Association of Lithuanian Jews in Israel

CHAIRMAN:

Adv. Joseph A. Melamed MSc. (Ec.) L.L.M Tel-Aviv, 6th September 2011

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jacob Chalozin
Uri Chanoch
Zohar Cheskov
Ya'arit Glazer
Carol Hoffman, PhD
Abraham Fein
Gershon Furman
Avraham Larwe
Rachel Levin
David Levinson
Arye Sbilansky
Sara Weiss

Mr. Jonathan Brent Executive Director YIVO 15 East 16th St. New York, N.Y. U.S.A

Dear Mr. Brent,

LEGAL ADVISER:

Adv. Dr. Joseph Damper

We, the Association of Lithuanian Jews in Israel, nearly all Holocaust survivors ourselves, wish to express our diamay and disappointment at the decision of YTVO in New York to invite the Lithuanian Foreign Minister as guest of Honor.

Not only did he never apologise for his antisemitic outbursts of 2010, he had failed to do anything concerning the growth of official state-supported antisemitsm in Lithuania, from Nazi marches to the legalization of swastikas. The ongoing distortion and trivalization of the Holocaust, and attempts to cover for this issues with prestgious Jewish partnerships abroad are an unacceptable game.

We call on YIVO to abandon these moral capitulations, and to be true to the founderts and its soul, and cancel the invitation of the Lithuanian foreign minister.

Joseph A Melamed

Chairman