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**UN Human Rights Council**  
**49<sup>th</sup> Session, 28 March 2022**

**Item 9 – General Debate**

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Thank you, Mr. President.

The struggle against racism stands at the very foundation of the UN. The organization should embrace and strengthen everyone in their pursuit of equality and non-discrimination. However, to this day, the UN has still not adopted an official action plan to combat antisemitism.

Therefore, Israel strongly supports a system-wide action plan to counter antisemitism, as is being promoted by the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, and calls for the UN to adopt it as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, some delegations in this Council continue to deny the legitimacy of Israel as the nation state of the Jewish people, as recognized by the General Assembly in Resolution 181 of 1947. No other state has its existence continuously contested, and its sovereignty and physical integrity ever attacked and threatened, in words as well as in deeds, solely because of its identity.

This, Mr. President, is antisemitism – and it is not surprising that the state leading this effort is also the only state that disassociated itself from the adoption, by the GA, of Resolution 76/250, on Holocaust Denial.

The Holocaust reminds us what levels of barbarity can be generated by racism and antisemitism, and its memory must continue to guide us in seeking a world where anything similar is inconceivable. Therefore, it is disappointing – albeit symptomatic – that last January, only four mandate holders saw it fit to join a News Release celebrating the International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

I thank you, Mr. President.