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**UN Human Rights Council**  
**38<sup>th</sup> Session, Item 3 – June 20, 2018**

**Clustered ID with the Working Group on discrimination against women and the Special Rapporteur on trafficking**

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Thank you, Mr. President,

We would like to thank the WG on discrimination against women for its considerable efforts to contribute to the advancement of substantive equality and the development of progressive standards for women. We fully agree with the idea reflected in its comprehensive report, that States have a duty to respect women's human rights and to exercise due diligence to ensure that those rights are not violated by the State, its agents, private entities, or individuals.

The road to gender equality and the full realization of women and girls' human rights remains long and challenging. Israel maintains an extensive system of law, regulations and policies designed to raise awareness and to find solutions to these challenges like the "Equal Rights for Women Law" which was enacted only three years after the State was founded, the work done by the Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women (AAW), a designated Ministerial Committee on Social Equality with the mandate to promoting gender equality in various aspects of life, among others.

We would like also to thank the SR on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, for her important report, which offers recommendations to ensure the effective protection of victims and potential victims of trafficking.

Over more than a decade of combatting trafficking in persons in Israel, we have reached significant and outstanding achievements – especially the dramatic decrease to full eradication of the severe form of trafficking in women for the purpose of prostitution that was prevalent in Israel during the previous decade. These challenges lead us to the development of advanced mechanisms and best practices, in a victim-centered and

gender sensitive approach, and we continue this battle, in face of new patterns in the context of mixed migration.

Israel dedicates great resources towards identifying victims of trafficking among its immigrant population in order to provide them with the appropriate assistance and protection. We find that together with research and monitoring of vulnerable populations and new patterns, one of the crucial ways of increasing identification and ensuring effective protection is by maintaining full awareness of the phenomena and conducting training sessions for different officials. Accordingly, we encourage and support training sessions, for a variety of government officials, including prosecutors, labor inspector's, social workers, judges, as well as raising awareness of the wider public.

I thank you Mr. President.