

# 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. 093En**

*Central Control Unit – Independent Observer Joint Mission*

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<b>Title</b>	FMU 10 005
<b>Location</b>	Boumba and Ngoko Division, East Province
<b>Mission date</b>	14 May 2004
<b>Company</b>	STBK (Title Holder)

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

*Mr Reiner Tegtmeyer, Project Director  
Mr Jean Cyrille Owada, Technical Assistant  
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## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Central Control Unit (CCU), accompanied by the Independent Observer (Global Witness), carried out a mission to the Forest Management Unit (FMU) 10 005 on 14 May 2004. The mission was part of a routine control programme started on 05 May 2003.

Allocated to the company Société de Transformation du Bois (STBK) of Kadey, this FMU is located in the Boumba and Ngoko Division, East Province, and covers an area of 89,322 ha. Logging is carried out within the Annual Standing Volume (ASV) No.04 for the 2004 fiscal year.

The mission started by verifying the field documents of the STBK company, before inspecting log ponds of ASV No.04. After a complete tour of the timber extraction roads, an inspection of log ponds and a control of the field documents, the mission noted the non-marking of two *ayous* stumps.

The Central Control Unit then established an Official Statement of Offence (OSO) for the non-marking of stumps.

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

- Pursuit of litigation following the establishment of the official statement of offence against the company STBK by the CCU for the non-marking of stumps.

## 2. RESOURCES USED

- 1 Toyota Hilux Pick Up
- 1 Digital camera
- 1 Video camera
- 2 GPS
- 1 Laptop

## 3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION

The mission was composed of Mr. KOUOTOU ABOUBAKAR, agent of the Department of Promotion and Transformation of Forestry Products (DPT), Head of Mission; Mr. Pierre Marcel MAMENE and Mrs. Marie MANHOULI, CCU controllers; Mr. James AFENE OBAM, Senior staff in the Permanent Secretariat for the Environment (PSE); and two members of the Independent Observer's technical team. Mr. NDO NKOUMOU, the Boumba and Ngoko Divisional Delegate for the Environment and Forests (DDEF), the Local Forest Law Enforcement Agent for Salapoumbe; and Mr. Antoine FOTSO, the STBK Head of Forestry, joined the mission.

## 4. CONSTRAINTS

The mission faced no constraints in the field.

## 5. RESULTS OF THE MISSION

### 5.1 History of FMU 10 005

The Forest Management Unit (FMU) 10 005 is allocated to the company STBK, by a Prime Ministerial Decree, of 12 October 2001. STBK started logging activities within this FMU in January 2002. After its classification, the FMU surface area was reduced from 52,000 ha to 49,333 ha. Logging activities for the current 2004 fiscal year are carried out within the Annual Standing Volume (ASV) No.04. The company employs 70 labourers for its logging activities. Timber logged from this FMU is processed at Batouri, in the Kadey Division.

This FMU is supported by the Technical Operations Unit (TOU) South-East, stationed at Yokadouma. The various TOU agents carry out control and follow-up missions therein.

### 5.2 Unmarked stumps

The mission found two unmarked *ayous* stumps, at the GPS (Global Positioning System) coordinates represented in the table below. This act of not marking felled tree stumps constitutes a violation under the provisions of Article 65 of the 1994 Forestry Enforcement Law.

Unmarked stump	Ddmmss_longitude (°)	Ddmmss_latitude (°)
<i>Ayous</i>	N 02°50'04.6"	E 015°22'43.7"
<i>Ayous</i>	N 02°50'05.2"	N 015°22'47.2"

Immediately after observing the unmarked stumps, the Central Control Unit established an official statement of offence against STBK for violating existing rules and regulations addressing the marking of forests products.

The photos below illustrate the non-marking of two *ayous* stumps.



## 6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The inspection of the logging sites of ASV No.04 of FMU 10 005 revealed the presence of two unmarked stumps.

The Central Control Unit established an official statement of offence against STBK for the non-marking of stumps.

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

Pursuit of litigation following the establishment of the official statement of offence against the company STBK by the CCU for the non-marking of stumps.