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BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS
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Application of)
)
ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES ENTERPRISE)
)
for Renewal of Exemption Authority)
Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109)
_____)

Dockets OST-98-3726 -14
OST-98-4345 -11

**APPLICATION OF ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES ENTERPRISE
FOR RENEWAL OF EXEMPTION AUTHORITY**

Communications with respect to this document
should be sent to:

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Counsel for Ethiopian Airlines Enterprise

Dated: January 02, 2003

Notice: Any interested person may file and serve an answer in support or opposition to
this application. The due date for such answers is January 17, 2003.

BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC

Application of)	
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ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES ENTERPRISE)	Dockets OST-98-3726
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for Renewal of Exemption Authority)	OST-98-4345
Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109)	
)	

**APPLICATION OF ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES ENTERPRISE
FOR RENEWAL OF EXEMPTION AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109 and 14 CFR Part 377, Ethiopian Airlines Enterprise ("Ethiopian") hereby applies for renewal of the exemption authority last granted by Department Notice of Action Taken (NOAT) dated January 8, 2002. The above-referenced NOAT renewed authority for Ethiopian to engage in foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and the coterminal points Newark, New Jersey and Washington, DC via Rome, Italy (without U.S.-Rome traffic rights).

Ethiopian relies upon the provisions of 14 CFR Part 377 as continuing its exemption authority in force pending the Department's final disposition of this renewal application.

In support whereof, Ethiopian states the following:

1. On January 8, 2002, Ethiopian was granted a one-year renewal of its exemption authority to provide scheduled combination service between Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Newark, New Jersey and Washington, DC via Rome, Italy. That authority is set to expire January 8, 2003. See NOAT dated January 8, 2002.

2. Ethiopian has also applied for issuance of an initial foreign air carrier permit in Docket 98-3727. That application was filed April 9, 1998, and has been pending for some four and one-half years.

3. Ethiopian has continued to operate scheduled combination service over the routing Addis Ababa-Rome-Newark-Washington, DC since the exemption authority was granted. Ethiopian currently operates two weekly round-trip flights over this routing with Boeing B-767-300 aircraft.

4. Renewal of Ethiopian's exemption authority is warranted by the same public interest considerations that supported the original grant of authority. Principles of comity and reciprocity support renewal of the exemption authority as the operations of Ethiopian afford substantial service benefits to consumers, including competitive service options. Indeed Ethiopian's flights constitute the only direct, same-plane services between the United States and Ethiopia currently offered to the traveling public.

5. As noted, Ethiopian relies upon the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 558(c) as implemented by 14 CFR Part 377 to continue its exemption authority in force pending final Department action on this application. Ethiopian, in this regard, request renewal of the exemption authority for a minimum period of two years.

WHEREFORE, Ethiopian Airlines Enterprise requests renewal of its exemption authority as last granted by Notice of Action Taken dated January 8, 2002, for at least a period of two years.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Goldman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "G".

Michael F. Goldman
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Washington, DC 20007
(202) 944-3305

Counsel for Ethiopian Airlines Enterprise

Dated: January 02, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this 2nd day of January, 2003 served a copy of the foregoing Application of Ethiopian Airlines Enterprise for Renewal of Exemption Authority on all persons named on the attached Service List by causing a copy to be sent first-class mail, postage prepaid.

Michael Goldman

Michael F. Goldman