

**THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED
BY ISRAEL**

ARTICLE 10 UNCAC

PUBLIC REPORTING

ISRAEL (THIRTEENTH MEETING)

1. Article 10 of the Convention – Public reporting:

- A. The Freedom of Information Law 5758-1998 obliges the government to respond to requests for information filed by citizens. In January 2022, the Governmental Unit for Freedom of Information in the Ministry of Justice published Regulation number 13, regarding the manner in which to respond to requests for publication of the calendar of a public official. Among other things, the Regulation stipulates that submission of a calendar in response to a request, must be in a digital Excel format (that is, if the calendar is managed on Outlook, which allows the information to be exported). The obligation to respond in this manner is meant to enable easier processing and use of the information supplied in the response.
- B. In January 2015, the Governmental Unit for Freedom of Information published Regulation number 9, which requires the Supervisors of Public Access to Information in governmental units, to publish their responses to requests for information sent according to the Freedom of Information Law 5758-1998, on the website of the Governmental Unit for Freedom of Information (subject to limitations set in the Law for Protection of Privacy, 5741-1981). This includes also responses that contain a refusal to provide the information requested due to certain reasons outlined in the response – as these reasons are a matter of public interest. The requirement is meant to allow the public greater access to information, as the information, which previously was sent only to the filer of the request, is now public knowledge. See the responses published at: <https://foi.gov.il/he/search>.

THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY ISRAEL

ARTICLE 10 UNCAC

PUBLIC REPORTING

ISRAEL (SEVENTH MEETING)

In relation to public reporting (article 10), States parties and signatories may wish to provide information on measures that:

- *Make available online, including in open data formats, government information relating to the implementation of the Convention, in order to foster greater transparency, accountability and efficiency;*

Israel utilizes a number measures to make information available online and to promote the use of online platforms in order to foster greater transparency in public administration and to ensure accountability and efficiency in the decision-making process of the public administration, in accordance with Article 10 of the Convention.

The **Anti-Corruption Website** (www.corruption.justice.gov.il) – a website dedicated to combating corruption is available in both Hebrew and English through the homepage of the Ministry of Justice. The anti-corruption website provides relevant information about corruption fighting methods and transparency measures, and includes references to the Convention.

In addition, Israel agreed to publish its Country Review Report of the implementation by Israel of articles 15 – 42 of Chapter III “Criminalization and law enforcement” and articles 44 – 50 of Chapter IV “International cooperation” of the Convention on the UNODC website. At the time of the publication of the report, the Israel Ministry of Justice issued a press release, which included a link to the Report.

- *Promote the use of online platforms or portals to enhance transparency in public administration, including information on the organization, functioning and decision-making processes of the public administration and on decisions and legal acts.*

As outlined in Israel's submission for the sixth inter-sessional meeting of the Working Group, held in 2015, the **Freedom of Information Law**, 1998 (the "Freedom of Information Law") establishes the right of every citizen or resident to obtain information (any information that is written, recorded, filmed, photographed or computerised) held by public authorities – including State institutions, government offices, local authorities, statutory corporations, sporting associations and high level educational institutions.

The Freedom of Information Law provides that a public authority must grant a request for information, unless the disclosure of the information harms another interest such as state security, privacy interests in accordance with the Privacy Protection Law, 1981 or trade secrets.

The Freedom of Information Law imposes the following obligations on public authorities, which proactively make information available and allow members of the general public to obtain information on the organization, functioning and decision-

making processes of the public administration through information and communications technologies:

1. To publish its administrative guidelines (that relate to the public) online;
2. To publish information concerning relevant measures taken to protect the environment online;
3. To publish an annual freedom of information report online, setting out, amongst other things, the structure and roles of the public authority, its budget, its contact information, its activities for the previous year, its planned activities for the upcoming year, the laws that it is responsible for overseeing and information about its databases;
4. To handle freedom of information requests, in accordance with the arrangement set forth in the Freedom of Information Law.

Another example of proactive publication of information online without a special request is the obligation for all government offices to publish reports on the Freedom of Information website on a quarterly basis regarding their use of external suppliers—including the name of the supplier, price paid for the service, the purpose of the service and other information. The purpose of these reports is to allow the public to be able to access information on how taxpayers' money is being spent.