



global witness

Cameroon

Project of Independent Observer in Support of Forest Law Enforcement in Cameroon

**Approved by the Ministry of the
Environment and Forestry**

Report of the Independent Observer

No. 044En

Central Control Unit – Independent Observer Joint Mission

Title	SSV 08 06 69
Location	Makak, Nyong and Kellé Division Central Province
Mission date	27 March 2003
Company	PLACAM (Holder)

Independent Observer Team (Global Witness):

Mr. Reiner Tegtmeyer, Project Director
Mr. Serge C. Moukouri, Technical Assistant
Mr. Albert Mballa Mbarga, Driver

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Central Control Unit (CCU), accompanied by the Independent Observer (Global Witness), carried out a forestry control mission within the Sale of Standing Volume (SSV) 08 06 69 on 27 March 2003. The mission was part of a routine control mission that started on 17 March 2003.

SSV 08 06 69 is located a short distance away from Makak in the Nyong et Kelle Division, Central Province. It was granted to the company Placages du Cameroun (PLACAM) 08 March 2001 for a duration of three years; logging activities are now being carried out in the title area for the first time. The mission could not accomplish its mission goals, as the team arrived late at the SSV. Therefore, the Mission did not verify compliance with boundary stipulations, nor did they examine document completion and processing practices.

During the mission the CCU was involved in a vehicle accident that caused the death of Mr. Zoa, driver of the CCU.

In view of this, the **Independent Observer recommends** that a new control mission be carried out in the VC before the end of logging activities.

2. RESOURCES USED

- 1 Toyota Land Cruiser
- 1 Digital camera
- 2 Garmin GPS
- 1 Sony Laptop

3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION

The Mission was made up of Mr Djibrilla Hessana and Madame Dzana Margareth of the CCU; Mr. Eya'ane Bannister, Head of the Provincial Control Brigade (PCB) of Central Province; the Head of the Forestry Section for Nyong et Kellé, the Head of Local Forestry Post for Makak, and Mr Reiner Tegtmeier and Mr Serge Moukouri of the Independent Observer .

4. CONSTRAINTS

The mission arrived late at the site of the Sale of Standing Volume (SSV) 08 06 69. Consequently, the mission met nobody on the site and could not gain access to the documents of the title. The late arrival at the site did not allow the mission to control the boundaries of the title.

5. MISSION FINDINGS

5.1 Case Summary

The company Placages du Cameroun (PLACAM) is the recipient of SSV 08 06 69 for a non-renewable period of three years. The title will expire in March 2004. Logging activities were not carried out in the SSV during the previous fiscal year (2001-2002). PLACAM successfully applied for the renewal of the title of the SSV for the present financial year (2002-2003).

5.2 Tribute to Mr. Zoa, Driver with MINEF

During the mission, the CCU team was involved in a vehicle accident that caused the death of Mr. Zoa, driver with MINEF. Global Witness Cameroon would like to pay tribute to Mr. Zoa and acknowledge his devotion to forestry sector reorganization.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The late arrival of the mission at the timber-yard of VC 08 06 69 did not allow the mission to control the books nor the boundaries of the title.

In view of this, the **Independent Observer recommends** that a new control mission be carried out in the SSV before the end of logging activities.