



# New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Te Māngai o Aotearoa

SIXTH COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM 75: Criminal Accountability of United Nations  
Officials and Experts on Mission

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Speech by Natalie Pierce

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**NEW ZEALAND  
UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY COUNCIL  
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Mr Chairman,

I have the honour of speaking today on behalf of Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

CANZ believes that the accountability of personnel is integral to an international organisation being able to be characterised as responsible and respectable. Ensuring there are mechanisms in place to ensure accountability demonstrates the importance that the international community places on the rule of law. Equality under and before the law must apply to all individuals, especially United Nations officials and experts on mission whose roles place them in positions of authority and responsibility.

If we, the international community, fail to ensure the accountability of our officials and experts on mission, we undermine our significant efforts elsewhere to promote security, development, and human rights. We call the integrity of this organisation into question and risk failing our most vulnerable populations, especially women and children, in the fight against sexual exploitation and abuse.

Mr Chairman,

It is incumbent upon UN personnel to set the highest possible standards of professionalism. We welcome the Secretary-General's report on the progress of resolution 68/105. We note, in particular, the efforts of Member States to establish jurisdiction for serious crimes committed by their officials and experts on mission. In this regard, we commend the efforts of the governments of Colombia, El Salvador, and Finland, named in the report, for their proactive work ~~in establishing jurisdiction~~ in accordance with the resolution. We acknowledge the 15 cases referred by