

Response to Question A21
Public Interest Statement

As described in Exhibit B (Nature of Application), Yazmi USA, LLC (“**Yazmi**”) and Silkwave Africa, LLC (“**Silkwave**”) have entered into an asset purchase agreement pursuant to which Silkwave agreed to purchase from Yazmi the Commission-licensed AfriStar-1 satellite, among other things. The agreement is expressly conditioned upon receipt of Commission and other required consents to the assignments that are the subject of this application.

The AfriStar satellite system provides Broadcasting Satellite Service (Sound) over a service area that includes Africa, the Middle East, and portions of South Asia and Western Europe. Service is currently provided through the AfriStar-1 satellite, which the FCC authorized in December 1999, and service will be expanded through AfriStar-2, authorized in January 2006. In licensing AfriStar-1, the Commission recognized that the satellite would provide a means for delivering vitally needed news, information, distance education, health, agricultural, weather and entertainment programming to the underserved audiences in its service region. Silkwave will continue and expand the operations of the AfriStar satellite system. The change in ownership will not adversely impact services to customers. The change in ownership and control of the licenses will not adversely impact competition in the provision of satellite services.

Furthermore, the application raises no foreign ownership or control issues. Neither Chi Capital (the direct parent of the proposed assignee Silkwave) nor Silkwave is a representative of any foreign government. In addition, the licenses to be assigned are not common carrier licenses and are therefore not subject to Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act. The AfriStar-1 satellite will be initially controlled by Intelsat pursuant to an agreement between Intelsat, Silkwave, and an affiliate of Silkwave, and the AfriStar satellite system will always be controlled in accordance with all applicable U.S. laws and policies and subject to any required regulatory approvals.

For the foregoing reasons, the applicants respectfully request that the Commission expeditiously approve the assignment of the AfriStar licenses from Yazmi to Silkwave.