

TRANSLATION FROM HEBREW

**[LETTERHEAD OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL,
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR, PLANNING ADMINISTRATION]**

To: Mr. Albert Lincoln
Secretary-General
Bahá'í World Centre

Date: 1 November 2007

Ref: TC 2007-19933

From: Architect Shamaí Asif
Director, Planning Administration
Ministry of Interior

Subject: TAMA 35 – Bahá'í Holy Places
Ref: your letter dated 22 October 2007

The provisions of TAMA35 include a mechanism for monitoring and updating (as detailed in section 18), once every 4 years from the day of its approval, which makes it possible to review and update the scheme.

This request regarding the updating of Table 2 will be used by us when assembling the necessary amendments and submitting them to the National Planning and Building Board, as our recommendation for the updating of the scheme documents.

Sincerely,

Architect Shamaí Asif
Planning Administration Director

Cc: Tamar Kfir – Manager of the Division for Combined Planning
Mr. Igal Shahaṛ – Haifa District Commissioner
Architect Adam Colman – Haifa District Planner
Yael Solomon – Acting Manager, Long Term Planning Department

BAHÁ'Í
INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY

Office of the Secretary General

Bahá'í World Centre, P.O. Box 155, 31001 Haifa, Israel
Telephone: 972 (4) 835 8194 Fax: 972 (4) 831 3357

22 OCTOBER 2007

OUR REF:
760.001

TRANSMITTED BY FAX: 02 567 0617

Architect Shamai Assif
Director, National Planning Administration
Ministry of the Interior
2 Kaplan Street
Jerusalem 91061

TAMA 35 – TREATMENT OF THE BAHÁ'Í HOLY PLACES

Dear Mr. Assif,

I would like to thank you warmly for the meeting held in your office on 16 October and for the positive attitude you manifested concerning the issues we raised.

As agreed, we are submitting herewith our formal request for the amendment and/or clarification of TAMA 35 with regard to its treatment of the Bahá'í Holy Places included in the nomination for inscription on the World Heritage List submitted by the State of Israel and registered by UNESCO under the number C-1220.

Our request is to amend the paragraph of List 2 dealing with Urban Complexes for Preservation in the Haifa District to read as follows:

מחוז חיפה – בינימינה (המושבה ההיסטורית), זכרון יעקב (המושבה ההיסטורית ומבנים ברחובות הסמוכים), חדרה (מרכז המושבה ההיסטורית), חיפה (מתחם בהאי – המושבה הגרמנית והרובע הפרסי, אדמות ההיכל ובית הקברות הבהאים).

We attach a copy of the locator map which was part of the nomination document submitted to UNESCO, and which shows the nine sites that comprise the nominated property. Seven of the nine sites are already identified in TAMA 35 as Complexes for Preservation, and the purpose of the above proposal is to recognize the connection between the two remaining sites (marked F and G on the locator map) and the adjacent sites B and E so that it is clear that they are included in the complexes which TAMA 35 has already designated for preservation.

This matter is of real importance and urgency because, in its evaluation of the nominated property, ICOMOS points to the incomplete coverage by TAMA 35 and “recommends that the State party urgently address the lack of adequate protection...” On this basis, the World Heritage Committee decided to refer the nomination “back to the State Party in order to allow it to ... put in place stronger protection....”

Attachment 5: Correspondence with Planning Administration

In order to pursue the inscription of the Bahá'í Holy Places at the next session of the World Heritage Committee, Israel must submit documentation by mid-November showing that action is being undertaken along the lines indicated above. Such documentation could take the form of a letter from the National Planning Administration either clarifying that the Persian Quarter and the Bahá'í Cemetery are included in the existing Complexes for Preservation or undertaking to ensure that the next update of TAMA 35 will include an amendment to List 2 along the lines proposed above.

Since you have indicated your intention to seek their views, we are sending copies of this submission to the Haifa District Planning Commission and the Israel Committee for World Heritage.

Yours sincerely,



Albert Lincoln
Secretary-General

Hebrew Translation

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Igal Shahr, Chair, Haifa District Planning Commission
Architect Adam Kolman, Chief Planner for the Haifa District
Professor Michael Turner, Chair, Israel Committee for World Heritage
Architect Danny Raz, Raz Architects

Translation of Hebrew excerpt above:

Haifa District – Binyamina (the historic colony), Zichron Yaakov (the historic colony and buildings in the adjacent streets), Hadera (center of the historic colony), Haifa (Bahá'í complex, the German colony and the Persian quarter; and the Bahá'í temple land and cemetery).