation appreciates New Zealand’s efforts to eliminate the gender pay gap and increase women’s participation in governance. However we are concerned that women were still significantly under-represented in senior leadership positions in the public as well as private sectors. Discrimination against people of Maori and Pasifika descent also remains a concern.

My delegation recommends the Government of New Zealand to:

1. Take all appropriate measures to enhance Maori and Pasifika representation in government positions at all levels, in particular at the local council level, including through the establishment of special electoral arrangements.
2. Investigate all acts of racial discrimination and ensure that the perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned.
3. Develop and implement a national plan of action against racial discrimination, xenophobia and hate crime
4. Develop and implement a cross-party strategy on family and sexual violence and ensure its continuous effective implementation

We wish New Zealand a successful review.

I thank you Mr. President.