



B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL

November 28, 2008

The Honorable Barack Obama
President-elect of the United States
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. President-elect:

On behalf of B'nai B'rith International's more than 200,000 members and supporters, we warmly congratulate you on your historic victory in the presidential election. We applaud your momentous and inspiring achievement and promise our full support as you lead our nation through the urgent difficulties that confront us.

Among the pressing issues we know you will face in the coming months are domestic concerns such as the current economic crisis, health care, immigration reform, and the needs of America's seniors. The challenges abroad are no less imposing, as an unsettled Middle East and an aggressively hostile Iran will surely command the concerted attention of your administration.

B'nai B'rith applauds your stated commitment to Israel's security and your pledge to do everything in your power to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. We recognize that American leadership – and America's crucial partnership with its democratic ally Israel – are essential to our shared goal of a peaceful and stable Middle East. It greatly reassures us, therefore, to know that Israel, the Middle East's only democracy and a country that has battled terror and aggression since its independence, will have a staunch and sympathetic ally in the president of the United States.

Mr. President-elect, please accept our heartfelt wishes for your success and wellbeing as you assume our nation's highest office and go, in the words of the Bible, "from strength to strength." We look forward to working with your administration on issues of mutual concern over the next four years as you strive to achieve your vision, and ours, of a safer and more prosperous nation and a more secure world.

Respectfully,

Moishe Smith
President

Daniel S. Mariaschin
Executive Vice President