



# GLOBAL FORUM FOR COMBATING ANTISEMITISM

Jerusalem, 2013



Dear Guests,

We appreciate your choosing to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> conference of the Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism, taking place here in Jerusalem, the capital of the state of Israel.

Antisemitism has taken many different forms in the course of its long history. While old Antisemitism still exists, new forms of Antisemitism are manifesting themselves in recent years putting into use new technology and modern media to spread an ancient hate. Increasingly anti-Israeli tendencies and activities are inseparable from Antisemitism, with Israel being attacked as the new collective Jew, while Iran develops military nuclear capabilities and her leaders deny the Holocaust and threaten Israel with destruction.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and The Ministry for Jerusalem and Diaspora Affairs, join forces with many organizations, states and individuals, in the fight against Antisemitism in all its manifestations.

The Jewish people and the State of Israel, its national home, stand at the forefront of this effort. Yet responsibility lies with the leadership of every state in which Antisemitism still exists.

Antisemitism, xenophobia and racism are maladies with which the free world must deal and that must be placed high on the international agenda. Not all is bleak: we recognize and appreciate the many world leaders, religious leaders and NGO's who act and speak up publicly against Antisemitism, enact laws to help fight it, and help educate towards tolerance and understanding.

Indeed, the diversity of the participation in this conference and the forming of a concrete action plan is a testimony to the renewed commitment of many governments and organizations to eradicate Antisemitism. The willingness we have seen in recent years by many international actors including the United Nations, the European Union and others, to give prominence to the fight against Antisemitism in public discourse, represents an important step towards creating a more tolerant and just society.

We therefore call on you, the participants of this conference, to send a simple yet meaningful message: Zero-tolerance to intolerance.

We wish you all a productive and proactive conference.

Zeev Elkin  
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

Naftali Bennett  
Minister for Jerusalem and Diaspora Affairs