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**UN Human Rights Council**  
**47<sup>th</sup> Session – Item 3 – June 2021**

**ID with Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially  
women and children**

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Madam President,

Israel wishes to thank the Special Rapporteur for her report on the important issue of the implementation of the non-punishment principle.

Israel agrees that punishment of victims undermines the fight against impunity for trafficking in persons. Israel acknowledges that the harsh conditions that a person who is a victim to trafficking needs to face, might have a direct impact on his or hers ability to avoid committing acts in violation of the law, especially when acting under the demand of their abusers.

Madam president,

In order to combat impunity in this area and to promote the Non Punishment Principle: in 2017, the Israeli State Attorney's Office published guidelines dealing with Prosecution of Victims of the Offences of Trafficking in Persons, Slavery, and Forced Labor. According to the guidelines and as a rule, if the offence is found to be related, by its nature, to the suspect being a victim of trafficking, slavery and forced labor, and under meeting the conditions in the guidelines, it will be a consideration against indicting them for the offence.

A specific implementation of this policy is also stipulated in the State Attorney Guideline dealing with the enforcement policy of offences related to prostitution. Thus, the guidelines lay out a non-prosecution policy for victims of all patterns of trafficking and slavery. They are widely circulated among relevant enforcement bodies, including bodies who manage administrative sanctions like the Population and Immigration authority, and have been integrated into trainings.

Israel remains strongly committed to the elimination of the horrible practices of trafficking in persons, forced labor and modern slavery in all its forms.

Thank you.