**Statement by the delegation of Nepal**

**UPR of the Israel**

**29th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**23 January 2018**

Mr. President,

Nepal warmly welcomes the delegation of Israel to this UPR.

We appreciate various measures undertaken by Israel in promoting and protecting human rights, eliminating discriminations, and implementing recommendations from its previous UPR cycle.

The participation of women in politics and in positions of decision-making is on an increasing trend, indicating Israel’s success in achieving increased gender equality. Establishment of a Ministerial Committee on Social Equality in 2015 has institutionalized gender equality in various aspects of life. Efforts in protecting and promoting human rights of persons with disabilities and ensuring the rights of minorities deserve appreciation. We want Israel to achieve further success in protecting the rights of minorities through effective measures such as ‘living together program’ and ‘Ya Salam’.

We commend the efforts put by Israel to protect the rights of migrant workers through the promotion of ethical recruitment and equality in condition of employment. Their continued fight to stop trafficking in persons by opening up regular and orderly channel of migration by signing bilateral agreements with sending countries has remained exemplary. We encourage Israel to continue such practice and make migration a win-win for everybody.

While wishing Israel a successful review, we would like to recommend the following for their consideration:

1. Establish a national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles.
2. Continue its efforts to combat domestic and gender-based violence against women.

Thank you.