



The Central Elections Committee
Meeting of Sunday, 10th May 2015 – 21st Iyar 5775

Participants:

Judge Ezra Kama, Presiding
Adv. Yoram Aran, Panel Member
Adv. Tal Ranel-Cohen, Panel Member

World Zionist Organization Attorney: Adv. Baruch Rubin

Legal Advisor: Adv. Fern Braniss

Secretary to the Committee: Herzl Makov

Observers: Arnon Felman, Silvio Joskowicz, Rami Kornblum, Alex Selsky, Solly Sachs, David Teitelbaum, Ilan Roth, Yaron Shavit

Present by invitation: Jacob Gispan, Yosef Zissels, Adv. Orly Erez-Lachovsky

Decisions

1. ARZENU vs the Central Elections Committee

The complaint brought by ARZENU France will be communicated to the Zionist Federation of France, for their response within a period of seven days. The Federation's response will be communicated to ARZENU, who shall have the right of reply within a further five days.

2. In the Matter of Ukraine with Reference to the Method of Elections

The Central Elections Committee calls upon the team which is due to meet in one week with the participation of Yosef Zissels, the Chairman of the Zionist Federation, and who participated today at this meeting, to guide the Federation in working towards a system of election in compliance with the Guidelines. The said Guidelines will also be imparted to all entities participating in the elections. In addition, an explanation will be given to the Area Election Committee as to who is entitled to participate in the Area Election Committee and who is not entitled to participate.

In order to ensure due conduct, the elections shall be postponed until July.

Other matters raised by the petitioners:

"It is clear to the Central Elections Committee, that the election process conducted by the Area Election Committee in Ukraine incurs a financial cost. Therefore, a reasonable charge to be levied on each entity participating in the elections in Ukraine is, in our opinion, between US\$2,000- US\$3,000, applicable both to any entity that has already paid its contribution and to any that has not paid it thus far, in an equitable manner. Any sum already paid or that will be paid for said participation, or any other amount that will be paid to the Zionist Federation in Ukraine, shall be deposited in the Federation's bank account, and not into any private account. The account details presented to us by Mr. Zissels would be suitable for this purpose.



"We have heard Mr. Zissels as Chairman of the Federation in Ukraine, thus far, in the matter of the Federation's willingness to conduct the election process in compliance with the Guidelines and Regulations. We accept this expression of willingness, and also instruct the Zionist Federation and the Area Election Committee in Ukraine to transmit all the minutes regarding elections from the meetings thus far to all the entities, irrespective of payment."

3. Complaint filed by ARZA USA against the Torah slate (World Mizrahi Movement)

The Central Elections Committee has duly recorded the apology from the Mizrahi list, which was submitted to the Area Election Committee, together with the apology that was submitted in the course of this meeting and recorded by us. We view these communications as an apology by Mizrahi, despite the fact that the article forming the subject of the complaint was not made by Mizrahi but, rather, by a representative who was not authorized by them to so state, and that no consent was given to do so. We hope that there will be no recurrence of similar incidents in the future, and we expect the Mizrahi movement to do everything within its power to prevent such incidents on the part of its representatives.

The Committee proposes that thought be given to an amendment to the *Regulations for Elections*, in a manner that will ensure no recurrence of similar incidents in the future.

The committee furthermore resolves that Mizrahi will publish the said apology on the same website that carried the article which forms the subject of the complaint. The relevant minutes in this matter, together with the Central Elections Committee's decision, shall be similarly publicized.

4. The World Union for Progressive Judaism and Meretz World Union against the Russian Zionist Federation

The Central Elections Committee instructs the team of the Office of Legal Institutions to instruct the Russian Zionist Federation to work in compliance with the published *Guidelines Towards Elections to the Zionist Congress*, and to ensure that all active entities will be involved as participants to the process.

Signed:

(-) Judge Ezra Kama, Presiding (-) Adv. Yoram Aran, Panel Member (-) Adv. Tal Ranel-Cohen, Panel Member