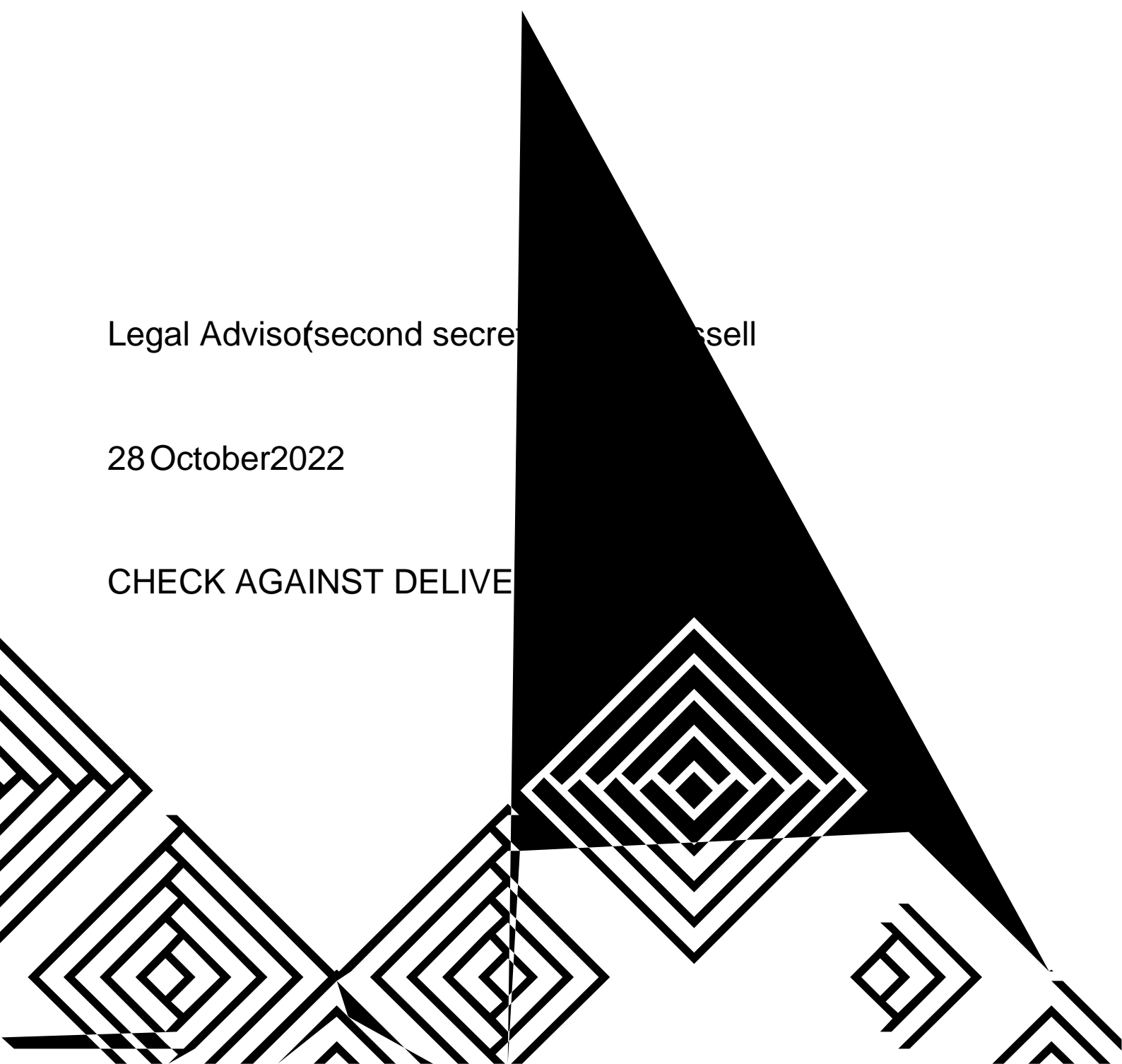


## New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Legal Adviser (second secretary) Russell

28 October 2022

CHECK AGAINST DELIVER



Thank you Chair.

We commend the International Law Commission for its work on this highly significant issue, which is of great importance to States and the international community as a whole, particularly given the likely impact of rising sea levels on low-lying islands and coastal communities. This is an issue that is close to home for New Zealand and our Pacific Island neighbours, some of whom are expected to experience sea-level rise that is nine times the global average.

