

# ISRAEL

## HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement by

Mrs. Avnit RIFKIN

MASHAV- Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation

### **Review of SDG implementation**

### **SDG6- Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**

United Nations

9 July 2018

Thank you Mr. President.

Many efforts have been devoted to identifying a central factor for achieving sustainable development.

In this context, we believe that water is THE single most important component of human development.

A thirsty child cannot study properly regardless of the quality of his school.

A thirsty mother cannot care properly for her children regardless of the quality of the clinics that are built around her.

A thirsty cow cannot produce sufficient milk and a thirsty farmer will use his water to quench his children's thirst and not to irrigate his crops.

Where there will be water all other development factors will follow.

Since the early 1950s, Israel has invested in irrigation research, efficient water technologies, monitoring of water withdrawals, and technical assistance to farmers. Today, about 57 percent of our cultivated land is equipped for irrigation. We recycle nearly 90 percent of our wastewater, and our treated wastewater comprises approximately 30 percent of all agricultural water. Finally, around 75 percent of water consumed in Israel is the product of our environmentally friendly and efficient desalination facilities.

MASHAV – Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation combines the transfer of hands-on experience with modern technologies originating from leading Israeli experts and institutions.

This is the knowledge that we offer to share with fellow nations, joining hands in finding solutions for the benefit of peoples all over the world.

Thank you