

Resolution GB 1905 - 6

The Need for International Organizations to Prioritize the Fight Against Antisemitism

The Governing Board of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Ottawa on 15 May 2019,

NOTES WITH ALARM the dramatic increase of antisemitism worldwide, including acts of violence targeting Jews in many countries;

EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN at the fact that in many parts of the world today Jews are afraid to publicly identify as Jews;

EMPHASIZES that the fight against antisemitism not only concerns the Jewish people, but constitutes a threat to the general quality of civil society, democracy and the rule of law;

WELCOMES the leadership of UN Secretary-General António Guterres who has accurately described antisemitism as an age-old hatred, which has persisted to torment new generations, and who has pledged that the United Nations will always be at the forefront of the fight against all forms of hatred;

WELCOMES the leadership and commitment of UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay who has said that to address antisemitism is to tackle one of the most powerful ideological forces of violent extremism and to defend fundamental freedoms and the equal dignity of all human beings;

WELCOMES the fact that the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Ahmed Shaheed, is preparing the first-ever UN report on antisemitism for the 74th UN General Assembly;

WELCOMES the WJC-UNESCO partnership to train Ministry of Education officials around the world in combating antisemitism through education;

WELCOMES the adoption in 2018, of a declaration by the Council of the European Union on the fight against antisemitism and the development of a common security approach to protect Jewish communities and institutions in Europe;

WELCOMES the appointment of special envoys on antisemitism by several countries and international organizations in order to prioritize and focus efforts to combat antisemitism;

CALLS UPON all countries and international organizations to create such mandates and designate special representatives responsible for combating antisemitism;

CALLS UPON all international organizations, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies; the Organization for the Security and Cooperation in Europe; the Council of Europe; the European Union; and the Organization of American States, to prioritize within the highest levels of their organizations, the fight against antisemitism and to strengthen their endeavors in that fight;

CALLS UPON all international organizations to adopt the definition of antisemitism together with all its examples, of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), and to actively use it as the benchmark to better monitor, identify and combat instances of antisemitism.