

**As a reference, the following are all resolutions relating to Israel passed by the NFTY General Board. The NFTY General Board is made up of delegates from every NFTY region, along with the North American Executive Board. Resolutions passed by the General Board serve as recommendations to the regions and statements of guidance for the movement as a whole. The title of each resolution provides a summary of the content of the resolution. For more resolutions passed by the NFTY General Board, see the NFTY Resolutions Encyclopedia at <http://www.nfty.org/leadership/references/>.**

Note: Resolutions passed before 1984 may read National or American instead of North American. Since 1984, NFTY has affirmed itself as a North American movement. (see comment 3)

### **ZIONISM (year) OR – year**

*Resolved:*

NFTY identify with and support the concepts of "k'lal Yisrael" and Zionism and the perpetuation of the Jewish State, Israel, under the Jewish ethnic (the word ethnic here doesn't make sense to me. Do they mean "under the influence of the Jewish ethnicity"? But if this was the resolution that was passed, then this is what was passed). NFTY actively coordinate itself with ARZA, Kadima, the World Union for Progressive Judaism, and other Zionist organizations. NFTY shall actively work with and dedicate itself towards cooperation with the Israeli Movement of Progressive Judaism; **and (why is this bold? If there is no clear reason, unbold)**, that NFTY create and extensively implement programming (with Israel Program Division) to introduce and define the concepts, realities, and opportunities of Zionism to its members on all levels.

(note, change justification of above paragraph to "justified" to match the rest of the document)

### **JEWISH PLURALISM**

*Resolved:*

NFTY calls on the State of Israel as the homeland of the Jewish People to implement fully the principle of guaranteed religious rights for all its citizens, including equality of opportunity, equality of recognition, and equality of governmental aid to all religious movements within Judaism. To further the cause of authentic Jewish pluralism, we call upon our constituent organizations to support this principle.

### **ETHIOPIAN JEWRY**

*Resolved:*

NFTY make the cause of Ethiopian Jewry a North American priority. NFTY begin a program of consciousness-raising including dissemination of information about the Jews of Ethiopia, who they are, and what their situation presently is; **and**, that NFTY support a North American letter writing campaign to the Israeli government in support of our Ethiopian brothers and sisters.

## **NFTY ISRAEL PROJECT**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY supports ARZA/Kadima by educating North American Reform Jews through methods such as creating programs, distributing literature, and facilitating discussion; **and**, that NFTY will assist ARZA/Kadima in its goal of 100,000 members by recruitment of NFTY and UAHC congregations.

## **KAVOD PROGRAM**

*Resolved:*

That the National Projects/Study Theme be integrated into the Social Action requirements of the Kavod Program as a one program requirement (one program on any of the projects' study themes).

That the NFTY Israel Project be integrated into the Israel awareness requirement of the Kavod Program as a one program requirement.

## **ISRAEL STUDY THEME**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY examine the question, "Israel, A Light Unto the Nations?" as its study theme, and

*Recommended:*

That the following topics be used in order to implement this theme: Territorial Disputes; Palestinian issues; Religious Pluralism and Israel arms trade (delete underline, unless there is a reason for it here); **and**, that TYGs report the substance of their findings to representatives in Congress and other public officials.

## **PLURALISM IN ISRAEL**

*Resolved:*

NFTY, in coordination with ARZA, Kadima, and the UAHC, seek to establish a coalition with the Conservative movement aimed at the establishment of Jewish pluralism in Israel; **and**, that NFTY, in coordination with ARZA, Kadima, and the UAHC, voice its displeasure with the present use of funds from Reform Jews for Israel to the philanthropic organizations that do not fund the Conservative or Reform Movements in Israel; **and**, that NFTY, through its office in Jerusalem, set up communication with the Reform Movement's constituencies in Israel, such as the World Union for Progressive Judaism, Netzer Olami, Noar Telem, Kibbutz Yahel, Kibbutz Lotan, the Reform congregations throughout the country, and their leading rabbis in order to establish plans and actions for religious pluralism in Israel. NFTY enter into dialogue with members of Garin Arava and Garin Yirach who are making aliyah to Israel about their input for religious pluralism; **and**, that NFTY, in coordination with ARZA, Kadima, and the UAHC voice its stand and concern on this issue to the Israeli Ambassador in Washington and representatives of the State of Israel.

## **AGAINST AMERICAN ARMS SALES TO JORDAN**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY OPPOSE ANY ARMS SALE TO JORDAN (delete all caps unless it is here for a reason) until that country joins in the Camp David peace process and recognizes Israel's right to exist.

### **ISRAEL AS NFTY 1983-84 STUDY THEME**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY educate (delete underline unless it is here for a reason) its members on political and social issues involving Israel such as the peace process, West Bank and Gaza Strip settlements, the political status of the PLO, and world involvement in Israeli politics. That NFTY adopt as a 1983-84 Study Theme "Israel: its politics in a Modern World."

(insert space)

### **VATICAN AID TO FLEEING NAZIS**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY, through the actions of its regions and TYGs, take every step possible to urge the governments of the United States and Canada to place pressure on the Chilean government to extradite Walter Rauff to stand trial in Israel or West Germany; **and**, that NFTY encourage the United States and Canadian governments to pressure the Vatican into cooperating fully in the efforts to prosecute Nazi war criminals.

### **ISRAEL**

*Resolved:*

That the following courses of action be taken:

1. That an Israel current events "update" be included in TYG officer mailings sent by NFTY;
2. That NFTY-in-Israel programs include a meeting with representatives of Noar Telem, the Reform Jewish youth movement in Israel;
3. That local TYGs and regions make an effort to educate members with their parents about Israel, and
4. That the "Israel is Real" activities packet be enclosed in the TYG officer mailings sent by NFTY upon its completion, and,
5. That the NFTY 1984-85 Study Theme to be incorporated into KAVOD be "Israel, The Reality Behind the Myth."

### **ISRAEL STUDY THEME**

*Resolved:*

That ISRAEL: LIFELINE TO A PEOPLE be adopted as a 1985-1986 NFTY Study Theme; **and**, that this theme may incorporate the following sub-topics:

1. Ethiopian Jews
2. Reform Jews
3. Ashkenazim and Sephardim
4. American Jews and Aliyah
5. Holocaust Survivors
6. Jews from Arab Lands

## 7. Jews

### **RELATIONS BETWEEN JEWISH AND ARAB ISRAELIS**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY adopt as a Study Theme/Project "Relations Between Jewish and Arab Israelis"; **and**, that NFTY urge the NFTY-in-Israel program to incorporate experiences which would allow NFTYites in Israel to experience and become familiar with projects involving both Arab and Jewish children or youth, and that NFTY look into possible fund-raising projects for existing programs in Israel that work towards improving relations between Arab Israelis and Jewish Israelis.

### **THE JERUSALEM PLATFORM**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY adopts the Jerusalem Platform, affirming that the aims of Zionism are:

1. The unity of the Jewish people and the centrality of Israel in Jewish lives
2. The in-gathering of the Jewish people in its historic homeland, Eretz Yisrael, through aliyah from all countries.
3. The strengthening of the State of Israel, which is based on the prophetic vision of justice and peace.
4. The preservation of the identity of the Jewish People through the fostering of Jewish and Hebraic education and of Jewish spiritual and cultural values.
5. The protection of Jewish rights everywhere.

### **THE FUND FOR UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN JEWISH AND ARAB ISRAELIS**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY reaffirm its support of the NFTY Fund for Understanding Between Jewish and Arab Israelis; **and**, that NFTY's 21 regions will publicize the existence of this fund throughout all of its temple youth groups; **and**, that NFTY's 21 regions and/or their TYGs will, when it is feasible, schedule a fund-raiser which will enable them to contribute to this fund.

### **REFORM JUDAISM IN ISRAEL**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY adopt "Reform Judaism in Israel" as a 1987-1988 Study Theme.

### **ISRAEL'S FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY join the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in saluting the people and the leaders of the State of Israel on the occasion of its 40th anniversary, and send a letter of congratulations to the President of the State of Israel; **and**, that NFTY support the Association of Reform Zionists of America in its efforts to deepen the level of Israel programming within the Reform Jewish movement; **and**, that NFTY urge its regions to include programs on Israel in their regional events and in the activities of their member Temple Youth Groups.

## **NFTY AND THE EISENDRATH INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

*Resolved:*

That when the opportunity exists, each region of NFTY host its own EIE student; **and**, that regions appoint any EIE student within their boundaries to an honorary position on their regional board, responsible for bringing the identity of Israel closer to the region and its members. Each region may determine the most appropriate structure for this position.

## **ISRAEL**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY applaud the United States for its role in encouraging the PLO to revise certain of its historic stands (i.e. the renunciation of terrorism and recognition of Israel) as pre-conditions for possible future negotiations; **and**, that NFTY applaud the United States for advocating open and direct discussions between the Israeli government and the PLO, and that NFTY encourage Israel to take the necessary steps to enter a dialogue with the representatives of the Palestinians, and that NFTY discourage any international peace conference including powers that refuse to recognize Israel's existence or that do not have diplomatic relations with the Israeli State.

## **NFTY FOREST**

*Resolved:*

That we take all steps possible to enhance this forest. Together at a time when we should be most aware of our surroundings, we can therefore say that we are doing our part to help preserve the Israeli environment, and that NFTY take an appropriate course of action and expend all necessary resources into the restoration and preservation of the forest, and that the previous mentioned course of action include contacting and working with the JNF and the NFTY office in Israel, so that our concerns may be known and acted upon; **and**, that NFTY encourages its Summer Israel Programs to concentrate on maintenance and upkeep of the forest, while regions encourage the purchase of new trees to be planted during the proper planting season.

## **CATHOLIC/JEWISH RELATIONS**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY commend the Vatican and Pope John Paul II for their work in combating anti-Semitism and the vision and resolve on both sides that have allowed us to extend our hands to each other with new hopes of unity; **and**, that in order to effectively voice our thanks to the Vatican and those who have worked to improve Catholic/Jewish relations the following be done:

1. A letter be sent to the Vatican from the NFTY Executive on behalf of all NFTY commending their recent statements and work on Catholic/Jewish relations and requesting the continuation of this effort that would include the recognition of Israel.
2. A letter be sent from the NFTY Executive on behalf of all NFTY to Rabbi Gary

M. Bretton-Granatoor (the Director of the Department of Inter-religious Affairs) commending his personal work and the work of his department to bring about these landmark reforms.

### **PERSIAN GULF CRISIS**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY strongly condemn the unprovoked attacks by Iraq on Israel and Kuwait; **and**, that NFTY deny any "linkage" or association between the current Persian Gulf crisis caused by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The only true involvement of Israel in this issue is its unfortunate position as a victim of Iraqi aggression. That NFTYites be encouraged to take on the responsibility to help out in their own households and in the homes of friends and relatives when such a need has been engendered by the Persian Gulf Crisis by getting in touch with the following organizations:

1. Family service centers
2. Local chaplain offices
3. Operation Orange Ribbon (primarily in the Midwest), and,

That NFTY encourage NFTYites to take such actions which would provide to the betterment and comfort of families and individuals who are in such conditions, as requested by those being served, and which are appropriate and tangible.

That NFTY take an affirmative role in showing support for the troops.

### **COMPANIES SUPPORTING THE ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY denounce the Arab economic boycott of Israel, encourage other North American Jewish organizations to do the same, and call for all companies supporting the boycott to resume trade with Israel; **and**, that NFTY caution its members against supporting companies that participate in the boycott; **and**, that NFTY strive to educate its members about the boycott in the hopes of promoting action on this issue and a cessation of the policies of companies facilitating and supporting the boycott.

### **MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY endorse the concept of direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab entities in the region, including a legitimate, non-terrorist representative of the Palestinians, as a method of resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict; **and**, that NFTY reaffirm its discouragement of any international conference dealing with the Middle East that involves countries that refuse to recognize Israel's existence. That NFTY urge the government of Israel to take tangible, positive steps towards the peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict via the policies outlined in this resolution; **and**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the UAHC office and to the government of Israel, publicly defining the position of the Reform Jewish youth of North America.

### **SUPPORT FOR PEACEFUL RECONCILIATION OF PLURALISM IN ISRAEL**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY calls for the education of its members on issues of pluralism in the Diaspora and in Israel, as well as on fundamental differences in belief between the Reform community and the other leading Jewish communities, in order to:

1. Support an understanding of the conflicts inherent in Jewish pluralism for the sake of fair judgment, for Hillel says, *al tadin et chaver'cha ad shetagia lim'komo* Do not judge your fellow until you have reached his place.
2. To prevent harsh confrontations between Jews of different communities, and indeed to facilitate more frequent peaceful discourse for this and all other fruitful purposes.
3. Ensure that our community is conscientious both of the aims of preserving Jewish oneness and continuity, as well as our community's values, if compromises must be made for the sake of these issues, and

That NFTY call upon its leadership to actively entreat the leaders of other Jewish communities, especially the youth bodies thereof, to support the above items in order to expedite peaceful resolves and relationships between all Jews in these tumultuous times, for as it is said, *kol machaloket shehi l'shem shamayim, sofah l'hitkayem* All disputes for the sake of heaven will have a constructive outcome. (Pirke Avot 5/20)

#### **RESOLUTION CONCERNING ISRAEL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY regions encourage all youth to participate in Israel programs, **and** that each NFTY region accompany Israel programming by incorporating updates regarding the current political situation in Israel as a part of each event and/or meeting, or a comparable cultural/political activity, **and**, that each NFTY region is encouraged to provide programming on the topic of modern Israel throughout the year, **and**, that the Temple Youth Groups

#### **2003-2004 STUDY THEME: CONFLICT AT HOME AND ABROAD: STRIVING FOR INSIGHT**

*Resolved:*

That the 2003-2004 NFTY Study Theme be "Conflict at Home and Abroad: Striving for Insight", **and** that NFTY learn about worldwide conflicts especially those involving Israel and the Middle East, **and** that NFTY explore North American political, social, and economic conflicts on both a national and local scale, **and** that NFTY programming explore inner conflicts and allow participants the opportunity to better understand themselves and their opinions as they try provide a basis for programming regarding larger conflicts, **and** that NFTY strive for understanding and eventual settlement of conflict through knowledge

#### **RESOLUTION CONCERNING REAFFIRMATION OF NFTY'S COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL AND SPECIFICALLY TO NFTY IN ISRAEL PROGRAMS**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY take a more active and committed stance in supporting Israel **and** specifically supporting NFTY in Israel, and that NFTY regions should raise awareness of issues facing Israel all the time through social and economic support of Medinat Yisrael, at each regional event and at the local level and that

NFTY at the North American, regional, and local levels should include programming about the politics in Israel, enabling each NFTYite to have informed political opinions about Medinat Yisrael, **and** that each region be strongly encouraged to have an Israel chair or an Israel task force/committee under the auspices of the RCVP and/or SAVP to ensure that Israel advocacy is occurring at the regional level, **and** that each NFTY region encourage their representation in all future NFTY in Israel programs, both summer trips and EIE semester in Israel, **and** that NFTY reaffirms its stances on Israel described in the 2001 and 2003 resolutions and continues providing programs and updates at regional and North American events, **and** that NFTY reaffirms its encouragement of TYG's to program and give updates on Israel, and that on a North American, regional, and local level, NFTY will emphasize Israel travel, specifically NFTY in Israel.

### **RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE JNF, ILAN RAMON, AND REGIONAL COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL**

*Resolved:*

That NFTY applaud the Jewish National Fund for all its work in Israel and abroad, **and** that NFTY and regions memorialize all of the astronauts of the Columbia, and specifically Ilan Ramon, on the anniversary of the final Columbia mission's launch in formal recognition of all he did for Israel/American relations, **and** that NFTY regions contribute increments of 18 dollars toward trees or water certificates in Israel on an annual basis until 2014, at which point this resolution will be reconsidered by the current general board, **and** that regions encourage TYGs to do the same, **and** that NFTY encourage regions to contribute higher levels, such as the 500 and 5,000 dollar levels, so long as it is within their means, **and** that NFTY reaffirm its stance and course of action as stated in the 1990 resolution titled "NFTY Forest", **and** that NFTY continues to encourage support for Israel within each NFTYite's means, **and** that NFTY regions work specifically for a regional section of the NFTY Forest by contributing at least 500 dollars for 100 trees in the next year, **and** that the total amount donated by all regions be announced at the general assembly, **and** that NFTY supports and commends all other institutions dedicated to using nature to support Israel, **and** that this resolution does not limit donations to only the JNF.