

THE SECOND WORLD CONFERENCE OF HABONIM DROR CHALUTZIC YOUTH MOVEMENT

4th – 7th January 1989

The Conference:

- a) Congratulates the United Kibbutz Movement and wishes it success in its struggle for the economic, social and ideological recovery of its settlements.
- b) Congratulates the Habonim Dror kibbutzim - old and new - which symbolize the contribution of the movement to the settlement efforts throughout the years.
- c) Congratulates Garin "Gal Chadash" which recently founded kibbutz Ravid, and adds another ring to the "self fulfillment" chain. Congratulates all Bogrim who have recently joined Niram, Tel Katzir, Tuval, Kadarim, Netiv Halamed Heh, Chatzerim, Gezer and everywhere else.
- d) Congratulates the National Movements all over the world and calls for reevaluation of ways and search for new ones relevant to their countries in order to increase its educational activity towards self fulfillment according to the movement principles.
- e) Congratulates all other Chalutzic World Youth Movements and calls them to join the struggle for strengthening all the "magshimim" factors in the World Zionist movement.
- f) Identifies with the struggle of our brethren who still live under tyrannical regimes, for their personal and national freedom and above all, their right to make aliyah to Eretz Israel.
- g) Congratulates kibbutz Tuval on its 7th anniversary.

INTRODUCTION

Habonim Dror Chalutzic Youth Movement stands for the Socialist-Zionist vision which is based on the following goals:

- a) The existence and fortification of the State of Israel with a firm Jewish majority.
- b) The negation of the Gola by making aliyah as the only solution for the problems of the Jewish people.
- c) The molding of a progressive society based on equality and democracy.
- d) The building of a creative society based upon self-labor.
- e) Peace and cooperation with all peoples of the area.

These goals call upon the commitment of movement members to self-fulfillment through chalutzic aliyah expressed mainly by joining the kibbutzim of the United Kibbutz Movement, and being actively involved in the Israeli society.

THE JEWISH IDENTITY OF THE MOVEMENT

After one hundred years of Zionism, the majority of the Jewish people is still dispersed all over the Diaspora.

The deterioration of the Jewish community as a solid creative body - the drifting away from the sources, and the diminution of the Jewish education - jeopardize the existence of a substantial part of the Jewish people.

As a result of these processes we are working today amongst a new generation whose Jewish identity is not rooted and clear enough.

Understanding that Zionism is the outcome of a deep identification with the Jewish people, its heritage, culture, history, art etc. - the Habonim Dror 2nd Conference resolves:

- a) To place the Jewish education in the center of our activities; increasing the emotional identification with the Jewish people and its heritage among our young Chanichim, and deepening the knowledge of the "Jewish Thought" amongst the older Shichva.
- b) To cooperate with other circles of the Kibbutz Movement who are striving to fill with spiritual, cultural and symbolic content our Jewish being. This cooperation will materialize in the creating of new educational programs.
- c) Out of fear for the entirety and unity of the Jewish people in Israel and the Diaspora, this Conference calls for the separation of State and religion in the legislative field in the State of Israel, and supports the rendering of equal rights to all streams of Judaism.
- d) The Conference calls upon the spiritual leadership of all streams to start a dialogue among themselves towards a mutual understanding and tolerance.

ZIONIST FULFILLMENT

At a time when the Zionist movement has within its lines numerous Jewish bodies which do not endorse Aliyah to Eretz Israel, and the control over the Zionist Movement's budgets is in the hands of various factors which do not recognize the State of Israel as the only center for the Jewish people - we, the delegates to the Second World Conference of Habonim Dror, see in Aliyah the only path of Zionist fulfillment and decide:

- a) To demand from the Zionist Executive to struggle for its independence in order to be able to center all its efforts in promoting Aliyah.
- b) To cooperate with all Youth movements within the frame of "Magshimim" in order to introduce the idea of Aliyah to all walks of the Jewish people, and act beyond all political and ideological differences.
- c) To develop a commitment to self-fulfillment within movement members, which will be realized by Aliyah and by joining the U.K.M. with its various forms of collective settlement.
- d) The movement sees Aliyah in the framework of a Garin as an important value, whose members strive together for a mutual cause, and it will also support any other collective chalutzic initiative.
- e) The movement welcomes new social and political initiatives by its members within the framework of the Israeli society according to the principles of Habonim Dror.
- f) To establish an absorption committee which will assist new movement olim either in the kibbutz or any other place.

RESOLUTIONS ON KIBBUTZ AND HAGSHAMA

Habonim Dror Youth Movement is an active partner in the kibbutz movement, with its members (Bogrim) in more than 40 kibbutzim of the United Kibbutz Movement, and this is still going on in the 80's as well.

The Movement looks upon the kibbutz as a renewed form of the Jewish community which fulfills the social Zionist values by building a collective equal society which stands for self labor as a path to building a homeland for the Jewish people. A society which does not close itself in but assumes social and national tasks.

Habonim Dror perceives the U.K.M. as a collective pluralistic movement which includes kibbutzim, collective moshavim and other communities, each representing a different level of fulfillment of its principles.

Habonim Dror considers that the current economic and social crisis of the Kibbutz movement demands the calling of the U.K.M's Ideological Convention. Such a convention should strengthen the kibbutzim communities and thus present the kibbutz as a renewed Zionist challenge to the Jewish youth in the Gola. Because of the educational implications of the Convention, Habonim Dror is requesting that the youth movements affiliated with the U.K.M. in Israel and abroad should participate in planning such a convention. This step will ensure that the resolutions of the convention will bring a positive message to our Bogrim and will increase their readiness to become partners in the recovery of the Kibbutz movement.

This Conference puts the responsibility on the World Secretariat and on the National Secretariats to update the educational process towards the kibbutz, emphasizing the education of basic values such as equality, cooperation, self labor and freedom, in order to prepare Magshimim to stand up to the challenge of a renewed outlook of the kibbutz.

RESOLUTIONS ON HABONIM DROR FUTURE FUNCTIONING

Being a World movement, Habonim Dror will assume the responsibility for preserving the unity of the World movement and upholding ongoing educational and ideological goals, and keeping open the lines of communication between the different countries and Israel. With this goal in mind the Veida has decided that the World secretariat will be responsible for:

- a) Renewing the publication of Daf Keshet which will include updated information about the National movements and Israel, including also new suggestions for collective settlement in Israel.
- b) Forming an Educational Committee which will distribute educational programs and updated material with the intention to strengthen the ties among the National movements and thus create a more unified educational process between the countries.
- c) The Educational Committee will coordinate between all programs in Israel and will facilitate meetings between groups from the different countries, thus creating the sensation of being a World Movement.
- d) The World Secretariat will represent Habonim Dror's political and social stands when required to do so.
- e) Given that many Bogrim of the movement are living in Israel though not on kibbutz, it is important for the World Secretariat to find ways to include these Olim in a movement framework.
- f) The Vaadat Shlichut of the World Secretariat (Committee for choosing Shlichim) should improve the process of choosing shlichim through checking their educational and organizational experience and suitability to do the job.
- g) Given that Habonim Dror advocates sexual equality and recognizes the lack of women in leadership jobs in the movement, it is the responsibility of the World Secretariat to try and

correct that fact by encouraging women to take leadership positions and develop educational programs about sexual equality.

- h) The Veida recognizes the importance of learning the Hebrew Language. Therefore the educational committee shall create an education program to deal with the study of Hebrew in the different countries.

PEACE WITH ALL PEOPLES OF THE AREA

40 years after the declaration of the State of Israel, and 10 years after the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt, we are still in the midst of an internal and external struggle for the future of the state of Israel as a democratic Jewish state.

Achieving a comprehensive peace with the Arab states and a political arrangement with the Palestinian people, must be the main goal of the Government of Israel. This goal has become very urgent since the outbreak of the Intifada more than a year ago.

The peace agreement with the Arab states and the Palestinian people will be based upon territorial concessions through forming defensive borders to ensure the security of the State of Israel.

The Veida recognizes the need of dividing the country into two for the two peoples who live in Eretz Israel, two separate political entities - and recognizes the right of each of them to define its own political structure.

Following the resolutions of the Palestinian National Council in Algiers, which indicate a trend towards a positive change of attitude, the Palestinian leadership should prove its genuine intention by opening serious negotiations with the government of Israel, putting an end to all acts of terrorism and violence in the occupied territories - this will create an atmosphere which will enable the developing of a situation right for negotiations towards a just peace for both peoples and the other peoples of the area.

The Veida calls upon the Government of Israel, especially the Labour Party ministers, to put aside all differences and show political courage and open with a peace initiative, with the conviction that 'talking' will build the path to peace.

The Veida states that the continued occupation of the territories will damage the people of Israel and will drift us away from the Zionist goals and thus impair our ability to preserve a democratic state which will ensure equal rights.