



February 15, 2023

The Deputy Chief Justice,
Court of Appeal,
Kampala-Uganda

Dear Sir,

RE: LETTER REQUESTING FOR A MEETING TO PRESENT A PETITION AGAINST THE INJUSTICES IN APPLICATION NO 191 OF 2021

The above subject refers

Greetings from the Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO). AFIEGO is a Ugandan incorporated company limited by guarantee (non-profit) whose main objective is to promote good energy governance in Uganda and the African Great Lakes Region at large. Among other activities, we support local communities and vulnerable groups to enjoy access to their rights including access to information, public participation, and access to justice for redress among others.

This letter is written and presented to you on behalf of nine (9) project-affected persons (PAPs) of the Tilenga oil project in Buliisa district. In 2017, the government of Uganda together with oil companies, namely TotalEnergies, commenced the process of compulsory land acquisition for the above oil project. The project affected local communities including the nine (9) PAPs that are signatory to this letter and their families. The land was acquired for the Tilenga Industrial Area. The nine families rejected the compensation that was offered by TotalEnergies on behalf of the Ugandan government. This was due to failure by the government and oil companies to pay fair, adequate and prompt compensation to the affected people.

In 2019, the government of Uganda through the Attorney General filed a case against the families that rejected the unfair compensation and refused to give their land away for the Tilenga oil project's Industrial Area. The case was filed at the High Court of Uganda in Masindi district. Within six (6) months, the court ruled in favor of the government.

The affected families/appellants were dissatisfied with the ruling and they appealed to the court of appeal in 2021. Sadly, since 2021 when the application for an extension of time was filed to date, the case has never been set for hearing. Yet the affected families continue to suffer due to the actions of government and oil companies.

Therefore, the main objective of this letter is to request a meeting to enable the affected families to present their petition highlighting all the misery they face including threats of eviction, death of their animals, food insecurity and loss of land before compensation among others.

It is their humble request to meet you on **Wednesday February 22, 2023, at 11 am** or any other time when you are available at your offices in Kampala.

With your permission, a team of 30 project-affected persons from Kasinyi village, Nile parish, Ngwedo sub-county, Buliisa district will come to your office to present the petition and request that you intervene and stop the ongoing injustices caused by the delayed hearing of their case.

In addition, the petition is a follow-up to our previous letters which were received by your good office on April 12, 2022 requesting your intervention to ensure that the above appeal is fixed for a hearing. Another letter was sent to your office on July 26, 2022 requesting you to use your powers to ensure that the Court of Appeal stops aiding injustice against oil-affected communities. Unfortunately, your office has never responded to any of our letters above and consequently, our application remains unheard todate.

We thank you in advance for your kind consideration.

Yours faithfully,



Dickens Kamugisha
Chief Executive Officer-AFIEGO

Signatories/appellants

1. Happy Ignatius
2. Sabiti Micheal
3. Mboineki Midadi
4. Tundulu John
5. Nyabigambo Janet
6. Seduraka Birigenda C/O Bigirwenkya
7. Aheebwa Korokoni
8. Mpangire Blasio
9. Bujune Juliet
10. Kitembo Rugadya
11. Kalisa Gilbert Stephen
12. Nyakaiaya Edida
13. Byakagaba Godfrey
14. Wandera Kenedy
15. Mbabazi Dorothy

16. Bagadira Robinah
17. Mugisha Jelousy Mulimba

Cc

- Chief Justice of Uganda
- The Speaker of Parliament
- Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs
- Resident Judge, Hoima High Court
- Judicial Service Commission
- The Justice, Law and Order Sector
- President, Uganda Law Society