



Yearly Meeting of the  
Religious Society of  
Friends in Britain

Thursday 16 February 2023

Dear Bruce Carnegie-Brown and John Neal,

**Open letter: Lloyd's of London's policy on fossil fuels**

We are writing to you as the Recording Clerk of Quakers in Britain, and the Africa Section Clerk of Friends World Committee for Consultation, to ask Lloyd's of London to meet with us to discuss its action on climate change. We echo the call of 100 organisations who wrote to you in April last year asking you to advise your members against issuing (re)insurance for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).

As Quakers, we believe that we must do our best to end harmful practices and seek alternatives in a spirit of love for all affected. We uphold our religious belief in the equality of all people by refusing to accept the suffering of those around the world who are bearing the brunt of the climate crisis. It is in this spirit that we ask you to stop (re)insuring new oil and gas development such as EACOP, a step which must be taken immediately to limit global warming to 1.5°C, protect irreplaceable ecosystems, and to minimise the number of deaths caused by climate change.

At our current 1.2°C of warming, catastrophic climate impacts are already a present reality for communities around the world, including the communities that we represent. In the UK, heatwaves are now 30 times more likely because of climate change. We face frequent record-breaking winter floods which damage property and threaten lives, and rising sea levels are forcing coastal communities to face relocation.

In Africa, which contributes only 2-3% of global greenhouse gas emissions, the climate is warming faster than the global average. Heat waves, floods, tropical cyclones and sea level rise are causing death and injury, destroying homes and livelihoods, and forcing people to leave their homes. Prolonged droughts are pushing farmers into poverty and increasing the likelihood of conflict, while reduced fresh water availability is increasing the spread of waterborne diseases. As well as physical harm, these rapid changes and threats to the food supply cause trauma and psychological problems for many. These impacts will only grow more severe as the climate continues to warm.

If built, EACOP will contribute significantly to the continued warming of the climate, with annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of more than that of its two host countries combined. It also poses a significant risk to both people and ecosystems in Uganda and Tanzania. Over 100,000 individuals in Uganda and Tanzania will lose the land they farm as a result of the pipeline and associated oil extraction projects; it has already deprived thousands of families of the use of their land for food and cash crops without any compensation. It covers land where oil leaks would be devastating – running through the basin of Lake

Victoria, a critical freshwater source for more than 40 million people and crossing many rivers and farms. The likelihood of a leak is high, not only because Total/EACOP has opted for the lowest cost construction method for almost all of the water crossings, but also because the pipeline will traverse a seismic zone with regular earthquakes. It will also disrupt nearly 2,000 square kilometres of protected wildlife habitats in one of the world's most ecologically diverse regions, increasing the risk of extinction for wildlife that is already vulnerable.

Our Quaker communities are doing what we can to limit our contribution to the unequal and deadly harms of climate change. Britain Yearly Meeting made a commitment in 2011 to become a low carbon sustainable community, and in 2013 divested its assets from fossil fuels. Quakers in Africa have formed organisations to promote climate justice, including working with young people in schools, developing resistant food crops to help in food and water shortages, and supporting communities in re-forestation.

We are writing now in the hope that Lloyd's can take a similar approach to its own powers and responsibilities. As the world's largest insurance market, where a large portion of global energy sector insurance cover is written, the Lloyd's market has a decisive role to play in preventing the destruction that would be caused by the East African Crude Oil Pipeline.

We look forward to hearing your response and hope to discuss our concerns further in person.

Yours sincerely,

**Paul Parker**

Recording Clerk, Quakers in Britain

**Bainito Wamalwa**

Africa Section Clerk, Friends World Committee for Consultation

### References

[How will climate change affect the UK? - Greenpeace](#)

[Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk - Climate Change Committee](#)

[State of the Climate in Africa 2021 - World Meteorological Organization](#)

[East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline: EACOP lifetime emissions from pipeline construction and operations, and crude oil shipping, refining, and end use - Climate Accountability Institute](#)

[FOR PEOPLE - StopEACOP](#)

[100 ORGANIZATIONS ARE CALLING ON LLOYD'S TO REJECT EACOP - StopEACOP](#)

Personal perspectives and experiences shared by African Quakers