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**UN Human Rights Council**  
**41<sup>st</sup> Session, Item 3 – June 28, 2019**

**Clustered ID with the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and  
Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons**

Delivered by Adv. Dina Dominitz  
Israel's National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator

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Thank you Mr. President,

We wish to thank the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, for her important and significant report;

Israel recognizes the importance of the notion of social inclusion in relation to trafficked victims, as the ultimate goal and vigorously upholds a victim-centered and human-rights based approach by investing many efforts into ensuring that the voice of victims is heard at all stages, empowering them and fully respecting their human rights.

Accordingly, Israel provides broad protection and aid measures to trafficking victims including by providing state-funded shelters, for male and female victims of all forms of trafficking, psychosocial therapy, full access to free medical treatment, access to employment and appropriate working visas; and state funded Legal Aid.

Furthermore, since 2016 Israel operates a dedicated Forfeiture Fund for the compensation and assistance to victims of trafficking for diverse causes such as dental care, housing, psychological therapy and vocational training.

Israel has reached significant and outstanding achievements in combating human trafficking – especially the dramatic decrease to full eradication of the severe form of trafficking in women for the purpose of prostitution that was prevalent during the previous decade. These real accomplishments are due to the determined and consistent action of the Israeli government, together with strong collaborations forged with the civil society and the International bodies and organizations, and is recognized globally as a leader in this field, thus, for example, last week, in the nineteenth annual TIP Report US State Department ranked Israel in the first tier, for the 8th year running.

Mr. President,

On January 2019, the Israeli Government approved a new 5-year national plan for combating trafficking dealing with all fields of exploitation and especially on labor trafficking, slavery and forced labor. The plan emphasizes the use of criminal enforcement, as well as strengthening enforcement and prosecution in cyber realm and the business sector. The plan further emphasizes the importance of international cooperation and expanding partnerships with new actors – while stressing the importance of continuing cooperation with NGOs.

This Friday, Israel and Germany will host a side event to present its unique training for judges, in collaboration with the US Department of State, OSCE, UNODC, ILO and the Israeli Courts Administration to increase the role of judges in combating human trafficking.

Israel strives to continue joining the global community to end modern slavery in all its ugly forms.

I thank you, Mr. President .