LAUNCHING OF FRONT-END ENGINEERING DESIGN FOR THE EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL IPELINE PROJECT

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The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development of the Republic of Uganda together with the Ministry of Energy and Minerals of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Lake Albert upstream Partners (CNOOC, Total and Tullow) are working together to develop a crude oil export pipeline (The East African Crude Oil Pipeline - EACOP) from Kabaale (in Hoima District, Uganda) to Chongoleani, Tanga (in Tanzania). Various pre-development studies have been carried out on the pipeline route and meetings held which concurred on the framework for the project. Project teams are in place to ensure smooth implementation of the project on a fast-tack basis, with the goal to commission the pipeline for operation by end 2020.

The Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) study for the EACOP project was launched on 9th January, 2017 in Kampala. The FEED will develop the EACOP project Basic Engineering that will form the basis for Detailed Engineering, Final Investment Decision, and lead to the project execution and construction phase for the pipeline.

The FEED activities will include pipeline corridor reduction from 2km to 30m width using technical, environmental and social data currently being collected through the ongoing surveys; define the project technical standards; the project basis of design; the qualifications of specific equipments; the definition of the early works and the project Basic Engineering.

The FEED contract was awarded to Gulf Interstate Engineering (GIE) based in Houston, USA in December 2016. GIE has proven experience in pipeline engineering studies (Chad-Cameroon, CPC , Texas Access heavy crude, cumulating at 5,700 km of pipeline FEED in the lasts 10 years). This company also has conducted various feasibility studies in the EAC region on the different export routes of the Lake Albert crude oil export system. GIE will be supported by Niras A/S subcontractor for studies related to the marine export jetty and by Ugandan and Tanzanian subcontractors for studies related to site preparation and/or infrastructures.

The FEED activities are estimated to last for a period of 8 months and will involve a composite team of engineers and relevant discipline specialists from the FEED contractor and EACOP project participants. These experts are covering a large technical area including flow assurance, electrical, mechanical, logistic, operation, construction, safety, security, health, environment, social amongst others.

The FEED deliverables include project construction specifications, basis of design, alignment sheets, plot plan layouts, project execution plan, schedule, cost estimates and call for tenders' preparation.

The implementation of the EACOP project has already started on the ground with various technical, environmental and social surveys both in Uganda and in Tanzania. In addition, both Governments are finalizing the drafting of the Inter Governmental agreement, the cornerstone upon which the project will be built, and are expecting to sign it by end January 2017.

All parties to the project, the Republic of Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Lake Albert upstream Partners (CNOOC, Total and Tullow) are fully committed to developing the EACOP project in a fast tracked manner and by applying the international best practices and standards.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT;

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