

# Uganda short-lists 17 companies in first oil licensing round

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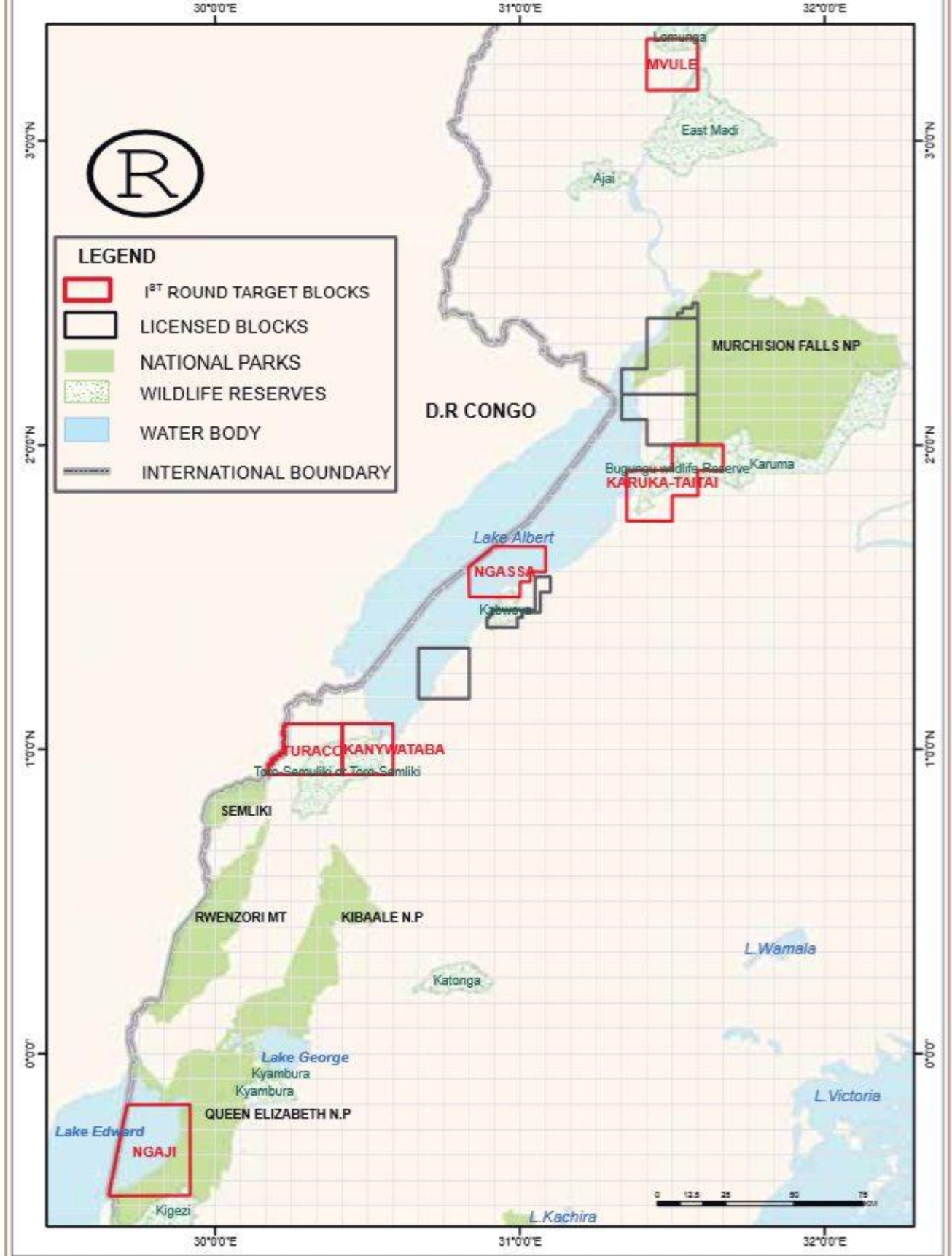
Following the publication of Notice of Request for Qualification (RfQ) for *Uganda's Licensing Round for Petroleum Exploration, Development and Production* on 25th February 2015 in which six blocks within the Albertine Graben were presented, the Ministry has received a significant number of Application for Qualification (AfQ) from companies across the Globe.

The Process of receiving the Request for Qualification ended on 30th June, 2015 at 17.00 hours East African Standard Time with the Ministry registering *seventeen valid applicants out of the nineteen applicants* that had registered and received the Request for Qualification.

The Albertine Graben is Uganda's most investigated, de-risked and prospective sedimentary basin with surface coverage in Uganda of approx. 23,000 sq kms. Following the conclusion of appraisal of most of the discoveries, the resources in the country are now estimated to be 6.5 billion barrels of oil in place and 500 standard billion cubic feet of gas in less than 20% of the Graben. Therefore, the six blocks on offer presents great opportunity to discover additional resources that will enhance the country's sustainability of oil and gas production and commercialization.

Dr F. A. Kabagambe-Kaliisa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development noted the registration of Seventeen valid applications presents a significant milestone given the several challenges the entire oil and gas industry is going through. He further explained that Government will undertake the evaluation of the Application for Qualification between 1st July and 30th July 2015. The qualified applicants will be displayed on 10th August 2015.

# TARGET BLOCKS FOR FIRST LICENSING ROUND



The Permanent Secretary, further explained that Government will issue Request for Proposal/ bidding and the modal Production Sharing Agreement documents to qualified applicants on 20th August, 2015. The applicants will then be required to bid for blocks or a block of their interest after the mandatory acquisition of data in the blocks or a block through the physical Data Room at the Directorate of Petroleum in Entebbe.

The companies that will submit the best evaluated bids will proceed to negotiate with government before signing Production Sharing Agreements with them. 'Government has planned to award new Petroleum Exploration, Development and Production licenses before the end of this year if all goes according to the planned licensing roadmap,' explained Dr. Kabagambe - Kaliisa.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Uganda, I wish to commend the following Oil and Gas Companies which have submitted the Expression of Interest:

1. Rift Energy Corp from United States of America (USA)
2. Mubadala Petroleum of United Arab Emirates (UAE)
3. SASOL Exploration and Production International of south Africa
4. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Videsh Limited (ONGC) of India
5. Petoil Limited from Turkey
6. Atlas Petroleum International Limited from Nigeria
7. Oranto Petroleum International Limited from Nigeria
8. Niger delta Petroleum Resources from Nigeria
9. Africa Global Resources (Telconet Capital Ltd Partnership-Tatneft-Rostec) JV from Russia
10. Petrica Energy As from Norway
11. PTT Exploration and Production PCL from Thailand
12. Glint Energy LLC of United States of America (USA)
13. Rapid Africa Energy (Pty) Ltd of South Africa
14. Dragon Oil International Ltd of UAE
15. BRIGHTOIL Petroleum Uganda Ltd of Hong Kong/China
16. WALTERSMITH PETROMAN of Nigeria
17. ARMOUR ENERGY Ltd of Australia
18. Swala Energy Ltd of Australia
19. Tullow Uganda Operation Pty Ltd affiliated to Tullow Ireland

Government will move forward the selection process in a professional manner with the above Oil Companies added Dr. Kabagambe – Kaliisa.

Source: Uganda Directorate of Petroleum