Declaration of Intent
between
the Ministry of Education of the State of Israel
and
Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority
and
the Bavarian State Ministry of Education and Church Affairs
Free State of Bavaria, Federal Republic of Germany
regarding
Cooperation in the Fields of Education, Holocaust Education and Youth Exchange

The Bavarian State Ministry of Education and Culture - Free State of Bavaria, Federal Republic of Germany, the Ministry of Education of the state of Israel (hereinafter "the Ministry"), and Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority (hereinafter "Yad Vashem"), (hereinafter "the State Ministry"), Collectively referred to as “the sides”

- strive to intensify and deepen the cooperation in the fields of scholastic education, youth exchange and memorial site pedagogics between Israel and Bavaria,

- are convinced that further cooperation will contribute to the development of historical and political knowledge and the appreciation of the history, culture and contemporary life of Israel and Bavaria

- consider that personal contacts are especially useful for the promotion of open-mindedness, historical and cultural awareness and the fostering and further development of the reconciliation achieved between Israel and Bavaria,

- therefore approve of intensifying the opportunities for exchange for students as well as for teachers in accordance with the applicable provisions (e.g. those of the EU),

and hereby declare:

1. The Ministry, Yad Vashem, and the State Ministry will endeavour to advance their existing cooperation in the following areas:

   - support of the teaching and learning of the respective historical, cultural, social and political conditions
- enabling and promoting exchanges on all levels of the school education system

- providing opportunities for the training of teachers as well as for the staff of institutions focusing on contemporary history from Israel and from Bavaria

2. The focus of the cooperation is intended to be on the area of memorial site education and Holocaust education in general and, in this context, on the cooperation with national Israeli memorial site Yad Vashem.

3. The cooperation should comprise, in particular, the following areas:

a. The Participants intend to support the cooperative partnerships of schools. Such partnerships may take the form of joint school or classroom projects, student and teacher exchanges, individual attendance of a school in the partner state as well as other cooperative endeavors.

b. The Participants intend to support the expansion of cooperation in the training of teachers and in educational work outside schools, especially through internship programs through joint teacher training programs and the exchange of speakers dealing with pedagogical and educational matters.

c. Both Ministries are interested in exchanging information and experience on educational policies and developments on all levels of school supervision. For this purpose they wish to intensify and expand the long-running and well-established cooperation projects, as well as start new cooperative ventures.

4. The implementation of these measures is expected to be subject to budget availability and availability of human resources, and also subject to the respective laws and regulations applicable for the three Participants.

The three Sides intend to meet annually in order to discuss the development of the content of this Joint Declaration of Intent.

Each Side intends to nominate a contact person for this cooperation.

5. The Participants share the understanding, that with the consent of all three Participants, further partners may be involved in the cooperation (e.g. the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, the International Youth Meeting Center in Auschwitz, the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research or the
UNESCO Division of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development);

6. This Joint Declaration of Intent is not intended to oblige any of the Participants to provide for financial, material or human resources, neither now nor in the future;

7. This Declaration of intent can only be modified subject to the consent of all sides.

Signed in Jerusalem, on 9 November, 2011, in three copies in the English language.

For
Ministry of Education of the
State of Israel

For the
Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority

For the
Free State of Bavaria,
Federal Republic of Germany

Gideon Sa'ar
Minister of Education

Avner Shalev
Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate

Dr. Ludwig Spaenle
Bavarian State Minister of Education and Culture