

Ms. Judith Kiriaty-Matalon
Keren Mordechai Kiriaty
Kikar Habima 4
Tel Aviv
Israel 6425324

25 February 2018

Dear Ms Kiriaty-Matalon,

The Foundation for Jewish Heritage is dedicated to working internationally to support activities aimed at preserving Jewish built heritage in danger.

In order to tackle this issue from a comprehensive and strategic perspective, the Foundation commissioned research to map all the historic synagogues of Europe and, of the 3,318 sites recorded, each has been rated according to (i) significance and (ii) condition. This enabled the Foundation to identify the most important synagogue buildings most at risk and, as a result of further assessment, to narrow this list down to a top 19 prioritised sites.

I am pleased to inform you that the Etz Hayim synagogue in Izmir has been selected as one of these 19 sites, joining our 'watch' list of what we consider to be among the most important Jewish heritage preservation projects in Europe today.

We have been impressed by the historic importance of Etz Hayim synagogue with its remarkable frescoes, how it sits within the wider Izmir historic synagogues development project, and the potential for its future use as a place of commemoration, celebration and education in respect of the Jewish presence in Izmir, while also promoting the ideals of co-existence. We appreciate the quality of the restoration plans and the progress that has been made, the coalition of organisations associated and the quality of the experts recruited.

Please do bring this designation to the attention of all those associated with the project. We will now liaise with you further to understand in more detail what your current needs are and what role the Foundation can play in helping your efforts.

Yours,



Michael Mail
Chief Executive

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