Introduction to Prayer for the State of Israel Yom Kippur 5775

This past year has been a challenging one for Israel and the Jewish people. The events during and surrounding Operation Protective Edge raised for all of us the specter of conflict and vulnerability. We prepare now to offer our prayers for peace and security in the State of Israel and we look to 5775 with a renewed sense of hope for a more peaceful year.

In the coming months, we will each have an exciting opportunity to take a small, simple action
that will have a measurable impact on Israel's future and bring the highest values of
Congregation, such as pluralism, egalitarianism, caring, and openness to bear in the
Jewish homeland. The election for the World Zionist Congress will take place from mid-January
through Pesach. This is the only global Jewish election in which you will have a say about the
Jewish future in the State of Israel and around the world. By voting for the Mercaz USA slate,
you can help us secure the future of our Movement in Israel and throughout the world. It will
take only a few minutes and cost only a few dollars to register, but the impact on the lives of our
brothers and sisters who benefit from the programs of our Movement will last a lifetime. Our
kehillot, our youth movements, our camps, and countless other programs depend on the
allocations that come from these votes.

In the months ahead please stay on the lookout for information about voting for Mercaz USA. Our sisters and brothers in the Masorti movement in Israel and around the world are relying on you for your participation. We can change the Jewish world with our vote.