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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

14 March 2014

Excellencies,

Thank you for your letter of 13 March 2014, in which you requested a postponement of the adoption of the outcome of the UPR of Israel as scheduled under item 6 before the HRC next week.

I raised this request with my Bureau this morning. Given the circumstances described in the letter and based on previous precedents, the Bureau would be ready to propose to the HRC to postponing the adoption of the outcome of the review for Israel to the last week of the HRC 25th session, specifically for the week of 24 March instead of the week of 17 March 2014.

This postponement, we trust, will enable your authorities to look at alternative forms of participation before the HRC, in the event that the strike which you refer to in your letter is not over at that time in order to meet your commitment for positions on all recommendations to be relayed no later than at the HRC 25th session.

Among such possible steps resorted to in previous circumstances, your authorities might wish to consider having a delegation outside of the Foreign Ministry represent Israel, or sending a video message or a written statement outlining Israel's positions on all the recommendations.

Were you to opt for the last option, as President of the HRC, I would be happy to read the statement out on your behalf.

However, please note that a postponement to a later stage was never granted in circumstances of this nature.

I look forward to hearing back from you on the above as soon as possible and preferably before Wednesday 19 March 2014.

Baudelaire Ndong Ella

President of the Human Rights Council

H.E. Mr. Eviatar Manor
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