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ID with SR on trafficking in persons, especially women and children

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Thank you, Mr. President.

Israel would like to thank the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking for her report focusing on ways to reduce the vulnerability that workers face in supply chains, and tackle the risks of trafficking in persons by strengthening multi-stakeholder voluntary initiatives.

The Israeli law on "Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons" and other related laws like "the Penal Law", show that trafficking in persons is amongst the most severe crimes, as its core is "modern slavery", the withholding of freedom and objectification of a person. This legislation establishes that combatting trafficking in persons requires the integration of a series of tools and actors. It also shows that exploitation, even when it does not amount to trafficking or slavery, may still create a climate friendly to the development of such severe forms of crimes.

Israel has worked with foreign governments and NGOs to inform potential victims of the risks posed to them. Within the United Nations system, Israel supports UNICEF and the ILO and, therefore, participates in ILO's programmes such as the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor.

International Labor Law imposes a total prohibition on labor trafficking, as enshrined in many ILO conventions, of which Israel is a party to, including the Conventions on Forced Labor, on the Abolition of Forced Labor, and on the Worst Forms of Child Labor .

Additionally, pursuant to bilateral and multilateral legal assistance treaties with foreign governments, Israel cooperates with law enforcement agencies of other countries to combat trafficking in persons and supports deterrent programs that encourage innovative partnerships among governments, labor, industry groups and NGOs to end the employment of children and woman in particular, in hazardous or abusive conditions .

Thank you.