



**March 1, 2022**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Kampala, Uganda

**COURT CASE AGAINST UGANDA AND TANZANIA OVER THE EACOP PROJECT  
TO BE HEARD**

The East African Court of Justice (EACJ) will at 9.30 am tomorrow (March 2, 2022) hear a court case against the Ugandan and Tanzanian governments as well as the East African Community (EAC) Secretary General.

The case, miscellaneous application number 29 of 2020, is challenging the construction of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) until the main case against the project is concluded.

The EACOP is a planned 1,443km pipeline that will be constructed from Hoima in Uganda to the port of Tanga in Tanzania. Construction of the pipeline is expected to commence in 2023.

If constructed, the EACOP will transport 216,000 barrels of crude oil per day at peak production. It will be the longest electrically-heated crude oil pipeline in the world.

The case was filed by Ugandan, Kenyan and Tanzanian environmental and human rights groups. These include Centre for Food and Adequate Living Rights (CEFROHT)-Uganda, Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO)-Uganda, Natural Justice-Kenya and others.

The applicants argue that the project violates key East African and international laws or treaties. These include the EAC Treaty, Protocol for Sustainable Development of the Lake Victoria basin, Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Others include the African Charter on Human and People's Rights as well as the African Convention on Conservation of Natural Resources among others. The EACOP project will have

grave environmental, biodiversity, climate change, social and economic impacts according to the proponents of the case.

The project is also faulted for failing to undertake a transboundary environmental and social impact assessment to be approved by the EAC member states as required under the Protocol for Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria.

The project thus poses considerable threats to the 40 million people in East Africa whose livelihoods depend on the lake. Nearly a third of the pipeline will be constructed through the Lake Victoria basin.

\*\*\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*\*\*

For more information about the court case and an analysis of the EACOP project's existing and potential impacts, read this [factsheet](#).

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