

BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

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Ms. Marjorie Romar Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
The Portals
455-12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Salas.

Subject : Amendment of AfriSpace Inc. for Authority to Launch and Operate a Satellite Sound Broadcasting Transmission System, File No. CSS-90-017 (IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-19900723); Amendment File No. SAT-AMD-19990125-00016 (Call Sign 52367)

I am writing this letter to express our support for AfriSpace's commendable proposal to launch and operate a satellite sound broadcasting transmission system for Africa.

As you may be aware, the African Development Bank (ADB) has been involved in the promotion of the economic development and social progress of Africa since 1963. Presently, it is the leading development finance institution, that is engaged in facilitating the mobilization and flow of external and domestic resources to accelerate the reduction of poverty and to promote private sector development and good governance in the Regional Member Countries. In its operational programmes and activities the Bank pays special attention to pro-poverty schemes, gender equity, environment and the cross-cutting issues entailed in the development process.

The proposal to introduce digital satellite broadcasting in Africa can play a vital role in support of our development endeavour outlined above. Hence, in view of the foregoing we urge the FCC to extend its approval to AfriSpace's application to launch a modern satellite system of communication in Africa.

Yours sincerely,

M. H. MIDOUCHE
Head Cooperation Unit