Closing statement

I would like on behalf of my Co-rapporteur, the entire Committee and on my own behalf to express our gratitude to the New Zealand delegation for the way they have responded to our questions and the atmosphere in which we have interacted in these last two days. We are convinced that there is good will to implement the convention and with combined effort, this should be a dream achieved. We also thank the organizations of persons with disabilities with whom we interacted and those who sent their written submissions which were very helpful for the dialogue process. As I said in the opening, realization of the rights of persons with disabilities is an on-going process and we believe that step by step, we should get there. There are, however, areas that we have noted as needing urgent attention even as we move on. Among these include:

1. Meaningful participation of PWD in all decisions that affect them including developing legislations and policies.
2. Making easy and accessible mechanism for complain and redress in cases of violation of rights.
3. Raising awareness and creating positive image of persons with Disabilities in the society.
4. Ensuring access to built environment, Communication, and information.
5. Making it easy for persons with disabilities to live independently and with whom they want.
6. Making inclusive education a reality for all children.
7. Addressing the problem of minimum wage exemption.
8. Taking care of the question of adequate standard of living Especially on indigenous persons with disabilities.

Thank you very much.