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## **Statement on behalf of the State of Israel**

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### **UN Human Rights Council**

#### **HRC 33<sup>rd</sup> Session – Item 4 – September 2016**

Delivered by Ambassador Aviva Raz Shechter,  
Permanent Representative of Israel to the UN in Geneva

Thank you, Mr. President.

Israel is deeply concerned by the frightful human rights situation around the world, especially in the Middle East.

This Council has intensively worked for the empowerment of women and the protection of LGBTI persons. However, in the Middle East, women and LGBTI people are systematically discriminated and oppressed. In many countries, any attempt by them to exercise some rights or freedom may lead to prosecution or even execution. And let me be clear: many of those countries are sitting in this Chamber.

In this double standard context, Iran continues to be a model for warmonger states for its determination to undermine the stability of the region while supplying weapons and troops to the Syrian regime, or exploiting the helplessness of Afghan refugees and sending them to die in the Syrian quagmire. If this is not enough, the Iranian authorities continue to use their distorted values in order to oppress their own people.

Mr. Vice-President,

In the last Olympics in Rio, and after decades of waiting, the victims of the 1972 Munich massacre received tribute.

At the same time, the Fatah Facebook Official Page called the massacre a "heroic operation", posting photos of the terrorists carrying out the attack and glorifying them. Sadly, this is just an example of the incitement to hate and violence promoted by the Palestinian authorities.

And yet, while Israel is condemned for trying to defend its citizens, the terrorists are aided and financed. This very morning, a 20 year-old Palestinian stabbed 2 Police officers in Jerusalem. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> attack against Israelis since Friday!

Over the past year, 300 similar attacks have been carried out by Palestinians, killing 40 innocent people, and injuring hundreds.

Mr. Vice-President,

It has been proven that international donors' money has been channeled by the Palestinian authorities to support families of suicide bombers, continue their indoctrination campaign, or build terrorist tunnels, instead of helping those in need, or provide services to the population.

I hope that this Council will finally wake up and put its energies and scarce resources to deal with the real problems the International Community is facing.

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.