



Plenary sitting

B9-0412/2022

13.9.2022

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 144 of the Rules of Procedure

on violations of human rights in Uganda and Tanzania linked to the investments in fossil fuels projects
(2022/2826(RSP))

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on behalf of the PPE Group

European Parliament resolution on violations of human rights in Uganda and Tanzania linked to the investments in fossil fuels projects (2022/2826(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Uganda and Tanzania,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,
 - having regard to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of 27 June 1981,
 - having regard to the joint EU-Africa Strategy,
 - having regard to the EU-OACPS Partnership Agreement and the Cotonou Agreement,
 - having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas in partnership with the Chinese National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) and the national oil companies of Uganda and Tanzania, Total has launched two major projects in Uganda; whereas these are the Tilenga project, which aims to exploit oil fields, particularly within the Murchison Falls natural protected area, as well as EACOP, a pipeline project designed to transport oil over more than 1,400 km to the Tanzanian coast;
- B. whereas these projects represent an important development opportunity for both Uganda and Tanzania through enhancement of the trade relations between these two countries together with improved infrastructure, improved access to the regional and international markets, better preservation and protection of the environment by these two countries, and job creation together with training and knowledge, skills and technology transfer;
- C. whereas in 2019, the case against Total was brought before the French court in Nanterre by NGO Les Amis de La Terre (Friends of the Earth France) and four Ugandan associations (Survie, AFIEGO, CRED, NAPE/Amis de la Terre Uganda and NAVODA); whereas the Nanterre civil court declared itself incompetent to rule on the case and referred it to the commercial court; whereas the Versailles Court of Appeal upheld this decision; whereas an appeal to the Supreme Court was filed subsequently and it recognised the jurisdiction of the civil court in the matter; whereas the ruling is still pending;
- D. whereas international and local NGOs report that there are serious environmental and human rights concerns on the activities in both Uganda and Tanzania;
1. Awaits the ruling of the French Supreme Court; points out that various actors are involved, therefore, responsibilities should be attributed accordingly; notes that Total has stated that it complies with Ugandan and Tanzanian legislation;

2. Stresses that monitoring of environmental and human rights impacts of development projects is important; believes that the possible adverse ecological and socio-economic impacts of the development projects in Uganda and Tanzania should be taken into consideration; expresses support for these projects when they are in line with the Union's priorities and External policy lines and commitments as well as the common values and goals of its partnerships;
3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Vice-President of the European Commission/ High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and the EEAS, the Government and Parliament of Uganda and Tanzania.