



תנועת העבודה הציונית העולמית World Labour Zionist Movement

THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE TENTH CONVENTION

Draft Resolutions

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FOREWORD

The draft resolutions submitted for the approval of the Tenth Convention of the World Labour Zionist Movement are the result of the work of 15 subcommittees of the Convention Preparatory Committee in which approximately 200 members participated. The resolutions were formulated after comprehensive discussions, incisive debates and votes in every committee and in the Plenum of the Preparatory Committee.

The resolutions cover the following areas:

1. Resolutions to be submitted as draft resolutions to the Thirty-Third Zionist Congress by our Movement. This Congress, which marks the centenary of the First Zionist Congress, will discuss two major issues: the autonomy of the Zionist Movement and the structural changes in the JAFI and the WZO.
2. Resolutions on World Labour Zionist Movement policy in the next few years.
3. Resolutions concerning the activity and Constitution of the Labour Zionist Movement.

The period between the last Congress and this Congress saw the gravest ever event in the history of the State of Israel: the murder of the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin za"l. This murder demonstrated that Israeli democracy is at risk and is not self-evident; and that a strenuous war must be waged against extremism and violence and on behalf of values of democracy and tolerance in Israeli society.

The resolutions are an expression of the most outstanding changes which have occurred in Israel and in the Jewish people since the Thirty-Second Zionist Congress, held in mid-1992: the change in the demographic map of the Jewish people with the exodus of the Jews of the former Soviet Union to Israel and to the countries of the West; the signing of the peace accords with Jordan and with the Palestinians; the rise of the Likud to power and the introduction of the Direct Election of the Prime Minister Law; the rise of the Reform and Conservative movements; and the changes in the balance of power in the WZO; the sharp fall in contributions to Israel.

In light of these changes, ideas and conceptions which were once correct must be reexamined. Some of the resolutions will give rise to searching discussions, since they oblige us to confront the new reality, to depart from old outlooks and to adopt new approaches suiting contemporary reality.

Any change of positions involves a difficult emotional process and requires intellectual courage. Should we continue to adhere to the view that the Diaspora is "an anomalous situation"? Should we aspire to separation of religion and state? Should we continue to ostracize Israelis living abroad and to call them "yordim"? What are the implications of the decrease in the scope of Aliyah from the countries of distress and how is voluntary Aliyah from the countries of the West to be promoted?

To what extent should the Jewish people in the Diaspora be allowed to participate in the decisions of the State of Israel? How do we combat the trend of estrangement of the Jews from the State of Israel.

How do we overcome the indifference in Israeli society towards the Jewish people and the anti-Zionist and Canaanite states of mind?

On the organizational plane: how do we guarantee the autonomy of the World Zionist Organization? How do we guarantee funding sources to ensure its continued existence after the next two years, upon conclusion of the period of the financial arrangement between the JAFI and the WZO? What will be the contents of the activity of the new Hagshama Authority to be established at the Zionist Congress? Should the post of Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive be separated from that of Chairman of the WZO Executive, with appointment of two separate Chairmen?

All these constitute some of the problems discussed by the document before us. Many issues are controversial, and this guarantees that there will be exhaustive and stormy ideological discussions at the Tenth Convention.

Let us all wish for the World Labour Zionist Movement to come out of the Tenth Convention strengthened, and with a fresh platform for the second century of the Zionist Movement.

Yours sincerely,

Chaim Chessler - Chair of the Preparatory Committee (Israel)

Harriet Green - Chair of the Preparatory Committee (USA)

Copies: Liora Langer, Deputy Chair

Hanita Attias-Keidar - Deputy Chair

Amos Yovel - Committee Coordinator

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INTRODUCTION

The World Labour Zionist Movement is an ideological, political and educational movement which advocates the redemption of the Jewish people and reform for the benefit of the people.

The Labour Zionist Movement's world-view is made up of three elements: Jewish identity, Zionist belief and a social ideal.

Jewish identity means belonging to the Jewish people, the continuity of Jewish history and the drawing from the intellectual sources of Jewish heritage, with an open, critical and fresh approach.

Zionist belief espouses the vision of the ingathering of the exiles in the State of Israel, the centrality of the State of Israel in the existence of the Jewish people, the revival of the Hebrew language as the national language of the Jews, and the responsibility of the State and of the Zionist Movement for the existence and the unity of the Jewish people.

The social ideal is an ideal of social justice, of constant striving towards greater equality, and of support of the goal of peace between Israel and the Palestinians and the Arab countries.

Zionism and the Jewish People

The Zionist idea embraces the unity of the Jewish people, and their return to their historic homeland, the ceaseless ingathering of the exiles by aliyah to Israel and personal participation in the upbuilding of the country, national sovereignty like all nations, the renewal of the Hebrew language and the fostering of Hebrew culture.

Zionism sees the Exile as an anomalous situation, which endangers the future of the Jewish people in the Diaspora.

Alternative proposal: to delete the above sentence.

Another version: The existence of the Exile endangers the existence and the future of the Jewish people in the Diaspora.

Notwithstanding, contemporary Zionism considers itself responsible for the fate of the Jewish people in the Diaspora. It sees the identification of the Diaspora with the State of Israel as a vital condition for guaranteeing the future of the Jewish people, and it also considers itself responsible for the challenge of Jewish-Zionist education in the Diaspora and for combating the dangers of assimilation, mixed marriages and weakening of Jewish awareness and identity.

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Zionism's success is of heroic proportions. The State of Israel came into being, and absorbed the mass Aliyah of the Holocaust survivors, and of immigrants from the Islamic countries, the former USSR and the affluent countries. There are nearly 5 million Jews in the State. Israel today is one of the most well established countries in the world, and we have achieved peace with Egypt and Jordan. However, Zionism fulfillment is still incomplete. Most of the Jewish people remain in exile. We are far from economic

independence and the challenge of peace with the Palestinians and all the Arab countries is still before us.

Despite the efforts of Jewish leadership around the world to maintain Jewish identity and to strengthen Jewish community life, assimilation is devouring Diaspora Jewry.

Most Jews have no connection with a Jewish organization. Over 50% of Jews marry out. Only 50% of Jewish children receive any Jewish education and only a small minority study in Jewish day schools. There are no Jewish social frameworks for the young generation within the community and the university campuses are an assimilating melting pot. The motivation to belong to and to bear responsibility for the future of the Jewish community is growing weaker and weaker.

Disquieting changes are also occurring in Israel society, undermining the moral commitment and the responsibility for the missions of the State and Zionism.

Jewish society is characterized by schisms which adversely affect solidarity. There is ever-growing tension in religious-secular relations, economic disparities are increasing, the political debate grows more acute, the schism between ethnic communities has not yet been healed, and economic and educational inequality exists in the standard of living and education between the Jewish sector and the Arab sector.

The Israeli economy depends on tens of thousands of foreign workers who live on the margins of society in shameful conditions.

Post-Zionist states of mind are spreading, whether in ultra-Orthodox attacks on the Zionist idea, or in secular intellectual circles which describe Zionism as a colonial movement and condemn the Law of Return as an expression of the fact that the state is a Jewish State.

Recently, the danger of mutual alienation between Israeli Jewry and Diaspora Jewry has also intensified. Diaspora Jews tend towards separatism and prefer local interests, while the sense of responsibility of the State of Israel for the unity and the future of the Jewish people is eroding.

The initiative for the Conversion Law legislation and the failure to recognize the equality of all the religious streams increase the alienation to the point of schism and civil war.

Consequently, contemporary Zionism demands a dual effort - it must take the Jewish people out of exile and take the exile out of Israeli society.

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The Labour Zionist Movement will fight to legitimize Zionism in the Jewish people and in the State of Israel. The Labour Zionist Movement supported the principle of a democratic Jewish state based on the principles of the Declaration of Independence. It will continue to strive for a society based on humanistic values - values of freedom of thought, equality of every man and social and economic justice.

In the transition from the melting pot outlook to the mosaic society outlook, the Labour Zionist Movement will encourage a multiplicity of nuances and maintaining of traditions of all parts of the Jewish people.

The Labour Zionist Movement will work for the basing of the common cultural denominator of Israeli society on the Hebrew language and culture and on the Jewish ethical values of "you will love your neighbor as yourself".

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Zionism ordains confronting of dangers to the State of Israel, the Jewish Diaspora and the unity of the Jewish people.

Zionism has three major practical functions:

1. Strengthening of the State by aliyah and initial absorption of immigrants.
2. Rescue of the Jewish people through Jewish Zionist education and combating of assimilation.
3. Maintaining the unity of the Jewish people on the basis of an approach of pluralism, tolerance and mutual respect between all the streams.

In other words, the State is responsible for the future of the Jewish people and the people are responsible for the future of the State of Israel.

In light of this mutual dependence, autonomous Zionist institutions and joint national institutions of the Zionist movement and the Jewish communities must exist.

In conclusion, Zionism today requires a synthesis of Herzl and Ahad Ha-Am and the renaissance of Nachman Sirkin and Berl Katznelson.

IMMIGRATION AND ABSORPTION

1. The Zionist Labour Movement sees Aliyah and absorption as top national priority issues and calls on the Israeli Government and the Jewish Agency to give the required resources to Aliyah and absorption in order to allow Aliyah promotion activities, and to guarantee the conditions for positive absorption thereby ensuring the continued Aliyah momentum.
2. The present Israeli government declared that it would increase the number of immigrants to Israel, but failed to do so. Unfortunately, there is a gradual and disturbing decline in the numbers of Olim yearly. This is a result, inter alia, of the government's inadequate handling of their absorption.
3. The political party representing the Olim is a partner to the government's failures and many of its electors feel cheated by their party.
4. The Labour Zionist Movement calls on the Labour Party to make the attracting of Olim to its ranks a major goal of its activities in preparation for the upcoming elections to the local authorities and the Knesset. The Party's success depends greatly on its success to serve as a warm home for Olim who came to Israel in the last few years, and to be mindful of their social and cultural distress.
5. The Labour Zionist Movement will take responsibility for Movement Aliyah promotion and absorption projects as a mission of the Movement and of its members.

The Labour Zionist Movement will sponsor the creation of a forum of heads of local authorities who are members of the Labour Party, to deal with immigrant absorption.

6. A real reform is required in the fields of Aliyah and absorption: planning of diversified sources of employment, which are an initial condition for positive absorption; easing of the capital investment processes in Israel, and promotion of economic enterprises.
Good absorption depends not only on employment, housing and economic capacity, but also on a sympathetic attitude of the absorbing society. Awareness of absorption must be promoted among veteran Israelis, negative images associated with Olim must be extirpated, and we must work to strengthen social ties between Olim and veteran Israelis.
7. Aliyah promotion programs for young people and students must be a focus of activity. This represents the largest potential pool of immigrants, and they are likely in the future to serve as a pole of attraction for Aliyah of their relatives. The Na'aleh 16 and Otzma projects must be promoted.
8. The map of Aliyah is changing. Pockets of distress remain in some countries in the world, and a special effort must be made to bring the Jews from these countries to Israel. Equal absorption conditions must be provided for Olim from all the countries of distress.
9. On a parallel to efforts for Aliyah from the CIS, efforts must be made to bring Olim from the affluent Western countries. New methods and tools must be developed for Aliyah promotion and specific messages must be elaborated for each community. Activity must be increased within small isolated communities, where assimilation is ever increasing.
10. The direct absorption method must be left in place, and at the same time the means and methods of absorption of different immigrant population groups must be diversified, with special attention paid to their needs.
The Zionist Labour Movement demands that the Government seek solutions for conversion of 100,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union.
11. The Law of Return must not be amended.
12. The Labour Movement recommends that handling of Israelis living abroad and returning citizens be transferred from the Government to the WZO and its emissaries.
Every effort must be made to promote the return of Israelis living abroad back to Israel, and in particular among the second generation, where there is a large Aliyah potential.
13. The Labour Zionist Movement is convinced that the negative strategy towards "yordim" is no longer effective and cannot prevent and deter "yerida" from Israel. An alternative strategy must be adopted and fostered, with nurturing of relations and cooperation with the Israelis living abroad.
The Labour Zionist Movement will form a committee to examine the incorporation

of Israelis living abroad in public and political life in Israel. Israelis living abroad must be integrated in the JAFI community work in the Diaspora and in the education system and efforts must be made to involve them in projects in Israel and in fund-raising activities.

The Labour Zionist Movement will create a forum of returning emissaries which will elaborate Movement projects in the field of immigrant absorption.

14. Recognizing the importance of Aliyah as a major issue for the Jewish people and the State of Israel, the Labour Zionist Movement calls on the Labour Party to demand the Aliyah portfolio for its delegates in the WZO.
15. The absorption organizations have not paid sufficient attention to the issue of "neshira" of Olim in general, and of Western Olim in particular, who leave Israel. Ways must be examined of allocating resources to programs to prevent Olim from leaving Israel.
New immigrant rights must be granted for five years to Jews from the CIS now living in Germany, who decide to make aliyah to Israel.
16. The rights of "returning minors" and "Olim citizens", and the conditions for receiving this status, must be reexamined.
17. Due to its serious financial situation, the JAFI is obliged to cut back the scope of areas which it handles, and to limit itself ^{JAFI can} only to the fields of Aliyah and absorption, and Jewish Zionist education.
18. Furthermore, the many bodies dealing with absorption lead to excessive bureaucracy. It is therefore necessary to establish an Aliyah and Absorption Authority which will work under the exclusive responsibility of the JAFI, and the JAFI must deal only with this area, as already indicated. The Government must transfer resources to the Authority. If these conditions are not met, the matter of absorption in its entirety must be transferred to the Israeli Government, including the initial absorption with which the JAFI is charged.
Alternative motion: to delete section 17.
19. The Labour Zionist Movement condemns the racist manifestations expressed periodically in the Ministry of the Interior, which interprets the Law of Return ideologically and arbitrarily according to negative images, mainly in relation to the Olim from Eastern Europe.

Votum Separatum

Eli Dekel: The Law of Return must be amended so that it does not apply to the third generation.

Asher Goldshlager: Israelis living abroad must be given the right to vote for the Knesset.

Avraham Burg and Chaim Chessler: The following sentence should be added in section 13: The term "yordim" should no longer be used.

RURAL SETTLEMENT

A. The Rural Spaces

- In light of the accelerated growth anticipated in Israel's population in the next two decades, the Labour Zionist Movement attaches absolutely paramount importance to maintaining of the rural regions of the State of Israel and the rural nature of the settlements, and considers appropriate legislation to be necessary in order to guarantee this.
- The JAFI will work to guarantee this goal with the tools at its disposal.

B. Guaranteeing the Farmers' Land Rights

The farmers' land rights will be anchored in long-term lease contracts. Notwithstanding, the Labour Zionist Movement sees a need to guarantee the national lands, through a Zionist institution with an appropriate status.

C. Roles of the JAFI and the WZO in Rural Settlement

- The Labour Zionist Movement considers it vital also in the future to direct the efforts of the JAFI, the Rural Settlement Division and the JNF to the outlying areas which are very sparsely populated. Infrastructures and employment must be created which will make it possible to populate them.
- In the framework of these efforts, existing settlements will be populated and expanded, and in places where justified by the deployment, new settlements will also be established.
- In the framework of the restructuring, a budget will be allocated to the Israel Department for these activities, including planning of all aspects of the rural areas.
- The past undertakings will be fully honored.
- The JAFI will use the lease contracts (the triple contract) only for purposes of securing the national lands. The JAFI will not use the contracts for collection of duties, taxes etc. from the settlers or for any other purpose.

Repayments of the loan capitals administered through the Israel Department will be made available to the Department, for funding of its multi-year activity as a vital tool for development of the outlying areas.

- In order to diversify and develop sources of employment in the outlying areas, the JAFI will work to strengthen urban-rural ties, to create employment and industrial zones and buildings within them; and to develop various jobs, according to the special characteristics of each area.

D. Cooperation with the JNF

The Labour Zionist Movement considers it necessary to create cooperation between the JAFI and the JNF for centralizing of the efforts and coordination, thus allowing development and populating of the outlying areas.

E. Absorption in Settlements

There are advantages for absorption of Olim in small settlements where the involvement of the residents is greater than in the city.

Settlement expansions, including settlements in the center of Israel, can also serve for absorption of new immigrants.

The Labour Zionist Movement considers it vital to absorb Olim in rural settlement; it appeals to the State to allow expansions earmarked for immigrants; and it considers that it is the JAFI's duty to encourage this absorption.

The Labour Zionist Movement appeals to the rural settlements, and to the settlement movements, to create possibilities for immigrant absorption.

F. Partnership with the Jewish People

The Labour Zionist Movement determines that partnership between the Jews of Israel and the Diaspora is vital and necessary. This partnership, based on the centrality of Israel, requires a relation of equality, the continued involvement of Diaspora Jewry, and their contribution to infrastructures destined for absorption of Israelis and Olim in sparsely populated outlying areas, and to infrastructures which will allow successful absorption.

The Partnership 2000 Project, which brings about development of mutual ties and allows direct and continued relations, is most vital. The JAFI must work on a permanent basis to increase the budget earmarked for this project. It must help to diversify the relations and increase the numbers involved.

Lasting personal ties are a condition for partnership and involvement.

G. Shared Responsibility - Voluntary Associations

Despite the far-reaching organizational changes, the increased wish for realization of individual rights, and changing values, the Labour Zionist Movement attaches great importance to voluntary social and economic associations whose members see a need and a value in the framework of shared responsibility. The Movement demands that the elected institutions of the Thirty-Third Zionist Congress respect these manifestations.

The Labour Zionist Movement supports the platform of the Labour Party in all aspects of the settlement areas.

JEWISH ZIONIST EDUCATION IN ISRAEL AND IN THE DIASPORA

At the close of the twentieth century most of the Jewish people live in countries where their physical existence is not endangered. However, life as a majority in an independent state or as a minority in an open and absorbing society intensifies the question of modern Jewish identity.

The World Labour Zionist Movement believes that Jewish Zionist education is the tool which will help Diaspora Jewry to preserve their Jewish identity and the living tie with the State of Israel. With its aid all Jewish children, whether in Israel or in the Diaspora, will acquire a world of concepts, culture and a language which will keep them from estrangement and alienation.

The term of Jewish Zionist education relates to all the ideological and spiritual-religious streams active in Jewish society, both in Israel and the Diaspora.

The Labour Zionist Movement aspires to educate a man who sees Israel as his home, who is committed to the continuity of the Jewish people and who sees himself as a sovereign person taking responsibility for all his actions out of personal and national moral commitment.

- We are committed to the tie between Israel and Diaspora Jewry and educate to mutual responsibility.
- We respect the world-view of every person and will work to ensure that the tool of education be provided for all, and that every family and community be allowed to educate their children according to their world-view.

Recognizing the central role of education as a means for the continued existence of the Jewish people, the Labour Zionist Movement will work for an adequate budgetary allocation to all types of education: formal and informal education, in community, academic and movement frameworks, for early childhood, youth and adults.

We will work to create a social and educational climate which will encourage study of Hebrew as a living language which concerns the daily life of the teachers, parents and students, in the schools, the synagogues, the community centers, the youth movements, and in all other community frameworks.

Wise use must be made of scientific innovations - education and social sciences, communications and computers, in order to reach as great a number as possible of teachers and students, and to involve them in Jewish Zionist education.

The Labour Zionist Movement appeals to the Thirty-Third Zionist Congress to resolve on a new project to be called "A New Look for Jewish Zionist Education in Israel and the Diaspora". The aim is to recruit the material and human resources of the Jewish people, and to allow all Jewish children in Israel and the Diaspora to learn about the treasures of Jewish culture.

Educators and intellectuals working in all the ideological and spiritual-religious streams will be integrated in the project. They and their students will visit Israel, and their

colleagues from Israel will visit Jewish population centers in the Diaspora. Seminars and joint study frameworks will be held for presenting of the different traditions of the Jewish people over the generations, and for the teaching of the wealth of culture, ethics and wisdom fashioned over the centuries.

The Israeli Government, as the representative of the Jewish people dwelling in Zion, will be called to participate in the project and to assist in funding, in drawing up contents, in training educators and in organization.

THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND PEACE

The Peace Effort

1. On the eve of the Congress which marks 100 years of Zionism, we believe that the State of Israel and the Jewish people must harness themselves to the additional effort required for conclusion of the conflict between Israel and her neighbors, a dispute as old as the Zionist Movement. The Labour Zionist Movement deems that it will be impossible to conclude the dispute without compromises on both sides and creation of a climate of trust between the peoples and the leaders.
2. The Labour Zionist Movement deems that the existing challenge of Zionism is the integration of the State of Israel in the Middle East region out of a desire for regional harmony which will allow the advancement and prosperity of all the countries in the region.
3. The Labour Zionist Movement attaches absolutely paramount importance to the rescue of the political process and the removal of the danger of war from our area. The Labour Zionist Movement believes that the Jewish people in the Diaspora are entitled to express their opinion on the issue of peace, which is the Zionist challenge for the next century.
4. The Labour Zionist Movement firmly supports the demand of the Israeli Government and the Jewish people that the unity and integrity of Jerusalem as the capital city of Israel be maintained.
5. We believe that it is necessary to renew the economic cooperation between Israel and her neighbors who are partners to the peace process, both bilaterally and on the regional plane. The cooperation must be carried out in such a way that both sides, the Arab and the Israeli, will derive the maximum benefit from it, out of recognition that economic affluence in the Arab world is an important tool in the fight against fundamentalism.

The Political Process with the Palestinians.

6. The Labour Movement regrets the losses among Israeli citizens and soldiers in recent months, but firmly believes in the political process commenced by our movement's leaders, the late Yitzhak Rabin, and Shimon Peres

7. We support the firm Israeli and American demand that the Palestinian Authority take every possible step to halt the terror originating in the areas of the Authority and to eradicate the ideological and executive infrastructure.
8. In light of the above, we disagree with the Netanyahu Government in its policy that "terror puts peace on hold" and we believe that continuation of a sincere and true peace process is the only correct response to terror; ultimately it is also the way to reduce and perhaps even overcome terror in the future.
9. We continue to see the Palestinian Authority as a full partner in the process. We believe that the undermining by the Israeli Government, in different ways, of the status of the Authority's leadership within the Palestinian people is a gross political error which is liable to endanger what has already been achieved in our relations with the Palestinians.
10. The World Labour Zionist Movement, out of concern for the safety of the residents of Israel and the area, recognizes the fact that the bilateral negotiations between Netanyahu's government and the PLO have reached a deadlock and that a supreme international effort is required for continuation of the process, and in fact to rescue it.
11. The international effort will be welcomed provided that it does not contradict the agreements already signed between the parties in the last four years (Oslo 1, Oslo 2 and the Hebron Agreement). We see these agreements, with all their achievements and with all that was agreed but which has not yet been achieved, as foundations built with toil and blood, which must be preserved and strengthened.
12. We appeal to the Palestinian people living alongside us to look well at the internal trends in the Israeli public, not to lose hope and to continue to believe, as we do, in peace and in a better future for both peoples. In this context it should be noted that the Labour Party Convention this year took an important and courageous step when it recognized by a large majority the right of the Palestinians to self-determination, and did not disqualify the creation of a Palestinian state with limited sovereignty.

Syria and Lebanon

13. The fresh war of attrition being waged by Hizbullah and its allies against the IDF forces in Lebanon, in the last year caused heavy losses directly and indirectly to the IDF; and the repeated katyusha fusillades greatly perturbed routine life in the Galilee.
14. The Labour Movement delegation to the Thirty-Third Zionist Congress believes that the absence of political contacts with Syria in the last two years endangers the stability of the region, and that a political initiative must be taken to bring about a change in the situation in southern Lebanon, in coordination with Syria.
15. The Labour Zionist Movement believes that steps must be taken for the gradual and controlled departure of the IDF from Lebanon in the framework of an Israeli-Lebanese agreement with Syrian backing, in order to bring about cessation of the

terrorist activity of Hizbullah and other organizations (Amal, FATAH dissidents, the Fronts, Abu Nidal) working from Lebanon, against Israel and the Security Strip.

16. It will be possible to exploit the controlled departure of the IDF from Lebanon for renewal of the bilateral negotiations between Israel and Syria towards a peace treaty between the two countries. The Labour Zionist Movement deems that the Israeli Government must not cease for a moment in its efforts to bring about exhaustion and completion of the talks with the Syrians, talks which in fact commenced over six years ago.
17. The Labour Zionist Movement expresses its support for the plan for withdrawal by stages from Lebanon recently presented by the Chairman of the Labour Party. Only with such a plan will it be possible to stop the increase in the wave of hostility in southern Lebanon, give a real chance to stop the terror and take a step which builds up trust with the Syrians towards renewal of the bilateral talks on a peace agreement with Damascus.

AUTONOMY OF THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT

1. Further to the resolutions approved at Zionist General Council XXXII/6, the Zionist Movement will deploy for independent organizational structure and for independent Zionist activity from 1.1.1999.
2. **Aims and Goals**
 - a. Fostering of hagshama activities in the young generation which must be placed as a significant body in the Jewish community leadership.
 - b. Zionist ideological education in Israel and the Diaspora
 - c. Promotion of Aliyah from the West.
 - d. Continued partnership in the JAFI for guaranteeing of Jewish Zionist education, Zionist activity in the CIS, furthering of Aliyah to Israel from all the Jewish communities, strengthening of the bridge between Israel and the Diaspora on the basis of the centrality of Israel in the life of all the Jews.
 - e. Establishment of a popular movement of Hebrew learners.
3. **The Zionist Movement in the Diaspora will comprise the following components:**
 - a. Ideological and political movements related to political parties and organizations in the State of Israel, and international Zionist organizations.
 - b. Youth movements, student movements and women's movements
 - c. Zionist religious streams.
 - d. Roof organization of the Zionist bodies - the territorial Zionist movement (Zionist Federations).
 - e. Community organizations working on the basis of the Jerusalem Program.
4. **Organization**

- a. Separation of the authorities currently existing in the framework of the JAFI, such as a separate Chairman of the WZO Executive and independent financial management.

Alternative motion: The current situation will continue - a joint Chairman.

- b. The Zionist Movement institutions will be on the basis of a different partnership between Israel and the Diaspora, namely 50% Israel and 50% for the Zionist Movement in the Diaspora (Zionist Federations, community leadership, intellectuals and academics).
- c. Creation of two authorities:
 - An Authority for Zionist Activity.
 - An Authority for Hagshama in the Young Generation. The Authority for Hagshama will provide support for education to Aliyah to Israel. It will create ties with graduates of youth movements, graduates of programs and students on campuses, and will create an autonomous Hagshama movement which will include young people preparing to make Aliyah to Israel. 50% of the WZO budget will be allocated to funding of this activity.
- d. Continued existence of the Rural Settlement Division.
- e. Full association in preparation and forming of the Zionist and JAFI missions for activity in the Diaspora.
- f. Guarantee of the representation and activity of the World Unions, the ideological and religious streams and integration of all the organizations working on the basis of the Jerusalem Program.
- g. Funding of the World Unions will continue as in the past.

5. Funding

- a. Fund-raising to an independent fund and guarantee of the activities of the Zionist Movement
 - b. Creation of a popular appeal for funding Zionist projects in Israel and in the Diaspora.
 - c. Guarantee of the regular participation of the Government of Israel and of the JAFI.
 - d. Maintaining of all the assets registered in the name of the WZO.
 - e. Collection of participation fee from programs carried out by the WZO.
 - f. The possibility will be examined of payment of membership fees by people joining the Zionist Movement in Israel and in the Diaspora.
- 6. Further to the resolutions of Zionist General Council XXXII/7, in late 1999 the accords between the founding organizations of the JAFI will be examined in order to decide whether to introduce amendments or to maintain their validity.
 - 7. The covenant between the WZO and the State of Israel will be examined in light of the resolutions approved at the Thirty-Third Zionist Congress and the agreements with the JAFI

CHANGES IN THE JAFI

The Convention approves the organizational changes in the JAFI which were endorsed at the Zionist General Council and at the Jewish Agency Assembly in June 1997.

ACTIVITIES OF THE JAFI IN ISRAEL

The Committee for JAFI Activities in Israel convened to discuss JAFI deployment to deal with its new goals on the eve of the year 2000. The committee sought to examine the characteristics of the future JAFI activity with the aim of strengthening the ties and attachment between the Jewish communities in the Diaspora and the State of Israel, increasing the relevancy of the JAFI activities, and increasing JAFI involvement in social life in Israel.

The JAFI Agenda

1. The JAFI will deploy for a new agenda with the decrease in the scope of Aliyah from the countries of distress.
The JAFI will work among the needy population groups. Fund-raising will be carried out with highlighting of the aims of assistance to weak sectors in Israel. The JAFI's activities will be based on values of mutual aid, social justice and charity.

Strengthening of the Ties between the Communities and Israeli Society

2. Strengthening of the ties and the partnership between Jewish communities and renewal neighborhoods (or earmarked for renewal) in the center of Israel. The JAFI will focus on these neighborhoods in addition to its activities in the Negev and the Galilee. The activities will focus on community and educational projects, and projects to promote social and public leadership for involvement in the community. Partnership 2000 will be expanded.

The JAFI will work to create ties between communities and areas and neighborhoods according to background portfolios to be prepared in advance. The JAFI will determine internal priorities in creating ties, with equal distribution between the different areas of Israel. The JAFI will deal with regional development. The regional development will include JAFI involvement in relation to every locality in the area (Jewish, Arab, Druze or other).

Projects with JAFI Encouragement

3. The JAFI will sponsor, develop, foster and participate in projects which recognize values of tolerance, democracy, accepting of others, bringing different cultures and special traditional values together.

The JAFI will participate in activities for increasing the moral and Jewish identity of all parts of Israeli society.

The JAFI recognizes the importance of the youth movements. The JAFI will support the Zionist youth movements and education to solidarity. The JAFI will support Oded garinim going to development towns.

Employment

4. The JAFI will promote relations between wealthy Jews and Jewish communities for creation of enterprises and of jobs in areas with high unemployment.

The JAFI will promote regular meetings and long-term courses between Jewish professionals in the Diaspora and their peers in Israel. The JAFI will strive to bring Jewish professional for stays in Israel.

Relations with Contributors

5. The JAFI will publish the project portfolios and will report on progress in them and on the extent to which the goals of the contribution are achieved.

The JAFI will create a clear connection between the contributor and the project financed by his contribution. The JAFI will aspire to create identification between the contributor and the project.

Youth Ties

6. The JAFI will work intensively among the young generation. The JAFI will promote projects of relations between Israeli youth and Diaspora Jewish youth. The JAFI will advance projects of direct relations through the Internet and will promote a youth correspondence project.

The JAFI will mediate between Jewish youth and Israeli youth in the framework of a hospitality project in the summer vacation.

ZIONIST ACTIVITY IN ISRAEL

Missions of the Zionist Movement in Israeli Society

1. The Zionist Movement did not complete its mission with the establishment of the State. Among its other missions it must combat the growing trend in Israeli society for estrangement and alienation from solidarity with the Jewish people. Many young people in Israel are estranged from Judaism and raise doubts about their identity as Jews.
2. Given the nature of the State of Israel as a Jewish Zionist state and its centrality in the Jewish people, a body must exist which will work for fostering of Zionist awareness among youth and adults; for an all-Jewish vision in Israeli society which will radiate on the Zionist activity in the Diaspora; and for the strengthening of the Jewish Zionist nature of the State, which will constitute an attracting force for

Diaspora Jewry. Zionist activity in Israel is therefore a condition for the existence of a world Zionist movement.

3. In order to strengthen the Jewish camp it is necessary to attract and include all sectors of the population in activity.
4. Steps must be taken to make Hebrew the language of the entire Jewish people. In Israel the increasing use of foreign languages in communications and billboards must be combated.
5. Every effort must be made to ensure that Israelis - Jews and Arabs - work rather than foreign workers. Israeli produce must also be promoted.
6. There must be greater involvement of citizens in social missions for a normal and advanced society and for improving the quality of life in Israel, including cultural and quality of the environment issues, so that Israel will be a country attracting Jews from around the world.
7. For the unity of the people, tolerance and mutual respect must be nurtured between all the ideological and religious streams, and religious and cultural pluralism must be guaranteed.
8. Joint activity must be held with Diaspora communities in the struggle against assimilation.
9. The Zionist Movement must be involved in advancement of peace.

The Zionist Council in Israel

10. The Zionist Council in Israel is the active branch which runs the Zionist activity in Israel.

It is an all-Israel and non-party framework which unites around it voluntary organizations and institutions, secondary schools, youth movements, women's organizations, student associations, community centers and local authorities. It works as a catalyst for action and Jewish Zionist identity among youth and adults.

The Convention calls on the Movement delegates at the Zionist Congress to support expansion of the public and educational activity of the Zionist Council and to work for allocation of the financial and organizational resources required for its activity.

12. The Zionist Council will work in the following fields:
 - Social and cultural absorption of Olim.
 - Support and encouragement of the Zionist youth movements in Israel.
 - Continuation and expansion of the activity of the Zionist Youth Council.
 - Creation of an ideological Zionist youth movement in Israel.
 - Joint activities with the JNF.
 - Cultural and social ties with Jewish communities in the Diaspora.
 - Activity in the field of Jewish culture.
 - Activities for dialogue between religious and secular Jews, on the basis of religious pluralism.

- Activities for fostering the quality of life in Israel.
- Joint activities with the Druze and Arab citizens of Israel.
- Creation of a volunteer movement for activity in neighborhoods and communities, for care of the family and the individual.

PLURALISM

1. The question of religious pluralism and the recognition of the different streams of Judaism, is on the current public agenda of the State of Israel and of the Jewish communities in the Diaspora, and the manner of its treatment is liable to prejudice the unity with Israel and the relations between Israel and the Diaspora.
2. On one hand the Orthodox sector has grown stronger and more extreme, and the State and the political parties are increasingly involved in religious problems. On the other hand, there is a liberal world-view which believes that the State of Israel is a democratic Jewish state; a belief in the principle of freedom of choice and the right of every man to choose his lifestyle himself, and a belief in the principle of freedom of religion and worship and the freedom from religion. These opposing trends have intensified the need for recognition of religious pluralism in the State of Israel and for removal of the monopoly from the hands of the Orthodox establishment which has controlled religious affairs in Israel since the establishment of the State.
3. The Labour Zionist Movement supports the existence of different streams in Judaism, and determines that no man or body whatsoever has a monopoly on Judaism and on the lifestyle of Jews in Israel, when the politicization of the religious system has destroyed religion in the eye of the public. The Labour Movement determines that unity with Israel does not mean uniformity, but diversity.
4. Given the social reality in Israel, where hundreds of thousands of immigrants are not recognized as Jews, where there are couples who cannot marry according to Jewish law, and serious problems exist in the field of personal status and daily infringement of basic human rights, due to religious involvement, we must all take action.
5. The Labour Zionist Movement calls for the separation of religion and state, in order to allow a free dialogue of opinions, freedom of discussion without establishments, and in order to guarantee that a preferential status not be given to any religious body on account of the political party to which it belongs.
6. The Labour Zionist Movement also calls on the Orthodox religious leadership to work for renewal of the Jewish religion and to find halakhic solutions for problems in the field of religion, personal status, women's status and relations to non-Jews and secular Jews.
7. The Labour Zionist Movement warns that any action by the Government and/or the religious parties which prejudices the status of the Conservative and Reform streams in Israel, will lead the Jewish communities in the Diaspora to turn their back on the State of Israel, which constitutes for them the national home, the center of their existence, the cradle of their culture, the source of identity and national values.

8. The Labour Zionist Movement appeals to all the streams to increase their involvement in the social frameworks in the State of Israel, to establish schools, to develop curricula, to invest in the establishing of pluralistic communities here also, in order to expose the Israeli public to them and to their values.
9. The Labour Zionist Movement calls for prevention of any religious legislation and in particular legislation of the Law of Return which will allow Orthodox conversion only.
The Labour Movement supports the according of the right to every religious stream to convert in its own way. However, being aware that such recognition in the existing political circumstances is a forlorn prospect, the Labour Zionist Movement supports the compromise proposed by the Ne'eman Commission whereby conversion will be by the Chief Rabbinate, but representatives of the other streams of Judaism will also participate in the preparation for conversion.
10. The Labour Zionist Movement supports the proposal being formulated in Minister Ne'eman's Commission, whereby the rabbis of the different movements will be allowed to conduct marriage ceremonies in their own way but with supervision and authorization by the Chief Rabbinate.
11. The institutes for Jewish studies of the different streams will be under the responsibility of the JAFI and will receive government funding.
12. The Labour Zionist Movement calls for the creation in the JAFI of a unit to deal with the question of religious pluralism in Israel, which will foster social tolerance in Israel, in order to guarantee the continued existence of the State of Israel as a national home of the entire Jewish people. The JAFI will support those bodies which help to develop social tolerance and to preserve human rights.

Votum Separatum

Aharon Yadlin and Chaim Chessler: In section 5, "calls for the separation of religion and politics" will replace "calls for the separation of religion and state".

STATUS OF WOMEN

Representation and Advancement of Women

- The Convention demands the forming of a committee to examine representation of women in senior offices in the Movement institutions, in the JAFI and in all the Zionist institutions.
- The Convention demands the appointment of female advisers for women's status, one from Israel and one from the Diaspora; they will be subordinate to the Chairman of the JAFI and the WZO.
- The Convention determines that the World Labour Zionist Movement is bound by the resolutions of the Labour Party Convention which stipulated that the representation of

women in all its internal institutions and its lists in all the governing systems will be increased by 40% until the year 2000. The Party Constitution today stipulates 25% presentation at least in the real places.

New Immigrants

The Labour Zionist Movement extols the contribution of all the Olim, and of the immigrant women in particular, in the field of science, medicine, the arts, education, etc.

The Movement Convention condemns the negative stigmas attached unjustly to the new immigrant women.

- The Convention demands that the IDF authorities accord equal opportunity for new immigrant girls to serve in the army, since the army constitutes a means for integration into Israeli society and a melting pot for the creation of the new Israeli.
- As regards the registration of marriages celebrated abroad, the Convention demands that the Ministry of the Interior formulate and publish clear procedures for authentication of these marriages.

Violence

The Convention appeals to the Jewish communities around the world to deal with the matter of violence against women with all the tools at their disposal and to stop ignoring it or claiming that the problem does not exist in Jewish communities.

The Convention demands that the Zionist General Council mark the International Combating Violence Against Women Day in order to increase awareness of this issue.

World Na'amat

The Labour Zionist Movement Convention compliments World Na'amat on its activity in the Jewish communities and considers its activity to be an important contribution to the strengthening of the World Labour Zionist Movement.

International Women's Day

This day must be celebrated and marked in all the Jewish communities in the world, and in the Israeli Knesset in particular.

APPEALS

1. As the Zionist Movement celebrates its centenary and we prepare for this Congress which will traverse the year 2000, we must carefully examine what is happening in the Diaspora with regard to the fund-raising organizations, and we must set future goals. It is a fact that the decades-old tradition of general appeals and general giving is dying out. The contributor as an individual prefers defined private giving, rather than general giving which goes to a general basket of expenses.

The State of Israel is no longer seen as a needy country, but as a modern country leading a modern Western lifestyle which in recent years scored tremendous achievements in investments in industry and R&D, in imports and in lowering inflation.

We must be proud of these achievements, and when we seek to raise funds from Diaspora Jewry we have to explain and show that the challenge of Aliyah and absorption must continue and that there are still many pockets of hardship in Israel, particularly in the development towns and in the neighborhoods. It is precisely there, despite the overall economic achievements, that the social inequalities are growing.

2. The Labour Zionist Movement Convention compliments the Chairman of the JAFI and the WZO and our members on the Executive who, in face of the decline in the Appeals and in the revenue, invested great efforts in cutbacks and saving, and in creating a more efficient and economical structure adapted to the financial capacities.
3. The Convention expresses concern over the sizable reduction in the Keren Hayesod Appeal and calls on all the Zionist leaders related to this Appeal in their countries to examine whether this is a result of a leadership problem and diminished ability to influence in the Zionist Federation; for even in countries currently enjoying economic prosperity there is a large reduction in the Keren Hayesod Appeal, which was until now one of the most important appeals.
4. In face of the structural changes in the JAFI and the WZO; and in the context of the decisions for drastic cutbacks in the WZO budget; and in order to maintain the WZO for a period of two more years only, the Convention charges the heads of the Labour Zionist Movement with preparing for passing of operative resolutions to set up a mechanism for a separate popular Zionist Appeal in Israel and the Diaspora, to guarantee the existence of the Zionist Movement in the future. Given the urgency of the matter and the danger of the elimination of the WZO as an ideological and organizational system, the Convention resolves that all the proposals and resolutions will be submitted for discussion at the first meeting of the World Bureau to convene after the Congress.
5. The Convention welcomes the New Israel Appeal in its definition as the "Israeli spirit" and sees in the establishment of this Appeal an expression of the mutual responsibility which must prevail between Israeli Zionists and Diaspora Zionists, so that they will join together and continue the idea of creating an egalitarian and just society fighting against inequalities and believing in the equality of man.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The activity for the restitution of Jewish property must be coordinated.

The Labour Zionist Movement calls on the Zionist Congress to work for the creation of a roof organization of all the Jewish international organizations working for restitution of Jewish property.

THE LABOUR ZIONIST MOVEMENT

Activity of the Labour Zionist Movement in the Diaspora

In the ideological field, the Movement will transmit to the communities the message of peace, progress and pluralism.

In the political field, the Movement branches will establish a dialogue and relations with the Israeli Labour Party and will assist it in its information activity in the Jewish communities in the Diaspora.

In the organizational field, the Labour Zionist Movement will be based on the following:

- a. The Habonim Dror youth movement, the movement graduates, parents of the members, the camp committees.
- b. Progressive student organizations (P.Z.C. Hagshama).
- c. Na'amat
- d. The various movement branches - Po'alei Zion, L.Z.A. Labour.
- e. Friend of the Labour Party and the Histadrut.
- f. Jewish activists in the socialist parties.
- g. Progressive academic circles.

In the practical field -

The Labour Zionist Movement branches will provide support for the youth movements, will maintain ties with the Jewish student public, will be active in the Zionist Federations, in the Jewish communities and in every Zionist, JAFI and general Jewish framework, for instance: the committees for foreign relations, the Presidents' Conference etc.

In the field of Zionist goals, the Movement branches will encourage aliyah groups and study of Hebrew, and will assist Jewish institutes of education in a Zionist Israeli spirit.

Legislative Matters

1. Resolutions in the constitutional organizational field.
 - a. The temporary provision regarding two chairmen of the Labour Zionist Movement will be canceled.
 - b. The temporary provision, section 7 of the Movement Constitution, concerning periods of office of each elected representative, will be canceled.
 - c. In section 7 of the Movement Constitution, in the paragraph referring to the members of the Executive, the words "portfolio holders" will be added
2. Composition of the Labour Zionist Movement's World Bureau
 New version as follows: The Convention empowers the Labour Zionist Movement Chairman, the Labour Zionist Movement Secretary General, one of our members of the Zionist Executive, the representative of the Labour Party Secretary General, the Chairman of the Permanent Committee of the World Convention, the Chairman of the Labour Faction, a representative of Na'amat, a representative of the Young Guards to complete the composition of the World Bureau if necessary.

3. To Section 4 of the Movement Articles:
Membership of social organizations in the Labour Zionist Movement.
The Labour Zionist Movement will aspire to incorporate social organizations around the world and in Israel in activity in its framework. The World Bureau will draft regulations regarding the method of joining the Movement.
4. Activity in international organizations.
The Movement will expand its activity in the Socialist International and will seek membership in other international organizations.
5. Habonim Dror, Na'amat - the Labour Zionist Movement
In a locality where there is a branch of the Labour Zionist Movement and there are also branches of Dror Habonim and/or Na'amat, members of these organizations will be members of the Labour Zionist Movement. In a locality where there is no branch of the Labour Zionist Movement and where there are branches of Habonim-Dror and/or Na'amat, members of these organizations will be members of the World Labour Zionist Movement.
6. Funding of the World Unions
The Movement will work to guarantee funding from the WZO budget for activities of the World Unions.
7. Temporary Provision
The Labour Zionist Movement - The Labour Party
The Labour Zionist Movement will work for drafting of a binding document which will regulate mutual relations between the Movement and the Party.

The Labour Zionist Movement Faction at the Zionist Congress

Temporary Provision:

1. The Convention resolves to change the contents of section 15(d) as follows: The Labour Faction at the Zionist Congress and the Israeli Labour Party Bureau will elect the candidates to serve as members of the Zionist Executive and Chairman of the Zionist General Council.
2. The Convention resolves (with regard to section 7) that delegates of national and international organizations which are not members of the Labour Zionist Movement (e.g. the Zionist Council in Israel, the Sephardi Federation) and who are members of the Israeli Labour Party, will be Convention delegates with full rights.
3. The Labour Zionist Movement delegation at the Zionist General Council will be composed of five delegates by virtue of their position (Chairman/Secretary General of the Labour Zionist Movement, Chairwoman of Na'amat, Chairman of the Labour Zionist Movement Young Guard, Chairman of the Faction and Chairman of the Overseas Department of the United Kibbutz Movement) and five deputies by virtue of their position (e.g. Chairwoman of the Overseas Department in Na'amat, Secretary of Habonim-Dror, Treasurer of the Labour Zionist Movement, etc.) The other delegates and deputies will be elected by secret ballot. Each Movement branch in the Diaspora will determine the methods of election according to the quota determined for it.

4. The Convention will approve as one piece a Constitution Committee with no more than 8 members, at least 2 of whom will be Diaspora representatives.
5. The Convention will approve as one piece a Control Committee with no more than 8 members, at least 2 of whom will be Diaspora representatives.