

Präsident Uhuru Kenyatta
Harambee House
PO Box 62345 - 00200 Nairobi
Harambee Avenue
Nairobi
KENIA

Dear Mr. President,

The indigenous Sengwer have lived in the Embobut forest for centuries. The forest not only is the basis of their lives, but also plays an important role in their cultural identity. However, for some years now, the Sengwer have been forcibly evicted by the forestry authority and the police, and their houses are burned down. People have already been killed and some have been injured, both of which are acts of violence that cannot justify the protection of the forest. It also violates court orders. Rather than regarding the Sengwer as enemies, the government should regard them as allies in the fight for the preservation of the Embobut forest.

Please ensure that the Sengwer can live in peace and freedom on their traditional land and ensure that the expulsion of the people and the burning down of their homes is stopped immediately. In addition, the Sengwer should be recognised as the rightful owners and guardians of the Embobut forest and as a partner in environmental protection. Plans to protect and preserve the forest should be made in consultation with the Sengwer.

Yours sincerely

Copies:

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