



## Office of Hon Judith Collins

Minister of Justice  
Minister Responsible for the Law Commission  
Minister for ACC  
Minister for Ethnic Affairs

07 AUG 2013

Suzanne Snively, Executive Chairperson  
Fiona Tregonning, Director  
Transparency International New Zealand  
34 Talavera Tce  
Kelburn  
Wellington

Dear Ms Snively and Ms Tregonning

### **New Zealand ratification of United Nations Convention Against Corruption**

Thank you for your correspondence of 31 May 2013 to myself, Hon Murray McCully, and Hon Tim Groser regarding New Zealand's ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). I am responding as the issue falls within my portfolio as the Minister of Justice.

Like you, I also believe that ratifying UNCAC would be advantageous. Ratification of the Convention is important to ensure New Zealand retains its international reputation for transparency, integrity, and trustworthiness, which can have flow-on economic benefits for the country.

It is for these reasons that I have announced a package of legislative reforms that will allow New Zealand to ratify UNCAC. The reforms will be progressed as part of an Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Bill which I intend to introduce into Parliament later in 2013.

As you may be aware, it is the policy of the New Zealand Government that binding treaty action such as ratification is not taken until New Zealand's domestic law is compliant with the treaty obligations. As you state in your letter, only minor amendments are necessary to bring New Zealand into compliance with the UNCAC obligations.

The Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Bill will contain the required amendments. After the Bill is passed and the changes are enacted, officials will promptly take steps to deposit New Zealand's instrument of ratification of UNCAC.

Yours sincerely

Hon Judith Collins  
**Minister of Justice**

cc: Hon Murray McCully, Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Hon Tim Groser, Minister of Trade