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**UN Human Rights Council**  
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**ID with the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children,  
child prostitution and child pornography**

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Thank you, Mr. President.

We would like to thank the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, for her comprehensive report. As a party to the Protocol, Israel shares her conclusion that there is a global need for States to adopt comprehensive legislation that prohibits and criminalizes illegal adoption, as well as the sale of and trafficking in children that result in illegal adoptions, with sanctions that reflect the gravity of these acts.

The law in Israel permits adoption. This is regulated in the "Adoption Law", which establishes that adoption can only occur pursuant to an order given by a court of law, upon request of an adopter, and that the adoption order, as well as every decision regarding the adoption proceedings, may be issued only if the court is convinced that it is in the best interests of the child.

This ensures the Court's supervision over the entire process, thus, it acts as guardian of the child's best interests. This process also helps to reduce the likelihood of illegal adoptions.

Moreover, it is mandatory to ensure that the biological parents gave consent to the adoption or that the child was declared adoptable by a court.

This arrangement was established specifically to guarantee that the consent is informed and given freely. Parental consent must be documented and signed by them and the intervening authority.

In order to prevent illegal actions and maintain control over the process, transferring the custody of a child to the adoptive parents is possible only through an authorized social worker, who is required to verify that either the consent or the judicial declaration of adoptability are present, or that it counts with the Court's permission.

Mr. President,

All States must take effective measures to prevent and eradicate illegal adoption, to consider as the paramount consideration the best interests of the child and to make sure that children can grow up in a family environment with the right to know and be cared for by their parents.

Thank you.