



PERMANENT MISSION OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN GENEVA

## Statement on behalf of the State of Israel

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### UN Human Rights Council THE UPR WORKING GROUP 18<sup>th</sup> SESSION Consideration of UPR Reports

### Report of the UPR Working Group on SLOVAKIA

Thank you, Mr. President.

The State of Israel welcomes the Government of Slovakia and its delegation, and thanks them for its engagement with the UPR process and the report presented before us today.

We value Slovakia's improvements in the field of human rights and the progress achieved as a safe multi-cultural environment, suitable to preserve and promote the development of ethnic minorities. In particular, Israel would like to congratulate Slovakia for establishing a Government Plenipotentiary on National Minorities aimed at institutional strengthening of national minorities, which undoubtedly serves as a concrete step towards implementing all recommendations made in this regard.

Israel commends Slovakia for its efforts towards protecting the rights of the Roma people, promoting integration in the field of housing, health and employment, since we recognize that the situation of Roma remains a sensitive and challenging one for the Slovak Government. In this regard, and with the purpose of combating this issue in its earliest stages, Israel **recommends** Slovakia introduces a clear duty on all schools to de-segregate education to end discrimination against Romani children.

Thank you, Mr. President.