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Statement by

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Permanent Mission of Israel to the UN
and other International Organizations in Geneva

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Thank you, president,

I was not planning to speak, but am compelled to respond to statements made today.

We welcome the participation of diverse voices in our discussions by different organizations as long as they participate in a professional and non-political manner.

Repeating the term “genocide” does not create a reality in which Israel is committing such acts. To use the term in this way is to distort it beyond recognition.

The appalling suffering of civilians - both Israeli and Palestinian - is first and foremost the result of Hamas’ despicable strategy of systematically and unlawfully embedding its military operations within and beneath densely populated civilian areas.

Israel remains committed, as it has repeatedly affirmed and demonstrated, to acting in accordance with its rights and obligations under international law. This commitment is unwavering. Israel will continue to facilitate humanitarian assistance, and to do its utmost to keep civilians out of harm’s way.

Thank you,