

## **ISRAEL**

Honorable Chair, distinguished delegates, it is a great honor for me to take part in the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and I would like to thank the UNODC for its organization.

I also wish to thank the Japanese Government for hosting the Congress, as well as for their relentless efforts to achieve consensus on the Kyoto Declaration. Israel views the Kyoto Deceleration as an important international instrument.

As the Attorney General and the head of the public prosecution in Israel, I take great pride in Israel's independent and robust judicial system, which is a basic condition to ensure the **rule of law** - a cornerstone of the Israeli democracy. Our judicial system is headed by the High Court of Justice, which is globally renowned. The Israeli public prosecution plays a pivotal role in ensuring the **rule of law** and **protection from crime and corruption**.

In the past few years Israel had enhanced its efforts on **crime prevention**. We have shown unwavering commitment to promote changes and adopt new tools in order to **prevent crime**, for example in relation to **cybercrime and trafficking in persons**.

**Cybercrime** is a great challenge we are facing in recent years, as almost every conceivable type of crime has been transformed into the cyberspace. In order to combat this growing threat, Israeli law enforcement authorities are using different techniques, such as blocking access to illegal content, or its removal from the relevant online platform. In our efforts to fight cybercrime we work in cooperation with law enforcement authorities around the world.

Israel also continues to take a leading role in the global efforts to **combat trafficking in persons** and is recognized globally as a leader in this field. We reached outstanding achievements - especially the dramatic decrease to full eradication of the severe form of trafficking in women for the purpose of prostitution that was prevalent.

These accomplishments are due to the actions of the Israeli authorities, together with strong collaborations forged with civil society and international organizations.

I would like to conclude by reaffirming the strong cooperation between Israel and the UNODC, and to wish you all a productive session.