

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

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

Report No. 025 En

Joint mission: Central Control Unit – Independent Observer

Title : SSV 10 02 24

Location : Messock, East Province

Date of mission: August 12 – 17, 2002

Company: PALLISCO

Independent Observer (Global Witness):

Mr. Albert K. Barume, Deputy Director

Mr. Serge C Moukouri, Technical Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
2. RESOURCES USED	2
3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION	2
4. CONSTRAINTS	2
5. RESULTS OF THE MISSION	2
5.1. Summary of the facts	2
5.2. Methodology	2
5.3. Observations of the Independent Observer	3
6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	4
7. APPENDICES	5

1. SUMMARY

The Central Control¹ Unit (CCU) and the Independent Observer in support of forest law enforcement (Global Witness) carried out a mission to Messock district, Lomié District, Haut Nyong Department, Eastern Province. The aim of this mission was to confirm or reject the accusations that PALLISCO had logged FMU 10 030.

SSV 10 02 24, of which PALLISCO was the beneficiary from 1998 to 2000, adjoins FMU 10 030. Société Forestière Hazim (SFH) claims that PALLISCO has been involved in the illegal logging of this FMU. It was established that, during the 1999-2000 operating year (in which FMU 10 030 was illegally logged), PALLISCO declared an excess of 4,019 m³ of wood in relation to the volume authorised. PALLISCO claims to have felled the surplus wood declared within SSV 10 02 24 and not FMU 10 030.

The mission thus had to verify the origin of this 4,019 m³ of excess wood that PALLISCO claims to have felled in SSV 10 02 24 but which SFH accuses it of having taken from FMU 10 030.

The mission travelled around SSV 10 02 24 under the supervision of a team from PALLISCO.

The main observations made by the Independent Observer in relation to this mission are the following:

1. One assamela stump was found in block D3 by one mission team;
2. No assamela stumps were found in blocks C3 or C4. The late entry into the forest and practical problems encountered by the second team were the main causes of this. The darkness caught the team unawares. Being unable to retrace their path out, the team had to spend the night in the forest.

On termination of this mission, the Independent Observer concludes that the quantitative data gathered in the field is insufficient to be able to draw any conclusions in relation to the main aim, that of verifying whether all the wood declared by PALLISCO came from its SSV or not.

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

- The sending of a further team to the field with a view to completing the work commenced by the first mission. PALLISCO should be asked to open a number of tracks to facilitate movement within the blocks chosen as the basis for inquiry. This new mission could not only draw up an inventory of the assamela stumps but also mukulungu stumps over a wider number of blocks.

¹ “Control” in the context of this report means “Law Enforcement” or to “check compliance with law”.

2. RESOURCES USED

- 1 4x4 pick-up truck
- 2 Garmin GPS
- 1 video camera
- 1 laptop computer

3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION

Two officials from the CCU, two members of the Independent Observer technical team, the PALLISCO-MINDOUROU head of site, two members of the PALLISCO development unit, the VC logging site manager and four PALLISCO workers took part in the mission.

4. CONSTRAINTS

The mission was constrained by time limitations. The CCU's bad planning of the mission's itinerary seriously reduced the time devoted to investigations on the ground. Moreover, the mission had to be cut short after one of the mission's teams had to spend the night in the forest.

5. RESULTS OF THE MISSION

5.1. Summary of the facts

During the 99-00 and 00-01 operating year, illegal logging took place within FMU 10 030. With the aim of determining responsibility for this affair, the forestry department opened a series of investigations into the activities different players have undertaken logging around this FMU.

The SFH accuses PALLISCO of having some responsibility in the illegal logging of FMU 10 030. SSV 10 02 24, which was allocated to the R. PALLISCO company (see Appendix 1), adjoins FMU 10 030 at its south-western border. An analysis of the PALLISCO company's felling statistics also shows that PALLISCO logged a surplus of 4,019 m³ of wood during the year 1999-2000 (see Appendix 2). This surplus volume came from the over logging of one species (sapelli) and the logging of certain species not authorised by the SSV certificate for 1999-2000 (see Appendix 3).

5.2. Methodology

A deductive method was chosen by the mission to achieve its objective. For this, the CCU and the Independent Observer chose 10% of the total area of the SSV (blocks C3, C4 and D3) as samples and assamela as the test species. This species (assamela) is one that PALLISCO logged without authorisation. The mission also used inventory and logging maps used by PALLISCO in the SSV. The inventory and logging maps indicate the geographic location in principle of each tree. The mission thus had to verify whether the assamelas identified on the inventory map for blocks C3, C4 and D3 existed or not, and whether they had indeed been logged. If this were

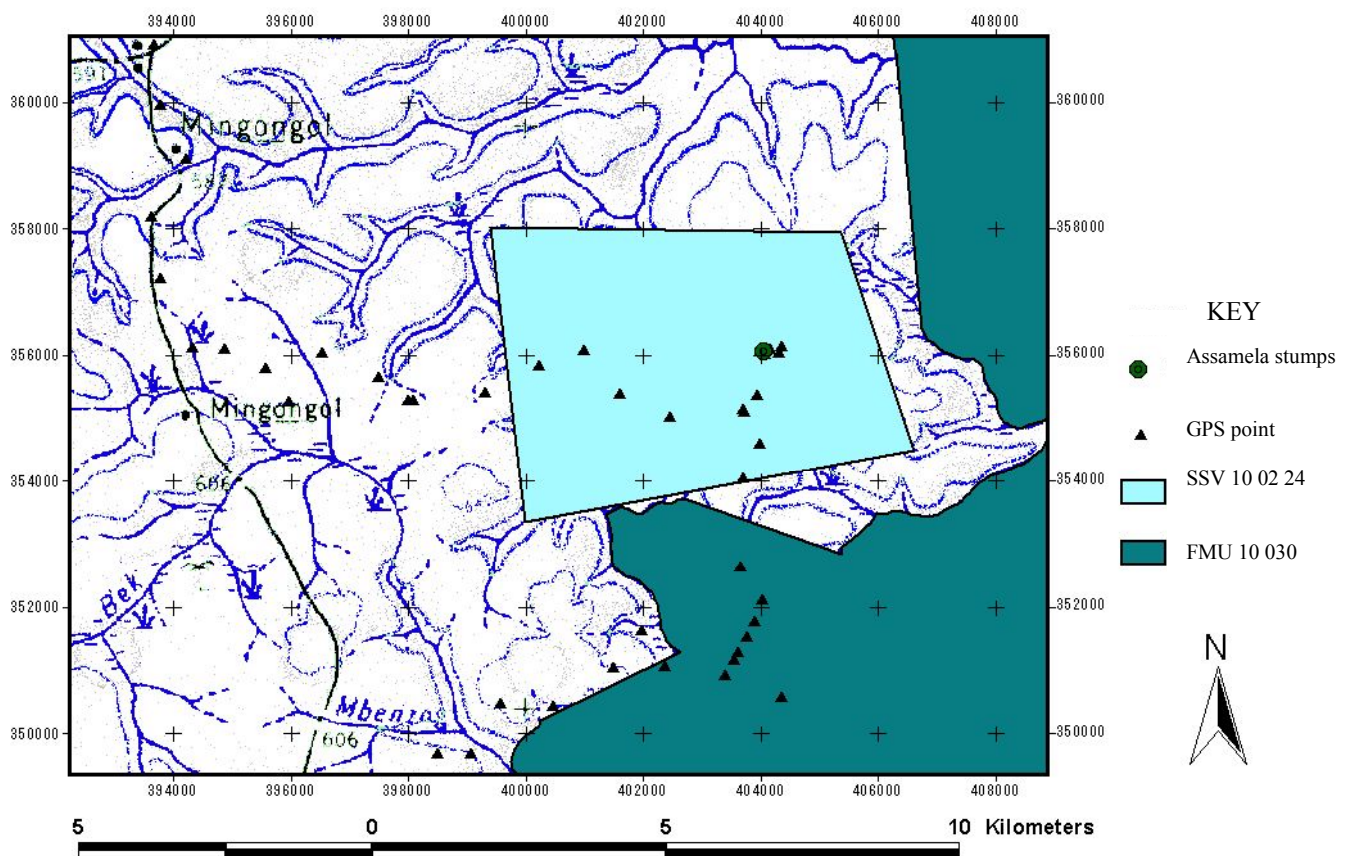
the case, the mission would be able to conclude that PALLISCO had logged the 4,019m³ within SSV 10 02 24. If this were not the case, and PALLISCO could not indicate the exact origin of the surplus in question, the mission would be able to conclude that the surplus consisted of trees felled in FMU 10 030.

Two teams, comprising a minimum of seven people each, were established. The first worked in block D3, the second in blocks C3 and C4.

5.3. Observations of the Independent Observer

a) The mission found just one assamela stump out of the four listed in block D3 on the logging map.

Map: Assamela stump found in block D3



b) With regard to blocks C3 and C4, because of the practical problems encountered by the team, none of the 10 stumps on the logging map could be located.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

After the termination of this mission, the Independent Observer concludes that the quantitative data gathered in the field is insufficient to be able to draw any conclusions in relation to the main aim, that of verifying whether all the wood declared by PALLISCO came from its SSV or not.

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

The sending of a further team to the field with a view to completing the work commenced by the first mission. PALLISCO should be asked to open a number of tracks to facilitate movement within the blocks chosen as the basis for inquiry. The new mission could not only draw up an inventory of the assamela stumps but also mukulungu stumps over a wider number of blocks.

7. APPENDICES

Appendix 1

MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DES FORÊTS

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix - Travail - Patrie

DIRECTION DES FORÊTS

SDEIF

STEF

BLA

YAOUNDE LE 18 MARS 1997

DECISION N° CD 0079 /D/MINEF/DF/SDEIF/STEF
Accordant une vente de coupe.

E: 2750 000 29/p
le 03/06/97
[Signature]

LE MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DES FORÊTS,

VU la Constitution ;
VU la Loi n° 94/01 du 20 janvier 1994 portant régime des Forêts de la Faune et de la Pêche ;
VU le Décret n° 95/531/PM du 23 Août 1995 fixant les modalités d'application du Régime des Forêts ;
VU le Décret n° 92/245 du 26 Novembre 1992 portant organisation du Gouvernement ;
VU le Décret n° 92/248 du 27 Novembre 1992 portant formation du Gouvernement modifié par Décret n° 96/203 du 19 Septembre 1996 ;
VU l'Appel d'Offres n° 433/AAO/MINEF/DF du 27 Février 1996 ;
VU le procès verbal de la Commission Interministérielle du 24 Juin 1996 ;

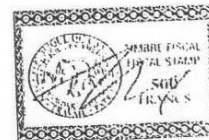
DECIDE

ARTICLE 1er : La vente de coupe n° 10-02-24 est attribuée à la Société R. PALLISCO.P. 4171 Yaoundé aux conditions définies par le cahier de charges annexé à la présente décision.

ARTICLE 2 : La coupe porte sur 2 500 ha de forêt située dans le Département du Haut-Nyong, Arrondissement de Lomié, zone III d'exploitation forestière.

ARTICLE 3 : Les limites de la coupe sont les suivantes :

"Décision n° _____/D/MINEF/DF/SDEIF/STEF



Appendix 2

		Statistiques d'abattage (m ³) déclarées au SIGIF par PALLISCO (1999-2000)	Volume Autorisé (m ³) Certificat de Vente de Coupe (1999-2000)	Volume surexploité par essence (m ³)
1103	Acajou de Bassam	0	113	0
1104	Assamela	504	0	504
1107	Bosse clair	25	227	0
1109	Bubinga rose	12	0	12
1111	Dibetou	156	216	0
1113	Doussie Rouge	170	168	2
1116	Iroko	253	281	0
1118	Kossipo	434	324	110
1121	Moabi	0	3024	0
1122	Mukulungu	120	0	120
1124	Okan/Adoum	0	90	0
1127	Padouk Rouge	29	0	29
1128	Padouk Blanc	21	306	0
1129	Sapelli	3087	1217	1870
1130	Sipo	367	2772	0
1131	Tali	2554	1267	1287
1135	Tiama	54	308	0
1201	Aiele/Abel	0	583	0
1207	Aningre R	0	308	0
1211	Ayous/Obeche	233	835	0
1213	Bongo H/Olon	0	306	0
1214	Dabena	0	162	0
1218	Eyong	51	316	0
1220	Frake	0	1182	0
1226	Koto	0	211	0
1228	Longhi/Abam	0	130	0
1232	Movingui	0	810	0
1234	Naga			0
1345	Iatandza/Evouvous	33	0	33
1346	Ilomba	0	146	0
1365	Pao rosa	52	0	52
1405	Abam fruit jaune	0	113	0
1489	Onzabili/Angongui	0	340	0
	Total			4019

Appendix 3

Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts - Direction des Forêts
Certificat de vente de coupe (copie)
 Forêts du domaine national



Vente de coupe N°: 100224 **Exercice:** 1999-2000 **Fin de validité:** 30 juin, 2000
Exploitant: 118 PALLISCO Sarl **Certificat émis le:** Friday, June 02, 20
 B.P.: 394 Douala

Partie 1. Localisation des traitements sylvicoles:

Commune		Traitements sylvicoles			Superficie
N°	Appellation	Zona	Code	Appellation	
100203	Lomié	03	10	Coupe à diamètre limite	2,500
Superficie totale:					2,500

* Les cartes forestières jointes à la demande montrent la localisation précise des limites de la vente de coupe

Partie 2. Essences à récolter:

Essence				Essence			
Code	Appellation	Nombre	Volume	Code	Appellation	Nombre	Volume
1103	Acajou de bassam	13	113	1107	Bossé clair	32	227
1111	Dibétou	22	216	1113	Doussié rouge	20	168
1116	Iroko	22	281	1118	Kossipo	22	324
1121	Moabi	151	3,024	1124	Okan / Adoum	9	90
1128	Padouk blanc	36	306	1129	Sapelli	94	1,217
1130	Sipo	158	2,772	1131	Tali	158	1,267
1135	Tiama	34	308	1201	Aiélé / Abel	65	583
1207	Aningré R	34	308	1211	Ayous/Obéché	104	835
1213	Bongo H / Olon	61	306	1214	Dabéma	18	162
1218	Eyong	49	316	1220	Fraké	182	1,182
1226	Koto	23	211	1228	Longhi / Abam	14	130
1232	Movingui	90	810	1346	Ilomba	16	146
1405	Abam fruit jaune	13	113	1489	Onzabilli /Angongui	38	340
Nombre total:		1,478	Volume total:			15,755	

* Les cartes d'inventaire d'exploitation jointes à la demande montrent la localisation des arbres à récolter

Prescription:

Le titulaire de ce certificat de vente de coupe doit respecter les normes d'intervention en milieu forestier ainsi que les clauses de son cahier des charges lors de la réalisation de ses activités

Date:

Le Ministre de l'Environnement et des Forêts

Date: Monday, June 10, 20

Copie conforme du certificat de vente de coupe

Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts - Direction des Forêts
Statistiques d'abatage - DF10 enregistrées

Titre du rapport

Exercice	Titre d'ex.	N° Titre	Exploitant	Essence	Nb groupes taxable	Nb groupes total	Volume taxable	Volume total
1999-2000	V.C. national	100224	118 (PALLISCO)					
			1104 Assambla		85	85	504	504
			1107 Bossé clair		5	5	29	29
			1109 Buhinga rose		1	1	12	12
			1111 Dibétou		16	16	156	156
			1113 Doussié rouge		16	16	170	170
			1116 Ioko		20	20	253	253
			1118 Kossipo		25	25	434	434
			1122 Mukulungu		6	6	120	120
			1127 Padouk rouge		3	3	29	29
			1128 Padouk blanc		3	3	21	21
			1129 Sapelli		235	235	3,087	3,087
			1130 Sipo		26	26	367	367
			1131 Tali		416	416	2,554	2,554
			1135 Tama		4	4	54	54
			1211 Ayous/Obéché		18	18	233	233
			1218 Eyong		6	6	51	51
			1345 Ilandza / Eyououss		4	4	33	33
			1365 Pao rosa		9	9	52	52
			TOTAL: 118 (PALLISCO)		898	898	8,158	8,158
			TOTAL: 100224		898	898	8,158	8,158
			TOTAL: V.C. national		898	898	8,158	8,158
			TOTAL: 1999-2000		898	898	8,158	8,158
			GRAND TOTAL:		898	898	8,158	8,158