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**UN Human Rights Council**  
**51<sup>st</sup> Regular Session, 12 September 2022**

**Item 2 – Enhanced ID on Human Rights Situation of Women and  
Girls in Afghanistan**

Ms. Adi Farjon Israel  
Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations in Geneva

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Mr. President,

Israel is extremely concerned about the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan. A year on from the Taliban takeover, the women and girls of Afghanistan's worst fears have sadly become reality.

Girl's secondary schools have been closed across the country, forcing 850,000 girls out of school. Early marriage has increased. The lives and dreams of these girls have been hijacked, and the international community cannot allow it to continue unchallenged.

Israel is also gravely concerned over the high levels of violence against women and girls in Afghanistan, including domestic violence, and the collapse of mechanisms for victims and survivors to seek protection, support and accountability. It is also concerned over reports that women human rights defenders and protestors have been harassed, detained and beaten on the streets.

Mr. President,

The women of Afghanistan do not deserve to be imprisoned in their homes, without work or education. They do not deserve to be oppressed and erased from society. By March 2022, 61 percent of women had lost their jobs in Taliban ruled Afghanistan. 265 women judges were removed and female civil servants have been told to stay at home. Women who continue to work face daily harassment and abuse.

Mr. President,

The Human Rights Council must not sit idly by while the Taliban systemically attack Women and Girls Rights. We must continue to give a platform to Afghan Women and Girls. We must ensure they can continue to raise their voices and be heard.

I thank you.