



ההסתדרות הציונית העולמית  
WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

## **Draft Resolution Proposals**

**Towards the Zionist General Council**

**XXXVIII/4**

**27-29 February 2024**

**18-20 Adar I, 5784**

## **Committee No. 1 – The Young Generation in the Jewish-Zionist World**

### **1.1 Support for World Zionist Youth and Young Adults movements** **World Zionist Youth Movements and Young Adult Jewish Movements - Present and Future**

*Proposal submitted by Carla Yael Neimarkas on behalf of World Union for Progressive Judaism  
By Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy on behalf of Arzenu  
By Rabbi Ehud Bandel on behalf of World Union of Meretz*

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization considers the Zionist Youth and Young Adults Movements worldwide an essential pillar in strengthening Zionism and the global Jewish community; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization sees Zionist Youth and Young Adults Movements worldwide as the present and future of the prosperity of the Zionist movement in Israel and the Diaspora; and

**Whereas** the global Zionist movement has an enduring commitment to Zionist Youth and Young Adults Movements worldwide; and

**Whereas** those movements bear the standard of Zionist Jewish education, and have historically promoted young Aliyah throughout history; and

**Whereas** the attack on October 7th and the subsequent war with Hamas have confirmed the critical bond between the Jewish people and Israel; and

**Whereas** following October 7th, the world has witnessed a significant increase in global antisemitism, much of which is framed in terms of anti-Zionism and criticism of Israel; and

**Whereas** such widespread antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and anti-Israel rhetoric, protests, and acts demonstrate that these threats affect the Jewish population worldwide, especially educational institutions where Jews study, such as colleges and universities; and

**Whereas** in the aftermath of the events of October 7th, it is important to reinforce the Zionist identity and the relation with Israel of Jewish youth in the Diaspora; and

**Whereas** we must continue to provide and increase support to safeguard and strengthen these educational frameworks, prioritizing crucial assistance to Jewish youth and young adults' movements.

#### **The Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

To work with Zionist Youth and Young Adults Movements worldwide, alongside the World Council of Zionist Youth Movements, to strengthen them, offering support in all aspects, including financial assistance:

1. Ongoing Economic Support:  
To strengthen the allocated budget for supporting "Tnuot Magshimot", to ensure the continuation of Zionist educational activity - this by increasing scholarships and subsidies to facilitate the participation of young Jews in Zionist events, seminars, camps and educational programs in Israel and the Diaspora..
2. Security Reinforcement:  
Provide resources for training personnel in security techniques and handling emergency situations, as well as staff training for psychological support, if necessary, and this due to increasing antisemitism in the world.
3. Promotion of Aliyah
  - Collaborate on specific programs for youth movement graduates (bogrim) considering Aliyah, supporting integration projects.
  - Collaborate financially with youth movements to create projects that facilitate the integration of new immigrants into Israeli society.
  - Create specific programs in collaboration with the World Council of Zionist Youth Movements for graduates of these movements considering making Aliyah.

### **1.2 Supporting threatened Jewish university students**

*Proposal Submitted by Ira Bartfield  
on behalf of B'nai B'rith International*

**Whereas** Jewish students in institutions of higher education, particularly in the United States, have faced increasing instances of antisemitism, cancelling and delegitimization since the Hamas onslaught against Israel on October 7; and

**Whereas** many have expressed interest in continuing their education in a non-threatening environment,

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby urges:**

The Zionist Executive to speed-up and conclude its efforts to create an arrangement through which foreign students, eligible for Aliya, could easily transfer to Israeli academic institutions and continue their education at Israeli institutions of higher education. The arrangement would be coordinated with the Council on Higher Education, the Ministry of Education, the Jewish Agency and the Committee of University Heads in Israel and would include a streamlined path to Aliya and financial support for such students and participating institutions. Among other things the emergency arrangement will help match students with institutions that most closely meet the degree they are pursuing, provide English-language courses and Hebrew-language training, including maximal academic recognition.

### **1.3 Calling for Diaspora University Leadership to Protect Jewish and Pro-Israel Students**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin*

*On behalf of Organization of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA)*

**Whereas** the rapid spread of antisemitic and anti-Israel activities, physical and verbal threats, intimidation, libels, disruptions, assaults and hate groups on Diaspora college campuses endangers Jewish and pro-Israel college students, faculty, staff and administrators, and requires university leadership to take clear and immediate steps to cure these evils,

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby hereby calls on the Zionist Executive of the World Zionist Organization to declare that it:**

1. Calls on the leadership of all universities in the Diaspora to assure that Jewish and pro-Israel students are protected and are provided with a safe learning environment: free of harassment based on an anti-Semitic and anti-Israel sentiments..
  - a. treating hateful activities against Jews with the same seriousness as activities against other minority groups.
  - b. holding accountable those who do not abide by laws and rules of conduct at the universities and those who encourage antisemitism, or publicly express support for Hamas or recognized terror organizations.
  - c. adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism and accompanying examples; and ensuring that any campus anti-bias programs include mandatory antisemitism training for the administration, faculty and student body, based on the IHRA definition and examples.
2. Calls for the leadership of all universities in the Diaspora to support Zionist activities, clubs and Zionist education on their campuses.
3. Calls for all Diaspora government legislative, executive and administrative bodies that fund, operate or oversee state or other universities to adopt legislation, executive orders, administrative orders, and/or regulations that assure that Diaspora universities will do all of the acts listed above.

### **1.4 Jewish identity and responsibility towards students in Israel and the Diaspora**

*Proposal Submitted by Tema Klausner*

*on behalf of World Emuna*

**Whereas** the Jewish people are currently facing a severe and escalating onslaught of anti-Semitism and hatred towards Israel worldwide, which finds a pronounced expression on the campuses of higher education institutions; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization has taken upon itself an ongoing commitment to promote Jewish and Zionist identity among the younger generation of Jews both in Israel and in the Diaspora, as well as strengthening their bond with the State of Israel, while dedicating substantial resources toward this aim;

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. The World Zionist Organization, in collaboration with existing groups and organizations, should allocate resources to educate and support students and student organizations which are members of the World Zionist Organization in universities and colleges worldwide, to strengthen their connection to Israel, as well as providing them with the tools to effectively address any form of anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist intimidation and harassment directed towards them.
2. The World Zionist Organization, in collaboration with existing groups and organizations, should allocate resources to support Jewish students in Israeli institutions of higher education who need to combat any form of intimidation and harassment directed towards them, based on their national or religious identity.

**1.5 Combatting the Exclusion of Israel and Jews in multicultural education**

*Proposal Submitted by Esther Renzer  
On behalf of Kol Israel – the General Zionist Faction*

**Whereas** in 2024, as Israel is at war and a violent wave of antisemitism rages through Jewish communities around the world, Antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and the exclusion of Jews in multicultural education and diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives have become ongoing concerns that impact Jewish communities both in the diaspora and in Israel; and

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

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

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves that:**

The National Institutions will set as a strategic goal to fight antisemitism on campuses and in educational curricula, in cooperation with local Zionist Federations with a particular focus on anti-Zionism, antisemitism and combating silence.

1. Raise awareness and monitor cases of antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and exclusion of Jews in multicultural education and similar initiatives.
2. Strengthen efforts to educate the public about the Jewish people, antisemitism, and anti-Zionism.

3. Assist global Jewish communities in encouraging their schools, universities, and other educational institutions in their regions to incorporate education on antisemitism and the Jewish experience into their curriculums, and to provide resources and support for educators to teach these topics effectively.
4. Assist diaspora communities in actions for the inclusion of voices, perspectives and experiences as a minority group, while providing equal opportunity and protection against anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism.
5. Encourage governments, NGOs, and other organizations to take meaningful steps to address antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and exclusion of Jews, and to hold those who engage in such behavior accountable for their actions.

### **1.6 Raise the Flag of Zion**

*Proposal Submitted by Hernan Felman  
On behalf of World Likud*

**Whereas** the terrible attack experienced by the country in recent months seeks to destroy Jewish life in the Land of Israel and seeks to destroy the State of Israel, the State of the Jews; and

**Whereas** the goal of terrorism is to destroy the Zionist hope.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. The World Zionist Organization shall raise the flag of Israel up high, as the Zionist expression of the endurance and perseverance of Israel.

**the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls on:**

2. The World Zionist Organization to hoist the Israeli flag in a prominent and central place on the buildings of the national institutions and in every institution and building owned by the World Zionist Organization.
3. The cultural institutions, organizations, youth movements, authorities and companies in Israel and the Jewish world to raise the Israeli flag as a Zionist sign of a firm stand against the terrorist's desire to overpower the Zionist movement.

## **Committee No. 2 – Israel-Diaspora Relations**

### **2.1 Am Yisrael Chai: Strengthening the Mutual Bond between Global Jewry and Israel after October 7th**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy  
On behalf of Arzenu*

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization remains committed to the principle that the unity of the Jewish people is one of the foundations of Zionism and that Zionism is based upon the unified Jewish people's bond to Israel; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization, through its various entities and the Zionist Congress, represents the Jewish people in and outside of Israel; and

**Whereas** the WZO strives to enhance the impact of Zionist ideology and activity in Jewish communities around the world; and

**Whereas** there has been evidence in recent years of an erosion of the bond between Jews in the Diaspora and those in Israel as well as an erosion of the unity of the Jewish people, such that President Herzog created "The Voice of the People: The President's Initiative for a Worldwide Jewish Dialogue" to address this issue; and

**Whereas** the attack of October 7<sup>th</sup> and resultant war with Hamas has confirmed the critical bond between the Jewish people and Israel; and

**Whereas** in the aftermath of October 7<sup>th</sup>, the world has seen a significant increase in global antisemitism, much of which is framed in terms of anti-Zionism and criticism of Israel; and

**Whereas** such widespread antisemitism, anti-Zionism and anti – Israel rhetoric, protests and acts show that these threats are to the world-wide Jewish population and not just to those Jews living in Israel; and

**Whereas** the tragedy of October 7<sup>th</sup> and its aftermath have reflected a renewed awareness of Israel's dependence upon the support of the entirety of the Jewish community living outside of Israel, regardless of political persuasion, religious stream, or level of observance; and

**Whereas** the aftermath of October 7<sup>th</sup> has shown the critically important role that a united civil society in Israel and around the world has played in filling the needs of Israel's soldiers, displaced communities, and society that the government was not able to fulfill;

**The Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

To commend the professional leadership of the World Zionist Organization, the Department Heads and all of the staff of the WZO for their extraordinary efforts and work in the aftermath of October 7 in support of the State of Israel, the members of the IDF, and the thousands of citizens who have suffered the brutal attacks of that day including the families of the murdered, the families of those held hostage as well as the thousands of Israelis who have been displaced from their homes.

**The Zionist General Council further resolves to call upon the Government of Israel:**

1. To recognize by its statements and actions the important role of Jews around the world in providing emotional, financial, and material support for Israel at all times but particularly at this time of war.
2. To refrain from public statements about the unimportance of the Diaspora to the welfare of Israel and to recognize its crucial role in promoting the unity of the Jewish people.

3. To prioritize efforts to strengthen the bonds of the Jewish community around the world with Israel and to recognize the crucial importance of the relationship between Israel and the global Jewish community.
4. To strengthen the relationship between Israel and the worldwide Jewish community by granting full equality to all streams of Judaism, thereby recognizing the religious rights of all Jews by providing every Jew with the option to exercise, with mutual respect, their Judaism as they see fit.

## **2.2 Lifting Up Emerging Jewish Communities Around the World**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy on behalf of Arzenu  
and by Rabbi Sergio Alejandro Bergman on behalf of World Union for Progressive Judaism*

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization remains committed to the principle that the unity of the Jewish people is one of the foundations of Zionism and that Zionism is based upon the unified Jewish people's bond to Israel; and to see all Jews as full members of K'lal Yisrael; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization is committed to strengthening leadership in the Diaspora and provides Israeli-educated leadership cadre to deepen and strengthen Diaspora communities' Jewish and Zionist education and commitment; and

**Whereas** 1600 Abayudaya Jews converted with the Masorti/Conservative Movement and another 400 with an Orthodox bet din guided by Rabbi Shlomo Riskin. Despite their recognition by the majority of World Jewry, neither conversion has been recognized as legitimate by Israel's Ministry of the Interior or its Population and Immigration Authority; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization, through its various entities and the Zionist Congress, represents the worldwide Jewish people in and outside of Israel; and

**Whereas** the attack of October 7<sup>th</sup> and the resultant war with Hamas has confirmed the critical bond between the Jewish people and Israel; and

**Whereas** in the aftermath of October 7<sup>th</sup>, the world has seen a significant increase in global antisemitism, much of which is framed in terms of anti-Zionism and criticism of Israel; and

**Whereas** such widespread antisemitism, anti-Zionism and anti-Israel rhetoric, protests and acts show that these threats are to the worldwide Jewish population and not just to those Jews living in Israel; and

**Whereas** the tragedy of October 7<sup>th</sup> and its aftermath have reflected a renewed awareness of Israel's dependence upon the support of the entirety of the Jewish community living outside of Israel, regardless of race, skin color, political persuasion, religious stream, or level of observance; and



**Whereas** the Ministry of the Interior of the State of Israel has consistently denied Aliyah rights and student visas to members of the Abayudaya (Ugandan) Jewish communities and other emerging communities under the Law of Return; and

**Whereas** The Population and Immigration Authority has continually added limitations to the conversion clause of the Law of Return so that recognition granted by the Jewish Agency to an emerging Jewish community has been ignored;

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

To work with the Jewish Agency for Israel to grant official recognition to the emerging communities of the World (those identified by its members the World Union for Progressive Judaism and Masorti Olami).

**The Zionist General Council further resolves to call upon the Government of Israel:**

1. To bring about full recognition by the State of Israel of the Abayudaya of Uganda.
2. To commit to making every effort to assist in attaining Masa visas in accordance with the criteria of the program and the Jewish Agency for the selected Abayudaya participants and doing everything in its power to ensure that those visas will not be revoked; and to provide the normal stipends provided to Jewish participants of Masa.
3. To recognize by its statements and actions the important role of Jews around the world, especially in emerging communities, in providing emotional, financial, and material support for Israel at all times but particularly at this time of war.
4. To prioritize efforts to strengthen the bonds of the emerging Jewish communities around the world with Israel and to recognize that such work, including the crucial importance of the relationship between Israel and the global Jewish community, must include Emerging Jewish communities.

#### **2.4 Strengthening the Role of Zionist Federations in WZO**

*Submitted jointly by the American Zionist Movement and the Consejo Sionista De Mexico (Zionist Council of Mexico) together with the Organización Sionista Argentina (OSA), Zionist Federation of Australia (ZFA), Zionist Federation in Bulgaria, Zionist Federation of Belgium, Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF), Federacion Sionista de Chile, Federacion Sionista de Colombia, Zionist Federation of Denmark, Federación Sionista del Ecuador, Fédération des Organisations Sionistes de France (FOSF), Zionist Organization of Germany, Zionist Federation of Hungary, Zionist Federation of New Zealand, Zionist Organization of Panama, Zionist Federation of Paraguay, Federacion Sionista del Peru, Zionist Association of Romania, Zionist Federation of Russia (MORIA), South African Zionist Federation (SAZF), Organización Sionista Española (Spain – OSE)), Zionist Federation in Switzerland, Zionist Federation of the United Kingdom and Ireland (ZFUK), Zionist Federation of Ukraine, and the Federacion Sionista de Venezuela*

**Whereas**, 75 years after the founding of the State of Israel, half of the Jews worldwide live in countries across the globe and half live in Israel; and

**Whereas**, Zionist Federations around the world represent more than half of the elected Delegates to the Zionist Congress.; and

**Whereas**, one of the key tenets of the Zionist movement is connecting those Jews around the world with Israel; and

**Whereas** article 7A of the WZO Constitution specifically states that “The Executive, the heads of its departments and its representatives must work in that region by means of and in partnership with the Zionist Federation or its authorized representatives, regarding the Zionist activities of the Executive in that area.”; and

**Whereas** an active defense and promotion of Zionist values and ideals require both the coordination of National Institutions and the allocation of sufficient funds at the local level; and

**Whereas** in the aftermath of October 7<sup>th</sup> we have seen the strengthening of connections and partnership between world Jewish communities and Israel; and

**Whereas** after the tragic events of October 7<sup>th</sup> local Zionist federations have acted as the main front in defense of Zionism in Diaspora communities.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council resolves that:**

1. The WZO Executive, including all elected Officers, Department Heads, staff, and representatives, who do any work in countries which have active Zionist Federations, shall work with and through that Federation with full advance consultation, coordination, and cooperation on all programs and activities in accordance with the WZO constitution.
2. The Zionist Executive together with the Departments of the WZO and the Committee on Federations or similar committee will undertake the responsibility to increase the support that is provided to active Zionist Federations such that Federations have the resources necessary to fulfill their missions and the WZO mission of promoting Zionism around the world. Such support shall be related to the size of the Jewish community represented by such Federations.

**2.5 Encouraging Solidarity Missions to Visit the ‘Otef’ region Communities**

*Proposal Submitted by Adi Samson  
On behalf of Mizrahi World Faction and Organization of Orthodox Synagogues and  
Communities*

On Shemini Atzeret, October 7, the towns and communities in the Western Negev were subject to an unprecedented, vicious attack. An attack of such brutality that takes us back to the era prior to the establishment of the State of Israel. Although it was the Western Negev communities that were hit in this savage offensive, it is patently clear that this

attack was not aimed at any one town or community nor at any specific residents; this is tantamount to a call to undermine the Jewish state's very right to exist and the right of any Jew to exist too.

**Whereas** the Western Negev Communities have sustained the most severe damage during the war; and

**Whereas** the value of mutual responsibility is part of the Jewish Zionist identity of the Jewish people.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls for:**

The World Zionist Organization and the national institutions to invest resources and prioritize in an effort to encourage the arrival of solidarity missions from among the Jewish communities in the Diaspora to the 'Otef' region communities in coordination and taking into account their wishes.

## **2.6 Bolstering and Reinforcing the Teacher Shlichim (Emissaries) and Shlichim of the Zionist Youth Movements in the Diaspora**

*Proposal Submitted by Adi Samson  
On behalf of Organization of Orthodox Synagogues and Communities  
and Mizrahi World Faction*

The State of Israel is currently in the midst of a military campaign exacting a heavy price in terms of human lives and time too. In what we can only describe as the most just war, we are responding to the barbaric, savage attack, spurred by the boundless hate of our enemies in the Gaza Strip. This horrific attack is a sober reminder to us all of the necessity of the State of Israel for the guaranteed survival of the Jewish people.

This attack has led numerous Jews to the bridge that spans the physical distance between those living in Israel and the Jews in the Diaspora. Many communities, families and schools have chosen to play an active part in building the bridge between Israel and the Diaspora by strengthening the State of Israel with donations, delegations and various activities to identify with Israel.

**Whereas** the State of Israel is a significant component in the Jewish identity of all Jews wherever they may be; and

**Whereas** the stronger the ties with the State of Israel grow, so the feeling of Jewish identity becomes much deeper among the Jewish communities in the Diaspora; and

**Whereas** Zionist Jewish education is essential to ensure the continuity of the Jewish people; and

**Whereas** the Teacher Shlichim and Shlichim of the Zionist youth movements (Israeli emissaries) who work on a daily basis, leading ongoing activity in the classroom, in the schools and the communities, bring Israel and its values directly to the Jewish communities in the Diaspora; and

**Whereas** the Teacher Shlichim and Shlichim of the Zionist youth movements (Israeli emissaries) work in a variety of Jewish schools and Zionist youth movements across the entire spectrum.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls on the World Zionist Organization:**

1. To bolster, encourage and increase the scope of the activity of the Teacher Shlichim and Zionist youth movements shlichim in the Jewish schools in the Diaspora.
2. To inspire teachers and young educators to go on Zionist shlichut abroad and to do so by engaging in Hasbarah activity in the schools, youth movements and formal and informal frameworks in Jewish communities and on social media.
3. To initiate calls to Jewish schools and Jewish communities where there are no Shlichim and offer support to encourage them to receive an educational Shaliach.

## **Committee No. 3 – Combating Antisemitism**

### **3.1 The War Against anti-Semitism and aid to Diaspora Communities**

*Proposal Submitted by Adi Samson*

*On behalf of Mizrahi World Faction and Organization of Orthodox Synagogues and Communities*

**Whereas** we are witnessing that, due to the “Swords of Iron” War, anti-Semitism is increasing globally, manifested both in speech against Jews as well as real acts perpetrated against communities, Jews and Zionist and Jewish organizations throughout the world; and

**Whereas** the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization adopted the Jerusalem Program, as defined by the Zionist General Council in 2004, and this Program defined the foundations of Zionism, among them: “defending the rights of Jews as individuals and as a nation, representing the national Zionist interests of the Jewish people, and struggling against all manifestations of anti-Semitism”; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel has declared through its decisions and actions that it serves as the home of the entire Jewish people worldwide, and its actions, including the actions of all governmental and security institutions, have proven that the State is a partner in bearing responsibility for the security of all Jews in the world.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council calls on:**

1. The World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency to act and to call on the State of Israel to guarantee the security of all Jews in the Diaspora, to conduct a

- battle against the escalating anti-Semitism, and to guarantee the wellbeing of the Jewish institutions and communities throughout the world.
2. The national institutions to invest financial and human resources to guarantee the wellbeing of the Jews of the Diaspora, and to strengthen the Jewish communities throughout the world, particularly small communities that are in need of immediate assistance due to escalating anti-Semitic incidents.
  3. Should draft resolutions or legislative bills relevant to advancing this matter be submitted, the General Council calls on the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency to promote these resolutions and bills before the Government of Israel, and the governmental entities, according to current needs.
  4. The World Zionist Organization and the national institutions shall prioritize the war against anti-Semitism and safeguarding the security of all Jews throughout the world. The national institutions shall engage in public relations activity to reduce anti-Semitism and to combat hatred against Jews.

### **3.2 Combating Antisemitism**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy  
On behalf of Arzenu*

**Whereas** in the days after October 7th, 2023, Hamas made clear that its attacks were not just against residents of Israel, but also to create fear among Jews wherever we might live in the world; and

**Whereas** following the 'Day of Rage' called by Hamas worldwide on October 13, 2023, antisemitism has skyrocketed around the world, with an increase of over 360% in the United States and 1350% in the United Kingdom; and

**Whereas** Jews who previously felt safe in the Diaspora were reminded of the importance of Medinat Yisrael as a homeland and haven for Jews worldwide; and

**Whereas** one of the key tools in fighting antisemitism is to introduce non-Jews to the joy of Judaism as lived by Jews around the world; and

**Whereas** interfaith allies have provided crucial support for our Diaspora communities, and we can help those in alliance with us, to have an increasingly sophisticated understanding about antisemitism, especially antisemitism that contains criticism of Israel or Zionism, through continued engagement,

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

1. To continue to work to raise awareness of cases of antisemitism, anti-Zionism, particularly in our engagement in educational institutions, universities and colleges as well as in work settings, as well as the exclusion of Jews and Jewish identity in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts.

2. To broaden and deepen activities in the area of interfaith dialogue, specifically focused on the subject of Israel and Zionism. Such activity will include creating a task force to work with appropriate partners to meet local needs to develop a strategy to provide training and guidance for the professionals and emissaries from the World Zionist Organization on best practices in engaging in interfaith dialogue around the subject of Israel and Zionism, as well as providing financial support for activities in the Diaspora encouraging or engaging in such interfaith dialogue.
3. As part of such interfaith dialogue activity, the World Zionist Organization will support and encourage the involvement of Israelis abroad to such interfaith dialogue, including by way of example by connecting Israelis abroad to Diaspora communities and organizations engaged in interfaith work and providing support for such engagement.

**3.3 Reiterating Condemnation of Palestinian Authority (PA)/ PLO Pay-to-Slay Payments and Terror Incitement; and Opposing Allowing the PA/ PLO/ Fatah to Govern Gaza**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

**To assure a more peaceful future the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby:**

1. Calls on the Palestinian Authority (PA)/PLO/Fatah to stop to pay Arab terrorists and/or their families large pensions of approximately \$400 million per year to murder Jews (so-called “martyr payments” or “pay-to-slay” payments); and strongly reiterates the Zionist General Council’s 2019 resolution condemning these “pay to slay” payments.
2. Calls on governments and organizations throughout the world to condition all further payments to the PA/PLO/Fatah on the PA/PLO/Fatah ending all such “martyr payments”; and strongly reiterates the Zionist General Council’s 2019 resolution call to do so.
3. Calls on the PA/PLO/Fatah to stop inciting anti-Jewish terrorism by glorifying terrorists; spreading blood libels; repeatedly rebroadcasting PA President Mahmoud Abbas’ call for “spilling blood” to “protect al Aqsa” from Jews’ and Christians “filthy feet”; naming monuments, government buildings, streets, schools, sports teams, etc. after terrorists who murdered Jews; and teaching children to hate Jews and Israel and to seek “martyrdom” by killing Jews.
4. Calls on governments throughout the world to strongly condemn the PA/PLO/Fatah for participating in, supporting and defending Hamas’ atrocities on October 7 and aligning itself with Hamas, including condemning the following actions:

- a. Fatah terrorists bragged in a video posted on social media that they joined Hamas' October 7 attacks, took over Kibbutz Nahal Oz, killed soldiers and seized military equipment;
  - b. Fatah Secretary General, Jibril Rajoub, blamed Israel for October 7, defended Hamas' October 7 atrocities as part of a "defensive war," and stated that "Hamas is part of our political and social fabric and our struggle, and their involvement is important";
  - c. the PA Foreign Ministry stated that Israel fabricated Hamas' October 7 atrocities; and
  - d. the PA/PLO/Fatah leadership has radicalized the Palestinian population under its control: Recent polls show that 85% of the PA population in Judea-Samaria is satisfied with Hamas' actions on October 7; 82% support Hamas decision to launch October 7, and only 12% believe that Hamas' decision was incorrect.
5. Calls on the Israeli government to oppose having the PA/PLO/Fatah govern Gaza.
6. Calls on governments and organizations throughout the world to join the Israeli government in opposing having the PA/PLO/Fatah govern Gaza.

### **3.4 Condemning and Calling for Dismantling of UNRWA**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

**Whereas** UNRWA teaches Palestinian Arab children to hate Jews and Israelis and to seek to become "martyrs" by killing Israelis, Jews and other non-Muslims; and

**Whereas** UNRWA perpetuates Palestinian Arabs as having "refugee" status generation after generation, and refuses to resettle said "refugees," when no other refugees in the world pass along refugee status to future generations, and the goal of all other refugee agencies is prompt resettlement in neighboring countries; and

**Whereas** UNRWA is ridden with longstanding corruption and terror connections, including: grossly overstating refugee numbers (e.g., a survey in Lebanon showed that UNRWA overstated its roles by approximately 200%); and employing 30,000 employees, many of whom are members of or affiliated with Hamas and other terror organizations;

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby calls on the Government of Israel:**

1. To condemn the United Nations Relief & Works Agency (UNRWA) for hiding weapons and rocket launching equipment for Hamas in UNRWA's facilities.
2. To assure a more peaceful future, by calling for UNRWA to be dismantled, and for its role to be assumed by agencies free of terror connections and corruption; and that are dedicated to teaching peace and tolerance towards Israelis, Jews and other non-Muslims; and that are dedicated to resettlement instead of

perpetuating Palestinian Arabs as a “refugee” army for attacking or overrunning Israel.

### **3.5 Condemning the International Red Cross for Failing to Visit and Assist the Hostages**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby:**

1. Condemns the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for failing to visit and bring needed medicines and medical care to the hostages being held in Gaza; and
2. Demands that the ICRC prioritize, exert all pressures and make all efforts to immediately visit the hostages and bring them needed medicines and medical care.

### **3.6 Condemning United Nations’ Violations of its Charter, Anti-Israel Bias and Refusal to Condemn Hamas’ October 7th Atrocities, Including Sexual Atrocities Against Women and Children**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

**Whereas** the United Nations Security Council, General Assembly and Human Rights Council have failed to condemn Hamas’ October 7 atrocities including its horrific sexual atrocities against women and children; and instead have adopted resolutions calling for measures, that will help Hamas’ rocket and other attacks on Israel; and

**Whereas** the UN has repeatedly displayed anti-Israel bias and animus, including by adopting anti-Israel resolutions; holding anti-Israel conferences; establishing and funding the operations of anti-Israel UN committees and agencies; collaborating with anti-Israel non-government organizations (NGOs) – including NGOs affiliated with terror organizations such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP); funding and authorizing anti-Israel commissions, a permanent commissions of inquiry and investigations carried out by extremely biased personnel to harass and libel the Jewish state; and failing to condemn war crimes committed against Israel – all of which violate the UN Charter,

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby:**

1. Condemns the United Nations Security Council, UN General Assembly and UN Human Rights Council for failing to condemn Hamas’ October 7 atrocities against Israelis including Hamas’ horrific sexual atrocities against Jewish women and



- children; and calls for the UNGA, UNSC, UN WOMEN and UNHRC to immediately adopt resolutions condemning Hamas' atrocities against Israelis and horrific sexual atrocities against Jewish women and children.
2. Condemns the United Nations anti-Israel resolutions and activities as invalid violations of the UN's charter; and calls for the UN to cease and desist from all such political resolutions.

### **3.7 Condemning Iran's Role in the October 7th Atrocities and Calling for Holding Iran Accountable**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

#### **The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 finds that:**

- a. The Wall Street Journal reported on October 8, 2023, that Iran helped plot the October 7 attack on Israel; gave the final go-ahead for the brutal October 7 attack on Israel during a October 2 meeting in Beirut; and refined details of the October 7 attack in a series of meetings among Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (the IRGC), Hamas and Hezbollah in Beirut; and a Syrian government adviser and European official gave the same account of Iran's involvement;
- b. The Wall Street Journal reported on October 25, 2023, that approximately 500 Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) terrorists received specialized combat training in Iran led by Iran's IRGC Quds Force and its commander, Brig. Gen. Esmail Qaani;
- c. On October 10, 2023, *Kayhan International*, a newspaper known to be an Iranian regime mouthpiece, attributed the October 7th attack to former IRGC commander Qassem Soleimani's planning before Soleimani was killed by a U.S. strike on January 3, 2020. *Kayhan* boasted: "Today it emerges that [Soleimani's] powers of planning and operational strategy were boundless. The unity of the resistance factions based on this five-year charter is the fruit of Soleimani's martyrdom and part of the resistance factions' harsh revenge." *Kayhan* further acknowledged Iranian leaders' involvement and knowledge, stating that, "last year, the [Supreme] Leader [Ayatollah Khamenei] gave 'the promise of the imminent conquest,' and this year he gave 'the announcement of the complete conquest.'"
- d. At a press briefing on October 23, 2023, U.S. National Security spokesperson John Kirby stated that "Iran continues to support Hamas and Hezbollah," to facilitate their attacks, and provide funding; resourcing, rockets, munitions and training for these Iran-backed proxies.
- e. On October 26, 2023, a hearing held by the United States House of Representatives Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations (Chairman Bill

Huizenga) revealed that, " Hamas receives approximately \$350 million dollars per year in support from Iran or roughly 93% of their [ Hamas' ] total funding."

- f. On January 3, 2024, Fars News reported that IRGC spokesman Ramazan Sharif said that the massacre of Israelis on October 7, 2023, was "one of the resistance axis's acts of vengeance against the Zionists for the killing of Soleimani," a further indication of Iranian involvement in planning and assisting with the October 7 massacre.
- g. Iran continues to incite against Israel and the U.S.: For instance, after ISIS acknowledged that it bombed the January 3, 2024 gathering in Kerman, Iran marking the anniversary of IRGC Chief Qassem Soleimani's death, Iran blamed Israel and the U.S., claiming that "Daesh [ISIS] terrorists can only act as agents and mercenaries of America and Zionism."

**Therefore, The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby:**

1. Condemns Iran's role in the October 7 attacks on Israel and Iran's continuing anti-Israel plotting, training, funding, incitement and equipping of Iran-backed proxies, including Hamas, PIJ, Hezbollah and the Houthis.
2. Calls on all nations to hold Iran accountable for Iran's role in the October 7 attacks on Israel and Iran's continuing anti-Israel plotting, training, funding, incitement and equipping of Iran-backed proxies, including (but not limited to) by strictly enforcing sanctions against Iran.

**Committee No. 4 – Empowerment of Women and Equality in Israeli Society**

**4.1 Promoting equality of the LGBT community- a resolution proposal in memory of Major (res.) Sagi Golan z"l**

*Proposal submitted by Emily Levy Shochat  
On behalf of Mercaz Olami*

**Whereas** the murderous attack against the towns of the western Negev forced the State of Israel to call up tens of thousands of reserve soldiers who have now been in fierce fighting for many months; and

**Whereas** the reserve soldiers are the heart of Israel's defensive forces, and their posting was immediate, broad, comprehensive, and in fact without them the State of Israel could not have fought back at all; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel and the Jewish people owe a debt of honor to all of the reserve soldiers, from across the country, from all sectors and all communities; and

**Whereas** the campaign this time has made public, as it has never before, the stories of the many families from the LGBT community, families with two fathers, two mothers that,

like so many Israeli families, sent the best of their loved ones, on active duty and in the reserves, to fight for the country's defense; and

**Whereas** couples from the LGBT community cannot be married according to the law of their nation, the nation that they serve, and in order to marry they must fly abroad and be registered there; and

**Whereas** the Defense Ministry has decided, for the first time, to recognize the same-sex partners of those who have fallen in the campaign as IDF widow/ers even though they could not be married according to the laws of the State of Israel; and

Out of appreciation for **Major (res.) Sagi Golan z"l**, who was supposed to be married to Omer Ohana but was killed at the battle in Be'eri, and whose story has touched the entire House of Israel and was broadcast in many communities across the world.

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. To call upon the Israeli Knesset to remedy at once this inequity, and to allow same-sex couples to marry in Israel in a ceremony that will be registered at the Interior Ministry, and will grant the couple the status of a married couple.

#### **4.2 The lessons of the October 7th war and the commitment to Equality towards non-Jews**

**The proposal was accepted with changes. Votum Separatum was submitted on the changes.**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy  
On behalf of Arzenu*

**Whereas** the Druze community shares a close bond with the Jewish community of the State of Israel including a commitment of Druze men to serve in the IDF; and

**Whereas** a greater percentage of young members of the Druze community enter the Israeli armed services draft than do so from other sectors of Israeli society; and

**Whereas** the Druze community has paid a heavy price in the war that followed 7 October 2023; and

**Whereas** the Druze community also supports the war effort through non-military contributions; and

**Whereas** the Druze community suffers from discrimination in budgeting, infrastructure and in planning and construction—including in the provision of adequate protection and shelters in Druze villages; and

**Whereas** the Druze community continues to feel deeply hurt by the Nation State Law, which relegates the Druze community to second-class citizens; and

**Whereas** the majority of Israelis support the amendment of the Nation State Law to express the community's deep connection to the State of Israel; and

**Whereas** the current circumstances present an opportunity to amend the Nation State Law to reflect the fact that Israel is not only a Jewish State but also a democratic state committed to equality for all its citizens, Jews and non-Jews alike;

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

To express the gratitude of the Zionist movement to the Druze community for their service to the State of Israel and to build on the work of partnership between the Druze community and the Zionist movement.

**The Zionist General Council further resolves to call upon the Government of Israel:**

1. To take all possible steps to avoid budget cuts in the five-year plan for Arab society as part of the 2024 budget.
2. To implement a long-term plan for developing Druze, Bedouin and other Arab communities, and to address the discrimination in budgeting, in infrastructure and in planning and construction, which the communities currently face and to prioritize within that plan the provision of adequate shelters in these locations.
3. To amend the Nation State Law by inserting a commitment to full equality to all Israelis, without regard to their religion, race, gender or national origin.

**4.2 Gratitude towards the Druze community and the other communities for their participation in the defense of the homeland The lessons of the October 7th war and the commitment to Equality towards non-Jews**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy  
On behalf of Arzenu*

**Whereas** the Druze community shares a close bond with the Jewish community of the State of Israel including a commitment of Druze men to serve in the IDF; and

**Whereas** a greater percentage of young members of the Druze community enter the Israeli armed services draft than do so from other sectors of Israeli society; and

**Whereas** the Druze community has paid a heavy price in the war that followed 7 October 2023; and

**Whereas** the Druze community also supports the war effort through non-military contributions; and

~~**Whereas** the Druze community suffers from discrimination in budgeting, infrastructure and in planning and construction including in the provision of adequate protection and shelters in Druze villages; and~~

~~Whereas the Druze community continues to feel deeply hurt by the Nation State Law, which relegates the Druze community to second-class citizens; and~~

~~Whereas the majority of Israelis support the amendment of the Nation State Law to express the community's deep connection to the State of Israel; and~~

~~Whereas the current circumstances present an opportunity to amend the Nation State Law to reflect the fact that Israel is not only a Jewish State but also a democratic state committed to equality for all its citizens, Jews and non-Jews alike;~~

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

To express the gratitude of the Zionist movement to the Druze community and other communities participating in the defense of the State of Israel, for their service to the State of Israel and to build on the work of partnership between ~~the Druze community~~ these communities and the Zionist movement.

~~**The Zionist General Council further resolves to call upon the Government of Israel:**~~

- ~~1. To take all possible steps to avoid budget cuts in the five-year plan for Arab society as part of the 2024 budget.~~
- ~~2. To implement a long-term plan for developing Druze, Bedouin and other Arab communities, and to address the discrimination in budgeting, in infrastructure and in planning and construction, which the communities currently face and to prioritize within that plan the provision of adequate shelters in these locations.~~
- ~~3. To amend the Nation State Law by inserting a commitment to full equality to all Israelis, without regard to their religion, race, gender or national origin.~~

#### **4.5 Women at Hamas-Israel War**

*Proposal Submitted by Tema Klausner  
on behalf of World Emuna*

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization preceded most of the world's countries in granting equality and voting rights for women; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization has done much to acknowledge and honor the important role and place of women, who have contributed to the existence and the continuity of the people of Israel since the days of the Bible, especially for the women who actively contributed to the establishment and development of the State of Israel from the birth of Modern Zionism;

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. To pay tribute to the exceptional contributions of the women of Israel, encompassing those who fought shoulder to shoulder with the men in all the Israel Defense Forces before, during, and after the horrific events of Shabbat Simchat Torah October 7th, 2023.
2. To pay tribute to the mothers, wives and partners of those valiantly defending our homeland and all women from Israel and abroad who have volunteered in the home front to make crucial contributions to the fighting forces, and to Israel's displaced citizens due to the war.

#### **4.6 Strengthening the Status of Women and the principle of Equality in the wake of the "Swords of Iron" war**

*Proposal submitted by Emily Levy Shochat  
On behalf of Mercaz Olami*

**Whereas** the murderous attack against the towns of the western Negev forced women soldiers, police officers, and many female citizens- from all corners of Israeli society, secular and religious, young and old- to demonstrate their resourcefulness, to engage in combat and to fight face to face with the terrorists of Hamas; and

**Whereas** at the Israeli High Court of Justice, Alice Miller case 4541/94 ruled that there is no justification for distinguishing between men and women that would justify barring women from submitting their candidacy to the pilots' course of the IDF, an important decision that is of unparalleled importance for the right to equality between men and women in Israel, and because of which women pilots now serve in every capacity in the IDF, including as fighter pilots; and

**Whereas** the decision to ignore the warnings of the women "lookout" (spotters) at the Gaza border has been revealed to be disastrous; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel and the Jewish people owe a debt of honor to the women soldiers on active duty and in the reserves, to the women police officers and to the women citizens who engaged in the fighting and showed their courage; and

**Whereas** the Zionist movement, from the dawn of its establishment, has advocated for gender equality and the advancement of women, among other means through the women's organizations- Hadassah, WIZO, Naamat, and Emunah- whose contributions to Zionism are measureless, then and today; and

Out of appreciation for the tank drivers Hagar, Hila, Tal, Sarah, Michal, Karni, Ophir, and Tamar, who rushed from the Egyptian border to the Gaza perimeter, blazed a trail and became the first women in Israel, and apparently in the world, to fight in a heroic tank battle in which they killed dozens of terrorists and saved an entire kibbutz; and

Out of appreciation for Superintendent Shifra Buchris, the commander of the ranger unit in the Border Patrol that for 12 hours freed injured people from the slaughter in Re'im while under fire; and

Out of appreciation for the Military Security Coordinator of Kibbutz Nir Am, Inbal Lieberman, who organized the members of the kibbutz's local security team, equipped them, and stationed them at strategic points in the kibbutz and in this way put a stop to the terrorists' takeover of the kibbutz; and

Out of appreciation for the hundreds of additional women whose stories have yet to be revealed and publicized, but who have contributed to the war effort on 7 October and since.

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. To call upon the government of Israel to ensure the representation of women in the centers of decision-making- on every commission, in every cabinet and on every council that is established on the authority of governmental decision.
2. Call on the Zionist Executive to implement the section in the constitution that determines the representation of at least 40% of women in every committee and every relevant body that exists or will be created.

**4.7 Violence Against Israeli Women on October 7th and Beyond**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy on behalf of Arzenu  
and by Rabbi Ehud Bandel by World Union of Meretz*

**Whereas** October 7th was one of the most challenging days in the history of the State of Israel and the Jewish people. In the hours and days after Hamas' initial attacks, accounts emerged about sexual violence perpetrated against women. Endemic even in times of peace, the risk of sexual-based violence only increases during armed conflict. Further, there is a long history of ignoring and denying women's experiences of rape and sexual brutality in any context; and

**Whereas** throughout history, women's lives and bodies have been degraded in times of war; and

**Whereas** the pain and suffering of Israeli women has multiplied on the international stage, as women's accounts of sexual violence on October 7th have been **denied and degraded**; and

**Whereas** as hostages are released and begin sharing their accounts, the pattern of sexual violence perpetrated against those held captive in Gaza has begun to emerge; and

**Whereas** when an armed conflict does end, the impacts of sexual violence persist, including unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, trauma, and stigmatization;

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

1. To denounce all acts of sexual-based violence carried out against women during this war and beyond.
2. To express, and to call upon the World Zionist Organization to continue to express publicly that the Zionist movement believes the accounts of Israeli women victimized on October 7th and in captivity.

**The Zionist General Council further resolves:**

1. To call upon the World Zionist Organization to defend and support the Israeli women in Israel, in the United Nations, and throughout the world impacted by sexual-based violence in the public sphere.
2. That the World Zionist Organization shall try to ensure an equitable allocation of funds and resources to support women suffering from the physical and mental health impacts of sexual-based violence during and after the war, and shall consider those physical and mental health impacts on all the women of Israel in the design and implementation of post-October 7 relief, recovery and solidarity efforts that the World Zionist Organization funds, leads, implements, or otherwise is involved.
3. To call upon the World Zionist Organization and all of the National Institutions to educate and advocate for an end to sexual-based violence in Israel and abroad.

#### **4.8 Lifting up the Voices of Women in the Aftermath of October 7: Representation, Equity and Dialogue**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy  
On behalf of Arzenu*

**Whereas** under the current government, women in Israel have experienced a significant decline in representation in senior government and ministerial positions. There are no women included in the War Cabinet and few in positions of decision-making, notwithstanding the clear recognition in United Nations Resolution 1325 of the “important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building” and call for “increased representation of women at all decision-making levels” in the “institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict; and



**Whereas** in the aftermath of the brutal terrorist attacks of October 7, 2023 and the extensive evidence of gender-based violence, mutilation, sexual assault, torture, and rape, Jewish women around the world have found themselves unsupported and betrayed by the United Nations and other organizations that purport to support and affirm women and support the fight for equality; and

**Whereas** as a result of October 7, 2023 and the current war there has been significant disruption in the daily lives and work/life balance of the Israeli population as a result of many factors, including those who have been directly impacted by displacement and as a result of the large-scale sudden call-up of military reserve forces; and

**Whereas** the Declaration of Independence of the State of Israel includes in its affirmation that “the State of Israel will promote the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants,” the specific commitment to “uphold the full social and political equality of all its citizens without distinction of race, creed or sex”; and

**Whereas** as an egalitarian Zionist organization, the World Zionist Organization continues to take steps toward more equitable representation of women at gatherings of the World Zionist Congress, including the constitutional amendment of “Appropriate Representation of Women” at the Extraordinary Congress in 2023 to raise the appointment of women minimum in the World Zionist Organization Constitution from 30% to 40% women. And yet, the representation remains neither adequate nor equal; and

**Whereas** now more than ever it is essential that the World Zionist Organization support all Zionist women, and express, affirm and act upon its egalitarian values, and yet there remain too many spaces within the World Zionist Organization, its leadership bodies and its work functions where women are either not present or are present in disproportionately small and inappropriately non-representative numbers; and

**Whereas** the Jewish Agency for Israel has shown by example the value, impact and interest in participation when they have held space and opportunity at Board of Governors meetings and through virtual programming for a meaningful women’s dialogue, which included a space to lift up some other historically marginalized voices.

**The Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

1. The World Zionist Organisation will strive to set annual times such as at the Va’ad HaPoel, Expanded Executive and Zionist Congress or any other meeting that brings together representatives of the various *britot* to do the work of the World Zionist Organization, there shall be reasonable and appropriate time for a meaningful gender-inclusion and gender equity dialogue session (a “Dialogue”). Such Dialogue will provide women and men asking to be part of the World Zionist Organization an opportunity for networking as well as mutual support and understanding. Such an inclusive space for engagement, empowerment, and equity will also provide opportunity for the discussion of issues related to safety, respect, equity and

inclusion within the World Zionist Organization and in the conduct of its work in Israel and abroad.

2. The World Zionist Organization will strive to provide the funding for such Dialogue and will create a representative task force that includes both Israeli and Diaspora representatives to design and implement such Dialogue sessions.
3. The World Zionist Organization will strive to provide the resources and funding for, and will conduct an analysis and written report, following up on the analysis and presentation previously made by the Human Resources Unit of the World Zionist Organization. This updated and expanded study will be conducted under the auspices of the Human Resources Unit and will investigate, analyze and report on the current situation and trends in the World Zionist Organization regarding gender matters in the workplace, including but not limited to representational equity, pay equity (including but not limited to salaries, overtime, bonuses, reimbursement structures and benefits), equitable recruitment and hiring practices within and across departments, committees, and other leadership groupings within the WZO as well as across the organization as a whole, and provide recommendations. The report shall be provided to the Expanded Executive for consideration, taking care to protect the underlying individual data of the World Zionist Organization employees.

**The Zionist General Council further resolves to call upon the Government of Israel:**

To increase the representation of women at all decision-making levels in Israel's institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict in general, and specifically with regard to Operation Iron Sword.

## **Committee No. 5 – Aliyah**

### **5.1 Promotion and Strengthening of Aliyah**

*Proposal Submitted by Hernan Felman  
On behalf of World Likud*

**Whereas;** the Zionist movement sees the ingathering of exiles in the land of Israel as the supreme goal of the Zionist ideal; and

**Whereas** on the one hand, the Iron Swords War has instilled in Diaspora Jewry a strengthened sense of belonging to the Jewish nation and the State of Israel; and

**Whereas** on the other hand, the war has led to an increase in antisemitism in the world, which manifests itself in real threats to the Jewish communities in the world.

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls on the Zionist Executive:**

1. To initiate, encourage, invest in, and develop Aliyah programs in all areas of the world in order to assist Jews of Diaspora who wish to make Aliyah to do so.
2. To send emissaries in those communities in order to strengthen the Jewish identity of the community and sense of belonging and connection to the State of Israel.
3. To develop programs for group absorption of families and individuals, in cities and towns throughout the country.
4. To call on the Knesset to enact new laws and regulations to improve the conditions for the absorption of Olim.

### **5.2 Emergency Plan for the Aliyah of Jews from Countries Where there are Manifestations of Antisemitism**

*Proposal Submitted by Hernan Felman  
On behalf of World Likud*

**Whereas** the Iron Swords War caused the significant increase of antisemitism in many; and

**Whereas** there was a significant increase in the opening of *aliyah* files at the Jewish Agency, in many countries, there is a revitalized interest in making aliyah to Israel.

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls on the World Zionist Organization:**

To assist in every possible way for a massive immigration of Jews and among other things:

1. To strengthen the missions, programs and emissaries in countries where there are multiple manifestations of antisemitism, and to act in order to encourage their *aliyah* and strengthen the Jewish identity and the desire to immigrate to Israel.
2. To call on the Knesset to enact new laws in order to improve the conditions for the absorption of the olim and especially to recognize the licenses, degrees and authorizations from the countries of origin in order to help the absorption.

### **5.3 Encouragement of Aliyah and Strengthening the Connection with Diaspora Jewry**

*Proposal Submitted by Ilan Barkan  
on behalf of World Israel Beytenu*

**Whereas** the State of Israel was established for Jews from all the exiles of the Diaspora, and since its earliest days has been involved in the absorption of new immigrants. Their absorption and successful integration into community life and employment are

cornerstones of national resilience and the continued existence of the State of Israel. The arrival of immigrants in Israel is a Zionist fulfillment of our heritage and dreams, after two thousand years of exile; and

**Whereas** the murderous attack that occurred on the 7th of October against the State of Israel, against its citizens and particularly those in the South, was unprecedented in terms of its scale and brutality, and constituted a severe blow to national resilience. The attack, which unfolded in many locations, affected almost every citizen, whether directly or indirectly; and

**Whereas** we are in the most difficult times for the State of Israel; and

**Whereas** in the midst of darkness there is a little light shining for us, the Jewish people. This light is the unity we receive from communities around the world. The Jewish communities that have mobilized for the national effort, in assisting residents whose homes were destroyed and burned, and in aiding our citizens and soldiers; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel should serve as a beacon for the Jewish people, and as an insurance policy for every Jew in the Diaspora. And in order for them to continue feeling this way, it is important that on the one hand we support the communities in the Diaspora and give them a sense of security by investing in programs to strengthen the ties. So that every Jew in the world can be confident and assured that in the country where they live, they can lead a Jewish communal life without fear and without dread; and

**Whereas** on the other hand, to be for them a safe place and home, through preparations for the absorption of new immigrants based on the Law of Return. This is the thread that connects us with the Diaspora Jewry, which has proven itself as a great supporter of the State of Israel; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization has a central role, both in maintaining the connection with Diaspora Jewry and in encouraging their Aliyah to the land.

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls**

For the World Zionist Organization, to take an active part in strengthening the connections with Diaspora Jewry and encouraging Aliyah to the State of Israel.

**5.4 Immigration and Absorption**

*Proposal Submitted by Adi Samson*

*On behalf of Mizrahi World Faction and Organization of Orthodox Synagogues  
and Communities*

**Whereas** the State of Israel's values, as founded on the Declaration of Independence, set forth that "the State of Israel will be open for Jewish immigration and the Ingathering of the Exiles"; and

**Whereas** due to the "Swords of Iron" War, we are witnessing increasing hatred of Jews throughout the world, as well as representations of this hatred and acts against Jews throughout the world, and there is an awakening and increased interest by Jews throughout the world in immigration to Israel; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel constitutes a home for all global Jewry, whether in times of peace or in times of distress, and it must be prepared to absorb Jews who yearn for it in their hearts and in their steps.

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls for:**

1. The World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency to act and to call on the State of Israel to bring about a significant increase in the number of new immigrants through strengthening Zionist education in communities and through public relations to promote immigration.
2. To provide representation for the Jewish people's diverse opinions, as represented in the World Zionist Organization, and to act to build suitable infrastructure to optimally absorb the immigrants in Israel, intending to promote and preserve the State of Israel as the home of every Jew who wishes to immigrate to it.
3. Should draft resolutions or legislative bills relevant to advancing this matter be submitted, the Zionist General Council calls on the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency to promote these resolutions and bills before the Government of Israel, and the governmental entities, according to current needs.
4. The World Zionist Organization, the Zionist General Council, the Zionist Executive and the Expanded Zionist Executive, and all the other entities in the national institutions shall set immigration as the highest priority and shall invest resources in promoting immigration.

**5.5 Aliyah as a Value and Jewish Peoplehood as an Idea - Israel as the State of the Entire Jewish People**

*Proposal submitted by Emily Levy Shochat  
On behalf of Mercaz Olami*

**Whereas** the principle of Aliyah has been at the foundation of Zionist thought from the day it was conceived; and

**Whereas** the act of Aliyah is the ultimate realization of the Zionist vision; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel is the national home of the Jewish people, a place where every Jewish woman and man needs to feel at home; and

**Whereas** most of the Jews of the world- and certainly for the most part in the Jewish Diaspora of North America- belong to the Conservative or Reform movements, movements that the State of Israel has discriminated against for many years; and

**Whereas** this is a time of unity, a time when we must ensure that all the Jews of the world feel that the State of Israel is also their national home.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

To call for the next government to be formed in Israel to correct at once, in the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, all aspects of discrimination between the various streams within Judaism, in order for the State of Israel to be a worthy home for all immigrants from all streams in Judaism.

### **5.6 Inclusion in Aliyah and Klitah**

**Resolution was rejected. *Votum Separatum* was submitted**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy  
On behalf of Arzenu*

**Whereas** the murderous assault by Hamas and affiliated terrorist groups on October 7<sup>th</sup> tore from this world Jews and non-Jews, Israelis and those of differing citizenships, young and old, of all genders. The shared Jewish response to that assault now includes a clear understanding that the world in which we live, our world, has been forever changed; and

**Whereas** the overwhelming and most welcome response of Jews in Israel and in the Diaspora, along with its grieving, has been to come together as a single family and to begin to prepare for what is now being called The Day After; and

**Whereas** the debt of those who orchestrated and carried out the assault will be collected. Military preparedness will be greatly enhanced so that the State of Israel might never again be a victim of the insatiable hatred of our enemies, and a deeper understanding of who the actual friends of Israel and of the Jewish people are will be carefully crafted; and

**Whereas** even as the State of Israel will be strengthened, so, too, must the World Zionist Organization now look seriously at how to strengthen its own core values and to clarify its short and long-term goals and activities. Central to our mission will be actively working to guarantee that the State of Israel will be understood to be and will act as the national home of all Jews. Even under the greatest external duress, Israel will embrace all Jews beneath its banner of Hope regardless of beliefs, ideologies, lands of origin, sexual orientation or gender identity;

**The Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

1. The Zionist Movement will actively work throughout the world to function as a welcoming, inclusive institution and to promote and celebrate the unity of the Jewish people. We will overcome barriers that in the past have not always served us well and will come to acknowledge every member of our community as being B'TZELEM ELOKIM.
2. The Zionist Movement, noting with joy a dramatic increase in activity connected with Aliyah, will actively embrace the need to guarantee that our support for Klitah will reflect the same humanist and Jewish values. Those who make Aliyah must feel that they will be welcome to full inclusion within all aspects of life in Israel.
3. To call for a dramatic increase in activities centering around education and inclusion, in Israel and in the Diaspora. Just as we work through seminars, publications, workshops, and summer camps to strengthen Zionist identity, so must we work through the same instrumentalities to deepen the connection between Zionism and LGBTQIA+ individuals across the globe.
4. This Zionist General Council also emphasizes its firm commitment to work to strengthen Zionist identity with all other historically marginalized communities within our people. Every Jewish person, every Jewish soul, is held within our embrace.

**5.7 Calling for Urgent Aliyah Assistance to Jews Facing extreme Violence**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

**Whereas** there are Jewish communities in countries around the world which suffer from extreme violence and are in danger of extinction, under armed struggle,

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby calls for:**

The provision of urgent assistance to those communities.

**Committee No. 6 – Unity of the Jewish People**

**6.2 Condemning October 7th Atrocities and Supporting Israel's Goals of Eradicating Hamas and PIJ**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby:**

1. Condemns in the strongest possible terms the Brutal Atrocities perpetrated by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) and the accompanying Gazan civilians on October 7th, including murdering, raping, burning, gouging, beheading, torturing, injuring and abducting Jewish, Israeli and international civilians, men, women, children and babies;
2. Thanks the many countries, officials, organizations and individuals throughout the world who condemned the brutal atrocities perpetrated by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) and the accompanying Gazan civilians on October 7<sup>th</sup>; and calls for all countries, officials, organizations and individuals who have not yet done so to join in issuing such condemnation;
3. Supports Israel's goals of eradicating Hamas' and Palestinian Islamic Jihad; assuring that Hamas and PIJ can never attack Jews, Israelis and others again; and bringing home all remaining hostages.

#### **6.4 Remember October 7 and Emerge Unified**

*Proposal Submitted by Ira Bartfield  
on behalf of B'nai B'rith International*

**Whereas** since the rampage of October 7 the vast majority of Jews - religious, secular, all partisans – have been galvanized as one country, one people, behavior that The World Zionist Organization and other national organizations should emulate in repelling and defeating Hamas,

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

That the World Zionist Organization and its partnering entities, should work in the spirit of a galvanized nation since Oct. 7, 2023 to work in a unified fashion towards common goals, not to work in politically divisive, partisan ways, as much work is required to rebuild the country and restore the lives and livelihoods of the diverse people in its Homeland.

#### **6.5 Unity in the Zionist Movement**

*Proposal Submitted by Tema Klausner  
on behalf of World Emuna*

**Whereas** the State of Israel and Jews around the world are facing unprecedented challenges; and

**Whereas** the World Zionist Organization comprises diverse religious, political, and social factions and organizations holding varying and sometimes opposing perspectives;



**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves that:**

1. The members of the Zionist General Council commit to actively seek avenues for fostering unity, respect, and mutual comprehension.
2. The members of the Zionist General Council will endeavor to reach compromises within the World Zionist Organization in areas where disagreements arise.

**6.6 Establishment of a Special Task Force to Draft an Agreed Proposal on the Issue of Unity**

*Proposal Submitted by Adi Samson*

*On behalf of Organization of Mizrahi World Faction and Orthodox Synagogues and Communities*

**Whereas** in the months leading up to the current “Swords of Iron” War, we were witness to a profound rift within Israeli society as a result of a variety of issues; and

**Whereas** the “Swords of Iron” War has proven that at its most difficult and trying times, the Israeli population is united, across the entire spectrum, and the sense of mutual responsibility and a shared destiny adds and contributes to all parts of Israeli society; and

**Whereas** the integrity of the Jewish people in Israel and the Diaspora, its strength and power are founded upon the Jewish people’s unity, from which the Jewish people has drawn its strength and resilience for numerous generations; and

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

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 calls for:**

1. The World Zionist Organization to appoint a Special Task Force that represents the range of opinions within the Jewish people represented in the World Zionist Organization in an effort to draft a proposal for the following issues:
  - a. Determining the rules of the discussion and the proper ways to conduct a discussion on issues that are controversial in Israeli society.
  - b. The selection of the values that the entire Israeli society can agree on that will form the conceptual infrastructure for any discussion of the issues in dispute.
2. The Special Task Force shall complete drafting the proposal until the XXXIX Zionist Congress.
3. The Special Task Force will submit its recommendations to the Zionist Executive and ask that its recommendations be adopted.

4. The World Zionist Organization will consider recommending to the Government of Israel an agreed draft to regulate the matter by law.

**6.8 The need for a constitution which will regulate the relationship between the judiciary, the legislature and the government and protect human rights within the State of Israel**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy on behalf of Arzenu  
and by Rabbi Ehud Bandel by World Union of Meretz*

**Whereas** a discussion about the proper checks and balances and the relationship between the judiciary, the legislature and the government is justified within a democratic context, so long as it is conducted with a profound process and through broad consensus; and

**Whereas** the way in which the Government of Israel pursued such changes in 2023 resulted in deep, painful rifts in Israeli society; and

**Whereas** these rifts within Israeli society were accompanied by rifts between global Jewry and the Government of Israel; and

**Whereas** the events of 7 October 2023 reminded the people of Israel of the importance of unity and mutual commitment to one another, as the Talmud teaches (Shevuot 39a) “*Kol yisrael arevim zeh bazeh*”;

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

1. To call upon the Government of Israel to commit to a profound and fundamental process in which all sectors of Israeli society would be represented, to craft a constitution which will determine through a broad societal consensus the relationship between the judiciary, the legislature and the government, as well as ensure fundamental human rights and particularly protect the principle of equality, embedded in the Declaration of Independence.

## **Committee No. 7 – Israel - Looking Ahead**

### **7.2 Rehabilitation and Renewal of Western Negev Following the massacre of October 7th, 2023**

*Unified Proposal submitted by Rabbi Ehud Bandel and Adi Samson  
On behalf of the World Union of Meretz and Arzenu, Organization of Orthodox Synagogues  
and Communities and World Mizrachi*

**Whereas** the Hamas brutal attack on the communities in the Gaza Strip envelope (kibbutzim, moshavim, and the stricken cities) in western Israel caused physical, social, and even mental devastation; and

**Whereas** these communities had been initially established as part of the Zionist settlement endeavors of the western Negev and the southern coastal plain and were a main point of attraction for members of the Young Adult Movements and immigrant assimilation even before the establishment of Israel and until the present; and

**Whereas** the principal Zionist goal in the foreseeable future is to rehabilitate, renew, and populate the communities that were harmed; and

**Whereas** numerous community residents were evacuated and currently reside in long-term intermediate hostels and require assistance in education and youth matters in their new residences; and

**Whereas** as a result of the “Swords of Iron” War, numerous communities in the State of Israel suffered substantial damage, including houses, public buildings, synagogues and extensive stretches of nature; and

**Whereas** it was established in the moral values of the newly established state and in the Declaration of Independence of the State of Israel that the State of Israel "will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants," and the same declaration appeals "to the Jewish people throughout the Diaspora to rally round the Jews of Eretz-Israel in the tasks of immigration and upbuilding and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream - the redemption of Israel"; and

**Whereas** Israel’s national institutions and this Zionist Congress as well as past congresses held after the establishment of The State of Israel serve as a link between Diaspora Jewry and the State of Israel and its needs; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel suffered an extremely traumatic attack on October 7, 2023 hence all its institutions, including the national Zionist institutions are called upon to help and act to further its rehabilitation as quickly as possible.

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. To set the rehabilitation of the evacuated communities (kibbutzim, moshavim, and city dwellers) as a strategic goal, as well as to foster and boost settlements in the existing Western Negev communities.
2. To call on the State of Israel to complete the rehabilitation of the communities and agricultural lands as quickly as possible, and to ensure the safe return of all said communities' residents with a prosperity and growth-oriented outlook, and;
3. To instruct the Zionist Executive to allocate a dedicated budget for this strategic goal (budgets for 2024-2026) and to prepare a comprehensive work plan in this regard.
4. The World Zionist Organization and The Jewish Agency for Israel to promote proposals and decisions for the rehabilitation of the Otef vis-a-vis the government and all relevant governmental bodies according to the current needs.
5. The World Zionist Organization and the National Institutions shall prioritize the rehabilitation and areas in the 'Otef Israel' communities and stretches of nature that were damaged due to "Swords of Iron" War".
6. To monetarily and organizationally support groups and organizations that will expand their operations in existing communities in collaboration with the Kibbutz Movement and the Moshavim Movement.
7. To implement an educational adoption program for the communities by the Young Adult Movements and the Council of Israeli Youth Movements and will allocate a dedicated budget for this project.
8. To allocate dedicated budgets to groups and organizations that will administer education and leadership programs (short and long-term) in existing communities.
9. To collaborate with the mayors, heads of the councils, kibbutzim and moshavim, and WZO executives to periodically assess the requirements.

### **7.3 Strengthening the Security of vulnerable communities**

*Proposal Submitted by Adi Samson*

*On behalf of Mizrachi World Faction and Organization of Orthodox Synagogues  
and Communities*

**Whereas** the "Swords of Iron" War has led terrorist organizations to show their faces, and to the perpetration of acts against the residents of the Gaza Envelope, and;

**Whereas** military aggression endangers Israeli Citizens, and;

**Whereas** the values of the State established, and the State of Israel's Declaration of Independence set forth that "this right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign state"; and

**Whereas** the values of the State established, and the State of Israel's Declaration of Independence, appealed "to the Jewish people throughout the Diaspora to rally around the Jews of the Land of Israel in the tasks of immigration and upbuilding and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream – the redemption of Israel"; and

**Whereas** the values of the State established, and the State of Israel's Declaration of Independence, set forth that the State of Israel shall "foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants"; and

**Whereas** the Declaration of Independence recognizes the "historical" and "traditional" attachment of the Jews and their right "to reestablish themselves in their ancient homeland";

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. That the World Zionist Organization prioritize the secure growth and development of vulnerable communities which are our first line of defense against terrorist incursions, and
2. That the World Zionist Organization, through the Hityasvut department and all other relevant departments, undertake to work collaboratively with the National Institutions and the Government of Israel to secure the security and economic and social growth of those communities.

## **7.5 Strengthening the Jewish Settlement**

*Proposal Submitted by Hernan Felman  
On behalf of World Likud*

**Whereas;** the Zionist movement has always seen Jewish settlement as a national, strategic and security asset; and

**Whereas** in the Jerusalem plan and in the constitution of the World Zionist Organization, the value of Zionism is defined as "the settlement of the land as an expression of Zionist fulfillment in practice"; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel is under a brutal attack that began on the seventh of October, in a multi-front war led by extremist Islamic countries and organizations that seek to destroy the entire State of Israel and harm its citizens; and

**Whereas** the Iron Swords War proved that Jewish settlement is necessary and essential in the fight against our enemies; and

**Whereas** from the beginning of the Zionist movement, the main answer to our enemies' desire to destroy us, was in the establishment of settlements and cities and in deepening our grip on the land of our ancestors.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

To strengthen Jewish settlement in the State of Israel as a guarantee of security, and they will work to establish new settlements and rebuild the settlements while connecting Diaspora Jews to the value of settlement.

### **7.6 The Druze sector- remedying discrimination in the Nationality Law in light of the lessons learned in the War in the South**

*Proposal submitted by Emily Levy Shochat  
On behalf of Mercaz Olami*

**Whereas** the “Swords of Iron” war has exposed, once again, the bonds of life and blood between the Druze citizens of the State of Israel and the State of Israel; and

**Whereas** the acts of heroism of the Druze soldiers and officers of the IDF have merited special attention, and have earned respect, appreciation and esteem throughout each House in Israel; and

**Whereas** at all of the condolence (shiva) calls (including the condolence call recently paid by the Extended Zionist Executive at the home of lieutenant **Colonel Salman Chavka z”l** from the village of Yanuh-Jat in the Galilee), the members of the Druze community have mentioned the deep and searing insult they feel on account of the Nationality Law which has not affirmed, alongside the existence of the State of Israel as the national home of the Jewish people, the principle of equality among all of the citizens of Israel; and

**Whereas** the State of Israel is a Jewish-democratic state that insists on the rule of law, and on the fair and equal treatment of the minorities that live in it; and

**Whereas** the defining document of the State of Israel is the Declaration of Independence, a document that has earned a special place in the Zionist constitution, and which declares that the State of Israel will treat all of its citizens equally and without distinctions of religion, race and sex.

**Therefore, the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 resolves:**

1. To call upon the Israeli Knesset to add at once the principle of equality to the Nationality Law.

2. To call upon the government of Israel to compare the public investment in the Druze villages of Israel, with the public investment in the general population of the country- in both education and infrastructure.

### **7.7 The Urgent Need for Public Transport on Shabbat**

*Proposal submitted by Shoshana Dweck and Harry Levy on behalf of Arzenu  
and by Rabbi Ehud Bandel on behalf of World Union of Meretz*

**Whereas** public transport is an essential service that the State of Israel should provide to all residents without discrimination; and

**Whereas** especially the most vulnerable groups such as elderly Israelis living alone, those who cannot drive due to disabilities and those who cannot afford cars are currently stuck at home on Shabbat due to the lack of public transport; and

**Whereas** the lack of public transport on Shabbat has grave safety, economic and environmental implications; and

**Whereas** there is a broad consensus among Israelis that public transport on Shabbat should be made available, albeit in a restricted manner compared to the rest of the week; and

**Whereas** the lack of public transport available on shabbat and holidays was an extra impediment in allowing for a swift response to the horrific attacks of 7 October 2023; and

**Whereas** this was recognized by the State of Israel, which implemented a temporary public transport service on Shabbat in the weeks following 7 October 2023 but this service was discontinued after 4 weeks; and

**Whereas** public transport on Shabbat is still needed by soldiers who need to get to and from their base, and by displaced families who do not own a car; and

**Whereas** the law authorizes the Minister of Transportation to allow the operation of buses and trains on Shabbat;

#### **Therefore, the Zionist General Council hereby resolves:**

To call upon the Government of Israel and the Ministry of Transportation to operate buses and trains on Shabbat and holidays so that this vital service is accessible by those who need it especially during the war, and throughout the year, and to operate public transport on Shabbat and holidays in a proportional manner, with due consideration to local needs and the needs of those employed in providing such services.

**7.8 Thanking, Supporting and Sending Love and Prayers to the Brave IDF Soldiers, Security Forces and Their Families; Displaced Israelis; Bereaved Families; and the Hostages and their Families**

*Proposal Submitted by Adv. Elizabeth Berney, Adv. Valeria Chazin  
On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Coalition*

**The Zionist General Council XXXVIII/4 hereby resolves:**

1. That the Zionist General Council, on behalf of itself and its member organizations and delegates, with one unified voice, hereby sends our heartfelt thanks, love and prayers to the brave soldiers of the IDF, the security forces and their families for all their efforts and sacrifices to protect and defend the Jewish state and all its inhabitants from all the enemies that seek to harm and annihilate Israel and her citizens.
2. That the Zionist General Council, on behalf of itself and its member organizations and delegates, with one unified voice, hereby sends our heartfelt love and prayers to all Israelis displaced by the war and terror attacks, bereaved Israelis and hostages and their families, and call on the Israeli government to make every effort for the immediate return of all abductees and soldiers in Gaza.