



Already
T.D.
attached.

PRIME MINISTER
SUVA, FIJI

12 November, 1984.

The Right Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
Prime Minister,
LONDON,
United Kingdom.

My dear Prime Minister,

I hope that your recent journey home from New Delhi was both comfortable and safe.

I am writing in connection with a major difficulty which we of the ACP have encountered in our negotiations for a third Lome Convention. As you would recall, our negotiations, after making considerable progress, entered a very difficult phase on 12th October when the ACP felt that it could not accept the offer by the Community of 7000 million ECUs for the Sixth EDF. The ACP does not wish to interfere with the eventual right of the EEC to determine the volume of EDF resources it will make available. However, our major concern is that the above volume of resources does not come close to meeting either the aims and objectives which the Convention seeks to satisfy, or the pressing needs of ACP States taking into account the enlargement of the ACP Group and of the deteriorating conditions, particularly in Africa.

The ACP countries, especially those of us in the Commonwealth, are not unmindful of the tremendous effort and contribution which the U.K. has made in establishing and maintaining the effective means of co-operation between our countries and the EEC, starting with Protocol 22 of its Treaty of Accession to the EEC.

Furthermore, we all appreciate the many problems which you and your country are now facing and we certainly have no desire whatsoever to place any undue additional burden on you. It is however a matter of grave concern to us, who face even more extreme difficulties, that the volume of the EDF be increased.

2./..

Prime Minister, over forty members of the ACP Group are English-speaking and we were all heartened on reading the views of your Minister for Overseas Development, in his evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Successor to Lome II on 22nd February 1984, when he stated that "at the end of the day, if the Community decides to go for a certain size of Lome, short of provoking a kind of crisis, we have to go along with that."

Such an action would be in keeping with the spirit which we know to be that of your Government, your country and of yourself.

I am therefore appealing to you in the name of the ACP countries, almost all of which are facing the most severe economic and social difficulties, to do everything in your power to help to resolve this most pressing matter.

With warm regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Kamiesee Mara

K.K.T. Mara
Prime Minister

SUBJECT

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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T189/88

The Fiji High Commissioner presents his compliments to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and has the honour to convey herewith the contents of a letter from the Prime Minister of Fiji, The Rt. Hon. Ratu Sir K. K. T. Mara, GCMG, KBE, K.St.J.

Quote

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The ACP countries, especially those of us in the Commonwealth, are not unmindful of the tremendous effort and contribution which the U.K. has made in establishing and maintaining the effective means of cooperation between our countries and the EEC, starting with Protocol 22 of its Treaty of Accession to the EEC.

Furthermore, we all appreciate the many problems which you and your country are now facing and we certainly have no desire whatsoever to place any undue additional burden on you. It is however a matter of grave concern to us, who face even more extreme difficulties, that the volume of the EDF which represents marginal additional load, be increased.

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I am therefore appealing to you in the name of the ACP Countries, almost all of which are facing the most severe economic and social difficulties, to do everything in your power to help to resolve this most pressing matter.

With warm regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

K. K. T. Mara,
Prime Minister.

Unquote

The Fiji High Commissioner has the further honour to advise that the original letter signed by the Prime Minister of Fiji is being delivered to the British High Commissioner in Suva, Fiji.

The Fiji High Commissioner avails himself of this opportunity to extend to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland the assurance of his highest consideration.

Fiji High Commission

London

12th November 1984

