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peoples' Tribunal - Cameroon on Human Rights Violations during the Chad - Cameroon Pipeline Project



First Session : 30 September 2005

Yaounde Chamber of Agriculture

November 2005



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The Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project is currently the biggest private sector investment in sub-Saharan Africa. Widely praised as being a "model" for other oil producing countries, the \$ 3.7 billion high-risk project managed by the ExxonMobil, Chevron and Petronas Consortium was so much talked about, with so many promises made.

But at the end of the construction of the pipeline, many complaints lodged by the people living along the pipeline right-of-way are still pending, while on the part of the Consortium, every thing seems to be going on well, with the award of work completion certificates cheerfully signed by World Bank (D'Appolonia) and government monitoring bodies. The increasing wave of protests by those populations triggered national and international civil society reaction, which consisted in a meticulous field monitoring with regard to the problems raised.

One of the initiatives was the partnership established between FOCARFE, a Cameroon-based NGO, and Both Ends, a Netherlands-based NGO,

to carry out field identification of cases of non-compliance and other very thorny issues raised by the people as part of claims relating to the social closure. Such case study conducted by FOCARFE led to the setting-up of the "Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon", which is the main focus of this document.

Such initiative is in line with the ideals of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal, an international institution founded in 1979 by various mostly European personalities including jurists, writers and other intellectuals, under the impulse of the Lelio Basso International Foundation for peoples' right and liberation, founded in 1976 at the initiative of the Italian resistance fighter and democrat Lelio

**"IT IS BY
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Basso (1903-1978). The latter took over from the Russel Tribunal (founded by Bertrand Russel) that was called upon at the time to express an opinion on the situation in Vietnam and Latin America. It refers to the Universal Declaration of Peoples' Rights, adopted at Alger in 1976. The document is based on two proposals:

1- This historical importance of peoples' right to political self-determination. Article 8 stipulates that "all peoples have an exclusive right over their wealth and natural resources. They have the right to recover such resources in case they are despoiled as well as recover unjustly paid compensations".

2- The right to internal self-determination, i.e. the right for all peoples to live in a democratic regime.

The Tribunal hears in public, the arguments presented by the parties involved and passes judgement or expresses an opinion (depending on whether it is working in session or in commission). It is then left on social associations to use the judgement to make their rights known. The Tribunal believes that "it is by fighting for their rights that individuals build their strength". This position is

also due to the very nature of the institution. Without a police or a "gendarmierie" force empowered to enforce its decisions, the Tribunal is referred to as one of "opinion and not of power".

The Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon which held its first session in Yaounde, on 30 September 2005, listened to 21 complaints and its jury was composed as follows:

Chair: Me NGUINI Charles,
Barrister;

Members:

1. Fr. BELL,
National Episcopal Conference;

2. Pastor NGUE Jean Emile,
Secretary-General of the Council of Protestant Churches of Cameroon;

3. Cheikh OUMAROU MALAM DJIBRIL,
Representative of the Islamic community;

4. Me DANG Elise,
Barrister;

5. Me FANDOM Louise, Court Registrar;

6. Me NGUEFACK Maurice, Barrister;

7. Me DANG MEKOK Austin, Court Registrar;

8. K U E N Z O B Dupleix, Ecumenical Service for Peace.

After listening to the complaints and experts and studying the documents presented by FOCARFE, the Tribunal made public its judgement as follows:

" T h e

THE TRIBUNAL BLAMES THE STATE OF CAMEROON FOR ITS SILENCE IN THE FACE OF VIOLATIONS POINTED OUT BY THE PEOPLE LIVING ALONG THE PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY.

Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon condemns the Consortium and its subcontractors for non-respect of economic and social rights, especially the "previously" established standards in matters of workers' rights and

environmental protection.

The Tribunal blames the State of Cameroon for its silence in the face of violations pointed out by the people living along the pipeline right-of-way.

The Tribunal recommends

- the carrying out of a social and economic audit of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project;
- the reparation of all pending cases meticulously identified among the people living along the pipeline right-of-way;
- the constitution of a support fund for all the councils crossed by the pipeline in compensation for possible disasters."

Following this first session of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon, the peoples living along the Chad-Cameroon pipeline right-of-way, supported by the NGOs and others, wrote an open letter to the Prime Minister.



FOCARFE wishes to extend its gratitude to all those who supported the organization of this first Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon. Special thanks go to the operation's financial partners (Both Ends - Netherlands), all members of the jury, and the affected peoples who accepted to travel to give live testimonies.

They include specifically:

- *Sjef Langefeld, Both Ends,*
- *Marnix Becking, Both Ends,*
- *Me NGUINI Charles, Barrister;*
- *Père BELL, National Episcopal Conference;*
- *Pasteur NGUE, Secretary-General of the Council of Protestant Churches of Cameroon;*
- *Cheikh OUMAROU MALAM DJIBRIL, Representative of the Islamic community;*
- *Me DANG Elise, Barrister;*
- *Me FANDOM Louise, Court Registrar;*
- *Me NGUEFACK Maurice, Barrister;*
- *Me DANG MEKOK Austin, Court Registrar;*
- *KUENZOB Dupleix, Ecumenical Service for peace;*
- *Noah Ndjana, representative of the NDJORE II village;*
- *Nanga ZO'O, representative of the NKOTENG village;*
- *TCHOUNGUI, head of ANGOUANFEME village ;*
- *NKOA OLINGA ROBERT, head of NDZANA village;*
- *MEKADI François, head of NDOUMBA NKANGA village;*
- *ETOUNDI Angelin, representative of the NKONGMEYOS III village;*
- *FOUDA NDI Joseph, head of AKONGO III village;*
- *BITANGA EKANI Célestine of NKOLTARA Village;*
- *BOMBA ZOA Cyprien of OBOKOE I village ;*
- *OMGBA BOMBA Martin, head of NKONGMEYOS I village;*
- *NDONGO ETOUDI, head of NGOUMOU village;*
- *BEUNDE EVILA LUDWIG, head of BWAMBE village;*
- *NOUA Jeanne, representative of the native people (pygmies);*
- *MBIDA Sébastien of NKOMETOU I village ;*
- *BENGONO Valentin of BIDOU I village;*
- *YAMTHE Joseph from MEIGANGA;*
- *BINELI of NKOMETOU II village.*

Hilde-Josée Ndoumbe Nkotto

Why a peoples' tribunal for the pipeline project?

The displayed ambition of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project executed by the Exxon-Petronas-Chevron Consortium was not to violate the rights of the people in its area of execution, and an arsenal of control measures was put in place to that effect. The project was even among those on which the World Bank extractive industries review was based.

It is common knowledge that multinational (or transnational) enterprises take the front stage in the new world order that resulted from the demise of the Soviet Union and the collapse of the Berlin Wall. This increasing role on the international scene raises issues of their new responsibility in the respect of human, civil, political, social, economic, cultural and environmental rights. Multinational enterprises may be accountable either directly before the enterprises concerned, or indirectly before States in which they operate and above all before those in which their headquarters are established. Such accountability may be required through court actions at the national, regional and international levels.

There are however many impediments to such actions, both those aimed at obtaining reparation for passed or present abuses from multinational enterprises and those aimed at

ALTHOUGH CRUDE OIL EXPLOITATION STARTED SINCE LATE 2003, MANY PROBLEMS INHERITED FROM THE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION PHASE ARE STILL BEING RAISED BY THE PEOPLE LIVING ALONG THE PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY

ensuring greater accountability in the future, notably:

- the collusion between the multinationals and States, which lack the will or capacity to enforce existing laws or those that offer multinationals the possibility to depart from their national legal system, usually under pressure from their own economic needs;
- laws and models of legal systems from the North, where companies have their head offices, thereby tilting power toward the already powerful party;
- the practice by which incriminated enterprises struggle to prevent the case to be heard in a country favourable to the plaintiff (generally the country of origin) and to send it to a place that suits them (generally the host country);
- enterprises' dissimulation techniques: ambiguities in the relationships enjoyed by multinationals with regard to their nationality and the very clear distinction they make between the mother company and its branches,

in order to escape their legal responsibility in all the countries in which they operate;

- WTO rules, which are of very meagre assistance to the moving party and do not really cater for the rights of workers;
- civil society limited access to the WTO and other international institutions;
- internal codes of conduct which enable enterprises to develop a good conscience while evading any legal responsibility. Such codes do not cater for victims' demands;
- ineffective implementation mechanisms of most statutory international instruments;
- counter-offensives from multinationals, e.g. defamation actions against organizations that campaign against them;
- the cost of lawsuits that may paralyse an NGO, at

FOREWORD

times even in the event of victory, especially where it has to defend itself against the counter-offensive of an enterprise.

Although crude oil exploitation started since late 2003, many problems inherited from the project construction phase are still being raised by the people living along the pipeline right-of-way. FOCARFE has listed out close to 400 cases in the 242 villages crossed by the project. The problems raised are varied: over-billing of structures built in compensation to the people, destruction of water resources (streams, wells, etc.), destruction of pre-project facilities, unpaid compensations, contracts

THE IMPRESSION ONE GETS IS THAT THE CONSORTIUM DID NOT MONITOR, IN REAL TIME, THE CONSTRUCTION OF STRUCTURES GIVEN IN COMPENSATION TO THE PEOPLE, OR TURNED A BLIND EYE TO THE POOR QUALITY OF SUCH STRUCTURES, THEREBY LEADING TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF INAPPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT TO THE PEOPLE, OVER-BILLING OF STRUCTURES, ETC.

not respected, workers rights baffled, etc.

For 354 cases presented on 30 June 2005 in COTCO premises (Exxon) in Yaounde in the presence of a representative of the CPSP (State body responsible for monitoring the project in Cameroon), the Consortium gave the following response:

- 19 cases for which COTCO did not honour its commitments;
- 111 cases for which

COTCO honoured its commitments but the people are not satisfied and COTCO has to seek mitigating solutions on a case-by-case basis;

- 205 cases for which COTCO is found accountable;

- 18 cases which do not concern COTCO.

By examining the database made available by the Consortium to justify its positions, we found out many arguments that were diametrically opposed to those presented by the plaintiffs. The "recommendation" made by the International Advisory Group (IAG) in its very

recent statutory mission report (9th mission) is of utmost importance. It recommends that the parties "should agree on what they agree on and what they do not, note down irreconcilable points of view and sign the social closure", which gives the impression that World Bank's objective is merely to see to it that the various parties had sat down to exchange view points, no matter the manner and outcome of such discussion, and "do away"

with the social closure in a rather Pontius Pilate manner, whereas in the beginning of the project it stood out as guarantor of equity and respect for good standard.

To date, many rights have been baffled: right to human dignity, to a clean environment, right to public participation, right to food, right to consent and informed participation, respect for national sovereignty, etc.

The impression one gets is that the Consortium did not monitor, in real time, the construction of structures given in compensation to the people, or turned a blind eye to the poor quality of such structures, thereby leading to the distribution of inappropriate equipment to the people, over-billing of structures, etc.

One can hardly understand why the Consortium is dragging its feet in looking into the reservations made by the people and entered in documents signed as part of the social closure, whereas such was the condition, given that the signature obtained seems to have sounded the death-knell of negotiations.

As such, the impact of the Consortium's actions does not seem positive; it is even very negative.

The risks perceived and pointed out by NGOs at the beginning of the project have been confirmed. The project turned out to be a real enclave, affecting the fragile economies of the

THE RISKS PERCEIVED AND POINTED OUT BY NGOS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROJECT HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED. THE PROJECT TURNED OUT TO BE A REAL ENCLAVE, AFFECTING THE FRAGILE ECONOMIES OF THE REGIONS CROSSED, ALL ENDING IN AN EFFECTIVE IMPOVERISHMENT OF THE PEOPLES CONCERNED.

regions crossed, all ending in an effective impoverishment of the peoples concerned.

It was therefore necessary, more than ever before, to urgently examine/re-examine the relevance of the peoples' claims vis-à-vis the arguments in defence presented by the Consortium, and to sample the various opinions, in order to take future action satisfactory to all, because conceived following an upstream information/discussion process. Such was the objective of the "Peoples' Tribunal".

The idea was to seek redress for the affected peoples and persons in the face of the various violations committed. Such action refers to the Universal Declaration of Peoples' Right adopted at Alger in 1976, and based on two proposals:

1- This historical importance of peoples' right to political self-determination. Article 8 stipulates that "all peoples have an exclusive right over their wealth and natural resources. They have the right to recover such resources in case they are despoiled as well as recover unjustly paid compensations".

2- The right to internal self-determination, i.e. the right for all peoples to live in a democratic regime.

The Tribunal hears in public, the arguments presented by the parties involved and passes judgement or expresses an opinion (depending on whether it is working in session or in commission). It is then left on social associations to use the judgement to make their rights known. The Tribunal believes that "it is by fighting for their rights that individuals build their strength". The Peoples' Tribunal is of course referred to as one of "opinion and not of power", with a three-fold objective:

" write out the charge in terms of peoples' right violation chargeable to the Chad-Cameroon Oil Project Consortium, Cameroonian party;

" bring out the technical and legal means that may be used to obtain reparation for damages;

" brainstorm on actions for social mobilization.

The Tribunal actors are Cameroon's civil society representatives who played an active role in the pipeline project, affected persons and representatives of communities living along the

pipeline right-of-way, legal experts and civil and religious personalities, parliamentarians, representatives of ministries, the Consortium, World Bank, embassies, international bodies, etc.

Expected results include the following: prevent the problems raised by the people about forgotten spin-offs, establish the relevance or not of claims, ensure that lawyers, trade unions and NGOs work on behalf of the requesting party and in collaboration with same, identify the best authorities to whom evidence could be submitted, pool resources and knowledge in order to develop methods of collecting evidence from victims or plaintiffs, as well as methods aimed at using resources and knowledge where needed, exchange information between victims/plaintiffs and legal systems experts, accumulate a maximum of jurisprudence evidence, intensify communication and share of information.

Organizing a peoples' tribunal in Cameroon for the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project is in deed working for the well-being of Cameroonians.

Pierre Titi Nwel
National Coordinator
National Committee on
Justice and Peace in
Cameroon
Cameroon Episcopal
Conference



HISTORICAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND

Situation of Cameroon

The IMF 2005 report recalls that after a period of strong economic expansion backed by the development of offshore oil wells from 1978, Cameroon was plunged into a profound and prolonged economic recession in the 1980s. Between 1986 and 1993, the Gross Domestic Product dropped by one-third or more than 50% on a per capita basis. This situation was caused by several factors, including the dwindling oil revenue that started as from 1986.

The devaluation of the CFA franc in 1994 brought back Cameroon's competitiveness. Despite an unfavourable growth in terms of trade, the 25% depreciation boosted exports, particularly in non-oil sectors and GDP growth averaged 2.75% in 1994-1997.

In June 1997, Cameroon sought a triennial arran-

gement (ESAF) which was later converted into a PRGF arrangement, and Cameroon reached the HIPC administrative decision point in October 2000.

According to the Bertelsmann Foundation, an assessment of the democratic status and transformations of the market economy of the country in 5 years, from 1998 to 2003, instead shows that despite the flattering reports of the Breton Woods institutions, the economic reform did not progress fast enough. There are still severe shortcomings in human rights protection, in participation and representation and in the establishment of sustainable development.

Privatization of State enterprises has progressed, with noted absence of Cameroonian buyers. Meanwhile, the privatization of companies has still not led to better services as shown in the

case of electric power supply and rail transport.

With regard to access to public service, the rural aspect remains substantially underprivileged. Although the country experienced a non-negligible economic growth (5% between 1997 and 1997, 5.3% between 2000 and 2001), and despite its potential, it did not attain the 7% level that would have ushered in poverty reduction. One may dread a drop in growth rate after the currently exploited oil deposits would have depleted, and when the temporary profits of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project would have been dissipated.

Export agricultural produce are experiencing a crisis, and many would require substantial investments and favourable world market trends to once more become a force of attraction.



Brief reminder of the Chad-Cameroon Oil and Pipeline Project

An oil and pipeline project was designed and implemented by the Exxon-Petronas-Chevron Consortium. The project was made public in 1996 and approved by the World Bank in June 2000.

The \$ 3.7 billion worth mega project comprised the exploitation in Chad of 300 oil wells in 3 oilfields, and transportation of oil by underground pipeline over a distance of 1070 km including 891 km in Cameroon, and directly crossing 242 villages therein, distributed into 5 provinces and 12 divisions. The oil is conveyed to Cameroon's Atlantic coast at Kribi, the country's tourist town par excellence, to a floating terminal, a single-hulled ship installed some 11 km off the coast to receive and export the oil. The project is currently the greatest private sector investment in sub-Saharan Africa.

A cost-benefit study carried out by the Dames and Moore firm, and including and assessment of the main areas

of income-generating or potentially income-generating activities (agriculture, stock breeding, forestry, multi-industries, oil transport, etc.), showed considerable net profit for Chad, and to a lesser extent for Cameroon.

For the Republic of Chad, the total economic development value of the project, including costs incurred by Chad and its population and compensations paid for some of such costs, is estimated at an actual net value of about 780 billion CFA francs (\$ 1.3 billion). Economists use the actual net value to estimate the value of a long-term project in current dollars. Considering the projected trend of the value of the dollar throughout the duration of the project, the Chad exportation project is expected to generate a total economic development value estimated at 5 100 billion CFA francs (\$ 8.5 billion) for Chad. For the Republic of Cameroon, the total economic development value of the project, including costs incurred by Cameroon and its

population and compensations paid for some of such costs, is estimated at an actual net value of about 300 billion CFA francs (\$ 500 million). Considering the projected trend of the value of the dollar throughout the duration of the project, the Chad exportation project is expected to generate a total economic development value estimated at 540 billion CFA francs (\$ 900 million) for Cameroon.

Many facilities directly related to the project were constructed: camps, storage or maintenance sheds, international airport reserved purposely for the project, pumping and pressure reduction stations, etc.

At the same time, more than 5000 farms were destroyed, and various inconveniences were caused to the peoples living along the project right-of-way: many water courses disrupted, wells polluted by soil and other products from pipeline construction works, dangerously threatening rural peoples' access to drinking water, etc.

DASHED HOPES OF THE CHAD-CAMEROON PIPELINE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION PHASE

The Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project embodied in the neighbouring peoples the hope of a better future: new of jobs, improvement of roads and bridges, access to drinking water, payment of compensations, etc.

The World Bank saw in this pipeline project a means of triggering economic development and alleviating poverty in the countries

concerned. What obtained on the ground was rather sad: multiple environmental damages put under clothe in the construction company's reports and those of official monitoring bodies; social claims are pouring in from all angles, workers maltreated at various project sites, and although the multiplicity of problems raised undermine and discredit all the triumphalist presentations of success by the

construction company, the clamoured reparations are not paid. The frequent strike actions and upheavals by the populations are an obvious sign of the numerous malfunctions, and their forceful settlement is testimony of the meagre support they received. No permanent forum for dialogue was accepted by the CPSP despite the insistence of various parties. Oil exploitation began in October 2003.

PEOPLES' TRIBUNAL OF CAMEROON

Rationale

Considering that the people living along the pipeline right-of-way were exposed to serious and systematic violations of their fundamental rights for various reasons, FOCARFE whose duty is to promote the rights of peoples, minorities and individuals, with the support of national public opinion, referred to the 'Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon in order to draw the attention of the government, political parties, trade unions and the international public opinion to the serious and systematic violations of peoples' rights, and, in relation with such violations, those of the rights of minorities and individuals, as well as to their economic, political and social causes.

Members of jury

Chair: Me NGUINI Charles, Barrister;

Members:

Fr. BELL, National Episcopal Conference;
Pastor NGUE, Secretary-General of the Council of Protestant Churches of Cameroon;
Cheikh OUMAROU MALAM DJIBRIL, Representative of the Islamic community;
Me DANG Elise, Barrister;
Me FANDOM Louise, Court Registrar;
Me NGUEFACK Maurice, Barrister;
Me DANG MEKOK Austin, Court Registrar;
KUENZOB Duplex, Ecumenical Service for Peace.

Reference legal instruments

1. Statutes of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon, adopted on 20 June 2005;
2. 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
3. International Pact on civil and political rights;
4. International Pact on economic, social and political rights;
5. African Charter on human and peoples' rights;
6. United Nations Convention against corruption;
7. ILO standards;
8. United Nations standards on enterprises accountability in matters relating to human rights ;
9. 16 January 1996 Constitution of Cameroon;
10. Civil Code;
11. Penal Code;
12. Environmental Management Plan.

CONDUCT OF TRIBUNAL

*Session Opening Address by Mme Hilde-Josée Ndoumbe Nkotto,
30 September 2005*

Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is in deed an honour for me and for the entire FOCARFE, to welcome you in this hall of the Yaounde Chamber of Agriculture, for the first session of what we refer to, in well chosen terms, as the Peoples'

Tribunal of Cameroon!

But what is the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon?

The Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon is an initiative of the NGO FOCARFE. A jury comprising various Cameroonian personalities is called upon to express a

reasoned and public opinion on situations or facts referred thereto. It is therefore a tribunal of opinion and not one of power. The tribunal stands out as the free and responsible expression of Cameroonian citizens in a country where the rule of law prevails. Its duty is to examine publicly and in an

adversarial manner all the cases of violations of human and peoples' rights contained in the complaints lodged by victims (or private or corporate bodies supporting them).

It is inspired from the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal founded in June 1979 at Bologna by jurists, writers and other intellectuals, under the impulse of the Lelio Basso International Foundation for peoples' right and liberation, founded in 1976 at the initiative of the Italian resistance fighter and democrat, Lelio Basso (1903-1978). The Tribunal took over the Russel tribunals, which in the 1960s and 1970s exposed the war crimes committed in Vietnam, presided by Bertrand Russel, and later Jean-Paul Sartre and Lelio Basso. The Permanent Peoples' Tribunal was first presided by François Rigaux, professor at law in Brussels, and up to date, by Salvadore Senes, Italian magistrate.

Shortly after its creation in 1976, the Lelio Basso Foundation convened an international conference at Alger which, on 4 July 1976 (200th anniversary of America's declaration of independence and the eve of Algeria's national day celebration), proclaimed the "Universal Declaration of Peoples' Rights". Although it was a private initiative and although the notion of "peoples' rights" was already mentioned in a number of

international instruments, such attempt was the first to enter peoples' rights in a single document.

With the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Charter, a charter of inter-State relations, the Alger Declaration is considered today by many international jurists as a fundamental document. Twenty-nine years after its adoption, it is worth noting that this instrument still remains a topical issue.

The Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon comprises Cameroonian personalities acting independently. It may be referred to through petitions written by associations, bodies or personalities. Such petitions should come from trust-worthy persons and state the violations charged, the authorities, groups or persons that the requesting party deems should be accused to stand trial.

The Tribunal gives itself extended powers to appraise and investigate in order to retain, hear or reject all or part of the petition. It summons all the parties concerned and offers the accused party the possibility to defend themselves. The Tribunal decides on the venue and duration of the case. It decides on the composition of the jury.

The Tribunal decides on facts brought thereto and on those it can bring out or highlight following its inves-

tigations. It applies the rules retained in project conventions, but also general and conventional rules of international law, and particularly the principles generally admitted in conventions and international practice on matters relating to human rights and the right of peoples to decide for themselves.

I sincerely believe that Cameroon deserves to see such actions taken on its soil, and FOCARFE, by this action, is striving to contribute to the institution of democratic discussion in our country, while at the same time helping to translate into concrete terms the taking into consideration of new actors such as the civil society in decisions that influence the life of Cameroonians particularly, in line with World Bank and the Cotonou Agreement recommendations.

The jury constituted for today's topic, namely the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project, is as follows:

Chair: Me NGUINI Charles, Barrister;

Members:

Fr. BELL, National Episcopal Conference;
Pastor NGUE, Secretary-General of the Council of Protestant Churches of Cameroon;

Cheikh OUMAROU MALAM DJIBRIL, Representative of the Islamic community;

Me DANG Elise, Barrister;

Me FANDOM Louise, Court

Registrar;

Me NGUEFACK Maurice,
Barrister;

Me DANG MEKOK Austin,
Court Registrar;

KUENZOB Dupleix,
Ecumenical Service for
Peace.

In view of documenting and
completing the topics that
would be developed during
this session, FOCARFE has
prepared detailed thematic
files, drafted by its members
or other structures, summa-
rizing all the information
available to date. The files
include:

- the Chad-Cameroon
Pipeline project independent
monitoring report (FOCAR-
FE, CED, ERA-CAME-
ROUN, SEP);
- the impact analysis of

individual compensations
on people living along the
Chad-Cameroon Pipeline
project right-of-way
(FOCARFE);

- the environmental
audit of the Chad-Cameroon
Pipeline project (FOCARFE);
- the Chad-Cameroon
Pipeline project: field reports
(FOCARFE);
- the Chad-Cameroon
Pipeline project in the light
of Agenda 21(FOCARFE);
- Articles from the pipe-
line Journal;
- complaints deposited
at the World Bank
Inspection Panel by CED;
- Panel Report;
- World Bank
Management response;
- Brochure: Social
Closure in the Chad-
Cameroon Pipeline project

(FOCARFE);

- Social Closure or Social
Responsibility Report
(FOCARFE);
- Monitoring bodies...
(FOCARFE).
- Appraisal of the consi-
deration and implementa-
tion of IAG recommenda-
tions (FOCARFE);
- Chad-Cameroon
Pipeline project assessment
report (Justice and Peace
Commission /FOCARFE);
- Amnesty International
report on the Chad-
Cameroon Pipeline project;
- What can one make of
the remarks and declara-
tions of ECMG with regard
to persistent problems on
the field (FOCARFE)?

Thank you.

Referral to the Tribunal

FOCARFE thus referred to
the Peoples' Tribunal on 30
July 2005, with the backing
of several national and inter-
national human rights
NGOs, to decide on the
serious violations of the
rights of the people living
along the pipeline right-of-
way, committed by the proj-
ect construction company,
its branches, as well as by
any group or structure that
failed in its monitoring or
equitable arbitration duty.

For FOCARFE, this implied
presenting to the Tribunal
an overview of these viola-
tions, enlightened by the
reminder of the evolution of
the project situation since

1996, and backed by the tes-
timonies of 24 affected per-
sons present in the hall.

It happened that the event
coincided, with a few days'
difference, with the organi-
zation by the World Bank of
a pipeline project assess-
ment session, to draw les-
sons there from (as they clai-
med), while many problems
that had been raised a long
time ago by the people and
NGOs were still awaiting
answers or being treated
rather too slowly. Instead,
project completion certifica-
tes had been issued to the
Consortium, whereas the
settlement of pending pro-
blems raised a long time ago

should have preceded the
issuance of the said certifica-
te. Such was the case for a
World Bank sponsored dam
project in Lesotho, and in
this case, the signing of the
completion certificate was
simply and logically defer-
red until the settlement of
cases of non-compliance and
other pending issues. Why
is it not the same in the case
of the Chad-Cameroon
Pipeline project, and why
the double standard?

For a long time now, notably
throughout the construction
phase, many complaints
have been lodged by the
maltreated and flouted
population. Their claims

that were always echoed by NGOs were in fact never seriously handled. Their voices have regularly been suffocated by stronger forces, alliances of active or passive complicity. A different and diametrically opposing clarion call was sounded against each of their assertions, despite the overwhelming field evidence that they have always had. The wounds of the project are far from scarring, but there is an attempt at "expediting" things by circumventing the sufferings inflicted on the people who want nothing other than being happy, and who welcomed the project with outstretched arms, with the characteristic conviviality of Cameroonians. It is therefore necessary, in order to have an authentic reconciliation of the truth, to hear the different versions of such a tragedy, and establish the responsibilities of one another in these gloomy pages of the history of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project construction phase. In this way, nobody shall remain uninformed and there shall be appropriate reparation of damages.

That is why FOCARFE took the matter to the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon, in order to judge violations of the rights of the people affected by the pipeline project.

But why refer to an "opinion tribunal"? First, because of the failure of national and

international mechanisms responsible for piloting and monitoring the project.

Despite the magnitude of the shortcomings, distortions and other abnormalities of the project since it was made public in 1996, causing thousands of victims and thousands of paupers, the announced revolutionary project control mechanisms were not up to the task in shedding light on responsibilities in the poor execution of project tasks, or in obtaining the due reparations.

The victims' recourse to legal procedures, be it at the national or international level (Inspection Panel), met with considerable obstacles. It is true that the World Bank Inspection Panel, as a result of a complaint lodged by the Cameroonian NGO CED, carried out a field investigation. Such decision was a significant step in the long-standing fight initiated by NGOs and human rights activists, both in Cameroon and abroad, to expose the responsibilities of the tragedy Cameroonians are living as a result of problems caused by the project for many years now. Many national and international organizations, particularly the Catholic Relief Services, Environmental Defence, Bank Information Centre, AG Erdol, National Commission on Justice and Peace, CED, ESP, ERA-Cameroon, GCA and FOCARFE, through several

documented survey reports, have made it possible to gather a set of information that would have played a vital role in clarifying project decision-making structures.

At the same time, they also encouraged more direct actions aimed at accusing perpetrators to be started or prepared.

Although the complaint lodged by CED at the World Bank Inspection Panel was not shelved aside by whom it may concern, it was treated only too rapidly, with various types of considerations apparently playing their role.

In addition, the few recommendations made by the Panel led to very limited effects. Such legal proceeding aimed at identifying violators of the rights of the people living along the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project right-of-way should certainly not be abandoned. As a matter of fact, some procedures based on the "independent assessment" principle will theoretically make it possible to continue the fight for the reparation of damages committed. And even though their outcome is uncertain, such actions may play a vital role in sensitizing and informing international opinion, which is very important in the case of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project, which is claimed to be a model, but which is characterized, more

than others, by opacity and misinformation, and is far from the often triumphantly announced success.

It should however be noted that such is a fragile means, because this type of procedure requires that the inspection structure be authorized to handle the complaint lodged, if ever it deems it relevant, or that its recommendations be taken into consideration by the decision-making bodies, which is a huge constraint.

That is why, though without rejecting such a procedure, and falling in line with work

continuity and actions against long-standing project non-conformities and impunity by national and international NGOs responsible for defending human rights, FOCARFE, with the support of many of the latter, decided to refer to the "Peoples' Tribunal" for the violations of the rights of people living along the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project right-of-way, in Cameroon.

The human rights violations submitted to the appreciation of the Tribunal are the following:

1- Over-billing of communi-

ty structures (grinding mills, grinding mill houses, community houses, classrooms, harnessed water sources);
2- Faulty or non-operational community equipment (grinding mills, grinding mill houses, harnessed water sources);
3- Pre-existing structures destroyed;
4- Destruction of water courses;
5- Workers' rights baffled;
6- Farmlands destroyed as a result of project works;
7- Poorly restored lands;
8- Poor waste management;
9- Defence sites destroyed;
10- Natives' rights baffled (Pygmies);

Documentation

The Tribunal based its deliberations on the study of documents prepared and supplied by FOCARFE::

●the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project independent monitoring report (FOCARFE, CED, ERA-CAMEROUN, SEP);

●the impact analysis of individual compensations on people living along the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project right-of-way (FOCARFE);

●the environmental audit of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project (FOCARFE);

●the Chad-Cameroon

Pipeline project: field reports (FOCARFE);

●the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project in the light of Agenda 21(FOCARFE);

●Articles from the pipeline Journal;

●complaints deposited at the World Bank Inspection Panel by CED;

●Panel Report;

●World Bank Management response;

●Brochure: Social Closure in the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project (FOCARFE);

● Social Closure or Social Balance Sheet (FOCARFE);

●Monitoring bodies...

(FOCARFE).

●Appraisal of the consideration and implementation of IAG recommendations (FOCARFE);

●Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project assessment report (Justice and Peace Commission /FOCARFE);

●Amnesty International report on the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project;

●What can one make of the remarks and declarations of ECMG with regard to persistent problems on the field (FOCARFE)?

The Tribunal also based its deliberations on the testimonies of victims and expert interventions during the session, summarized as follows:



Testimony (summary) by Mr. Noah Ndjana, representative of Ndjoré II village

"We have outstanding claims at COTCO about a motor pump that was supplied to us without pipes and a grinding mill which worked for only two weeks, all for a cost of 3 010 000 CFA francs, representing the total amount of our community compensation."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: What about the warranty generally granted by suppliers for any equipment of a certain value?)

"Testimony by Mr. Nanga ZO'O, representative of Nkoteng village."

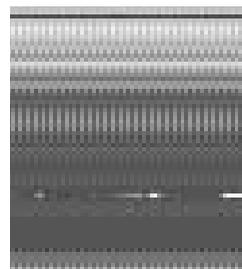
"Nkoteng village received equipment which does not function, such as:

1. Cement block presses that ceased functioning after a single use,
2. Two grinding mills worth 800 000 CFA francs each. Only one is still operational to date; the other worked for only one week. The promised spare parts were only partly supplied and 20 litres of fuel were supplied to test the mills instead of the promised 40 litres. The rest has not been supplied up to now."

"Testimony by Mr. TCHOUNGUI, head of ANGOUANFEME village

"The amount for compensation of my village was 6 000 000 CFA francs; we wanted the roof of the school to be repaired. COTCO brought us a ready-made cost estimate that we deemed too high. When we presented a cost estimate prepared by a contractor that the village itself had chosen, COTCO replied that our contractor had been approved by them."

" Mr. NKOA OLINGA ROBERT, traditional ruler of NDZANA village

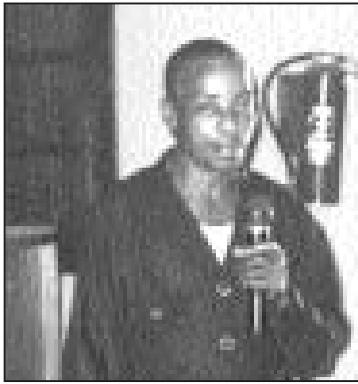


"My village received the sum of 3 010 000 CFA francs as community compensation and we sought the construction of an 8m by 10m building. I already had more than 40 cubic meters of sand and structural timber, form lumber, stones and eight exposed blocks. We agreed with COTCO on increasing the dimensions of the building since I had to give them all the material I had for free. As such, instead of the original 8m by 10m, we were supposed to have a building of 20m by 10m.

They asked me to provide a team of labourers and a few villagers who could do bricklaying and carpentry. I supplied them with 10 labourers of each category. They are still owing 589 500 CFA francs to these labourers. The contractor in charge of the work raised the building haphazardly. You can send an expert there to examine the work done; it's a shame!"

BINELI, representative of NKOMETOU I village

"An undeveloped spring that supplied drinking water to the entire village was damaged by pipeline construction works. After several complaints, the people (men, women and children) of NKOMETOU staged an upheaval and stopped work progress in the locality. Instead of seeking a solution to the problem, the Divisional Officer rather authorized the forces of law and order clamp down on the people. That is how many people found themselves in hospital with serious wounds from clubs, machetes and other weapons. The village of NKOMETOU chose the harnessing of thirteen springs as community compensation. Today, only one spring is operating; the twelve others are not only un-operational, but do no longer exist."



**MEKADI François,
NDOUMBA NKANGA**
village head

"My claims are on a number of materials and the money COTCO was supposed to pay villagers as community, regional and individual compensation. Talking about community compensation, there isn't much to be claimed, just a kerosene lamp commonly known as AIDA lamp, which is non-functional, and a motor pump which didn't have a pipe.

I don't have the cost of the AIDA lamp here, but the motor pump costs 231 000 CFA francs. It is there, but not functioning. Let's now talk of the regional compensation.

This is heavy! Heavy, because many equipment are not functioning. There are 2 (two) cement block presses that cost 200 000 CFA francs each.

There are 5 (five) springs harnessed at the cost of 800 000 CFA francs each, giving a total of 4 000 000 CFA francs. The 4 000 000 francs are a waste, because the first two harnessed springs never functioned; their tanks could not withstand the load as a result of low cement content. There was consequently no water reservoir.

The constructors were however asked to carry out a better water collection structure. They said they would dig wells at the edges of water courses. They brought in their technicians and dug the wells at water edges. Nobody ever used those wells, because they stink. We complained, but our complaints have

not been heeded to up to now. We ordered for a diesel grinding mill, worth 3 400 000 CFA francs. The mill is not functioning, because when we installed it, at the level of the mill, a part got worn out after two days. We succeeded in getting a spare part at Belabo, but the same thing happened again.

The grinding mill is therefore parked, not functioning! Meaning that the 3 400 000 CFA francs have been wasted.

Mr. President, this is a case of over-billing. For the 3.400.000 CFA francs, we have the delivery slips that were handed to us, but not the invoices, be it for the engine or the mill. This was the case with the supply of the other equipment such as the presses, wheelbarrows and others. The argument of the supplier was that the engine was hard to find, and that they could not bring us the invoice for an equipment worth 3 400 000 CFA francs!

Lastly, there was individual compensation, with just one file, that of Mrs. MEKANI, my wife, née NOMO JULIENNE.

This concerns the destruction of a fish pond. Let me explain, Mr. President: when COTCO arrived to map out the pipeline reconnaissance track, they found that I had already constructed the pool in 1998 because I did not know where the pipeline would pass.

Meanwhile, they diverted the course of the pipeline track which no longer crossed the fish pond, which was fine by me. They started work, but some time during tree-felling a tree fell into my pond. They sent one of their representatives, Mr. Degui, who assessed that the tree had destroyed 20 (twenty) kilograms of fish, including the edge of the pool, a few young palm trees and banana trees. They paid for the latter, "forgetting" the 20 kilograms of fish. I complained, but to no avail. I ended up getting tired.

After the works proper, the road had to be cleaned up and shaped. During the shaping, they

mapped out two gutters that crossed my fish pond, since the pipeline track was further up, just like you are up there at the rostrum and my fish pond further down as I am here.

In 2001, I drew their attention to my fish pond that was already getting engulfed because soil was pouring therein, while they were talking of planting lawn grass. There is therefore neither lawn nor anything at all. I wrote and they sent a committee. Mr. Degui came accompanied by Mr. Elie Park. They compiled a file to pay compensation for the fish pond, but nothing was done.

A second committee came later on and, after that, an expert, Mr. Belle André, accompanied by the local representative, Mr. Mebenga Simon Pierre, was sent for counter-expertise on the destruction of the fish pond. A file was compiled once more. I contacted technicians, that is, the Delegate of Fisheries and Stock Breeding who supported me during the construction of my fish pond. He made an assessment of the construction of the pond which in a lump sum is evaluated at 12 375 000 CFA francs, detailed out as follows:

Investment: 486.500 CFA francs
Running costs: 569.000 CFA francs

Annual production: 2830.000 CFA francs

I think I am the loser here. From 2001 to 2005, that is four consecutive years, I have been claiming for loss of potential earnings, which stand at 2 830 000 francs \times 4 = 11 320 000 CFA francs which, added to the running and investment costs gives the total of 12 375 000 CFA francs, excluding, Mr. President, the moral damage. Since I am in total despair, I no longer have any fish pond. And COTO is reticent and unwilling to see what I have done, what I have put in as means for the construction of this fish pond.

Such are the claims of NDOUMBA NKANGA village. "

**ETOUNDI Angelin, representative
of NKONGMEYOS III village**

"The pipeline crossed a lake in our village, a lake which was poorly cleaned up after construction works. These works transformed the lake into a standing pool and consequently a breeding ground for mosquitoes and a source of malaria. Concerning individual compensations, the bicycles supplied were of poor quality. The COTCO bicycles did not even last for six months."

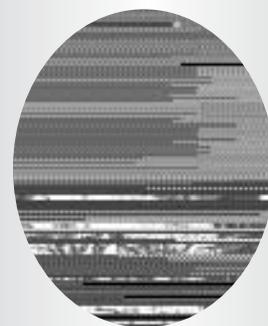
**Mr. FOUA NDI Joseph,
traditional ruler of AKONGO III village**

"I would like to talk of the case of destruction of existing infrastructure because COTCO made movement on the pre-existing road more difficult in the village of ANGOUANFEME.

COTCO wanted to get the road repaired to allow its machines to pass through. But the road led to a rock which for long had caused problems. COTCO had all the necessary equipment to blast the rock in order to improve movement on the road. Instead of blasting the rock, COTCO rather covered it with earth, thereby increasing the gradient of the slope. Today, in the rainy season as well as in the dry season, you dare not venture to take the road if you do not have the appropriate car. The hill has instead "grown" at that area. When asked they did not blast the rock and make things easier for everyone, COTCO replied that they had not come to construct roads, and that it was the prerogative of the government.

The second case is that of another hill where COTCO brought the road practically to a precipice, to the extent that during the rainy season, any vehicle that skids at that area stands a high chance of falling into the valley. In ANDOCK, a village that is part of ANGOUANFEME, when you descend, you practically get down to valley, at the edge of the precipice. The people of AKONGO want COTCO to come and salvage the situation.

In another village, ABANG-AKONGO, a water point was simply blocked by soil dug up by COTCO to lay down pipes. This was pointed out, but COTCO never wanted to solve the problem."

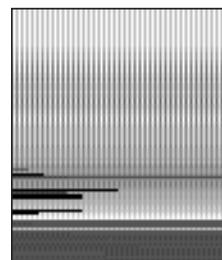


**Mrs. BITANGA EKANI
Célestine of NKOLTARA
Village in the NKOMETOU
group**

"Before COTCO, I had no problems living with eight children, since I was owner of a poultry farm. When COTCO arrived, I offered them my compound to park their machines, truck and materials, informing them that I had just bought 500 day-old chicks. They promised me that there would be no problem with my poultry.

Three weeks later, I lost 380 chicks because of the noise, dust and smoke from the exhaust pipes of trucks and machines. For the past three years I have been claiming reparation for the damages I suffered. "

"Pygmies are facing a lot of problems after the laying of the pipeline. The identity cards that were promised them have



**NOUA Jeanne,
representative
of Bandedouri
village**

not yet been provided up to now. We don't have any spin-offs from the native people's scheme. A few textbooks were distributed to schools attended by pygmy children, but there is no follow-up on the use of such textbooks. Pygmies were taken away from the forests where they lived peacefully and brought towards the centre, giving rise to numerous land problems with natives. The pygmies are obliged to provide agricultural manpower to major land owners in order to survive. Hunting, which was the main income-generating activity, has been abandoned as a result of the distancing of wild animals because of noise produced by the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project machines."

BOMBA ZOA Cyprien (OBOKOE I)

"I placed my land of about 3 hectares, formerly used for farming, at the disposal of WILLBROSS, for a period of 11 months, as testified by the memorandum of understanding signed between COTCO and me. Not only was the land returned to me after 18 months of usage, but worse still, nothing grows there any more. For the past two years I have been running after COTCO for a cleanup of the land which is my only source of income."

BEUNDE EVILA LUDWIG, head of BWAMBE village at the maritime terminal

"The people of my village lived mainly on fishing and before the floating terminal of the Chad-Cameroon pipeline, the quantity of fish they caught was abundant. But for the past few years now, our nets are constantly torn by the maritime structures of the pipeline and the compensation process is painstaking. This has increased poverty in my village as a result of the drop in fishing activity.."

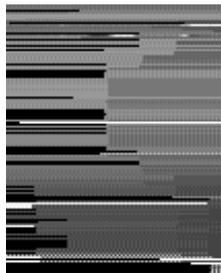
LOCAL LABOURERS OF THE OBALA BASIN

"I am testifying here in my capacity as COTCO worker at the OBALA basin and on behalf of the entire team of welders maltreated during the events that occurred at Nkoltara on 17 and 18 September 2002, at the Willbros work site. So, I will tell you how I was recruited, treated and fired. I represent a group of 71 young NKOMETOU villagers. COTCO used to recruit through basins, that is, per group of villages. Youths who were recruited had to work on a given portion and, at the end of the portion, others were recruited. We already had news on the treatment received by preceding teams. We were thus prepared by the time we were contacted. I worked in the welding team. Before recruitment, there was a one-hour interview with the socio-economist, the person in charge of recruiting. At this level, we tried to understand the working conditions and especially the remuneration. With regard to working conditions, they promised proving us with appropriate working equipment, i.e. goggles which protect us from welding rays. I would like to remind you that this was high-level welding. They told us that we needed to have boots and a uniform, and be well dressed to protect ourselves against sparks. With regard to remuneration, they said we had to sign a contract, but that time was already running out and we needed to start work. They promised giving

us our salary situation in 48 hours. We therefore started welding and two or three days later, one of our friends lost his sight. For 72 hours he was almost blind. Another one sustained a burn on the leg. In the end, we all had problems because we were putting on plastic shoes and working under heat. Since we wanted to benefit from the mistakes of our friends, we decided to claim for our rights!

We wrote a petition to the COTCO General Manager, requesting to meet him. We asked among other things to have shoes suitable for heat as well as proper remuneration. When the General Manager arrived, he waved every thing with the back of his hand asked us: "Since you seem to be more enlightened than the others, what shall we do? You will not complete your work portion. We are going to dismiss you very soon." So, we decided to stop work, especially as one of our friends had almost gone blind, and as I am talking to you now, he still hasn't recovered his sight. On that day, we were precisely at the village called NKOLTARA. And still on that day, the spring of the village was destroyed. The people decided to block the road. The Divisional Officer came with at least 100 gendarmes, armed to the teeth. The gendarmes molested the people properly. Meanwhile, we stood apart, convinced that the problem did not concern us. The DO walked toward us as we were seating at the worksite. He ordered the forces of law and order to encircle us, before asking if we had delegates. We were six of us, and I

NDONGO ETOUDI, NGOUMOU village head



"A market gardener, a son of the soil, had dug 13 wells from which water was collected to water his crops before the crossing of the pipeline there. Pipeline construction works destroyed 11 of his wells, and COTCO categorically refuses to compensate the damage thus caused to the market gardener. I was part of the committee to make an inventory of the property of the people of my village living along the pipeline right-of-way. The committee forgot to count the wells in question. Surveys were made, but up till today nothing has been done to regularize the situation. A last commission was there about a month ago, and they were able to see the wells outside the pipeline right-of-way which were still there on either side of the pipeline track. I am referring to those that were not destroyed. This is evidence that the wells existed."

was the leader. We gave him a copy of our petition. After reading it, he asked to know the opinion of COTCO General Manager, Mr. Poulard (in fact, he was the General Manager of the subcontracting company, Willbros). He once more wave the issue aside. Then DO then called for a restricted working session at OBALA, with the six delegates. During the working session the DO said: "In my territory of command, I will civilize you. You will serve as an example so that there would be no more disorders. I am going to place you on a 10 days' administrative detention immediately. Mr. Commander, these truants are at your disposal".

We were thus locked up in the cell. The paper you are looking at is my contract termination certificate, which I signed while in the cell, around 10 p.m.! Our friends who had stayed behind said: "Our friends have gone; we are stopping work too. If they are not released, we prefer to die here"! Some COTCO workers joined them. They kidnapped a few white workers who worked with them and said: "we are forgetting our friends; you too, forget your white workers". The DO came and freed us the next morning under the pressure and publicly fired us, in front of the entire village. The naked persons you see in this newspaper are us. Since we were putting on our COTCO uniforms by the time we were taken to the cell, they undressed us in public! That is how COTCO fired us."

IV - RULING OF THE PEOPLES' TRIBUNAL

President

Me NGUINI Charles

Members

1-Fr. BELL, National Episcopal Conference;
 2-Pastor NGUE, Secretary General of the Council of Cameroon Protestant churches;
 3-Cheikh OUMAROU MALAM DJIBRIL, Representative of the Islamic community;
 4-Me DANG Elise, Barrister;
 5-Me FANDOM Louise, Court Registrar;
 6-Me NGUINI Charles, Barrister;
 7-Me NGUEFACK Maurice, Barrister;
 8-Me DANG MEKOK Austin, Court Registrar;
 9-KUENZOB Dupleix, Ecumenical Service for Peace.

Rapporteur

Me DANG Elise

After studying the complaints lodged by the people living along the Chad-Cameroon oil project right-of-way,

The Peoples' Tribunal was formally referred to by the NGO FOCARFE (Fondation Camerounaise d'Actions Rationalisées et de Formation sur l'Environnement) on behalf of the people living along the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project right-of-way, on 13 September 2005.

Considering the representative nature of the complaints, the solidity of the documentation compiled and preliminary research, the consistency of the subject of the complaint with the lines of thought and work of the Tribunal itself, the complaint was deemed receivable. In accordance with the statutes, the complaint was com-

municated to the two main parties involved in the case:

- COTCO and partners, represented by their legal counsel;
 - the government of Cameroon represented by the CPSP (Pipeline Piloting and Monitoring Committee);

Both parties were notified of their right to be represented and to use their means of defence.

The Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon met in a public session on 30 September 2005, in the hall of the Chamber of Agriculture, in the presence of the accused.

Its duty was to:

-hear the oral reports and testimonies of the complaining witnesses and of experts;
 -examine the written documentation that accompanied the oral presentations.

This initial report shall be complemented during the publication of the final report in the months ahead.

During the session, the Peoples' Tribunal made reference to factual and legal sources.

1. Oral testimonies on violations of the rights of the people living along the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project right-of-way:

Full names :

1. BOMBA ZOA Cyprien
2. Beunde Evila Ludwic
3. NKOA Olinga Robert
4. NOUA Jeanne

5. Nanga Zo'o

6. BAWA DINA Jean-Paul

7. NOAH NDZANA

8. BITANGA EKANI Célestine

9. OMGBA BOMBA Martin

10. NDONGO ETOUNDI Joseph

11. BALLA ONDOA Jean

12. AVOM AVOM

13. ADANG Benjamin

14. MBIDA Sébastien

15. ETOUNDI

16. BINELI

17. MECANI Joseph

2. Counts

1- Over-billing of community structures (grinding mills, grinding mill houses, community houses, classrooms, harnessed water sources);

2- Faulty or non-operational community equipment (grinding mills, grinding mill houses, harnessed water sources);

3- Pre-existing structures destroyed;

4- Destruction of water courses;

5- Workers' rights baffled;

6- Farmlands destroyed as a result of project works;

7- Poorly restored lands;

8- Poor waste management;

9- Defence sites destroyed;

10- Natives' rights baffled (Pygmies);

3. Reference legal instruments

-Constitution of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon, adopted on 20 June 2005;

-1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

-International Pact on civil and political rights;

-International Pact on economic, social and political rights;

-African Charter on human and peoples' rights;

-United Nations Convention against corruption;
-ILO standards;
-United Nations standards on enterprises accountability in matters relating to human rights ;
-16 January 1996 Constitution of Cameroon;
-Civil Code;
-Penal Code;
-Environmental Management Plan.

Deliberations of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon on the claims of the people living along the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline right-of-way were based on the above mentioned instruments.

4. Facts. The facts concern the following 10 counts:

1. Over-billing of community structures

From the testimonies concerning the villages of Njoré II and Nkoteng, the equipment made available under community compensations were over-billed when compared with local market prices. This applies to the price of grinding mills presented in the catalogue as costing 750 000 CFA francs, whereas the current market price stands at 350 000 CFA francs.

2. Faulty or non-operational community equipment

Motor pump without pipe, grinding mill, wheelbarrow and cement block presses which broke down only a few days after going operational. The Tribunal notes that the equipment were supplied without any warranty.

3. Destruction of pre-existing structures,

Water courses and wells, bridges and roads and private investment without compensation.

4. Workers' rights baffled

The case of the people of Nkometou who were illegally fired after being recruited without a labour contract. Escape of responsibilities characterised by the multiplicity of subcontractors.

5. Poorly restored land and defence sites that were destroyed

The case of Meiganga, the fishermen of Kribi and Akono, creation of mosquitoes breeding pools, flooding of cocoa plantations.

6. Natives' rights baffled

Destruction of the Bipindi-Kribi forest which was the only source of wealth and pharmacopoeia of the Bagyely people. Pygmies do not fully benefit from the activities of FEDEC, because of the poor execution of its action plan and the implementation of development projects of their community.

7. Refusal of the rights of the Mbororo whose cattle herds ran into the bush, and destabilization of their environment.

They were ignored by FEDEC and denied the special compensation granted to the fishermen of the Kribi region whose fishing resources dropped as a result of constant water pollution.

8. Poor waste management which led to huge losses of cattle and pigs and caused diseases. There was non-respect of the EMP strategies, absence of a policy to monitor the consequences of such wastes on the population and the environment.

LEGAL RATIONALE

From the testimonies received and the documentation produced, it is clear that the Consortium did not take

appropriate measures to preserve the rights of the people as prescribed in the Environmental Management Plan of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project.

It is legally right to commit the responsibility of enterprises because of their actions which undermined human and environmental rights.

It was noticed that the State of Cameroon, signatory to the establishment convention with COTCO, did carry out a systematic close monitoring, thereby abandoning the people to themselves without any prior information and real capacity to negotiate, and no form of redress in the face of the other actors.

Consequently, the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon condemns the Consortium and its numerous subcontractors for non-respect of economic and social rights and especially the "previously established" standards in matters of workers' rights and environmental protection.

The Tribunal blames the State of Cameroon for its silence in the face of the violations decried by the people living along the pipeline right-of-way.

The Tribunal recommends as follows:

- The realization of a social and economic audit of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project;
- The reparation of all pending cases meticulously identified at the level of the people living along the pipeline right-of-way;
- The constitution of a support fund for all the councils crossed by the pipeline, in compensation for possible disasters.

V- OPEN LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

Open letter from the representatives of the people living along the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline right-of-way supported by NGOs and others, following the first session of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon held this day, 30 September 2005, at the Yaounde Chamber of Agriculture.

To His Excellency, the Prime Minister, Head of Government of the Republic of Cameroon.

Your Excellency, the Prime Minister, Head of Government,

We, representatives of Cameroonian populations living along the Chad-Cameroon pipeline right-of-way, having taken part at the session of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal mentioned above, take all the liberty to write you this letter, with the aim of clarifying you directly on the situation we are experiencing as a result of the passing of the pipeline in our villages.

Your Excellency, we deeply believe that you always act in the true interest of the people that we are. You have demonstrated that in several occasions, and this is quite soothing to us in our option to come to you without passing through any middle party, convinced that you will always do all in your power to safeguard our interests.

We welcomed the pipeline project with open arms, as you requested. We were presented the benefits to be reaped from the project by the entire nation, the sister populations of neighbouring Chad, and more directly by us, inhabitants of the villages crossed by the pipeline. That made us happy.

Some of us went to Nigeria, thanks to some NGOs of our country, to visit the Ogoni Land, whose disastrous post-oil situation has always been reported. Our fears were allayed by the several speeches made by both Consortium representatives and nationals. It was therefore with all confidence that we brought in our contribution to the various operations of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project, to which we were invited.

But, Your Excellency,

Our disappointment can only be matched to the hope we had in the project.

We shall not dwell much on the almost unlawful

practices we suffered, such as counting of plants to be compensated in a rather hasty manner, accepting a compensation scale that was not previously explained to us, and procedures of doubtful flexibility such as the definition of adult and young plants that were compensated at different rates, given that Consortium workers were the only ones to know and understand the said definition, and decide which plant was young or not!

We shall rather talk of what they accepted to give us. The Consortium decided to institute a complaint settlement procedure referred to as "social closure", in order to put an end to claims. We willingly accepted to respect it.

Your Excellency,

It is the disastrous outcome of this process that we want to report to you today.

Many cases of compensation recognized by the Consortium are still not resolved. We wish to remind you that the pay-

ment of compensations dates as far back as the beginning of the project, in 1996. Almost ten years after, the Consortium has still not totally settled the problem, for which it has always been reminded.

We were granted community or regional compensations in kind. We thus received the following in our villages: classrooms, wells, various grinding mills, farm tools, etc. Without insisting on the fact that procedures for the calculation of such compensations were established unilaterally and with authority by the Consortium, unlike individual compensations for which the scale proposed by the Consortium was discussed and its irrelevance quickly pointed out, we simply wish to tell you that in very many cases, the constructions were really poorly done and the structures abandoned before completion of work. Without being experts, one can see that many of the structures supplied were by far of a lower value or cost than the amount of compensation that we were due. Agricultural implements were supplied to us at prices highly superior to those in force in local markets for the same products and of the same make!

We did not choose the contractors ourselves, as this was the reserve of the

Consortium. Is the Consortium not responsible for the possible malfunctions and turpitudes of these contractors? Is it not our right to claim for the totality of what they had agreed to give us? Is it not legitimate for us to insist that the structures destined for us be constructed in a manner commensurate to the amount allocated to us?

The issue of water has become crucial for many of us. Many wells were polluted by pipeline works. In compensation, wells were supposed to be granted to us. Such was the case, except that many of the wells do no longer flow at all or flow with very low pressure, or produce poor quality water that leaves nauseating odours.

Tombs were profaned, and the means sought to reconstruct them were refused or ridiculously low. Women solicited to provide catering services for Consortium workers saw their contracts terminated prematurely and unilaterally, without compensation of any sort, whereas the standards required by the Consortium subcontractors were so high that these women had to borrow money to raise their establishments to the required standards. Their cries of distress have so far not been heeded to.

The Consortium's constructions and structures on water courses have often modified the state of such waters, and quiet streams that used to be transport routes have become death traps for us, as a result of the now fast current leading to constant drowning, or as a result of the installation of rocks in the water, the impossibility for our canoes to sail through and the slips and wounds caused to paddlers who try to push their canoes.

In other cases, the dams and other structures on the water now lead to permanent floods in neighbouring farmlands. Why should these farmers lose the fruit of a whole life's labour? Why should they lose their means of existence, and even a heritage that they could have handed down to their children? Is it not right that rectification and/or compensation measures be taken?

After a few actions, the Pygmy Plan seems to have lost its impetus. It was said that appropriate funds had been freed for the plan. Today we are being told that such funds are "actively being sought". The parks granted as compensation are still to be effectively established. The people living around the park are no longer authorized to feed on the animals from the

park, and none of the promised alternatives have been implemented this far. The disillusioned populations are powerlessly suffering from assaults in their farms by animals they are not authorized to kill, as they run the risk of being imprisoned. All their complaints have so far fallen on deaf ears.

Fishermen of the Kribi area not only witnessed the destruction of the rock massifs that housed most of their shoal of fish, but also, the artificial rock massif that was promised them and announced by the Consortium has still not been installed. The fishermen have also seen their nets torn regularly by the Consortium's maritime structures, and their complaints rejected on grounds of "lack of enough evidence".

Lastly, faced with the difficulty of settling pending issues through persistent wrangling, the Consortium has changed its strategy and henceforth talks of "social responsibility report" instead of "social closure". We wish to draw your attention to the fact that these are two quite different realities. Whereas social responsibility report refers to the notion of examining the effects of a project, and particularly the negative consequences on its execution environment at a

given frequency (yearly, for instance), social closure, as previously defined, is aimed at regularizing cases of non-compliance and other damages already noted during the construction phase, and requiring just the payment of reparations.

That is why we can hardly understand why the World Bank issued the Consortium the Construction Work Completion Certificate, purportedly to enable the latter be in good standing with money lenders, without wanting to apply the same means of pressure for this project to obtain proper settlement of the issues raised at the same time, as was the case for a World Bank sponsored dam project in Lesotho. Instead, the Consortium is clearly showing signs of extreme sluggishness in processing files, a sluggishness which is tantamount to bad faith.

Your Excellency,

All the problems raised above have been largely and abundantly brought to the attention of the Consortium, with no results. We could no longer remain silent or limit ourselves to those in charge of visiting the project on a regular basis. We want that the lead pan that has fallen on the village be removed, and that justice should take its

course.

The first session of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon has just had a public and adversarial examination of the precise testimonies and documents to better circumscribe the responsibilities. The arguments of each party were also heard.

We all know that the aim of this session was not to condemn individuals, which could not be the prerogative of the Tribunal, but to understand and publicly qualify what has been happening in Cameroon with regard to the project since 1996. For us, the voiceless, it was an opportunity to air our views, seek defence and take note, so that authentic justice should enable the people of Cameroon to benefit from the spin-offs of the project which appears to be denied them.

We therefore come to you, aware of the assistance you have always granted us, as was the case in the matter concerning the bridge over River Lom, despite the result we all know.

We are convinced of an appropriate reaction on your part.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest esteem.

VI - CLOSING REMARKS

by Mrs Hilde-Josée Ndoumbe Nkotto

Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and
Gentlemen,

We have come to the end of our deliberations. As you noticed, deliberations of the Peoples' Tribunal session on violations of rights of people living along the pipeline right-of-way were based, among others, on the Universal Declaration of Peoples' Rights, which proclaims their right to political self-determination and recalls their economic rights, especially the right to control their natural resources and the respect of their environment.

The case of pipeline project managers turned out to expose constant practices that impedes on the exercise of such rights, thereby confirming the failure of "laws" and treason to human aspiration to justice.

The violation of the right to self-determination mentioned above directly leads to violation of economic, social and cultural rights. The rights to minimum income (Article 11 of the Pact Relating to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) and to health (Article 12) were not respected in the implementation of the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project.

The rights to the environment and to development were not protected either. Oil exploitation may be done here at the expense of pollution of the areas concerned and at the detriment of the people living along the pipeline right-of-

way in particular, and the entire public in general, who do not reap any profit therefrom. Although being a theoretical source of wealth, it is, in effect, a factor of impoverishment and increased gap between the rich and the poor.

Once more, attempt has been made to conceal past tragedies from the collective mind, like that of the Ogoni people, by replacing them with mystifying promises of future paradise. Unfortunately, memory of sufferings may not disappear as a result of mere pirouettes. The Peoples' Tribunal intends to be the voice of the people and help them bring to justice such failures and acts of treason, re-imagining the prospects of a peoples' jurisprudence, its substance and dynamics.

Faced with the persistent violence of an imperialistic order, FOCARFE intends to contribute to the founding legality anew, and inventing new civil society judgement strategies for problems that concern them. It is looking forward to an end of the silence of the international legal order which defines violence as competition, the situation of the victim as resulting from ill-luck, and criminality as a natural behaviour.

The civil society has the duty to combat several failures:

1. Failure to transcend the historical heritage of the concept of polarization between national and interna-

tional laws. This is the outcome of a legal order where States and institutions consider themselves as having the legal competence to "rule the roost".

2. Failure to transcend the historical heritage of artificial separation between public and private laws. This is the outcome of non-recognition that the State is, in fact, the manifestation of the convergence of the political and economic interests of the national and international elite.

3. Failure to recognize the criminal nature of violence perpetrated by trans-national economic actors, as illustrated at the International Court of Justice when negotiations failed to integrate such offences.

A ruling such as that of the Peoples' Tribunal has its limits no doubt, but it is because of the shortcomings of the international laws in force. Instead of sanctioning, the action of the Tribunal is rather to encourage a long-term evolution of political and democratic conscience in relations between peoples and States. There is an obvious contradiction between the supposed "humanism" of the international order and the damages that this same order provokes in matters relating to peoples' right to self-determination, development and integrity.

The fundamental objective of trans-national companies is to maximize profit at the shortest possible time. Such

objective does not admit any obstacle and uses various methods in the world, we are told: promotion of wars of aggression and ethnic conflicts, corruption of civil servants, human rights violations, etc. More and more incidents related to the activities of trans-national companies have been pointed out, particularly since the privatizations encouraged by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization.

On its part, the civil society is active in the world through the organization of information campaigns, mobilization and lobbying of consumers and politicians. We can cite two examples here:

- the "clean clothes" campaign, the campaign against child labour, against financial crimes, against inhuman working conditions, for the respect of trade union rights, peoples' rights, etc.;

- the activity of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal which led to various condemnations of certain multinational companies by the civil society: * condemnation of seven trans-national companies (TNC) involved in sports wear (Nike, H&M, Levi Strauss, Otto Versand, C&A, Walt Disney and Adidas) in May 1998 at Brussels, for "overall infringements on the right of workers in the clothing industry (...), for forced labour..."; * condemnation of two oil-producing TNCs (Shell and Elf Aquitaine and the State of France) in May 1999 in Paris, for "violation of African peoples' rights"; *

condemnation of three other TNCs (Monsanto, Union Carbide, Rio Tinto Zinc) in March 2000 at Warwick, for "embezzlement of State funds, failure to respect of the precaution principle, serious negligence leading to the death of thousands of persons".

Such condemnations are purely moral, but without having the possibility of instituting a legal coercion, the civil society organizes boycotts, disseminates information and hands out alternative reports to the United Nations committee, in view of countering those deposited by States, where they honour the obligation.

The social mobilization sharpened the vigilance of judicial authorities. Law suits are under way in many countries, but these are national jurisdictions. In order to progress toward better respect for human rights, it would be necessary to set up a jurisdiction with international competence to judge crimes, whose condemnation is impossible before internal jurisdictions for various reasons (material, legal or political impossibilities).

It is worth noting that international institutions also act with their means and their methods. In 1976, the ILO Administrative Council adopted the Tripartite Principle Declaration on multinational enterprises. The non-binding Declaration is limited to making recommendations to governments, employers' and workers' organizations and trans-national companies (TNC) to voluntarily observe principles relating to employment, training,

working and living conditions as well as professional relations. At the same period, the OECD adopted the Guiding Principles for International Enterprises (1976), which are equally voluntary and limited, since they concern only member territories and States. In addition, in 1974, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) created the Trans-national companies Committee and the Centre for trans-national companies with the duty to draw up a code of conduct for trans-national companies. The document never went beyond the shelves of the UN. Another initiative was in July 2000, when UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, proclaimed the UNO-TNC partnership, the Global Compact. Many NGOs qualified the agreement as a "sucker deal". As a matter of fact, its commitments are not backed by any legal measures and the means of verifying TNC respect for principles are non-existent.

TNCs can not escape their responsibilities for ever.

The verdict of the Peoples' Tribunal does not have only a moral function; it is likely to be followed by legal actions because it raises a series of tortuous acts and even criminals who are likely to be recognized as such by existing courts.

This is therefore a first step; others will follow.

FOCARFE is not contented with just saying thank you for your presence and participation; we effectively thank you.

VIII - CONCLUSION

8.1 The need to put an end to the double standards observed in project operations

The pipeline project is today at its exploitation phase. The Consortium in charge of the project certainly had the interesting role: not only does it generate money from oil, it has obtained all sorts of work completion certificates, which is actually good for its image and its future. Meanwhile, the people living along the pipeline right-of-way are adversely affected, neglected or ignored, despite their incessant claims. This state of affairs must change and the peoples' claims must at last be taken into consideration.

8.2 Measures needed to encourage a real process of equity in the project

The first measure to be taken is to ensure respect for the Environmental Management Plan, which can be considered without exaggeration as a minimum granted and recognized to the people. Furthermore, if we recall that the plan was established in anticipation to mitigate the negative impacts that might come up during project implementation, and that such studies are based on scientific disciplines that are far from being exact and having rather

poor forecasting ability, then we can understand that the plan presents, with regard to the field reality, shortcomings that it would be unwise to ignore. Such shortcomings have fortunately been pointed out by the affected persons and echoed by NGOs. Instead of fighting them and staging a resistance without relevant arguments, common sense would rather recommend dialogue in serenity, open mindedness and objectivity. It would be necessary to implement the long proposed issue of establishing a project dialogue platform comprising the civil society alongside other actors operating horizontally, where only the relevance of arguments presented counts. It is only then that we may talk of equity in the treatment of pending cases.

8.3 The need for the World Bank to respect its own commitments and directives

In its September 2002 report, the Inspection Panel brought out many cases of non-respect of World Bank policy, including cases of non-compliance with regard to Operational Directives for the environment, economic assessment and poverty reduction. But apart from the fact that the Panel only timidly reported or took into account the various problems raised in

the field, testimonies presented at the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon, and most of which had previously been sent to the World Bank, confirm that the latter does not react promptly or not at all to "obvious facts" submitted to its appreciation. This gives the impression that the Bank's action is inefficient or is taken into account only at the project design phase.

The Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon wanted to submit to actors who were neutral and concerned at the same time, whose job is to be objective by relying on rules decreed and accepted by all, the situations of non-compliance or problematic situations that have been presented to the Consortium on several occasions and which it has regularly rejected. Their judgement shows that the civil society in Cameroon, far from engaging in emotional and personal debate, has simply pointed out relevant facts which deserve reparation, with regard to the various laws retained here and there. It is absolutely necessary to evolve towards the consideration of cases presented today - because they have been identified - just like those that might come up subsequently.

Le Messager

Economie/Société

LE MESSAGER N°1577 / MARCHÉ 4 OCTOBRE 2005/9

PIPELINE TCHAD-CAMEROUN

Les revendications des populations riveraines étaient au centre du tribunal d'opinion vendredi 30 septembre 2005 à Yaoundé.

Cotco et le Cameroun condamnés

Le tribunal des peuples du Cameroun : condamne le consortium et ses multiples sous-traitants pour non respect des droits économiques et sociaux, notamment les normes "protéables" en matière de droit des travailleurs, de protection de l'environnement. Le tribunal blâme l'Etat du Cameroun pour son manque d'attention et de soutien aux populations riveraines dénoncées par les populations riveraines. " Extrait de la sentence prononcée par le tribunal des peuples qui a été tenu vendredi dernier à Yaoundé. Cette juridiction dite d'opinion, statuant sur les accusations des populations déposées sur l'itinéraire de l'oléoduc pétrolier Tchad-Cameroun, recommande en plus : " La réalisation d'un audit social et économique du projet de pipeline Tchad-Cameroun ; la réparation de tous les cas présentés minutieusement recensés au niveau des populations riveraines ; la constitution d'un fonds de soutien au profit de toutes les communes traversées par le pipeline en compensation d'éventuelles catastrophes "

Le 13 septembre dernier, la Fondation camerounaise d'actions et de formation sur l'environnement, (Focarf), a formellement saisi le tribunal des peuples sur les désagréments subis par les riverains du fait de la construction du pipeline Tchad-Cameroun. Les dix chefs d'accusa-

tions retenus contre les mis en cause, dont la société Cotco et l'Etat du Cameroun sont : la surfacturation des ouvrages communitaires, le matériel défectueux et non fonctionnel, la destruction des ouvrages préexistants, la destruction des cours d'eau, les droits des employés bafoués, la destruction des exploitations paysannes, la mauvaise réputation des terrains, la gestion défectueuse des déchets, la destruction des sites défensifs, les droits des peuples autochtones bafoués. Ce tribunal des peuples, qui a fondé son action sur les faits et les textes en vigueur, a retenu les plaintes des accusateurs confortées par les rapports des experts irréfutables. Le tribunal a émis un verdict prononcé en l'absence des mis en cause, la Cotco et ses partenaires et le gouvernement du Cameroun dont l'organe responsable est la commission de suivi des pipelines (Cosp). Pourtant, " les parties ont été notifiées de leur droit de se faire représenter et de faire valoir leurs moyens de défense ", comme le relève le jury dans la sentence.

Lettre ouverte au Pm

L'un des temps forts du tribunal des peuples a été la signature d'une lettre

ouverte que les populations riveraines dans le pays ont adressé au Premier ministre dans les prochains jours. Ces communautés villageoises, soutenues par des ONG, demandent au chef du gouvernement d'agir pour " faire valoir leurs intérêts " d'autant qu'elles décrivent " la situation désastreuse d'après pétrole ". Dans ce mémorandum adressé au locataire de l'immeuble Etoile, les riverains dénoncent le dédoublement à la ville, le barème appliqué n'ayant fait l'objet d'aucune explication, sans oublier les nombreuses autres irrégularités qui ont entaché l'opération de compensation qui, selon les plaignants, n'a jamais été réglée en totalité malgré les nombreuses interpellations à l'endroit de la Cotco. Ils insistent aussi sur les droits des autochtones : " Après quelques actions, le Pm pygmées semble s'essouffler ", les fonds étant " à rechercher activement "

Désabusés, les riverains sont frustrés et doivent se résigner. " Les populations déshabitées subissent impuissamment les assauts dans leurs champs d'antennas qu'elles n'ont pas le droit de leur, en rigueur d'aller en prison. Toutes leurs plaintes restent sans effet à ce jour ", avouent les signataires de la lettre ouverte. Ils attirent l'attention du chef du gouvernement sur les notions de bilan social et de clôture sociale que le consortium voudrait

confondre expressément, tout comme ils s'interrogent sur les arguments qui ont motivé la Banque mondiale à délivrer à Cotco le certificat d'achèvement des travaux de construction. Justifiant leur choix de saisir le tribunal des peuples, les populations riveraines pensent " qu'il s'agit pour les sans voix... d'être entendus, défendus et de prendre acte pour qu'une justice authentique permette au peuple camerounais de profiter des retombées dues au projet ". Ce tribunal des peuples était présidé par l'avocat Charles Nguini qui était assisté par un collège de membres : le Père Bell Bell de la Conférence épiscopale nationale du Cameroun, le pasteur Ngue du Conseil des églises protestantes du Cameroun, Cheick Oumar Malam Djibril représentant la communauté musulmane, Duplex Kuesomb du Service ecclésiastique pour la paix en présence d'une bonne brochette d'hommes de droit exerçant dans les études et les cours et tribunaux au Cameroun. " Le tribunal des peuples veut être la voix des peuples " pour " les aider à mettre en jugement " leurs échecs et tribulations en vue d'une " jurisprudence des peuples ", selon madame Ndombé Nkontio de la Focarf.

Christian LANG

PAGES VERTES

LA NOUVELLE EXPRESSION

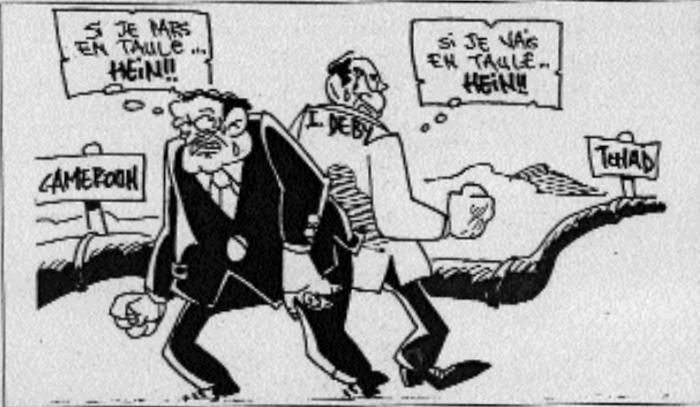
PIPELINE TCHAD CAMEROUN

Le procès de Cotco et de l'Etat du Cameroun

Les agissements du consortium passés au crible d'un tribunal du peuple. A l'initiative de la Focarfe.

FRANCKY BERTHIAUD BENE

C'est la première fois qu'on avait eu dans notre pays... 30 septembre décider un arbitrage... tribunal des peuples... Cotco et de l'Etat du Cameroun... Focarfe... La voix des sans voix... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...



FOCARFE

La voix des sans voix

La Focarfe... face à la perpétuation d'un ordre... Focarfe... La voix des sans voix... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

vue du respect des droits des communautés... Focarfe... La voix des sans voix... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

AÉROPORT DE DOUALA

SAMUEL TAGNI TEPIE

Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque

Les voyageurs en parlent de plus en plus à l'aéroport comme une trépasserie de trop. Entre contrôles et exigences de paiement des taxes, ils crient à l'arnaque.

Le voyageur débarquant à l'aéroport de Douala est, dans la plupart des cas, orienté à un contrôle de ses bagages. Les exigences imposées par un service phytosanitaire... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

les transportés à l'aéroport. Si un passager possède un objet ou un animal, mais le laissez passer sans qu'on contrôle... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement

Le chef de poste de police phytosanitaire de Douala-Aéroport lève certains incompréhensions.

A quel sert un service phytosanitaire... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

A la suite de ces problèmes qu'on délivre le certificat phytosanitaire dans le pays d'origine... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

Indagation. De coup, la préoccupation des passagers devient légitime pour les agents douaniers... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

Comment se passe concrètement cette protection de végétaux? C'est une action légale régie par la loi... Le service phytosanitaire accusé d'arnaque... Le service phytosanitaire protégé notre environnement...

PASSAGES***CAMEROON RADIO
AND TELEVISION (CRTV)***

Comments on the conduct of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon on TV news in English (7.30 p.m.) and French (8.30 p.m.) on 30 September 2005.

CANAL 2 International

Comments on the conduct of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon on TV news on 1st and 2nd October 2005.

Radio SIANTOU

Live intervention by Mr. Semboung Lang Firmin on the programme "Samedi Magazine" on 1st October 2005 (12 to 1 p.m.). Comments on the conduct of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon on the 1 p.m. radio news broadcast on 3 October 2005.

Radio Campus

Comments on the conduct of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon on the 6 p.m. radio news broadcast on 3 October 2005.

CRTV National Radio Station

Comments on the conduct of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon on the 1 p.m. radio news broadcast on 3 October 2005.

Magic FM

Comments on the conduct of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon on the 1 p.m. radio news broadcast on 3 October 2005.

***RADIO FRANCE
INTERNATIONAL (RFI)***

Comments on the conduct of the Peoples' Tribunal of Cameroon and interview of Barrister Nguini Charles, Chairman of the Tribunal, Mr. Fouda Ndi, Akongo III Village Chief, and Mr. Nguiffo of CED, by David Ndachi Tagne, RFI correspondent in Cameroon.



Celestine Ekani, of Nkoltara village



Mr Ndongo Etoundi, chief of Ngoumou village



Mr Mboka Pierre summarizing the social closure process under the control of Cheick Oumarou, representative of the Muslim community



Mekadi Jean, chief of Ndoumba Kanga village



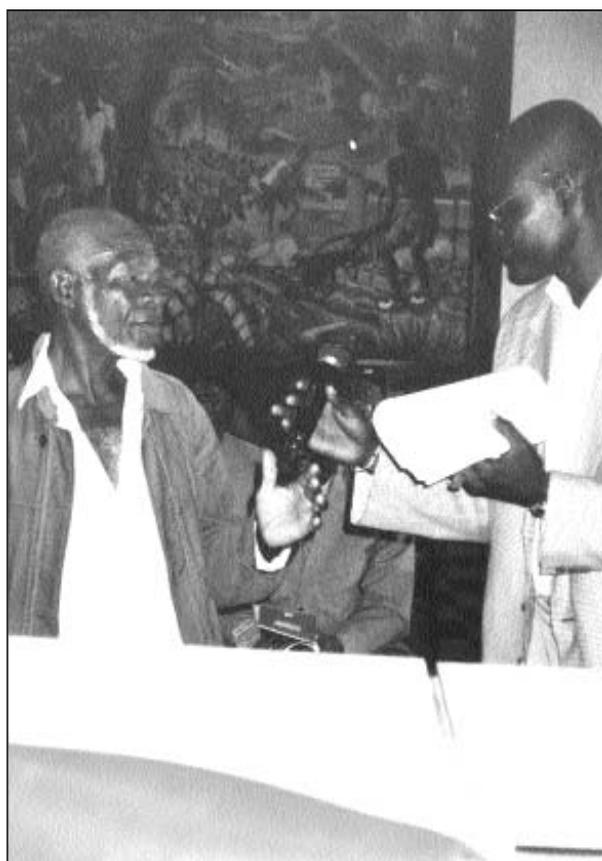
Mr Semboung Lang Firmin quickly refreshing memories about the Chad-Cameroon pipeline project, under the control of Cheick Oumarou, representative of the Muslim community



Mrs Ndoumbe Nkotto adressing the questions of Canal 2 TV



Noua Jeanne, representative of the Bagyeli Pygmies community



Mr Noah Njana, representative of Ndjore II village



Mr Ombga Bomba Martin, chief of Nkongmeyos I village