

## UN Human Rights Council 39th Session, Item 3 – September 2018

## ID with SR the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence on SA on Prevention of Genocide

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

Thank you, Mr. President,

We welcome the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, and the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide. We would like to focus our brief intervention on the issue of prevention of genocide.

Mr. President,

Genocide is without any doubts, the worst of all international crimes. Thus, any action or policy that could potentially contribute to the prevention of future acts of genocide should be of highest priority and implemented.

Some of the results of World War II and the Holocaust are actually the creation of the UN and the adoption of key human rights conventions and humanitarian law instruments, so that all States could work together to prevent other genocide from ever happening again. Yet, it has happened.

Mr. President,

We need to learn the lessons of history, of World War II and the Holocaust and therefore believe that education is a key tool for the prevention of genocide. It is our responsibility to educate from an early age, to accept each other with no discrimination and to combat incitement and hatred. Thus, fighting intolerance and Antisemitism is a responsibility of all States. If we want to prevent genocide for happening again, we need to invest in the future generations. There is no possible shortcut to take. The whole international community, governments and societies, must commit not to allow it from ever happening again.

I thank you Mr. President.