## NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

September 21, 2016

To the American Bahá'í Community

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

With the official dedication of the Continental Bahá'í House of Worship for South America in Chile less than one month away, the whole Bahá'í world reverberates with excitement at the unveiling of this magnificent symbol of the continuing progress, growth, and maturity of the community of the Greatest Name. For all the friends who have prayed for the successful completion of this Temple, and for those who have given sacrificially of their financial means for this end, this is indeed a wonderful victory.

A relatively small number of believers will have the bounty of being present for the dedication events in October. The National Spiritual Assembly of Chile had an enormous task in coordinating an invitation list—approximately 9,000 individuals from across the globe applied for only 5,000 spaces, the majority of which are reserved for individuals from South America per the guidance of the Universal House of Justice—and your patience has been appreciated throughout the process.

We have been informed that those from the United States who have been invited to attend will have already received letters of acceptance and an invitation to pay the registration fee. You may rest assured that the Dedication Committee in Chile made every effort to keep groups together; however, owing to a variety of circumstances, this was not always possible. Everyone who has not yet received an invitation letter is on the waiting list, unless they have been informed otherwise. The waiting list is maintained by the National Assembly of Chile, not the National Assembly of the United States. In the event that friends from the United States cancel, others from this country who are on the waiting list will be offered their spaces.

Should you have any questions, please direct them to <u>info-registro@templo.bahai.cl</u>.

We pray that reflection on this historic occasion—the dedication of the final Continental Bahá'í House of Worship in the world—may inspire each one of us to commit to the pressing work at hand and to wed ever more closely, through our own concerted efforts and with the assistance of an All-Loving Creator, the elements of worship and service in our communities.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

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Kenneth E. Bowers

Secretary