

## Veida 2011 Minutes with ACTIONS in yellow

People present: LJY-Netzer, RSY-Netzer, Belarus, NFTY, Germany, South Africa, Panama, Australia, Ukraine, Spain, Noar Telem, Russia, Brazil (no vote)

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### **Assefa # 1: Netzer's name**

Proposed by Maoz, from Netzer Olami

Maoz's Intro: Each movement is known by its own name and therefore we don't appear as a united world wide movement.

Proposal: Every sniff must contain the name Netzer: (If passed, this proposal must be taken back to the sniffim for a decision next year on Veida 2012, we will have a final vote).

*During next year's veida, we'll discuss if we are implementing this decision or not.*

### Discussion:

RSY – movements could lose identity.

NFTY – what if our sniff does not want to comply?

LJY – it is harmless, also we are part of Netzer and our members know it

RSY – in shnat we don't say RSY-Netzer, it's just internally that we use RSY.

NFTY – for us to change it is a big deal and it would need to go through many levels: national, regional, and temple youth. Why do we need to change our name – it is just a name and is not real connection.

Telem – idea of unity is important, but name specifically is problematic, don't think it will work.

Olami – the resh is an issue as we are not all reform but rather progressive, one name would be great but shouldn't be a name that we don't all identify with.

Spain – it is important.

LJY – perhaps make it a requirement for sniffim who join Netzer, but don't force this on sniffim who are already members?

NFTY – Zionism is also a problem for us as it is not in our ideology, so changing our name would demand us to change our platform. And anyway - the name not important.

RSY – some movements already exist and thus to make them change their name is not fair.

LJY – this vote is just asking us to take the topic back to our movements, and therefore at the moment, it's harmless!

Germany – it's just Telem, Brazil if they become a sniff, Panama and NFTY!

Panama – their name is Noar Panama but they have the Netzer symbol.

RSY – does everyone take it back to discuss or just sniffim who need to change their name?

NFTY – when the NFTY name changed to what it is now, it made a big difference about being part of a big movement. Therefore, any sniff with another name should seriously consider this proposal – the name is both branding and very important.

Brazil – our camp is over 60 years old and we're interested in joining Netzer but this request is too big for us to accept at this point in our relationship with you.

Maoz – it is important to know that we are one movement. True, it is difficult for big sniffim like NFTY, but it was harder for NFTY to become North American sniff of Netzer that it will be to just change the name. Where the name appears (branding), if it says Netzer, it will be good for representation. It's not only a name, it's also an identity.

Telem – changing a name demands changing all sorts of other things, like our t-shirt colour, the logos on our sidurim and much more.

NFTY – full run of new merchandise, is a big deal to change a name.

LJY – need time to think about it, it's a process, we're thinking of the last step, education... and eventually a name, maybe. The name is only important from the outside.

Office – who will be responsible for following up that the sniffim do indeed take this back to their sniffim?

Maoz – this issue must be followed up, it is the responsibility of the people in this room to make sure the topic is raised in the respective sniffim.

Brazil – requested to have a vote.

PASSED – Brazil have a vote.

**VOTE:**

For	Against	Abstentions
10	1	2

**MOTION PASSED**

Rosh Chinuch to make sure this topic is raised during veida of 2012.

**EACH VEIDA PARTICIPANT MUST TAKE THIS MOTION BACK TO HIS \ HER SNIF FOR DISCUSSION, YOU NEED TO HAVE AN ANSWER BY VEIDA OF 2012!**

**Assefa # 2: Pen-pals**

Proposed by NFTY

Intro: Each sniff has a respective NFTY region they can skype/write letters to/talk on facebook with etc. This relationship can develop and eventually enable NFTY-Netzer participants to come to each others' camps, share ideas and much more. It's not a high cost project but rather a time consuming one (to create facebook pages etc). Pairings should be determined by a va'ad.

Proposal: To create a pen pal system that connects Netzer Sniffim to NFTY regions. Each region will have a corresponding Netzer sniff that they will be in contact with throughout the year.

**Amendments:**

- to add the word 'other' to 'connects Netzer *Sniffim* and **other** NFTY regions'
- NFTY need to take the first step in each region to make contact with their pen pal.
- Each sniff needs to give the name/role of who in their movement will take responsibility to implement this.
- To have a pilot run.

Discussion

RSY: There are more regions of NFTY than there are sniffim.

NFTY: We can bring small NFTY regions together i.e. Southern California sniff.

South Africa: Do we need to vote on it or can we just set this up and contact each other about it?

RSY: This proposal puts the USA at centre of the Jewish world, but if NFTY are happy to organise it – great! Why not?

LJY: Maybe set a couple up first to see how they work?

RSY: In England, who would interact with who? There are only specific times in the year when the chanachim are all together, would it be chanachim talking to chanachim or things being sent?

NFTY: Send stuff over so when they are together they can open it and see what they sent.

RSY: Could make an event out of it.

NFTY: A way to bring NFTY more into Netzer.

RSY: Make a video postcard about your sniff to send.

LJY: Really good idea but for some newer sniffim could be quite a lot to take on i.e. Netzer France. It needs to be thought out for the smaller sniffim.

RSY: Name sounds like NFTY is totally separate from Netzer.

NFTY: NFTY as a whole only gets together once a year, it's a great first step to set up each region with a Netzer sniff.

NFTY: Some regions may decline because it might not work, they are too small, haven't got the

resources etc. If they can't be a part of it for whatever reason - that's fine.

RSY: This is about pairing up the NFTY regions rather than the entirety of NFTY.

Russia: Like the idea of sharing photos/videos etc.. but what's the point?

LJY: Some people feel "why should it be NFTY connecting with the rest of us when we're all sniffim equally. Why can't all the specific NFTY regions connect with themselves?" It is a great idea but not sure LJY would vote for it, as it is saying we are connecting specifically to NFTY and not other Netzer sniffim.

RSY: Great idea but not the way for NFTY to educate itself about Netzer. Instead, need more direct Netzer education.

Australia: We don't need to facilitate it in this strict framework. There is a Netzer Olami facebook page - get them involved in that. **AMMENDMENT:** to have a fundraising relationship. **REJECTED.**

NFTY: People are saying it would be hard to learn about Netzer through this. That is not what we are proposing.. more for awareness than education. When Russia came to NFTY, people made the connection to Netzer, was then a trigger to teach and run programmes about it.

LJY: Could be more informal, think the pilot idea is good, it's a lot to take on immediately.

Staff: This type of project has already been attempted in the past (with Noar Telem) and failed because of lack of cooperation. The sniffim have to be excited about it and have people need to be nominated to actually be responsible to implement this. **Amendment:** NFTY has to take the first step in each pairing.

Russia: Most of our chanachim are not on facebook. Propose to have it not on facebook.

NFTY: There is a group of people trying to create a Jewish social network. So it could go on there.

**VOTE:**

For	Against	Abstentions
8	1	3

**MOTION PASSED** – after one snif changed vote  
need 10 min discussion at beginning of next asefa

LJY: **Amendment** to make it a pilot.

RSY: Permission from the Netzer sniffim to find a way to make this happen.

For	Against	Abstentions
10	0	2

**MOTION PASSED**

**NFTY must make the first step to make this happen**

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**Assefa 3: Post-graduate Netzer programmes**

Proposed by: LJY-Netzer

Into: The only long term programmes that Netzer Olami run are Shnat Netzer specific to one age group. Therefore if someone chooses to go straight to University or does an alternative gap year, they can't do a Netzer programme. This is too rigid!

Proposal: Netzer Olami should look into running a post-graduate international long term programme in Israel. Sniffim should go back to their members and report on the want from their members is, report back in 2012 and discuss again.

Discussion:

Maoz: good issue but there is already a program called 'Tikkun Olam' for university graduates. The URJ (reform movement in USA) adopted the program for graduates of NFTY. It is for 1 year, in Tel Aviv, 1 day a week of studying, 3 days a week of trips and volunteering. If graduates of Netzer want to be involved with this we can adopt something that already exists.

Telem: We should take already existing programmes that are already happening. It's cheaper.

LJY: Great that there are these programmes but there needs to be awareness about them. For those who don't know Hebrew it's tough to join some of these programmes.

LJY: It's fantastic but in response to fees going up in the UK, this motion isn't a knee jerk reaction to it but it has shown a want for something. The people that didn't go on Shnat Netzer want some more connection to Israel. Is this specifically a British thing or do others want this?

RSY: Who will implement this, where does the responsibility fall?

LJY: This year, each individual snif needs to promote this, and next year the Netzer staff will follow up and offer us something.

South Africa: Maybe a nice opportunity to grow an adult movement for graduates from Netzer.

Germany: Why delay it for a year, why not say now what people want?

Maoz: We already decided a few years ago, unfortunately because of financial resources we couldn't accomplish everything that is needed without the resources. However, we know that Tikkun Olam is a good programme, with our impact (NFTY's ideology). We failed because we haven't advertised this programme properly.

RSY: At what age are people no longer Netzer's responsibilities?

LJY: Grey area, it's snif specific. The idea with this is it's after University.. something to think about.

Germany: It's not our task to promote such a programme. TaMaR are saying once you're 18 you should come to us. Competition.

RSY: Potentially we need to decide by snif.

LJY: We owe it to our members to advertise these things.

South Africa: it's snif specific, I know that in S.A. there is no market for this, so let's see if there is potential for interest in your snif...

NFTY: support idea but we already have established programmes so can't commit to help Netzer develop one, it would be great if everyone can take part in one of these already established programmes.

Spain: Support idea but not sure if we will have people to join it.

Germany: Great idea but utopian for Netzer, not enough money etc.

South Africa: There is already a English programme from a snif of Netzer...

LJY: Suggest that LJY and RSY sit down and discuss the possibility because of the lack of interest in Netzer Olami as a whole.

### **NO VOTE**

**Veida 2012: sniffim should present actual suggestions as alternatives to Netzer's Shnat year in Israel**

#### **Assefa 4: Support for Netzer Olim by Netzer Olami**

proposed by: LJY-Netzer

Intro: Part of the platform is "aliya nimshechet" (continuous aliya = immigration to Israel). Obviously it is the snif's responsibility to educate for this but we need the support of Netzer Olami as well.

Proposal: Netzer Olami should keep a database of Olim. Netzer Olami should keep in contact with olim to see if they're interested in various organisations i.e. the IMPJ (Israeli movement for progressive Judaism). Netzer Olami should select a staff member as the contact for Netzer-Olim. Sniffim should tell Netzer Olami if someone makes aliya. Netzer Olami must complete a database of members who make aliya, also to include anyone who is in Israel long term but not necessarily making aliya.

**Amendments:** Add “with the permission of olim”

**Discussion:**

LJY: These people who get support are potentials to support others.

Maoz: I've heard we are missing the point as when people decide to fulfil part of the ideology and make aliya they need Netzer to be there for them. We need reports from the sniffim to let us know who is making aliya. We already have a staff person in charge of this field, today it's Yuval who needs to keep in touch with people who make aliya. Netzer can connect you with people, jobs etc.. Most Netzer Olim come from the FSU and there are seminars for Olim from FSU, but something like this is harder to do for olim from other countries as we don't know who and where they are - but we want to do it!!

RSY: We made a list for shnatties to contact olim which they are happy about but they don't want their details passed on to IMPJ etc.

LJY: There are Netzer Olim who are 18-25 who would love a phone call and support and to have an organisation that know they are here, this could lead to social experience and interaction with families. If they don't want it that's fine but it should be there for them if they do. It's a two way thing. Sniffim need to support them as well as Netzer Olami. Some individuals won't want it and that's fine too.

LJY: People can opt in and out of it at different times.

Maoz: TaMaR invest money into it.

RSY: **Amendment:** Need to add 'with the permission of olim'. **ACCEPTED.**

NFTY: We don't know who's made aliya.

**Vote:**

For	Against	Abstentions
7	2	3

**MOTION PASSED**

Netzer Olami must update it's database of Olim, keep in closer contact with them and invite them to connect to various organisations (like the IMPJ). Netzer Olami will select a staff member as the contact for Netzer-Olim.

Sniffim must tell Netzer Olami if someone makes or has made aliya recently (also to include anyone who is in Israel long term but not necessarily making aliya).

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**Assefa # 5: Vegetarianism**

Proposed by: Netzer Olami and Shnat Netzer Staff

**Intro:** The Netzer staff notes that this time last year it was decided for Netzer to become vegetarian. However, Shnattim still have the decision of whether or not to buy meat on the Netzer budget – e.g. in the etgar flat and for pizzur meals. Tension came about between Netzer Olami and the Sniffim (tzevet level), plus between the Shnat-Netzer tzevet and the current Shnatties, regarding being vegetarian – Netzer staff cannot force Shnatties to be vegetarian. The proposal needs to be reviewed this year. The decision last year has eliminated the chance for informed decision making across Netzer participants. Decision suggests that being a vegetarian = tikkun olam, although this is not the case. When a lot of the Netzer staff and current Shnatties chose not to be vegetarian, the proposal seems futile. Proposal also causes food wastage when vegetarian food is provided for all Shnatties, but half choose to get food from, for example, the meat buffet.

**Proposal:** Choose one of three options:

- 1) All-encompassing vegetarian motion
- 2) Each sniff has the power to decide its own vegetarian policy, but this is the sniff's

- responsibility and not the Netzer Olami staff
- 3) No vegetarian policy in Netzer. Personal choice of each participant.
  - 4) veida olami and Netzerfest will be vegetarian. Shnat-Netzer is only vegetarian if this is the choice of the Shnattim + Chinuch will continue to be a key element on this aspect.

**Amendments to option 3:**

- 1) Germany: education is a must for option 3.
- 2) Education must start from an early age and at the beginning of Shnat.
- 3) RSY: Netzfest and Netzer Veida should stay vegetarian. **Amendment cancelled**, goes to new option.

**Discussion:**

Germany: Option 1 is too much, proposed amendments which were accepted.

RSY: Individuals need to make decisions but Netzer must make decisions on how they spend money. Notes vegetarianism is a very easy way of bringing tikkun olam into every day life of sniffim events and shnat. No education yet on shnat about vegetarianism but this proposal even without education has already influenced some shnattim to become vegetarian. Suggests that every decision made by Netzer Olami must be thinking about the ethical issues. Chinuch is vital and we want the tzevet to take it more seriously.

NFTY: Need to find ways of fulfilling the tikkun olam pillar of Netzer without forcing a lifestyle choice on participants. Why just look at the meat industry, the food industry as a whole is very wasteful and not environmentally friendly. If next year's Shnat group is more NFTY-dominated, opinions will shift.

LJY: **Amendment proposed:** keep current policy but with compulsory chinuch sessions on shnat.

RSY: Unfair how vegetarian motion is affecting the shnat group. In the past the current policy has not worked.

Haim: (Haim is a staff person on Shnat-Netzer) for POI – no evidence that the vegetarian motion makes people become vegetarian (statistic from his Shnat year). Unfair on Shnat-Netzer tzevet – all responsibility is left on them and there is no logic in the Sniffim not being involved. Shnat-Netzer is the problematic programme and is the only part of Netzer it will majorly affect. **Amendment proposed:** Keep current motion but have vegetarianism only enforced on Netzerfest and Netzer Veidah. On Shnat-Netzer, vegetarianism should be discussed and decided in the Sniffim.

Brazil: tikkun olam idea, bad display of informed decision making.

Russia: Wants to see the real benefits of being vegetarian – one that can be taken back to improve camps.

RSY: Encouraging and educating on vegetarianism is enough. Perhaps at the beginning, i.e. on the orientation seminar, there could be an asefa where the Shnattim themselves decide how they want to live out vegetarianism on their Shnat year.

RSY: Include specifics of vegetarian proposal – how we can eat ethically should be included in the motion.

LJY: Overall feeling of more clarification needed, current proposal is not all bad – just needs more clarification. Education throughout sniffim already (speaking for LJY in particular), but not in fact from Netzer Olami. There needs to be dialogue between sniffim and Netzer Olami about the expectations of each, as well as dialogue with the Shnatties. Disappointing that there has been no education of vegetarianism on this Veida.

NFTY: Numbers of vegetarians in NFTY has increased rapidly from particular educational theme of 'overconsumption'.

Ady: (shnat-Netzer staff person) People are more likely to become vegetarian from education than enforced policy. Problem when vegetarianism may not be the choice of some leaders so they will not educate on something they don't believe in. They may believe more in tikkun olam or food ethics etc.

Dana: (shnat-Netzer staff person) Netzer tzevet feel pressurised and undermined by sniffim e.g. on Shvil Yisrael this year on Shnat. Believes in the Shnat group having the power to make their own decisions. Education must happen so they can then vote e.g. on whether or not their year is

vegetarian.

Ukraine: Example starts in making the individual choice which then may spread to others. Vegetarianism will not happen if forced on participants. The best option is for individuals to choose due to example from others.

Brazil: Large culture of meat in Brazil so if they had to potentially educate on vegetarian it would be difficult.

Australia: Vegetarianism is an important decision – a lifestyle choice and has health issues involved – so education needs to be serious. Plus education way before Shnat.

Maoz: Be a guide, an educator- change the way a person behaves. However, to force is not to educate. Education is through understanding. Last year's decision has caused problems we have heard about this year.

### **VOTE on option 3:**

For	Against	Abstentions
8	2	2

### **MOTION PASSED**

No vegetarian policy in Netzer. Personal choice of each participant.

However, large emphasis on education about vegetarianism and ethical eating within sniffim.

Education must start from an early age and at the beginning of Shnat.

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### **Assefa #6 on 'SHNAT'**

Proposed by Germany

Intro: Is it possible to make shnat cheaper? Sources of funding \ Change the price for each participant?

Proposal: no specific proposal, just a discussion.

#### Discussion:

LJY: Each participant should choose what he/she does and pay for that (e.g. if shvil is more expensive, you should pay more to do it)

Australia: Picking and choosing "options" can only apply to Northern hemisphere, southerners all do the same thing so that wouldn't work. Australia get funding from within sniff, pooling from specific households. External funding from other sniffim. External funding is the way forward.

Nfty: some money is wasted; cut out/ alter kibbutz experience so that kibbutzim don't need to be paid (as much if at all).

RSY: questioning practicality: shnat is expensive, this discussion is pointless as we cannot decide in an assefa.

(Haim as a member of the shnat tsevet was brought in)

RSY: as it is, English participants already pay a variety of prices, so changing the price for individual participants would not solve anything. Looking for external funding is already happening (esp Maoz). Therefore the only viable solution is making Shnat cheaper.

Nfty: Nfty is not rich, the money they have is in proportion to participants, and the focus of the organisation is not to fund gap year programmes. It is not up to us to discuss how sniffim's money should be spent.

Germany: the purpose of this discussion is to find a solution.

LJY: Cost of shnat is indeed a big problem. Agrees that external funding is in reality the main form of help. Picking and choosing year has been discussed and I disagree with it as it forces people to choose on basis of money. We should think of the purpose of shnat.

Australia: POI what do you want to come out of discussion?

Germany: ideas, decisions, awareness.

LJY: when I was on shnat, people had to pay to be on kibbutz, so attention should be paid to when kibbutz is so that volunteers are needed. Raise awareness to adults that are able to donate, and give more to adult movements for this reason.

LJY: we can and should try to change this, as veida. We should not give up, we should look into more possibilities and continue our search.

Haim: POI on proposal: the Jewish agency currently gives money already to shnat, so fees are not solely paid by participants. Therefore the whole programme is already partly subsidised, and that subsidising cannot be unevenly distributing. WUPJ does the fundraising for Netzer. Netzer has no ability to raise money for itself, it's prevented by the sniffim and by the WUPJ. We should however discuss this, lets consider different shnat years at different prices, we can take a significant stance on this (as complexities on funding situations cannot be changed much). Perspective sniffim's countries are solely dependant on their countries funding, we can only change the price of shnat itself. Final point: this is not a proposal, this is a call saying: 1- Do we want Shnat Netzer to cost less? 2 - Do we want the possibility of different Shnat years at different prices?

LJY: how do you decide how much Shnat costs?

Haim: we get a certain amount from MASA and the Jewish agency that is fed into the Shnat budget. Should veida be scrapped because it comes out of the shnat budget? Shnat often ends in a deficit that is covered by a general fund in Netzer Olami.

Nfty: 1- it is clear that shnat should be cheaper, I don't think it should be pick and choose, the group would then be divided. 2- our parent organisations don't necessarily have money to give us. Can we raise fees to belong to a movement?

Germany: that would definitely not be possible in Germany.

Nfty: 3 dollars a person is the fee to belong to nfty in the US, it would make a big difference overall.

Germany: in our sniff there has been a contract to work for the adult community after. Some programmes are much cheaper than shnat. Picking and choosing shnat causes inequality within Netzer, instead we should rule out expensive options.

RSY: we are short of time, we should discuss what Haim proposed which is how can we make the programme cheaper?

South Africa: our discussion is undermining the work of people who work on funding. The sniffim work on the programme with the shnat tsevet. We aren't educated enough to discuss this.

RSY: I don't think we should vote on anything but rather discuss the possibilities.

RSY: the idea of doing half shnat should be promoted. Maybe as a separate programme, could attract more people.

Germany: can there be more transparency on where the fees go?

Nfty: in college you can work for the college to reduce your fees. So can that transfer shnat, working in the Netzer office to reduce your own fee?

LJY: shnat Netzer budget is available to all sniffim. Educators/professionals are expensive. It's a good programme which fulfils its aims, to make it cheaper would be to cut out aims of the programme and cut out big parts of the programme. We need to face changing aims if decide to change the budget. Maybe we need to reform the programme, with different aims, as price as a higher priority. E.g. less staff, educators, no machon, cheaper locations. The most effective way is to change aims.

LJY: now might be the time to change the programme, its becoming less and less feasible. We might not need to change what Netzer's about.

Haim: we have reached some understandings by having this discussion. Historical perspective to Netzer Germany- at the start only one or two could afford, popularity increases and the community will respond. Over time in each sniff popularity increases, people get used to the idea of paying for it. However, shnat needs to be cheaper. Half year has been tried and market it was found to have a negative effect on the community group. Confidential: we are in this situation because Netzer has no ability to raise money. Pressure needs to be put on funding to Netzer. Historical perspective is

needed. Dialogue needs to be had between Netzer tsevet and those in sniffim in charge on shnat.  
RSY: synagogues should be encouraged to donate to the sniff. To encourage chanichim to make aliya does not cost money, we should understand that there are options that require no money, we should bear in mind that if we want shnat, money is required.

Dear Shnat Netzer Tsevet,

We have discussed this as part of veidah and come to the conclusions that we need to do something about the high cost of Shnat Netzer. We would like to urge you to look at ways in which shnat can be made significantly cheaper, and send us at least 3 proposals for long term Netzer programmes which would be a lot more affordable. We would also like the Netzer Olami staff to give sniffim ideas of ways of raising funds, beyond the funds which exist within the sniffim, that can be used centrally by Netzer Olami to support the shnat program. Please reply to us by rosh chodesh adar sheni.

Shnat-Netzer director will send 3 options for reducing the cost of Shnat and will look into fundraising as well.

### **Assefa #7 – madrichim exchange**

Proposed by Netzer Russia

Intro: Chanichim (Children) from Moscow already go to other countries to study English. General consensus is that it would be a great idea.

Discussion:

Germany: We have a lot of Russian speakers so maybe they can help out, but we are also a small sniff so we need our own chanichim and madrichim as well.

Noar Telem: I'll bring it back to Telem because we too have Russian speakers

Australia: Maybe this isn't so relevant, we all agree, we just need to be with our Sniffim to talk about this

Belarus: If we bring people from other countries (like Israel) then it will give the chanichim the influences to want to learn more (about Israel, Hebrew, etc...)

Each sniff must discuss this topic and come up with a possible plan including budget.

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### **Assefa #8 – sharing ideas**

Proposed by Netzer Russia

Intro: Proposing an online program bank on the Netzer website for all sniffim to submit peulot

Discussion:

NFTY – What about language barrier?

Russia – no problem!

Australia – We already have it but no one uses it. Do you think that this will actually work for all of Netzer if it doesn't even work in some Sniffim?

Raya – It already exists: [www.Netzerolami.org](http://www.Netzerolami.org), I'LL DO IT if you just send me the peula [raya.Netzer@wupj.org.il](mailto:raya.Netzer@wupj.org.il)!!!

NFTY – We have a lot of peulot and services online on the NFTY website, we also made it somewhat of a competition between NFTYites this past year, its working!

South Africa – Lets make it someone's job in each Snif to submit programs to Raya or online.

Sniffim to send Raya their peulot, ma'amadim and any other educational resources, and she will upload it to the Netzer Olami website.

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## Assefa #9 – re-evaluating veida olamit

Proposed by Netzer Russia

Intro: Netzer Veida- How relevant is it for the Former Soviet Union?

### Discussion:

LJY – We are in tough financial times so maybe we should cut Veida?

Australia – I thought this veida was going to be more about Netzer as a whole, not personal Sniffim issues. I wanted to make more of a bigger difference.

RSY – I feel like we have made a difference. Knowing that I have concrete plans to send Madrichim to other Sniffim is more than I had before.

LJY – Not everything is relevant for everyone, some people won't take things back to their Sniffim. Then again, even if it's not relevant to your particular Snif, it's still important to know about etc...

Germany – It's all relevant in some way or another, no matter what.

RSY – There was a deadline and it was up to us to get our ideas together on time. We need to think more about what is for Netzer Olami and what is for particular Sniffim.

Russia – I feel like I don't have a right to vote on things like Shnat because we don't have that in our Snif! How can we talk about things that we don't know about because we lack those issues in our Snif?

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## Assefa #10: Brazil joining Netzer Olami

Proposed by Brazil

Intro: Brazil want's to join Netzer Olami.

**Amendment** – Brazil should commit to remaining progressive Jews.

### Discussion:

RSY – What would they be called if they joined Netzer?

Brazil – don't know yet.

LJY – fantastic to have Brazil here, why do they want to join now having been around for 60 years?

Brazil – growth with shnat, exchange of experiences and information. Offer solid structure from a 60 yr old movement. Really capable madrichim and good hadracha.

Australia – brazil keeps changing as a sniff (conservative, reform..)- if you become part of Netzer you won't be able to change as much.

Brazil – progression and constant adaption to necessity is important. 60 ears ago there was a very different movement to now. The current movement has autonomy from the overall Jewish movement in brazil.

Australia- do your beliefs line up with Netzer's?

Brazil – only difference I can tell is in gender equality. We allow it but don't necessarily encourage it.

NFTY – adding another sniff from the western hemisphere is very positive for NFTY because they are much closer than Europe. Also, having Spanish speakers as a second language on both sides will help.

Raya – Will you have activities that aren't just machaneh (camp)?

Brazil – we don't intend on having a new Rabbi soon and we have a really strong identity with our movement so it would be really hard for someone to change that. We try to get our chanichim together once or twice a semester only. The synagogue doesn't want more than this.

NFTY – are conservative Jews seen as 'progressive'?

Raya – 'halacha' is the difference. **Is the amendment accepted?** it would be impossible for us not to be reform and only to be conservative.

LJY – if any sniffim stopped being reform/ progressive, they wouldn't be a part of Netzer, so it goes without saying.

South Africa – by becoming part of Netzer you stop being affiliated with the conservative side of your shul, would this be met well in Brazil?

Brazil – we have autonomy regarding the synagogue. Not saying we want to be Netzer in order to be reform, we are reform so we want to be Netzer. We don't really label ourselves but by reading the Netzer ideology - we agree with it. **Amendment declined.**

RSY – egalitarianism isn't a problem because we all do it in a different way anyway. Joining Netzer is a label of reform. Would this be a problem?

Brazil – we don't have problems with labels, we just haven't needed one in the past. It's easier to recognise us with a label.

Noar Telem – I heard that you work a lot with Noam, the conservative youth movement.

Brazil – we don't.

NFTY – **amendment proposal** – 2 year trial period

Noar Telem – how will veida test whether it's working in the trial period?

NFTY – we think that this should happen with NFTY as well. We should re-evaluate whether it's working at next veidah.

LJY – we shouldn't say that we're going to judge them after 2 years.

NFTY – in NFTY, when we have a big policy change, we re-evaluate it after a year or a couple of years because we don't know what will happen.

LJY – adding Brazil isn't a policy, we don't need to re-evaluate it. Also there isn't a rigid criteria that you have to fill to join Netzer. Maybe we should change this in the future.

South Africa – we need to decide to accept the amendment or not.

Brazil – at any time can you decide that any snif is not fit to be in Netzer?

NFTY – since there are a few iffy things, maybe it would be worth having a trial policy for any snif that wants to join Netzer in the future?

NFTY – I don't think we can be picky about whether they're completely reform enough because we should still let them progress and change. Maybe we don't need an amendment, we can just check up in two years.

Maoz – Very excited about this proposal (mass jazz hands), this is a very lucky veidah to be able to accept a new snif into Netzer Olami. The Jewish community in South America is very complicated, the conservative movement is much stronger because of the only Spanish speaking Rabbinical seminar in Buenos Aires. We had a snif of Netzer in argentine once, a movement called Chufsha in a shul called Shalom that asked to join Netzer and in that year 5 of them came to Israel. Then they had a summer camp with 60 chanichim. Then they got a conservative rabbi who didn't like the connection with Netzer and we lost our connection with them. The snif in Argentina was destroyed by politics. This is sad. There are about 15 bogrim left and they established "Olam b'yachad" and I felt so bad that I couldn't keep in touch with them because of politics. They then joined HaNoar HaTzioni. To have a big congregation like the one in Brazil, where there is room for more than one youth movement? We are very lucky that they even sent a delegate to the veidah! I was very happy just that he came. We should never close doors in South America. Let's help them!!!

LJY – we're all for Brazil joining but we don't understand the synagogue structure in Brazil.

Brazil – the synagogue is both Reform (=progressive) and Masorti (=conservative) which is why we have a hard time labelling ourselves.

Maoz – they have two Rabbis.

NFTY – if you became a snif of Netzer, would you gain synagogues and branch out?

Brazil – we would grow in terms of becoming wiser and more knowledgeable, we have 140 chanichim and we will grow until a maximum, we don't intend to just keep growing.

South Africa – should we just vote yes and work out the details? Work out a name etc..

Raya – how much of a summer camp are you and how much of a youth movement are you?

Brazil – we don't make money and the only person paid is the coordinator who doesn't run the movement. We have autonomy from the synagogue, all the madrichim are volunteers. Camp preparation takes 4 months and they meet twice a week every week during this time.

LJY – ammendment – if we want to accept another snif that can actually play football.....

**VOTE:**

For	Against	Abstain
12	0	0

**MOTION PASSED**

**Brazil is to be treated as a full member: pay dues, participate in Veidot, send participants on Shnat Netzer and respond to chinuch workers (for Kol Netzer and other such yearly updates)**

**Assefa #11: Netzerizing the sniffim**

Proposed by LJY

Intro: Netzerizing the sniffim

Proposal: name more educational sessions and peulot on camp about Netzer. Run one compulsory peula per week on machanot about 'what is Netzer'. Suggestions are a Netzer evening involving past shnatties and an online peulot bank for these programmes.

Discussion:

Noar Telem – Agree that this education is necessary but don't like saying we need 'i.e. one a week'. We should just have the motive to include Netzer education on camps.

Australia – Agrees with Noar Telem.

NFTY – Someone should write a general resources document to make it accusable for everyone to run peulot.

LJY – maybe it's not our place to mandate what sniffim need to do. As long as the emphasis on Netzer education is there, we're happy. Some sniffim educate on Netzer Olami better than others.

RSY – repetition of what LJY said. Netzer Olami education is especially important for new sniffim such as Brazil.

RSY – Who would create the resources?

LJY – someone should be employed specifically to do this or maybe the shnatties could be given it as a project?

Spain – On our 5 day summer camp all the peulot were about Netzer.

South Africa – What constitutes Netzer olami education?

LJY – It needs to stress how all the sniffim link together.

Brazil – Should the education be about Netzer ideology or about the different sniffim?

Australia – We should make a youtube channel for Netzer Olami and all upload our videos to it.

Maybe have a rosh video in each sniff?

RSY – Every summer we run Netzerfest, we always have a peula there on what is Netzer olami. It doesn't really work but maybe we can use it at our machanot

Maoz – I support this and it can only help. Quite a few sniffim are very experienced and maybe they can produce peulot for younger and older age groups. I suggest that we send all our peulot to Raya so she can put them on the Netzer website ([www.netzerolami.org](http://www.netzerolami.org)) so any madrich can use them as they are or adapt them. There's always the possibility of special peulot for summer camps etc that will come up from this.

Germany – Very relevant because the kids in Germany don't identify with Netzer. What about a time limit for it to be done so it doesn't get forgotten about?

LJY – Let's not do the same peula for years in a row because kids will just get bored. It doesn't matter who takes it on but we need an individual who can be held accountable for this.

RSY – What about getting translations of the peulot into Russian, Spanish, Portuguese etc?

Brazil – We need a longer time to do this because we need to educate madrichim about it too.

NFTY – Think that the shnatties should write a peula about it too.

LJY – All peulot sent to Raya by 31<sup>st</sup> March???

Noar Telem – We could create a job for someone who is in charge of a connection to Netzer in each

snif

LJY – Lets vote

South Africa – Don't want to vote on a policy about educating on Netzer. It's just an agreement that it should happen

LJY – There seems to be a consensus that this should happen

**THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT SHOWN BY FLAGS...**

**All sniffim should put an emphasis on Netzer education.**

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