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Item 3
ID WG on Discrimination Against Women and Girls

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Thank you, Madam President.

Israel wishes to thank the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls for a very important and relevant report.

The data included in the Working Group's report shows the long way we still have to go to achieve a world of equal opportunities and rights for women in all lines of work and professions.

The report also considers the use of technologies, highlighting the problems that could rise from their use, together with the benefits they could bring, and therefore allows a more in-depth examination of the way such developments should be used and implemented.

Madam President,

Israel is working to ensure equality for women in the world of work. In 2008, Israel enacted *the Law for the encouragement of inclusion and promotion of women at work and of computability of the working place for women*. This law seeks to provide incentives to employers who ensure inclusion and compatibility for women, including, among others, flexible working hours, childcare and nurseries in the work place and priority in promotion for management positions.

Furthermore, the *Women Labor Law* provides full protection for women who are pregnant, during maternity leave and while staying at a shelter for their protection from domestic violence, from having their work conditions worsened or their work terminated.

The report also highlights the increase in domestic violence which has become a second pandemic during this time. In this context, the Israeli Labor Ministry developed "the silent call" which allows women to send a text message to a special hotline in case of violence where a phone call is not an option.

Madam President,

Israel shares the view that the pandemic has harmed employees all over the world, and has a specific negative impact on the most vulnerable groups, including women. Given that, in Israel, according to the regulations an employer cannot worsen the conditions or terminate work for parents who are required to stay at home with their children.

I thank you Madam President.