

HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement by
Mrs. Galit COHEN
Deputy Director General, Ministry of Environmental Protection

Review of SDG implementation
SDG 12- Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

United Nations

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Thank you Mr. President,

As a leader in innovation, Israel is at the forefront of developing the technological solutions that can address some of the most pressing issues discussed here today.

We are working to change our government's role from one of regulating technology to also enabling its development; we want to help ideas and solutions survive the journey from R&D to commercialization.

We are applying our approach of disrupting specific moments in the technological lifecycle to improve sustainable consumption.

For example, a recent initiative that featured a collaborative effort between the private sector and public stakeholders to promote environmental technologies has already seen outstanding results. The program uses highly targeted interventions to support a number of different projects. In particular, this effort focuses on key areas, including the development and support for facilities to test new technologies, adapting the regulatory field to phase out barriers to operating these facilities, creating an innovation lab and increased support for R&D and exploring opportunities for international cooperation.

As part of this collaborative effort, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Innovation Authority will grant awards to promote research in the field of environmental technologies.

Beyond this example, we are continually enhancing our industry's environmental performance. We are strengthening Israeli industry and its competitiveness by streamlining resources by establishing more efficient ways for the public and private sectors to share information and expertise. In government, the Resource Efficiency Knowledge Center acts as an inter-ministerial agency, and the Industrial Symbiosis program provides industry with its own means of collaboration. The intent is for these efforts to focus on financing support investments in resource efficiency.

When it comes to responsible consumption and production, Israel has learned that a partnership between the public sector, private industry, and civil society is the best way to promote ideas and solutions.

Thank you.