



global witness

Cameroon

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

**Validated by the Reading
Committee**

Report of the Independent Observer No. 115En

Central Control Unit – Independent Observer Joint Mission

Title FMU 09 021
Location Ma'an District, Vallée du Ntem
Division, South Province
Mission date 05 August 2004
Company WIJMA

Independent Observer Team (Global Witness):

Mr Reiner Tegtmeyer, Project Director

Mr Célestine Tangyie Ché, Driver

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 5 August 2004, the Central Control Unit (CCU), accompanied by the Independent Observer (Global Witness), inspected the logging sites of Annual Standing Volume (ASV) No. 09 of Forest Management Unit (FMU) 09 021. This visit was within the framework of a routine control programme that commenced on 27 July in South Province.

Allocated to the WIJMA company, FMU 09 021 is located in the Ntem Valley Division of South Province. For 2004, logging is taking place in Annual Standing Volume No. 09.

In order to inspect the boundaries, the mission used the descriptions from the Surface Area Certificate for ASV No.09 and the map produced by the National Institute of Cartography (NIC). On the ground, the mission found that the points where the WIJMA company had marked boundaries were different from those described in the Surface Area Certificate. Having noted this difference, the CCU established an Official Statement of Offence against WIJMA.

In its defence, WIJMA forwarded documents to the CCU justifying the positioning as observed on the ground, in particular the survey of FMU 09 021 signed by MINEF.

Consequently, the CCU cancelled the Official Statement of Offence established in the field.

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

The Ministry of the Environment and Forests contacts the supervisory ministry of the NIC in order to ensure that in future the descriptions and maps appended to Surface Area Certificates for logging titles conform with the surveys issued by MINEF.

2. RESOURCES USED

- 1 Toyota Hilux
- 1 GPS (Garmin brand)
- 1 Digital camera
- 1 laptop computer (Sony brand)
- All legal documents authorising logging operations

3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION

The mission was made up of Mrs Danièle Essono and Mr Marcel Maméné of the CCU, and Mr Reiner Tegtmeier of the Independent Observer team. It was accompanied by Messrs Jean-Pierre Mpem, Head of the Provincial Control Brigade for the South and Sacha Pouget, Foreman for the WIJMA company.

4. CONSTRAINTS

No difficulties were encountered in carrying out this mission.

5. MISSION'S FINDINGS

On the ground, the mission travelled the access roads and hauling tracks. Logs stored in wood depots and tree stumps were also inspected.

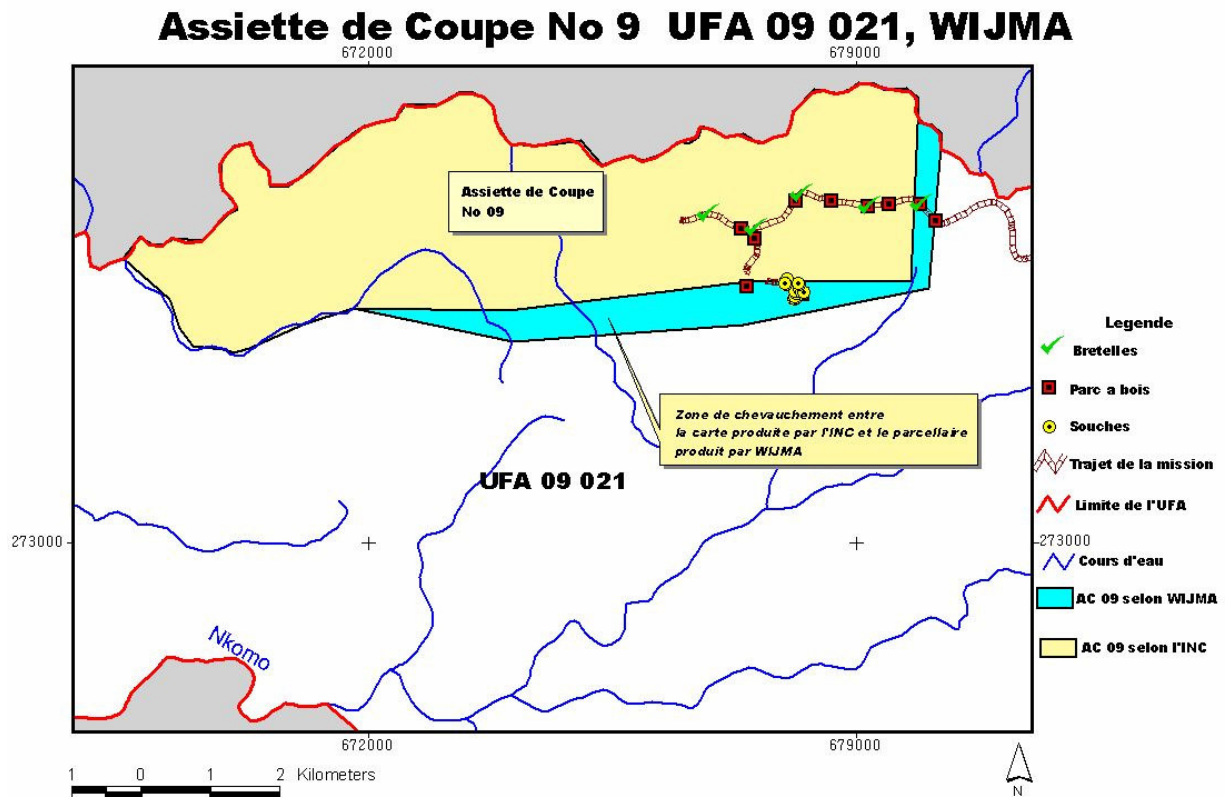
No significant illegal activity was observed at this stage. However, when it came to inspecting the boundaries of the Annual Standing Volume under logging, several disparities between boundary marks and what was described in the Surface Area Certificate (see Appendix 1) were discovered.

On taking the GPS points, the team noted that the eastern boundary had been marked 400m inside of the Standing Volume in question, whilst an area of the southern boundary had been marked approximately 250m beyond the area described (see map below).

Faced with these facts, the Foreman stated that the boundaries had been marked out following the FMU's sub-division map, which is the basis of all maps drawn for each of the FMU's Annual Standing Volume.

In Yaoundé, after scrutinising the FMU's sub-division map, the Independent Observer and the CCU realised that the WIJMA officials were right. Consequently, the CCU cancelled the Official Statement of Offence established in the field.

Map: Area of ASV No. 09 of FMU 09 021 according to the sub-division maps and the Surface Area Certificate.



6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The Ministry of the Environment and Forests contacts the supervisory ministry of the NIC in order to ensure that the descriptions and maps appended to Surface Area Certificates of logging titles henceforth conform with the surveys issued by MINEF.

Appendices

Appendix 1

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie
MINISTRE DE LA RECHERCHE
SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNIQUE

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland
MINISTRY OF SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH

INSTITUT NATIONAL DE CARTOGRAPHIE
B.P. 157 Tél. : 222 29 21 Yaoundé

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CARTOGRAPHY
P.o. Box 157 YAOUNDE TEL. 222 29 21

DEPARTEMENT DE LA CARTOGRAPHIE
ET DE LA TELE-DETECTION

Yaoundé, le 28 Novembre 2003

SERVICE DE LA REDACTION CARTOGRAPHIQUE

N°.../AMS/MINREST/INC/DR/DCT/SC

ATTESTATION DE MESURE DE SUPERFICIE

Superficie mesurée : **2.594 hectares**
Demandeur : **WIJMA**
B.P. 1616 Douala
Mappe de référence : **Kribi à 1/200.000^e**
Situation Administrative : **Département(s) de la Vallée du Ntem**
Arrondissement(s) de Ma'an
Planimètre utilisé : **Coradi 36 891**

DESCRIPTION DE L'ASSIETTE DE COUPE N° 9 DE L'UFA 09021

Le point de base A est situé sur la rive gauche de la rivière Ndjo'o. Le périmètre de cette forêt passe par les points A, B, C, D, E, F et G de coordonnées graphiques UTM suivantes :

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	679 739,57	679 739,57	677 267,55	673 663,29	671 772,06	670 054,68	668 472,97
	279 489,81	276 785,32	276 575,08	276 247,23	276 394,29	275 751,07	277 106,36

Ses limites sont :

A l'Est : La droite AB = 2700m de gisement 180 degrés.
Au Sud et à l'Ouest : Les droites BC = 2480m ; CD = 3619m et DE = 1897m de gisements 265 ; 265 et 274 degrés. Un cours d'eau non dénommé en aval suivant EF = 2000m. Du point F, un cours d'eau non dénommé en aval suivant FG = 2000m.
Au Nord : La rivière Ndjo'o en amont suivant GA.

La zone ainsi circonscrite couvre une **superficie totale de Deux mille cinq cent quatre vingt quatorze hectares.**

La présente attestation lui est délivrée pour servir et valoir ce que de droit./



