
**UN Human Rights Council
41st Session, Item 3 – June 27, 2019**

**ID with the Working Group on
Discrimination against Women in the law and in practice**

Thank you, Mr. President.

We wish to thank the Working Group on discrimination against women in the law and practice for focusing on the important issue of Women deprived of liberty.

Israel fully agrees with the Working Group that there is an eminent need to analyze and deal with the root causes for discrimination against women in Society that ultimately causes the deprivation of their liberty such as gendered social norms and stereotypes. Since its establishment, Israel has dedicated time, efforts and resources to achieve gender-based equality, beginning with the Equal Rights for Women Law from 1951 which includes the recognition of full and equal rights for women in the judicial system, in the entitlement of property, equality in the world of work and equality for education, health, housing and social prosperity.

While there is still work left to be done, Israel wishes to share some of its good practices that have allowed significant progress in achieving this important goal.

In 2017, the Asylum requests regulation have been updated to include a designated section entitled "Gender Sensitivity in the process of refugee status determination " with the aim of highlighting gender sensitivities and acknowledging that gender is an important attribute in asylum requests and their processing.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Education holds gender programs for girls from the Arab, Bedouin and Druze communities on prevention of early marriage, in order to develop self-empowerment and increase awareness to equal opportunities and freedom of choice, and providing academic and professional guidance.

To allow this, the Ministry of Education holds an annual seminar for teachers for the Bedouin community on this issue. Two years ago, the program was updated in accordance to feedback from the ground to include preparation for employment life among Bedouin boys and girls, assuming that selecting an occupation is highly effected by perception of genders.

Finally, in 2014 Israel has adopted a government resolution deciding on a gradual gender analysis of the state budgets, that today enables policy makers to improve the budget allocation and create a gender responsive budget .

I thank you, Mr. President.