

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

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

## **Report of the Independent Observer**

**No. 090En**

*Central Control Unit – Independent Observer Joint Mission*

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- Title**   ○ FMU 10 023  
          ○ FMU 10 063  
          ○ FMU 10 064
- Location**   Boumba and Ngoko Division, East  
                  Province
- Mission date**   07 to 11 May 2004
- Companies**   ○ SFCS (Holder) ; TTS (Partner)  
                  ○ SIBAF (Holder)  
                  ○ Filière Bois (Holder)

**Independent Observer Team (Global Witness):**

*Mr Reiner Tegtmeyer, Project Director  
Mr Jean Cyrille Owada, Technical Assistant  
Mr Célestine Tangyie Ché, Driver*

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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Central Control Unit (CCU), accompanied by the Independent Observer (Global Witness), undertook a mission to Forest Management Units (FMUs) located in the Boumba and Ngoko Division, from 7 to 11 May 2004. The mission was part of a CCU routine control programme started on 5 May 2004.

The mission visited the current logging sites of the following FMUs:

- o FMU 10 023 granted to the Société Forestière de Commerce et de Service (SFCS), Annual Standing Volume (ASV) No. 05
- o FMU 10 063 granted to the Société Industrielle des Bois Africains (SIBAF), ASV No.21
- o FMU 10 064 granted to the company Filière Bois (FB), ASV No. 04.

In each of these FMUs, the mission inspected the boundaries and logging documents of the valid Annual Standing Volume.

With the exception of the company SFCS, which has signed a sub-contracting agreement with the company Transformation Tropical du Sud (TTS), the concession holders manage their FMUs themselves.

A tour of the access roads and hauling tracks of the annual standing volumes of these FMUs did not reveal any infractions.

In view of the above, **the Independent Observer recommends that :**

- o A control mission targeting these FMUs be conducted at the end of the 2004 fiscal year;
- o The relevant DF10 data recorded in the SIGIF system be examined at the end of the fiscal year.

## **2. RESOURCES USED**

- 1 Toyota Hilux Pick up
- 1 Digital camera
- 1 Video camera
- 2 GPS
- 1 Laptop computer

## **3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION**

The mission consisted of Mr Kouotou Aboubakar, agent of the Department of Transformation and Promotion of Forest Products (DTP), Mission Head; Mr Mamene Pierre Marcel and Mrs Manhouli Marie, agents of the Central Control Unit; Mr Afene Obam James, Senior staff at the Permanent Secretariat for the Environment (PSE); and two members of the technical team of the Independent Observer. Mr Ndo Nkoumou, Divisional Delegate of the Environment and Forestry (DDEF) for Boumba and Ngoko, joined the mission.

Mr Joël Augier, Foreman, and Mr Joseph Engoumo, Site Manager of the SIBAF company, took part in the inspection of FMU 10 063.

## **4 CONSTRAINTS**

The mission faced no obstacles in the field.

## **5. MISSION'S FINDINGS**

In the concessions, the mission toured access roads and hauling tracks along the boundaries of the valid annual standing volumes. The mission also inspected the marking of stumps and official logging site documents. No irregularities were observed.

## **6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

In view of the above, **the Independent Observer recommends that :**

- o A control mission targeting these FMUs be conducted at the end of the 2004 fiscal year;
- o The relevant DF10 data recorded in the SIGIF system be examined at the end of the fiscal year.