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

**UPR WORKING GROUP – 42nd SESSION**

**30 January 2023**

Review of Zambia

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

Israel commends Zambia for introducing free education from early childhood to Secondary level. Israel also is encouraged by the fact that Zambia has committed to promoting and protecting the rights of persons with albinism. In this regard, Israel welcomes the appointment of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by Persons with Albinism, who is from the state concerned.

However, Israel is concerned that persons with albinism continue to experience killings, extreme violence, discrimination, and limited access to health care and education. Israel is also concerned that abortion and same-sex relations continue to be criminalized.

In this context, Israel would like to recommend that Zambia:

1. Combat violence and discrimination against persons with albinism
2. Decriminalize abortion and take measures to ensure that all women have access to legal abortion and high quality post-abortion services.
3. End the criminalization of same-sex relations.

I thank you.