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September 26, 1997

Mr. Arnon Mantver
JDC-Israel
Givat Joint, Rupin Street
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Arnon,

I endorse your efforts to establish the Center for Migration, Jerusalem to deal with issues connected with immigration and absorption, as described in the proposal you submitted to me in 1994 and which we have discussed several times, including on your recent trip. I recommend that you create a non-profit organization ("amutah") that will focus on disseminating the knowledge accumulated in Israel about this subject to other countries, as outlined in your proposal.

I will support your endeavors to establish this amutah, and would like very much to see JDC represented properly in its structure. I also suggest that you analyze the potential relationship between the amutah and the UNHCR. When Mrs. Zina Harman retires as the UNHCR representative, we will appoint somebody to replace her.

This effort is a meaningful and resourceful way to use Israel's expertise to provide leadership in this area in the world community.

I would add that to make this endeavor truly international, under JDC's leadership, NYANA should be involved as well in view of their outstanding record in resettling both Jews and non-Jews.

Sincerely,

Michael Schneider
Executive Vice-President

MS:tb

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