

Mr. Otieno - G

Please review the
Petition and facilitate
appropriately.

J.D. Chanice
11/7/19

Please process with
finalities.

Zam
11.07.19

The Clerk of the Senate

Parliament Buildings

P.O. BOX 41842-00100

Nairobi

Email:senate@parliament.go.ke



RE: PETITION TO THE SENATE CONCERNING SILTATION OF LAKE MAGADI

We, the undersigned, Citizens of the Republic of Kenya, and residents of Kajiado County:

Draw the attention of the senate to the following:

- 1. That**, Tata Chemicals Magadi Ltd operating from Lake Magadi is Africa's largest manufacturer of Soda Ash and one of Kenya's leading exporters. The Company has been producing soda ash and related products, processed from Trona that naturally occurs in Lake Magadi, for over 100 years,
- 2. That**, the lake has been facing serious environmental threats emanating from sedimentation and siltation for the last decade, which have gradually led to the loss of about 20% of the lake to soil and silt deposition. In addition the accumulation and spread of the residues is affecting the quality of Soda ash produced from the rest of the lake.
- 3. That**, the siltation problem in Lake Magadi has its origins in the upper and middle water catchment areas of the lake, where intense soil erosion is occurring. The upper catchment areas include Keekonyokie and Suswa Wards of Narok East Constituency and the middle catchment area covers Mosiro in Narok East, and Ewuaso Nkidongi and Mosiro Wards of Kajiado West constituency.
- 4. That**, the mining operations in Lake Magadi are a source of livelihoods for over 50,000 people through trade, and direct or indirect employment. The Company also supports water provision, education facilities, bursaries, health services, and enterprise opportunities for surrounding communities.

Petition to the Senate by residents of Kajiado county concerning siltation challenge in Lake Magadi.

5. **That**, the company has invested heavily in individual efforts to save Lake Magadi from destruction through siltation. It initially built three dykes to block the soil deposits, but successive rain periods led to the covering of the dykes.

6. **That**, the company also initiated a project to divert the main river identified to be the main conduit of the siltation as an emergency measure to protect the lake. This was done in partnership with relevant Government departments and agencies and local communities. Environmental due diligence was carried out and necessary approvals obtained from NEMA and WARMA. Consideration was taken to ensure that sufficient water remained available for the dependent community downstream. The project took more than 3 years to complete and cost the Company more than 100 Million Ksh.

6. **That**, the company is overseeing monitoring of the above project to manage any environmental issues, while partnering with local communities to address pertinent development issues.

7. **That**, while the river diversion is a short term measure, there is need for a wide spread and long term solution targeting the catchment areas of the lake to introduce measures that stop soil erosion and movement of soil to the lake, and to promote afforestation and sustainable land use practices.

8. **That**, the company urgently needs Government support and interventions to deal with the siltation challenge. The company is dealing with an environmental load that is not of its making and which if not urgently and appropriately addressed may lead to the loss of a national economic resource that has supported local livelihoods for decades and which continues to earn the country much needed foreign exchange.

9. **That**, this matter has not been addressed by any relevant body.


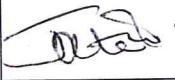
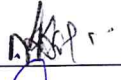

10. **That**, none of these issues raised in this petition is pending in any court of law, constitutional or any other legal body.

WHEREFORE, your humble petitioners pray that the senate investigates the matter of Lake Magadi siltation and makes appropriate recommendations thereon, with a view to-


- a) ensuring that siltation to the lake is prevented;
- b) ensuring that appropriate interventions, regulations and guidelines are put in place to ensure and promote sustainable land use practices and prevent soil and water degradation upstream of lake Magadi.

Petition to the Senate by residents of Kajiado county concerning siltation challenge in Lake Magadi.

Dated this.....10th.....day of.....July.....2019.

NO	NAME	ADDRESS	I.D NO.	SIGNATURE
1	Dr. Stephen S. Moiko	BOX 246 KISERIAN	12655903	
2	Mr. John N. Kamanga	BOX. 1 Magadi	12491261	
3	Mr. Daniel Nchui	BOX. 1 Magadi	24727278	
4	Mr. Francis Sakimpa	BOX. 1 Magadi	9654967	

Counter signed by senator Philip Mpaayei.



SEN. PHILIP MPAAYEI.

SENATOR FOR KAJIADO COUNTY

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