

November 30, 2022

The Honorable Antony Blinken  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable Janet Yellen  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Gina Raimondo  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Blinken, Secretary Yellen, and Secretary Raimondo:

Recent reporting has shed light on Chinese technology company Tiandy and its support of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) surveillance regime, which allows Beijing to carry out systemic human rights abuses. Tiandy has also reportedly exported its technology outside of the People's Republic of China (PRC), including to other authoritarian regimes. I write to urge you to review whether Tiandy has engaged in conduct that may meet the criteria for designation pursuant to Iran human rights sanctions of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act; the Global Magnitsky sanctions regime; the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020; or any other relevant provision of law.

Tiandy's chief executive, Dai Lin, is a member of the CCP and served as one of 2,270 delegates to the 18th Party Congress in 2012. Tiandy develops, produces, and markets cameras and related artificial intelligence-enabled software, including an "ethnicity tracking" tool that the company claims can be used to digitally detect someone's race. PRC officials use Tiandy's technology to track and torture Uyghurs, and other predominantly Muslim ethnic groups, in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR).

According to human rights activists, the Iranian regime has also begun purchasing advanced facial recognition software from Tiandy. The sale of the same technology to Tehran, including to the regime's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), raises serious questions about whether Tiandy's products are being used against peaceful Iranian protestors. Tiandy's publicly available marketing materials also reveal the company makes "smart" interrogation tables for use in the XUAR and elsewhere, which integrate a series of peripheral devices used in the interrogation process. These are for use alongside "tiger chairs," which have affixed leg irons and handcuffs that restrain occupants, often in very painful positions.

Tiandy is not currently subject to U.S. sanctions or restrictive economic measures. In light of the company's reported operations in both the XUAR and Iran, I request that you determine and report to Congress whether Tiandy has engaged in conduct that may meet the criteria for designation pursuant to the authorities provided by Congress. Additionally, if your review determines Tiandy has engaged in conduct that meets the designation criteria, I urge you to take appropriate action at once.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Rubio", is centered on the page.

Marco Rubio  
U.S. Senator