



Statement on behalf of the State of Israel

**UN Human Rights Council
HRC 32nd Session – Item 3– 15 June 2016**

Clustered ID with Special Rapporteur on Trafficking

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President,

We thank the both special rapporteurs for their work and extensive reports. Our statement will focus on the issue of trafficking.

Israel is deeply concerned by the phenomenon described in the SR's report relating to trafficking in persons against the backdrop of conflict and war. Israel recognizes the unique vulnerability of Women and children, especially at times of war, and believes every effort should be made to abolish such heinous, and as the Special Rapporteur mentioned, "gendered", acts as recruitment of children into military service and Gender-based violence.

Israel is committed to the continued struggle to eliminate trafficking in persons: It amended the Israeli Penal Law so it would encompass the trafficking in persons offense, it established the National Anti-Trafficking Unit, it established a Directors Generals Committee on Trafficking in Persons and developed national plans to battle trafficking in persons for the purpose of prostitution, labor and slavery.

Furthermore, the government has appointed anti-trafficking coordinators in the Police, the State Attorney's Office and in other Government Ministries.

Over the years, the battle against trafficking in Israel gained momentum, and became a joint struggle of all the relevant government authorities, under the leadership of the National Anti-Trafficking Unit.

We find this collaboration to be crucial, due to the wide range of forms that trafficking in persons can take as mentioned in the special rapporteur's report.

We note the importance of protection of victims especially those fleeing from conflict. Every victim of trafficking in Israel receives a rehabilitation year in a shelter supplemented by a stay and work visa, medical care, and legal aid.

Israel wishes to reiterate its commitment to the fight against all forms of trafficking, especially in those most vulnerable such as children and women fleeing from conflict and war.

Thank you.