

## The Inter-Religious Council for Jerusalem

- 1. The Inter-Religious Council for Jerusalem [hereafter the IRCJ] shall operate within the framework and the spirit of the Geneva Accord.
- 2. The IRCJ shall advise in issues relating to the protection, preservation and maintenance of the Holy Sites, including heritage preservations, archeological activity, free access for worshipers, and security for visitors. This includes ensuring that any excavation, maintenance, conservation or repairs undertaken in or adjacent to Holy Sites is carried out after consultation with the IRCJ.
- 3. The IRCJ shall advise the relevant side/s in cases where any form of worship by one community may be perceived by another community as impinging on the sanctity of the site or the rights of other worshippers. In addition, the IRCJ shall take part in finding mechanisms for accommodating rituals and pilgrimages and processions to and from the sites on particular holidays.
- 4. The IRCJ shall inform the Parties on religious activities, holidays and festivals in the Old City that may affect the adjacent area and what acts need to be undertaken in order to ensure the protection of all religious rights and the preservation of the public order.
- 5. The IRCJ shall provide advice on training the police and security forces operating in the Old City in general and in the Holy Sites in particular.
- 6. The IRCJ shall work to build tolerance and trust between religious believers, to pre-empt radicalization, and to respect the three monotheistic faiths in order to develop the Old City as inspirational symbol of faith, spiritual center and religious coexistence. To achieve these goals the IRCJ shall manage close relationships and dialogues with the relevant religious communities and seek to resolve disputes of religious nature. The IRCJ shall give special attention to building peaceful religious coexistence and to resolving religious disputes between residences of the Old City belonging to different denominations.
- 7. The head of State of each Party shall nominate 10 IRCJ members. An additional member (21st) shall be appointed by UNESCO. IRCJ Membership shall be for a period of five years. Every two and a half years the sides shall rotate in chairing the IRCJ and in the position of its general director.

- 8. IRCJ recommendations must be approved by a majority of at least 80 percent of its members and with the consent of UNESCO representative in the IRCJ.
- 9. The Parties shall begin forming the IRCJ upon signing the agreement. The preparatory stage shall not last more then 12 months of the approval of the agreement by each Party's relevant institutions.
- 10. Each side shall cover 25% of the IRCJ annual budget. Upon signing the agreement, both Parties shall approach UNESCO to assist them by covering 50% of the remaining IRCJ budget.