



Statement on behalf of the State of Israel

**UN Human Rights Council
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Individual ID with IE on the rights of older persons

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Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.

We welcome the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, and thank her for her report as we look forward to continuing our constructive cooperation with her office .

Like the Independent Expert, Israel views older persons as subjects of law, with specific rights, the enjoyment of which has to be guaranteed.

Pursuant to resolution 24/20, we would like to share some of Israel's best practices on the implementation of existing law related to older persons.

Mr. Vice-President,

Israel has several nationwide programs for older persons.

One of them is the "Rights by Law Booklet" - The "Senior Citizens Law 5750-1989" which requires public authorities to provide general information about rights and benefits. This information is later collated into a booklet which is posted to every older person by mail upon reaching retirement age .

Another nationwide program is the "Public Call Center:" In order to help older persons become aware of their rights and benefits, and direct them to the right concerned authorities, the Ministry for Social Equality has been operating since 2008 a public call center for older persons and their families.

Regarding paid employment of older persons, Israel has promoted two programs. The first includes the creation of an infrastructure accessible and adapted to job-seeking older persons and private sector employers, based on a simple and convenient internet portal. The other is a pilot program that the Civil Service Commission and Government Ministries are scheduled to run, for the employment of older persons in a designated route within the Civil Service as well .

In addition, there are programs dealing with education, training and lifelong learning for older persons. For example, volunteers of the national-civic service provide lonely older persons with a socially supportive environment. And the "Units of Virtue" centers in hospitals assist older persons who are discharged home, but due to the deterioration of their health may be unaware of their rights and benefits.

Mr. Vice-President,

These activities and others show Israel's strong commitment to the promotion of the enjoyment of the Human Rights by older persons, and we are working to further develop this approach.

Thank you very much.