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Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 84<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Israel, pursuant to Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 16, 18 and 30 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/ISR/CO/14-16), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> periodic report during its 80<sup>th</sup> session in February 2012.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues to be included in its combined 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> periodic reports to be submitted in a single document on 2 February 2016.

Paragraph 16 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee thanks the State party for its precise response, and takes note of the fact that several of the laws and bills discussed as discriminatory during the constructive dialogue with the State party appear to be currently under review by the Supreme Court of Israel. It regrets however the lack of further measures by the State party regarding indirect discrimination that non-Jewish communities face concerning military service benefits. The Committee requests the State party to include updated information on the outcome of these reviews in its next periodic report.

His Excellency Mr. Eviatar Manor Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations Office and other International organizations at Geneva Email: mission-israel@geneva.mfa.gov.il Paragraph 18 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee thanks the State party for its response, and express its regret at the State party's assessment that the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law (Temporary Provision) does not require further modification or revocation. The Committee reiterates to the State party its view that national security considerations do not preclude States parties to the Convention from ensuring full compliance with its provisions, and guaranteeing that persons living under their jurisdiction do not suffer from discrimination based on race, origin or ethnicity.

Paragraph 30 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee thanks the State party for its response and once again encourages it to consider the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families as a priority, and strive to respect its international obligations regarding non-citizens, including asylum-seekers, refugees and migrant workers. The Committee requests that the State party include updated information on the situation of these groups in its next periodic report.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Israel, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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José Francisco Calí Tzay Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination