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**Clustered ID with the Special Rapporteur on cultural rights and
the Special Rapporteur on Terrorism**

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Thank you, Mr. President,

We would like to thank the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights for her important report. We share her view that actions in the field of culture can mediate against fears that exist between people along various lines of division, and facilitate the expression of thoughts and feelings in a non-threatening manner.

Example can be found in the joint cultural cooperation organization - Polyphony Foundation, supported by the Ministry of Culture and Sport. A classical music society that features Israeli and Palestinian musicians playing together. Polyphony is at its core a classical music education program for elementary school children. It was formed by Palestinians in Nazareth in 2006. This orchestra has matured into one of the finest in Israel, drawing large crowds whenever and wherever it performs. Polyphony is now working with the Cohn – Minerva Center to expand its music-only curriculum into yet another cultural platform featuring Palestinians and Israelis working together to build a productive dialogue.

Another example is the Peres Center for Peace and Innovation which has developed comprehensive educational methodologies utilizing diverse tools to bring together children and youth (Jewish and Arab, Israeli and Palestinian, as well as those from across the Middle East North Africa region - MENA).

This is important in order to mitigate fears, break down emotional barriers, promote cross-border and cross-cultural dialogue, and equip the younger generations with the necessary tools to become constructive and influential leaders within their communities and in the region at large.

I thank you Mr. President.