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**UN Human Rights Council**  
**40<sup>th</sup> Session, Item 3 – March 4, 2019**

**Annual Full Day Meeting on the Rights of the Child – Panel 1**

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Legal Advisor

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Thank you, Mr. President.

Israel would like to thank the panelists for their valuable contribution on a very timely and important issue.

Israel is highly committed to its obligations under the CRPD and invests a lot of time and efforts in ensuring the integration of children with disabilities into society also through access to education. Accordingly, the *Special Education Law* establishes the right of every person with disabilities between the ages of 3 to 21 to receive free special education services, to integrate into the general education system and to receive the same services as the general population.

In order to allow a productive integration the law also obligates educational institutions, to create an individualized educational program, to allocate additional teaching hours and special services, to increase the educational staff and to provide adoptable transportation to and from school, amongst others,.

Moreover, according to the Equal Rights Law and Israel Ministry of Education guidelines, schools are to be made accessible on an individual basis for students or parents with disabilities and for that aim a child with disabilities is entitled to register a year prior to other pupils.

Finally, last September, 5 new schools were opened in different cities across Israel, as a pilot, with the aim of full integration of children with disabilities in the general education programs, on the basis of equality. These schools are fully accessible and equipped with special rooms and spaces to facilitate different needs, the classes are small with regards to the number of students, and the educational staff receives courses and tools in order to better adjust specific educational programs.

Israel is aiming to expand this pilot in the future to more schools in its public education system.

I thank you Mr. President.