THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

March 12, 2021

Mr. Gideon Taylor, President
The Conference on Jewish Material
Claims Against Germany
1359 Broadway, Suite 2000
New York, New York 10018

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I appreciate being updated by you, Mr. Greg Schneider, and Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat on the latest state of play with respect to Holocaust-era property restitution. I assure you I will keep high on my agenda resolution of remaining Holocaust-era property restitution issues, as well as support for survivors and Jewish communities devasted by the Holocaust. As you note, many survivors around the world face significant hardship, made even worse by the pandemic.

It is troubling and unacceptable that the work of restituting or providing a measure of compensation for property wrongfully seized during the Holocaust is still not complete in so many countries. The Department's Justice for Uncompensated Survivors Today (JUST) Act Report, delivered to Congress in March 2020, elucidates where progress has been made and where additional work remains, including in the countries you name. We and our dedicated chiefs of mission abroad will continue to work with countries to help them meet their commitments under the 2009 Terezin Declaration. Those countries can follow the lead of Luxembourg, whose recent agreement with the WJRO and the country's Jewish community demonstrates outstanding leadership. We will also advocate for the Claims Conference as it seeks support for the welfare of survivors.

Thank you for writing, and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Antony J. Blinken