## NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY of the Bahá'ís of the United States

October 4, 2016

To All Local Spiritual Assemblies

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

The National Spiritual Assembly greets you with warm affection as you prepare to gather during the week of October 17–23, 2016, to cast your votes for your respective Regional Bahá'í Councils. Results of the elections will be announced at sunset on the Day of the Covenant, November 24, 2016. The Councils are emerging "as powerful instruments for diffusing the spirit of the Faith" with responsibility for devising and executing regional teaching and consolidation plans and helping to create strong Local Spiritual Assemblies.

With regard to the election of your Regional Council, it is crucial to this process that our records of your Local Assembly's membership are current. Ballots for the Council elections will be counted only from those individuals who are, according to our records, currently serving on an Assembly. If your Assembly has held a by-election since Ridván 2016, please immediately inform us of the results. The attached document providing guidance for reporting Local Assembly by-elections has been prepared to assist every member of your divinely ordained institution to participate in the sacred privilege of electing your Regional Bahá'í Council.

You are ever in our hearts and prayers that you may be blessed with His remembrance and praise.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Committel Conver

Kenneth E. Bowers Secretary

Attachments

cc: Continental Counselors residing in the United States All Regional Bahá'í Councils