

Updates as per: Biennial Conference, 4 December 2016

## **CONSTITUTION OF**

### **ZIONIST FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA**

#### **NAME**

1. The name of the Organisation is "THE ZIONIST FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA" (hereinafter called "the Federation").

#### **ZIONIST PROGRAMME**

2. The Federation accepts the Zionist Programme as laid down in the Constitution of the World Zionist Organisation (hereinafter called "the WZO") and is bound by the Constitution of the WZO.

#### **OBJECTS**

3. The objects of the Federation are:
  - (a) to uphold and foster the aims of Zionism which are:-
    - I. the unity of the Jewish people and the centrality of Israel in Jewish life
    - II. the ingathering of the Jewish people in its historic homeland Eretz Israel through Aliyah from all countries
    - III. the strengthening of the State of Israel which is based upon the prophetic vision of justice and peace
    - IV. the preservation of the identity of the Jewish people through the fostering of Jewish and Hebrew education and of the Jewish spiritual and cultural values and
    - V. the protection of Jewish rights everywhere;
  - (b) to support the fundraising activities of the National Funds;
  - (c) to organise and officially represent Australian Jewry in carrying out the aims of Zionism;
  - (d) to do all things which are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the abovementioned objects.

#### **STATUS**

4. The Federation shall be the central body in Australia authorised to act for and on behalf of the whole of the Zionist Movement in the implementation of the Zionist Programme. The Federation shall be the sole agent in Australia of the WZO.

#### **INTERPRETATION**

5. In this Constitution unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) the expression "the National Funds" shall mean "Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal" and "Keren Kayemeth L'Israel – JNF";
  - (b) the expression "adult" shall mean a Jewish person over the age of eighteen years;
  - (c) the expression "Jewish Organisation" shall mean a Jewish organisation located in a particular State or Territory of Australia having not less than seventy-five adult members;

- (d) the expression "Federal Jewish Organisation" shall mean a national Jewish organisation which has branches in at least two States or Territories of Australia each of which has not less than seventy-five adult members;
- (e) the expression "Zionist Organisation" shall mean a Jewish organisation (other than a branch of a National Fund) which by its constitution accepts the Zionist Programme and the aims of Zionism and the authority of the Federation in Zionist matters;
- (f) the expression "Federal Zionist Organisation" shall mean a Federal Jewish Organisation (other than a National Fund) which by its constitution accepts the Zionist Programme and the aims of Zionism and the authority of the Federation in Zionist matters and all the branches of which by their constitutions accept the Zionist Programme and the aims of Zionism and the authority of the Federation in Zionist matters;
- (g) the expression "World Zionist Union" shall mean a Zionist body which represents a special ideological point of view within the WZO and has branches in at least five countries and is represented by a WZO Congress Grouping;
- (h) The expression "State Zionist Councils" shall mean the State Zionist Councils of the States of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia and Zionist Councils of New South Wales and Victoria.
  - a. The expression "Territory Zionist Council" shall mean the Australian Capital Territory Zionist Council;
- (i) the expression "Direct Subscriber" shall mean a Jewish person over the age of eighteen years who is not a member of any Zionist Organisation which is a member of a State Zionist Council and who by statement in writing accepts the Zionist Programmes and the aims of Zionism and the authority of the Federation in Zionist matters;
- (j) the expression "month" shall mean calendar month;
- (k) words importing the masculine gender shall import the feminine gender and vice-versa and words importing the singular number shall import the plural number and vice-versa;
- (l) section headings shall not be taken into account in the interpretation of this Constitution.
- (m) Reference in this Constitution to a specific entity includes any entity which may have already assumed or may subsequently assume the exclusive role of that original entity in place of it.
- (n) Reference in this Constitution to any entity shall not be affected by any previous or subsequent change in the name of that entity.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

- 6. The State Zionist councils and the Territory Zionist Council shall be Members of the Federation;
  - (a) Each State Zionist Council shall:
    - (i) act on behalf of the Federation in all matters effecting its State but if any resolution of a State Zionist Council conflicts with a resolution of the Federation the resolution of the Federation shall prevail;
    - (ii) accept as binding decisions lawfully taken by the Federation;
    - (iii) admit as members;
      - (a) every Zionist Organisation within its State; and

- (b) every Direct Subscriber ordinarily resident within its State unless in the opinion of the State Zionist Council there exists a weighty reason against admission. A State Zionist Council is not entitled to refuse admission to membership of a Zionist Organisation affiliated to a World Zionist Union;
- (iv) at least once every year hold an area convention and determine in its Constitution a method of electing delegates to the convention consistent with accepted democratic principles which will, inter alia, ensure adequate representation of the State branches of the National Funds, the Direct Subscribers, and the Zionist Youth Movements;
- (v) at least once every year convene a meeting of Direct Subscribers ordinarily resident within its State for the purpose of electing representatives to be Delegates to the area convention;
- (vi) determine in its Constitution a method of electing its governing bodies consistent with accepted democratic principles and which will, inter alia, ensure adequate representation of the State branches of National Funds and the Direct Subscribers and the Zionist Youth Movements;
- (vii) ensure the right of any Direct Subscriber or Zionist Organisation which has been refused admission to membership or has been suspended from membership to appeal from the refusal or suspension (as the case may be) to a State Zionist Tribunal and from that Tribunal to the Federal Zionist Tribunal in its appellate jurisdiction;
- (viii) conduct its affairs having regard to the protection of the requirements of all members;
- (ix) stipulate that all its member Zionist Organisations commit their members to fulfilling their obligations towards the National Funds and stipulate that all members of its Executive shall have an obligation to take part in the work of the National Funds;
- (x) ensure the right of any person whose membership in the Executive of the Council has been suspended in accordance with the preceding sub-clause to appeal from the decision to the State Zionist Tribunal and from the decision of that body to the Federal Zionist Tribunal in its appellate jurisdiction and from the decision of that body to the WZO Congress Tribunal;
- (xi) by its Constitution establish a State Zionist Tribunal to be elected by the area convention. The composition of the Tribunal (except for the number of members), the method of election, the filling of vacancies, the conduct of cases, the declarations of members of the Tribunal and the powers of the Tribunal shall as far as it is practicable be mutatis mutandis as provided for in the Clauses of this Constitution dealing with the Federation Zionist Tribunal;
- (xii) by its Constitution provide that all elected members of the Federation and all Life Members of the Federation residing within its State shall be members of its Executive and shall be entitled to attend the area convention as Delegates;

- (xiii) after consulting with the Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal State Directorate in its State shall take all necessary steps within the Community and if necessary with the central communal organisation to ensure for the conduct United Israel Appeal in its State such time and such protective provisions as may be necessary to ensure the proper conduct and maximum success of the United Israel campaign in its State.

(aa) The Territory Zionist Council shall:

- (i) act on behalf of the Federation in all matters affecting the Australian Capital Territory,
  - (ii) only admit as members Jewish persons over the age of 18 years who accept the Zionist Programme,
  - (iii) admit as a member any such person resident in the Australian Capital Territory who makes a bona fide application for membership,
  - (iv) use a method for electing its governing body which is consistent with accepted democratic principles, and
  - (v) hold a general meeting of its members every year in accordance with normal governance procedures.
- (b) Each State Zionist Council may admit Jewish Organisations to Associate Membership upon terms and conditions from time to time to be determined. Associate members may be represented on the governing bodies of the Council and shall have the right to be heard but shall not have the right to vote.
- (c) Only persons who are members of a Zionist Organisation admitted to membership of a State Zionist Council or who are Direct Subscribers are qualified to be elected to office on a State Zionist Council's governing bodies.

7. All Direct Subscribers who are ordinarily resident in a State or Territory of Australia where there is no State Zionist Council may be Members of the Federation. At least once every two years the Federation shall convene a meeting of the said Direct Subscribers for the purpose of electing one person to represent them at Conference. Any such Direct Subscriber who has been refused admission to membership or has been suspended from membership may appeal from the refusal or suspension (as the case may be) to the Federal Zionist Tribunal and from that Tribunal to the WZO Congress Tribunal.

#### **FULLFILMENT OF MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

8. The Federation Executive may at any time require any Member to furnish information that he or it has fulfilled the conditions of membership applicable to him or it. If a Member does not furnish the information requested within the time fixed, the Federation Executive may propose the suspension of the rights of the Member or his or its expulsion from the Federation to Conference and Conference may take such action as it deems fit.

#### **MEMBERSHIP FEES**

9. The Federation Executive shall from time to time fix the annual membership fees to be paid by Direct Subscribers and by State Zionist Councils and by the Territory Zionist Council. Each State

Zionist Council and the Territory Zionist Council shall in turn from time to time fix annual membership fees for its own members. All annual membership fees shall become due and payable on the first day of October in each year. If the annual membership fee of a Direct Subscriber or a State Zionist Council or the Territory Zionist Council remains unpaid for a period of three months after it becomes due, the rights of the Direct Subscriber or State Zionist Council or the Territory Zionist Council (as the case may be) shall ipso facto cease, but shall be reinstated automatically on payment of all arrears and of the amounts and fees which would have been due and payable if the Direct Subscriber or State Zionist Council or the Territory Zionist Council (as the case may be) had continued to be a Member up to the time of reinstatement.

#### **AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS**

**10.** The following organisations so long as they remain either National Funds or Federal Zionist Organisations as the case may be shall be affiliated to the Federation and by virtue of such affiliation shall be entitled to representation on the Federation Executive to the extent and in the manner provided in Clause 28, 29 and 35 hereof:

- (a) Federal Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal of Australia
- (b) Federal Keren Kayemeth L'Israel – JNF
- (c) Women's International Zionist Organisation of Australia
- (d) National Council of Jewish Women Australia
- (e) Australasian Union of Jewish Students
- (f) Australian Zionist Youth Council
- (g) Australian and New Zealand Union for Progressive Judaism
- (h) Australian Maccabi Federation
- (i) Youth Aliyah Australia
- (j) ARZA Australia Inc
- (k) Mizrachi
- (l) Ameinu Inc
- (m) Mercaz-Masorti Australasia Inc
- (n) Friends of Likud
- (o) Australian Forum of Russian Speaking Jewry

#### **CONFERENCE**

**11.** Conference is the supreme organ of the Federation. It may either be a Biennial Conference or an Extraordinary Conference.

**12.** A Biennial Conference shall be held during every second calendar year and subject to this Constitution not more than twenty-five months shall elapse between Biennial Conferences. The first Biennial Conference to be held after the adoption of this Constitution shall be held during 1980 in Sydney. Thereafter the Biennial Conference shall be held in the State in which the Headquarters of the Federation are located unless the Executive agrees otherwise.

- (a) The Biennial Conference shall be convened by the Federation Executive.
- (b) The Federation Executive may decide by a two-thirds majority of its members upon the proposal of at least two State Zionist Councils to postpone a Biennial Conference by reason of special or extraordinary circumstances. If postponement is decided upon the new date of the Biennial Conference shall be

determined by the Federation Executive at the time of the adoption of a resolution for postponement. No postponement of a Biennial Conference shall be for a period longer than three months and no Biennial Conference may be postponed more than once.

**13.** At least three months prior to a Biennial Conference the Federation Executive shall appoint a Conference Committee. The committee shall fix the Order of Business for the Sessions of the Biennial Conference and shall fix the Standing Orders governing the Procedure for the Biennial Conference. The Biennial Conference may, by a vote of two-thirds of the Delegates, present and voting at any regular Session, suspend the operation of the Standing Orders and/or alter the Standing Orders for the remainder of the Sessions.

**(a)** At the First Session of each Conference there shall be elected from amongst the Delegates a Steering Committee which shall replace the Conference Committee for the duration of the Conference. The Steering Committee shall take charge of the work of the Conference, direct the business to any sub-committee of the Conference may be appointed, submit motions of procedure, receive nominations for and supervise the election of the elected officers of the Federation.

**(b)** Conference may also elect such sub-committees as the Conference Committee or the Steering Committee may propose from time to time.

**14.** Together with the Notice convening a Biennial Conference the Federation Executive shall issue an Agenda Paper covering all business to be transacted and all Motions for which due notice has been given.

**(a)** Notices of Motion must be in the hands of the Federation Executive forty days prior to the date of a Biennial Conference. Motions of which due notice has not been given as herein provided may be presented at a Biennial Conference to the Steering Committee and the Steering Committee may agree or refuse to present any Motion provided that any Motion submitted to but rejected by the Steering Committee may on the resolution of any Delegate be accepted for consideration by a vote of two-thirds of the Delegates present and voting at any regular session of a Biennial Conference.

**(b)** Urgent questions not included in the Agenda Paper nor submitted as Notice of Motion to the Steering Committee may be accepted for discussion upon the proposal of any Delegate by a vote of two-thirds of the Delegates present and voting at any regular session of a Biennial Conference.

**15.** The Biennial Conference shall inter alia:-

- (i)** receive and consider the Report of the Federation Executive and Reports of the State Zionist Councils, the Territory Zionist Council, the Reports of the National Funds and the Reports of all Federal Zionist Organisations;
- (ii)** receive and consider the Report of the Honorary Treasurer and the Report of the Auditor;
- (iii)** receive and consider proposals brought before it;

- (iv) consider the financial and budgetary policy of the Federation and adopt the budget;
  - (v) elect to office all those members of the Federation Executive who are to be elected by Conference pursuant to this Constitution;
  - (vi) elect the Federal Zionist Tribunal and the Attorney of the Federation;
  - (vii) elect the Auditor;
16. The Federation Executive may from time to time convene an Extraordinary Conference. The business of an Extraordinary Conference shall be limited to the matters referred to in the Notice convening it. The Executive shall convene an Extraordinary Conference upon the proposal of at least two State Zionist Councils or one State Zionist Council and the Territory Zionist Council.
17. Thirty clear days shall be given for Conference and the Notice shall specify the number of Conference sessions to be held and the date, place and time of each Conference session.
18. The Standing Orders fixed for the last held Biennial Conference shall apply to an Extraordinary Conference. A vote of two-thirds of the Delegates present and voting at any regular Session of an Extraordinary Conference may suspend the operation of the Standing Orders and/or alter the Standing Orders for the remainder of the Session.
19. No business shall be transacted at Conference unless a quorum of Delegates is present. Twenty (20) accredited Delegates (including at least two Delegates from each of the States of New South Wales and Victoria) personally present shall constitute a quorum.
- (i) If within half an hour from the time appointed for a Session of Conference a quorum is not present that Session of Conference shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, or to the earliest day thereafter as the Chairman may deem fit having regard to the dates of the Jewish Holy Days and Festivals.
20. The President of the Federation Executive or his nominee shall preside as chairman of each Session of the Conference. If the President is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the holding of a particular Conference Session, or is unable or unwilling to act the Senior Vice-President or his nominee shall chair the Session. If the Senior Vice-President is not present or is unable or unwilling to act, the Delegates present shall select one of their members to be chairman of the Session.
21. At the Conference a resolution put to the vote shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded:
- (a) by the Chairman; or
  - (b) by at least three Delegates present in person.

Unless a poll is so demanded a declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the Minutes of the proceedings of the Conference shall be

conclusive evidence of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution. The demand for a poll may be withdrawn.

22. If a poll is duly demanded it shall be taken in such manner and either at once or after an interval or adjournment or otherwise as the Chairman directs and the result of the poll shall be the resolution of the Delegates. A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith.
23. In the case of equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chairman of the Session of Conference at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is held shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

#### **DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE**

24. Only persons who are members of Zionist Organisations admitted to membership of a State Zionist Council or who are Direct Subscribers or who are members of the Territory Zionist Council or who are members of one of the Zionist Youth Movements and are aged over the age of eighteen years are qualified to be Delegates to Conference and are qualified to be elected to office on the Federation Executive provided always that salaried officers of the Federation, the National Funds, the State Zionist Councils, the Territory Zionist Council, Federal Zionist Organisations and salaried officers of their members shall not be eligible to hold office.
25. All elected members of the Federation Executive, , the Presidents of the State Zionist Councils, the President of the Territory Zionist Council, the Life Members of the Federation Executive (if any) the General Secretary of the Federation and the Senior Executive Officers of the State Zionist Councils, the Territory Zionist Council, Federal Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal and Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal State Directorates shall be Delegates to Conference provided that the Senior Executive Officers of the Federation, the State Zionist Councils, the Territory Zionist Council, Federal Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal and the Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal State Directorates shall not have the right to vote.
  - (a) Unless otherwise specifically provided by this Constitution, salaried officials of the Federation, the National Funds, Federal Zionist Organisations, the State Zionist Councils, the Territory Zionist Council and salaried officers of their members shall not be Delegates to Conference.
  - (b) The Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal Directorates of the States of New South Wales and Victoria shall each be entitled to appoint five Delegates to Conference and the Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal Directorates of the States of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia shall each be entitled to appoint two Delegates to Conference;
  - (c) the State commissions of Keren Kayemeth L’Israel – JNF of the States of New South Wales and Victoria shall each be entitled to appoint three Delegates to Conference and the State Commission of Keren Kayemeth L’Israel – JNF of the states of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia shall each be entitled to appoint one Delegate to Conference.

26. Zionist Councils of New South Wales and Victoria shall each be entitled to appoint five Delegates to Conference and the State Zionist Councils of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia and the Territory Zionist Council shall each be entitled to appoint two Delegates to Conference.

- (i) In addition to the Delegates referred to in the preceding sub-clause hereof, each State Zionist Council shall be entitled to appoint one Delegate to Conference for every 200 persons who are affiliated to it either as Direct Subscribers or as members of Member Zionist Organisations as at the 30th day of September in the year preceding the particular conference. Also in addition to the Delegates referred to in the preceding sub-clause hereof, the Territory Zionist Council shall be entitled to appoint one delegate to Conference for every two hundred persons who are members of it as at the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year preceding the particular conference.
- (ii) In appointing Delegates to Conference each State Zionist council shall do so by fair and democratic means having regard to the need to ensure adequate and proper representation for all its Members including adequate and proper representation for the Direct Subscribers and the Zionist Youth Movements. A State Zionist Council may limit the representation accorded to any one of its Member Zionist Organisations pursuant to this sub-clause to a maximum of six representatives save that the representation accorded to the Women's International Zionist Organisation of the State may be limited to a maximum of ten representatives.
- (iii) Each State Zionist Council and the Territory Zionist Council shall be entitled to send one Deputy Delegate to Conference for every two Delegates. Only persons qualified by this Constitution to be Delegates may be appointed Deputy Delegates. Deputy Delegates shall have the right to be heard but may only vote at Conference in place and instead of a Delegate.

#### **FEDERATION EXECUTIVE**

27. The Federation Executive (hereinafter called "the Executive") shall be the executive organ of the Federation and shall be responsible to Conference. It shall have the power, inter alia, to acquire rights and undertake obligations on behalf of the Federation and to represent it externally.

28. The Executive shall consist of:-

- (a) the President;
- (b) the Senior Vice-President
- (c) the Vice Presidents;
- (d) the Past Presidents;
- (e) the Honorary Treasurer;
- (f) the Honorary Secretary;
- (g) the Life Members of the Executive (if any);
- (h) the Chairmen of the following Departments;
  - (i) Aliyah
  - (ii) Education

- (iii) Youth and Young Adults
- (iv) Arava Australia Partnership
- (v) Diller Teen Fellows Program
- (i) the Chairman of (as duly appointed by the Executive or selected by Conference) of such Departments as are established by the Executive or by the Conference from time to time;
- (j) the Federal President for the time being of Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal;
- (k) the Federal Hon Treasurer for the time being of Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal;
- (l) the Federal President for the time being of Keren Kayemeth L’Israel – JNF;
- (m) the Federal President for the time being of the Women’s International Zionist Organisation;
- (n) the Federal Chairman for the time being of the Australian Zionist Youth Council;
- (o) the respective heads of each Australian member or affiliate of the Australian Zionist Youth Council from time to time that has been approved as a member or affiliate by the ZFA Executive.
- (p) the Federal President for the time being of the Australasian Union of Jewish Students;
- (q) four representatives appointed by the Zionist Council of New South Wales;
- (r) four representatives appointed by the Zionist Council of Victoria
- (s) one representative appointed by each State Zionist Council other than the Zionist Councils of New South Wales and Victoria and one representative appointed by the Territory Zionist Council;
- (t) one representative appointed by Youth Aliyah Australia;
- (u) one representative each appointed by each of the following Federal Zionist Organisations so long as they remain Federal Zionist Organisations:-
  - (i) Australian Zionist Youth Council;
  - (ii) Australasian Union of Jewish Students;
  - (iii) Mizrahi;
  - (iv) National Council of Jewish Women Australia;
  - (v) Ameinu Inc
  - (vi) Mercaz-Masorti Australasia Inc;
  - (vii) ARZA Australia Inc
  - (viii) Union for Progressive Judaism Inc
  - (ix) Maccabi Australia Inc
  - (x) Friends of Likud
  - (xi) Australian Forum of Russian Speaking Jewry
- (v) one representative each appointed by the Federal Executive of Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal;
- (w) one representative appointed by the Federal Executive of Keren Kayemeth L’Israel – JNF;

- (x) two representatives appointed by the Federal Executive of the Women's International Zionist Organisation.
- (y) such other persons as are elected by the Conference or co-opted by the Executive from time to time.

29. The President, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, and the Department Chairmen shall be all elected by Conference.

- (a) The President of each State Zionist Council and of the Territory Zionist Council shall be a Vice-President of the Executive. The President of the President of the Zionist Council of either Victoria or NSW (being the State in which the President of the Federation is not ordinarily resident) shall be the Senior Vice-President of the Federation.
- (b) The President, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary and the Departmental Chairman shall hold office until the termination of the next following Biennial Conference. All other members of the Executive shall hold office from the time of their appointment until they no longer hold the office entitling them to be members of the Executive or until their replacement by the appointing organisation (as the case may be).

30. If between Biennial Conferences, the President's position becomes vacant for any reason whatsoever, the Senior Vice-President shall act as President until the election of a new President by Conference and an Extraordinary conference shall be convened as soon as practicable for the purposes of electing a new President. The new President shall hold office until the termination of the Biennial Conference next following his election.

31. Any vacancy among the elected members of the Executive (other than the President) may be filled by the Executive at its discretion and any person appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall hold office until the termination of the Biennial Conference next following his appointment. Only persons who were Delegates or Deputy Delegates to the last preceding Biennial conference or who were eligible to be Delegates and who remain eligible to be Delegates may be appointed by the Executive to fill casual vacancies.

32. Only Delegates or Deputy Delegates to Conference may be nominated for election to the Executive. All nominations shall be in writing in the form prescribed from time to time by the Executive and shall be in the hands of the General Secretary before the commencement of all Session of Conference during which elections are to take place. All candidates for office shall be nominated by at least two Delegates and shall consent in writing to nomination. A nominee who is not elected to a particular office may be nominated during Conference for any other office on the Executive and shall be eligible for election.

33. Elections to office on the Executive shall be by secret ballot.

34. Elections for officers on the Executive shall take place without regard to the State of ordinary residence of candidates.

35. Organisations entitled to appoint representatives to the Executive shall notify the Executive in writing no later than thirty days after the relevant Biennial Conference of the names of their appointees. Organisations shall inform the Executive in writing of any change in these appointments from time to time. A new representative may not take his seat on the Executive until the expiration of seven days from the date of receipt by the Executive of the written advice of the change of appointment.

#### **MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

36. The Executive may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit. The president may at any time and the Honorary Secretary shall at the request of six members of the Executive summon a meeting of the Executive.
- (a) Subject to this Constitution question arising at any meeting of the Executive shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members present and voting and a determination by a majority of those present and voting shall for all purpose be deemed a determination of the Executive. In case of equality of votes the President (or in his absence, the Chairman of the meeting) shall have a second or casting vote.
  - (b) Ten members of the Executive shall be a quorum at any of its meetings.
  - (c) The Executive may appoint Committees consisting of such members of its body as it thinks fit (being not less than three) and any Committee so formed shall conform to any regulations that may be imposed on it by the Executive. A Committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper. Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting in the case of equality of votes the President (or in his absence, the Chairman of the Meeting) shall have a second or casting vote. The Federal Executive of the Women's International Organisation shall at its option be entitled to appoint a representative to be a member of any such sub-committee.
  - (d) At least one meeting of the Executive shall be held each year in both Melbourne and Sydney.

#### **37. FEDERATION HEADQUARTERS**

- (a) The Headquarters of the Federation shall be located in either Melbourne or Sydney. The location of the Headquarters of the Federation in respect of each period commencing immediately following a Biennial Conference and terminating at the conclusion of the next succeeding Biennial Conference shall be as agreed by the executives of the Zionist Council of New South Wales and Zionist Council of Victoria. If such agreement has not been reached prior to the commencement of the period of thirty days expiring immediately prior to the commencement of the first mentioned Biennial Conference then the location of the Headquarters of the Federation in respect of the relevant period shall be decided by the Biennial Conference, on the advice of the Chairman of the Organisation.
- (b) The Federation may establish and maintain offices wherever it sees fit.

#### **38. THE ATTORNEY OF THE FEDERATION**

- (a) The Attorney of the Federation (hereinafter called "the Attorney") shall be elected by Conference. The Attorney may be a member of the Executive.

- (b) If between Biennial Conferences the Attorney's position becomes vacant the Executive may appoint another person to the position to hold office until the termination of the Biennial Conference next following his appointment.

#### **THE FEDERAL ZIONIST TRIBUNAL**

39. The Federal Zionist Tribunal (hereinafter called "The Tribunal") shall be the judicial organ of the Federation and shall consist of seven members including the Chairman of the Tribunal and two Deputy Chairmen.
40. Subject to this Constitution all members of the Tribunal shall be elected by Conference and shall hold office until the termination of the next following Biennial Conference.
- (i) Conference shall elect the Chairman of the Tribunal upon the proposal of the Executive. Conference shall elect two Deputy Chairmen and four other members of the Tribunal.
41. If between Biennial Conferences the place of one of the members of the Tribunal becomes vacant the Executive may appoint another qualified person to the vacancy to hold office until the termination of the Biennial Conference next following his appointment.
42. Every member of the Tribunal shall every time after his election and before taking office pledge himself by a declaration to carry out his functions without bias and to the best of his knowledge and conscience. The declaration of the Chairman of the Tribunal shall be received by the President or in his absence by his nominee and the declarations of the other members of the Tribunal shall be received by the Chairman of the Tribunal.
43. Members of the Executive, the Auditor, the Attorney and salaried officers of the Federation the National Funds the State Zionist Councils or the Territory Zionist Council and their Members shall not be eligible for membership of the Tribunal.
44. As far as is practicable the Tribunal shall govern its procedure by reference to the procedure and rules of evidence applied by the High Court of Australia.
45. In addition to matters specifically declared by the Constitution to be within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal the Tribunal shall be competent to hear and determine: (a) as a Tribunal of first instance:-
- (i) questions relating to the interpretation of this Constitution;
- (ii) questions relating to the legality of decisions of Conference and the Executive;
- (a) disputes (except monetary disputes) between the Federation and State Zionist Councils or the Territory Zionist Council;
- (b) disputes between State Zionist Councils or the Territory Zionist Council or any combination thereof;
- (c) disputes between the Federation and Direct Subscribers who are not within the jurisdiction of a State Zionist Council or the Territory Zionist Council.
- (d) matters relating to acts allegedly infringing the Constitution or damaging the interests or prestige of the Federation which have been brought before it by the

Attorney. Questions relating to the interpretation of this Constitution shall be heard by a Full Bench of the Tribunal. Other questions or matters put before the Tribunal as a tribunal of first instance shall be heard before such odd number of Members (being not less than three) as shall be determined from time to time by the Chairman of the Tribunal; and

(ii) as a tribunal of Appeal:-

- (a) appeals from decisions of State Zionist Tribunals. All matters or questions put before the Tribunal as a tribunal of Appeal shall be heard before five Members.

#### **46. WZO CONGRESS**

- (a) The Executive shall be the Area Election Committee for Australia for the purposes of elections to the WZO Congress and shall be responsible for the conduct of WZO Congress elections in Australia. The election of the Australian Delegates to the WZO Congress shall be carried out by a method consistent with generally accepted democratic principles.
- (b) The Federation shall not directly or indirectly sponsor any person or group of persons for the purpose of elections to the WZO Congress.

#### **ACCOUNTS**

47. The Financial Year of the Federation shall end on the 31st day of December of each year. The Honorary Treasurer shall cause proper accounting and other records to be kept. The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the Attorney, the Auditor and persons authorised by Conference or by the Executive from time to time or by this Constitution shall have the right to inspect the Books of Account.

#### **48. AUDITOR**

- (a) The Auditor shall hold office until the termination of the Biennial Conference next following his election. As soon as practicable after the end of the financial year the Auditor shall audit the Federation's Books of Account. The Honorary Treasurer shall present the Audited Statements to the Biennial Conference.
- (b) Members of the Executive, the Attorney, Members of the Tribunal, officials of the Federation (whether salaried or not) and officials of the State Zionist Councils or the Territory Zionist Council and of their members (whether salaried or not) shall not be eligible for election as Auditor.
- (c) The Auditor shall be entitled to receive notice of meetings of the Executive and shall be entitled to attend and be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.
- (d) If between Biennial Conferences the Auditor's position becomes vacant the Executive may appoint another qualified person to the vacancy to hold office until the termination of the Biennial Conference next following his appointment.

#### **49. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

- (a) Conference may decide (in presence of at least two Delegates from each of the State Zionist Councils of the states of New South Wales and Victoria) by a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting to amend the Constitution.
- (b) Conference shall not deliberate upon amendments to the Constitution unless *Notice of Motion* of any amendment has been submitted to the Executive in writing at least forty days

prior to the date upon which Conference is convened. The proposed amendment shall be included in the Notice convening Conference.

**GENERAL SECRETARY**

50. The General Secretary of the Federation shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Executive and shall have the right to be heard but shall not be entitled to vote.

**LIFE MEMBERS**

51. Persons who have rendered outstanding service to the Zionist Movement over a number of years and who have served on the Executive of the Federation may be elected by Conference to be Life Members of the Executive by simple majority upon the proposal of the Executive Life Members of the Executive shall have full voting power.

**BADGE**

52. The badge or insignia of the Federation shall be determined from time to time by the Executive.