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Madam President,

New Zealand welcomes this opportunity for dialogue with Kiribati on its human rights record.

New Zealand **commends** Kiribati for its commitment to establish a National Human Rights Institution to promote and protect human rights.

New Zealand **recommends** that Kiribati continues efforts to protect and empower women and children, specifically in the areas of gender and family violence, and maternal and child mortality. We further recommend that national planning specifically outlines measures to reduce family and gender violence, as well as maternal and child mortality.

As a core part of protecting and empowering women and young people, New Zealand **recommends** that Kiribati works to improve access to sexual and reproductive services, information, and education. We recommend these efforts include support for appropriate sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) programmes and steps to develop comprehensive sexuality education programmes.

[Finally, New Zealand welcomes Kiribati’s commitments towards good governance and combatting corruption to improve citizen’s lives as demonstrated by the Government’s hosting of the Pacific Unity against Corruption conference in February 2020.

New Zealand **encourages** Kiribati to build on this achievement by continuing to empower media as an important vehicle for transparency and public access to information.]

Thank you Madam President.