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April 5, 2011

Mr. Morton A. Klein
National PresidentMs. Susan B. Tuchman, Esq.
Director, Center for Law and JusticeZionist Organization of America
Jacob and Libby Goodman ZOA House
4 East 34th Street
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Klein and Ms. Tuchman:

Thank you for your letter for April 1, 2011 regarding the Olive Tree Initiative.

Each year students, faculty and community members travel to the Middle East to meet with dozens of individuals from a wide variety of perspectives, during an academically intense fortnight. During the 2009 trip a scheduled appointment with a Palestinian Authority representative for the group was cancelled at the last minute, and the students were offered a substitute meeting with Dr. Aziz Duwaik in his capacity as the speaker of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) at the PLC office in Ramallah. The on-site leadership and students agreed to the meeting, which was outside the planned itinerary. The meeting should not have happened. This was discussed specifically and at length with the Olive Tree Initiative leadership and board after their return to the United States in the fall of 2009 in an effort to avoid any similar missteps in the future.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ramona H. Agrela".

Ramona H. Agrela
Associate Chancellor/
Chief of Staffcc: Diane Geocaris, Esq., Chief Campus Counsel
Jeffrey H. Margolis, Co-Chair, Rose Project
Dr. James Weiss, Co-Chair, Rose Project
Shalom C. Elcott, President & CEO, Jewish Federation
Phil Waldman, Chairman, Jewish Federation
Mark G. Yudof, President, University of California