



## Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2017-42

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Reference: Part 1 application posted on 21 November 2016

Ottawa, 7 February 2017

### **Ethnic Channels Group Limited**

Across Canada

*Application 2016-1164-0*

### **Addition of Sky News Arabia to the *List of non-Canadian programming services and stations authorized for distribution***

1. The Commission **approves** an application from Ethnic Channels Group Limited (ECGL), acting as the Canadian sponsor, to add Sky News Arabia, a non-Canadian third-language service, to the *List of non-Canadian programming services and stations authorized for distribution* (the list). The Commission did not receive any interventions regarding this application. The revised [list](#) can be found on the Commission's website at [www.crtc.gc.ca](http://www.crtc.gc.ca) and may be obtained in hard copy on request.
2. ECGL described Sky News Arabia as a 24-hour news service (100% Arabic-language) that provides news, information and current affairs programming. The service originates from Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and targets Arabic-speaking communities.
3. As set out in *Regulatory frameworks for broadcasting distribution undertakings and discretionary programming services – Regulatory policy*, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2008-100, 30 October 2008, the Commission has adopted an open-entry approach to the addition of non-Canadian news services to the list, which is consistent with the importance it places on a diversity of editorial points of view. Accordingly, absent clear evidence, as determined by the Commission, that a non-Canadian news service will violate Canadian regulations, such as those regarding abusive comment, the Commission will be predisposed to authorize non-Canadian news services for distribution in Canada.

Secretary General