

## Statement on behalf of the State of Israel

## UN Human Rights Council UPR WORKING GROUP 26th SESSION – October 2016

## **Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

Thank you Mr. President,

Israel thanks Venezuela for the report presented before us today.

During the last cycle, Israel presented three recommendations to Venezuela, referring to the independence of the judiciary, persecution of HRDs and people who dissent with the government, excessive use of force and threats to witnesses, among other issues.

Unfortunately, they were all noted. Since then, the situation has only worsened, with more impunity and denial of justice spreading, as shown by the denunciation of the American Convention on Human Rights.

Israel would like to recommend Venezuela the following:

- 1. To adopt measures to ensure that people can change their legally recognized gender without sex-reassignment surgery.
- 2. To prevent all forms of discrimination, especially discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, ensuring equal treatment particularly in schools, health services and the armed forces.
- To adopt legislation to punish dissemination of ideas based on racial hatred or superiority, incitement to racial discrimination or any racially motivated act of violence, as recommended by the CERD.
- 4. To ensure inclusive education in line with the CRPD.

Thank you.