

1925

## E. AFRICA

393

FROM  
LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

DATE

27 May 1925.

C.O.  
19925

4 MAY 25

FOR CIRCULATION —

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Green

Asst. U.S. of S.

Mr. Shattock

Part U.S. of S.

Part U.S. of S. 7. 5. 25

Secretary of State.

Previous Paper

M 12132

Received by Mr. J. G. Clegg  
Copy sent to E.A.C. - 27 MAY 1925

Subsequent Paper

M 12136

## JOINT E.A.COMMITTEE OF LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

State, with reference to their proposal for periodical meetings with the C.O., that they cannot delegate to the Joint E.A. Board the right to speak for the commercial community. They however welcome suggestion that they should attend Joint E.A. Board meetings arranged by C.O.

## MINUTES

I don't know about the E.A. of Commerce always having had the right of access with S.O.B. (except in the sense that if any important body, had an important audience, it would certainly be invited — but that is not a "right"), but ~~anyway~~ ~~anyway~~  
actually the principle of financial meetings was accepted in 7th.

There was however to be joint East African Board, and the question

think it will be too seriously as a regular institution. If Mr. Henry Gurn  
and others do similar work & S. have  
a brief statement (this is just back for  
C.A.) a motion might be passed.

We need not I think come to  
a voice voting except on the question of  
the J.C.A. Board, and the others may  
wait if

C.A. 5/5/25

1 May 1925

I agree, as to the Joint C.A. Board being a  
broadgater of public character. I think it is best  
to say that their pretensions in this direction are  
certainly not to be supported. However let us assume  
to give a lecture to Sir S. Hamm on the subject to see if we  
have privately & there is no official report about it  
in their published report (by the way, and this is what  
relates to the Liverpool Railway) and they did bring up the  
meeting which was decided quite independently of  
their representations

CB  
5/5/25

12/5/25

I have drafted a suitable reply  
There is a row on between our two bodies  
regarding the J.C.A. Board. Sir S. Hamm is  
now in touch with Liverpool, Manchester  
& my letter will only matter to a  
certain extent. At once 12/5/25



TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
CONVENTION, CANNON, LONDON.

TELEPHONE NO.  
1049 TO 52 CITY.



ALLA/1st.

1, 2 & 3, OXFORD COURT

& 97, CANNON STREET,

LONDON, E.C. 4.

1st May 1925.

The Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore, M.P.,  
Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
LONDON, S.W.

C.O.  
19325  
4 MAY 25  
XC

Dear Sir,

M11231  
I have now had an opportunity of submitting to the Joint East African Committee of the London, Liverpool and Manchester Chambers of Commerce your letter of the 21st March regarding the proposal for periodical meetings between yourself and officers of the East African Department of the Colonial Office on the one hand, and representatives of the three Chambers on the other, for the purpose of discussing East African commercial questions.

M11232  
The Committee direct me to thank you for the interesting observations you have been good enough to make regarding the subjects mentioned in my letter of the 14th ult. and to say that they are of course quite prepared to await the issue of the Report of the East African Commission, which they understand will deal with some of those subjects.

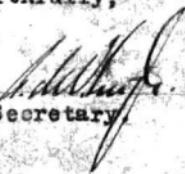
With regard to the suggestion contained in the penultimate paragraph of your letter, I am to state that the Joint East African Committee of the Chambers attach the greatest importance to the right of direct access to the Colonial Office on all commercial matters upon which they are competent. To speak, as distinct from matters of a more or less political character which are dealt with by the Joint East African Board. It was clearly understood by the East African Sections of the Chambers, when the Joint East African Board was being formed, that the Joint Board would limit its activities to those broad questions political in character, on which the opinions of the members of the Board, in their individual capacities might prove of value. Perhaps I may refer you to the last annual report of the Joint East African Board, in which it was clearly stated that that body is anxious not to intervene in commercial subjects that are already under the purview of existing organisations, such as the Chambers of Commerce. On the other hand, the Joint Committee of the East African Sections of the Chambers, being elected by, and representative of, a very substantial body of firms trading with East Africa, and who have always been granted the privilege of access to the Secretary of State, cannot very well, as I am sure you will agree,

The Hon. W. G. A. Gumsby-Gore, M.P., ... cont.

delegate to the Joint East African Board, or to any other body, the right to speak for the commercial community.

My Committee, however, quite appreciate how narrow is the line which sometimes lies between political and commercial questions in East Africa, and in order to obviate the possibility of overlapping, welcome the suggestion, contained in your letter under reply, that they should arrange to attend at the same time as the representatives of the Joint East African Board, any meetings which you may be good enough to arrange.

Yours faithfully,

  
Secretary

For my signature M.I. 8<sup>th</sup> May 1925

W.R.C. 1925 15 May 397

filed

Ansdt  
1925

Dear Sir

I beg to acknowledge the receipt  
of your letter dated May 1<sup>st</sup> in  
reply to mine of March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

In regard to the third paragraph  
of your letter I would point out  
that when the Joint East African  
Board was formed it was hoped  
that that Board should include  
representatives of all the principal  
commercial associations in England  
bearing interests in the trade &  
commerce of the various British  
Territories ~~now~~ bearing East African  
ports as well as shippers, importers  
& firms domiciled in England bearing  
interests in property in British Territories  
in East Africa.

It was never considered at  
the Colonial Office that the joint  
East African Board would limit  
its activities to purely of political  
character. In fact it was not  
contemplated by me that they  
would discuss political matters  
with representatives of the Colonial  
Office but should ~~not~~ <sup>be</sup> necessarily  
confined to the Colonial Office  
from time to time on economic  
questions & not particularly  
questions of Trade & Commerce.

I understand that the chairman  
of the East African Section of the  
London Chamber of Commerce <sup>was not then a member of the</sup>  
<sup>always been</sup> has already a member of the  
Joint East African Board & that  
it is contemplated that the  
corresponding sections of the  
Liverpool & Manchester Chambers  
should also be represented  
there.

I had no intention of suggesting  
that the Chamber of Commerce shall

body to file 27 MAY 1925