

SUBJECT

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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T208<sup>AB</sup>/84.

*State House*

*Lusaka, Republic of Zambia*

6th December, 1984.

*My Dear Prime Minister,*

The World Bank report entitled 'Towards Substantial Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: Joint Programme of Action' was widely discussed at the recent Annual Meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Its proposals received the endorsement of the Development Committee, the African Governors and donor countries. The report paints, as you know, a most grim picture of the economic prospects of Sub-Saharan Africa. In the case of Zambia, this picture is characterized by the declining per capita incomes, deterioration of infrastructure and existing capital assets, investment levels inadequate to support medium and long term growth, sharp contraction of imports to meet increasing debt payments and so on.

For its part the Government of the Republic of Zambia is taking appropriate and difficult action to adjust economic policies and rationalize institutional structures to improve efficiency in the use of both domestic and external resources. However, action programmes such as the one we have initiated will fail to yield desirable results unless they are strongly supported by the International Community through the infusion of additional external resources over and above existing commitments.

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The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher, MP.,  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom,  
10 Downing Street,  
LONDON.





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It was in this context that the representatives of the African countries proposed the creation of a Special Fund for Africa at the last Annual Meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. This Special Fund for Africa is to be established under the auspices of the World Bank. The organisation of such a fund will be a critical complement to the reforms which are now being undertaken by the African Governments.

But these efforts of the World Bank to mobilize the additional resources for Africa through the proposed Special Fund cannot succeed unless the United Kingdom does not only participate but in fact takes an active leadership role in the funding effort. It is in this context, Madam Prime Minister, that I have decided to write you to seek your special support for the Special Fund for Africa which was launched at the Annual Meetings. Indeed the just ended 20th Summit of the Organisation of African Unity endorsed this point of view very strongly. Might I add that the need for this exceptional effort is even more urgent in the light of the failure to achieve the target for the Seventh Replenishment of AIDA.

God's blessings.

*Yours sincerely,*

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Kenneth David Kaunda  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA