

# UN Human Rights Council 48th Session, 15 September 2021

## Item 3: ID SR on Water and Sanitation

Adv. Merav Marks Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations in Geneva

## Thank you Madam President,

Israel wishes to thank the special rapporteur for his report which highlights the serious situation the world faces with regards to access to clean water and sanitation.

There is no doubt that the COVID- 19 pandemic has had a critical impact globally, and the fact that there are still so many people without access to clean water and sanitation, makes the ability to fight the pandemic, very limited.

### Madam President,

Israel is highly committed to the fulfillment of the SDGs. The work done in Israel in order to achieve them is interdisciplinary and involves Government authorities as well as a wide range of civil society organizations and other stakeholders. Goal no. 6, ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, is no different.

Israel is one of the most advanced states with regards to solutions and building of emergency systems for the efficient supplement of healthy water, sanitation and protection of water resources, mainly through the technology of desalination.

As part of Israel's effort to cope with the crises of clear water supplies around the world and toward the fulfillment of the SDGs, Israel, through MASHAV- Israel's agency for international development cooperation, is teaching its water technologies around the world. Just last year MASHAV designed a series of online lectures covering a wide selection of aspects and challenges sharing Israel's experience in the field.

Furthermore, through the agency, Israel's diplomats organize missions of water experts to different areas around the world. These missions help develop new solutions for access to clean water and sanitation and organized seminars and courses for local officials, among other things.

### Thank you.