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**UPR Working Group  
36<sup>th</sup> Session, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

**Panama**

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Israel welcomes the delegation of Panama to the UPR, and would like to thank it for its National Report.

From the outset, Israel would like to congratulate Panama for its remarkable progress, since its last UPR, in the fight for eliminating trafficking in persons. We commend the progress in preventing and punishing trafficking offences, particularly in reforming the relevant institutional framework, as well as improving the care and attention given to trafficking victims and survivors.

Looking forward, Israel would like to **recommend Panama the following:**

- (i) To adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination in all its forms, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity;**
- (ii) to commit to ensuring respect for the right to equality and non-discrimination of LGBTI persons;**

Finally, Israel commends Panama for enacting important legal instruments for combatting violence against women. We **recommend that (iii) this issue be further addressed from a criminal perspective, including by bolstering law enforcement and judicial persecutions.**

Israel would like to take this opportunity to wish Panama much success in its Review, and that its conclusions contribute to the advancement of human rights in the country.

Thank you,