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**Statement on behalf of the State of Israel**

**UPR WORKING GROUP-**

**37th Session**

Review of **Australia**

Israel warmly welcomes the delegation from Australia and thanks it for its National Report.

We commend Australia for its special effort during COVID-19 regarding age discrimination. Israel congratulates Australia for appointing a Minister for Disabilities and increasing its budget to tackle the needs of persons with disabilities.

We also commend Australia for its efforts since the last cycle regarding women and girls, including the withdrawal of its reservations of CEDAW on women in combat roles. We would like to welcome the work of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women for her role in addressing these issues.

We would like to recommend the following:

(1) To adopt measures to continue to address age discrimination at all levels to increase the participation of older persons.

(2) Continue to work on ending discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity including launching awareness-raising campaigns and training of public officials.

Israel wishes Australia a successful UPR.