

Statement on behalf of the State of Israel

UN Human Rights Council UPR WORKING GROUP 24th SESSION

<u>Sierra Leone</u>

Thank you, Mr. President.

We warmly welcome the delegation of Sierra Leone and thank them for their report presented before us today, which is the result of extensive consultations, including the government as well as civil society.

Israel would like to praise Sierra Leone for the ongoing process of review process of its Constitution.

Additionally, Israel commends Sierra Leone for the following measures adopted by the government in recent years:

- The adoption of laws, such as the Persons with Disability Act 2011, Right to Access to Information Act 2013 and the Sexual Offences Act 2012.
- The approval of different National plans, including the so called "Agenda for Prosperity" (AFP), the National Gender Strategic Plan, the Social Health Insurance Scheme and the National Child Welfare Policy
- The many measures taken to combat HIV/AIDS.

Additionally, Israel would like to recommend Sierra Leone the following:

- 1. To speed up the review process of its constitution, and to include special considerations regarding equality between men and women.
- 2. To implement measures to ensure the full enjoyment of rights by persons with disabilities, especially regarding inclusive education.
- 3. To continue its efforts to facilitate a greater participation and representation of women in public offices and in higher levels of decision-making positions.
- 4. To adopt measures to prevent, punish and eradicate violence against women.

Thank you.