



THE KNESSET  
The Israeli Parliament



# Commission for Future Generations

**“A captain who does not know  
whither he wishes to sail his ship,  
no wind in the world will  
carry him there...!”**

**Lucius Aneus Seneca**

# Sustainable Future

## Proactive definition

The essence of a **Sustainable Future** is

**Supporting Continuous Evolution** of human kind and the world we live in.

**Taking a Holistic and Proactive approach**

**Creating a Future of Well-being for humanity and biological diversity** in each and every facet of life

# Commissioner's Fields of Activity

Under the Knesset law

## Society

Education  
Health  
Demography  
Justice  
Quality of life

## Economy

National  
Economy

## Environment

Quality of  
Environment  
Natural  
resources  
Planning &  
Construction

Science, development & technology

# Purpose

**Empowering future oriented responsibility and long-term planning in the Knesset and in the State of Israel.**

**Inclusion of the future thinking in legislation and secondary legislation.**

**Changing awareness – from a survival mode to Future creating mode.**

# Authority and Modes of Action

- ✦ **The Knesset Secretariat will pass to the Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations all bills tabled in the Knesset.**
- ✦ **The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations will notify the Knesset Speaker about laws and bills which he considers to have particular relevance to future generations; the Knesset Speaker will inform the chairmen of the Knesset committees responsible for the areas covered by the laws or bills.**

**⊕ Knesset committee chairmen will invite the Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations to debates on bills or secondary legislation which he has declared to have particular relevance for future generations. The Committee chairmen will coordinate the timing of the debate with the Commissioner, allowing reasonable time – at his discretion and in accordance with the issue – for the collection of data and the preparation of an evaluation.**

**⊕ The Commissioner may participate in any debate of any Knesset Committee, at his discretion.**

- ✦ **Once the Commissioner has given his evaluation regarding a bill, a summary of this evaluation will be brought before the Knesset plenum . . .”**

## **Acquisition of Information**

***“The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations may request from any organization (ministry, local authority, government corporation) or body that may be investigated under the State Comptroller Law . . . any information, document or report in the possession of that body and which is required by the Commissioner for the implementation of his tasks; the aforesaid body will give the Commissioner the requested information.”***



# The Role of the Commissioner

## *The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations:* |

- ❑ Will give his assessment of bills debated in the Knesset which he considers to have particular relevance for future generations;
- ❑ Will give his assessment of secondary legislation, that has been brought to one of the Knesset committees for authorization or for consultation, and that he considers to have special relevance for future generations;
- ❑ Will present reports to the Knesset from time to time, at his discretion, with recommendations on issues with particular relevance for future generations.
- ❑ Will advise MK's on issues with particular relevance for future generations;
- ❑ Will present to the Knesset, once a year, a report on his activities in accordance with this law

# Activities

**273**

**INTERVENTIONS**

**BILLS AND PROPOSALS – 93**

**REPORTS -145**

**LEGISLATIVE RECOMENDATIONS – 73**

# Case Description

- Environment – Coastal Law.
- Education – Education  
2020
- Health – Childhood Obesity

**The Israeli Commission  
for Future Generations –  
was disabled in 2007.**

**In 2014 a bill for a new  
form of Commission was  
tabled in the Parliament**

# Lessons learnt

- Mold your future perception.
- Learn the political arena.
- Focus on few fundamental issues.
- Focus on the changing awareness issues.
- Work with the media.
- Create long-term political base for your institution.
- Never give up.

# THE MAGIC MOMENT

*This magic moment – when we risk parting from the familiar patterns of the past,*

*This magic moment when the past disappears and we dare to leave the dimension of known time, and to face the future.*

*This magic moment –creates a new reality.*

*This magic moment contains perfect acceptance of the entire universe,*

*In this magic moment – we walk past the fear of the future ,  
We allow our special melody to ring out and bring inspiration.*

*This magic moment, this moment only,  
Is the sign for mankind's ability  
To create his world and to shape his future.  
This magic moment, this moment alone, can create a  
future in the life of a state,  
Can bring the emotional strength and power – to fully  
embrace its identity,  
To look at its past, but not to be captive of the past,  
To a dimension of forgiveness, to a dimension of  
healing, to a dimension of acceptance,  
To the dimension of the future.*

# **Future Intelligence**

**Future Intelligence : is the human and social ability required to fashion and implement a desirable future, for humanity and all of biological diversity, and for the world.**