

March 7th, 2004

Re: Comment on Proposals for Allocation of Possible Unclaimed Funds

I have reviewed the Proposals submitted and published on your website and the following are my comments:

Proposals which are not aimed to help or provide a service to needy survivors

1. In the Special Master's recommendation to use unclaimed residual funds, the Special Master emphasized many times the requirement of any proposal to be aimed to the **needy survivors**. Please note that some of the Proposals have nothing to do with the "needy survivors" requirement. Many of the Proposals do not even try to claim that they will direct the funds, if received, to the needy populations (e.g. see *Massua's Proposal*).

Proposals submitted by privately owned and profitable Ltd. companies

2. It is obvious that in order to meet justice and serve the needy survivors, any organization which will receive funds must be a non profit organization, which is listed, managed and supervised as such. A company that acts in favor of its shareholders **by definition** cannot serve the mere interest of the survivors. Please note that some of the Proposals were submitted by profitable companies (e.g. see *Proposal of Amigour Ltd, Israel or Meir Panim Ltd, Israel*).

Representation problem and the umbrella organizations

3. Some of the Proposals were submitted by organizations which claim to act as umbrella organizations of other organizations in a specific geographical area. If money is allocated to these organizations, it may be a waste of administrative costs. The latter will do nothing but take a portion for administrative costs and forward the remainder to the end organizations/agencies which will offer the service to the survivors.

4. It is clear that some of the umbrella organizations proclaim to act on behalf of bodies/organizations that had not empowered them to do so (and therefore it is likely that will also not see their shares in the funds, if received).

5. Take for example the case of the proposals filed by the **State of Israel** or by the **Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel**.

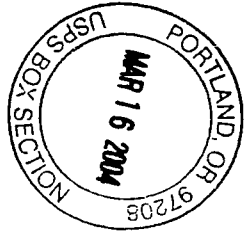
6. The State of Israel submitted "sub-proposals" that are merely duplications of other proposals submitted by the organizations themselves. During December 2003, the state of Israel published in the Israeli newspapers an ad inviting organizations to apply to an anonymous "potential fund for Holocaust survivors". Some Israeli organizations also submitted a copy of their proposals to this "potential fund" (in addition to their proposals sent directly to you), and the result is the duplications.

7. *Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel* - in its Proposal, the *Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel* claims that it represents 45 organizations in Israel. It is to be noted that some of these alleged "represented organizations" were not aware of any proposal on their behalf, and therefore submitted separate proposals. It is questionable of this "represented organizations" indeed empowered the *Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel* to act on their behalf and if they are indeed members of the *Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel*.

8. An interesting fact about the *Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel's* Proposal is the following: They claim to represent **45** organizations which are their member organizations. In the official publication "A guide to the Holocaust Survivors" (joint publication of the Claims Conference and the *Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel*) they list only **36** organizations as their members, and in the official website of the *Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel* only **29** member organizations are listed.

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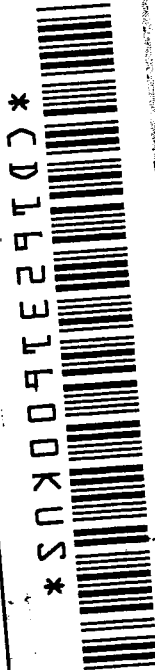
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