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Yngve Slyngstad
Chief Executive Officer
Norges Bank Investment Management (NBIM)
Bankplassen 2
P.O. Box 1179 Sentrum
NO-0107 Oslo

Through

His Excellency Victor C. Ronneberg
The Ambassador
Royal Norwegian Embassy
Nairobi

Dear Sir,

RE: APPEAL TO HAVE GENERAL ELECTRIC (GE) AND THE INDUSTRIAL BANK OF CHINA LTD WITHDRAW SUPPORT TO LAMU COAL PLANT IN LAMU COUNTY

I trust this letter finds you well. I write to you from HAKI Africa - a human rights organisation based in Mombasa, Kenya working towards the promotion and protection of human rights in Kenya and beyond. HAKI Africa is also a member of the deCOALonize Movement which is a people's movement seeking to promote article 42 of the Constitution of Kenya (a right to clean and healthy environment). The movement is particularly seeking to raise awareness on the harmful effects of coal mining in Kitui and coal power production in Lamu, Kenya.

We write this letter to you as one of the listed owner of General Electric (GE) with a total investment in GE of US\$1,258,005,156, and ICBC with total equity of US\$568,415,372. The ICBC is the biggest financier of the Lamu coal power plant, to the tune of US\$1,240,000,000, a little over 50% of the project cost. GE recently confirmed its commitment to support the proposed coal plant in Lamu, Kenya through provision of technology.

While the world is divesting from coal due to its well known impacts to the environment, it is unfortunate that Kenya is seeking to build its first ever coal plant. The proposed plant will be the largest in East Africa at 1050MW, and is less than 20km from a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a Biosphere Reserve, a Marine and National Reserve. Lamu is considered to be the oldest and best preserved Swahili Settlement in East Africa.

According to the Paris Agreement which Kenya, Norway and the US are signatory to, the aim of the agreement is amongst others to, “increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development...”. Construction of the Lamu Coal plant will reverse any gains made by Kenya in reducing greenhouse emissions.

In this breath, we write to you as a part owner of GE and a shareholder in ICBC to intervene to help stop them from in any way partaking in this environmentally harmful coal project. We believe this will be keeping in line with NBIM’s expectations towards companies of “integrating relevant climate change challenges and opportunities in business strategy and financial planning” as well as fall in line with your “sustainable finance strategy” which seeks to take account the environmental and social risks posed by your investments.

Being a signatory of the UNEP Statement of Commitment by Financial Institutions on Sustainable Development, we are confident that NBIM will commit to “making our economy and lifestyles sustainable and commit to the integration of environmental and social considerations into all aspects of...operations”, including your investment choices.

The People of Kenya are counting on NBIM to be considerate of Kenya’s environment and be the voice of the right of Kenyans, the Lamu in particular, to a clean and healthy environment. Kindly treat this matter with the seriousness it deserves as we look forward to your swift action and response.

Sincerely,



Hussein Khalid
Executive Director
HAKI Africa



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CC.

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