



New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations  
Te Aka Aorere

# REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION ON THE WORLD OF ITS SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION (CLUSTER I)

New Zealand  
Legal Advisor (second secretary), Zoe Russell

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



Thank you Chair,

New Zealand thanks the International Law Commission and each of its Commissioners for the report on the work of the seventy-third session. We would like to register our deep appreciation for the work of the International Law Commission and to acknowledge its achievements in the progressive development and codification of international law. In our

New Zealand reiterates the importance of this work in the way it draws from existing international environmental law and international human rights law principles to address the lacuna in this area and welcomes the draft principles and associated commentaries. We welcome in particular draft principle 5 which specifically addresses the protection of the environment of indigenous peoples and to the participation of indigenous peoples in the question of remedial measures.

Attacks on the environment are prohibited under New Zealand's Manual of Armed Forces Law – Laws of Armed Conflict. The obligations that New Zealand operates under for an international armed conflict, as a matter of policy, also apply to non-international armed conflicts, including prohibitions on the use of methods or means of warfare which are intended or may be expected to cause widespread, long-term and severe damage to the environment.

To close, New Zealand highly regards the Commission's work which provides assistance to States in developing, clarifying and upholding the rules that underpin the international rules-based system. New Zealand values the opportunities provided in the Sixth Committee, the informal dialogue, and at side events organised by New York Missions, to engage in substantive dialogue on the topics before the Commission.

Thank Chair.