



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS VYRIAUSYBĖS KANCELIARIJA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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Grand Rabbi Elyakim Schlesinger
President and Head of the Rabbinical Board
Committee for the Preservation
of Jewish Cemeteries in Europe

13 July 2015

41-2533

Esteemed Rabbi Elyakim Schlesinger,

On behalf of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania, I would like to thank you for your letter of 30 June 2015. We would like to once again reassure you that the Government of the Republic of Lithuania highly appreciates the importance of the Committee for the Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries in Europe and continues to adhere to the stance expressed at the meeting in April that the old Šnipiškės Jewish cemetery must be given proper perpetuation, with the involvement of you and the Jewish Community of Lithuania, following the provisions of the agreement signed in 2009.

May we bring to your attention the fact that the negotiations on the acquisition of the Sports Palace are currently underway with the owners *AB Šiaulių Bankas* and are expected to be completed in the near future.

Please be advised that no designing, planning or consulting procedures have been started as yet. Consultations with you, your special geotechnical expert Mr. Arie Klein and the Jewish Community of Lithuania will begin immediately following the registration of the site as public ownership. May we hereby reconfirm our commitment to have the car park built outside the cemetery area, and find agreement with you as regards the entrance to the building. Chairperson of the Jewish Community of Lithuania, Ms Faina Kukliansky, has been informed about this commitment.

Finally, we wish to reassure you that no works will be undertaken without the knowledge of or consent by you or the Jewish Community of Lithuania, so that the future Congress Centre may operate while ensuring proper respect for the sanctity of the cemetery.

Yours sincerely

Rimantas Vaitkus
First Deputy Chancellor of the Government

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