



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture
Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
Tel : +33 (0)1 45 68 10 00
Fax : +33 (0)1 45 68 55 55

The Director-General

Reference DG/1.8/99

Dear Ms Salas,

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) wishes to express its support for the AfriSpace Inc. application that is currently pending before the Federal Communications Commission (File No. CSS-90-017 [IBIS File No. SAT-LOA-19900723-000021]; Amendment file No. SAT-AMD-19990125-00016 (call sign 52367)). UNESCO's mission in the field of education is geared towards creating the conditions for all people, around the world, to be able to learn, irrespective of factors of space, time, age and circumstance. This aim is particularly pursued through UNESCO's Learning Without Frontiers (LWF) and Education for All (EFA) programmes.

Following UNESCO's Audience Africa (1995) Conference, and in accordance with its Priority Africa Strategy, our Organization is particularly interested in the educational potential of a service such as the AfriSpace project to provide direct audio broadcasting transmission capabilities throughout Africa, more specifically to reach large audiences that have so far remained excluded and marginalized. Many of our development programmes and those of our collaborating partners, both locally in Africa and internationally, could benefit from such services that would furthermore allow these programmes to be interlinked.

For the above reasons, we strongly urge the FCC to approve the AfriSpace Inc. application.

Yours sincerely,

Federico Mayor

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