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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**Young Israeli Political Leaders to Visit Cleveland, Columbus & Portsmouth;
Delegates to Engage in Dialogue with Local Political Leaders, Study American Political
System**

COLUMBUS – From July 25-28, 2007, seven young political leaders from Israel will visit Cleveland, Columbus and Portsmouth, Ohio, as part of an eleven day political exchange program organized by the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL). Composed of delegates from across the Israeli political spectrum, this delegation is the sixteenth Israeli ACYPL delegation to visit the United States since ACYPL began conducting exchanges with the State of Israel in 1978. During this time, over one hundred and twenty young political leaders from Israel have traveled to the United States on ACYPL exchanges. The delegates kicked off their program with meetings and briefings in Washington, D.C. and will also visit Atlanta and Columbus, Georgia before concluding their program. During their stay in Ohio they will be hosted by Representative Todd Book, Assistant Minority Leader of the Ohio House of Representatives and a former ACYPL delegate to Northern Ireland.

Who: Young political leaders from across the Israeli political spectrum:

- **Ms. Keren Barak** (Kadima Party) - Owner and CEO, Contacti Strategic Consultation and Government Relations Company
- **Ms. Nily Charush** (Labor Party) - Senior Political Adviser, Mr. Eitan Cabel, Member of the Israeli Knesset
- **Mr. Dror Lalush** (Labor Party) - Deputy Mayor, City of Tiberias
- **Mr. Gil Messing** (Kadima Party) - Deputy Spokesperson, Kadima Party
- **Mr. Alon Rozen** (Labor Party) - Member, Yavne City Council
- **Ms. Adi Shay** (Meretz - Yachad Party) - Political/Legal Consultant, Mr. Avshalom Vilan, Member of the Israeli Knesset
- **Ms. Klarina Shpitz** (Pensioners Party) - Parliamentary Aide, Mr. Yitzhak Ziv, Deputy Knesset Speaker

What: Program highlights include:

- Meetings with Ohio Governor Ted Strickland, Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer, Ohio Attorney General Marc Dann, Ohio Auditor Mary Taylor, the Ohio State Senate and General Assembly, the Cleveland City Council, the Scioto County County Commission, Chillicothe Mayor Joseph P. Sulzer, the Chillicothe City Council and representatives from both the Democratic and Republican parties.
- Touring the Ohio Judicial Center, the campus of Shawnee State University, Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, the New Page Paper Mill, the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

When: July 25-26, 2007 (Columbus)
July 27-28, 2007 (Portsmouth)
July 28, 2007 (Cleveland)

Why: The purpose of this program is to:

- Expose the delegates to the American political system at the national, state and local levels.
- Give the delegates a new perspective on American culture.
- Allow the delegates to engage in dialogue on international issues and develop professional relationships with their American counterparts.

About The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL)

Recognized by the U.S. Congress as a pre-eminent catalyst for introducing rising political leaders and policy makers to international affairs and to each other, the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) is a bi-partisan, not-for-profit international exchange organization based in Washington, DC. Since its founding in 1966, ACYPL has conducted programs and exchanges with more than 90 nations, producing a global network of several thousand alumni. Former ACYPL participants include 38 sitting members of the U.S. Congress, 6 sitting U.S. governors and ambassadors, cabinet ministers and parliamentarians around the globe. For more information on ACYPL, please visit <http://www.acypl.org>.

PLEASE NOTE – TO SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATES OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACYPL OR THIS DELEGATION, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA SHOULD CONTACT MIKE GARRETSON AT 202-857-0999 or mgarretson@acypl.org.

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