

Plot 555 Adetokunbo Ademola Crescent, Wuse II, Abuja, Nigeria.

Tel. 234-09-4137680 Fax:234-09-4139980

e-mail: ndtvng@ndtv.tv. Website: www.ndtv.tv

Our Ref: 25NDTV/P05/04

25th May, 2004

His Excellency Chief Olusegun Obasanjo President Federal Republic of Nigeria State House Abuja

Your Excellency

## PETITION

In March of 2003, Netlink Digital Television (NDTV) was within days of laying out an infrastructure for the launching of a TV satellite system to cover Nigeria. Agreements had been reached with all the integrators and contracts had been drawn up and signed to this effect.

However, sometime in June, 2003 the Leon Sullivan Summit took place in Abuja, Nigeria. At the summit, Congressman William Jefferson who was one of the delegates to the summit met with Ahmed Vanderpuije and Dumebi Kachikwu of NDTV in the company of two other officials of our Bankers (Akin Oladeji and Ranti Orioke of Trans International Bank) In the course of the meeting, Congressman William Jefferson offered to introduce the Company IGATE Inc. of USA to NDTV. He explained how the Chief Executive Officer of iGate Inc. – Vernon Jackson had broken through New Technology barriers that superseded satellite technology by providing over 200 TV Channels, Telephony and Internet services all over single copper wire lines.

Congressman William Jefferson then requested the Directors of NDTV (Ahmed Vanderpuije and Dumebi Kachikwu) to meet him and Vernon Jackson (Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of iGate Inc) in London.

In July, 2003 members of the NDTV team met with Congressman William Jefferson who then introduced Vernon Jackson to the NDTV team. Vernon Jackson confirmed that he had the required technology and expertise for



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purposes of implementing the multi-media digital television project in Nigeria and Africa. It was then agreed that M.O.U be signed immediately to reflect this.

Congressman William Jefferson being a lawyer prepared the M.O.U which was signed by both iGate and NDTV on 21st July 2003.

Subsequently, a Business Agreement was signed in New York by the Chairman of NDTV (Otunba Oyewole Fashawe) and the Chairman of iGate Inc. (Vernon Jackson) on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August, 2003.

NDTV initially remitted an amount of One Million Five Hundred Thousand (\$1,500,000) dollars to iGate at the end of August 2003. An additional Five Million (\$5,000,000) dollars was remitted in January, 2004 bringing the total payment to Six Million Five Hundred Thousand (\$6,500,000) dollars representing 15% of the total contract sum of Forty Four Million (\$44,000,000) dollars.

During this time Sofitel Capital Corporation our US bankers requested iGate to present a technical breakdown of their costing which iGate could not provide

In further persecution of this, Congressman Jefferson, Vernon Jackson and Engineers from iGate visited Nigeria under the guise of US-Nigeria Commission Party, although it was a private visit for a site survey.

On the return of iGate to the US, iGate by a letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2004 requested and insisted that NDTV secure immediately certain guarantees for purposes of securing additional payments. IGate through its Chairman - Vernon Jackson threatened to terminate the contract or put it on a low key if payment is not received by 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2004.

At this stage, officials of NDTV and our US bankers realised that iGate is only putting pressure because it could not handle the project.

NDTV had information from the US which confirmed that iGate did not have the requisite technology to execute the project. They were actually still in a research and development stage.

At this stage, we severed business relationship with iGate Inc and requested them to pay back to NDTV the sum of Six million five hundred thousand United States Dollars (US\$6,500,000). We then referred the matter to our US and local attorneys.



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In the meantime, Congressman, William Jefferson who has refused to reply a letter sent to him by NDTV's Chairman on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2004 explaining iGate Inc's attitude called the NDTV Chairman on the 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2004 requesting a stay of legal proceedings. He also requested a period of between 30-45 days to settle the whole matter.

He however, did not state that he was visiting Nigeria. This information we had from other sources.

Your Excellency, NDTV has found out that:

- (a) The \$6.5m dollars was never used towards the project.
- (b) That the money was expended on domestic and luxurious enjoyment
- (c) That as at the time it entered into this agreement with NDTV, iGate neither has the technology nor the technical expertise to deliver the proposed technology.
- (d) The Gate never intended to deliver or execute the project.
- (e) That William Jefferson led iGate Inc to deceive NDTV.
- (f) Sofitel Capital Corporation a US finance company based in Washington was not happy about the business attitude of iGate Inc.

We have attached for your easy reference the following documents.

- 1. The Memorandum of Understanding between iGate and NDTV
- 2. The Business Agreement
- Evidence of receipt of Six million five hundred thousand (\$6,500,000)
  Dollars to iGate.
- Internal Memo from an iGate Engineer to its Chairman Vernon Jackson intimating iGate to use another solution for our project.
- Letter from Sofitel requesting iGate to provide technical information which they could not provide.
- 6. Chairman of NDTV's letter to iGate requesting iGate to refund \$6,500,000.00
- 7 NDTV's US attorney letter to iGate
- iGate's response
- NDTV's local attorney's letter to iGate.
- 10. iGate's attorney's reply
- 11. NDTV's local attorney's second letter to iGate.
- Congressman William Jefferson's handwritten letter to NDTV Chairman – Otunba Oyewole Fashawe
- 13. iGate's attorney's recent letter confirming Congressman William Jefferson's handwritten letter.



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Your Excellency, NDTV feels as though certain African Americans have a program of their own. The truth is that part of it has become a business tool whereby congressman has an interest to sell American products into Africa as against helping Africans to sell into the US. In this case, Congressman Jefferson has a personal agenda, his son-in-law works for iGate and it is understood that he also has shares in the company. We were told by VERNON JACKSON that iGate is a financial sponsor to Congressman William Jefferson in his political aspirations.

Your Excellency, we have information from the US Congressman William Jefferson will be meeting with you in the company of other communication "so-called experts").

May we appeal to you to draw their attention to the above. In fact, the world often blames Nigeria of 419 scams but this is a case of a first class American 419.

Kindly accept our assurances of your highest consideration.

Yours Faithfully,

Otunba Oyewole Fashawe

Chairman