

COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF KENYA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ABOLITION OF DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY.

1. The Members of the Development and Reconstruction Authority have unanimously recommended to the Government that the Authority should be abolished. In doing so they expressed the view that with the appointment of a Sub-Committee of the Executive Council as the Planning Committee, the Development and Reconstruction Authority appeared to have served its purpose and should be abolished.
2. The Government, recognising that decisions on priorities cannot be divorced from Planning, has decided to accept this recommendation, and the purpose of this Sessional Paper is to bring this decision to the notice of the Legislative Council.
3. The Authority was set up in accordance with the proposals made in Part II of Sessional Paper No.3 of 1945. Its powers and duties were set out in Government Notice No.674, dated the 1st August, 1945, a copy of which is attached.
4. The Government intends that, in future, the execution of approved Capital Works and projects should be the responsibility of the Member concerned in consultation with the Member for Development and that the control of the expenditure of the funds voted by the Legislative Council should be carried out by the Treasury.
5. The Planning Committee will be responsible for indicating priorities.
5. The acceptance of tenders will be the responsibility of the Member for Development who will be advised by the Director of Public Works, a representative of the Member concerned and the Assistant Financial Secretary (Development).
7. It is intended that applications involving an increase in scheme value should be dealt with by the Member for Development when the increase can be covered within the block allocation made by the Planning Committee. If, however, an increase in scheme value involves the abandonment of a scheme approved by the Planning Committee or the provision of funds additional to a block allocation made by the Planning Committee, the matter will be referred to the Planning Committee.

8. It is intended that a brief report on Development projects carried out in the first six months of the year and a full Annual Report should be prepared by the Member for Development and laid on the table of the Legislative Council.

9. The abolition of the Development and Reconstruction Authority will involve, in due course, an amendment to the Road Authority Ordinance which provides that one of the Members of the Road Authority shall be an Unofficial Member of the Development and Reconstruction Authority. The question of the composition of the Road Authority is under consideration and proposals will be submitted to the Legislative Council. It is intended that Sir Alfred Vincent should, in the meantime, remain a Member of the Road Authority.

10. The Government wishes to place on record its grateful appreciation of the valuable services which have been rendered by all the Members of the Development and Reconstruction Authority, namely :-

Sir Gilbert Rennie, K.C.M.G., M.C.,

Sir Reginald Robins, C.M.G., O.B.E.,

Sir Alfred Vincent.

Mr. J. D. Rankine, C.M.G.,

Brig-General Sir Godfrey Rhodes, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.,

Mr. C.H. Thornley, C.M.G.,

Major The Hon. A.G. Keyser, D.S.O.,

The Hon. L.R. Maconochie-Welwood.

The Hon. R.T. Taylor, C.M.G.,

Encl: Government Notice No.674.

JHB/FMH.

Treasury.

12/5/53.

E.A. VASEY.

MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE NO 674

IT IS NOTIFIED for general information that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to set up, with effect from the 1st August, 1945, an Authority to be known as the Authority for Development and Reconstruction, with the following powers and duties:-

(1) To organize and superintend the execution of works and projects of reconstruction and development in accordance with approved plans communicated to it, and for that purpose to give directions to all departments or groups of departments of the Government;

(2) to carry out specific works or undertakings by contract, and to negotiate appropriate contracts for the purpose, including, if it is found practicable, some means of re-negotiation of contracts during their currency on account of the impossibility of making firm contracts at the present time in the absence of dependable information as to prices, shipping and many other factors;

(3) to assign priority of execution as between works and projects, having particular regard to the paramount importance of immediate and vigorous execution of projects for the conservation of the soil and the preservation and improvement of water supplies;

(4) to control the expenditure of allocated funds and to allocate other funds placed at its disposal by authority of the Legislative Council as it may consider proper for the execution of approved works and projects;

(5) to purchase stores and plant in bulk against an unallocated stores account or in detail in respect of particular works;

(6) to engage such staff as it may require for its own operations or in respect of works and projects;

(7) to ensure that in all works and projects, whether carried out departmentally or by contract, attention is given to the fullest practicable use of mechanical appliances, economy of labour and adequate wages and working conditions;

(8) to collaborate with the Commissioner of Labour and the Demobilization and Civil Reabsorption Organisation so as to ensure that sufficient attention is given to the needs in the matter of employment of men and women discharged from the Services and special civil agencies engaged in war work, and to organise labour units or formations for particular purposes as may appear desirable;

agencies are not discharging satisfactorily the functions assigned to them by the Authority, and to propose remedies;

(10) to make an annual report to the Governor in Council, to be laid on the table of the Legislative Council, upon the progress of all works and projects for which it is responsible and the state of the funds at its disposal and to give an outline of the ensuing year's work;

(11) to propose new works or projects as it may consider desirable, and to request that they may be investigated and planned

The membership of the Authority is as follows:-

Gilbert McCall Rennie, C.M.G., M.C.,  
Chief Secretary (Chairman).

Sir Reginald Edwin Robins, C.M.G., O.B.E.,  
General Manager, Kenya and Uganda Railways  
and Harbours (Member).

The Hon. A. Vincent, M.L.C. (Member).

R.J.C. Howes, M.B.E. (Secretary).

E. R. E. SURRIDGE,  
for Chief Secretary.

NAIROBI,  
1st August, 1945