

Thomson Safaris 14 Mt Auburn Street, Watertown, MA 02472

June 8, 2023

## Re: Request for Information Regarding the Resurvey of the Sukenya Farm

Dear Ms. Wineland & Mr. Thomson,

I am writing to you regarding the resurvey of the Sukenya Farm [Enashiva Nature Refuge/Eastern Serengeti Nature Refuge] that was completed in July 2022.

Our understanding is that the resurvey was conducted following an order by the High Court of Tanzania to return 2,617 acres of land to the Mondorosi, Sukenya, and Soitsambu villages. A number of concerns have been raised about the way the resurvey was conducted and the impact this has had on local communities. We are reaching out to you for your response to the following allegations:

- Before the resurvey began, Free, Prior, and Informed Consent of the Mondorosi, Sukenya, and Soitsambu villages was not obtained and local leaders from the villages were not included in the process.
- Local herders complain about not being able to access grazing land within the boundaries of the 10,000-acre Sukenya Farm. Meanwhile, Thomson Safaris/TCL is currently lobbying to change the land use classification in the area for the exclusive use of conservation and tourism.
- Incidents of violence committed by Thomson Safaris' staff against local herders are reported.
- Increased enforcement by Thomson Safaris, following the resurvey, is forcing villagers to circumvent, instead of crossing the Sukenya Farm, to access basic services like education, health, and other government services.

We will appreciate your response by June 19, 2023.

Sincerely,

Anuradha Mittal Executive Director

Agreeth\_ Mittel

The Oakland Institute



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Executive Director,
The Oakland Institute,
P. O. Box 18978 Oakland, CA94619,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

REX/THOMSON SAFARIS/ 288/2023 our ref.

your ref.

18<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 date

Dear Aruradha Mittal,

RE: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE RESURVEY OF THE SUKENYA FARM

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 8, 2023 on the captioned subject addressed to Thomson Safaris Limited (hereinafter "our Client") which has been forwarded to us by our Client with instructions to respond to the contents thereof. Please be advised as follows:-

- 1. all allegations in your letter are baseless. For your information, pursuant to the orders of the Court, the resurvey exercise was supervised by the office of the Solicitor General of the United Republic of Tanzania. Issues relating to change of land use are in the exclusive domain of the Commissioner for Land and the allegations of violence are handled by the Tanzania Police Force. Consequently, please be advised to consult the office of the Solicitor General, the Commissioner for Land and the Tanzania Police Force for their response to the allegations before you publish these unjustified allegations;
- 2. on a separate note, your letter refers to Sukenya Farm which is located at Loliondo, Ngorongoro District, Arusha Region in the United Republic of Tanzania and there is no doubt that the Local Herders referred to in your letter are citizens of the United Republic of Tanzania. Again, your letter suggests that all the allegations thereof, are alleged to have occurred in the United Republic of Tanzania. These facts presuppose that you are authorized to operate as a

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Non-Governmental Organization in the United Republic of Tanzania under the laws of the United Republic of Tanzania;

- as such, we request you to confirm to us that you are authorized to operate in the United Republic of Tanzania as a Non-Governmental Organization and kindly share with us a copy of your registration certificate to this effect issued to you under the laws of the United Republic of Tanzania;
- 4. as you will appreciate, our request in paragraph 2 above is important because we trust you respect the rule of law considering that under the provisions of the Non-Governmental Organization Act Cap. 56 (hereinafter "the Act) of the laws of the United Republic of Tanzania, it is an offence for any person to operate a Non-Governmental Organization in the United Republic of Tanzania without obtaining registration under the Act.

Yours sincerely,

**REX ADVOCATES** 

ZS/vf





June 20, 2023

Dear Mr. Sinare Zaharan,

We acknowledge receipt of your response on behalf of Thomson Safaris, dated June 18, 2023.

You state that all of the allegations from our June 8, 2023 letter are "baseless." However, you do not provide any information to substantiate this assertion. Could you please use this opportunity to share evidence or any additional information to support your statement. It will be helpful to receive this by Friday June 23, 2023. Thanks in advance.

Sincerely,

Anuradha Mittal

**Executive Director** 

The Oakland Institute

Amarth Mittel



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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

REX/THOMSONS SAFARIS/303/2023

our rer.

your ref.

June 23, 2023 date

Dear Anuradha Mittal,

RE: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE RESURVEY OF THE SUKENYA FARM

We refer to your letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 in response to our letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 on the captioned subject. As a response to your letter in question, please be further advised as follows for and on behalf of our Client Thomson Safaris Limited:-

- our Client reiterates that the allegations in your letter dated 08<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 are baseless; and
- we trust you read and understood the contents of our letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2023. Should it be not the case, we reiterate our advice to you to contact the offices of the Solicitor General of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Commissioner for Land of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Tanzania Police Force who are custodians of any evidence or information that you are looking for and to be specific, note the following;-
  - 2.1 the office of the Solicitor General of the United Republic of Tanzania supervised the re-survey exercise according to the orders of the court and is the one to share any information relating to the re-survey exercise;
  - 2.2 the office of the Commissioner for Land of the United Republic of Tanzania is the one responsible to keep and share any information regarding land use change; and

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the Tanzania Police Force is responsible to keep and share any information 3. relating to violence in the United Republic of Tanzania.

Yours Sincerely

REX ADVOCATES
ZS/m/rgm