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*THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER*

10 March 1999

Ms Marjorie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445-12th Street SW
Washington DC, 20554

ቀን _____
Date _____
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Ref No. _____

Re: Amendment of AfriSpace Inc.'s Application for Authority to Construct, Launch, and Operate a Sub-regional Africa and Middle Eastern Satellite Sound Broadcasting Transmission System, File no. CSS-90-017 (IBSS File no. SAT-LOA-19900723-00002) (Amendment File no. SAT-AMD-19990125-00016 call sign 52367)

Dear Ms Salas:

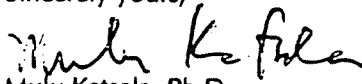
My responsibilities in the Office of the Prime Minister center largely on monitoring the inflow and management of foreign financed projects/programs undertaken both at the Federal and regional levels. Ensuring the timely and effective utilization of resources is also an integral component of my work. Optimal execution of these responsibilities necessitates a periodic and timely flow of information between the various stakeholders.

In addition to the traditional channel of communication, I firmly support the introduction of technologies capable of disseminating information on the investment priorities and undertakings of the Government to the public at large. The aim is to allow information to flow regularly between policy makers and those responsible in implementing development programs at the grass root level. Information flows are important both to identify problems and to take action to rectify them.

I, therefore, welcome the AfriSpace proposal to furnish radio programming to Africa via satellite.

I, therefore, urge the Federal Communications Commission to approve the AfriSpace application.

Sincerely yours,


Mulu Ketsela, Ph.D.

Head, Foreign Resource Inflows and Utilization Section, with the Rank of Minister,
Office of the Prime Minister



177-W-5-2
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THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

አዲስ አበባ-ኢትዮጵያ
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

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)

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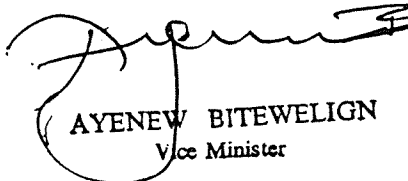
In recognition of the pivotal role of effective communication for sustainable development, Africa is now determined to enhance its technological communication capacity as a matter of first priority. Ethiopia, too, is undertaking a major effort to enter the new millennium by narrowing the all-too-great gap in communication technology by which its endeavors in economic planning, particularly in the agrarian economy, is hampered. Our attempt to catch up will require the deployment of cost-effective modern communication technologies tailored to meet our peculiar needs.

In the light of these considerations, we welcome AfriSpace's proposal to establish a satellite communication system in Africa. Once this system is in place, I am confident that a significant step forward would be made in Africa's effort to strengthen its capabilities in mass communication.

I therefore support approval of AfriSpace's application.

With the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,


AYENEW BITEWELIGN
Vice Minister

