



Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2006-657

Ottawa, 30 November 2006

**Prabhakaran Selvadurai, on behalf of a corporation to be incorporated
Across Canada**

Application 2006-0186-6

Public Hearing at Québec, Quebec

11 September 2006

DMG Middle East – Category 2 specialty service

*In this decision, the Commission **approves** an application for a broadcasting licence to operate a new Category 2 specialty programming undertaking.*

The application

1. The Commission received an application by Prabhakaran Selvadurai, on behalf of a corporation to be incorporated, for a broadcasting licence to operate a national, third language, ethnic Category 2¹ specialty programming undertaking to be known as DMG Middle East.
2. The applicant proposed to offer a third-language, general interest service that would be devoted to the Arabic-, Farsi- and Urdu-speaking communities. The applicant proposed that not less than 90% of all programming broadcast during the broadcast week would be in Arabic, Farsi and Urdu.
3. All of the programming would be drawn from the following categories set out in Schedule 1 to the *Specialty Services Regulations, 1990*: 1 News; 2(a) Analysis and interpretation; 2(b) Long-form documentary; 3 Reporting and actualities; 4 Religion; 5(a) Formal education and pre-school; 5(b) Informal education/Recreation and leisure; 6(a) Professional sports; 6(b) Amateur sports; 7(a) Ongoing drama series; 7(b) Ongoing comedy series (sitcoms); 7(c) Specials, mini-series or made-for-TV feature films; 7(d) Theatrical feature films aired on TV; 7(e) Animated television programs and films; 7(f) Programs of comedy sketches, improvisations, unscripted works, stand-up comedy; 7(g) Other drama; 8(a) Music and dance other than music video programs or clips; 8(b) Music video clips; 8(c) Music video programs; 9 Variety; 10 Game shows; 11 General entertainment and human interest; 12 Interstitials; 13 Public service announcements; and 14 Infomercials, promotional and corporate videos.

¹ The Category 2 services are defined in *Introductory statement – Licensing of new digital pay and specialty services*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-171, 14 December 2000.

4. The applicant also requested that it be authorized, by condition of licence, to broadcast up to six minutes per hour of local advertising.
5. The Commission did not receive any interventions in connection with this application.

Commission's analysis and determinations

6. The Commission is satisfied that the application is in conformity with all applicable terms and conditions announced in *Introductory statement – Licensing of new digital pay and specialty services – Corrected Appendix 2*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-171-1, 6 March 2001 (Public Notice 2000-171-1). Furthermore, given that the service will offer more than 90% of its programming in third-languages, the Commission is satisfied that the application falls under *Revised approach for the consideration of broadcasting licence applications proposing new third-language ethnic Category 2 pay and specialty services*, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2005-104, 23 November 2005 (Public Notice 2005-104). Accordingly, the Commission **approves** the application by Prabhakaran Selvadurai, on behalf of a corporation to be incorporated, for a broadcasting licence to operate the national, general interest, third-language, ethnic Category 2 specialty programming undertaking, DMG Middle East.
7. With respect to the request to broadcast up to six minutes per hour of local advertising, the Commission notes that, as set out in Public Notice 2005-104, the Commission generally permits new third-language services to broadcast up to six minutes per hour of local advertising, unless an intervenor makes a compelling case to the contrary. In the present case, there were no interventions opposing the proposal to broadcast local advertising. The Commission therefore **approves** the applicant's request for authority to broadcast up to six minutes per hour of local advertising. A **condition of licence** to that effect is set out in the appendix to this decision.
8. The Commission notes that DMG Middle East will devote at least 90% of its program schedule to programming in the Arabic, Farsi and Urdu languages. In accordance with Public Notice 2005-104, the remainder of the program schedule, i.e., up to 10%, may be in one or both official languages. The Commission encourages the applicant to ensure that all such programming serves to promote Canada's linguistic duality.
9. The licence will expire 31 August 2013, and will be subject to the **conditions** set out in Public Notice 2000-171-1, as well as the **conditions** set out in the appendix to this decision.

Issuance of the licence

10. A licence will be issued once the applicant has satisfied the Commission, with supporting documentation, that the following requirements have been met:
 - an eligible Canadian corporation has been incorporated in accordance with the application in all material respects;

- the applicant has entered into a distribution agreement with at least one licensed distributor; and
- the applicant has informed the Commission in writing that it is prepared to commence operations. The undertaking must be operational at the earliest possible date and in any event no later than 36 months from the date of this decision, unless a request for an extension of time is approved by the Commission before 30 November 2009. In order to ensure that such a request is processed in a timely manner, it should be submitted at least 60 days before that date.

Secretary General

This decision is to be appended to the licence. It is available in alternative format upon request, and may also be examined in PDF format or in HTML at the following Internet site: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca>

Appendix to Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2006-657

Conditions of licence

1. The licence will be subject to the conditions set out in *Introductory statement – Licensing of new digital pay and specialty services – Corrected Appendix 2*, Public Notice CRTC 2000-171-1, 6 March 2001, except for condition 4d) which will not apply, and condition 4a) which is replaced by the following:

Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs b) and c), the licensee shall not broadcast more than twelve (12) minutes of advertising material during each clock hour, no more than six (6) minutes of which may consist of local advertising.

2. The licensee shall provide a national, general interest, third-language, ethnic Category 2 specialty programming service devoted to the Arabic-, Farsi- and Urdu-speaking communities.
3. The programming shall be drawn exclusively from the following categories, as set out in Schedule I to the *Specialty Services Regulations, 1990*, as amended from time to time:

1 News

2 (a) Analysis and interpretation

(b) Long-form documentary

3 Reporting and actualities

4 Religion

5 (a) Formal education and pre-school

(b) Informal education/Recreation and leisure

6 (a) Professional sports

(b) Amateur sports

7 Drama and comedy

(a) Ongoing drama series

(b) Ongoing comedy series (sitcoms)

(c) Specials, mini-series or made-for-TV feature films

(d) Theatrical feature films aired on TV

(e) Animated television programs and films

(f) Programs of comedy sketches, improvisations, unscripted works, stand-up comedy

(g) Other drama

8 (a) Music and dance other than music video programs or clips

(b) Music video clips

(c) Music video programs

9 Variety

10 Game shows

- 11 General entertainment and human interest
- 12 Interstitials
- 13 Public service announcements
- 14 Infomercials, promotional and corporate videos

4. Not less than 90% of all programming broadcast during the broadcast week shall be in the Arabic, Farsi and Urdu languages.
5. Where the licensee broadcasts religious programming as defined in *Religious Broadcasting Policy*, Public Notice CRTC 1993-78, 3 June 1993, the licensee shall adhere to the guidelines set out in sections III.B.2.a) and IV of that public notice with respect to the provision of balance and ethics in religious programming, as amended from time to time.

For the purposes of the conditions of this licence, including condition of licence no. 1, *broadcast day* means the period of up to 18 consecutive hours, beginning each day not earlier than six o'clock in the morning and ending not later than one o'clock in the morning of the following day, as selected by the licensee, or any other period approved by the Commission.