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Madam President,

New Zealand welcomes the participation of Kenya today and wishes to make the following remarks and recommendations.

Firstly, we would like to **commend** Kenya for becoming the first country in Africa to collect data in its national population census on intersex people.

Secondly, New Zealand would like to **recognise** the positive measuresKenya has taken to end gender-based violence and harmful practices, including recent legislative frameworks and a pledge to end female genital mutilation, as well as its commitment to reducing maternal deaths. We **recommend** that Kenya actively implements these measures in order to eliminate discrimination and violence against women and girls.

New Zealand remains **concerned** by reports of discrimination, violence and threats of prosecution experienced by the LGBTQIA community in Kenya. We **recommend** that Kenya decriminalises consensual same-sex relationships between adults, and enact comprehensive anti-discrimination laws to safeguard the realisation of human rights for all individuals, irrespective of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

[Finally, New Zealand **recommends** that Kenya formalises its moratorium on executions, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.]

Thank you Madam President.