

Statement on behalf of the State of Israel UPR WORKING GROUP

37th Session

Review of Lebanon

Madam President,

Since the last cycle of the UPR, the Iranian proxy Hezbollah has tightened its grip on the Lebanese state.

This terror organization continues to use Lebanese civilians as human shields, including storing explosives in arms depots in built up areas of Beirut. It acts in complete disregard of human life and in violation of UN Security Council Resolutions.

It also recruits children as young as 11 to fight alongside the murderous regime in Syria. This abhorrent practice is in direct violation of the CRC

We are also extremely concerned with the use of excessive force and ill-treatment of protestors by militias and security forces.

We would like to recommend the following:

- 1. Adopt all necessary steps to ensure the safety of peaceful protests and provide an environment void of fear, intimidation and violence.
- 2. Immediately end the recruitment of child soldiers by armed groups and ratify the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict.
- 3. Immediately implement Security Council resolutions 1559 and 1701 by disbanding and disarming all militias and terrorist entities, in particular Hezbollah, so that security and stability can be restored.

Thank you.