



Mission permanente d'Israël  
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies  
et des Organisations Internationales à Genève

משלחת ישראל  
ליד משרד האומות המאוחדות  
והארגונים הבינלאומיים בג'נבה

*Check against Delivery*

Statement by Mr. Walid Abu-Haya  
Permanent Mission of Israel  
To the United Nations, Geneva

Human Rights Council Review  
Second Session of the Open-Ended Working Group  
Special Procedures

17 February 2011

Thank you.

Mr. President,

From the very beginning of this review process, Israel sought to preserve the independence and the integrity of the Special Procedure and to protect their work from any state interference. We have done so because we believe that the Special Procedures contribute the necessary element of expertise in human rights to the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council.

We overall support the provisions found in Section II of the Negotiating Text, aside from a few necessary editorial revisions, with the following exceptions:

In line with our earlier statements, during the negotiations on the text relating to the UPR and with regard to the human rights records of sitting Member States we would like to propose language for a new paragraph to be inserted after paragraph 28 of subsection B of the text:

It will read: "Any sitting member state of the Human Rights Council shall allow special procedure mandate holders to visit the country during its membership in the event such a request so arises".

36) In order to enhance the accountability of special procedures while fully respecting their independence, the Council shall make better use of and further develop the procedure established by the President's Statement 8/PRST/2 to provide for effective implementation of the Code of Code. In paragraph 36 of this section we propose to strike from the text the language "and further develop". We believe that this language goes beyond the intent of the President's Statement 8/PRST/2 and it therefore does not enjoy our support.

**I thank you.**