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UN COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND

Family violence especially against women in New Zealand could have an international focus placed on it if a recommendation from the UN's CEDAW committee is taken up by New Zealand Non Governmental Organisations.

The Algerian member of the committee raised the possibility of a visit by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women to New Zealand after the committee learnt of the level of violence in New Zealand reported by NZ NGO delegations.

The Rapporteur's visit can only happen if New Zealand NGO's make a formal request to the UN for the visit.

The level of adequate funding for both government agencies and NGOs dealing with family violence was brought up as a concern by the committee.

These issues were raised at a special meeting with the CEDAW Committee in New York, facilitated by the National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ). NCWNZ invited representatives from the Maori Women's Welfare League, Pacific Women's Watch, and Cook Islands NGO's to attend prior to the Committee considering New Zealand's report.

ENDS

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"Women Influencing Policy"