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## מדינת ישראל

משרדיה הממשלת

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לפניהם ורבים נרויים

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THE HOLY PLACES OF CHRISTENDOM IN JERUSALEM

The following draft is suggested as a basis for an arrangement in relation to the Holy Places of Christendom in Jerusalem.

1. Access

The Government of Israel reaffirms its acknowledgment of the principle of universal free access to Jerusalem for the purpose of visiting the Holy Places of Christendom.

2. Freedom of Religious worship

The Government of Israel will at all times assure and guarantee complete freedom of worship and other spiritual activities in the Holy Places of Christendom.

3. Diplomatic Status and Immunities

The head of a Christian religious community in Jerusalem will be granted the diplomatic privileges and immunities laid down by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961, for the heads of Missions.

4. The Holy Places

- (1) The Holy Places of Christendom will be granted a special status and will be administered in full autonomy by the religious communities concerned, in accordance with existing rights and practices. Israel public authorities, including police, will not interfere in any matter concerning Holy Places of Christendom, except in circumstances of emergency, such as breaches of peace, violence, riot, civil commotion, fire or other comparable event, or in reasonable anticipation thereof, or at the request of a head of a Christian religious community or of a person acting on his behalf.

- (2) Taxes, rates or other imports shall not be levied in respect of any Holy Place of Christendom. Any income derived from the administration of any such place will be exempt from any form of tax, rate or import.
- (3) The Israel public authorities shall continue to provide protection for the Holy Places of Christendom, and will ensure the provision of public services, such as electricity and water, therefor.

5. The Personnel of the Holy Places

- (1) The disciplinary and religious jurisdiction of the respective Christian religious communities over their personnel will remain unaffected.
- (2) Those personnel of the Christian religious communities in Jerusalem as are ordained or are otherwise directly connected with the administration of religious services by virtue of being priests or of enjoying comparable status will be exempt from military service and all other services of a personal nature.
- (3) There will be freedom of communication and movement between the religious communities in Jerusalem and their parent organizations outside Israel in connection with matters pertaining to religion.

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UNION NOTES ON THE HOLY PLACES

SECRET

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