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24th January 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE BLOCKING OF OUR EACOP CONFERENCE AND ARREST OF BARIGYE BOB.

In line with our objectives, we organized a one-day event on the oil developments that include the East African Oil crude pipeline (EACOP). This particular event was a public debate on the Environmental, Human rights and Economic impacts of the planned East African Oil Crude pipeline.

We had prepared this meeting with the premise managers/Owners at Emerald Hotel. We did the necessary payments to the Hotel and the owners cleared us for the meeting and prepared for the same. To our disappointment today morning (At around 9am) the police blocked the venue for our public debate and started harassing, arresting and stopping participants and well-wishers from entering the venue.

In the end, what was supposed to be an exchange of ideas was violently stopped and one of the chief organizers Mr. Barigye Bob was violently arrested and is detained at Wandegeya Police Station.

We demand that;

- 1. Police and the military stop abusing the rights of citizens to assemble and the freedom to free speech mostly regarding EACOP since it has become a habit.
- 2. Mr. Barigye Bob be released immediately

BY MANAGEMENT