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**Universal Periodic Review**

**29th**

**Session**

**(15 – 26 January 2018)**

**Albania Intervention on the Third Cycle of the UPR of Israel**

**Geneva, 23rd of January 2018**

**-Check against delivery-**

Mr. President,

Albania warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Israel for their comprehensive national report presented today.

We commend Israel’s commitment to promote and protect human rights, in line with the recommendations of UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies and its full cooperation with UNSG Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process.

Albania applauds unwavering dedication to gender-based equality which is translated in the increasing participation of women in the public spheres like assuming high-ranking positions in the politics and in the judiciary system.

We note the progress on the fight against trafficking in persons, and we would like to know more on the active role and global efforts in this field and your experience at domestic and international level.

Albania would like to make the following recommendations:

* To become a party to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
* To consider issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council;

In conclusion, Albania would like to wish to the delegation of Israel a very successful review during this cycle.

Thank you,