APPLICATION OF
HAITI AIR FREIGHT INTERNATIONAL, S.A.
FOR RENEWAL OF EXEMPTION AUTHORITY

Communications with respect to this document should be served upon:

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NOTICE: Any person may support or oppose this application by filing an answer and serving a copy of the answer on counsel for Haiti Air Freight International, S.A., and upon persons served with this application no later than May 27, 1997.

Dated: May 12, 1997
BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Docket No. OST-96-1386
May 12, 1997

APPLICATION OF
HAITI AIR FREIGHT INTERNATIONAL, S.A.
FOR RENEWAL OF EXEMPTION AUTHORITY

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 40109, Haiti Air Freight International, S.A. ("HAF") respectfully seeks renewal of its exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 41301, which permits HAF to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of property and mail between the co-terminal points Miami, Florida, New York, New York and San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the terminal point Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The renewal is requested for a period of one year. By this application, HAF intends to invoke the automatic extension provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 558(c) and Part 377 of the Department’s Special Regulations. In support of the application, HAF states as follows:

1. HAF is a flag carrier of Haiti and currently provides all-cargo service between Miami and Haiti pursuant to wet lease arrangements with other authorized airlines as is required by its exemption authority.
2. By Notice of Action Taken, dated May 20, 1996, the Department granted HAF authority to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of property and mail between the terminal point Port-au-Prince, Haiti and the co-terminal points Miami, New York and San Juan. It also granted authority to operate charters pursuant to Part 212. The exemption authority was granted for one year and currently is set to expire on May 20, 1997.

3. HAF currently holds a permit issued by the Haiti Aviation Authority which authorizes scheduled, non-scheduled and charter service between Haiti, on the one hand, and, on the other, Miami, New York, San Juan, U.S. Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, Curacao, Panama and Montreal. Haiti is a contracting state to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

4. In the NOAT, the Department found that reciprocity with Haiti justified grant of the exemption. That continues to be the case today. To HAF's knowledge, no U.S. carriers are experiencing problems in serving Haiti. In addition, grant of the authority is in the public interest because HAF will continue to be able to provide needed capacity in the U.S.-Haiti market.
WHEREFORE, Haiti Air Freight International, S.A., respectfully requests that the Department of Transportation grant this application for renewal of its exemption authority.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATED: May 12, 1997