

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

ID with SR on the implication for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of Hazardous substances and wastes

Delivered by Ms. Merav Marks, Legal Advisor

Thank you, Mr. President,

We would like to thank the Special Rapporteur on the implication for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of Hazardous substances and wastes for the very interesting and important report.

We share the Special Rapporteur's view of the importance of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and its specific goal to ensure decent work for all.

Mr. President,

As a member of the WHO and numerous relevant International Rights instruments, Israel is committed to the protection of Human Rights and sees great importance in providing a safe working environment. According to Israel's law, employers are obligated to frequently inspect and examine the exposure of their employers to dangerous substances. Furthermore, employers are obligated to publish the results of the examination in a way that will be accessible to all employees. In order to prevent exposure, employers are obligated to provide protective equipment.

The legislation in Israel also demands employers to explain all the safety and health risks that are incorporated in the employee's job during the process of admission to the work place, orally and in writing, and to make sure that the employee fully understands the risks.

Israel also gives high priority and consideration to the right of the public to know. In this regard, the Israel Ministry of Environmental Protection holds all research and environmental data and facts open to the public on the website. It also provides the mechanism to request additional information.

Finally, health condition that arises from exposure to hazardous substances in the work place is considered a working accident by the Israeli Social Services and the employee will be entitled to financial assistance and benefits.

I thank you Mr. President.