
UN Human Rights Council
36th Session, Item 3 – September 15, 2017

Annual Discussion on Integration of a Gender Perspective

Delivered by Mr. Yoel Mester,
Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations

Thank you, Mr. President.

We would like to thank the distinguished panelists for their valuable contribution.

With a dedicated goal on achieving gender equality, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda presents an opportunity for collective action to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. In this regard, we believe that the role played by the UPR mechanism is indeed meaningful and substantive.

Israel's commitment to gender-equality has been reiterated time and again in laws and court rulings and is repeatedly re-affirmed and promoted through legislative and policy measures, in constant dialogue with civil society. In recent years, we have experienced major progress in promoting equal representation, prevention of discrimination and empowering women, as will be reflected in Israel's third UPR presentation in 2018.

Among these achievements, we can mention the Government's decision from 2014 on "Promoting gender equality and integration of gender thinking", which restructured the Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women to help it meet its main goals: promoting gender equality and the formulation of strategic plans, both for the public and private sectors. As a result, an inter-ministerial team is working to implement a comprehensive action plan for the advancement of gender equality.

Mr. President,

These efforts to integrate the gender perspective are also well reflected in the preparation process of our upcoming UPR in 2018. One of the six consultative round tables held over the past year with civil society organizations was dedicated to women's rights and integration of a gender perspective, inter alia through training, guidance and advocacy.

We believe that these fruitful intensive discussions with the active participation of many civil society organizations, Academia and other relevant stakeholders, are essential to delivering on the promise of the 2030 Agenda, and we stand ready to share our experience with other countries.

I thank you Mr. President.