

Central Elections Committee

Wednesday, 11 Elul 5775, August 26, 2015

Decisions

France

We understand from the Zionist Federation's decision that, as of June 15, 2015, more than 300 forms were submitted by the petitioners. After hearing the parties' arguments, the Central Elections Committee rules that the proper interpretation of what is stated in our decision dated July 8, 2015 is that which was argued by the petitioners, according to which over 300 valid forms were submitted by June 15, 2015, which we stipulated in our aforesaid decision. In light of the aforementioned, the Federation must accept those forms as being valid. The latter does not mean that the forms are valid as regards any other matter, apart from the matter of the date of the forms' signing and submission.

Spain

Even if we concur with the position that a "Zionist Federation" does not exist in Spain, but rather at most a "Jewish Federation" as was argued before us, according to Regulation 1a(c) of the Rules for the Election to the Zionist Congress – "In areas in which no Federation is in existence, the Governing Executive Bodies of Zionist Territorial and Inter-territorial Associations shall set up ... an AEC."

At the meeting of the Central Elections Committee held on July 8, 2015, in the matter of Spain, we ruled at the outset that an Area Elections Committee was in fact established, and the presumption is that it was duly established. The establishment of the aforesaid Area Elections Committee is based on the Rules for the Election to the Zionist Congress, and its establishment was therefore legitimate. Accordingly, we have no need to resort to the question of whether the body that operates in Spain is a Zionist Federation or a Jewish Federation, and whether such body received or did not receive approval as a Zionist Federation from the bodies authorized to grant such approval. For the purpose of the issue at hand, it is sufficient that the committee acted as an Area Elections Committee that was lawfully established.

In the matter of the proceeding of holding the elections and the decision of the Central Elections Committee, the elections are currently underway and cannot be postponed as requested by the petitioners. Therefore, the dates that were stipulated by us shall remain in effect.

We heard from the respondents that a notice was sent to the petitioners' representative concerning the date of the meeting of the Area Elections Committee, and that the representative, whose name is "Mario," notified that he was unable to attend the meeting for reasons of his own. The meeting of the Area Elections Committee was therefore held on the scheduled date, and it should be regarded as a lawfully taken decision. Furthermore, we heard that the list of candidates also included the name of a representative on behalf of the petitioners, and no issue should be taken with that.

Under these circumstances, we see no reason to intervene in the decision of the Area Elections Committee.

Argentina

We reiterate what was stated in our decision dated July 15, 2015, according to which the termination of the elections proceedings in Argentina or endorsement of a 100% Agreement must be carried out by September 1, 2015. Due to the circumstances, we are extending the date stipulated in our above-cited decision to September 6, 2015.

Italy

We refer to our decision dated July 15, 2015, according to which we granted the Federation's request to postpone the date of the elections until September 6, 2015 as the latest date for holding the elections.

We regret that as of now the proceedings which will ensure the holding of the elections by September 1, 2015 have not been completed, and the Central Elections Committee has no choice but to reiterate its aforesaid decision. Consequently, we instruct the holding of the elections on the scheduled date or the endorsement of a 100% Agreement between all the Zionist bodies in the Federation, including the new bodies that joined the Zionist activity following the previous Congress.

Moreover, we wish to note that an agreement should have been reached, acceptable to all the aforesaid active bodies.

Canada

After hearing all the parties, we deem it appropriate to ask for and receive the response of the Federation in Canada to the claims that were raised in the appeal sent to the Federation, and this by September 1, 2015. Upon receipt of the response, the Central Elections Committee will rule on the appeal, based on the parties' written arguments.

Belgium

After reviewing the request and the response of the chairman of the Zionist Federation, according to which the Federation undertakes to hold another meeting of the Area Elections Committee on September 3, 2015 in order to determine the election arrangements and the date of the elections, we rule that the latest date on which the elections may be held shall be September 6, 2015.

Handed down today – Thursday, 12 Elul 5775 – August 27, 2015

(-) Ezra Kama, Justice (Ret.), Committee Chair

(-) Adv. Yoram Aran, Member

(-) Adv. Tal Ranel Cohen, Member