

UN Human Rights Council 34th Session, Item 3 – March 7, 2017

Clustered ID with SR on Violence against Children and Children in armed conflict

Delivered by Mrs. Orit Kremer, Legal Advisor

Thank you, Mr. President.

We would like to thank the SRSG on Violence against Children for her report.

In line with the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's Study on Violence against children released in 2006, Israel's policy framework includes measures to prevent violence, to identify and provide immediate response to violence and to address the needs of both victims and perpetrators, with a special focus on cyberspace and children's other daily interactions.

In order to eradicate crimes and violence against children focus should be given their root causes, through education and awareness campaigns. Accordingly, since the internet has become a common arena for committing sexual offenses against children, Israel has worked on raising awareness, inter alia through educational programs.

The Israel National Council for the Child operates "the child's victim assistance program" which assists children who were either victims or witnesses of crimes, and helps them go through the criminal judicial process.

Mr. President,

With regard to the report of the SRSG for Children and Armed Conflict, Israel expects the international community to condemn the culture of hatred fostered by the Palestinian Authority. Palestinian children are indoctrinated in schools, state television and social media to follow the model of terrorists. Two weeks ago, the PLO Council for Youth and Sports named a youth camp after Dalal Mughrabi, a terrorist responsible for the killing of 37 Israelis in 1978. In addition, it is common for terrorist organizations to involve children in terror activities or use them as human shields.

Nevertheless, Israel attaches great importance to strengthening the protection granted to children and makes significant efforts to ensure due process and fair trials. Recently, particular focus has been placed on the issue of juvenile detainees and significant reforms have been adopted.

Mr. President,

Israel accords great importance to the promotion and protection of children's rights and strongly believes that the international community should do everything that is possible to ensure that children enjoy their childhood free from violence and fear.

Thank you.