

RESOLUTION: 1510gb-3

SITUATION IN ISRAEL

The Governing Board of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Rome on 27 October 2015,

CONDEMNS the recent wave of terrorist attacks against Israeli citizens which have led to so much bloodshed and sends our heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims;

LAMENTS that 20 years after the Oslo Peace Accords there is still a culture of hate in the Palestinian media, in schools and on social networks;

BELIEVES that the series of attacks against Jews in Israel is the direct result of incitement by radical elements who call upon Palestinian youth to murder Jews;

URGES the Palestinian Authority, in particular President Mahmoud Abbas, as well as the leaders of Arab countries to refrain from spreading false and malicious claims against Israel especially using inflammatory rhetoric, and to treat terrorists as heroes;

CONDEMNS the radical Islamists who have repeatedly brought explosive devices and weaponry onto the Temple Mount, thus deliberately desecrating, damaging and endangering this holy site and attempting to turn it into a battle field;

WELCOMES Israel's attempt to restore calm and Prime Minister's Netanyahu's clear commitment to maintaining the status quo on the Temple Mount and his advice to all Israeli members of Knesset not to visit the Temple Mount so as to avoid unnecessary clashes;

CONDEMNS the UNESCO Executive's recent resolution concerning the Temple Mount , even in its modified form, as a litany of demonstrable falsehoods which omits all mention of Palestinian political and religious leaders incitement to commit stabbings, shootings and other terrorist crimes at random against Jewish men, women and children and which is silent about the desecration of the al-Aqsa mosque by Palestinian gunmen and fails to acknowledge that the Temple Mount is the holiest site of Judaism and the spiritual center of the Jewish people;

WELCOMES UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova's, great courage by her repudiation of the resolution.

REITERATES that since the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967, Israel has consistently safeguarded Muslims' right to pray on the Temple Mount, as well as the freedom of all people, whether Muslims, Christians, Jews or others, to visit the mount, and notes the fact that in the past year past year there were nearly 4,000,000 entries by Muslims;

STRONGLY condemns the desecration of the Tomb of Joseph in Shechem;

ADOPTED VERSION

CALLS ON the international community, particularly the Arab states, to intercede with the Palestinian leadership to ensure the cessation of violence;

STRONGLY CONDEMNS the flagrant distortion of history manifested in the recent UNESCO resolution declaring that the Tomb of Rachel in Bethlehem and the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron as being exclusively holy Muslim sites and calls upon the world to reject this pernicious falsehood;

NOTES with great concern that Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas recently told the United Nations General Assembly that he felt no longer bound by the Oslo Peace Accords;

REAFFIRMS previous WJC resolutions which stated that two-states for two peoples is the only workable, realistic basis for a true and lasting peace;

REITERATES that a peace agreement can only be reached in bilateral negotiations and not imposed by any outside party;

URGES that Israel and the Palestinian Authority return to direct peace negotiations without preconditions as soon as possible.