Talking Points

- Acknowledge the **timeliness of this meeting** – building on the momentum of the PGA’s HLE yesterday and in the final critical months of negotiations on a universal legally binding agreement that will enable us to combat climate change effectively.

- The **UNFCC is the key instrument for addressing climate change** but NZ sees a complementary role that the UNSC can play to ensure that the *peace and security* implications of climate change are heard, understood and responded to.

- NZ recognises that climate change may exacerbate other drivers of insecurity and conflict in all countries and regions of the world, and that **this ‘risk multiplier’ is further exacerbated for countries that are already vulnerable** to the adverse effects of climate change.

- It is important that the Council **remain cognisant of the possible effects of climate change** on international peace and security.

- Small Island Developing States in particular are faced with the serious threat of permanent sea-level rise, an increase in extreme weather events and the resultant social, environmental and economic upheaval that can occur as a consequence, which **for many SIDS represents the gravest of threats to their survival** and viability.

- With the **national economies of many SIDS’ narrowly based, large sectors are vulnerable to the effects of climate change** and weather-related disasters. Climate change acts as a risk multiplier, making existing security and development challenges more difficult. This will increase competition for scarce resources, with the increased possibility of armed conflict. Tackling climate change is not, on its own, sufficient to eliminate all the challenges SIDS are facing. But **failure to act on climate change will undoubtedly make SIDS’ futures less secure**.

- It would also be useful for the **Secretary General to provide the Council with an update of his 2009 report on “Climate Change and its possible Security Implications”**, which could, for instance, include information on the impact of climate change on peace keeping missions.