



The Environment Shield

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ES/GEN/04/2023

The Executive Director
National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
Kampala, Uganda.



April 27, 2023

Dear Sir,



WETLAND ENCROACHMENT IN BUSEGA - KAMPALA

We refer to the captioned matter.

The Environment Shield is a Ugandan environmental civic organization (nonprofit) working for people and planet using the law, media/advocacy, and strategic litigation among others to battle the climate emergency, biodiversity loss and pollution while centering social justice, rule of law, human rights, and ecological justice, SDGs and climate justice.

Articles 17 (2) (j); 20 (2) and 39 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 and Section 3 of the National Environment Management Act, 2019 obligate us to create, respect, protect and promote the right to a clean and healthy environment.

In pursuit of the above constitutional, legal and environmental obligation, we report to you ongoing environmental/ wetland attacks in Busega - Kampala. *Attached hereto are relevant and recent photos.*

This attack on wetlands has persisted for years with impunity but for the sake of our environment, it must stop. The President of Uganda, His Excellency **Yoweri Kaguta Tibuhaburwa Museveni**, agrees with this request and recently noted that: *“Finally, the issues of the environment - the forests, the lake shores, the hilltops, etc., are crucial for our survival. We need water and clean air. Both of them come from the wetlands and forests. You cannot say that you are a patriot of Uganda, but you damage our wetlands, our forests, our river banks, our lake shores, our steep gradients,*

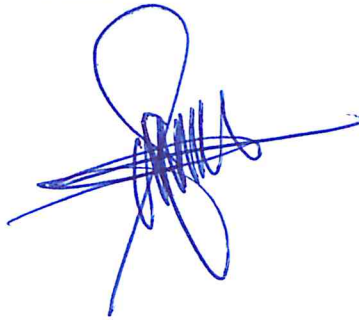
on which our livelihoods depend. Even food is possible because of air, water, etc....I will launch a mega effort, to get rid of this parasitism.”

We accordingly urge your office and the authorities copied herein to:

- a) Stop the encroachment of the wetland in Busega;
- b) Make *Mandela Millers* and *Busega Taxi Office* proprietors pay for the environmental degradation to the government of Uganda; and
- c) Prosecute the culprits of the wetlands encroachment.

We shall highly appreciate your swift and decisive action against those encroaching on the wetlands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large loop at the top, followed by a series of horizontal and vertical strokes, and ending with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kiiza Eron
CEO

CC: Minister of water and environment.
Lord Mayor, KCCA.

BUSEGA WETLAND ENCROACHMENT PHOTOS

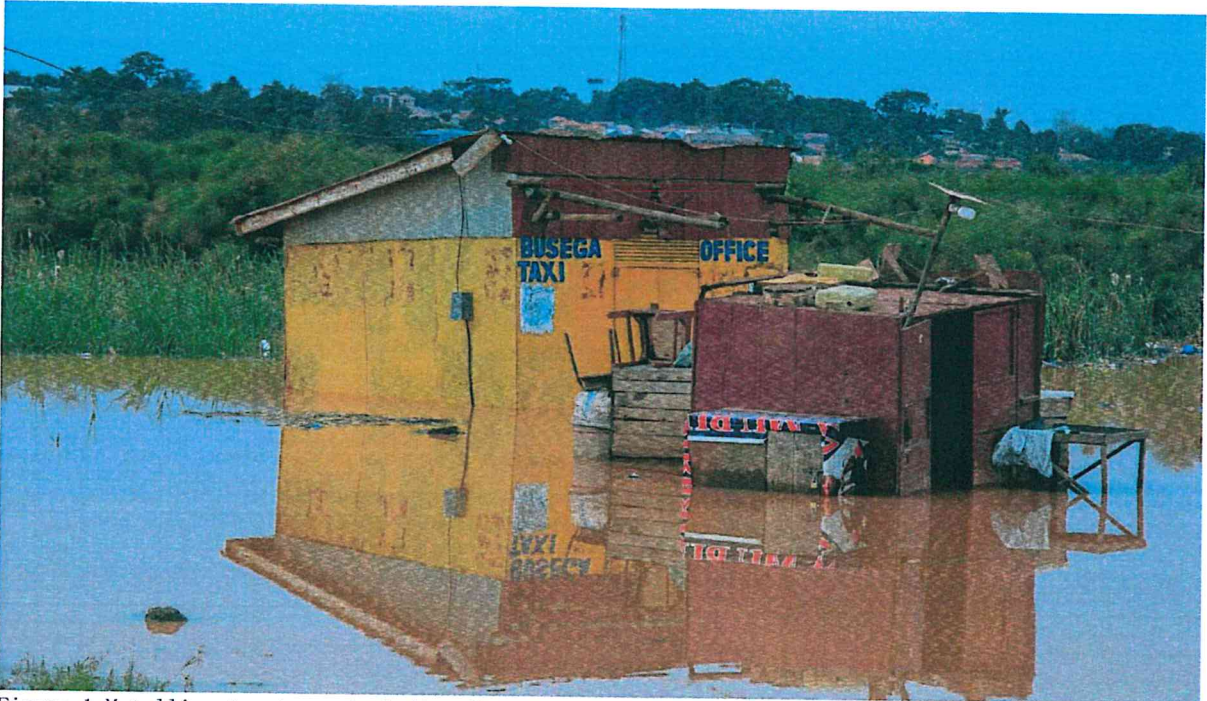


Figure 1 Metallic structures including *Busega Taxi Office* swimming in a polluted and encroached upon wetland in Busega, Kampala. Photographed by Matte on Tuesday, 25th April, 2023 for The Environment Shield.

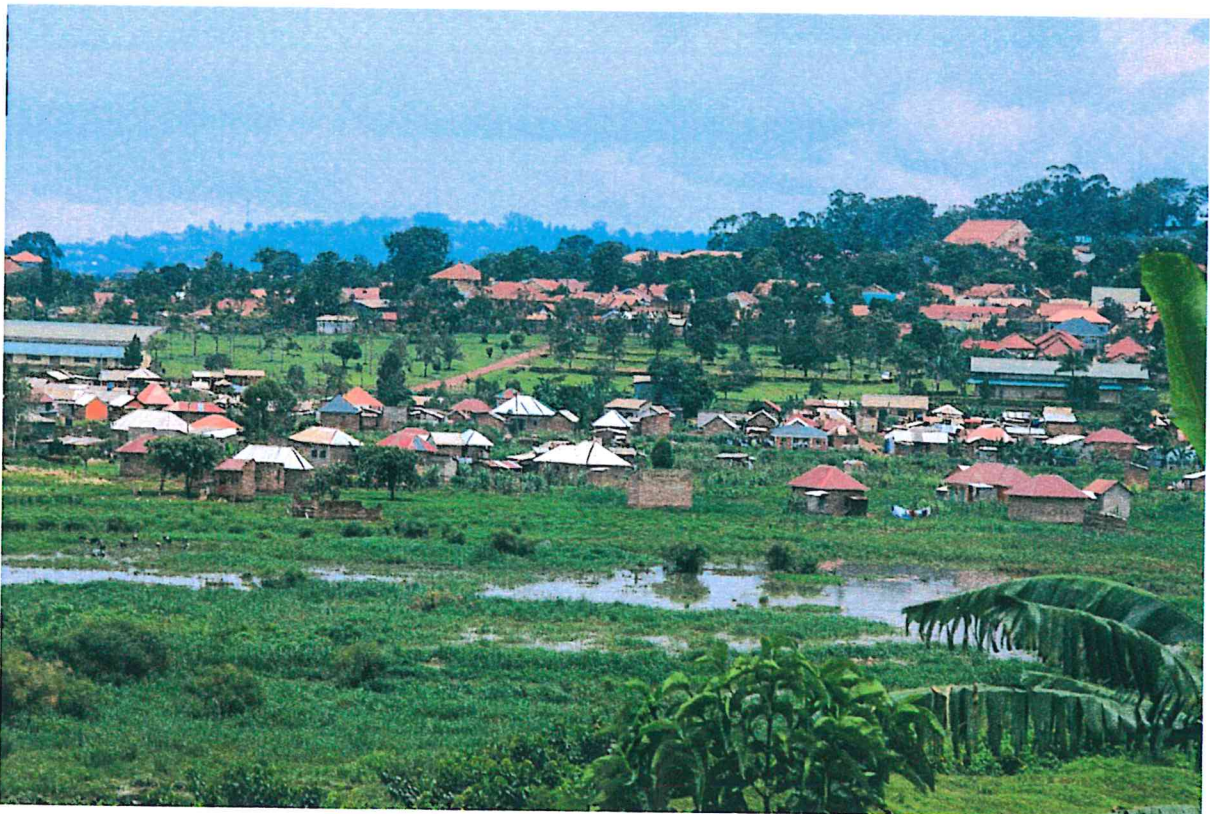


Figure 2 A neighbourhood eating up a wetland steadily in Busega, Kampala. Photographed by Matte on Tuesday, 25th April, 2023 for The Environment Shield.



Figure 3 A "developer's" heap of soil confronts a wetland in Busega, Kampala. Photographed by Matte on Tuesday, 25th April, 2023 for The Environment Shield.

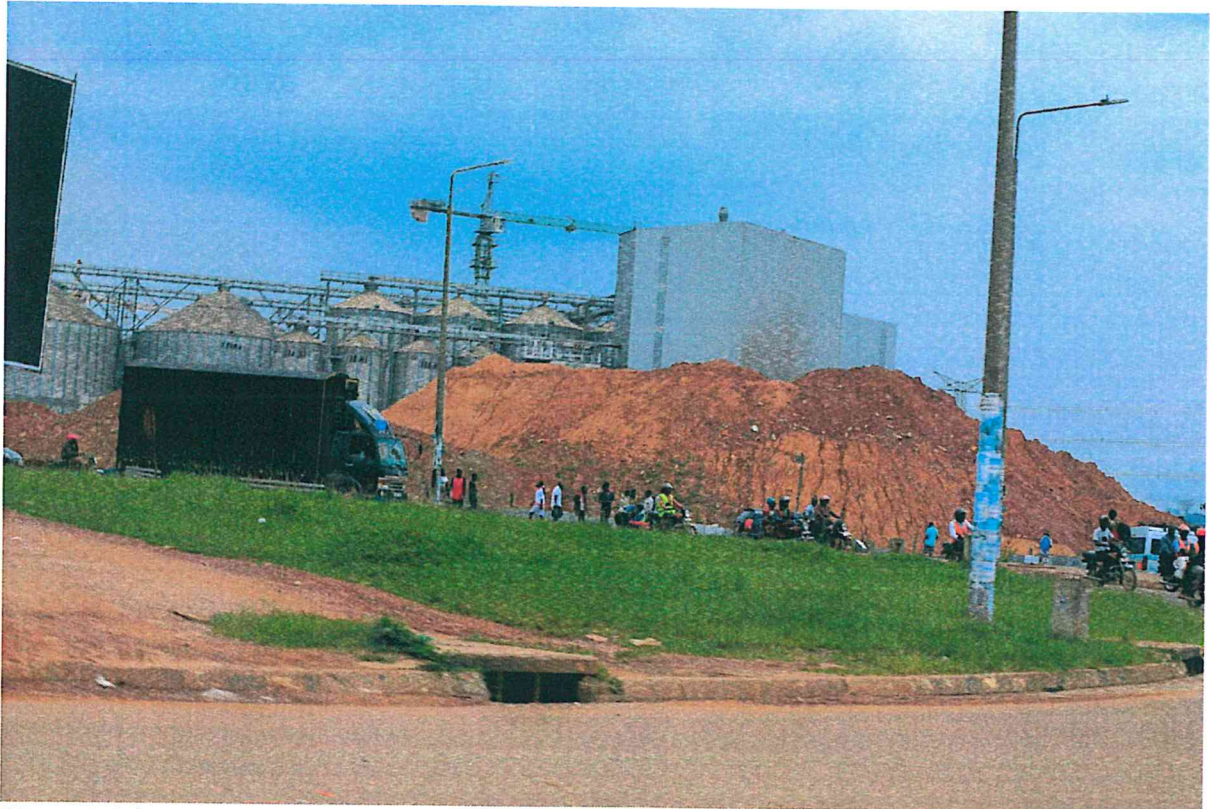


Figure 4 A heap of soil next to a wetland and a factory of Mandela Millers, also in wetland, at the roundabout in Busega, Kampala. Photographed by Matte on Tuesday, 25th April, 2023 for The Environment Shield.