



ההסתדרות הציונית העולמית
WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

Resolution Proposals to the Plenary

**Extraordinary Zionist Congress
75th Anniversary of the Independence
of the State of Israel**

19-21.4.2023

Jerusalem

1 **Committee No. 1 – Declaration of Independence and the Jerusalem**
2 **Program**
3

4 **1.1 Anchoring the position of the Declaration of Independence in the Zionist**
5 **movement**

6 *Proposal submitted by Rabbi Sergio Bergman*
7 *On behalf of The World Union for Progressive Judaism*

8
9 **Whereas** the State of Israel, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary, was able to sign
10 at the time of its establishment a solemn document that clearly defines its character
11 as a Jewish and democratic state;

12 **And whereas** some of the foundations of Zionism, as defined in the World Zionist
13 Organization constitution, are the unity of the Jewish people:

14 *"In the fortification of Israel as a Zionist and democratic Jewish state, with unique*
15 *spiritual values based on mutual respect for the versatility of the Jewish people, a*
16 *model society that strives for peace and contributes to the correction of the world."*

17 **And whereas** Zionism is a movement that defends the basic principles of justice,
18 equality and democracy and rejects discrimination on the grounds of origin,
19 nationality or race or gender or sexual orientation, and committed to the founding
20 document of the State of Israel, the Declaration of Independence;

21 **Therefore, in honor of Israel's 75th jubilee, the Zionist Congress resolves:**

- 22 1. The Declaration of Independence is one of the central, founding documents of
23 the Zionist movement.
- 24 2. In each of the offices of the World Zionist Organization, in Israel and abroad,
25 the Declaration of Independence will be displayed, alongside the Jerusalem
26 Program.
- 27 3. The World Zionist Organization and its departments will not carry out activities
28 that contradict the values of the Declaration of Independence.
- 29 4. The World Zionist Organization will not cooperate with organizations whose
30 values contradict the values of the Declaration of Independence.

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32

1.2 The Jerusalem Program and the Declaration of Independence

*Proposal submitted by Chaya Cohen
On behalf of Brit Etz-Avoda*

In the current situation in the State of Israel, where there is sense of great concern, tempers are flaring and divisions are growing, the World Zionist Organization is an important, essential entity that unites within it the representatives of the entire Zionist spectrum in the Jewish world out of an obligation to fulfill the central mission of the World Zionist Organization in the Jewish world as a platform for unity, cooperation and dialogue;

Whereas Section 3 of the Jerusalem Program states: “..Strengthening Israel as a Jewish, Zionist and democratic state and shaping it as an exemplary society with a unique moral and spiritual character, marked by mutual respect for the multi-faceted Jewish people, rooted in the vision of the prophets, striving for peace and contributing to the betterment of the world.”;

Whereas the World Zionist Organization requires every member of the Zionist movement to accept the Jerusalem Program;

Whereas the World Zionist Organization brings together all the ideological groupings, religious streams and Zionist organizations active among the Jewish people in Israel and in the Diaspora;

Whereas the Declaration of Independence was accepted and signed by all political streams represented within the Jewish people.

Therefore, the Zionist Congress resolves:

1. To adopt the Declaration of Independence of the State of Israel as a source document for the Jerusalem Program.
2. That the principles of the Declaration of Independence will guide the operation of the World Zionist Organization and will be a central source of inspiration in the Zionist vision.
3. To encourage all departments of the World Zionist Organization to hold activities and events around the values of the Declaration of Independence and its status as a founding document in the 75th year of Israel's independence.
4. To turn to the Zionist Executive to examine as to the hanging of a large banner with the Declaration of Independence in its center, on the building of the World Zionist Organization in Tel Aviv on the side where Zionist banners are

1 hung from time to time in order to gain public visibility and exposure, as part
2 of the 75th year celebration.

3 **1.3 125 Years of Zionism and 75 years to the State of Israel**

4 *Proposal submitted by Nerya Meir*
5 *On behalf of World Likud*

6 *After Voting and Approval by the Presidium of the Zionist Congress*

7 **Whereas** the Land of Israel belongs to the Jewish people by virtue of their historical,
8 religious and moral right to it, namely the State of Israel; and

9 **Whereas**, by virtue of this right, the First Zionist Congress was convened and founded
10 an activist Zionist identity, through which Zionist leaders acted and formed modern
11 political Zionism leading to the foundation of the State of Israel; and

12 **Whereas** today, on the 75th birthday to the State of Israel, it is necessary to
13 strengthen Zionist activism;

14 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress calls for:**

15 1. Strengthening of the Zionist identity in Israel and in the Diaspora based on the
16 values of settlement, Aliyah and education, as determined in the Jerusalem
17 program.

18 By virtue of the historical and Zionist right, the **Zionist Congress will act:**

19 2. To strengthen settlement in Israel, promoting Aliyah and reinforcing a Jewish
20 majority: The Zionist Congress calls upon the World Zionist Organization to act to
21 increase the Jewish majority by dedicating additional resources for programs to
22 promote Aliyah among Jews in the Diaspora and in action vis-à-vis the State of
23 Israel to strengthen Aliyah absorption within Israel.

24 **In addition, The Zionist Congress calls upon** The World Zionist Organization:

25 3. To act to strengthen the education system in Israel and the Diaspora so that it
26 emphasizes Zionist studies, Jewish identity, the heritage of the Jewish people, and
27 Israel being a Jewish and democratic state in which there exists the right to pray
28 freely.

29 **The Zionist Congress calls upon** the National Institutions:

30 4. To increase the number of participants in Jewish educational institutions in
31 the Diaspora to promote the Hebrew language and involvement in the Zionist
32 movement, to create new bridges to connect with Israel, and to develop
33 programs to strengthen the national Jewish identity of the Jewish people and

1 the education for contributing to society through a meaningful military
2 service in the IDF.

3 In the face of division among the Jewish nation and given the uniting nature of Zionism
4 - **The Zionist Congress calls upon** The World Zionist Organization:

5 5. To act within Israeli society to strengthen the unity between the various parts
6 of the nation, while encouraging Zionist dialogue, which works to maintain
7 the Jewish and democratic identity of the country through a deep connection
8 to heritage of the Jewish people and its values.

9

10 **Committee No. 2 – Aliyah and Law of Return**

11

12 **2.2 The Zionist Congress calls on the Israeli government not to amend the Law of** 13 **Return**

14 *Proposal submitted by Bella Lvovich*
15 *on behalf of World Israel Beytenu*

16
17 *And by Rabbi Mauricio Balter*
18 *on behalf of Brit MERCAZ OLAMI*

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20

21 **Whereas** the Law of Return is one of the most paramount laws of the State of Israel,
22 a law that is the bedrock of Zionism, which anchors one of the most distinct principles
23 of the Zionist movement from time immemorial; and

24 **Whereas** in the 75th anniversary of Israel's independence the fact that, thanks to the
25 Law of Return, the State of Israel has been blessed with the Aliyah of millions of
26 immigrants over the years - from both Eastern and Western countries, is particularly
27 notable; and

28 **Whereas** over the years the Law of Return has become a symbol, a festive symbol of
29 Jewish peoplehood at its best, a glamorous, Zionist symbol like no other which defines
30 the collective borders of the Jewish people - As far as Aliyah to Israel is concerned
31 (eligibility to the Law of Return); and

32 **Whereas** from the dawn of Zionism to the present day, the Zionist movement has
33 advocated an open worldview, which notes the diversity of the people of Israel,
34 without discrimination or bias, with its different views and beliefs; and

35 **Whereas** voices are now being heard calling for the Law of Return to be amended and
36 minimized; and

1 **Whereas** such an amendment to the Law of Return will alienate hundreds of
2 thousands of people of Jewish descent and have a disastrous impact on Aliyah to the
3 State of Israel.

4
5 **Therefore, in the 75th year of the State of Israel and out of a deep sense of historical**
6 **responsibility, the Zionist Congress resolves that:**

- 7 1. The Zionist Congress calls not to amend the Law of Return and not to try to
8 minimize its content.
- 9 2. The World Zionist Organization will work to protect the Law of Return as a
10 bedrock of Zionism.
- 11
- 12 3. The Zionist Congress, as per the letter sent on 1 January 2023 by the Chairman
13 of the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization to the Prime Minister,
14 seeks to strengthen all those involved in bringing immigrants to Israel in
15 accordance with the Law of Return.
- 16

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18 **2.3 Promoting Aliyah**

19 *Submitted by Tema Klausner*
20 *on behalf of the World Emunah*

21

22 **Whereas** exactly 50 years following the vision of Benjamin Ze'ev Herzl, who foresaw
23 the creation of the state, and exactly 75 years ago the Jewish nation was fortunate to
24 actualize the divine promise and the vision of Israel's prophets, and returned to
25 become a free nation in its homeland; and

26 **Whereas** after 2000 years, the historical Jewish nation has returned, merited
27 independence, and established the State of Israel in its promised land; and

28 **Whereas** the Jewish People are a unique entity in the world, an entity with qualities
29 that are impossible to categorize in words or conventional ways; an entity that is at
30 the same time a nation, a religion, a family, a people that survived for many years
31 without political independence; and

32 **Whereas** the Jewish people is brilliantly and proudly in the midst of a return to the
33 land of our fathers;

34 **Therefore, the Extraordinary Zionist Congress calls upon:**

35 The World Zionist Organization to increase its efforts and activities to encourage
36 those members of the Jewish nation living in the Diaspora to return home.

1 **2.4 A task force for drafting an agreed proposal on the matter of the grandchild**
2 **clause in the Law of Return**

3 *Submitted by Roi Abecassis*
4 *On behalf of World Mizrahi and World Herut*

5 **Whereas** we are on the verge of celebrating 75 years of the State of Israel's
6 independence, symbolizing the return of the Jewish People to Zion and the
7 establishment of a Jewish state founded on Jewish values; and,

8 **Whereas** the Declaration of Independence determines that the State of Israel shall
9 be founded upon freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel;
10 and,

11 **Whereas** in recent months we have witnessed a deep rift within Israeli society and
12 the State of Israel and parts of the Jewish People over the issue of amending the
13 grandchild clause that touches upon the State of Israel's identity as a Jewish and
14 democratic state; and,

15 **Whereas** the integrity of the Jewish People in Israel and the Diaspora, its strength
16 and power are founded upon the Jewish People's unity, from which the Jewish
17 People have derived its strength and resilience for many a generation; and,

18 Whereas the World Zionist Organization strongly and traditionally believes in
19 collaboration in the spirit of "shevet achim gam yachad – people dwelling in unity"
20 when settling difficult disagreements out of mutual respect and dialogue that is
21 considerate and understanding of the different opinions.

22 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress calls upon the World Zionist Organization:**

- 23 1. To appoint a special task force that represents the range of opinions in the
24 Jewish People represented in the World Zionist Organization in an effort to
25 draft a proposal following a discussion and agreement over the grandchild
26 clause in light of the values of the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic
27 state.
- 28 2. The task force will complete its drafting of the proposal one year before the
29 39th Congress.
- 30 3. The task force will submit its recommendations to the World Zionist Organization
31 executive and ask that its recommendations be embraced.

32

Committee No. 3 – Internal and external strengthening of the State of Israel

3.1 Israel as a Jewish and Democratic State

*Proposal submitted by Rabbi Lea Mühlstein
On behalf of ARZENU*

Whereas we are proud to celebrate 75 years of Israel as the only democracy in the Middle East;

Whereas mature democracies are rightly measured not just by whether there are free elections but also by whether there are robust checks and balances in place to protect the democratic rights of all inhabitants;

Whereas the primary body with the capacity for checks and balances on Israeli democracy is the judiciary;

Whereas our Tradition teaches us to “Learn to do good, devote yourselves to justice...” (Isaiah 1:17);

Whereas Israel’s Declaration of Independence asserts that the State of Israel, “will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants ...”; and

Whereas the reforms to weaken the judicial system, which have been pursued in haste and without regard for the effect that these changes will have on the relationship between Israel and Jews around the world, have been halted and are currently in deliberation under the aegis of the President of Israel;

The Extraordinary Congress 5783 marking the 75th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel, therefore, resolves:

1. To remind the government of the State of Israel that Jews around the world are deeply committed to Israel as a Jewish and democratic state, as well as the danger posed to this relationship stemming from the promotion of the government's plan to weaken the judiciary.
2. The Zionist Congress believes that change in the State of Israel's judicial structure can only happen through broad public agreement, as the outcome of true and open dialogue and as part of a process of healing social rifts across all of Israeli society.
3. The Zionist Congress calls upon the government to reach consensus agreements that will bolster the democratic nature of the State of Israel and the checks and

1 balances in the structure of government, while providing protection for human
2 rights, minorities and women.

3 4. The Zionist Congress instructs the Executive of the World Zionist Organization to
4 publish this resolution through all its distribution lists via both social and
5 traditional media.

6

7 **3.2 The Establishment of an Office of Innovation in the National Institutions**

8

Submitted by David Yaari

9

On behalf of World Confederation of United Zionists

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11 **Whereas** at its early stages, the Zionist Movement was the most innovative initiative
12 to occur in 2,000 years of Jewish history, since the Jewish exile in 70 CE; and

13 **Whereas** the Zionist Movement innovated and created the Zionist National
14 Institutions and the necessary capacities to establish the State of Israel; and

15 **Whereas** today, as we near the 75th Independence Day, Israel has emerged and
16 become globally recognized as the start-up nation and a source of innovation and
17 inspiration in many fields and sectors,

18 **Therefore, the Extraordinary Zionist Congress resolves that:**

19 1. On the occasion of the 75th Independence Day, the World Zionist Organization
20 will apply to Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael for assistance in budgeting for the
21 establishment of an Office of Innovation that will work as an independent body
22 to drive and inject innovation both as an organizational culture and practice
23 throughout all of the Institutions' projects and initiatives. Following the approval
24 of this resolution, a detailed plan will be presented within 60 days with the goal
25 to establish this office will by Rosh Hashanah 5784.

26 2. The Office of Innovation will ensure that there will be clear rules for allocation of
27 budgets as well as on equality, transparency and the absence of political
28 considerations in the allocation of budgets in Israel and the Diaspora, with the
29 exception of bodies that promote and support the BDS movement.

30 3. The Office of Innovation will begin by setting the innovation criteria and
31 prioritizing the innovation areas based on an analysis of the existing significant
32 gaps, urgent needs, and impactful opportunities for the member institutions.

33 4. The Office of Innovation will invite other players from both the private and
34 Zionist world to bring forth new ideas for the National Institutions to promote
35 and accelerate those ideas through a Zionist lens. These public and private sector
36 leaders will serve on an advisory council.

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3.3 Strengthening synagogues and Jewish community centers in the Diaspora in their connection to Zionism and the State of Israel

Submitted by Adi Samson

On behalf of World Organization of Orthodox Communities and Synagogues

Whereas the State of Israel is the nation-state of the Jewish people and not just the state of its citizens, and after 75 years of existence in which diplomatic, technological, economic, and other capabilities have been accumulated in it, it is operating to strengthen the Jewish communities in the Diaspora and deepen its affinity with the State of Israel; and

Whereas it is the Jewish community that has preserved the Jewish people for thousands of years of exile in the Diaspora and constitutes an essential infrastructure for Jewish ethnic identity and beneficial social belonging, which fosters resilience and empowers mutual responsibility, in times of routine and crisis; and

Whereas the main impact on Jewish identity, future continuity, and vitality depends on a renewed community leadership who is relevant to the challenges of the day, on their ties to the State of Israel, and on the quality and activity of formal and informal social networks; and

Whereas the synagogue is a central and important institution in the life of Diaspora Jewry as a house of prayer, and as a place where Jewish customs and ceremonies are held that contribute to community cohesion, tighter social networks, and resilience; and

Whereas we are witnessing waves of anti-Semitism emerging around the world, in a way that undermines the natural sense of security and threatens the resilience of the Jewish community and its members, due to *Aliya*, emigration and/or distancing from Jewish identity;

The Extraordinary Zionist Congress resolves that:

1. To act to strengthen Jewish identity among Diaspora communities, by initiating Jewish encounters with each other and supporting activities relating to the Jewish calendar events - intra-community and inter-communal - and through the promotion of *Aliyah* and education, for members of varying circles of affiliation.
2. To cultivate male and female young community leaders as a critical resource for continuity and resilience, and for the ability of communities to be afflicted with anti-Semitism, by organizing dedicated professional conferences on topics relevant to their formal and informal roles, and to strengthen their ties to their

1 Judaism, to the Jewish world in general, and to the State of Israel and to Zionism
2 in particular.

3 3. To call upon the National Institutions operating community and educational
4 programs among Diaspora Jewry – the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish
5 Agency for Israel and Keren Kayemet L'Israel– to broaden and expand activity
6 within synagogues and Jewish communities from all streams of Judaism, and
7 activities with male and female community leaders, educators and additional
8 relevant officers in the communities; to develop programs with a view to the
9 empowerment of these communities and officers; and to provide substantial
10 professional response to their challenges.

11

12 *** 3.3 *Votum Separatum*: Deletion of words in above final operative paragraph #3***

13 *To delete of the words: "from all streams of Judaism".*

14

15 **Committee No. 4 – Diversity in the Zionist Movement**

16

17 **4.1 The Zionist Congress in favor of strengthening the relationship between the**
18 **LGBTQIA communities in the Diaspora and the State of Israel and complete**
19 **equality for the LGBTQIA in the National Institutions**
20 **In honor of the 75th anniversary of Israel's independence**

21

Proposal submitted by Dario Teitelbaum

22

on behalf of World Union of Meretz

23 **Whereas** the World Zionist Organization's mission is to ensure the State of Israel
24 remains a national home for all Jews, regardless of belief and/or religious affiliation,
25 ideological tendency, origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

26 **And whereas** the World Zionist Organization can serve as a bridge between the Jewish
27 LGBTQIA communities and the State of Israel by promoting greater understanding,
28 cooperation, and mutual support.

29 **And whereas** the State of Israel, celebrating 75 years of independence, is known
30 throughout the world as a place that knows how to respect, accommodate, and even
31 celebrate the existence of the LGBTQIA community.

32 **The Zionist Congress resolves that:**

33 1. The Zionist movement and the national institutions will be a home for every Jew,
34 from all over the world, regardless of belief and/or religious affiliation, ideological
35 tendency, origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

- 1 2. The Congress calls for increased activity of education and awareness and inclusion:
 2 deepening the awareness and educational activity related to the inclusion of the
 3 LGBTQIA community, within the Zionist activity in the State of Israel and in the
 4 Diaspora, through workshops, seminars, and other educational initiatives.
- 5 3. Out of a desire to deepen the connection between the LGBTQIA population and
 6 Zionism all over the world - the Zionist Congress calls on the national institutions
 7 in general, and the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization in particular,
 8 to find a way to celebrate Pride Week.

9

10 **4.2 In light of the vital need for unity in the 75th year of Israel's independence and**
 11 **in light of the fear of legislation that would overturn the ruling of the Supreme**
 12 **Court, The Zionist Congress opposes the revocation of recognition of Conservative**
 13 **and Reform conversions**

14 *Submitted by Rabbi Mauricio Balter*
 15 *On behalf of MASORTI OLAMI Organization*

16

17 **Whereas** the State of Israel, which is proudly celebrating its 75th anniversary to its
 18 establishment - is the nation state of the entire Jewish people; and

19 **Whereas** the people of Israel are endowed with different worldviews and diverse
 20 Jewish concepts; and

21 **Whereas** the Zionist movement pledged in its founding documents - both the Zionist
 22 constitution and the Jerusalem Program - to the commitment to the basic principles
 23 of justice, equality and democracy, while denying discrimination of any kind, and
 24 respect for the diversity of the people of Israel; and

25 **Whereas** the Supreme Court in Israel has long recognized Conservative and Reform
 26 conversions held in recognized Jewish communities - both for the purposes of
 27 registration in the Population Registry as Jews and/or for the purposes of the Law of
 28 Return - and that's how the Ministry of the Interior has been acting for many years;
 29 and

30 **Whereas** most Diaspora Jews belong to the non-orthodox streams of Judaism; and

31 **Whereas** there are voices in the Israeli government seeking to bypass the court's
 32 ruling and to promote conversion legislation that will exclude the non-orthodox
 33 streams of Judaism;

34 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress resolves as follows:**

- 35 1. The Zionist Congress calls on the Israeli government not to enact a conversion
 36 law that will exclude or discriminate, directly or indirectly, against Jews who were

1 converted under the auspices of the Reform and Conservative streams of
2 Judaism.

3 2. The Zionist Congress appreciates and respects all the women and men who enter
4 the gates of Israel - who underwent orthodox, conservative or reform conversion
5 - and wish them that they will be able to find their rightful place within the people
6 of Israel and the State of Israel.

7

8 **Committee No. 5 – The Holocaust Remembrance and the struggle**
9 **against Antisemitism**

10 **5.1 Documentation of Holocaust Evidence**

11 *Submitted by Gil Segal*
12 *on behalf of the Yesh Atid faction*

13

14 **Whereas** the World Zionist Organization's recognition of the Holocaust as a defining
15 event in human history in general and the Jewish people in particular, and the
16 importance of deepening historical knowledge about the Jewish communities that
17 perished and raising awareness of the heroism of the Holocaust survivors; and

18 **Whereas** against the background of Holocaust denial in the world in view of the
19 advanced age of the Holocaust survivors living today, it is mandatory to act urgently
20 on the issue of documenting their testimonies and on the occasion of the 75th
21 anniversary of the State of Israel and the Zionist enterprise.

22 **The extraordinary Zionist Congress resolves that:**

23 The World Zionist Organization, through its institutions, will work to promote
24 Government Resolution No. 3474 of May 4, 2008 and Government Resolution No.
25 1016 of January 23, 2022 on the subject of visual documentation of Holocaust
26 survivors from Israel and throughout the world.

27

28 **5.2 Combatting the Exclusion of the Jews in multicultural education**

29 *Submitted by Haim Cohen*
30 *On behalf of World Sephardi Federation*

31 **Whereas** in 2023, as we approach the 75th anniversary of Israel's independence,
32 Antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and the exclusion of Jews in multicultural education and
33 diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives have become ongoing concerns that
34 impact Jewish communities both in the Diaspora and in Israel; and
35

1 **Whereas** Jewish communities and individuals have a right to participate fully in
 2 multicultural education, DEI efforts, and similar initiatives, free from discrimination
 3 and prejudice based on their religious, ethnic, and cultural identity; and
 4

5 **Whereas** education plays a vital role in combating antisemitism and promoting
 6 understanding, respect, and inclusion for all people, including Jews;
 7

8 **Therefore the Extraordinary Zionist Congress resolves that:**
 9

- 10 1. The World Zionist Organization will work to raise awareness to cases of
 11 antisemitism; anti-Zionism; and exclusion of Jews and Jewish identity via multi-
 12 cultural initiatives in educational institutions, universities and colleges as well as
 13 in work settings.
 14
- 15 2. The World Zionist Organization will foster the move to hold a discussion at the
 16 Knesset in the course of 2023, which will present the Israel government's
 17 activities to reinforce public awareness around the world about the Jewish
 18 people, antisemitism and anti-Zionism.
 19

20 21 22 **Committee No. 6 – Strengthening the Zionist Movement** 23

24 **6.1 World Zionist Organization salutes the State of Israel on its 75th anniversary**

25 *Submitted by Alan Schneider*

26 *On behalf of B'nai B'rith International*

27 **Whereas** scribes, scholars, archaeologists and scientists have documented Israel for
 28 3,500 years of history, throughout tribes, kingdoms and dynasties in the Levant. They
 29 have sourced history through excavations, the Five Books of Moses and other texts;
 30 and

31 **Whereas** ancient and modern Jewish history have allowed a diverse and multicultural
 32 citizenry to flourish in the land of Israel across modern millennia, into the 21st Century;
 33 and

34 **Whereas** Theodor Herzl, in pursuit of re-establishing the Jewish homeland in the wake
 35 of persecutions, pogroms, excommunications, the Inquisition, and insurrections from
 36 the Middle Ages, the Renaissance through the 19th Century, built a network of support
 37 to create the Zionist movement and convene the first Zionist Congress in Basel,
 38 Switzerland, in 1897; and

1 **Whereas** the Zionist movement survived and endured, even after the genocide by Nazi
 2 Germany from 1933 and 1945 in what became known as The Holocaust with the
 3 extermination of more than six million Jews and millions of others, and ultimately to
 4 United Nations recognition of the Partition Plan and the Declaration of the State of
 5 Israel in 1947 and 1949.

6 **Therefore, on the occasion of Israel's 75th anniversary the Extraordinary Zionist**
 7 **Congress:**

8 Reiterates its support for the Jerusalem Program; calls on constituent members to find
 9 common ground to promote the Zionist ideal.

10

11 **6.2 Respecting the WZO Constitution after 75 years of Independence**

12 *Submitted by Sergio Edelstein*

13 *On behalf of Tnuat Hamerkaz Haliberalit Hanoar Hatzioní (Kol Israel Faction)*

14

15 **Whereas** in the WZO Constitution it is declared that one of the Foundations of Zionism
 16 is:

17 "Strengthening Israel as a Jewish, Zionist and Democratic state and shaping it
 18 as an exemplary society with a unique moral and spiritual character, marked by
 19 mutual respect for the multi-faceted Jewish people, rooted in the vision of the
 20 prophets, striving for peace and contributing to the betterment of the world";
 21 and

22 **Whereas** in the WZO Constitution it is declared that:

23 "Zionism advocates the fundamental principles of justice, equality and
 24 democracy, and denounces discrimination on the grounds of origin, nationality,
 25 race, gender or sexual orientation. Zionism is committed to the State of Israel's
 26 landmark document: the Israel Declaration of Independence and to the State of
 27 Israel's fundamental values, as enshrined therein."; and

28 **Whereas** in the WZO Constitution it is declared that:

29 "Every Jew who has reached the age of eighteen and is willing to accept the
 30 Jerusalem Program and pay membership dues ("the Zionist Shekel") in an
 31 amount to be determined as stipulated in the Regulations for the Implementation
 32 of the Constitution, may be an individual member of the World Zionist
 33 Organization"; and

34 **Whereas**, after 75 years of Independence, we are witnessing that factors in the State
 35 of Israel are expressing themselves in the direction of changing the basis of
 36 agreements regarding the definition of a "Jewish and Democratic State"; and

1 **Whereas** voices have been heard recently, advocating that recognized non-Zionists be
2 able to take part in the decisions that take place in the WZO forums.

3

4 **The Zionist Congress resolves that:**

5 1. Out of the obligation to respect the WZO Constitution (e.g. endorsement of "the
6 Jerusalem Program"), it will not be permitted to grant voting rights in Zionist
7 Congress elections to an individual member or a body which is not an individual
8 member, to those who have not fulfilled all the conditions for WZO membership.

9 2. Each member of the World Zionist Organization whether individual or body, must
10 honor the State symbols as they are specified in the Basic Law: The Nation: the
11 flag, the State symbol, and the national anthem.

12 3. The Organization (Irgun) Department must ensure the implementation of this
13 decision as far as possible.

14

15

16 **Committee no. 7 - Constitution Committee**

17

18 **7.1 Appropriate representation of women**

19 *Submitted by Gil Segal*
20 *on behalf of the Yesh Atid faction*

21 The values of Zionism, in accordance with the constitution of the World Zionist
22 Organization, advocate basic principles of justice, equality and democracy. We believe
23 that the World Zionist Organization, which unites all the Zionist organizations, factions
24 and bodies that represent the Jewish people, should strive for and bring equal
25 representation of women in all of the institutions of the World Zionist Organization,
26 including the Executive Committee, Congress representatives and all aspects of its
27 management.

28 **Whereas**, in accordance with Article 2A of the Constitution of the World Zionist
29 Organization (hereinafter: "the Constitution") it is declared that Zionism is a
30 movement that advocates basic principles of justice, equality and democracy;

31 **Whereas**, the constitution states that the bodies, organizations and factions of the
32 institutions of the World Zionist Organization must be comprised of at least thirty
33 percent women;

34 **Whereas**, and despite the fact that women make up about fifty percent of the general
35 population and despite the significant progress regarding gender equality in the 75

1 years of the State of Israel, women do not receive adequate and equal representation
2 in the institutions of the World Zionist Organization;

3

4 **Therefore, the extraordinary Zionist Congress resolves that:**

5 The constitution of the World Zionist Organization will be amended as follows:

6 Wherever it is stipulated in this Constitution that 30% women must be appointed, it
7 will be written, 40% women.

8

9 **7.2 Proposal for Constitutional Amendment in the Matter of the Representation of**
10 **the Inter-territorial Organizations on the Outer Executive**

11 *Submitted by the Secretary General to the Executive*
12 *on behalf of the Zionist Executive*

13

14 According to Article 41, Section 2 A (3), the Outer Executive shall comprise, *inter alia*:
15 “One representative from each territorial or inter-territorial Zionist organization
16 represented in the Executive”

17 and, in addition, under Article 41, Section 2 B (3):

18 “Each and every member of the Outer Executive from the group defined under sub-
19 paragraph (A) (3) above, shall be a representative from the Diaspora and/or a
20 representative of the Young Generation, as defined in Article 23 above”,

21 with this applying irrespective of whether said Member of the Executive’s capacity on
22 the same body is that of a representative from the Diaspora and/or as a representative
23 of the Young Generation.

24 **It is hereby proposed to determine** that the provisions of Article 41, Section 2 B (3)
25 shall not apply when the representative of the same body to the Executive under
26 Article 41, Section 1 (d) is a representative of the Diaspora and/or a representative of
27 the Young Generation.

28 *Therefore*, it is proposed to amend the Constitution by inserting the following words
29 in said point of Article 41, Section 2 B (3):

30 “Excepting where the representative of a particular body to the Executive, under
31 Article 41, Section 1 (d), is a representative of the Diaspora and/or a representative of
32 the aforesaid Young Generation”.

33 And that Article 41, Section 2 B (3) be reformulated to read as follows:

34 “Each and every member of the Outer Executive from the group defined under
35 subparagraph (A) (3) above, shall be a representative from the Diaspora and/or a
36 representative of the Young Generation, as defined in Article 23 above, excepting
37 where the representative of a particular body to the Executive, under Article 41,

1 Section 1 (d) is a representative of the Diaspora and/or a representative of the Young
2 Generation as stated above”.

3 **7.3 Draft Resolution Proposal for Amendment of the**
4 **Constitution of the World Zionist Organization in the matter of**
5 **“The Attorney of the World Zionist Organization – Pro Tem Provisions”**

6 *Submitted by the Secretary General to the Executive*
7 *on behalf of the Zionist Executive*

8 **Background information and clarification:**

9 At the Zionist Congress XXXVIII, which convened in October 2020 – Heshvan 5781, the
10 Zionist General Council was authorized to elect an Attorney.

11 During consultations prior to the process of electing an Attorney, a number of
12 significant issues arose that were instrumental in the outcome that no proposal for
13 such election was submitted to the Zionist General Council. Moreover, the role of
14 Attorney extends across a wide range of fields while, over the past two years, we have
15 primarily been called upon to address issues related to the representation of the
16 World Zionist Organization before the Court.

17 Having passed the mid-point of the inter-Congress period since the Zionist Congress
18 XXXVIII, a Draft Resolution Proposal for Constitutional Amendment is hereby
19 submitted to the Extraordinary Zionist Congress (as a *Pro Tem* measure) in relation to
20 the position of Attorney.

21 Once the Resolution passes, said Amendment shall remain in force until the Zionist
22 Congress XXXIX, at which point said *Pro Tem* Provisions shall expire and the provisions
23 of the Constitution in this matter shall resume validity.

24 **Principles of the Amendment:**

25 It is proposed to amend those sections in Articles and Regulations in the Constitution
26 and the Regulations for its Implementation (henceforth – the Regulations) relating to
27 the election and responsibilities of the Attorney to the World Zionist Organization, by
28 means of a *Pro Tem* measure that will remain in force until the conclusion of the next
29 Ordinary Congress.

30 It is proposed that in all instances in the Constitution where the words “Attorney of
31 the World Zionist Organization” appear, including mention of “his/her Deputies”, they
32 shall be deleted.

33 It is proposed that Article 53 of the Constitution, which defines the Attorney’s
34 responsibilities concerning legal consultation and representation, shall be amended
35 and that he be replaced by a Committee of the Executive, which shall determine who

1 will appear before the Zionist Supreme Court on behalf of the Executive and which
2 shall be authorized to instruct said person.

3 It is proposed that Article 60 A, relating to the "*Obligations of the members of the*
4 *governing bodies*", shall be amended so that the Committee of the Executive may
5 assume the role of initiating steps before the Zionist Supreme Court, a task with which
6 the Attorney is currently charged.

7 There are also additional, complementary amendment proposals for the Regulations,
8 due to the proposal for temporary discontinuance of the position of Attorney.

9

10 **Redrafting of the relevant Articles in the Constitution and Regulations,**
11 **which it is proposed to amend**

12 1. Article 14, "*Powers of the Congress*", sub-section (e1) shall be amended as follows:

13 "(e1) Elect, subject to the provisions of Art. 27, section 2, the President of the
14 Zionist Supreme Court and the Comptroller. A single individual shall not serve in
15 more than one of the positions listed in this Article."

16 2. In Article 26, "*Composition of the Congress*", the preface to Section 2 shall be
17 amended as follows:

18 "The President of the Zionist Supreme Court or, in his or her absence, the
19 representative nominated by them from amongst their Deputies, and the
20 Comptroller shall participate in Congress and in its committees in an advisory
21 capacity."

22 3. In Article 32, "*Composition of the Council*", Section 3 shall be amended as follows:

23 "The following members shall be entitled to participate in the Council in an
24 advisory capacity:

25 (a) Members of the Executive;

26 (b) One representative each of the Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael and the Keren
27 Hayesod-United Israel Appeal;

28 (c) The President of the Zionist Supreme Court;"

29 4. In Article 47, "*Members of the Court – their Number*", Section 2 shall be amended
30 as follows:

31 "The President of the WZO, the members of the Council entitled to vote, the
32 members of the Executive, the Comptroller and the Deputy Comptroller, the
33 officials of the World Zionist Organization and the Central Zionist Bodies shall not
34 be eligible for membership of the Court."

35 5. Article 49, "*Powers of the Court*", shall be amended as follows:

1 “The Court shall be competent to hear and determine –

2 ***(A) As a Court Tribunal of First Instance***

3 ***Section 1***

4 (a) The interpretation of this Constitution;

5 (b) The legality of decisions of the Central Zionist Bodies, whether in connection
6 with a dispute or upon the proposal of the Executive of the World Zionist
7 Organization;

8 ...

9 (g) Matters relative to acts allegedly infringing the Constitution or damaging the
10 interests or prestige of the World Zionist Organization, which have been brought
11 before it by the Committee appointed by the Executive under Article 53, by reason
12 of their public Zionist importance.”

13 6. In Article 53, the title, “Attorney” shall be deleted and be replaced by: “Committee
14 appointed by the Executive”, and the text in said Article shall be abrogated, to be
15 replaced by:

16 “A Committee composed of the Chairman of the Executive, the Deputy and Acting
17 Chairman of the Executive, two Deputy Chairmen and two female members of the
18 Executive, upon whom the said four Committee members shall be in unanimous
19 agreement, whose remit it shall be to determine who shall represent the Executive
20 in proceedings at the Court and to instruct said person on the position to be
21 presented in proceedings before said Court.”

22 7. Article 54, “Procedure of Election of President of Court, Attorney and deputy-
23 Attorneys”, shall be amended as follows:

24 **“Procedure of Election of President of Court**

25 The Congress shall elect, upon the proposal of the Congress Presidium, the
26 President of the Court, the Comptroller and the Deputy Comptroller. The Congress
27 shall not elect any individual for more than one of the positions listed above in this
28 Article.”

29 8. Article 55, “*Filling of Vacancies*”, shall be amended as follows:

30 “If, during the inter-Congress period, the place of the President of the Court or the
31 post of the Comptroller, or the Deputy Comptroller becomes vacant, the Council
32 may elect another individual to the vacant position. However, an individual serving
33 in any of the positions listed above may not be elected to the vacant position,
34 unless he or she resigns from his/her position.”

35 9. In Article 60 A, “*Obligations of the Members of the Governing Bodies*”, Section 2
36 shall be amended as follows:

1 “If a member of the governing bodies mentioned in Sec. 1 has not fulfilled his
2 obligations towards the Funds, the Committee representing the Executive shall
3 initiate steps before the Zionist Supreme Court, in accordance with Article 49 (A),
4 Sec. 1 (g). The Executive is also entitled to suspend his membership of the body
5 until the decision of the Zionist Supreme Court. The Executive shall immediately
6 notify the Zionist Supreme Court of such suspension of membership. Details of
7 procedure shall be determined in the Regulations for the Implementation of the
8 Constitution.”

9 10. In Article 63, “*Emergency Provision*”, Section 1 shall be amended as follows:

10 “If, by reason of an unexpected and unusual situation, it is necessary to deviate
11 from any of the provisions of this Constitution or of any other law of the World
12 Zionist Organization or from the decisions of the Congress or the Council, the
13 Executive may, after hearing the opinion of the President of the Court, propose to
14 the Presidium of the Council that, in the particular case brought before it, a
15 deviation be permitted from the Constitution or from some other law of the World
16 Zionist Organization or from the decisions of the Congress or the Council. The
17 proposal of the Executive shall be accompanied by the opinion of the President of
18 the Court. A decision of the Presidium of the Council permitting the deviation shall
19 be valid, if passed in the presence of not less than two-thirds of the members of
20 the Presidium by a two-thirds' majority of those present. If the voting is in writing
21 or by telegraph, the decision shall be valid, if two-thirds of all the members of the
22 Presidium take part in the voting and the decision is adopted by a two-thirds'
23 majority of those voting.”

24 11. Regulation 1A (i) of the *Regulations* shall be amended as follows:

25 “In the instance of a person registering via the World Zionist Organization website,
26 said application shall be forwarded to the Zionist Federation in his place of
27 permanent residence within a period of 30 days from the day of enrolment. If
28 there is no objection by said Zionist Federation, those registering via the World
29 Zionist Organization website automatically become members of said Federation,
30 subject to the regulations stipulated in the Byelaws of said Zionist Federation
31 (reasonable period of qualification, etc.). Said Federation shall decide upon the
32 matter of such membership within 60 days of receipt of the request as forwarded.
33 Any applicant penalized by a Zionist Federation’s decision to reject his application
34 for membership in said Federation is entitled to appeal in that respect. Said appeal
35 shall be deliberated at a specially constituted Committee established by the
36 Executive, comprised relative to the strength of the groupings at the Zionist
37 General Council. Said appellant is entitled to appear in person before the
38 Committee or appoint a representative. The Committee’s decision may be
39 appealed to the Zionist Supreme Court.”

40 12. Regulation 11, sub-sections (f) and (g) shall be amended as follows:

1 “(f) Should the member not fulfill his obligation in spite of the warning, the
2 Central Office of the Fund shall notify the Executive in order to take steps
3 against the member, in accordance with Article 49 (A) Section 1 (g) of the
4 Constitution.

5 (g) Should the Executive be of the opinion that the member has not complied with
6 his obligations towards the Funds, it shall file a Bill of Complaint with the
7 Zionist Supreme Court, in accordance with Chapter F of the *Rules of Procedure*
8 *of the Zionist Supreme Court.*”

9 13. **Pro Tem Provisions** – Said Amendments to the Constitution concerning “The
10 Attorney of the World Zionist Organization”, as set down in sections 1 through 12
11 above, shall remain in force until the conclusion of the next Ordinary Zionist
12 Congress.