

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR – New Zealand** ***Belgian intervention***21st January 2019 |

Mr. President,

Belgium welcomes the delegation of New Zealand and wishes to congratulate the government of New Zealand for the positive steps taken since the second UPR, such as the development of the National Plan of Action for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. However, Belgium is convinced that further progress can be achieved, especially in combating discrimination and gender-based violence.

Therefore, we would like to recommend the government of New Zealand to:

**R1.** Strengthen efforts to combat marginalization and discrimination of children with disabilities, especially in their access to health, education, care and protection services.

**R2.** Develop a comprehensive strategy on combating gender-based violence against women.

**R3.** Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Thank you, Mr. President.