



**CONSTITUTION OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION**

**AS AMENDED AT
THE 48TH SOUTH AFRICAN
ZIONIST FEDERATION CONFERENCE**

7 and 8 March 2015

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The terms specified hereunder shall have the meaning set forth beside them if no other meaning is indicated by the provision itself or the context.

"Affiliates" – means those organisations that support and identify with Israel. A list of the Affiliates are identified in Annexure "A" hereto;

"Congress" - means the Congress of the World Zionist Organisation;

"Constituent Bodies" – means a Zionist organisation as identified in their founding constitutions. A list of the Constituent Bodies is listed in Annexure "B" hereto;

"Constituent Members" – means the Political Parties, Zionist Youth Movements and Constituent Bodies;

"Constitution of the Organisation" - means the Constitution of the WZO;

"Conference" - means the Conference of the Federation;

"Elected Office Bearers" - means the elected office bearers as set out in Article XI;

"Israel" – means the State of Israel;

"MANCOM" - means the National Management Committee of the Federation;

"Members" – means collectively the Affiliates, Constituent Bodies, Political Parties and the Zionist Youth Movements;

"National Treasury Committee" - means the body as set out in Article X;

"Organisation" or "W.Z.O" - means the World Zionist Organisation;

"Political parties" – means Arzeinu, Likud, Mizrachi, and SAFOLI;

"Provincial Zionist Councils" - means Zionist Councils in the respective Provinces of South Africa who conduct Zionist work as agents of the Federation and are constituted in terms of

Article XIII. The demarcation of the area of jurisdiction of such Councils shall be settled by a majority vote of MANCOM;

“South Africa” – means the Republic of South Africa

“The Federation” - means the South African Zionist Federation being a Federation of all of its Members;

"Zionist Youth Movements" – means Betar, Bnei Akiva, Habonim and Netzer.

ARTICLE I : NAME

The South African Zionist Federation, hereinafter referred to as The Federation.

ARTICLE II : STATUS

1. The Federation shall act on behalf of the South African Jewish community in all matters relating to Israel.
2. The Federation shall determine the conduct of its affairs, the form of its organisation and procedures.
3. The Federation shall be a separate legal persona existing in its own right separately from its Members with perpetual succession.
4. The Federation shall continue in existence notwithstanding any changes in its membership from time to time or in its Elected Office Bearers from time to time.
5. The Federation shall be capable of –
 - a. suing or being sued in its own name;
 - b. contracting in its own name;
 - c. owning moveable, immovable, corporeal or incorporeal property in its own name.
6. No part of The Federation’s income or property shall be distributed to the Members or Elected Office Bearers of the Federation except as reasonable compensation for services rendered. Neither the Members nor Elected Office Bearers of the Federation shall have any rights in the property or other assets of the Federation.

ARTICLE III : OBJECTIVES

The mission statement of the SAZF is to strengthen the relationship between the State of Israel, South Africa and South African Jewry by integrating, leading and leveraging the differentiated interests of its Members.

The Federation shall promote in South Africa:-

- I. advocacy and outreach efforts on behalf of Israel;
- II. a coordinated broad based, comprehensive Zionist education programme in partnership with its Members;
- III. to actively promote aliya;
- IV. The Jerusalem Programme which states that:
 - a. Zionism is the national liberation movement of the Jewish people, brought about the establishment of the State of Israel, and views a Jewish, Zionist, democratic and secure State of Israel to be the expression of the common responsibility of the Jewish people for its continuity and future.
 - b. its aims are the adherence to the foundations of Zionism, being:
 - I. the unity of the Jewish people, its bond to its historic homeland Eretz Israel, and the centrality of the State of Israel and Jerusalem, its capital, in the life of the nation;
 - II. Aliya to Israel from all countries and the effective integration of all immigrants into Israeli society;
 - III. strengthening Israel as a Jewish, Zionist and democratic state shaping it into an exemplary society with a unique moral and spiritual character, marked by mutual respect for the multi-faceted Jewish people, rooted in the vision of the prophets, striving for peace and contributing to the betterment of the world;
 - IV. ensuring the future and the distinctiveness of the Jewish people by furthering Jewish, Hebrew and Zionist education, fostering spiritual and cultural values and teaching Hebrew as the National language;
 - V. nurturing mutual Jewish responsibility, 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;
 - VI. settling the country as an expression of practical Zionism;

- VII. the raising of funds and the collection of contributions to finance its projects and to support the humanitarian, welfare and social needs of the State of Israel;
- VIII. the encouragement of private capital investment in Israel;
- IX. the mobilisation of public opinion for the support of Israel and Zionism;
- X. if any of the above aims conflict with the aims and objects as set out in the Objects Clause of the Memorandum of Association of the Federation then the latter will prevail.

ARTICLE IV : MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE

1. The Federation shall consist of:-
 - a. Political Parties;
 - b. Zionist Youth Movements;
 - c. Constituent Bodies;
 - d. Affiliates;
 - e. Any other body or organisation which complies with the objectives of the Federation and is accepted by it as a Member.
2. All Members and Elected Office Bearers shall be subject to the discipline of the Federation.

ARTICLE V : REPRESENTATION AT THE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS

Representation at the World Zionist Congress shall be determined in accordance with the constitution of the WZO.

ARTICLE VI : CONFERENCE STEERING COMMITTEE

1. MANCOM shall not less than four months before the holding of Conference appoint a Steering Committee for the following purposes:-

- a. to deal with all matters relating to the Conference subject to the requirements of Article VII below;
- b. to deal with the nomination of Elected Office Bearers and where applicable to determine the number of persons who will serve in the following categories –
 - I. The President;
 - II. The Chairperson;
 - III. Six Vice Chairpersons;
 - IV. Three Treasurers.
- c. to nominate for consideration by a simple majority of those present and voting, the following who must be elected by Conference:-
 - I. One or two Honorary Life Presidents (if not already elected);
 - II. One or more Honorary Life Vice Presidents;
- d. to receive the nomination of Elected Office Bearers not later than 21 days prior to the Conference, and nomination of delegates and observers not later than 14 days prior to the date of Conference;
- e. to act as the Credentials Committee for approving the nomination of Elected Office Bearers and the nomination of delegates and observers to Conference not later than 5 days before the date of Conference;
- f. all delegates and nominees shall have paid their Conference fees prior to the conference and shall be disqualified if they fail to do so;
- g. to decide in its sole discretion on matters relating to Conference as may be referred to it by the Elected Office Bearers, MANCOM, or the members.

2. The Steering Committee shall consist of:-

- a. the Chairperson of the Federation who shall be the Chairman of the Steering Committee and in his absence a Vice Chairperson;
- b. the Elected Office Bearers;
- c. a representative of each member;
- d. the Executive Director and other executives who may be required to attend without the right to vote;
- e. the Director of the Israel Centre without the right to vote;

3. Each member who is present at a meeting of the Steering Committee shall have one (1) vote on each question requiring a decision. The Chairperson shall be afforded a casting vote.

4. The Steering Committee shall be autonomous in regard to all matters relating to the Conference and shall have authority to frame rules and regulations for the discharge of its functions. It shall, however, be responsible to MANCOM for all matters relating to policy and to the Treasury Committee for all matters relating to expenditure.
5. The Steering Committee shall report the order of business and the rules of procedure at the Opening Session of Conference. Such rules shall be binding on a Conference, unless changed by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting at any session of the Conference.

ARTICLE VII : CONFERENCE, ITS COMPOSITION AND PROCEDURE

1. The Conference of the South African Zionist Federation shall be held every four years. Notice of the time and place of the holding of the Conference shall be given by circular to all Members not less than two months prior to the holding thereof.
2. MANCOM shall issue not less than 21 days prior to Conference, an agenda paper in which it shall publish, in addition to other business, all resolutions.
3. The business of Conference shall be:-
 - a. to deal with the Conference Agenda as determined by the Steering Committee;
 - b. to receive the Chairperson's Report;
 - c. to receive and consider an oral summary of the Report and Financial Statement of MANCOM;
 - d. to receive and decide upon resolutions and proposals brought before it which have been submitted to all delegates;
 - e. to elect a President, a Chairperson, six Vice Chairpersons and three Treasurers;

(MANCOM may at its first meeting after Conference designate one or two of the Vice Chairpersons as Senior Vice Chairperson(s)).
 - f. to elect one or more Honorary Life Presidents and to elect one or more Honorary Life Vice-Presidents (The number of Honorary Life Vice Presidents shall be determined by the Conference Steering Committee).
4. Conference shall consist of approximately 400 delegates. Notwithstanding the above, the Steering Committee shall have the power in agreement with MANCOM to alter this number by increasing or decreasing the proportional representations.
5. Conference shall comprise of the following Members who shall be entitled to be

represented by the following number of delegates as tabled below:-

ORGANISATION	NO OF DELEGATES
WIZO	75
ARZENU	40
LIKUD	40
MIZRACHI	40
SAFOLI	40
YOUTH MOVEMENTS	40
SAUJS	40
JNF	20
MACABBI	20
IUA	20
SAJBD	10
AFFILIATES (excluding SABJD and SAUJS)	5

6. The Conference Steering Committee shall have the right to call for evidence in order to satisfy itself that all the requirements of this section have been met. The majority decision of the Committee shall be final and binding.
7. The Steering Committee shall appoint the Executive Director of the Federation at the time to receive and verify the names submitted by the Members and such names and information relating thereto shall be kept strictly confidential by the Executive Director.
8. Additional representatives of members and non-members may attend Conference as observers without the right to vote subject to the payment of Conference fees and the approval of the Conference Steering Committee.
9. Should an accredited delegate representing a Member be unable to attend Conference, the respective body shall have the right to appoint an alternate acceptable to the Conference Steering Committee not later than the time set for registration of delegates.
10. Each accredited delegate present in person at any session of Conference shall be entitled to one (1) vote only on any matter requiring decision, even if such delegate represents more than one body. No proxies shall be permitted.
11. One-third of the accredited delegates to Conference present at any session shall constitute a quorum.
12. The qualification of a delegate in terms of this Section shall be determined by the Conference Steering Committee in the event of the qualifications of any delegate being challenged.
13. Except as otherwise specifically provided for in this Constitution all questions of Order or Procedure at a Conference or any meeting of the Federation shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order as revised from time to time.

ARTICLE VIII : SPECIAL CONFERENCE

1. MANCOM may convene a Special Conference by giving written notice to all Members.
2. MANCOM shall on the signed requisition of at least 50% of the Constituent Members be obliged to convene a Special Conference.
3. A Special Conference shall be constituted on the same basis as the most recently held Conference or on such other basis as MANCOM may unanimously agree on.

ARTICLE IX : NATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. For the period between conferences the control of the Federation shall be vested in MANCOM.
2. The Chairperson of the Federation or in his or her absence a Vice Chairperson shall preside over meetings of MANCOM.
3. MANCOM shall meet at least once during the year that a National Conference is held and twice during the year when a National Conference is not held.
4. The composition of MANCOM shall be as follows:-

the Elected Office Bearers;

- a. the Honorary Life President(s); and the Honorary Life Vice President(s) , all of whom shall be elected by Conference;
 - b. two representatives of each Constituent Member;
 - c. one representative of each affiliate;
 - d. the Chairpersons of Provincial Councils;
 - e. The Director of Provincial Councils;
 - f. the Ambassador of Israel by invitation;
 - g. the Chief Rabbi of South Africa by invitation.
5. All representatives of the Affiliates shall be the President and/or the Chairperson and/or the Vice Chairperson and/or an Executive member of the body represented.
 6. MANCOM may co-opt not more than five additional Members at its sole and absolute discretion.

7. MANCOM shall have the right to invite persons to attend its meetings, without voting rights.
8. The National Executive Director and the senior official from each Provincial office and from Telfed shall be entitled to attend all meetings of MANCOM. In addition other senior officials and shlichim may be invited to attend meetings. Officials shall have no voting rights.
9. Should a vacancy occur amongst the Elected Office Bearers then MANCOM shall have the right to fill such vacancy for the period until the next Conference.
10. Anybody represented on MANCOM shall have the right to replace its representative or to fill a vacancy subject to the requirements of Section 5 of this Article and subject further to the confirmation of MANCOM.
11. Twenty Members shall constitute a quorum.
12. Minutes of the proceedings of MANCOM shall be kept and distributed to the Members.

ARTICLE X : NATIONAL TREASURY COMMITTEE

1. There shall be established a Treasury Committee which shall be accountable to MANCOM. It shall be responsible for the approval of Federation expenditure.
2. It shall consist of the Chairperson, the Treasurers of the Federation, the Chairpersons of the Provincial Zionist Council, The National Director of the Federation and the Provincial Directors.
3. The Committee shall have the right to co-opt not more than 2 persons.
4. The Chairperson of the National Treasury Committee shall be the Chairperson of the Federation and in his temporary absence a person nominated to act as the Chairperson.
5. A quorum shall consist of 3 persons of the Committee.

ARTICLE XI : ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS

1. The Elected Office Bearers shall be responsible for the supervision of the day to day affairs of the Federation on whose behalf it shall act, issue statements and generally perform such functions as are required of this body.
2. The Federation, acting through its Elected Office Bearers shall have all such powers as are required by law in order to achieve its objectives. Without

derogating from the generality The Federation shall have the following powers –

- 2.1 to raise funds solely for the purpose of meeting costs and expenses associated with specific functions and events;
 - 2.2 to invest funds;
 - 2.3 to invest capital or income;
 - 2.4 to employ executive staff;
 - 2.5 to incur expenses for and on behalf of the Youth Movements.
3. Between meetings of MANCOM, the Elected Office Bearers shall be empowered to act on its behalf.
 4. The Chairperson of the Federation or in his or her absence the Senior Vice Chairperson or failing him or her a Vice Chairperson shall preside over meetings of the Elected Office Bearers.
 5. The Elected Office Bearers shall consist of the following :
 - a. the President; the Chairperson; the immediate Past Chairperson; the Senior Vice Chairperson/s; the Vice Chairpersons; the Treasurers; the President of WIZO South Africa; and the Chairperson of the South African Zionist Youth Council;
 - b. The Honorary Life President/s; The Honorary Life Vice President/s;
 - c. Ex Officio who shall not have the right to vote: The Director of the Israel Centre, The Director, S A Zionist Federation, the Directors of the SAZF provincial offices;
 - d. the Chairpersons of the SAZF (Cape Council); the Kwazulu Natal Zionist Council and the Eastern Cape Zionist Council who shall be entitled to appoint an alternate representative if the Chairperson is unable to attend;
 - e. the Chairperson or an appointed representative of (Telfed) when present in South Africa;
 - f. the National Executive Director and by invitation the Directors of the Provincial Zionist Councils all of whom shall not have the right to vote.
 - g. Cooptees as appointed in terms of point 12 below, who shall not have a vote
 6. Meetings of the Elected Office Bearers shall be convened by the Chairperson whenever necessary but shall be held not less than six times annually.
 7. Agendas of meetings shall be communicated to all Members wherever possible, and particularly to Members who reside in the Provinces so as to enable them to either attend the meeting or communicate their views telephonically or

electronically.

8. Minutes of the proceedings of Elected Office Bearers shall be kept and distributed to its Members.
9. Five voting Members shall constitute a quorum.
10. The Elected Office Bearers shall have the right to invite persons to attend its meetings.
11. An Elected Office Bearer may only serve for two consecutive terms in the same position.
12. The Elected Office Bearers shall have the right to co-opt not more than 2 persons.

ARTICLE XII : ADMINISTRATION

1. The Head Office of the Federation shall be located in Johannesburg.
2. The provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Federation, registered as a company under the Company Laws of South Africa, shall be deemed to be incorporated herein.
3. The funds of the Federation shall be deposited with registered commercial or general banks selected by MANCOM.
4. MANCOM shall appoint auditors, ensure that proper books of account are kept and that annual balance sheets and financial statements are prepared.
5. The National Executive Director shall be responsible for the administration of the departments of the Federation and for the control of its finances as directed by MANCOM.
6. All persons directly employed by and drawing their remuneration from the Federation shall not be eligible to serve as Elected Office Bearers or Members of MANCOM or as delegates to a conference and shall not be entitled to vote.
7. Save unless the Chairperson, the Vice Chairpersons and the Treasury have resolved in writing, no Elected Office Bearer may be remunerated for services rendered or awarded any business contracts.

ARTICLE XIII : PROVINCIAL ZIONIST COUNCILS

1. The Provincial Zionist Councils shall act on behalf of the Federation in all Zionist matters affecting their respective Provinces.

2. The Councils shall direct and co-ordinate Zionist work in their Provinces, and serve as the main channels of communication between Provincial based bodies and the Federation.
3. The number of delegates and their mode of election to the Provincial Conference shall be determined by the constitutions of the respective Provincial Councils.
4. Constitutions and By-Laws of the Provincial Councils shall not contain provisions in conflict with any of the provisions of the Constitution of the Federation. Each Province shall, however, be autonomous in matters affecting said Province.
5. All Provinces shall submit to the Federation regular reports of its activities and statements of revenue and expenditure.

ARTICLE XIV : JUDICIAL BODY

1. The Court of Honour shall be headed by the President of the Court of Honour who shall be appointed by MANCOM by a decision of a two third majority of the members present and voting.
2. The Court of Honour shall consist of the President of the Court of Honour and two persons who are members of the legal profession, one of whom shall be appointed by MANCOM and the other by the person or body which or who is in dispute with the Federation.
3. Where the Federation as such is not involved in the dispute, these two persons shall be appointed on each occasion by the bodies or persons concerned when the Court of Honour is required to act.
4. The Court of Honour shall have jurisdiction and the power to hear and determine the following matters:-
 - a. interpretation of the Constitution of the Federation and legality of decisions of the bodies of the Federation;
 - b. disputes between the Federation and Members;
 - c. disputes between the Federation and individuals who are Elected Office Bearer, representatives of Members or persons who have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Court of Honour;
 - d. matters relating to elections at Conference.
5. The Court of Honour shall be entitled to reverse or vary a decision of MANCOM and the Elected Office Bearers to impose any other decision it deems fit relating to a dispute placed before it, including the right to order the expulsion or suspension of the person or body concerned from the Federation and/or its governing bodies and/or committees.

6. The Court of Honour shall be obliged to pronounce judgment not later than three months after any hearing before it.
7. All proceedings of the Court of Honour shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure laid down by the President of the Court of Honour from time to time.
8. The decision of the Court of Honour shall be final and binding.

ARTICLE XV : DISCIPLINE

1. In accordance with Article IV, point 2, MANCOM shall, on 21 days notice and subject to a two third majority vote of those present be entitled to remove, suspend and/or call for the resignation of any Member, representative of a Member and/or an elected office bearer.
2. Prior to any decision as contemplated in 1 above the Member or individual in question shall have the right to make representations (both oral and written) to MANCOM.
3. The Member or individual in question shall have the right to appeal to the Court of Honour within thirty (30) days of a decision adopted by MANCOM.
4. In matters relating to the Federation activities, no Constituent Member or any of its representatives shall conduct negotiations with the Government of South Africa, or with any department thereof without the consent of MANCOM.

ARTICLE XVI : BYE-LAWS

MANCOM may make By-Laws consistent with this Constitution for the regulation of the business of the Federation.

ARTICLE XVII : AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. This Constitution shall not be amended except by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present and voting at a Conference or at a Special Conference called for such a purpose.
2. Notice of Motion of any amendment of the Constitution must be given to MANCOM in writing at least six weeks prior to the Conference.
3. The proposed amendment shall be circulated by MANCOM to all Members 21 days prior to Conference.

ARTICLE XVIII : VOTING

Voting on all issues shall be by open ballot unless a secret ballot is requested by at least 50 delegates at a Conference, or by 15 Members of MANCOM at a meeting thereof. All elections of Elected Office Bearers shall be by secret ballot.

ARTICLE XIX : AREA OF OPERATIONS

The area of operations of the Federation in which funds will be raised and contributions collected and in which its business and operations will be carried on shall be South Africa.

ARTICLE XX : DISSOLUTION

1. Should the South African Zionist Federation be dissolved or wound up, any property or assets remaining after payment of its liabilities shall be given or transferred to any organisation which is the successor of the South African Zionist Federation or to any similar public benefit organisation which has been approved in terms of section 30 of the Income Tax Act.
2. MANCOM shall, in the event of a winding up or dissolution, hold office until the provisions of the preceding sub-paragraph have been implemented and shall, pending such implementation, have all the powers conferred upon it in terms of this Constitution.

AFFILIATES

- South African Jewish Board of Deputies - SAJBD
- South African Board of Jewish Education
- Union of Orthodox Synagogues and its affiliated congregations
- SA Union of Progressive Judaism and its affiliated congregations
- Hebrew Order of David
- Bnei Brith
- South African Union of Jewish Students - SAUJS
- Magen David Adom
- Union of Jewish Women
- ORT
- Chevra Kadisha
- Friends Organisations
- SA Friends of Ben Gurion University
- SA Friends of Hebrew University
- SA Friends of Bar Ilan University
- SA Friends of Weitzman Institute
- SA Friends of Beth Halochem
- SA Zionist Federation (Israel) – Telfed

CONSTITUENT BODIES

- Jewish National Fund
- WIZO
- IUA
- Israel Centre
- SA Zionist Youth Council
- Maccabi
- The Zionist Youth Movements