



2025 UNGA First Committee

**Explanation of Vote on Cluster 7
(Report of the Conference on
Disarmament)**

**Delivered by Kate de Boer, Policy
Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and Trade**

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Thank you Chair.

I take floor to explain New Zealand's votes on resolution L.58 "Report of the Conference on Disarmament". We appreciate and commend the tireless efforts of Mexico, as the final President of the Conference on Disarmament in 2025, for investing significant effort in trying to find compromises in this year's resolution.

Nevertheless, New Zealand will abstain on this resolution. This decision reflects our disappointment that the CD has once again failed to fulfil its mandate as a disarmament negotiating forum.

The CD should play a vital role. As we are constantly being reminded, it is the primary multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community. However, the CD's working methods – especially a strict consensus requirement, even for procedural matters – has created a situation in which it has persistently failed for so long to do what it was set up to do; that is, to negotiate disarmament agreements.

Additionally, it is disappointing and irresponsible how some states abuse consensus to block the participation of observers in the work of the Conference. It is for this reason that we will abstain on PP11 and OP8.

Thank you.