

Hon ALHAJI PC BAI BUREH SALLU LUGBU II

Date: 4th April 2024

Subject: Request for Explanation Regarding Unethical Promises Made to Landowners in my chieftdom.

Dear [REDACTED] (HEKs), SILNoRF, and Team,

I am writing to request an immediate and thorough explanation regarding the unethical promises made to landowners in exchange for spreading false information about the Rewilding company. It has come to our attention that your team has allegedly offered seeds, planting materials, fertilizer, and cash for microcredit loans to landowners in return for fabricating claims against Rewilding company. Such actions are not only unethical but also contrary to international best practices for research work and fact-finding.

Rewilding is one of the first ever company to have done a thorough consultations with stakeholders and FPIC before starting their operations in my chieftdom. I personally signed up as witness to the individual Landowners Agreements in the presence of Namati representing Landowners.

As a chieftdom that's committed to transparency, integrity, and ethical conduct, with the dare need of responsible investment, we are deeply concerned about these allegations against the only company that has provided jobs to the youths and women of this chieftdom and paying land lease rent to landowners including lands that they have not planted. It is essential that any research or fact-finding activities be conducted with the highest standards of professionalism, honesty, and respect for the truth. The use of incentives to manipulate information and solicit false testimony undermines the credibility of your organization and compromises the integrity of the information gathered.

We request a full and transparent account of the circumstances surrounding these promises made to landowners. We expect a clear explanation of the individuals involved, the rationale behind these actions, and the steps being taken to rectify this situation. Furthermore, we insist on a commitment from your organization to adhere to ethical standards and to refrain from engaging in such practices in the future. No one is allowed to enter my chieftdom and conduct investigations without prior consent of the chieftdom council and its authorities.

It is crucial that all parties involved in research, fact-finding, and advocacy work uphold the principles of honesty, objectivity, and respect for the rights and well-being of all stakeholders. We take these allegations very seriously and expect a prompt and comprehensive response to address this matter. We are open to engaging in constructive dialogue to ensure that ethical standards are upheld and that any grievances or concerns are addressed in a fair and transparent manner. We trust that you will take the necessary steps to rectify this situation and uphold the principles of ethical conduct in your future activities.

Sincerely,

Hon ALHAJI PC Bai Bureh Sallu Lugbu II
Paramount Chief Kasseh Chieftdom

