

#### Appendix 4: UNCRC actions that partially progress the recommendation

**NB:** The combined appendices contain all recommendations made by the Committee. Although the numbering does not run consecutively, this reflects the fact that some paragraphs included only general comments and did not contain specific recommendations.

| Actions that partially progress the recommendation         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
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| Overarching Categories                                     | Recommendation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Leadership                                   | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| Governance, Accountability and System Stewardship          | <b>10 b)</b><br><b>i)</b><br><b>ii)</b><br><b>iii)</b><br>Strengthen the child rights-based approach in the elaboration of the State budget, including through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthen the child-rights approach in the elaboration of the State budget through participatory budgeting processes that are accessible to children and all interest parties</li> <li>- Strengthen the child-rights approach in the elaboration of the State budget through publishing the results of the Treasury's tracking system on allocation and use of resources for children</li> <li>- Strengthen the child-rights approach in the elaboration of the State budget through assessing how investments in any sector may serve the best interest of the child.</li> </ul> | Treasury<br>Statistics<br>New Zealand<br>SIA | <b>Comment:</b> Existing budget processes, led by Treasury continue to include engagement with stakeholders and consideration of distributional impacts across population groups, including children, where appropriate.<br><b>Action:</b> Statistics New Zealand will publish the child poverty statistics annually as required under section 30 of the Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018.<br><b>Comment:</b> Child Poverty statistics year ended 2025 were published on 26 February 2026.<br><b>Action:</b> The Social Investment Agency leads an ongoing cross government review programme to identify opportunities to improve investment, including for children. In 2025/26, the Social Investment Agency partnered with Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children to review their early support and prevention services. |  |
| Child-Centred Policy, Participation and Rights Application | <b>17</b><br>Develop procedures and criteria guiding all relevant persons in applying the 'child related principles' under section 6C of the Children's Act 2014 when making decisions under that legislation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Oranga Tamariki                              | <b>Action:</b> The 'child related principles' are embedded in the Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children Practice Approach which requires consistently placing the child within their whānau, family, and community context.<br><b>Action:</b> Child related principles are included in the All About Me assessment made when a child comes into care. Practice updates have included digitising the All About Me plan which makes it more accessible to children and young people in State care.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| Wellbeing, Development and Living Conditions               | <b>18 b)</b><br>Strengthen the Suicide Prevention Office, ensuring adequate human, technical, and financial resources to oversee effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the suicide prevention action plan and delivery of the Youth Mental Well-being Fund.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | MoH                                          | <b>Action:</b> The Suicide Prevention Office at the Ministry of Health continues to play an important leadership role across the health system and wider government to ensure delivery of the government's Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2025-2029. One of the actions being delivered through the plan is a suicide prevention community fund focused on populations with specific needs (e.g. maternal, youth and rural communities) to complement existing Māori and Pacific funds.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |
| Child-Centred Policy, Participation and Rights Application | <b>19 a)</b><br>Ensure children's right to have their views heard in all official decision-making processes relating to children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | MYD                                          | <b>Action:</b> Ministry of Youth Development to make accessible the principles, models, and resources for youth engagement across government, communities, and organisations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| Child-Centred Policy, Participation and Rights Application | <b>19 e)</b><br>Take measures to ensure that if the voting age is lowered it is supported by active citizenship measures, including children's participation in research, planning of actions and reflection and evaluation on the impact of actions taken, human rights education and other measures, including the prevention of undue influence.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MoE                                          | <b>Action:</b> Civics education is included in the draft Social Science's learning area for Years 0-10 as part of the work underway to refresh the New Zealand Curriculum <a href="#">NZC - Social Sciences - Years 0-10</a> .<br><b>Comment:</b> The Civics and Society strand will provide students with political literacy and understanding of our democratic systems, to help them become engaged citizens and influence change. It develops student understanding of rights, responsibilities, laws, the role of te Tiriti o Waitangi   the Treaty of Waitangi, and how to engage respectfully with diverse perspectives and public issues. The draft learning area is available on the Ministry's Tāhūrangi website: <a href="#">NZC - Social Sciences - Years 0-10</a> .                                           |  |
| Child-Centred Policy,                                      | <b>20</b><br>Ensure children born through assisted reproduction technologies, in particular with the involvement of surrogate mothers, have their best interests taken as a primary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MoJ                                          | <b>Action:</b> Progress legislation to improve surrogacy arrangements.<br><b>Comment:</b> The Health Committee reported the Improving Arrangements for Surrogacy Bill to the New Zealand Parliament                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |

| Actions that partially progress the recommendation |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| Overarching Categories                             | Recommendation |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Leadership             | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Participation and Rights Application               |                | consideration in facilitating their access to the relevant register, court file or other records of information about their biological origins.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                        | on 31 March 2026. The Bill improves how information about the biological origins of children and adults born through surrogacy is recorded and accessed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wellbeing, Development and Living Conditions       | 21 a)          | Guidance produced for agencies on using new information-sharing provisions in the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 and the Family Violence Act 2018, as well as the education-specific guidelines prepared by the Ministry of Education to ensure harmonisation with the Convention and the privacy, human rights and ethics framework.                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Oranga Tamariki<br>MoJ | <p><b>Action:</b> Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children provides information sharing training on an ad-hoc, on request basis.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> A multi-agency Hub was established in early 2026 as part of progressing recommendations from the Dame Karen Poutasi review (<a href="https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/About-us/Performance-and-monitoring/Reviews-and-Inquiries/System-review-Dame-Karen-Poutasi/Final-report-Joint-Review-into-the-Childrens-Sector.pdf">https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/About-us/Performance-and-monitoring/Reviews-and-Inquiries/System-review-Dame-Karen-Poutasi/Final-report-Joint-Review-into-the-Childrens-Sector.pdf</a>). A multi-agency Information Sharing Guide to support operationalisation of section 66 of the Oranga Tamariki Act in the context of the hub was developed to support this work.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Privacy Commissioner has released guidelines to assist clarity in relation to information sharing where there are concerns about the safety and wellbeing of a child. This is for use across the children's system.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 22             | Continue to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the "Keep it real online" campaign and the guidelines developed to support a safe digital environment in school, with a view to assess their effectiveness in adequately building the capacities of children, parents, legal guardians and teachers on the safe use of information and communication technologies, in particular on how children can protect themselves from being exposed to information and material harmful to their wellbeing.                            | DIA<br>MoE             | <p><b>Comment:</b> Funding for the Keep It Real Online Campaign ceased in 2022; however, the informational website remains live and has been visited over one million times.</p> <p>The website is available here: <a href="#">Home : Keep It Real Online</a></p> <p><b>Action:</b> Continue to deliver digital literacy across the New Zealand Curriculum to ensure children can stay safe online.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> There is a specific focus on digital safety and literacy within the health and physical education, technology, and English learning areas.</p> <p>Digital safety is introduced across the year levels at age-appropriate stages. In Years 1 to 3, the focus is on building foundational knowledge and skills, such as self-care and managing relationships. As students move through the year levels, focus moves to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing more sophisticated skills</li> <li>• building on their growing knowledge</li> <li>• increased critical literacy.</li> </ul> <p>Children will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• digital citizenship</li> <li>• critical thinking and evaluation</li> <li>• privacy and online safety</li> <li>• technical skills and content creation.</li> </ul> <p>The draft learning areas are available on the Ministry's Tāhūrangi website: <a href="https://newzealandcurriculum.tahurangi.education.govt.nz/new-zealand-curriculum-online/new-zealand-curriculum/learning-areas/5637165582.c">newzealandcurriculum.tahurangi.education.govt.nz/new-zealand-curriculum-online/new-zealand-curriculum/learning-areas/5637165582.c</a></p> |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 24 a)          | Strengthen and centralise the collection of disaggregated data on children who are victims of all forms of violence (such as domestic violence, bullying and sexual exploitation and abuse) with a view to assessing the extent of the phenomenon and formulating and implementing, with the participation of children, a comprehensive strategy for preventing and combating all forms of violence against children with special attention paid to the situation of Māori, Pasifika, LGBTI children and children with disabilities. | Oranga Tamariki<br>MSD | <p><b>Action:</b> Implement the second Te Aorerekura Action Plan 2025 - 2030, where the focus area 'Keeping People Safe' includes actions to ensure there is an integrated approach to managing high risk of death and serious injury. Actions include establishing improved case and risk management systems and processes and improved data management and monitoring practices to improve identification of early risk responses for those who are experiencing violence.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> Te Aorerekura is a 25-year national strategy to eliminate family and sexual violence in Aotearoa through coordinated government and community action.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Continue to implement the Child and Youth Strategy which includes "preventing harm against children" as a key priority.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> The Strategy provides a cross-government framework for monitoring children's wellbeing, including indicators related to abuse, neglect, and safety, and by reporting disaggregated data (e.g. for Māori and disabled children) to identify</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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|                                                    |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                               | disparities. Its development involved targeted consultation with key stakeholders, including children and young people. NB The Strategy doesn't establish a centralised, integrated system for collecting disaggregated data across all forms of violence against children. The Strategy is due for review in 2027.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 24 d)                      | Facilitate access to child-friendly, multidisciplinary and multisectoral assistance and protection services for children who are victims of violence, including psychological support, to ensure their recovery and reintegration and facilitate the means to seek remedies for the violation of their rights.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Oranga Tamariki               | <p><b>Action:</b> Implement Te Aorerekura Action Plan 2025-2030 to strengthen integrated, multi-agency responses and improve access to coordinated support and healing services for those affected by family and sexual violence (including children).</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Although not always fully child-centred, children and young people in New Zealand can seek remedies for violations of their rights through the care and protection system (via Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children), the Family Court and criminal courts, access to counselling and support services (such as ACC), and complaints to independent bodies like the Ombudsman or the Children and Young People's Commission. These mechanisms provide protection, support, and accountability.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> In 2025, Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children contracted service providers to deliver a sexual harm court support service for children and young people who are victim/survivors of sexual violence that are subject to a charge filed in the justice system. The holistic service is designed to support the mental and emotional, cultural, spiritual and social needs of victim-survivors of sexual violence as they navigate through the criminal justice process, to support their immediate and longer-term healing, wellness and resilience.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> Sexual Harm Crisis and Sexual Harm Court support services are prioritised for priority review and procurement phases in the Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children commissioning and investment plans.</p> |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 24 e)                      | Invest in culturally specific community-based initiatives to equip families and communities to prevent and respond to cases of child abuse, neglect and violence in coordination with civil society organisations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Oranga Tamariki<br>MSD<br>ACC | <p><b>Action:</b> Continue to implement Te Aorerekura to support community-led and culturally grounded approaches to preventing and responding to family and sexual violence. UPR-2024-A057 CEDAW-2024-I010 (OT)</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Budget 2025 set aside \$20 million tagged operating contingency to support evidence-based positive parenting programmes to support implementation of the Child and Youth Strategy priorities 1 (First 2,000 days) and 3 (Preventing Child harm). Ministers agreed to allocate half of the funding to services funded via the Social Investment Fund, with the remainder funding expansion of Triple P and Mellow Parenting/ Hoki ki te Rito (Health NZ funded), and reinstating Tākai (MSD funded). Procurement is now underway, with implementation occurring over the next few months.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Deliver the <i>Little Matters</i> child sexual abuse prevention initiative until the end of June 2027.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> <i>Little Matters</i> is a time bound initiative that contributes indirectly to New Zealand's response to this recommendation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 25 b)<br>i)<br>ii)<br>iii) | Finalise the guidelines and protocol developed by the Intersex Working Group, ensuring that it sets out guarantees for the mental and bodily integrity, autonomy, and self-determination of intersex children, including by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- prohibiting all non-urgent and non-essential medical or surgical interventions (including feminising or masculinising procedures) on intersex children until they have reached an age and level of maturity sufficient to make an informed decision and provide their free, prior, and informed consent.</li> <li>- ensuring independent oversight of decision making to ensure that medical treatments for children with intersex traits who are unable to consent are necessary, urgent and the least invasive option.</li> <li>- providing redress to victims of non-urgent and non-essential treatment including appropriate compensation.</li> </ul> | MoH                           | <p><b>Action:</b> Work with providers to design, develop and deliver guidelines, training, peer and psychosocial support and information resources for intersex children and young people by June 2027.</p> <p><b>Link to UPR-2024-I082:</b> Develop a rights-based approach to healthcare for intersex children and young people to prevent unnecessary surgeries.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Equity, Inclusion and                              | 26                         | Establish a system to effectively monitor and evaluate the delivery of State-provided services and support for families,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Te Puni Kōkiri                | <b>Action:</b> Te Puni Kōkiri contributes to this intent through a complementary system-level monitoring and stewardship role, led through its Systems Performance Monitoring function. This role focuses on how public sector policy, funding, commissioning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| Outcomes for Priority Groups                       | also assessing their cultural appropriateness.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                 | <p>and accountability settings collectively shape outcomes for Māori, including tamariki, rangatahi and their whānau, and on strengthening system accountability for those impacts</p> <p>Te Puni Kōkiri monitors the public sector system to make the impact of its settings on Māori outcomes visible, comparable, and contestable over time. This monitoring is concerned with system performance rather than service performance and creates evidence-based expectations on agencies and decision makers to account for how their settings affect Māori.</p> <p>Currently, system level monitoring is delivered through two complementary mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government Targets Reporting for Māori, which provides Māori specific reporting against the Government's targets and supports central accountability for results; and</li> <li>Beyond the Targets, which looks beyond formal targets to surface system pressures affecting Māori that are not always visible through target or service level reporting.</li> </ul> <p>Together, these mechanisms provide insight into what is happening in the system and where pressures sit, rather than evaluating individual services.</p> <p>Te Tautuhi o Rongo supports Te Puni Kōkiri's system monitoring role by providing a framework for considering Māori rights, interests and perspectives when assessing system performance and supporting conversations with agencies on whether system settings are working effectively for Māori.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Equity, Inclusion and Outcomes for Priority Groups | <b>28 c)</b> Harmonise, make transparent and publicise the criteria, based on the needs as well as the best interests of the child, for removing and placing children in alternative care, with a view to providing the highest level of protection.                                                                                                                              | Oranga Tamariki                 | <p><b>Action:</b> A care and protection resource panel handbook was published 2023 and amended in 2025.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> (<a href="https://practice.orangatamariki.govt.nz/assets/resources/care-and-protection-resource-panel-handbook.pdf">https://practice.orangatamariki.govt.nz/assets/resources/care-and-protection-resource-panel-handbook.pdf</a>). This handbook is an operational/professional tool which outlines the criteria used by care and protection decision-makers for removing and placing children, including consideration of the child's needs and best interests, to support more consistent and transparent decision-making.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Equity, Inclusion and Outcomes for Priority Groups | <b>31 e)</b> Ensure the meaningful participation of children with disabilities, in particular in the work of the Ministry of Disabled People, the renewal of the disability action plan (2019–2023) and in the shaping of all policies that affect them.                                                                                                                          | The Ministry of Disabled People | <p><b>Action:</b> The Ministry of Disabled People consulted with children in the development of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2026 – 2030.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Wellbeing, Development and Living Conditions       | <b>32 a)</b> Strengthen its response to reducing the prevalence of preventable and infectious diseases, including by prioritising the delivery of immunisation programmes, especially for Māori and Pasifika children and children living in poverty, and by monitoring the strict application of the healthy homes standards (2019) to improve the quality of rental properties. | MoH<br>MCERT                    | <p><b>Action:</b> Use the Government's immunisation health targets to drive improvements to immunisation rates for children, particularly improved coverage for Māori and Pacific children.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> In 2024, the NZ Government announced five health targets, one of which focuses on improved childhood immunisation rates (target = 95% of New Zealand children are fully immunised by 24 months of age). The Government Policy Statement for 2024–2027 includes the expectation that immunisation services will meet the needs of communities, especially for those with the poorest immunisation rates, including Māori and Pacific peoples.</p> <p>The introduction of the immunisation health target has accelerated efforts to improve childhood immunisation rates, with improving coverage for Māori and Pacific children a particular focus. Activities have included broadening where and by whom vaccinations can be given (e.g. midwives, well child services), home visits for overdue children, support to primary care for recall activities, financial incentives to primary care, activities to improve enrolment of babies into general practices. The Aotearoa Immunisation Register has been a critical enabler to identify children due or overdue for immunisation. Health promotion including national social media campaigns specifically tailored towards priority populations are also being used.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Track compliance of the Healthy Homes Standards (2019) and undertake targeted monitoring and enforcement action where severe breaches of the Standards have been identified.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> Since the final deadline on 1 July 2025, all rental properties must comply with the Healthy Homes Standards (HHS).</p> <p>Since the HHS came into effect, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has commissioned a series of topline surveys from Verian. The latest survey was conducted in April and May 2026, and the report was recently published</p> |

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|                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |            | <p>by MCERT.</p> <p>Enforcement of the HHS is primarily reactive rather than through proactive monitoring, relying on tenants to raise complaints to their landlord and file cases in the Tenancy Tribunal.</p> <p>The Tenancy Compliance and Investigations team at MBIE undertakes targeted monitoring and enforcement action where severe breaches of the HHS have been identified.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Wellbeing, Development and Living Conditions       | <b>34</b> Facilitate the access of children and young people, in particular Māori and Pasifika children and children living in low-income settings, to meaningful participation in climate change planning and decision-making, including on adaption and mitigation work as required by the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019, and in the work of the Climate Commission.                                  | MCERT      | <p><b>No action proposed</b></p> <p><b>Comment:</b> There is no specific analysis on the impacts of climate change on the rights of the child from the Emission Reduction Plan 2 distributional work. However, youth have participated in the following climate change related work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ERP2 engagement: We received input from young people through the ERP2 consultation process (including submissions from 153 young people): <a href="#">New-Zealands-second-emissions-reduction-plan-Summary-of-submissions.pdf</a></li> <li>Youth engagement (adaptation): We undertook targeted engagement with children and young people as part of the National Adaptation Plan work – outlined here: <a href="https://environment.govt.nz/publications/climate-change-and-younger-new-zealanders/">https://environment.govt.nz/publications/climate-change-and-younger-new-zealanders/</a></li> </ul> <p>These two previous engagement processes illustrate how children and young people have been supported to participate in climate change planning and decision-making, consistent with the intent of this recommendation.</p> <p>The Ministry for the Environment also engaged with a Youth Advisory Group to inform setting the second emissions reduction plan (ERP2) and setting New Zealand's second Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement (NDC2).</p> <p>UNICEF provided submission on NDC2.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Wellbeing, Development and Living Conditions       | <b>36 a)</b> To ensure that measures taken to end child poverty are linked to expected time frames, are allocated adequate resources and are assessed, with a view to ensuring that such measures are impactful, comprehensive and comply with a child rights-based approach, specifically prioritising groups disproportionately impacted by poverty, including Māori children, Pasifika children and children with disabilities. | MSD        | <p><b>Link to UPR-2024-A025:</b> Continue to implement child poverty reduction measures.</p> <p><b>Update comment in tool to:</b> The Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018 creates an on-going focus on child poverty and provides for political accountability against published targets.</p> <p>The Child and Youth Strategy 2024-2027 has been released. It identifies three priority areas to drive cross-government work and investment: supporting children and their families and whānau in the first 2,000 days; reducing child material hardship; and preventing child harm.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Wellbeing, Development and Living Conditions       | <b>37 c)</b> Address the racism, discrimination, stigma and bias experienced by Māori and Pasifika children in school, including by strengthening efforts to promote and foster the Māori language, cultural identity and history in education.                                                                                                                                                                                    | MoE        | <p><b>Link to CEDAW-2024-A017:</b> Continue to promote the teaching of te reo Māori and Pacific languages in all levels of education.</p> <p><b>Link to CRPD-2022-A062:</b> The Ministry of Education is strengthening measures to ensure the protection of the right to inclusive education for Māori. This includes a focus on meeting the needs of Māori within the learning support work programme and continuing the work currently underway to strengthen the New Zealand Curriculum and redesign Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, so that the national curriculum is delivering for all students.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Ministry of Education will continue to implement the Action Plan for Pacific Education 2020-2030, in particular, Key Shift 2.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> The plan identifies 5 key shifts and a set of actions that are needed to achieve the vision. Specifically, Key Shift 2 explicitly confronts systemic racism and discrimination in education by identifying racism as a structural barrier to Pacific learners' engagement, achievement, and wellbeing. It drives system-level change through targeted initiatives that challenge bias, strengthen inclusive and safe learning environments, and address discriminatory practices that undermine Pacific learners' rights to equitable and culturally affirming education. This shift prioritises naming racism, embedding accountability, and transforming policies and practices that perpetuate inequitable outcomes for Pacific children and young people. This is aligned with the Government priorities of "Targeting effective support interventions for students with additional needs."</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Continue to implement Te Tau Mai Te Reo, Māori Language in Education Strategy and Ka Hikitia – Ka Hāpaitia, the Māori Education strategy for all learners by incorporating Māori language, identity and culture into all practices.</p> |

| Actions that partially progress the recommendation |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Overarching Categories                             | Recommendation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Leadership | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |            | <p><b>Comment:</b> As a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti/the Treaty), the Crown has a duty to actively protect Māori rights and interests.</p> <p>Ka Hikitia – Ka Hāpaitia is the Māori Education strategy. It is a cross-agency strategy for the education sector. Agencies include the Ministry of Education, Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu, Education New Zealand, Education Review Office, New Zealand Qualifications Authority, the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand, Tertiary Education Commission, and the New Zealand School Trustees Association. It sets out how we will work to achieve system shifts in education and support Māori learners and their whānau, hapū and iwi to achieve excellent and equitable outcomes. It has five outcome domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Te Whānau: Education provision responds to learners within the context of their whānau</li> <li>• Te Tangata: Māori are free from racism, discrimination, and stigma in education</li> <li>• Te Kanorautanga: Māori are diverse and need to be understood in the context of their diverse aspirations and lived experiences</li> <li>• Te Tuakiritanga: Identity language and culture matter for Māori learners</li> <li>• Te Rangatiratanga: Māori exercise their authority and agency in education.</li> </ul> <p>Guiding principles for Ka Hikitia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent outcomes: We will support Māori learners and their whānau to achieve excellent education outcomes</li> <li>• Belonging: We will ensure Māori learners and their whānau have a strong sense of belonging across our education system</li> <li>• Strengths-based: We will recognise and build on the strengths of Māori learners and their whānau</li> <li>• Productive partnerships: We will support strong relationships between learners and whānau, hapū, iwi, educators and others to support excellent outcomes</li> <li>• Te Tiriti o Waitangi: We will give practical effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the education system.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> The Ministry of Education will continue to implement the Māori Education Action Plan for 2024/25 and outyears which sets out the Government's approach to closing the equity gap and lifting achievement and attendance for Māori learners, and all learners of te reo Māori across the education system.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> The Ministry of Education is currently progressing work to consolidate and update the actions of the Māori Education Action Plan (MEAP) to reflect current work priorities for Māori education. Advice is currently being prepared for the Minister on the MEAP refresh. The proposed actions reflect progress on the 'early actions' and additional investment of \$36.1 million through Budget 2025 to support programmes of work to boost teacher skills and confidence to support ākonga Māori and to support engagement and achievement in STEM subjects.</p> |
| Wellbeing, Development and Living Conditions       | <b>37 d)</b> Take targeted measures to reduce the bullying of students, prioritising students with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex students, including by assessing the impact of actions taken under the bullying prevention and response work programme 2019–2022 and incorporating those outcomes in its revision.                                                | MoE        | <p><b>Link to CEDAW-2024-A016:</b> Continue to support schools to protect women and girls in educational settings to be free from bullying and violence.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Ministry of Education will continue to provide a range of resources and supports to schools to reduce bullying including the Wellbeing@School Toolkit, Bully-Free NZ Website and the Positive Behaviour for learning School-Wide (PB4L-SW) framework and suite of initiatives.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> These initiatives enable schools to use evidence, review outcomes, and continuously improve practices ensuring that action taken leads to safer, more inclusive environments for all learners - including students with disabilities and rainbow learners.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Equity, Inclusion and Outcomes for Priority Groups | <b>38</b> Preserve the right of asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children to family unity and improve case management frameworks by developing comprehensive service referral pathways, including to physical and mental health services, education and access to justice through the provision of free legal aid, prioritising unaccompanied and separated children and children with disabilities | MBIE       | <p><b>No action proposed</b></p> <p><b>Comment:</b> The Refugee Status Unit maintains operational guidelines which includes guidelines for dealing with child refugee and protection (asylum) claimants.</p> <p>The latest guidelines can be found here: <a href="https://www.immigration.govt.nz/live/refugees-and-asylum-seeker-information/claiming-refugee-or-protected-person-status/guides-and-resources-for-asylum-seekers/">https://www.immigration.govt.nz/live/refugees-and-asylum-seeker-information/claiming-refugee-or-protected-person-status/guides-and-resources-for-asylum-seekers/</a></p> <p>In addition, New Zealand has developed operational planning for a mass arrival response, as part of a broader programme of preparedness work undertaken since 2022 to address identified legal and operational risks should an irregular mass arrival occur. This work was informed by reviews of the Immigration Act 2009 mass-arrival provisions and reinforced by</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

| Actions that partially progress the recommendation |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Overarching Categories                             | Recommendation |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Leadership             | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                                                    |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                        | <p>amendments enacted in 2024 to strengthen safeguards and procedural fairness.</p> <p>The operational planning includes specific arrangements to identify and respond to the needs of children and other vulnerable persons who may be part of a mass arrival group, including processes for managing immediate welfare needs, protection concerns, and access to appropriate agencies. The plan is maintained as a contingency framework and is subject to ongoing review and periodic exercising to ensure operational readiness.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Equity, Inclusion and Outcomes for Priority Groups | 40 a)          | Systematically assess the impact of policies, legislation and government services in addressing the root causes of the vulnerability experienced by Māori children and their families, including the higher likelihood of living in deprivation and poverty.                                                                                                                                                    | Te Puni Kōkiri         | <p><b>Action:</b> Lead and advocate for a Te Tiriti-led approach to policy development and implementation across government.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Provide robust policy advice to ensure that the interests of whānau, hapu, Iwi and Māori are considered across the public service, contributing to better outcomes for whānau.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Deliver and promote Te Tautuhi ō Rongo (a Treaty based framework) across the public service through the provision of system leadership via online guidance and tools, in person workshops, development of a community of practice and monitoring. This will support public servants in considering the rights, interests and responsibilities to Māori and consistent approach to the application of Te Tiriti across a range of kaupapa and engagement.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Equity, Inclusion and Outcomes for Priority Groups | 40 b)          | Strengthen the duties of schools and child protection and youth justice sector decision makers to recognise and uphold the right to identity of Māori children, systematically ensure that the voices of Māori children are heard and that their views are considered in decisions that affect them and strengthen support for organisations promoting and protecting their rights and those of their families. | MoE<br>Oranga Tamariki | <p><b>Action:</b> Continue to implement Te Tau Mai Te Reo, Māori Language in Education Strategy and Ka Hikitia – Ka Hāpaitia, the Māori Education strategy for all learners by incorporating Māori language, identity and culture into all practices.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> repeat comment from 37c above</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Ministry of Education will continue to implement the Māori Education Action Plan for 2024/25 and out-years which sets out the Government's approach to closing the equity gap and lifting achievement and attendance for Māori learners, and all learners of te reo Māori across the education system.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> repeat comment from 37c above</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children strengthens the duties of decision makers to uphold the identity rights of Māori children and ensure their voices are heard in decisions affecting them. This is supported by the Te Toka Tūmoana practice model for working with Māori and by systematic collection of Māori children's views through Te Tohu o te Ora.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children decision makers are guided by Te Toka Tūmoana, which upholds Māori identity, whakapapa and whanaungatanga in all decisions. Māori children's voices are systematically gathered through Te Tohu o te Ora, with Māori-specific findings reported in Te Mātātaki to inform practice and system improvements. Te Matatangi 2026 is due to be published late June 2026.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Deliver the <i>All About Me</i> plan for children and young people in State care.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> The <i>All About Me</i> plan has been made more accessible for children and young people by being available through a new web application. This supports them in easily engaging with information about themselves, their identity, and their care journey.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Continue delivery of Care and Protection family group conferences</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> Care and Protection family group conferences are designed to include and prioritise the voice of the child. Children and young people are supported to share their views directly where possible, or through an advocate if needed, ensuring that decisions about their care reflect their wishes, needs, and best interests.</p> |
| Equity, Inclusion and Outcomes for Priority Groups | 40 c)          | Finalise the national action plan against racism and the action plan on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and include Māori children in their development.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | MoJ<br>Te Puni Kōkiri  | <p><b>Link to existing action UPR-2024-A014:</b> Continue progressing New Zealand's National Action Plan against Racism currently on the Human Rights Monitor.</p> <p><b>No action proposed (re UNDRIP)</b></p> <p><b>Comment:</b> Further details provided in the following link:<br/> <a href="https://www.tpk.govt.nz/en/a-matou-whakaarotau/te-ao-maori/un-declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples">https://www.tpk.govt.nz/en/a-matou-whakaarotau/te-ao-maori/un-declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and                 | 41 a)          | Raise awareness in schools and among parents and employers of the regulations regarding the participation of children in paid work.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | MBIE                   | <p><b>Action:</b> Seek to expand the Youth at Mahi Pilot Initiative</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> In 2024-2025 the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment in partnership with the Ministry of Education delivered a 12-month pilot initiative targeting seven schools in the Southern region (Christchurch and</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Actions that partially progress the recommendation |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| Overarching Categories                             | Recommendation |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Leadership                   | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Exploitation                                       |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                              | surrounding areas), one in the Central region (Waikato through to Wellington), and two in the Northern region (Auckland area), as well as participation in four careers expos nationwide.<br><br>The Youth at Mahi initiative involved inspectors and community engagement teams at MBIE carrying out school visits to educate, inform and provide information to students about their employment obligations and rights. Teachers and guardians who may be present at schools also received the same information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 41 c)          | Provide continuous capacity-building for law enforcement officials, labour inspectors and other relevant professionals on the legislative and regulatory protections safeguarding children participating in paid work, including the “Ensuring fair workplaces” initiative of the Labour Inspectorate, to ensure that international child labour standards with respect to age, working hours, working conditions, education and health are upheld and all violations are reported. | MBIE                         | <b>Action:</b> Continue to provide dedicated training to build capability of investigators/inspectors in investigations that may involve serious harm and exploitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 43 b)          | To repeal the practice of remanding children into police custody and reduce the proportion of children in secure youth justice residences who are on remand, including by investing in the development of community-based residences and strengthening the availability and use of non-custodial measures.                                                                                                                                                                          | Oranga Tamariki              | <b>Action:</b> Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children is expanding use of Youth Justice community homes to reduce use of more restrictive detention.<br><br><b>Comment:</b> The focus has been on improving responses to child offending and, where possible, using alternatives to prosecution. Information on Youth Justice Community Homes can be found here: <a href="https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/youth-justice/youth-justice-community-homes/">https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/youth-justice/youth-justice-community-homes/</a><br>The courts can order that the child or young person be detained in the custody of the chief executive (s238(1)(d)) but it is the chief executive of OT who determines where they are placed<br><br><b>Link to CAT-2023-A019:</b> Ensure that Youth Justice and Care and Protection residences for children and young people are operating safely and providing access to quality health and education services.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 43 c)          | For the few situations where deprivation of liberty is used as a measure of last resort, to continue to strive for full compliance with the international requirement to detain children separately from adults and ensure that detention conditions are compliant with international standards, including with regard to access to education and health services, and, for pretrial detention, that detention is reviewed on a regular basis with a view to its withdrawal.        | MoJ<br>Corrections           | <b>Link to CAT-2023-A019:</b> Ensure that Youth Justice and Care and Protection residences for children and young people are operating safely and providing access to quality health and education services. <a href="https://humanrights.govt.nz/actions/82">https://humanrights.govt.nz/actions/82</a><br><b>Link to CAT-2023-A020:</b> Monitor the length of youth detention. <a href="https://humanrights.govt.nz/actions/85">https://humanrights.govt.nz/actions/85</a><br><br><b>Comment:</b> Regarding separation of young people and adults, in the vast majority of cases, facilities across all detention settings meet these requirements and efforts are made to ensure that young people are separated from adults. Where young people (14 years and over, and under 18) are remanded into Police custody, they must be detained separately from adults. However, the limitations of some existing facilities, such as small, remote courthouses, mean that separation may not always be feasible.<br><br>The Corrections Regulations 2005 (the Regulations) were amended in July 2023 to clarify that mixing of adult and young prisoners should only occur if it is in the best interests of the young person. For example, given New Zealand’s very small female prison population, age-mixing may help avoid holding young women in isolation.                                                                                                                |
| Protection from Harm, Violence and Exploitation    | 43 e)          | To develop an effective action plan aimed at eliminating the disparity in the rates of sentencing, incarceration and survival in detention of Māori children by addressing the connections between offending and neuro-disability, alienation from whanau, school and community, substance abuse, family violence, removal into State care and intergenerational issues.                                                                                                            | Oranga Tamariki<br>NZ Police | <b>Link to existing action CAT-2023-A017:</b> Expand the Fast-Track Programme to include 14-to-17-year-olds.<br><br><b>Update action:</b> New Zealand Police and Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children are expanding the Fast Track Programme in six locations to include 14–17-year-olds. This programme provides early, multi-agency support for tamariki and rangatahi entering the justice system, addressing drivers of offending such as family violence, housing instability and disengagement from education. Early evidence shows reduced reoffending, and insights from the Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Survey help inform understanding of mental-health needs linked to offending.<br><br><b>Update comment:</b> While the work of Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children in youth justice includes analysis of impacts on tamariki Māori, there is no single action plan that fits the specifics of this recommendation. Fast-track explicitly engaged kaupapa Māori organisations. Publicly available Fast-Track cross-agency data can be found in the report at this link: <a href="https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/about-us/research/our-research/fast-track-formative-and-process-evaluation/">https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/about-us/research/our-research/fast-track-formative-and-process-evaluation/</a><br><br><b>Action:</b> Police are updating practice guidance on youth interventions to ensure consistent decision making is recorded |

| Actions that partially progress the recommendation |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Overarching Categories                             | Recommendation |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Leadership | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                    |                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |            | <p>which includes use of the police youth risk assessment tool for risk factors (YORST) to evidence appropriate intervention in the youth justice system.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Police have set up Te Pae Oranga Rangatahi in twelve locations across New Zealand which is an alternative to prosecution to address the causes of offending through a holistic cultural response and therefore reduce escalation through the youth justice system.</p> |
| Governance, Accountability and System Stewardship  | 48             | Take all appropriate measures to ensure that the recommendations contained in the present concluding observations are fully implemented and that a child-friendly version is disseminated to, and made widely accessible for, children, including those in the most disadvantaged situations. The Committee also recommends that the sixth periodic report of the State party and the present concluding observations be made widely available in the languages of the country.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | MSD        | <b>Action:</b> Cabinet agreement will be sought to publish New Zealand's response to the UNCRC recommendations on the Human Rights Monitor tool. The UNCRC Children's Convention Monitoring Group/Deputy Chief Executives group will meet to help support progress on these recommendations and improved accessibility to children.                                                                                                                    |
| Governance, Accountability and System Stewardship  | 49             | Strengthen the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up and ensure that it has the mandate and the adequate human, technical and financial resources to effectively coordinate and prepare reports to international and regional human rights mechanisms, and to coordinate and track national follow-up to, and implementation of, treaty obligations and the recommendations and decisions emanating from such mechanisms. The Committee emphasises that the national mechanism for reporting and follow-up should be adequately and continuously supported by dedicated staff and should have the capacity to consult systematically with the Children's Commissioner, the Human Rights Commission and civil society. | MoJ        | <b>Link to UPR-2024-A008:</b> Continue to strengthen New Zealand's Human Rights National Mechanism.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |