

Nisan 6, 5729  
March 26, 1969

Dr. Samuel Belkin  
President, Yeshiva University  
186th Street and Amsterdam Avenue  
New York, New York 10033

Dear Dr. Belkin:

At our recent Convention the incoming Administration was directed to establish a "Study Panel to undertake the ongoing review of the participation of the Orthodox Union in inter-agency organs and to determine in which area independent efforts of the Orthodox Union will be more appropriate to our ultimate purposes."

Pursuant to this mandate the Study Panel was appointed and is now functioning. We conceive our task in terms of specific recommendations which will be made concerning organizations the Orthodox Union is now associated with and also in terms of drawing up of criteria to guide future participation in coordinating agencies. Because of the understanding implicit in the Convention Resolution, the study is to encompass the Union's participation in the Synagogue Council of America, the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the World Jewish Congress, and the National Jewish Welfare Board.

As the first part of our review process, we are writing to you and other orthodox leaders connected with various religious organizations to solicit written comments on the matters within the purview of our Commission. We trust that you will recognize the importance of the study that is being undertaken and that you will offer us the benefit of your considered judgement.



Our Study Panel also intends to conduct, subsequently, and in addition to this written inquiry, oral hearings. Would you kindly indicate in your reply whether you would be willing to give us further oral elucidation and information, if invited.

In order not to unduly delay our work and because the Convention directed us to make our initial report before the summer, respectfully as you to write to us by Nissan 27 - April 15. We thank you for your participation in our work.

Sincerely yours,

Marvin Herskowitz, Chairman  
Study Panel

MH/tl