Remarks by H.E. Mr. Danny Danon
Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations

Secretary General
President of the General Assembly
Ambassadors
distinguished guests.

Let me start by thanking the United Nation’s Holocaust Outreach Programme for organizing today’s memorial ceremony.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The holocaust the Shoah showed us humanity at its most evil and its most cruel hour.

This day of commemoration is an occasion to reflect on the past and to consider the message of the holocaust for the present.

I planned to come here to speak to you today about the importance of memory.

Remembering the unparalleled tragedy for the Jewish people, Remembering the millions who perished.

I wanted to discuss the critical lesson we learn from history.

That we must never bury our head in the sand in the face of extremism and anti-Semitism.

The main message of the speech I had prepared was that in order to remember… we must listen to the stories from the survivors themselves.

That is why I decided not to share my words with you and instead to invite a holocaust survivor from Jerusalem to represent Israel at this important event.

So I would like to invite, Ms. Martha Weiss, a resident of Jerusalem and a survivor of Auschwitz- Birkenau to address you today on behalf of the state of Israel and in the name of the Jewish people.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Ms. Martha Weiss