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Oil Host Communities in Kikuube District Rally Against SINOSURE and CHINA RE, Rejecting Insurance for Ugandan Oil and Gas Activities

Today, grassroots organizations alongside communities affected by the EACOP and Kingfisher projects in Kikuube District took to the streets in a peaceful demonstration. Their aim: to voice staunch opposition to the Ugandan government's current efforts to secure insurance for various projects, particularly those within the oil and gas sector.

During the demonstration, representatives of oil host communities issued a resounding call to SINOSURE and CHINA RE, urging them to refuse insurance coverage for the EACOP and other fossil fuel ventures in Uganda.

These communities highlighted that projects such as the EACOP, Tilenga, Kingfisher, and the oil refinery are situated in areas of paramount social significance and critical biodiversity. These areas include lands owned by vulnerable populations, national parks, game reserves, forests, lakes, rivers, sacred natural sites, and historical landmarks. The detrimental impact of oil activities on these ecosystems is already palpable, and the ongoing exploitation processes pose significant social, environmental, economic, and political ramifications for the country and its people.

For instance, communities residing in areas affected by the Kingfisher project have faced a multitude of challenges and threats resulting from oil activities. These include intimidation, forced evictions from ancestral lands, disruption of traditional fishing practices, and noise pollution, among others.

In light of these concerns, affected communities are issuing a clear directive to insurance companies:

1. Halt all plans to provide insurance coverage for oil and gas projects, including the Tilenga, Kingfisher, and East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) ventures in Uganda.

2. Prioritize the approval of green projects that promote clean, renewable energy sources and sustainable development.

3. Direct investments towards initiatives that foster environmental conservation, uphold principles of climate justice, and safeguard the human rights of local populations, rather than supporting fossil fuel endeavors.

The rallying cry from these communities underscores a collective determination to protect their lands, preserve their ways of life, and advocate for a sustainable future that prioritizes people and planet over profit.

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