

RESOLUTIONS
PASSED BY THE
GOVERNING BOARD OF THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
MEETING IN ASHKELON
24 SEPTEMBER 2008

I

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
WJC GOVERNING BOARD
SUMMONING THE
THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY**

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Whereas the Constitution of the World Jewish Congress (as revised by the Sixth Plenary Assembly, February 6, 1975) states that "the Governing Board shall summon the Plenary Assembly to a regular session every fourth year";

Whereas the Twelfth Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress was held, in Brussels, on 10 January 2005;

The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, hereby calls for the Thirteenth Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress to be held in Israel, in January 2009.

II

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
WJC GOVERNING BOARD
RECOMMENDING
RULES OF PROCEDURE
FOR THE
THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY**

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Whereas the Constitution of the World Jewish Congress (as revised by the Sixth Plenary Assembly, February 6, 1975) states that "the proceedings of the Plenary Assembly shall be conducted in accordance with rules of procedure to be proposed by the Governing Board and approved by the Plenary Assembly";

The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, hereby proposes the following 'Rules of Procedure' for the Thirteenth Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress:

**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE
THIRTEENTH PLENARY ASSEMBLY
OF THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS**

Art. 1

Delegates

- 1) The Plenary Assembly shall consist of delegates of Jewish bodies, communities, and organizations comprising the World Jewish Congress.
- 2) The number of delegates allotted to each community or national organization shall be determined by the Governing Board with due regard to the size of the Jewish population of the respective country. No country shall be entitled to more than two fifths of the total number of delegates. Each delegation shall reflect the composition of its Jewish community.
- 3) The number of delegates allotted to international organizations in associate status and with special relationship shall be determined by the Governing Board but shall not exceed one fifth of the total number of delegates.

- 4) The validity of the designation of the delegates shall be subject to confirmation by the Plenary Assembly.

Art. 2

Observers

The Executive Committee may invite organizations not affiliated with the WJC to send observers to the Plenary Assembly, or may invite individuals as observers.

Art. 3

Credentials

- 1) The credentials of delegates and observers shall be submitted to the Secretariat of the Plenary Assembly.
- 2) A Credentials Committee shall be appointed for the Plenary Assembly, by the Governing Board, and ratified by the Plenary Assembly. The Committee shall examine the credentials of delegates and report to the Plenary Assembly. The final decision about the status of a delegate rests with the Plenary Assembly.

Art. 4

Agenda

- 1) The Plenary Assembly shall adopt its agenda at the beginning of its session on the basis of a provisional agenda prepared by the Governing Board.
- 2) The business of the Plenary Assembly shall be limited to those matters proposed by the Governing Board.
- 3) Inclusion of the supplementary items in the agenda may be allowed at the Plenary Assembly, if the item in question is of an emergency character or for other exceptional reasons could not be submitted earlier. The inclusion of such supplementary items requires a two-thirds majority of the delegates present and voting.

Art. 5

Presidium

- 1) The proceedings of the Plenary Assembly shall be conducted by a Presidium elected by the Assembly for its duration.
- 2) One member of the Presidium shall act as presiding officer of each plenary meeting. The presiding officer declares the opening and closing meeting, directs the discussion, ensures observance of

rules, accords the right to speak, puts questions to vote, and announces decisions. He/She has the power to propose adjournment or closure of the debate or adjournment or suspension of a meeting. He/She may call a speaker to order if their remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Art. 6

Public and private meetings

The meeting of the Plenary Assembly shall be open to the public unless the Assembly decides that exceptional circumstances require that the meeting be held in private.

Art. 7

Quorum

A majority of the delegates to the Plenary Assembly shall constitute a quorum.

Art. 8

Speeches

- 1) No delegate may address the Plenary Assembly without having previously obtained the permission of the presiding officer. The presiding officer shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.
- 2) Officers and heads of the departments of the organization may be accorded precedence in order to make a statement to the Plenary Assembly concerning any questions under consideration.

Art. 9

Appeals against rulings

- 1) A delegate may appeal against the ruling of the presiding officer. The appeal shall immediately be put to the vote and the presiding officer's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the delegates present and voting.
- 2) A delegate appealing against a ruling of the presiding officer may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Art. 10

Speeches

- 1) The presiding officer may limit the time to be allowed to delegations or speakers.
- 2) He/She may, during the course of a debate, announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Plenary Assembly, declare the list closed. He/She may, however, accord the right of reply to any delegate if a speech delivered after he has declared the list closed makes this appropriate.

Art. 11

Adjournment or Closure of the debate

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move the adjournment or closure of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one delegate may speak in favor of, and one against the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

Art. 12

Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated, but shall be immediately put to the vote.

Art. 13

Order of procedural motions

The following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the meeting:

- (a) to suspend the meeting;
- (b) to adjourn the meeting;
- (c) to adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
- (d) to closure the debate on the item under discussion.

Art. 14

Proposals and amendments

Proposals and amendments which are not of a procedural character shall normally be introduced in writing and handed to the Secretariat of the Plenary Assembly, which shall circulate copies to the delegates. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the Plenary Assembly unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegates. The presiding officer may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of the amendments even though these have not been circulated.

Art. 15

Motions to be seconded

Any motion, proposal, or amendment made by a delegate, other than those referred to in Articles 9, 11 and 12 above, must be seconded by another delegate before it can be put to a vote.

Art. 16

Withdrawal of motions

A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided the motion has not been amended. A motion which has then been withdrawn may be reintroduced by any delegate.

Art. 17

Reconsideration of proposals

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected it may not be reconsidered at the same Plenary Assembly unless the Plenary Assembly, by a two-thirds majority of the delegates present and voting, so decides.

Art. 18

Division of proposals

Parts of a proposal shall be voted on separately if a delegate requests that the proposal be divided. The resulting proposal shall then be put to a final vote in its entirety.

Art. 19

Voting

- 1) The Plenary Assembly shall normally vote by show of hands.
- 2) Each delegate shall have one vote.
- 3) A roll call shall be taken if requested by at least a quarter of delegates.
- 4) As the voting delegates to the Plenary Assembly represent and are accountable to their communities and organizations, there shall be no voting by secret ballot.
- 5) For the purpose of these rules, the phrase “delegates present and voting” means delegates casting an affirmative or negative vote. Delegates who abstain from voting are considered as not voting.
- 6) After the presiding officer has announced the beginning of voting, no delegate shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting.

Art. 20

Voting on amendments

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Plenary Assembly shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, then on the amendment next furthest removed there-from, and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from, or revises part of that proposal.

Art. 21

Voting on proposals

If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Plenary Assembly shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on proposals in the order in which they have been submitted. The Plenary Assembly may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

Art. 22

Elections

- 1) A Nominations Committee shall be established for the election of the Executive Officers of the WJC.
- 2) The Nominations Committee shall solicit nominations of candidates, receive such nominations, review them, validate their authenticity and report to the Plenary Assembly.
- 3) Nominations should be received no less than 30 days before the scheduled date of the elections, and all invited delegations should be informed of those nominations no less than 14 days prior to the elections.
- 4) Nominations may, nevertheless, be accepted from the floor.

Art. 23

Commissions and committees

- 1) The Plenary Assembly may set up such commissions or committees as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.
- 2) The meetings of the commissions or committees shall be held in private. The chairman of the commission or committee may, in exceptional cases, authorize persons who are not delegates to attend commission or committee meetings if their presence seems to him/her desirable and in the interest of the organization.
- 3) The rules for the conduct of business at meetings of the Plenary Assembly are applicable at meetings of the commissions or committees.
- 4) Substantive decisions taken and draft resolutions adopted by a commission or committee shall have the nature of recommendation until confirmed by the Plenary Assembly. Such decisions and resolutions shall be communicated to the Presidium or a special committee which the Plenary Assembly may establish for this purpose.

Art. 24

Further rules

- 1) In all matters of rules and procedures not covered by these articles, Roberts Rules of Order shall be in force.

III

RESOLUTION OF THE WJC GOVERNING BOARD ESTABLISHING THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY

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The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, hereby establishes the Credentials Committee for the Thirteenth Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress, as follows.

The Credentials Committee shall be comprised of one representative designated by each of the regional affiliates: the European Jewish Congress, the Euro-Asian Jewish Congress, the Israel Branch, the Latin American Jewish Congress, and the North American Jewish Congress.

The WJC Secretary General will participate in the Credentials Committee, but shall not have a vote, and shall ensure that the interests of those communities or organisations not represented by any of the regional affiliates are taken into consideration.

IV

RESOLUTION OF THE WJC GOVERNING BOARD ESTABLISHING THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY

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The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, hereby establishes the Nominations Committee for the Thirteenth Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress, as follows.

The WJC Steering Committee shall serve as the Nominations Committee. However, any members of the Steering Committee who are presenting themselves for election, or re-election, for any of the Executive positions at the Plenary, shall not be members of the Nominations Committee.

For the record, the current composition of the Steering Committee is:

WJC President, Ronald S. Lauder
WJC Governing Board Chairman, Matthew Bronfman
WJC Policy Council Chairman, Cobi Benatoff

Chairman of the Executive, Mendal Kaplan
Co-Chairman of the Executive, Matityahu Droblas

Treasurer, Eduardo Elsztain

Euro-Asian Jewish Congress President, Aleksander Machkevitch
European Jewish Congress President, Moshe Kantor

Israel Branch Chair, Shai Hermesh
Latin American Jewish Congress President, Jack Terpins
North American Jewish Congress Chair, Evelyn Sommer

Chairman of WZO/JAFI, Zeev Bielski

WJC Secretary General, Michael Schneider (non-voting)

V

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
WJC GOVERNING BOARD
ESTABLISHING THE PRESIDUM, SECRETARIAT,
RULES COMMITTEE AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE
THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY**

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The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, hereby establishes the Presidium, Secretariat, Rules Committee and Resolutions Committee, as follows.

The Presidium shall consist of:

WJC President, Ronald S. Lauder
WJC Governing Board Chairman, Matthew Bronfman
Treasurer, Eduardo Elsztain

The Secretariat shall be assured by WJC Deputy Secretary General, Maram Stern

The Credentials Committee, already established, shall also serve as the Rules Committee, and as the Resolutions Committee.

VI

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
WJC GOVERNING BOARD
SETTING THE AGENDA FOR THE
THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY**

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The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, hereby sets the agenda for the 13th Plenary Assembly to include:

Reports from the Executive Officers

Financial and Budgetary Reports

Election of the following Executive Officers:

The President
One or more Vice-Presidents
One or more Honorary Vice-Presidents
The Chairman of the Governing Board
The Treasurer
The Secretary General

Discussion on priority issues affecting WJC affiliates.

Presentations from invited guest speakers.

Discussion and adoption of constitutional amendments.

VII

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
WJC GOVERNING BOARD
SETTING VOTING KEY FOR
THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY**

* * *

Whereas the Constitution of the World Jewish Congress (as revised by the Sixth Plenary Assembly, February 6, 1975) states:

"The number of delegates allotted to each community or national organization shall be determined by the Governing Board with due regard to the size of the Jewish population of the respective country. No country shall be entitled to more than two fifths of the total number of delegates. Each delegation shall reflect the composition of its Jewish community";

and

"The number of delegates allotted to international organizations in associate status and with special relationship shall be determined by the Governing Board but shall not exceed one fifth of the total number of delegates."

The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, hereby sets the number of voting delegates listed below for each affiliated country, for the Thirteenth Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress.

The WJC Governing Board, further, delegates to the Credentials Committee the task of allocating up to one fifth of the total voting delegate seats to international organizations in associate status or those designated to have 'special relationship' status with the World Jewish Congress.

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF DELEGATES
Israel	60
United States of America	60
France	45
Canada	35
Great Britain	30
Russia	24
Argentina	18
Germany	13
Australia	10
Brazil	10
South Africa	6
Ukraine	6
Belgium	4
Hungary	4
Italy	4
Mexico	4
Netherlands	4
Austria	2
Belarus	2
Chile	2
Romania	2
Spain	2
Sweden	2
Switzerland	2
Turkey	2
Uruguay	2
Venezuela	2
Armenia	1
Aruba	1
Barbados	1
Bolivia	1
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1
Bulgaria	1
Colombia	1
Costa Rica	1
Croatia	1
Cuba	1
Curaçao	1
Cyprus	1
Czech Republic	1
Denmark	1
Dominican Republic	1
Ecuador	1
Egypt	1
El Salvador	1
Estonia	1
Finland	1
Gibraltar	1
Greece	1
Guatamala	1
Honduras	1

Hong Kong	1
India	1
Ireland	1
Jamaica	1
Japan	1
Kazakhstan	1
Kenya	1
Latvia	1
Lithuania	1
Luxembourg	1
Macedonia (FYROM)	1
Malta	1
Martinique	1
Moldova	1
Monaco	1
Morocco	1
Myanmar	1
Namibia	1
New Zealand	1
Nicaragua	1
Norway	1
Panama	1
Paraguay	1
Peru	1
Philippines	1
Poland	1
Portugal	1
Serbia (& Montenegro)	1
Singapore	1
Slovakia	1
Slovenia	1
Suriname	1
Thailand	1
Tunisia	1
Zambia	1
Zimbabwe	1
TOTAL	417

VIII

RESOLUTION OF THE WJC GOVERNING BOARD ON YOUTH REPRESENTATION AT THE THIRTEENTH WJC PLENARY ASSEMBLY

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The WJC Governing Board, meeting in Ashkelon, Israel, on Wednesday, 24 September 2008, recognising the important role played by young people in assuring the continuation of Jewish communal activity, and wishing to encourage and promote the involvement of younger Jews in Jewish communal and organizational leadership, and in the activities of the WJC, hereby resolves that:

affiliated communities and organisations attending the Thirteenth Plenary Assembly are urged to ensure that a significant number of younger members of their communities and organisations are included in their delegations to the Plenary.