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**Statement on behalf of the State of Israel**  
**UN Human Rights Council**  
**UPR WORKING GROUP 26th SESSION – October 2016**

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**Syria**

Thank you Mr. President.

Mr. President, let me get straight to the point: The national report presented by Syria is a nonsensical document. It paints an imaginary picture of a country where the only human rights violations are perpetrated by others. The report tells us a story of a country run by a responsible government, which guarantees its citizen's freedom of expression and their right of assembly. However, this fairy tale will hardly convince the 300 thousand Syrians killed in a bloody civil war, mostly responsible by the regime.

Israel is appalled by the human rights situation in Syria and by the atrocities perpetrated by its regime. A government that gasses its own people, annihilates them with barrel bombs, murders detainees and uses siege and starvation as a tactic of war.

Allowing the Iranian regime, with its notorious record of human rights violations, as well as the terrorist organization Hezbollah, to kill Syrian civilians, is another evidence for the cruelty of the Syrian regime and its disregard for human rights.

Mr. President, in light of this hallucinatory national report it is difficult to imagine that the Syrian regime will ever implement the guidelines behind the main idea of the UPR process. But we believe that this review process should demand real answers to real questions.

Israel has the following recommendations to the Syrian regime:

1. To investigate the torture and death of 18,000 detainees in its prisons since March 2011, and publish a clear and transparent report on the subject.
2. To investigate the numerous cases of aerial bombardments, using barrel bombs, cluster ammunition, and attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, and to prosecute those responsible.
3. To adopt measures against those responsible for any use of chemical weapons and hold them accountable.

Thank you, Mr. President.