
UN Human Rights Council
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**Item 3 - Annual Interactive Debate on the
Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

Mr. Brian E. Frenkel, Adv.
Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs Adviser, Permanent Mission of Israel to the UN in Geneva

Mr. President,

Israel thanks the panelists for their presentations.

The obligation under article 31 of the CRPD is not a mere formality, but on the contrary, requires precise action to obtain proper information regarding the situation and needs of persons with disabilities. This aims to have appropriate data to guide the decision-making process. Thus, a failure on procuring this data only reinforces the invisibilization that persons with disabilities suffer from.

In Israel, the Central Bureau of Statistics collects data regarding persons with disabilities living in the community as part of its data collection on the general Israeli population. For the purposes of conducting surveys and national census of the population, the definition of a person with disabilities is based on recommendations of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics.

In this context, persons who are interviewed by the Central Bureau of Statistics are asked if they have had an impairment or health problem during the previous six months or more, and to what extent this interferes with their daily activities. Persons with disabilities are also asked based on a disaggregated questionnaire, information such as the specific functions affected by the disability. The data gathered by the Central Bureau of Statistics is published and accessible to all, including researchers in the field.

Moreover, this information is used by the Commission for Equal Rights of persons with disabilities, in order to produce updated and detailed statistical data reports on the situation of persons with disabilities in Israel. These reports are published periodically in an accessible format.

As shown, Israel recognizes great importance on data collection, to inform its decision and policies to promote the rights of persons with disabilities and achieve equality.

Thank you, Mr. President.