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Mr Tomas Insua
Executive Director
Laudato Si' Movement

23 November 2021

Subject: Tilenga, Kingfisher, and East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) oil projects

Dear Mr Insua,

We thank the Laudato Si' Movement for the letter of 9 September 2021, and appreciate your dedication to conservation in relation to the Tilenga/Kingfisher/EACOP oil projects.

IUCN is aware that the ongoing developments in the Albertine region are a cause for concern with regard to conservation. IUCN further recognises that the impact is not only linked to biodiversity and climate change, but also affects economic development. We have been in dialogue with the Government of Uganda and have had preliminary discussions with the Government of Tanzania, in addition to other stakeholders, to find approaches to collectively address these issues.

IUCN has further offered the application of existing recommendations, and guidance from the scientific knowledge, tools, and experiences to address these issues. Through this collaboration, we acknowledge the growing interests by both Governments, and we also encourage the work of civil society to help safeguard nature, climate and economic development.

Earlier this year, Mr Dickens Kamugisha, Chief Executive Officer of Africa Center for Energy Governance (AFIEGO), wrote to IUCN on a similar subject. We understand that AFIEGO is also a co-signatory to your 9 September letter. In our response of 30 September 2021 to Mr Kamugisha, we detailed the various efforts put in place by the Government of Uganda in relation to the Tilenga, Kingfisher and East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) oil projects. We trust that Mr Kamugisha will share those details with you.

IUCN recognises that extractives industries can be significant contributors to the global economy, and this makes them an influential force in shaping how global conservation and development goals are attained. Based on these considerations, the Secretariat has developed the IUCN Extractives Sector Operational Framework, which guides the Secretariat's engagement on these issues. For further information on this, please visit our [website](#).

IUCN commits to furthering dialogue with the Governments of Uganda and Tanzania, and will continue collaborating with IUCN Members, Commissions, and wider stakeholders on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Oberle', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Dr Bruno Oberle
Director General