



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

*Subject on Mauritius,
June 1982, UK/Mauritius
Relations.*

20 January, 1983

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 6/83

Dear Mr. Jugault,

Thank you for your letter of 10 December 1982. I too much enjoyed our meeting and was glad to have the opportunity to discuss with you matters of mutual concern to our countries. I was pleased to be able to meet your request for help in speeding up the payment of the ex-gratia sum which we had agreed to make to your Government to assist with the resettlement of the Ilois in Mauritius.

I would like to assure you of our interest in the opportunities you envisage for the United Kingdom in connection with the development of Plaisance Airport. As you point out, you will not be able to determine the nature and the extent of any UK involvement until Aeroports de Paris have produced their master plan and until you have conducted further negotiations with the Chinese. I know that Plessey have keenly pursued the project over a number of years and I am confident of their ability to produce results of the highest standard.

We for our part will need to consider afresh the question of aid in relation to whatever revised proposals are put to us, but I hope that we would be able to respond positively at the appropriate stage. It would therefore be particularly helpful if you could arrange for our High Commissioner to receive a copy of the master plan as soon as it becomes available.

Regarding the ECGD terms that would apply, I can say that provided the business we are asked to support represents a major order for UK capital equipment, maximum credit terms repayable

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over 10 years can continue to be considered. However, because the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development were unable to give a firm commitment to place the business with Plessey before 31 December 1982 the interest rate applicable will be that obtaining under the OECD consensus when a firm commitment is made.

I am grateful for your expression of appreciation for the assistance we have given in helping with your country's development. I too look forward to maintaining and deepening the bonds of friendship between our two countries.

With very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

The Hon. Aneerood Jugnauth, Q.C.