

UN Human Rights Council 48th Session

Advisory Committee – Human Rights and Terrorism

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

Madam President,

Israel wishes to thank the Advisory Committee for its report on Terrorism.

Israel is, unfortunately, no stranger to the devastating effects of terrorism. We have had to grapple with thousands of terror attacks ever since our independence. Therefore, Israel has developed expertise and shares its experience, best practices and technologies in this field of counter-terrorism, while respecting human rights, with the international community.

Madam President,

There is no doubt that terrorism affects and violates human rights. Israel has pointed this time and again in this Council. As a member of the Group of Friends of Victims of terrorism in NY, Israel supports the UN Global Counter-terrorism Strategy and supports the efforts to bring the issue of the victims to the fore.

Israel has a Compensation Act for Victims of Hostilities since 1970 and a robust social security mechanism to address all needs of victims of terror attacks and their families. Including financed medical, physical, psychological and mental health needs; education and assistance in employment; funds for housing and much more.

Unfortunately, until the international community recognizes Hamas as the terrorist organization it is, and Iran as its main supporter and financer, there will be no remedy for the Israeli victims of terrorist attacks.

The UN must cease to embrace States and entities that glorify terrorists and reward acts of terrorism. It must cease its silence as terrorists and their families are rewarded for murderous violence. Such policies encourage terrorism and the governments and entities that implement them should be condemned.

Thank you.