
UN Human Rights Council
35th Session, Item 4 – June 15, 2017

General Debate

Delivered by Ambassador Aviva Raz Shechter,
Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations in Geneva

Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

Israel is deeply concerned with the dire human rights situation in much of the Middle East, and calls on the Council to make use of its discussion under item 4 to do the following:

- Call to account terror organizations like Hamas and Hizbullah, who have managed to escape the scrutiny of this Council due to their non-state nature.
- Expose the subversive methods employed by Iran who sponsors terror organizations, and spreads its ideology throughout the Middle East, treading on the human rights of the people of the region.
- Pay due attention to the plight of women throughout the Middle East, suffering from child marriage, polygamy, domestic violence, genital mutilation and so-called “honor killings”.
- In addition, highlight cases of entrenched discrimination against women. As for example, the prohibition on Saudi women from driving or walking outside their homes without guardianship.
- Condemn in the strongest terms the promotion of terrorism by Palestinian Authority officials, whether explicitly through incitement in the media, or implicitly through the payment of salaries and stipends to convicted terrorists.

I thank you, Mr. Vice President.