

**RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY
(ECAJ) COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

This meeting of the Committee of Management of the ECAJ held on 23 February 2006:

NOTES that the ECAJ is committed to participate fully in a successful, respected, revitalised and well governed World Jewish Congress (WJC).

NOTES HOWEVER with deep dismay and great disappointment that the WJC has instituted defamation proceedings in Israel against Isi Leibler AO CBE in relation to statements concerning the governance of the WJC, which statements inter alia, gave rise to an investigation of the WJC by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) of New York.

RECORDS that the Report of the OAG dated 31 January 2006, contains a number of findings very adverse to the WJC and some of its officers.

EXPRESSES ITS BELIEF that the findings of the OAG at least vindicates the stand taken by Isi Leibler in relation to the concerns which were expressed by him concerning the governance of the WJC.

NOTES FURTHER that the decision to institute the legal proceedings against Isi Leibler was taken without reference to the ECAJ, notwithstanding that Isi Leibler: was a distinguished former President of the ECAJ; is one of its Life Members and has made an enormous and outstanding contribution to the leadership not only of Australian Jewry but of world Jewry in a variety of capacities including as a Vice President of the WJC.

RESOLVES to convey to Edgar Bronfman as President of the WJC and through him to the WJC Governing Board its deep dismay at and great disappointment in, the decision of the WJC to institute the legal proceedings against Isi Leibler.

FURTHER RESOLVES to totally dissociate itself and Australian Jewry from that decision and the proceedings.

EXPRESSES THE BELIEF that the legal action reflects and will continue to reflect adversely on the WJC, particularly at a time when the WJC is implementing measures to improve its governance, fiscal management, accountability and transparency. It will not only divert WJC resources away from its core mission, but will inevitably prolong if not escalate the dispute and thereby further damage the reputation of the WJC.

FURTHER BELIEVES that the proceedings may be perceived as vindictive, vexatious, utterly unnecessary, and as an attempt to silence genuinely held political opposition within the organisation and are manifestly not in the interests of the WJC.

CALLS UPON the WJC to forthwith discontinue the proceedings and to notify the ECAJ within 30 days of its decision in relation to this request .

RESOLVES to review the further participation of the ECAJ in the WJC depending on the response of the WJC to this resolution.

REQUESTS the WJC to forthwith circulate this resolution to all WJC members.

