

UN Human Rights Council 35th Session, Item 3 – June 13, 2017

Annual Full Day Discussion on the Rights of Women – Panel 2 Women's Right and Sustainable Development Goals

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Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

Israel would like to thank the panelists for their valuable contribution.

We share the view that Goal 3 and Goal 5 are integrally linked. Where women's right to health, including sexual and reproductive health, is upheld, they are more able to claim their rights to education, to work, to equality within the family and beyond.

Israel would like to share some good practices in this regard:

- The Israeli Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women, initiated this year a project for the promotion of gender equality, through the municipal authorities. More than 170 local authorities have registered for the plan, which incorporates a wide range of activities in various fields such as financial empowerment; advancement of women to key positions; equality in parenting; among others.
- Schools all over the country operate the program "life skills" which entails lessons on relationships, intimate relationships and reproductive health. Also, in 2015, the "Department for Psychological Services for Child" at the Ministry of Education, developed a program for high schools called "friendship and intimate relations without violence", which deals with mutual, respectful intimate relations.
- The Ministry of Education holds gender programs in groups for girls from several communities on preventing early marriage.
- The Ministry of Health operates the "Women Leadership in Health Program" which includes workshops women who want to be leaders in their community on health and nutrition. They go through a process of empowerment which included increasing their self-efficacy, providing information and skills to lead community health programs.
- Israel provides health care services to assist victims of trafficking, free of charge, including psychiatric care, rehabilitation services and legal aid.

As reflected above, Israel Approaches gender equality and woman's empowerment in an integrated way, which we believe is critical to delivering on the promise of the 2030 Agenda.

We thank you Mr. Vice President.