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ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

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Date _____

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Ref.No. _____

20 March 1999

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

Re. Amendment of AfriSpace Inc.'s Application to Construct, Launch, and Operate a Sub-regional 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. Salas

I am writing this letter on behalf of the faculty members of the Department of Philosophy of the Addis Ababa University. We have been following with keen interest the AfriSpace project since its inception in 1990 and also its recent successful launching of the AfriSpace satellite.

This newly introduced communication technology will undoubtedly help ordinary Africans to receive diverse and quality information, entertainment and educational programs. When AfriSpace's project becomes a reality, it will be instrumental to overcome the choice limiting nature and restricted reach of national broadcasting services. Access to AfriSpace's high quality radio broadcasting system will gradually enhance the quality of the material broadcasted; moreover, it will facilitate intercultural dialogue among the people of the region.

No less important, the use of a single satellite by the countries of Africa and the Middle East is a means to effectively manage the use of orbital space and to minimize possible future orbital pollution.

We therefore strongly recommend and approve the AfriSpace project and request the Federal Communications Commission to accept the AfriSpace application.

Sincerely,

Girma Taye
Chair, Department of Philosophy
Addis Ababa University



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