ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This section is equivalent to Section ii, acknowledgement, of the legislative structure. If in doubt, please refer to Table 1.5-1 Environmental Impact Statement Structure on page 1-5.

The successful preparation of this environmental impact statement (EIS) for the EACOP project would not have been possible without the full participation, commitment and hard work of various ESIA study experts. A team of consultants from RSK Environment Ltd included Ms Nicola O'Donnell (biodiversity lead) and Ms Hilde Van Vlaenderen (socio-economic and health lead); JSB-EnviDep Ltd of Dar es Salaam included Ms Saada Katangi Juma (lead consultant), Prof. Jamidu Katima (policy, legal and institutional specialist) and Ms Mwajuma Nuru (stakeholder engagement specialist); and COWI Tanzania Ltd of Dar es Salaam included Navonaeli Kaniki (natural resource management expert) and Ignatius Ngamesha (offshore social and stakeholder engagement specialist).

We are grateful to the Regional Commissioners of Kagera, Geita, Tabora, Shinyanga, Singida, Manyara, Dodoma and Tanga; the Regional Administrative Secretary and Staff at the Secretariat; and the Regional Security and Safety Committees for their technical inputs, views and providing data on biophysical and socio-economic conditions within the project area of influence as well and for their assistance and availability in all public meetings. We would like to thank the Offices of the District Commissioners, District Administrative Secretary, District Executive Directors, District Environmental Management Officers, District Land Officers, District Natural Resources Officers, District Community Development Officers and District Immigration Officers, as well as district technical experts from Missenyi, Bukoba, Muleba and Biharamulo, districts of Kagera region; Mbogwe, Chato and Bukombe, districts of Geita region; Nzega Town Council, Nzega and Igunga, districts of Tabora region; Iramba, Mkalama and Singida, districts of Singida region; Kiteto and Hanang, districts of Manyara region; Chemba and Kondoa, districts of Dodoma region; and Muheza, Handeni, Tanga and Kilindi, districts of Tanga region for their technical inputs and assistance. We also wish to thank all ward and community leaders for availing themselves for site visits and for organising community meetings.

Our thanks also extend to Ministries and Government departments and agencies in Tanzania that were involved during this study including Tanzania Forest Service Agency, Tanzania National Road Agency, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements, and Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Last but not least, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Vice President's Office, particularly the National Environment Management Council (NEMC), for their technical inputs, cooperation and guidance during the whole period of undertaking this EIS.