



Joint Communiqué

THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR TRANSPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA AND THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ISAKA - KIGALI STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY PROJECT HELD IN KIGALI, RWANDA ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2018

1. At the invitation of Hon. Amb. Claver GATETE, Minister of Infrastructure of the Republic of Rwanda, Hon. Eng. Isack A. KAMWELWE, (MP), Minister for Works, Transport and Communications of the United Republic of Tanzania, visited Rwanda from 10th – 12th December, 2018.
2. On 11th December, 2018 at the Ministry of Infrastructure Conference Room, Kigali, the two Ministers held an official meeting to discuss on financing options of the project, operational framework and agree on major policy and strategic actions to be taken by respective Governments to facilitate and expedite the implementation of the Isaka-Kigali Railway Project. The Ministers meeting was preceded by the meeting of the Permanent Secretaries responsible for Transport and Finance of the two countries and the meeting of the Joint Technical Monitoring Committee (JTMC) respectively.
3. The meeting was also attended by Hon. Dr. Claudine UWERA, Minister of State in Charge of Economic Planning, Rwanda, H.E. Amb. Ernest J. MANGU, Tanzania High Commissioner to Rwanda, Ms. Patricie UWASE, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure of the Republic of Rwanda and Members of JTMC from both countries.
4. The Ministers reiterated their strong commitment to further strengthen the relationship for the mutual benefits of the two Countries and their people and the prevailing commitment to realize the implementation of Isaka-Kigali railway project and its significance to reduce transportation cost, foster physical integration of transport modes, economic growth and improved social services in the sub region.
5. The Ministers deliberated on key implementation issues of the Project and;

- a. Agreed to continue the bilateral discussion on financing options following AfDB recommendations;
 - b. Agreed to consider ways to improve the viability of the project including the possibility of extending the railway line to Rubavu on the border with D.R. Congo;
 - c. Agreed to report to the Heads of State on the status of the project for further guidance on available financing options depending on the advantages and disadvantages of each;
 - d. Agreed to develop a project roadmap incorporating the guidance of Heads of State;
 - e. Directed the Permanent Secretaries responsible for Transport to fast track the ratification of the Bilateral Agreement by February, 2019;
 - f. Noted that the progress of ongoing the construction of SGR from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro is now at 37% progress and Morogoro to Makutupora section is at 4.6% progress; and
 - g. The Rwandan side was advised to officially communicate the request for secondment of engineers to Tanzania through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
6. At the end of the meeting, Hon. Eng. Isack A. KAMWELWE (MP) expressed his appreciation and satisfaction to Hon. Amb. Claver GATETE, for the brotherly welcome and cordial hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his stay in Rwanda.
7. In his concluding remarks, Hon. Amb. Claver GATETE thanked his Tanzania counterpart for accepting his invitation to visit Rwanda and for the fruitful deliberation of the meeting and wished him and his delegation a safe journey back home.

Done in Kigali, this 11th day of December, 2018



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Hon. Amb. Claver GATETE
Minister of Infrastructure

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



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Hon. Eng. Isack A. KAMWELWE (MP)
Minister for Works, Transport and
Communications

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA