

SAVE MABIRA CRUSADE

C/O P.O. BOX 29909, KAMPALA TEL : 0772 492 362

Dear Friends,

The National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) is heading a group called Save Mabira Crusade. This group has been formed to protest the unpopular government decision of giving away of Mabira forest to an Indian investor for sugar cane growing. Mabira is the largest natural forest in central Uganda, following many others that have been given away.

The Save Mabira crusade is composed of Environmentalists, religious leaders, the business community, the politicians, Educational institutions and the entire public.

On 12th April, Save Mabira Crusade staged a grand peaceful demonstration in Kampala which was allowed by government. During the demonstration, the police deployed heavily with tear gas canisters, tanks and in war tunic yet they failed to provide adequate security. This sparked off fear, anger and rioting. Three (3) people died including a Ugandan of Indian origin.

The government has started arresting the leaders of Save Mabira Crusade. Already at the police station is Mr. Mukasa Mbidde. The following have been summoned to the CID headquarters;

- Hon. Beatrice Atim Anywar, the Shadow Minister for Water and Environment and Member of Parliament for Kitgum district (Woman MP)
- Mr. Frank Muramuzi, the Executive Director, NAPE
- Mr. Sekitto Issa, the Spokesperson for Kampala City Traders Association
- Hon. Elias Lukwago, Member of Parliament, Kampala Central

We understand that these people will be charged with trumped-up charges such as murder and terrorism among others.

We call upon our development partners, foreign governments, and Common Wealth to take interest in this situation in Uganda and join us to fight the injustice in our country.

Signed

Frank Muramuzi.
Chairman, Save Mabira Crusade.