
UN Human Rights Council
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Annual Full Day discussion on the human rights of women
Panel 1

Thank you, Mr. President.

Israel would like to thank the panelists for their valuable contribution on a very important issue that requires the attention of the entire international community.

Israel attaches great importance to the protection of workers and employers in the world of work from violence and harassment as a whole. The ability to work is a fundamental right to ensure dignity and inclusion, and therefore the safety of employee, especially women and girls, must be kept and enhanced. Israel, therefore, has been very active in the ILO recent negotiations that resulted just a few days ago in the adoption of a convention and recommendations to make sure such protection is provided.

The issue of gender based Violence in the world of work, in particular against women, is of even greater importance and is a challenge that Israel deals with very closely and constantly creates tools- legal, organizational and others- to combat it.

Accordingly, Israel was one of the leading States in the negotiations of the first of its kind UN Resolution on Preventing and Eliminating Sexual Harassment in the Workplace, which was adopted in March 2017. The Resolution condemns all forms of sexual harassment, especially against women and girls, including harassment in the workplace, and emphasizes the need to take all necessary measures to prevent and eliminate such harassment.

Mr. President,

Israel legislation with regards to sexual harassment in general and in the world of work in particular puts obligation on the employer not only to fully investigate any case of sexual harassment but also to put an emphasize on prevention by raising awareness,

establishing specific investigation mechanisms, appointing a designated person to deal with complaints and more.

Israel also takes measures to tackle other forms of violence in the world of work. Accordingly, based on the Israeli Basic Law: Human Dignity and Liberty, labor courts in Israel have acknowledges harassment in the work place as an offence that casts financial compensation obligation on the employer. In cases where the harassment was done against an employee of employment agencies, liability will accede to both the agency and the employer de facto.

Israel will continue to devote efforts to this important subject.

We thank you Mr. President.