This year's theme for Holocaust Remembrance Day is: *Justice and Accountability in the Face of Genocide: What Have We Learned?*
This year we mark the 65th anniversary of the verdicts at the first Nuremberg trial, a watershed moment in international justice, and the 50th anniversary of the trial of Adolf Eichmann, one of the most high-profile postwar recountings of the Nazi genocide and a landmark in public awareness of the Holocaust. The excuse "I was just following orders" would no longer be a legitimate defense. I find this theme especially appropriate given the current state of affairs in the world. As we watch as nations rise up against persecution, inhumanity, and injustice, we must remember the Nuremberg and Eichmann trials and recommit ourselves to the notion that we all have the responsibility to intervene to save innocent lives and to hold perpetrators accountable whenever possible.

It is unfortunate that in 2011, we still witness inhumanity in the way man treats his fellow man. As we reflect on Holocaust Remembrance Day, we must also recommit ourselves to remain vigilant in ensuring history does not repeat itself. We honor those who were lost during the Holocaust, and reflect during the Days of Remembrance on the need for respect of all human beings, as well as the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments.