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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 102/82

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

7 May, 1982

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your letter of 9 March enclosing a memorandum which sets out most clearly the points at issue in the negotiations between your Government and the International Monetary Fund.

I agree that a prosperous and stable Madagascar is important for the Indian Ocean; and I am very conscious of the economic difficulties confronting your government, difficulties that have been compounded by the severe damage resulting from the recent series of cyclones. I am therefore most encouraged to learn that progress is being made in your negotiations. At a time of world recession, imposing severe constraints on all governments, the Fund's underpinning can do much to bring about lasting economic improvement. I hope that complete agreement will be achieved. We for our part will of course help where we can to reach such an outcome.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Monsieur Didier Ratsiraka