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# Africare

Africare helps Africa, with programs in food, water, the environment, health and emergency humanitarian aid, as well as private-sector development and governance.

March 16, 1999

Ms. Marjorie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445-12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Amendment of Afrispace, Inc.'s Application for Authority to Construct, Launch and Operate a Subregional Africa and Middle Eastern Satellite Sound Broadcasting Transmission System,

File No. CSS-90-017 [IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-19900723-00002];  
Amendment  
File No. SAT-AMD-19990125-00016 (call sign 52367)

Dear Ms. Roman Salas:

On behalf of Africare Inc., I am writing to express our support for the Afrispace Inc. application for a private international satellite license. Africare is a private, non-profit organization, dedicated to improving the quality of life in rural Africa. For 28 years, Africare has provided assistance in five principal areas: agriculture, water resource development, environmental management, health and emergency humanitarian aid. Our headquarters are in Washington, D.C., with field offices in 28 African countries.

The AfriStar satellite will undoubtedly revolutionize development on the African continent by providing millions of people in the cities and rural areas access to information on the radio through the Africa Learning Channel. The AfriStar satellite will broadcast educational information on health, agriculture and innumerable other critical subjects in local languages. This invaluable tool will counter the spread of diseases such as AIDS; it will also promote self-sufficiency by teaching farming techniques

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**President:**  
**C. PAYNE LUCAS**



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and irrigation.

The direct audio broadcasting transmission capabilities that will allow Africare to communicate with our field offices, as well as, other development programs and government officials all over Africa will be of great service to us.

This unprecedented venture will serve an invaluable role in improving the daily lives of Africans through education. It will also advance President Clinton's goals of promoting democracy, economic and social development through a partnership with African people.

Today the F.C.C. has a rare opportunity to promote the progress of mankind by amending the Afrispace application. In that effort we urge you to grant AfriStar a private international satellite license.

Sincerely,

*C. Payne Lucas*  
**C. Payne Lucas**  
President  
Africare