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

Dear Ms Salas,

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 (IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-19900723-00002); Amendment File No. SAT-AMD-19990125-00016 (Call Sign 52367)

I am writing in my capacity as international consultant seconded by the UN to the office of the Ombudsman (Protecteur du Citoyen) of Haiti, and in my capacity as former international legal adviser to the Office of the Special Prosecutor of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, in support of the above mentioned application of AfriSpace for the renewal of its licence for satellite based digital radio broadcasting to Africa.

In these positions I have been concerned with the promotion of the rule of law in situations where the legacy of the past is not conducive to democracy and freedom. In such circumstances, one of the main obstacles to the success of this work is a low level of public awareness of the context within which justice can be attained, whether from incumbent governments, or members of former regimes.

I see the provision of satellite based digital radio programming, to reach predominantly rural and illiterate populations in Africa, as an essential tool in promoting the rule of law and respect for human rights throughout the continent.

I therefore have no hesitation in endorsing the application of AfriSpace to the Federal Communications Commission for renewal of its operating licence for this purpose.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the lower of the two addresses above should you require additional information.

Yours sincerely,

Roger Briottet
Consultant to the Office of the Ombudsman, Haiti