Tanzanian aviation authorities announced Monday that all Kenya Airways flights between Nairobi and Dar es Salaam will be suspended starting January 22, 2024.

Tanzania’s Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) said the move was in response to Kenya rejecting Tanzania’s request to operate cargo flights between Nairobi and third countries.

In a statement signed by TCAA Director General Hamza Johari, TCAA cited the Kenyan authorities’ refusal as a violation of Section 4 of the memorandum of understanding on air services signed in 2016.

Tanzania was committed to international aviation regulations and bilateral agreements, said the statement.

Kenya Airways operates 33 scheduled flights per week between Nairobi and Dar es Salaam.

This is in response to Kenya’s recent rejection of Tanzania’s request to allow its airline, Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL), to operate cargo flights between Nairobi and third countries.

TCAA cited Kenya’s refusal as a violation of Section 4 of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Air Services signed between the two countries in 2016. This section provides for the reciprocal treatment of airlines from both countries.

According to TCAA Director General Hamza S. Johari, this decision was made based on reciprocity following the refusal of Kenyan authorities to approve ATCL’s cargo flights.