



## **The World Council of Jewish Communal Service Annual WCJCS June Seminar**

Held in cooperation with the Jewish Agency for Israel Annual Assembly

**Sunday, June 20, 2010, 14:15 - 16:15  
Zion Hall, Inbal Hotel**

**Theme:**

### **“Is What's Good for Israel Good for the Jews? How to Achieve Unity When Opinions Differ”**

**Program:**

**Chair: Leah Golan** - Director General, Israel Department, JAFI; Associate President, WCJCS  
**Moderator: Steve Schwager** - Executive Vice President & CEO, JDC; President, WCJCS

#### **Keynote speaker**

**Prof. Shlomo Avineri** - Professor of Political Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

#### **Respondents**

North America - **Jerry Silverman** - President & CEO, Jewish Federations of North America

Europe - **Barbara Lerner Spectre** - Founding Director, Paideia: European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden

Israel - **Rabbi Naamah Kelman** - Dean, Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem

#### **Q& A and Discussion**

#### **Summary**

**Ted Comet** - Hon. Associate Executive Vice President, JDC; Executive Vice President, WCJCS

#### **Session Goals**

1. To identify those issues that create tensions between Israel and World Jewry as well as tensions within Israel and within Diaspora Jewish Communities. These should go beyond the flotilla headlines of today and the political divisions over such matters as a two-state solution, settlements, Jerusalem and ceding territory; to include religion and conversion; the nature and character of a Jewish state; Jewish Identity and the relationship between Israel and the Diaspora.
2. Given the strong differences of opinions on these issues, what can Jewish institutions do to achieve civility of discourse, maintain unity, foster bonding and binding relationships and deepen the sense of mutual responsibility.

**Special Thanks to:**

**WCJCS Israel Program Committee; Sara Bogen, Chair  
WCJCS Global Networking Committee; Howard Weisband, Chair  
Jewish Agency for Israel and the Office of the Secretary General**