IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	
v.)	Criminal No. 1:07CR209 (TSE)
)	
WILLIAM J. JEFFERSON,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

REQUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE (LETTER ROGATORY)

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, in the United States of America, presents its compliments to the appropriate judicial authority of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and requests international judicial assistance to obtain evidence to be used in a criminal proceeding before this Court in the captioned matter.

This Court requests the assistance described herein as necessary in the interests of justice. The assistance requested is that the appropriate judicial authority of the Federal Republic of Nigeria compel the appearance of the below named individuals to give evidence, under oath, as to their knowledge of the facts that are relevant to the issues in this case.

A. Identity and Addresses of Persons to Be Examined

The names and addresses of those to be examined are:

- Suleiman Yahyah
 c/o Alh. Abdullahi Ibrahim
 Abdullahi Ibrahim & Co.
 #45, Haile Selassie Street
 Garki, Abuja Nigeria
- 2. Atiku Abubakar Abuja, Nigeria

B. Nature and Purpose of the Proceedings and Summary of the Facts

1. The Pending Criminal Proceeding

This Request for International Judicial Assistance relates to a criminal proceeding currently pending against William J. Jefferson in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Mr. Jefferson was indicted on June 4, 2007. The 16-count indictment charges Mr. Jefferson with conspiracy, bribery, wire fraud, violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ("FCPA") (15 U.S.C. § 78dd-2(a)), racketeering and other offenses. The charges relate to dealings with an American company called iGate, Inc., a Nigerian company called W2-IBBS, and other companies seeking to do business in Africa.

As particularly relevant to this request for assistance, the indictment alleges that Mr. Jefferson conspired to bribe foreign officials in violation of the FCPA and that he agreed or offered to pay a bribe in violation of the FCPA. The indictment alleges that bribes were to be paid to Mr. Atiku Abubakar, then the Vice President of Nigeria, and to unnamed lower ranking Nigerian government officials. The indictment alleges that the purpose of the bribes was to cause the officials to intercede with NITEL so that NITEL would allow a Nigerian joint venture formed by W2-IBBS and Rosecom to provide high speed internet and other telecommunications services over existing telephone lines in Nigeria, using iGate technology. The indictment alleges that Suleiman Yahyah, the president of Rosecom, was a participant in the bribery conspiracy and was to be responsible for paying bribes to lower ranking government officials.

Mr. Jefferson denies the allegations in the indictment and intends to defend against them at trial. The previously-scheduled trial date has been postponed because of a pending interlocutory appeal. No new trial date has been set.

2. Knowledge of Persons to be Examined

In order to defend himself in this case, Mr. Jefferson needs to obtain the testimony of persons who have knowledge of the relevant events, including those that are the basis for the allegations of conspiracy to bribe foreign officials. Because the persons described below have knowledge of these matters, the interests of justice will be furthered if these persons are deposed, under oath, as to their knowledge of the facts.

Atiku Abubakar, the former vice president of Nigeria, was allegedly a direct participant in the bribery conspiracy. The indictment against Mr. Jefferson alleges that Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Abubakar had a private meeting in which Mr. Jefferson offered to pay a bribe to Mr. Abubakar. The prosecutors in the criminal proceeding have disclosed to Mr. Jefferson that Mr. Abubakar has made statements, either through his lawyers, to the media or to Nigerian authorities, denying any role in accepting bribes in relation to the charges in this case.

Suleiman Yahyah was the president of Rosecom, a Nigerian company that was a participant in the joint venture seeking to provide high speed internet and other telecommunications services using iGate technology in Nigeria. Mr. Yahyah has knowledge about Rosecom's role in the joint venture and about the activities of the other participants, including W2-IBBS and Lori Mody. The indictment alleges that Mr. Yahyah participated in discussions about bribing Nigerian officials and that he was to be responsible for bribing unnamed lower ranking Nigerian officials. The prosecutors have disclosed to Mr. Jefferson that Mr. Yahyah has made statements, either through his lawyers, to the media or to Nigerian authorities, denying any role in paying bribes in relation to the charges in this case.

C. Evidence to Be Obtained

The evidence to be obtained consists of testimony for use in the trial of the criminal proceeding against William J. Jefferson. This Court respectfully requests that a Nigerian judicial authority compel the persons identified above to appear and be deposed, under oath, as to their knowledge of the facts that are relevant to the issues in this case.

1. Questions to Be Asked of Suleiman Yahyah

- 1. Describe the role of Rosecom in the joint venture with W2-IBBS for the provision of high speed internet and other telecommunications services in Nigeria, and describe the activities that Rosecom was to undertake as part of the joint venture.
- 2. How did you and Rosecom become aware of iGate and the possibility of a joint venture with iGate or W2-IBBS?
- 3. Describe any conversations or other communications you may have had with William Jefferson regarding obtaining the assistance of Nigerian government officials for the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 4. Describe any conversations or other communications you may have had with William Jefferson regarding the payment of money or things of value to Nigerian government officials in exchange for their assistance to the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 5. State whether you ever agreed with William Jefferson that you would arrange for the payment of money or things of value to Nigerian government officials in exchange for their use of their influence or positions to obtain commitments from NITEL for the benefit of the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 6. State whether you ever agreed with William Jefferson that money or other things of value should be paid to Atiku Abubakar in exchange for his use of his influence or position to obtain commitments from NITEL for the benefit of the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 7. State whether you ever paid money or other things of value to any Nigerian government officials in exchange for their providing assistance to the Rosecom/W2-IBBS joint venture.
- 8. On or about June 9, 2005, you placed a telephone call to Vernon Jackson concerning the negotiations with NITEL and possible communication between Mr. Jefferson and Atiku Abubakar. What if anything did you expect Mr. Jefferson to do? Did you have any direct communication with Mr. Jefferson about the problem?

9. Did you provide a handwritten statement to the Nigerian Economic and Financial Crimes Commission relating to iGate and Mr. Jefferson? Is this document, marked with the identifying numbers MLAT-N01474 through MLAT-N01482 (copy attached as Exhibit A; to be shown to Mr. Yahyah at the deposition) an accurate copy of that statement? Are the matters set forth in this statement true?

2. Questions to Be Asked of Atiku Abubakar

- 1. Describe any conversations or other communications you may have had with William Jefferson regarding the joint venture between W2-IBBS and Rosecom for the provision of high speed internet and other telecommunications services in Nigeria.
- 2. Describe any conversations or other communications you may have had with William Jefferson regarding the payment of money or other things of value to you or to someone designated by you in exchange for your assistance to the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 3. Describe any conversations or other communications you may have had with any other persons regarding the payment of money or other things of value to you in exchange for your assistance to the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 4. State whether William Jefferson ever offered to pay to you, or to some other person or entity of your choosing, money or other things of value in return for your use of your influence or position to obtain commitments from NITEL for the benefit of the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 5. State whether William Jefferson ever paid to you, or to some other person or entity of your choosing, money or other things of value in return for your use of your influence or position to obtain commitments from NITEL for the benefit of the W2-IBBS/Rosecom joint venture.
- 6. Describe in detail the meeting that took place on or about July 18, 2005 between you and Mr. Jefferson at your Potomac, Maryland home, including but not limited to:
 - How did the meeting come to be arranged?
 - What did you know about the purpose of the meeting before July 18, 2005?
 - What did you know about the Nigerian telecommunications venture before July 18, 2005?
 - What did Mr. Jefferson tell you when the two of you met privately on July 18, 2005?
 - Did Mr. Jefferson request your assistance?
 - What if anything did he ask you to do?
 - What was your response?
 - On July 18, 2005, or at any time before or after, did Mr. Jefferson offer to provide you with anything of value in exchange for your assistance with the telecommunications venture?
 - On July 18, 2005, or at any time before or after, did Mr. Jefferson offer to provide

- your wife, Jennifer Douglas Abubakar, or any organization with which she was associated, anything of value in exchange for your assistance with the telecommunications venture?
- On July 18, 2005, or at any time before or after, did you agree to receive anything of value in exchange for your assistance with the telecommunications venture?
- On July 18, 2005, or at any time before or after, did you or Mrs. Abubakar receive anything of value from Mr. Jefferson?
- 7. On July 31, 2005, or at any time before or after, did you or Mrs. Abubakar receive anything of value from Mr. Jefferson?
- 8. Describe in detail the meeting that took place in or about August 2003 at your Potomac, Maryland home involving Mr. Jefferson and representatives of Netlink Digital Television, including but not limited to:
 - Did you know Mr. Jefferson prior to the meeting?
 - What were you told about the telecommunications venture?
 - Were you asked to provide any form of assistance to the venture at that time?

D. Special Procedures

This Court respectfully requests the appropriate judicial authority of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to follow the following special procedures.

1. Requirements That the Evidence Be Given on Oath or Affirmation and Specific Form to Be Used.

The examinations of the persons listed above should be taken under oath before (1) a secretary of embassy, consul general, vice-consul or consular agent of the United States of America or any officer authorized to administer oaths under the laws of the United States or of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, or (2) before a person appointed by the court and empowered to administer oaths and take testimony.

This Court further requests that you require that the testimony given during the depositions be given under the following oath: "I, [name of deponent], do swear (or affirm) that the testimony that I am about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God."

In the event that the law of Nigeria does not permit the swearing of an oath by particular witnesses, the duly appointed office shall make inquiry of such witness to ensure that he/she understands the gravity of the procedure and affirms that his/her statement will be true and correct in all respects.

2. Other Special Methods or Procedures to be Followed

Except to the extent that such rules are incompatible with the internal laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the examinations shall be taken under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provided, however, that the scope and manner of the examination and cross-examination at the deposition shall be in accordance with the Federal Rules of Evidence as would apply during trial in a United States court.

The examination shall be taken before a commercial stenographer and a verbatim transcript shall be produced.

The Court further requests that counsel for defendant William J. Jefferson and for the United States of America be notified of the date, time and place of each of the depositions and that they be allowed to appear at each of the depositions and to participate by asking questions of the deponents. If the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria do not allow foreign attorneys to appear before the appropriate judicial body of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, this Court requests that local counsel in the Federal Republic of Nigeria be allowed to appear at each of the depositions and to participate by asking questions of the deponents.

E. Request for Notification of the Time and Place for Examination of the Witnesses

This Court respectfully requests that the following individuals be notified of the time and place of the examination of the witnesses and supplies the identity and address of the persons to be notified.

Please send notice of the time and place of the examination of the witnesses to:

Honorable T.S. Ellis, III
United States District Judge
United States District Court for the
Eastern District of Virginia
Alexandria Division
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314
U.S.A.

Robert P. Trout Trout Cacheris, PLLC 1350 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20036 U.S.A.

Mark D. Lytle, AUSA United States Attorney's Office 2100 Jamieson Avenue Alexandria, VA 22314 U.S.A.

Please also send the original verbatim transcripts of the depositions to:

Clerk of the Court
United States District Court for the
Eastern District of Virginia
Alexandria Division
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314
U.S.A.

F. Reciprocity

This Court appreciates the appropriate judicial authority's assistance in obtaining evidence in this matter. This Court is willing to provide similar assistance to judicial authorities in the Federal Republic of Nigeria should a judicial authority in the Federal Republic of Nigeria so require.

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G.	Keimb	ursement	or rees	and	Costs

This Court is willing to reimburse the appropriate judicial authority of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for costs incurred in executing this letter rogatory.

Honorable T.S. Ellis, III
United States District Court for the Eastern
District of Virginia
Alexandria, Virginia, United States of America

Dated: ______, 2008 Alexandria, Virginia

(SEAL OF COURT)

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ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION THE STATEMENT OF WITNESS/ACCUSED

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Time taking of statement commenced

MLAT-N 01475

Time taking of statement completed.....

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION THE STATEMENT OF WITNESS/ACCUSED



Name Switzman AH Wationality/Tribe MGERIAN-FULANI

Age. 43 YEAR Occupation ENTREPREDICT IS LAM.

Address Mc 218 KAINTI STREET INAITAM A ASWA .

In case of accused person the formal caution will be administered.

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MLAT-N 01477

Time taking of statement completed.....

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION THE STATEMENT OF WITNESS/ACCUSED



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Name SUCEINAN JAHTAHNAtionality/Tribe NIGERAN-FULANI

Age 43 MED Occupation ENTREPRENEURING ASCAMA

Address NO 21B KAINTI STREET MATTAMA.

In case of accused person the formal caution will be administered.

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Date: 7/2/06
Time taking of statement commenced
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MLAT-N 01479

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION THE STATEMENT OF WITNESS/ACCUSED

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Name Sultiman YAHYAH Nationality/Tribe NIGERIAN-FULANT

Age 43 years Occupation Interprenish Religion 152 mm

In case of accused person the formal caution will be administered.

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Date: 7/7/0-6-
Time taking of statement commenced

MLAT-N 01481

Time taking of statement completed.....

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION THE STATEMENT OF WITNESS/ACCUSED.

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F - C C Station

Name Sule 1/1/14 JAHUAH Nationality/Tribe NIVERIAN - FULAN

Age 43 years Occupation France Religion 15 LAN - Address 21 B KAINTI STREET IN AITANIA ABUSA.

In case of accused person the formal caution will be administered.

IT WAS A PROSURAL FOR ADSL AS OPPRISED TO THE INHOLESALE IP- AND THE ARCHITECTURE NOW MAKES 15P'S REJELLERS. I GATE PROTESTED -MEDIFICATION, OTHERWISE, THEY MILL CONTINUE WITH THE PROPOSED JV. BECAUSE, WITHOUT GOLLOCATING DILAMI THE TOTAL INVESTMENT IS TOO SMALL FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. IGATE WAS FRICH INFORMED AND WAS PARTY TO THE AND PROVIDED INPUTS AS PER THEIR EMAILS IN MOST OF THE CORRESPONCE BETWEEN ROSECON AND NITEL AS REGARDS THE IP NHOSESAGE DREPAL, OUR RESPONCE / ACCEPTANCE AND ADGL PROPOSAL OF FUNE 2005. ON YOUR QUESTION OF TAMKLA EL JEFFERSON, SHE INFORMED US THAT SHE WORKS FOR LAW FIRM OF JONES WALKER, AND SIGNED ALL LEGAL CORRESPONCE BETWEEN JONES WHEKEKAND ROSECOM NINTH RESPECT TO THE MOU. SHE LIAISED WITH OUR CANTERS JOHN PEMAIO OF NEW JURK, TO VET THE AGREEMENT, ON THE MILLIAM JEFFELLIAN LETTER TO VICE PRESIDENT ATIKU, I CALLED VERNOW JACKSON SOMETIMES IN MID 2005, AND HE INTERMED THAT CONGRESS MAN WILLIAM JETTERSON WAS VISITING GHANA AND HE HAS A WRITTEN A LETTER TO THE NOD TO MUCH INTERVENE AND RESCUE THE ROSECOM INITEL PROPUSAL, SO THAT NITEL CAN AGREG TO COLLOCATE DSCAM. I ASKED HIM TO FAY THE CETTER AND HE DID. WHEN I READ THE LETTER I RAISED TWO OBJECTIONS, FIRST WE WERE NET CONSULTED AND SECONDLY WE WERE REFFERED TO AS A SMALL COMPANY - AND I SAID WE ARE THE LEADING ISP IN ABUJA AND WHEN I VISITED SO WHY CALL US A SOPACE COMPANY. OFFICE (GATE)
MEAT-NO1482