

The Zionist Congress XXXVIII

Adopted Resolutions

October 2020 – Heshvan 5781

1. Aliyah and Integration Terminology in the National Institutions

Whereas there is no standardization among the various units within the National Institutions addressing terminology in the sphere of Aliyah, and particularly in English, which is the main operative language; and

Whereas some of these units employ the term “Immigration” (e.g. “Immigration to Israel”) in reference to *Aliyah* or “immigrant” to refer to *Olim*, complemented by the national adjectival form for the country from where they came on Aliyah (e.g. “Russian immigrant”). This is a usage devoid of any Zionist or Jewish context and this conceptualization distorts the essence of the Aliyah process and is detrimental to the inherent Zionist and Jewish value of Aliyah. Moreover, it is detrimental to the self-identification of *Olim*, their motivation to make Aliyah and their successful integration in the State of Israel; and

Whereas this term has a crucial impact on the development of personal identity, creation of narrative and social reality,

Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby resolves:

1. To discontinue usage of the term “Immigration” in reference to Aliyah throughout the National Institutions and their subsidiary companies. The definition of immigration applies when people who are part of an ethnic national majority group immigrate to a country where they become part of an ethnic or national minority. The Aliyah process is completely opposite in that it refers to Jews in the Diaspora who, *qua* Jews, are part of a minority in their country of residence and make Aliyah to the State of Israel, where they become part of the State of Israel.
2. Instead of “Immigration” in the English, the Hebrew term “*Aliyah*” should be used.
3. Instead of “Absorption”, in documents, which the National Institutions control, the term “Integration” should be employed.
4. Any reference to *Olim* should refrain from referring to the national identity of the country from which they made Aliyah. This means discontinuing usage such as: “American / French / Russian / Argentinian / Ethiopian *Olim*, etc.” and replacement by usage of: “*Olim* from the USA / France / Russia / Argentina / Ethiopia.”
5. In the case of veteran *Olim*, reference should not use the adjectival form of the national identity of the country from which they made Aliyah. In other words, discontinuing usage such as: “American / French / Russian / Argentinian / Ethiopian, etc.” with replacement by usage of: “an Israeli who made Aliyah from the USA / France / Russia / Argentina / Ethiopia,” and so on. This usage of terminology not only serves to describe an identity in an accurate manner – it also expresses a recognition of Aliyah to Israel by veteran *Olim*.
6. One should be aware, sensitized and alert, whether in dialogue or written materials, to the need to refrain from referring to *Olim* (new or veteran) in terms of the national identity of their country of origin, from whence they came on Aliyah – thus ensuring there is no negation or exclusion of their Israeli and Jewish identity. Similarly, *Olim* should not be termed “immigrants” – as if they had simply moved to any other

1 country in the world, rather than the State of Israel. They should be defined in terms
2 of the significance of Zionist Aliyah, this being the return of Jews to the State of Israel.
3 7. To work to inculcate the above principles within every social organization engaged
4 in Zionist and Jewish education, Aliyah and Integration, and activities with Diaspora
5 Jewry.

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2. Promotion of Aliyah

8 **Whereas** there is presently a perceptible resurgence in Aliyah and Return home among
9 a number of Diaspora communities; and

10 **Whereas** the World Zionist Organization is responsible for Aliyah promotion, in general,
11 and Aliyah by choice, in particular,

12 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby resolves:**

- 13 1. To expand its activity significantly in the sphere of promoting all forms of Aliyah,
14 including Aliyah by choice;
- 15 2. To assist Zionist Federations in the establishment of community Aliyah committees;
- 16 3. To expand the Shlichut deployment system in this area;
- 17 4. To allocate resources to Zionist youth movements to assist their education for Aliyah;
- 18 5. To coordination with the Jewish Agency Aliyah Department in all matters related
19 to Aliyah promotion.

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3. Zionist Education for Future Generations

22 **Whereas:**

- 23 1. The next generation of Zionists around the world are under-represented in global
24 and local Zionist institutions; and
- 25 2. Political leaders in Israel and the Diaspora are often products of Zionist youth
26 movements and student groups, which is proof of their importance in leadership
27 development around the Zionist world,

28 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress hereby resolves that:**

- 29 1. The World Zionist Organization shall convene a Zionist Youth Congress to bring
30 together the best and brightest of the next generation of Zionist leadership around
31 the world between ages 18-25. This will be the age range of the future young Zionist
32 leadership;
- 33 2. The Zionist Youth Congress shall receive the appropriate funding to function at the
34 highest level and commensurate with its importance in the Zionist world;
- 35 3. The Zionist Youth Congress shall function in a manner that includes the historical
36 Zionist youth movements but shall make extra effort to include and engage Zionist
37 youth around the world who are unaffiliated with Zionist youth movements or other
38 organizations that are formally affiliated with the World Zionist Organization.

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4. Hebrew Language and Culture

Whereas the Hebrew language is the language of the Jewish people and, as such, a cornerstone of Jewish religion, heritage and culture, and renewed Israeli experience; and

Whereas the revival of the Hebrew language constitutes one of the central components in the development of the Zionist movement and the fulfillment of the Zionist vision; and

Whereas knowledge of Hebrew is a fundamental component of Jewish identity and outreach to draw the younger generation closer to Jewish heritage and identification with the Jewish people and the State of Israel; and

Whereas the World Zionist Organization considers itself entrusted with the inculcation of the Zionist idea among the young generation in the Diaspora, and is therefore obligated to inculcate, strengthen and foster Hebrew language and culture,

Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII:

1. Instructs the Zionist Executive to plan a comprehensive work program for Hebrew language and culture instruction across all sectors of the Jewish public in the Diaspora.
2. The work program shall be varied, pluralistic contemporary and adapted for all age groups, especially the young generation.
3. The Zionist Executive shall work to implement this Resolution.

5. Committee to Recommend Steps for Inclusion of More Voices within the Zionist Movement

Whereas the diversity of our stories, ethnicities, religious traditions, political viewpoints, and much more, act to strengthen the Jewish people and the Zionist Movement are strengthened; and,

Whereas the Zionist movement can do more to include and represent the voices of Mizrahi Jews, Sephardic Jews, Ethiopian Jews, Jews from the Former Soviet Union, Jews of color in the Diaspora, and many other communities,

Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby resolves:

1. To establish a commission, which will report on where the Zionist movement can improve in its representation and inclusion of diverse Zionist communities, and recommend concrete steps to accomplish this goal.
2. To invite Zionist organizations representing the above-mentioned communities and others to appoint a representative on their behalf to the commission.

6. The Unity of the Jewish People

Whereas the strength of the Zionist Movement is inextricably linked to the strength and “vitality” of the Jewish people and Jewish communities in Israel and throughout the world; and

Whereas the unity of the Jewish people is one of the core foundations of Zionism, as expressed by *The Jerusalem Program*; and

1 **Whereas** *The Jerusalem Program* stresses the role of Zionism in nurturing mutual
2 Jewish responsibility; and

3 **Whereas** *The Jerusalem Program* recognizes that the importance of mutual respect for
4 the multi-faceted Jewish people is firmly rooted in the foundations of Zionism,

5 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby resolves:**

- 6 1. To assure mutual respect for the diversity of voices within the Zionist Movement.
- 7 2. Therefore, to strengthen Zionism, it hereby prohibits communications, materials
8 and/or programs, which denigrate or demean other Zionist organizations and/or the
9 individual members of other Zionist organizations, for reasons of differences in
10 theology or observance of Jewish traditions.
- 11 3. Further, members of the World Zionist Organization shall not weaken the Zionist
12 Movement by personal attacks against leaders of other Zionist organizations for any
13 of the reasons detailed above.

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15 **7. Empowering the Council of World Zionist Youth Movements**
16 **and their *Hagshama* Movements**

17 **Whereas** the Council of World Zionist Youth Movements and the
18 Hagshama Movements serve as a bridge between youth and young adults both in Israel
19 and outside of Israel; and

20 **Whereas** investing now in future Zionist leadership ensures the long-term continuity of
21 the Jewish community's relationship with the State of Israel; and

22 **Whereas** educating about Zionism is a must in order to develop young leaders; and

23 **Whereas** these movements have the ability and connections to reach out to every
24 Jewish home in the Diaspora via a network of clubs / branches / regions in hundreds of
25 communities,

26 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby resolves:**

27 To increase and empower the support and professional guidance of all the World
28 Zionist Youth Movements, by providing the necessary designated financial aid and
29 other help, to ensure the continuation of essential projects.

30 **It is further resolved** that the aspiration is to create stronger connections between the
31 National Institutions for this common purpose.

32 **It is resolved** that there will be full synchronization between all the different
33 professional bodies in the World Zionist Organization, needed to achieve this goal.

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35 **8. Combating Anti-Zionism on Campus**

36 **Whereas** the convergence of hostility to the State of Israel, rising campus intolerance,
37 and social media harassment campaigns has created a toxic environment on some
38 campuses—leading, to violations of academic freedom and fair treatment, it is
39 important that university administrators and faculty worldwide develop policies and
40 the nerve to speak forcefully against the bullying, online or in person, based on political
41 ideologies; and

42 **Whereas** Rose Ritch, a Jewish undergraduate at the University of Southern California
43 recently resigned under pressure as Vice President of the Undergraduate Student

1 Government following a campaign that featured denunciations of her support for
2 Israel; and

3 **Whereas** Ritch is far from the only college student who has been harassed in recent
4 years for their pro-Israel politics, her story is an important reminder that educational
5 institutions should actively promote discussion about contentious issues like the
6 Middle East. They should encourage students to become informed about the history
7 and nature of Zionism, which, according to standard definitions, is the movement of
8 the Jewish people for self-determination in a land or state of their own.

9 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby resolves:**

10 That the Education Department of the World Zionist Organization join with Zionist
11 Youth Movements and Jewish Student Unions around the world to implement further
12 educational activities for university and college campuses to combat the ongoing anti-
13 Zionist attacks suffered by Jewish and pro-Zionist students. In the first instance, the
14 response to Antisemitism and anti-Zionism should be led by students themselves.

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16 **9. Establishing Rules for Exclusion from the World Zionist Organization**

17 **Whereas** the Zionist movement’s strength is directly impacted by its ability to bring
18 together the broadest-based and largest sectors possible of the Jewish people in joint
19 endeavor; and

20 **Whereas** from time to time, under various auspices of the Zionist movement, a range
21 of resolutions of one type or another have been passed calling for the exclusion of one
22 or other entity or body from the Zionist movement; and

23 **Whereas** the process of exclusion from the Zionist movement is one of serious
24 consequence and has not hereto been regulated in the WZO Constitution or the
25 Regulations for its Implementation,

26 **Therefore, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby resolves:**

27 Without detriment to provisions presently in force in the matter of the Zionist
28 Federations’ and inter-territorial Zionist Organizations’ membership in the World
29 Zionist Organization, not to take any steps or initiative to exclude any entity or body
30 from the Zionist movement – other than by means of a process that shall be
31 determined in compliance with the provisions of the Constitution of the World Zionist
32 Organization and the Regulations for its Implementation. The Executive is called upon
33 to act promptly to implement this Resolution.

34 This Resolution shall remain in force for a period of 24 months.

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Elections, Appointments & Notices

Election of Chairman of the Executive

Pursuant to the provisions of **Articles 14 (e)** and **41, Section 1 a)** of the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby elects as Chairman of the Executive: Mr. **Yaakov Hagoel**.

Election of Vice-Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Executive

Pursuant to the provisions of **Articles 14 (e)** and **41, Section 1 b)** of the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby elects as Vice-Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Executive: Dr. **Yizhar Hess**.

Election of Members of the Executive

Pursuant to the provisions of **Articles 14 (e)** and **41, Section 1 c) and d)** of the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby elects the persons listed below as Members of the Inner Executive, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Congress authorizes the Zionist General Council to elect the Member of the Executive representing the Mizrahi-Beytenu-Herut-Derekh Eretz-Lavie faction in order to complete the composition of the Executive.
2. Said election is subject to the submission of a declaration in accordance with **Article 27, Section 2** of said Constitution, this being within 30 days of the date of closure of the Congress XXXVIII.
3. The election of **Mr. Sam Grundweg**, as a serving Member of the Executive holding the position of World Chairman of Keren Hayesod, shall run until 30 April 2021.
4. After 30 April 2021, before election of a Member of the Executive to serve as World Chairman of Keren Hayesod, one of the Members of the Executive elected pursuant to said **Article 41/1 c)** of the Constitution shall resign.

Sergio Edelstein, Shimon Ohayon, Mauricio Balter, Racheli Bricks, Tami Gottlieb, Sam Grundweg, Gael Grunewald, Izhak Dahan, Dina Hahn, Yizhar Hess, Yehiel Wasserman, Yaakov Hagoel, Silvio Joscowicz, Gusti Yehoshua-Braverman, Masha Lubelsky, Yigal Levi, Shmuel Litov, Sofa Landver, Ester Mor, Dror Morag, Yishai Merling, Gil Segal, Susana Silvina, Yifat Ovadia Lusky, Charles Kaufman, Jacques Kupfer, David Korenfeld, Gilad Kariv, Marina Rozenberg Koritny, Yaron Shavit, Roi Schindler, Ronit Snir.

Election of Members of the Outer Executive

Pursuant to the provisions of **Article 15** of the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby authorizes the Presidium of the Zionist General Council to elect the Members of the Outer Executive, pursuant to the provisions of **Articles 14 (e)** and **42, Section 2** of the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization, within 90 days of the date of closure of the Congress XXXVIII. and proportional to the strength of the Congress groups set down by the Standing Committee of the Zionist Congress XXXVIII. Said election is subject to the proviso that

1 each Member of the Executive shall present a declaration pursuant to **Article 27,**
2 **Section 2** of the Constitution within 30 days of the date of closure of the Congress
3 XXXVIII.

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5 **Election of President of the Zionist Congress XXXVIII**

6 Pursuant to the provisions of **Regulation 3 (a)** of the Standing Orders for the Zionist
7 Congress and further to the proposal of the Presidium of the Zionist General Council,
8 the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby elects Mr. **Yaron Shavit** as President of the Zionist
9 Congress XXXVIII.

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11 **Election of President of the World Zionist Organization**

12 Pursuant to the provisions of **Articles 15** and **39** of the Constitution of the World Zionist
13 Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby authorizes the Zionist General
14 Council to elect the President of the World Zionist Organization, based on a proposal
15 from the Executive. Said election may be conducted by written ballot among members
16 of the Zionist General Council, pursuant to the Standing Orders of the Zionist General
17 Council.

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19 **Authorization of the Notice from the Presidium of the Zionist Congress as Adopted**
20 **Unanimously in the matter of the Zionist Supreme Court**

21 The Zionist Congress XXXVIII wishes to acknowledge its appreciation for the Zionist
22 Supreme Court for its contribution to the reinforcement of democratic principles within
23 the World Zionist Organization as expressed in its legal proceedings in preparation for
24 the Congress and particularly in the Court's rulings under **Article 24** of the Constitution.

25 The Court's ruling and recommendations in relation to the oversight process of conduct
26 of elections and appointment of delegates have been a guiding light and we shall act
27 to implement them swiftly.

28 The Congress respectfully requests that her Honor, the President of the Zionist
29 Supreme Court, President Emeritus of the Israel Supreme Court, Ms. **Miriam Naor**,
30 continue to serve in this capacity until the next regular Congress.

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32 **Empowerment of the Zionist General Council to Amend the Constitution**

33 Pursuant to the provisions of **Article 64, Section 1** of the Constitution of the World
34 Zionist Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII authorizes the Zionist General
35 Council to deliberate and rule on Amendments to the Constitution of the World Zionist
36 Organization.

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38 **Election of Attorney to the World Zionist Organization and Deputy Attorney to the**
39 **World Zionist Organization**

40 Pursuant to the provisions of **Articles 14 (e1), 15, 53** and **54** of the Constitution of the
41 World Zionist Organization, and further to the proposal of the Presidium of the Zionist
42 Congress XXXVIII, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII authorizes the Zionist General Council to
43 elect the Attorney to the World Zionist Organization and the Deputy Attorney to the

1 World Zionist Organization, within 90 days from the closure of the Congress. Said
2 election shall be conducted by written ballot among members of the Zionist General
3 Council, pursuant to the provisions of **Section 18, Para. 9** of the Standing Orders of the
4 Zionist General Council.

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6 **Comptroller of the World Zionist Organization**

7 Pursuant to the provisions of **Article 14 (1e)** of the Constitution of the World Zionist
8 Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby elects as Comptroller of the World
9 Zionist Organization: Mr. **Stephen Stav**.

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11 **Election of Honorary Fellows**

12 Pursuant to the provisions of **Article 32, Section 3 (f)** In the English this appears as
13 Section 3 (g) of the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization, the Zionist
14 Congress XXXVIII hereby elects the following as Honorary Fellows:

15 **Moïse Amselem, David Ben Naeh, Carol Golding, William (Bill) Hess, Yeshayahu**
16 **Wollstein, Haya Cohen, Aharon Livovsky, Joel Meyers, Roberto Muñoz, Evelyne**
17 **Somer.**

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20 **Notice from the Zionist Congress Presidium – Conclusion of the Sub-Committee for**
21 **Constitutional and Regulatory Issues**

22 The Congress Presidium hereby notifies the Congress Plenary of the conclusion of the
23 Sub-Committee for Constitutional and Regulatory Matters:

24 A. Proposals presented for deliberation at the Constitutional Committee shall be
25 referred for discussion by the Zionist General Council XXXVIII/2 at its first session in
26 2021. Obviously, the person submitting a proposal is entitled to withdraw it at any
27 time.

28 B. Concerning the amendment of the Regulations of the Standing Committee on Budget
29 and Finance (“the Finance Committee”):

30 The Executive shall act in all matters concerning said proposal on Amendment to said
31 Regulations of the Finance Committee in relation to the proposal upon which work
32 by the professional team, in coordination with the outgoing Finance Committee
33 Chair, has commenced and the principle of continuity shall be upheld, in terms of
34 legislative process.

35 The final draft proposal shall be put to a Referendum vote by the members of the
36 Zionist General Council no later than the end of September 2021, so that the 2022
37 World Zionist Organization budget will be submitted for approval under the new
38 Regulations.

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Election of Members of the Zionist General Council and Alternate Members of the Zionist General Council

Pursuant to the provisions of **Articles 14 (e)** and **32** of the Constitution of the World Zionist Organization, the Zionist Congress XXXVIII hereby elects the persons listed below as Members of the Zionist General Council and Alternate Members of the Zionist General Council.

The list will be published soon.