

---

**UN Human Rights Council**  
**40<sup>th</sup> Session, Item 3 – March 6, 2019**

**Annual Debate: Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

Delivered by Adv. Merav Marks,  
Legal Advisor

---

Thank you, Mr. President.

Israel would like to thank the panelists for their presentations on the habilitation and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, which is a fundamental element in their capability to integrate into society and to live a fruitful, productive and meaningful life.

Israel puts many efforts, time and resources on the integration of persons with disabilities into society and in their ability to contribute to society and to live to their full potential. Here are just a few examples.

The Israel Ministry of Labor, social affairs and social services has developed a guideline for businesses on the integration of people with disabilities into the workplace.

Furthermore, considering the significant importance of the habilitation and integration of children with disabilities, 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.

Moreover, based on an agreement signed between the Ministry of Finance and the National Insurance Institute, state funds provides various benefits to people with lower body impairments that limit their mobility, with the aim of helping them to integrate into the community and develop an independent life.

As for Israeli innovations, I wish to mention a medical project called "ReAbility Online" that is performed at the Sheba Medical Center Rehabilitation Hospital in Israel for the remote rehabilitation of patients with brain injuries as a result of stroke, trauma and other diseases. The system enables rehabilitation treatments performed at the patient's home and accompanied by a professional team.

Finally, people with disabilities who were injured are eligible for vocational rehabilitation from the National insurance institute of Israel which includes a therapeutic process and rehabilitation services. They are also eligible for funding of basic expenses entailed in the rehabilitation process as well as funding of studies and the examination process.

I thank you Mr. President.