

KINGFISHER AFFECTED PEOPLE'S NETWORK

August 05, 2024

WANG Dongjin
Chairman and Secretary of Party Leadership of CNOOC group and Chairman of CNOOC
Limited China National Offshore Oil Corporation
No.25 Chaoyangmenbei Dajie
Dongcheng District, Beijing
100010, P.R. China



Dear Chairman Wang Dongjin,

**RE: PETITION REQUESTING CNOOC TO ADDRESS THE GRIEVANCES FACED BY
THE KINGFISHER PROJECT HOST COMMUNITIES IN KIKUUBE DISTRICT**

We are Project Affected Persons (PAPs) whose land and property is being compulsorily acquired for CNOOC's Kingfisher oil project in Buhuuka and Nkondo parishes in Kikuube district.

Together with the civil society organisation, **Strategic Response on Environmental Conservation (STREC)**, we are writing to you this petition requesting to address the challenges we have been facing from the time the CNOOC started the process of compulsory acquisition of our land for the Kingfisher oil project in Kikuube district.

The complaints that are contained herein were derived from the discussions and meetings with the Kingfisher oil project host communities. The meetings and discussions, which STREC facilitated alongside other partners, took place in January, February, and March 2024 in Kyakapere A&B, Nsunsu A&B, Nsonga, Kyabasambu, Kyina, and Kyehoora upper and lower in Buhuuka and Nkondo Parishes in Kikuube district.

Despite that the Kingfisher oil project is being advertised as an example of international cooperation to achieve development, CNOOC operations have violated Article 26 and 41 of the Uganda constitution, causing human rights violations, environmental degradation, and the disruption of community livelihoods in the region. This is clearly in violation of Chinese policies such as Guidelines for Ecological and Environmental Protection of Foreign Investment and Cooperation Construction Projects issued in January 2022, which requires companies to 'balance economic benefits with social and environmental benefits', follow host country law (Article 17), and international best practices (Article 3,4,6,7). These guidelines also expect CNOOC to "strengthen communication with potentially affected communities" (Article 23).

While we acknowledge the importance of energy and natural resource development in the area, it is imperative that CNOOC strikes a balance between economic interest and long-term wellbeing

of the local inhabitants of Buhuuka and Nkondo whose suffering is now being caused and exacerbated by the CNOOC oil operations in the region.

Therefore, through this petition, we implores your urgent intervention to address the grievances faced by Kingfisher PAPs due to compulsory land acquisition processes.

Key concerns raised by of Buhuuka and Nkondo community members regarding the Kingfisher oil project

Unfair compulsory land acquisitions:

During our engagements with the Kingfisher Project Affected Persons (PAPs), it became evident that many families are expressing dissatisfaction with the unjust compulsory land acquisitions they have experienced. This occurred as a result of negotiations between the government, CNOOC, and the chairperson of the Buhuuka Community Land Association (BUCOLA), leaving some community members without any form of compensation. With assistance from the Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF), CNOOC forcefully evicted people from their ancestral land without any compensation. Currently, the land from which people were evicted is occupied by CNOOC.

Presently, a significant number of families who once had homes find themselves renting accommodations because they were forcibly evicted, while others have opted to leave the area entirely. This situation has exacerbated the challenges faced by parents in providing for the basic needs of their children and families.

Regrettably, the Kingfisher project-affected communities are encountering similar hardships to those faced by communities affected by the oil refinery. The anticipated economic benefits from oil being are modest and unlikely to significantly benefit us.

Impact on Fishing Livelihoods:

In discussions with Kingfisher Project Affected Persons (PAPs), we highlight the increased militarization and confiscation of local fishing equipment. This has resulted in loss of livelihoods for community members in Buhuuka and Nkondo parishes who rely on fishing.

However, the Kingfisher Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report anticipated that the oil project could coexist with community livelihoods. However, this has not occurred. It is disheartening to note that members of the oil-hosting community in Buhuuka and Nkondo are experiencing losses in their livelihoods.

Forceful eviction of communities from their land:

In our discussions, community members shared reports of being forcibly evicted from their ancestral land, which they had lived on for decades and used for farming and livestock rearing. The Uganda Peoples Defense Force (UPDF) issued a directive giving them a mere two hours to gather their belongings and vacate the area, resulting in the loss of their livelihoods and properties.

The affected villages include Kyabasambu, Kachunde, Busingi, Ssenjonjo, and Kyenyanja, where CNOOC has already established camps for their workers. This infringement has not only caused psychological distress and plunged households into poverty but has also hindered Project Affected Persons (PAPs) from recovering lost land, properties, and income.

Consequently, these families are unable to pursue meaningful economic activities, exacerbating their struggle to provide for their children and households' basic needs. The forcible eviction has inflicted considerable hardships upon the local community.

Noise pollution and Vibration from the oil rig:

Residents of Nsunzu A&B village in Buhuuka have voiced concerns over the incessant noise and intense vibrations emanating from the nearby oil rig, which operates round the clock. This persistent disturbance not only affects the immediate community but also extends its reach, causing physical and psychological strain on neighboring areas. Moreover, the adverse effects ripple through the ecosystem, impacting aquatic life in Lake Albert.

The disruptive noise and vibrations are not the only issues plaguing the locality. The glaring light emitted by the oil rig further compounds the problem, disturbing both local inhabitants and aquatic species. The strong luminance interferes with the natural rhythms of aquatic life, disrupting their habitats and behaviors. As the Kingfisher Project operates within the vicinity of Lake Albert, the ecological repercussions of these disturbances are profound.

Efforts must be made to mitigate these impacts, ensuring that the operations of the oil rig are conducted in a manner that minimizes disruption to both human communities and the delicate balance of the lake's ecosystem. Such measures are essential to preserve the well-being of all those affected by the Kingfisher Project.

Intimidation remains prevalent among the Kingfisher Project Affected Persons (PAPs):

Despite PAP's consistent complaints and reports, the issue of intimidation has yet to be effectively addressed. Those PAPs who have spoken out in demand of fair and sufficient compensation continually receive threats from unidentified individuals, warning them of potential arrest for opposing government projects.

During a recent meeting, communities affected by the Kingfisher Project also disclosed instances of being coerced into relinquishing their land. These threats are suspectedly tied to ensuring CNOOC's oil development interests, with assistance from the UPDF. Affected communities vehemently disagree and oppose intimidation tactics employed by security agencies and land acquisition consultants. This is particularly prevalent in the Buhuuka and Nkondo parishes of Kikuube district.

Mistreatment of casual labour:

Upon the arrival of CNOOC in Buhuuka, promises were made to involve local communities in the Kingfisher project, assuring employment opportunities within the oil sector. However, contrary to

expectations, locals who have sought employment have been relegated to casual labor roles, predominantly involving strenuous tasks such as stone-carrying.

The treatment of these casual laborers is concerning. Despite their grueling workdays, spanning from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, they receive minimal compensation of only 10,000 Ugandan shillings (2.61US Dollars) per day. Furthermore, these workers are denied any form of leave and are obligated to toil continuously for seven (7) days in a week.

Such mistreatment not only undermines the promises made to the local community but also highlights the exploitation of vulnerable laborers. It is imperative that fair and equitable employment practices are implemented, ensuring that local workers are afforded dignified working conditions and just compensation for their labor. Any discrepancies between promises made and realities faced by the local workforce must be rectified to uphold the integrity of the Kingfisher project and safeguard the well-being of all involved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We urge CNOOC and Ugandan government to immediately take the following steps to address the above grievances:

- a) CNOOC should respect and uphold the rights of affected communities and prohibit any actions that result in the displacement of families without proper compensation and resettlement options.
- b) CNOOC and Ugandan government should comply with Ugandan laws and best international practices in respecting the rights of local communities
- c) CNOOC should support the fishing communities with alternative fishing areas including exploring options for ponds to safeguard them.
- d) CNOOC and government should compensate us for the loss of our land and livelihoods including those who have been forcefully evicted from their land.
- e) Urgently establish and prioritize hiring the Buhuuka community for skilled labor positions, including skill development programs, that will empower the affected communities to be gainful employed
- f) CNOOC should establish an independent, fair grievance mechanism within the community to facilitate open communication and allow the community members to voice their concerns regarding the project and access compensation. It is crucial for CNOOC to pay close attention to the issues raised and address them appropriately.

Thank you,



Cirrus Kabaale,

Chief Executive Officer-STREC

ckabaale@strecug.org

Cc

- Chinese Embassy in Uganda
- The Minister of Energy and Mineral Development,
- The Minister of Gender, Labor and Social Development
- The Chairperson, Natural Resources Committee of Parliament,
- The Inspectorate of Government
- CNOOC Ltd
- CNOOC International
- CNOOC Uganda

Annex 1: List of Kingfisher project affected persons signatories to the petition to CNOOC

No.	Name	Sex	Village
1.	Ogenrwoth William	M	Nsunzu B
2.	Asiimwe Sharon	F	Nsunzu B
3.	Aliho Justus	M	Nsunzu B
4.	Atim Ester	F	Nsunzu B
5.	Edisa Nyakate	F	Nsunzu B
6.	Tibagwa Janety	F	Nsunzu B
7.	Jackline Omirabe	F	Nsunzu B
8.	Basaliza Gofrey	M	Nsunzu B
9.	Picho Anthony	M	Nsunzu B
10.	Ayio Merry	F	Nsunzu B
11.	Ayerango Annet	F	Nsunzu B
12.	Atimnedi Sayuni	F	Nsunzu B
13.	Kubasa Julius	M	Nsunzu B
14.	Omba John	M	Nsunzu B
15.	Babihe Vicent	M	Nsunzu B
16.	Abeditho Estella	F	Nsunzu B
17.	Kabenda Lilian	F	Nsunzu B
18.	Mungomio Saviour	M	Nsunzu B

19.	Ouma Colbers Lule	M	Nsunzu B
20.	Oburi Elia	M	Nsunzu B
21.	Kwikiriza Stephen	M	Nsunzu B
22.	Omirambe Richard	M	Nsunzu B
23.	Odongo John	M	Nsunzu B
24.	Lamber Uathum	M	Nsunzu B
25.	Mugisha Qaepher	M	Nsunzu B
26.	Okecha Robbinson	M	Nsunzu B
27.	Dhogupol Eria	M	Nsunzu B
28.	Ocir Alfred	M	Nsunzu B
29.	Busobozi swizin	M	Nsunzu B
30.	Oyenboth Alfred	M	Nsunzu B
31.	Lonema Ajaru Gilbert	M	Nsunzu B
32.	Kolodin Akum	F	Nsunzu B
33.	Opio Umumu	M	Nsunzu B
34.	Kumakech Dieme	M	Nsunzu B
35.	Aramanzan Karim	M	Nsunzu B
36.	Kaahwa Julius	M	Kyakapere
37.	Winji Geofrey	M	Kyakapere
38.	Adubango Awafa	M	Kyakapere
39.	Opio Geremi	M	Kyakapere
40.	Pidhanu Aramazam	M	kyakapere
41.	Byaruhanga Yusuf	M	Kyakapere
42.	Girinegi Moses	M	Kyakapere
43.	Nyasamba Joyce	F	Kyakapere
44.	Adong Margret	F	Kyakapere
45.	Onzero Azado Francis	F	Kyakapere
46.	Kayeny Irene	F	Kyakapere
47.	Faida Joice	F	Kyakapere
48.	Onen Jackson	M	Kyakapere
49.	Giramiya Manuela	F	Kyakapere
50.	Ngamita Koloon	F	Kyakapere
51.	Giramiya Morene	F	Kyakapere
52.	Tumitho Ayomirwoth	F	kyakapere
53.	Oduba Omad	F	Kyakapere
54.	Omirambe Charles	M	Kyakapere
55.	Prosper Mujuni	F	Kyakapere
56.	Arach Rufino	M	Kyakapere
57.	Adubango Francis	M	Kyakapere
58.	Oyirwoth Baross	M	Kyakapere
59.	Nikite Julius	M	Kyakapere
60.	Fambe Agnes	F	kyakapere
61.	Ogena Gilbert	M	Kyakapere
62.	Munguriet Manwela	F	Kyakapere
63.	Cwinya Godfrey	M	Kyakapere

64.	Francis Agenga	M	Kyakapere
65.	Acaronga Alice	F	Kyakapere
66.	Okumu Ogenda	F	Kyakapere
67.	Okumu Jamanak	F	Kyakapere
68.	Tuwambe Samba	M	Kyakapere
69.	Ongiera Stephen	M	Kyakapere
70.	Bedijo Opio	M	Kyakapere
71.	Ubegu Julius	M	Kyakapere
72.	Ochen David	M	Kyakapere
73.	Munguriek Sherry	F	Kyakapere
74.	Akumu Evalyne	F	Kyakapere
75.	Nyamungu Sifa	F	Kyakapere
76.	Mungu Nuti	M	Kyakapere
77.	Micheal Odaga	M	Kyakapere
78.	Njjangoma Manuela	F	Kyakapere
79.	Buwanga	M	Kyakapere
80.	Munguromo Stephen	M	Kyakapere
81.	Anirwoth Munguriek	F	Kyakapere
82.	Atimango Fosta	F	Kyakapere
83.	Senyonga Samuel	M	Kyina
84.	Topista Layer	F	Kyina
85.	Aisha Naigaga	F	Nsonga
86.	Basisira Joseph	M	Nsonga
87.	Kalyebara Sulaiman	M	Nyina
88.	Nansanga Catherine	F	Nsonga
89.	Nyandera Joice	F	Kyabasambo
90.	Mpabasi Jolly	F	Kyabasambo
91.	Kusemererwa Irene	F	Nsonga
92.	Tumuhaise Sarah	F	Nsonga
93.	Babihe Gilbert	M	Kyina
94.	Tibemanya Charles	M	Kyina
95.	Mananu Charles	M	Nsunzu
96.	Musimenta Steven	M	Kyina
97.	Tulyahebwa Karamagi	M	Kyina
98.	Kabaikaramu Agnes	F	Kyina
99.	Kato Gilbert	M	Kyina
100.	Scovia Amooti	F	Kyina
101.	Nyandera	F	Kyina
102.	Abigaba Ronald	M	Kyina
103.	Ahebwa Emmanuel	M	Kyina
104.	Olwal Daniel	M	Kyina
105.	Ochirichan John	M	Kyina
106.	Tumwine Brian	M	Kyina
107.	Tumwesige Dan	M	Kyina
108.	Muganda Mugisha Christopher	M	Kyina

109.	Ateenyi Maviringo	F	Kyina
110.	Uparamungu John	M	Kyina
111.	Uchaki John	M	Kyina
112.	Arombochan Suzan	F	Kyina
113.	Ukuruboth Immaculate	F	Kyina
114.	Berinda Joy	F	Kyina
115.	Apanatuka Richard	M	Kyian
116.	Apio Sarah	F	Kyina
117.	Adong Dongo	F	Koweti
118.	Baguma Dorika	F	Koweti
119.	Alikeri Bamutura	M	Koweti
120.	Ukoro jane	M	Koweti
121.	Odongo Samuel	M	Koweti
122.	Abooki Gideon	M	Koweti
123.	Mungumo John	M	Kyina
124.	Muhumuza Ali	M	Kyina
125.	Daniel Nelson	M	Kyina
126.	Mukombozi Alfred	M	Kyina
127.	Kaahwa Willy	M	Kyabasambu
128.	Kato John	M	Kyabasambu
129.	Kazora James	M	Kyabasambu
130.	Komugisha Jonathan	M	Kyabasambu
131.	Bukenya Simon	M	Kyabasambu
132.	Okwaimunw Alfred		Kyabasambu
133.	Mbabazi Judith	F	Kyabasambo
134.	Akello Selsa	F	Kyabasambo
135.	Okumu Gilbert	M	Kyabasambo
136.	Alima Rose	F	Kyabasambo
137.	Akumu Sylvia	F	Kyabasambo
138.	Perinegi Richard	M	Kyabasambo
139.	Amiya Everline	F	Kyabasambo
140.	Masendi Marchris	M	Kyabasambo
141.	Bonabana Moreen	F	Kyabasambo
142.	Atuhairu Jenety	F	Kyabasambo
143.	Tusabe Christopher	M	Kyabasambo
144.	Okeny Charles	M	Kyabasambo
145.	Onenchan John	M	Kyabasambo
146.	Ntakimanye Nixon	M	Kyabasambo
147.	Asiimwe Pascal	M	Kyabasambo
148.	Balikurungi Gilbert	M	Kyabasambo
149.	Kutegeka Molly	F	Kyabasambo
150.	Ezama Luiji	F	Kyabasambo
151.	Nyagoma Babora	F	Nsonga
152.	Balegonzaki John	M	Nsonga
153.	Mbabazi Peter	M	Nsonga

154.	Mugisha Junior	M	Nsonga
155.	Mungurenki Opakirwoth	M	Nsonga
156.	Wandira John	M	Nsonga
157.	Ayebwa Shamim	F	Nsonga
158.	Kyalesima Scovia	F	Nsonga
159.	Okello joan	F	Nsonga
160.	Tumumwesigwe Dickson	M	Nsonga
161.	Kisembo Allan	M	Nsonga
162.	Kayanga Ivan	M	Nsonga
163.	Opio Moses	M	Nsonga
164.	Uryek Denis	M	Nsonga
165.	Unikani Moses	M	Nsonga
166.	Obeling Gift	F	Nsonga
167.	Pirwoth John	M	Nsonga
168.	Omirambe Charles	M	Nsonga
169.	Wanirwoth Scovia	F	Nsonga
170.	Sunday Miya	F	Nsonga
171.	Nema Janet	F	Nsonga
172.	Innocent Tumwebaze	M	Nsonga
173.	Pitua Robert	M	Nsonga
174.	Oaikane Janet	F	Nsonga
175.	Munguriek Agnes	F	Nsonga
176.	Ochokdhogu Julius	M	Nsonga
177.	Omirambe Moses	M	Nsonga
176.	Banaki Ednasi	F	Kyabasambo
177.	Nshabahurira Fabisi	F	Kyabasambo
178.	Fachan gorgina	F	Kyabasambo
179.	Agines Fanirwoth	F	Kyabasambo
180.	Mawawu Mary	F	Kyabasambo
181.	Ketura Musinguzi	F	Kyabasambo
182.	Onyera Furaswazi	F	Kyabasambo
183.	Beliu Rose	F	Kyabasambo
184.	Opar Donan	M	Kyabasambo
185.	Ominji Gilransion	M	Kyabasambo
186.	Zahara	F	Kyabasambo
187.	Okumu Venasio	F	Kyabasambo
188.	Opar Salbathori	M	Kyabasambo
189.	Yakobo Tirwowe	M	Kyabasambo
190.	Okumu John	M	Kyabasambo
191.	Alfarine Esther	F	Kyabasambo
192.	Birwirayo Margret	F	Kyabasambo
193.	Gipatho Grace	F	Kyabasambo
194.	Tumuhairwe Fausta	F	kyabasambo
195.	Christine Nyangoma	F	Kyina
196.	Kothurach Margret	F	Kyina

197.	Afoyorwoth Christine	F	Kyina
198.	Owach Robert	M	Kyina
199.	Ofoy Emmanuel	M	Kyina
200.	Tekakwo Sadam	M	Kyina
201.	Kauma Margret	F	Kyina
202.	Doreen Josephant	F	Kyina
203.	Kapara Joseline	F	Kyina
204.	Wapokurwa Kennedy	M	Kyina
205.	Nyaygea Esther	F	Kyina
206.	Byakagaba Johnan	M	Nsunzu
207.	Biferamunda Justus	M	Nsunzu
208.	Wanjala Marc	M	Nsunzu
209.	Fred Kalongo	M	Nsunzu
210.	Atuhura Joseline	F	Nsunzu
211	Kalanzi Abdulsalam	M	Nsunzu
212	Oryema Geoffrey	M	Nsunzu
213	Nanyanzi Night Esther	F	Nsunzu
214	Okwi Emmanuel	M	Nsunzu
215	Sandra Atukunda	F	Nsunsu
216	Edema victor	M	Nsunzu
217	Bukoye Rose	F	Nsunzu
218	Maganya Joyce	F	Nsunzu
219	Banyumya Hillary	M	Nsunzu
220	Abuko Betty	F	Nsunzu
221	Tino Rose	F	Nsunzu

222	Akello Molly	F	Nsunzu
223	Aballo Alice	F	Nsunzu
224	Kanyaga Joyce	F	Nsunzu
225	Waako Innocent	F	Nsunzu
226	Kiyai Gorreti	F	Nsunzu
227	Ayella Francis	M	Nsonga
228	Elesu Joseph	M	Nsonga
229	Among Mary	F	Nsonga
230	Watumbe Jean Micheal	M	Nsonga
231	Ochola Emmanuel	M	Nsonga
232	Kwikiriza Felister	F	Nsonga
233	Amuge Rose	F	Nsonga
234	Othuma Raymond	M	Nsonga
235	Nyeko Alfred	M	Nsonga
236	Isidi Suzan	F	Nsonga
237	Achan Betty	F	Nsonga
238	Anyoda Margret	F	Nsonga
239	Kanaiza Jane	F	Nsonga
240	Onek Polyne	F	Nsonga
241	Onyinge Richard	M	Nsonga

242	Onyenyboth Suzan	F	Nsonga
243	Namobwe Girsh	F	Nsonga
244	Musinguzi Samuel	M	Nsonga
245	Kyakusiimire Hellen	F	Nsonga
246	Ziwalana Enock	M	Nsonga
247	Jauyambe Ediye	M	Nsonga
248	Oroman Andrew	M	Nsonga
249	Asiimwe Betty	F	Nsonga
250	Akello Sumaya	F	Nsonga
251	Byaruhanga Franscis	M	Nsonga
252	Katusiime Marg	F	Nsonga
253	Achidri Siliveri	M	Nsonga
254	Ongey-Wun Richard	M	Nsonga
255	Oringa Goefrey	M	Nsonga
256	Nafula Winnie	F	Nsonga
257	Kyaligonza Fred	M	Nsonga
258	Cwinykano Nelson	M	Nsonga
259	Katusabe Grace	F	Nsonga
260	Okunzi Sam	M	Nsonga
261	Diedone Onyinda	M	Nsonga

262	Pampiny Keneth	M	Nsonga
263	Mugisa Patience	F	Nsonga
264	Ocheng Vicent	M	Nsonga
265	Atim Pauline	F	Nsonga
266	Tube Marchelous	M	Nsonga
267	Alele Agrey	M	Nsonga
268	Gilbert Byaruhanga	M	Nsonga