
UN Human Rights Council
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**Clustered ID with the SR on the Rights of People with Disabilities and
the IE on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism**

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Thank you, Mr. President.

Israel warmly welcomes both mandate-holders. Their work is fundamental to help states to achieve the goal of “leaving no one behind.”

Israel commends the Special Rapporteur on PWD for her report on access to support by persons with disabilities.

Israel agrees on her characterization of support as a cross-cutting obligation under the CRPD. In this vein, she considers that persons with disabilities and their representative organizations should participate in all decision-making processes related to support services and arrangements.

In Israel, there are a myriad of representative organizations for persons with disabilities, with different focus. In addition to representing their members' interests, they also provide some services and leisure activities. Israel recognizes that they are vital to promote the realization of the rights of their members. Therefore, the Ministries of Social Affairs and Social Services and Health provide financial support to those organizations. They are also invited to various governmental committees reviewing relevant policies, such as the National Insurance Institute and the Ministry of Social Affairs, and to the Knesset Committees discussing rights of PWD.

Mr. President,

Israel also welcomes the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, and congratulates her for her report. Israel supported the establishment of the mandate, which is helping in improving the dire situation of persons with albinism across the globe.

In her report, the IE focuses on witchcraft as a key root cause of attacks to people with albinism. Unfortunately, witchcraft has become a double dangerously practice that threatens people with albinism. Either they are killed to have parts of their bodies to be used for witchcraft, or they are killed because they are labelled as witches.

Israel supports the IE recommendations, and encourages States to follow them. Israel believes that education is the best tool to fight this kind of phenomena. Therefore, we call upon States to work towards developing awareness campaigns, and to develop capacity-building activities, especially to judges and law enforcement officials, so that the state's organs and general population can understand what is albinism, and how to banish harmful practices such as attacks related to witchcraft.

Thank you.