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 NAIROBI

for Kenya, Uganda and Seychelles

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Dienst für techn. Zusammenarbeit
für
 Abt. Politische Angelegenheiten,
 Eidg. Politisches Departement,
 Bern

Herr Generalsekretär,

Ich beziehe mich auf mein Schreiben vom 9. November 1961, mit welchem ich Ihnen die Kopie eines Schreibens von Nationalrat Peter O k o n d o zugestellt hatte, welcher im Auftrage von der Kenya African Democratic Union (KADU) die Frage aufgeworfen hat, ob die Möglichkeit bestehen würde, dass die Schweiz einen Verfassungsexperten zur Verfügung stellen könnte. Aus naheliegenden Gründen musste diese einseitige Anfrage negativ beantwortet werden.

Im Nachrichtendienst des Kenya Broadcasting Service vom 30. November und in der Presse vom 1. Dezember 1961 wurde der Öffentlichkeit in Kenya bekanntgegeben, dass KADU den Schweizerischen Experten, Dr. Eduard Z e l l w e g e r, als ihren Verfassungsberater engagiert habe. Dr. Zellweger soll schon am 15. Dezember 1961 in Nairobi eintreffen. In der Nachricht wird darauf hingewiesen, dass Dr. Zellweger als führende Persönlichkeit für politische Gesetzgebung in der Schweiz anerkannt sei. Ferner wird erwähnt, dass dieser frühere Botschafter der Schweiz in Belgrad auch als Verfassungsexperte in Lybien und Nigerien tätig gewesen ist, und persönlicher Vertreter vom UNO-Generalsekretär Hammerskjöld in Laos war.

Auf welchem Weg die KADU den Kontakt mit Dr. Zellweger aufgenommen hat, ist mir nicht bekannt. Ich übermittle Ihnen in der Anlage einen Ausschnitt aus dem "East African Standard" vom 1. Dezember 1961, betitelt: "KADU ENGAGES SWISS EXPERT AS ADVISER".

Ich versichere Sie, Herr Generalsekretär, meiner vorzüglichen Hochachtung.

DER SCHWEIZERISCHE KONSUL:

Grob
 (H. Grob)

✓ 1 Beilage erwähnt



KADU ENGAGES

SWISS EXPERT AS ADVISER

KADU has engaged a Swiss expert, Dr. Eduard Zellweger, as its constitutional adviser.

Dr. Zellweger, who is due in Kenya on December 15, was described in a Kadu statement last night as a leading authority on political law in his own country.

A former Swiss Ambassador in Belgrade, he spent four years in Libya working out a federal constitution, and for a time he was also consultant to the Attorney-General of Nigeria on constitutional matters.

Last year Dr. Zellweger was in Laos as the personal representative of the late Mr. Hammarskjöld.

At present, he is a member of an international committee in Geneva, investigating the case of Ghana politicians who have been either jailed or exiled.

More praise

Kadu has set up a special committee to collect funds to pay for Dr. Zellweger's services.

Meanwhile, further praise came yesterday for the Colonial Secretary's pre-departure statement on Wednesday.

The Kenya Coalition, in a statement signed by its leader, Sir Ferdinand Cayendish-Bentinck and its three Legislative Council Members, said: "Coming from a Minister so recently appointed and after so short a visit to our country, we consider Mr. Maudling's statement as able

and helpful in this crucial time in Kenya's history."

Without in any way losing his essential role as arbitrator at the forthcoming constitutional conference, he had given the impression of sympathy and understanding of the problems of all groups.

More important than this, he had accepted that a great responsibility lay upon the British Government for all the people in Kenya. This was especially useful at this time of political uncertainty and natural disaster.

'Direct outcome'

"Mr. Maudling's visit has done a great deal to dispel the impression of the last two years that the British Government was indifferent to our problems and only anxious to lay down this responsibility as quickly as possible, regardless of the consequences to Kenya," the statement added.

"Many of the dangers and fears to which he referred are the direct outcome of recent U.K. policies ineptly implemented, and it is thus a relief to note that the new Secretary of State would appear to appreciate that there can be no speedy solution to our difficulties by purely astute political manoeuvres.

"The problems are human and it would seem that Mr. Maudling understands this, is conscious of the very real dangers with which we are confronted, and is prepared to help without committing himself to unwise, hasty action or to rigid timetables!"

The chairman of the Convention of Associations, Mr. C. O. Oates, said the statement showed that the Colonial Secretary had taken note of the points made to him by the tripartite delegation of the Coalition, the K.N.F.U. and the Convention.

Moral debt

"In the circumstances, and in the time allowed to him, the statement could only be a general one with which few people will disagree," he added.

It was also noted that Mr. Maudling had again stated the moral obligation of the British Government towards the European farmer in Kenya.

This underlined the statement made by Mr. Macleod to a deputation from the Convention last July at the time when the petition on land was presented to the House of Commons.