Germany Investors to Build Bukasa Inland Port

By George Asiimwe , Posted on March 8, 2018

President Museveni chats with Gauff Engineering officials Ulrich Salzer, Michael Fischer and Emmanuel Mugamba as German Ambassador to Uganda Dr. Albrecht Conze (2nd R) looks on during a meeting at Entebbe on March 7

President Museveni has encouraged Germany businessmen to construct a port in Uganda.

The German delegation of investors from Gauff Engineering, who are already in the process of constructing Bukasa Inland Port along the northern shores of Lake Victoria in Wakiso district, met with President Museveni at State House, Entebbe on Thursday.

The President encouraged the delegation, which was led by Dr. Ulrich Salzar, to "forge ahead with the project" most especially after their Company has "carried soil sampling to determine the strength of the Port's infrastructure."

20 percent of Uganda is covered by water.

It is estimated that more vessels on Lake Victoria would reduce the cost of transportation of Cargo to EUR 2000 down from EUR 5000 per container.

When fully functional, the Port is expected to handle up to 5.2 million tonnes of freight annually, according to government.

Dr. Ulrich disclosed that the project will be able to employ 30,000 Ugandans when fully operational, adding that the Company is ready to "train Ugandans on port activities with immediate effect" so that by the time it commences operations, the "necessary human resource is available, skilled and ready to launch into work."

Gauff Engineering Company also expressed readiness to continue with phase 2 of Jinja and Port Bell Inland Ports.

While meeting investors recently, Museveni said cargo was growing in East Africa. Uganda is a big coffee producer with 10 million bags per year.

Uganda is the second biggest producer of Bananas in the world.

By combining water and railway system, the cost of transportation of Cargo can be reduced by 40 percent, according to experts.

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