



Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Roberta Metsola
President of the European Parliament
1, avenue du Président Robert Schuman
CS 91024
F 67070 Strasbourg Cedex

September 22, 2022

Dear Ms Metsola,

I have been informed that the European Parliament last week deliberated on and then adopted, in just forty-eight hours, a resolution denouncing human rights abuses supposedly connected to the project to develop subsurface resources in Uganda, linked to infrastructure through Tanzania, led by TotalEnergies.

I very much regret that the Company and, by extension, its 105,000 employees should be publicly accused in this way by your institution, without being approached at any point for a prior adversarial discussion. I cannot help but feel that your Assembly should reach its opinions on subjects that it is free to select itself completely independently. It seems to me that, in this case, the adversarial principle on which the rule of law is based has not been respected in any way whatsoever. And I consider that the Parliament's adoption of resolutions containing factual inexactitudes, and statements based on unfounded allegations, some serious, to be most damaging.

To cite just one example, if we had been asked for explanations¹, we would have been able to inform the Parliament that the project does not raise the "risk", and even less an "imminent" one, of the displacement of 100,000 people. In fact, 723 households, numbering some 5,000 people, will be rehomed nearby in higher quality housing; other people affected because they own or farm land covered by the project have naturally been taken into account in the compensation procedure.

The fact that the Subcommittee on Human Rights decided to extend an invitation to me after the fact, to express myself when the decision had already been taken, for a duration of "eight minutes" (according to the terms of the invitation), does not in any way correct the situation created by this deliberation, because the adversarial principle can scarcely apply retroactively. You will understand that I do not intend to accept the invitation under these circumstances.

Please accept, Madam, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Patrick Pouyanné

¹ European Members of Parliament can visit the following site for detailed, factual information verified by third parties:
<https://totalenergies.com/info/tilenga-eacop-two-projects-rigorously-researched-and-assessed>