

The Honorable Ur Jaddou
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
20 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20001

July 14, 2022

Dear Director Jaddou:

We are human rights, immigration, and civil rights organizations supporting United Stateless, a national organization led by stateless people in the United States.

[On December 15, 2021, Secretary Mayorkas committed the U.S. government](#) “to pursuing initiatives to enhance recognition of, and protections for, vulnerable populations, including stateless individuals within the United States.” In doing so, he noted: “Statelessness presents significant humanitarian concerns that require a careful and thoughtful response specifically tailored to the distinct and diverse needs of stateless persons.” Many of our organizations lauded this announcement, and noted the urgency of implementing this commitment.

In April 2022, [Secretary Mayorkas appeared on PBS NewsHour](#) addressing statelessness, noting that DHS would “move with the urgency that the vulnerabilities warrant” and aimed “to deliver on that this year, this fiscal year.”

Now, more than nine months after Secretary Mayorkas’ initial announcement and with only three months left in the fiscal year, these commitments have not been implemented, and the stateless community has not been apprised of the timeline or method of implementation. Stateless people continue to live without a pathway to legal status, experience indefinite immigration detention, face financial insecurity, and suffer separation from family members, without recourse in U.S. immigration law. We reiterate our message from December 2021: it is an urgent matter to implement this commitment to address the hardships that stateless people face.

We welcome any updates that you can provide about the Department’s implementation of this vital humanitarian commitment.

Respectfully,

United Stateless

Al Otro Lado
Alianza Americas
Boston University International Human Rights Clinic
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)
Center for Victims of Torture
Church World Service

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
Families For Freedom
Fellowship Southwest
Franciscan Action Network
Free Migration Project
Global Human Rights Clinic, The University of Chicago Law School
Haitian Bridge Alliance
Hawiati - MENA Statelessness Network
HIAS
Human Rights First
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project
International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)
Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA)
New York Immigration Coalition
Pope & Associates, PC
Refugee Council USA
Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights
Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network
The Advocates for Human Rights

CC:

Tae Johnson, Director, Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Amanda Baran, Chief, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Deb Fleischaker, Assistant Director for Policy, Immigration and Customs Enforcement