

The United Republic of Tanzania  
**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND LABOUR**

P.O.Box 9144  
Dar-es-Salaam  
26th January, 1971

Ref No CWC 69850/363

The General Manager  
Agence Maritime Internationale (E.A.)  
PO Box 9041  
DAR ES SALAAM

Dear Sir,

As General manager of the Agence Martime Internationale (East Africa) you will be aware of the negotiations which took place last year between the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Burundi on the future of the Belbase sites and installations at Dar-es-Salaam and Kigoma. At the conclusion of those negotiations agreement was reached on the text of a Convention relating to the Belbase sites which provided for their integration within the undertaking of the East African Harbours Corporation at Dar-es-Salaam and the Railway Corporation at Kigoma. The Convention which was initialled by representatives of the four countries concerned was expressed to be subject to ratification before 31st January, 1971 and Tanzania undertook not to take any unilateral action affecting the sites before that date.

2. At the time of writing no instrument of ratification have been deposited with the Government of the United Republic and I am instructed by my Minister to inform you that the Government of the United Republic will resume possession of the sites with effect from midnight on 31st January, 1971

3. However, I am further instructed to say that my Minister is most anxious that the resumption of possession of the sites by the Government of the United Republic should not cause any dislocation in the transit traffic to and from the Congo, Rwanda and Burundi. **Accordingly I am authorized to request A.M.I. with effect from 1st February, 1971 to manage the sites until further notice on behalf of the Government of the United Republic and to do so on the same terms and conditions as have applied hitherto to your management of the sites on behalf of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Burundi.**

4. If A.M.I. is willing to undertake the management of the Belbase sites on behalf of the Government of the United Republic as proposed in the preceding paragraph, I am to ask you:

- a) to indicate immediately in writing your agreement;
- b) to undertake to remit monthly to the Government of the United Republic the net revenue derived from the operation of the sites on or after 1st January, 1971,

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5. I am, in conclusion, to make two further points:

(a) The Government of the United Republic intends to invite the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Rwanda and the Republic of Burundi to discuss an agreed procedure for the valuation of the installations and for the payment of compensation. It is hoped these discussions will take place as soon as possible.

(b) The Government of the United Republic does not claim to have any right or title to the moveable assets used in connection with the Belbase operations. However, the United Republic is willing to purchase these assets at a price to be agreed in accordance with a valuation. Since these assets are necessary to the Belbase operations, it must be assumed that there will be no objection to their continued use by A.M.I. pending final agreement on their purchase.

Yours faithfully

H. Singh  
Ag. Principal Secretary.

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