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1120 Connecticut Avenue NW  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 776-1550  
(202) 776-1555 Fax

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**AUG 21 1997**

August 21, 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Mr. William F. Caton  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Nomination of Bernard J. Ebbers, President and CEO of WorldCom, Inc., for Membership on the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee (CC Docket No. 96-45)**

Dear Mr. Caton:

Pursuant to the Commission's Public Notice of August 1, 1997,<sup>1</sup> please find attached an original and one (1) copy of WorldCom, Inc.'s ("WorldCom") formal nomination of Bernard J. Ebbers, President and CEO of WorldCom, for membership on the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee ("Committee"). The purpose of the Committee is to recommend, within six months of its first meeting, a permanent neutral, third-party administrator of the universal service support mechanisms created by the Commission in its Universal Service Order.<sup>2</sup> The Committee is to include an "impartial and well balanced" representation of a wide array of telecommunications interests, including competitive local exchange carriers and interexchange carriers.<sup>3</sup> WorldCom is confident that Mr. Ebbers' nomination meets or exceeds all pertinent criteria for membership on the Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Public Notice, "FCC Requests Nominations for Membership on the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee," CC Docket No. 96-45, DA Number 97-1649, released August 1, 1997 ("Public Notice").

<sup>2</sup> Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Report and Order, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 97-157, released May 8, 1997 ("Universal Service Order").

<sup>3</sup> Public Notice at 1.

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Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. S. Whitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Richard S. Whitt  
Director, Federal Affairs

cc: Sheryl Todd, Universal Service Branch, FCC

Attachment: Nomination of Bernard J. Ebbers

**NOMINATION OF BERNARD J. EBBERS TO  
UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
(CC DOCKET NO. 96-45)**

The following information supporting the nomination of Bernard J. Ebbers is provided to the Commission in response to the specific requirements listed in the Public Notice:

A. Name, Title, and Interests Represented

Bernard J. Ebbers is President and Chief Executive Officer of WorldCom, Inc. Mr. Ebbers represents the interests of interexchange carriers ("IXCs") and competitive local exchange carriers ("CLECs").

B. Mailing Address, E-Mail Address, Telephone Number, and Facsimile Number

Mr. Bernard J. Ebbers  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
WorldCom, Inc.  
515 East Amite Street  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201-2702

e-mail: [deborah.blackwell@wcom.com](mailto:deborah.blackwell@wcom.com)  
office: (601) 360-8602  
fax: (601) 360-8616

C. Evidence That Nominee is Authorized To Represent Parties Related To Interests Proposed To Represent

Mr. Ebbers is President and Chief Executive Officer of WorldCom, Inc., a global telecommunications company that provides facilities-based and fully integrated local, long distance, international, and Internet services. WorldCom currently is the fourth largest facilities-based interexchange carrier in the United States. Following its recent merger with MFS Communications Company, Inc., WorldCom is also the largest competitive local exchange carrier in the country. In addition, through its UUNET Technologies subsidiary, WorldCom now is the largest commercial Internet service provider in the world. Mr. Ebbers has served as president and CEO of WorldCom and its predecessor company (LDDS Communications) since 1985, and as a director of the company since its inception in 1983.

WorldCom is an active member of two industry trade associations that represent the policy interests of IXCs and CLECs: the Competitive Telecommunications Association ("CompTel"), of which Mr. Ebbers served as Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1993 through 1995, and the Association of

Local Telecommunications Services ("ALTS"). WorldCom is also an active participant in many FCC rulemaking and other proceedings, including the recent proceeding in CC Docket No. 96-45 to establish rules governing the federal universal service programs. In particular, WorldCom filed extensive comments in every phase of that proceeding, and remains involved as well in pending universal service cost model proceedings. Thus, through WorldCom's market position as a leading provider of local and long distance services, its continuing leadership role in the IXC and CLEC industries, and its ongoing significant involvement in universal service issues at the FCC, Mr. Ebbers is fully qualified to represent other IXC and CLEC parties as a member of the Committee.

D. Reasons Why Nominee Is An Interested Party

As indicated above, WorldCom, Inc. is the fourth largest interexchange carrier, and the largest competitive local exchange carrier, in the country. As a provider of interstate and intrastate interexchange and local exchange services, WorldCom expects to be a significant contributor to federal and state universal service programs through the Commission's universal service support mechanisms. In addition, in its provision of facilities-based local exchange services across the country, WorldCom expects to be a significant recipient of federal and state universal service support. Thus, because WorldCom expects to be both a contributor and recipient of universal service funding, Mr. Ebbers has a significant interest in the selection of a permanent neutral, third-party administrator of the Commission's universal service support mechanisms.

E. Written Commitment

Mr. Ebbers gives his written commitment that he shall actively participate in good faith in the objectives of the Committee.

  
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Bernard J. Ebbers