

CAMEROON-NIGERIA MIXED COMMISSION

TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON DEMARCATIION

Abuja, 11-13 December 2012

REPORT

Introduction

1. By paragraph 8 of the Communiqué adopted at its first session held in Yaoundé on 2 December 2002, the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission decided to establish a Sub-Commission with the task to demarcate the land boundary between the two countries.

2. As per paragraph 11 of the report adopted at its fifth meeting held in Yaoundé on 4 August 2003, the Sub-Commission on Demarcation decided that the Joint Technical Team should meet regularly and submit report.

Organisation

3. The Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Sub-Commission on Demarcation was held in Abuja from 11 to 13 December 2012. The Delegations of Cameroon and Nigeria were led, respectively, by Dr Joseph Dion Ngute, Minister-Delegate for External Relations of the Republic of Cameroon, and Dr. Muhammad B. Ahmad, mni, Director General of the National Boundary Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The United Nations Delegation was led by Mr Moudjib Djinadou, Chief of Staff of the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA). The meeting was chaired by Mr Jean Paul Vogels, Senior Political Adviser to the Chairman of the Mixed Commission (Annex I).

4. The Leader of the Nigerian Delegation welcomed the Delegations of Cameroon and the United Nations. He reiterated the will of his Delegation to do its utmost to ensure the fruitful conclusion of the deliberations of the meeting, stressing that reconciling the positions of Cameroon and Nigeria would guarantee the future success of the demarcation process.

5. The Leader of the Cameroon Delegation thanked the Delegation of Nigeria for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to his delegation. He once again commended the United Nations for its participation in the implementation of the ruling of the International Court of Justice of 10 October 2002.

6. The Chairman of the session expressed his gratitude to the Delegation of Nigeria for the warm welcome extended to members of the United Nations Delegation since their arrival in Abuja. He then introduced the new members of the Delegation; Messrs Moudjib Djinadou, Chief of Staff of UNOWA and Stephane Wohlfahrt, Senior Legal Adviser. He also informed the Sub-Commission of the appointment of Mrs Sylvie Daouda to the UNAIDS headquarters office in Geneva.

7. The Sub-Commission on Demarcation considered and adopted the agenda as amended (Annex II).

8. The Sub-Commission on Demarcation considered the report of the Joint Technical Team meeting held in Abuja on 9 and 10 December 2012. The report of the Joint Technical Team was adopted as amended and is attached to this report (Annex III). It was agreed that the Gotel Mountain field assessment mission would begin 4 February 2013. The Chairman of the Sub-Commission congratulated the Joint Technical Team for the successful completion of the last field assessment missions to the northern part of the boundary and the southern part of the Akpakorum/Akwayafe River.

9. The Sub-Commission on Demarcation took note of the preliminary report as well as the first report of the Working Group of Legal Experts (Annex IV). It was agreed that the Working Group will continue with its consultations with a view to providing advice to the Joint Technical Team, so that the works are not delayed. The Working Group also suggested that their views on the outstanding issues submitted for its consideration, would be forwarded to the Sub-Commission on Demarcation.

10. The Sub-Commission on Demarcation adopted the terms of reference of the International Expert Hydrologist recruited to examine issues relating to sections of the Keraua (Kirewa or Kirawa) River and determine the main course of the Mayo Tiel River around the Wuro Hausa village (Annex V).

11. The Parties have agreed to provide comments in writing on the draft Terms of Reference of the mission of the independent expert in charge of determining the positions of Beacons 6 and 8 proposed by the United Nations latest by the 31st of January 2013.

12. The Sub-Commission on Demarcation accepted the Joint Technical Team's request to extend the working session with the United Nations Cartographic Section to two weeks, in order to complete the specifications for the final mapping and to allow the participants to acquire the necessary expertise and skills to undertake the assignment.

13. The United Nations will submit to the Parties, not later than 31 January 2013, an updated version of the project document for the final mapping. The document will contain, inter alia, clarifications on intellectual property rights. Due consideration will be given to comments from the Parties, if any.

14. Concerning the disagreement in the sector of Mada, the Nigerian delegation proposed to send another JTT mission to the field. The Cameroonian side affirmed that they were not opposed to any steps to

fast track the process. However to observe procedures, it requested that the Chairman of the SCD presents his draft report of the field mission of the Sub-Commission on Demarcation of 31 July and 01 August 2006 to the Mixed Commission with a view to obtaining further instructions. The Nigerian delegation opined that the draft report of the Chairman of the SCD was never discussed and adopted as a document of the SCD.

15. The Delegations of Cameroon and Nigeria expressed their wish to expedite action towards the resumption of pillar emplacement works. They also reiterated their request to be more directly involved in the management of the project, which in their view asserts the sovereignty of the two States. The United Nations briefed the Parties on constraints related to the current project structure, namely the budget shortfall and the United Nations rules and regulations applicable to the procurement process and to the project management structure.

16. The Delegations of Cameroon and Nigeria reminded the United Nations of their undertaking to transfer the equipment acquired during the pillar emplacement contract executed by the UNOPS. In this regard, the Parties requested that the United Nations expeditiously facilitate the sharing of the equipment equitably.

17. The United Nations submitted to the Delegation of Cameroon and Nigeria the current financial statement of the Trust Fund for demarcation of the boundary (Annex VI).

18. Mr Emmanuel Gorin, Programme Officer of the European Union Delegation in Abuja, made a presentation on the contribution of the European Union to the Trust Fund for demarcation. He gave clarifications on the objectives of the field evaluation mission scheduled for February 2013. The United Nations will inform the Parties of the exact dates of the mission which will involve the participation of two representatives of each Party.

19. To support the documentary-film project on the Mixed-Commission process, the Sub-Commission on Demarcation requested that the Joint Technical Team should facilitate video coverage during field assessment missions. It was also noted that the Parties are willing to contribute to the project from their respective documentary archives/footages.

Decisions

20. The Sub-Commission on Demarcation took the following decisions:

- i) Adoption of its agenda as amended;
- ii) Adoption of the report as amended of the Joint Technical Team meeting held in Abuja from 9 to 10 December 2012 and its annexes;
- iii) Adoption of the Terms of Reference of the International Expert in Hydrology to examine sections of the Keraua (Kirewa or Kirawa) and the Mayo Tiel (around the Wuro Hausa village) Rivers to determine their main courses;
- iv) Submission by January 31st 2013 to the United Nations of comments by the Parties on the draft Terms of Reference of the mission to determine the positions of Beacons 6 and 8;
- v) Refer to the Mixed Commission the draft report of the Chairman of the SCD on the field mission to Mada of 31 July and 01 August 2006;
- vi) Submission to the Parties by the United Nations, not later than 31 January 2013, of an updated version of the project document for final mapping, containing, inter alia, clarifications on intellectual property rights; with the

understanding that the working session with the United Nations Cartographic Section will be extended to two weeks;

- vii) Establishment of a committee to review the pillar construction project document in line with the identified constraints and propose a way forward to the Sub-Commission on Demarcation;
- viii) Communication by the United Nations of the exact dates of the assessment mission of the European Union;
- ix) Facilitation of video coverage during field assessment missions and provision of existing audiovisual documentary archives/footages for the purpose of the documentary-film project.

21. The meeting ended on 13 December 2012.