**U.S. Statement at the Universal Periodic Review of Israel,**

**43rd Session, May 9, 2023**

**Delivered by Ambassador Michèle Taylor**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The United States welcomes the delegation of Israel.

We recommend that Israel:

1. Ensure human rights and other non-governmental organizations can operate freely, and refrain from any financial or legal restrictions that may impede their work.
2. Conduct thorough, transparent, and credible investigations of any acts of violence in Israel and the West Bank, and hold accountable all perpetrators thereof, irrespective of the identity of the perpetrators or the victims.
3. Ensure the continued independence and impartiality of the judiciary.

We recognize the security challenges faced by Israel, including from terrorist groups, and support Israel’s right to protect its citizens in accordance with international law.

We wish Israel a successful UPR.

I thank you.