Translation

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany

Dear Rabbi Schneier,

thank you for your kind invitation to attend this year's presentation of the appeal of conscience award. I regret that I am unable to take part in this important event due to other commitments. In presenting this year's award to his Eminence Cardinal Agostino Casaroli and to Mr. Jay Pritzker, the Appeal of Conscience Foundation is honouring the endeavours of the Holy See in the cause of peace and freedom in Europe and the successful efforts of a business leader to foster mutual understanding and cooperation. Please convey my warm congratulations to Cardinal Casaroli and to Mr. Pritzker.

During the 25 years since its establishment, the Appeal of Conscience Foundation has made a major contribution to understanding between different denominations, to religious tolerance and intellectual freedom. The Europeans, conscious of the periods in their varied history when freedom has been denied them, are firmly committed to these goals.

I should like to express my appreciation of your efforts, Rabbi Schneier, and those of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, and wish you continuing success.

(sgd) Hans-Dietrich Genscher