



**PUBLIC SUMMARY REPORT
FOREST MANAGEMENT - CHAIN OF CUSTODY FSC**

GROUP CERTIFICATION: SEFAC S.A.

CERTIFIED FOREST AREAS: 2 areas

SEFAC S.A.
FILIERE BOIS S.A.
TOTAL EXTENSION (ha) 314.655

REGISTRATION CODE

ICILA-FM/COC-000181

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STORY of the UPDATES TO THE SYNTHETIC PUBLIC REPORT

| | | |
|------------|-------------|--|
| 23/10/2007 | Revision 01 | First issue following the CERTIFICATION audit (audit December 2006 and July 2007) |
| 30/03/2009 | Revision 02 | General revision of the format – Upgrade to SURVEILLANCE audit report and of the related FOLLOW UP audit |

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SUMMARY

| | |
|--|----|
| 1 STORY OF THE AUDITS | 3 |
| 1 DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS | 4 |
| 2 RESULTS/OUTCOME OF THE AUDITS | 5 |
| 2.1 DESCRIPTION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT | 5 |
| 2.1.1 Description of the forest | 5 |
| 2.1.2 Description of the system of forest management | 13 |
| 2.1.3 Synthèse des Plans d'Aménagements | 13 |
| 2.1.4 Monitoring procedures | 16 |
| 2.1.5 Areas excluded from the PURPOSE OF CERTIFICATION | 17 |
| 2.2 STANDARDS OF REFERENCE | 17 |
| 2.2.1 Standards of reference for carrying out the audits | 17 |
| 2.2.2 Process for the local adaptation of proprietors standards (where applicable) | 17 |
| 2.3 AUDIT PROCESS | 18 |
| 2.3.1 Organisation and audit methods | 18 |
| 2.3.2 Consulting the stakeholders | 20 |
| 2.4 OBSERVATIONS | 22 |
| 2.4.1 Performances of the certified areas | 22 |
| 2.4.2 Non-Conformities noticed the stakeholders | 31 |
| 2.4.3 Assessment of the handling of Non-Conformities issued in foregoing audits | 32 |
| 2.4.4 MAIN Non-Conformities ISSUED | 37 |
| 2.4.5 SECONDARY Non-Conformities ISSUED | 39 |
| 2.5 DECISIONS OF THE DELIBERATION COMMITTEE | 43 |
| 2.5.1 1st SURVEILLANCE audit | 43 |
| 2.5.2 FOLLOW UP Audit | 44 |

1 STORY OF THE AUDITS

| DATE of Audit | Audit group- Duration (Role – Name – no. days) | TYPE of Audit |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| from 02/02/2006 to 08/02/2006 | LA – F. Cambiaggi – 5 days A – M.R. Gallozzi – 5 days EN – E. Kaffo Nzouwo – 5 days EN– J.C. Bounoungou Zibi–5 days | PRE-AUDIT |
| from 30/11/2006 to 10/12/2006 | LA – F. Cambiaggi – 10 days A – M.R. Gallozzi – 10 days EN – E. Kaffo Nzouwo – 8 days EN – Y.N. Mekembomb – 8 days | CERTIFICATION audit |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| from 23/07/2007 to 30/07/2007 | LA – L. Amariei – 6 days A – M.R. Gallozzi – 6 days EN – E. Kaffo Nzouwo – 6 days EN – M.F. Zeh Ondo – 6 days | SUPPLEMENTARY audit |
| from 31/08/2008 to 08/08/2008 | LA – L. Amariei – 6 days A – Michal Brink – 6 days EN – E. Kaffo Nzouwo – 6 days EN – Patrice Bigombe – 6 days | 1st SURVEILLANCE audit |
| from 20/12/2008 to 22/12/2008 | LA – M.R. Gallozzi – 3 days ET – E. Kaffo Nzouwo – 3 days | FOLLOW-UP audit |

1 DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAC: Annual Felling Area

ATO: African Timber Organization

CPF: Peasant Forest Committee

CODEBI: Development Committee of the village Bitsuki

COLIDESA: Committee of Libongo for the Development of Salapoumbe

CIG: Common Initiative Group

CAR: Corrective Action Request

DHP: Diameter at Breast height

DME: Minimum Exploitable Diameter

DMA: Management Minimum Exploitable Diameter

EFI: Low Impact Exploitation

FB: Filière Bois

FMU: Forest Management Unit

FSC: Forest Stewardship Council

GPS: Geographical Positioning System

GTZ: German Technical Cooperation

ILO: International Labour Organization / International Labour Office

ITTO / ITTO: International Timber Trade Organization

MINEF: Ministry of Environment and Forests

MINFOF: Ministry of Forest and Wildlife

MINEPN: Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection

NGO: Non Governmental Organisation

NTFPs: Non Timber Forest Product

SEFAC: Société d'Exploitation Forestière et Agricole du Cameroun

TIAMA: Treatment of inventories applied to the modelling of forest management

TNS: Tri National of the sangha

UFE: Forest Exploitation Unit

UTO: Technical Operation Unit

WWF: Wild Word Fund for Nature

ZIC: Hunting Zone

ZICGC: Community Management Hunting Zone

2 RESULTS/OUTCOME OF THE AUDITS

2.1 Description of forest management

2.1.1 Description of the forest

2.1.1.1 CERTIFICATION audit

The forest comprises Cameroon's permanent and non-permanent forests. The surface of the permanent forest is that consisting in land dedicated to woods in a permanent way, and/or in wild fauna habitats.

The UFA granted as a concession to Sefac belong to the permanent forest surface. The concession comprises UFA 10008 – UFA 10010 - UFA 10012 – UFA 10064 situated in the Boumba and Ngoko department in the Eastern Province (South-East Cameroon). The zone, laying approximatively between 1 ° 30 ' and 3 ° 30' latitude north and 15 ° 30 'and 16 ° 10' longitude east, to which belong the UFAs, is delimited to the east and north-east by the Sangha and the Central-African Republic, to the south by the Lobéké National park, to the west by UFAs 10007 and 10011.

Topography: The relief of the Division of Boumba and Ngoko is relatively low land with few hills.

The FMU 10 008 relief is a bit hilly and has a mean altitude between 375 and 650 meters.

The FMU 10 010 has small hills that vary between 375 and 650 meters high. These hills have generally steep gradients and sometimes inaccessible' particularly southeast of the FMU.

The FMU 10 012 relief is like a broad plain with high points that have about 500m high.

The FMU 10 064 is located on the northwest side of the Congolese bowl. The altitude varies between 400 and 520 meters.

Climate: The climate of the region is equatorial continental type. It is under the influence of the monsoon and the harmattan wind.

There are four seasons in the year:

The big rainy season which runs from September to November;

The big dry season from December to February;

The small rainy season from March to June;

The small dry season from July to August.

The average rainfall is 1'400 mm per year. The average annual temperature is 25° C. The annual average relative humidity of the air is 80%.

Geology and Pedology: Soils of FMUs of SEFAC group are ferralitic. There are also metamorphic formations composed mainly of tillites' quartzite' schiste' limestone and dolerite. The soils are acidic and made up of clay with a low nitrogen content and exchangeable bases. There are in some place hydromorphic soils.

Hydrography: the water system in the area is congested and is part of the Congo Basin.

The most important rivers of the FMU 10'008 and 10'010 consist of a tributary of the river Lokomo and river Goboumo. They form the natural limits east and west of the FMU. This massif is made up of several small rivers' which are tributaries of the river Goboumo. The FMU 10 012 is made up of the following rivers:

Goboumou' Lobéké' Makalabo which empty themselves all in the Sangha.

The FMU 10 064 is made up of Sangha and Ngoko rivers. The main rivers are Bolou' Mikongo' Moboussamba' Mokoto in the west of the FMU' Ngoko in the south' Moko-paka' Ndjoke' Kimou' Bolima' Nadimaguina' Ndjangué in the North and the Sangha River in the east.

Vegetation: FMUs of SEFAC group belong to the semi-deciduous forest estate of the dense humid semi deciduous guinea Congolense forest represented by two types of forest covers:

Semi-deciduous forests of Sterculiaceae and Ulmacées;

Mixed forests' semi-deciduous and evergreen forests of the Dja' with a predominance of elements of semi-deciduous forests.

The vegetation is characterized by discontinuous canopy. This discontinuity is partly due to logging activities which have taken place in this forest for the past two decade. There are also swamp forests along the

tributaries of the Sangha and Ngoko rivers dominated by monocotyledon grasses such as *Panda oleosa*, *Klainedoxa gabonensis* and which constitute clearances which are locally known as "bai" and also flooded forest made up of *Guilbourtia* along major rivers. In the central and northern area of the FMU there are raphia' swampy clearance' salty and bauges.

The structure of these forests is characterized by the dominance of a some botanical families such as Méliaceae' Sterculiaceae' Combretaceae and Papilionaceae.

From the perspective of forest management interest' the main species found are: Ayous (*Triplochyton sclerolylon*)' Sapelli (*Entandrophagma cylindricum*)' Fraké (*Terminalia superba*)' Tali (*Erythropheum ivorense*)' Kotibé (*Nesogordonia papaverifera*)' Kossipo (*Entandrophragma candolei*) ' Dibetou (*Lovoa trichilioides*)' red Padouk (*Pterocarpus soyauxii*)' Eyong (*Eribloma oblogum*)' Diana Z (*Celtis zenkeri*).

Fauna: Fauna of this region is rich and diversified. Among the large mammals present' we can find: Elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*)' Buffaloes (*Syncerus cafer*)' Panther (*Panthera pardus*)' Gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*)' Chimpanzes (*Pan troglodytes*)' Mandrill (*Papio sphinx*)' Drill (*Papio monkey*) ' Bush pig (*Potamochoerus porcus*)' Hylochères (*Hilochœrus meinertzageni*)' Baboons (*Papio cynocephalus*)' various cephalophes (*Cephalophus* sp)' Monkeys (*Cercopithecus* sp)' Cercocebes (*Cercocebus* sp)' Civets (*Viverra civetta*)' Colobus (*Colobus* sp).

Small mammals include giant Rat (*Proterus stangeri*)' the Chestnut Rat (*Andropardus tephrolamus*)' and also Cephalophidae with Yellow back duikers' Black dorsal stripe duikers (*Cephalophus dorsalis*)' the Cephalophus of Batters' Maxwell' the Antelopes Bay' Genettes (*Genetta* sp)' Cane rat (*Trynomys swinderianus*)' Porcupine (*Atherurus africanus*)' Nandinies (*Nandinia binovata*) etc.

Regarding the reptiles' we can find Vipers (*Bitis* sp)' Pythons (*Python* sp)' Alligator (*Varanus niloticus*)' Crocodiles (*Crocodylus niloticus*)' Turtles (*Kinixys* sp) etc. The bird life includes the following species: Tourterelles (*Aplopelia larvata*)' Touracos' Hagedashes' Kite' ibises' storks' ombrettes' wild ducks' vultures' pigeons' green parrot' grey parrots etc. Additionally' these forest areas contain a multitude of insects.

The FMU 10 008 belongs to forest concession No. 1052. It is situated in the Subdivision of Yokadouma' Division of Boumba et Ngoko and East Province. It was attributed to SEFAC by the provisional convention of exploitation No 0836/CPE / MINEF / CAB of October 4' 2001. It covers an area of 72'727 ha and is situated between latitudes 2°54' and 3 °12' North and longitudes 15 ° 39' and 16°03' East. The FMU is classified under the permanent forest estate by the Prime Minister's decree No. 2005/0245/PM of January 26' 2005' and the management plan was approved by the Ministry of Forests on December 28' 2005.

The FMU 10010 belongs to forest concession No. 1053. It is situated in the Subdivision of Moloundou' ' Division of Boumba et Ngoko and East Province. It was attributed to SEFAC by the provisional convention of exploitation No 0836/CPE / MINEF / CAB of October 4' 2001. It covers an area of 66'688 ha and is situated between latitudes 2°30'08" and 2°47'14 " North and longitudes 15°36'00" and 16°01'10" East. The FMU is classified under the permanent forest estate by the Prime Minister's decree No. 2005/0247/PM of January 26' 2005' and the management plan was approved by the Ministry of Forests on march 22' 2006.

The FMU 10012 belongs to forest concession No. 1016. It is situated in the District of Salapoumbé' ' Division of Boumba et Ngoko and East Province. It was attributed to SEFAC by the provisional convention of exploitation No 0093/CPE/MINEF/CAB of July 24' 1998. It covers an area of 59'063. 93 ha and is situated between latitudes 2°33 and 2°38 North and longitudes 15°39 and 16°08 East. The FMU is classified under the permanent forest estate by the Prime Minister's decree No. 2005/0249/PM of January 26' 2005' and the management plan was approved by the Ministry of Forests on June 11' 2004.

The FMU 10064 belongs to forest concession No. 1060. It is situated in the Subdivision of Moloundou' Division of Boumba et Ngoko and East Province. It was attributed to Filière Bois by the provisional convention of exploitation No 0835 \ CPE \ MINEF \ CAB of October 4' 2001. It covers an area of 115'900 ha and is situated between latitudes 1°46 and 2°59 North and longitudes 15°46 and 16°58 East. The FMU is classified under the permanent forest estate by the Prime Minister's decree No. 2005/0260/PM of January 26' 2005 and the management plan was approved by the Ministry of Forests on March 22' 2006.

The geographical boundaries covers in its maximum edges south-east Cameroon roughly between 1°30' and 3°30' North Latitude and 15°30' and 16°10' East longitude. However' the area were logging operations of SEFAC group occur is roughly between the coordinates 2°25 'and 3°15' North and 15°35' and 16°05' East . It is bordered in the East and North-East by the river Sangha and Central Republic' in the South by Lobéké National Park' in the West by the FMUs 10 007 and 10 011.

Administratively the zone is located in the Division of Boumba et Ngoko' between Subdivision of Yokadouma and District of Salapoumbé and the Subdivision of Moloundou.

List and types of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF)

The Forest Law from 1994 deals with conservation areas' especially with regards to intervention rules and norms in forest areas. Additionally' conservation aspects are addressed in the Southern Cameroon zonal plan and the environmental framework law from 1996.

Considering the the above normative context' the FSC Principles and Criteria (P9)' and additional existing guidelines on HCVF' the SEFAC Group has undertaken revision and data updating on fauna' flora' socio-economic' and cultural life studies. A summary of the findings and management measures relating to HCVF at SEFAC group' resulting from the company's HCVF assessment and consultation process is presented below:

| A - Globally, regionally or nationally significant concentration of biodiversity values (Endemic species, Threatened and endangered species, Protected areas...) | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Description | Indicators of HCVF | Location / Extent of Value | Management measures | Follow-up measures |
| Protected zone | 1 LOBEKE national park | Periphery of FMU 10 012 and 10 064 | Intensification of the fight against illegal hunting at forestry posts by SEFAC group | Participation to the activities of TNS |
| Concentration of vulnerable' threatened or endangered species | Population of gorillas' elephants' chimpanzees and Parrot | Exact position and place in the FMUs (see wildlife inventory report) | Support for the intensification of operations of surprised control planning forest tracks according to the migration corridors and sensitive sites | Monitoring Manual And based on GPS (CYBER TRACKER) |
| Concentration of endemic species | Assamela' ebony | Along the rivers and scattered forest patches in the FMUs | Low impact Exploitation | Semestral monitoring of active annual felling area and those which has been exploited to maintain loss of values |
| Zone of seasonal concentration | Clearance' salty' stumps of trees' forest species as moabi | Punctuated in all of the FMUs by SEFAC group | Support and intensified surveillance | Collection of data on abundance indices |
| B - Forest areas contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems | | | | |
| | Swampy clearance | punctuated in all of the FMUs of SEFAC group | Delimitation of clearances and wetlands for the establishment of forest tracks | Data collection through studies on the low impact exploitation and movements of poachers |
| C - Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (eg, watershed protection, erosion control, etc.). | | | | |
| Protecting | Internal rivers | Punctuated in all of | Compliance with the | Monitoring |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| critical watershed | (Lobéké' Gobomo' Mongélé' Moabong) | the FMUs of SEFAC group | requirements of management plans Compliance with the Noms for intervention in forest milieu. Compliance with the Environmental Framework Law | |
| Protection against critical erosion | Hills ranging from 700 to 800 meters above sea level with steep slopes greater than 50% | Slope at the level of FMU 10008 | Compliance with the requirements of management plan plans Compliance with the standards for Intervention in forests. Compliance with the Environmental Framework Law | Data Collection on the topography of the land by the prospector |
| D - Forest areas fundamental to satisfy the basic needs of local communities (eg livelihood needs, health) | | | | |
| | An agro-forestry areas circumscribed and materialized using red paint on the field 2-Gathering and subsistence hunting permitted throughout the FMUs | The surrounding of the FMU for the agro-forestry zone Throughout the FMUs | Establishment of an internal management mechanism to monitor the progress of activities in the agro forestry area Respect user rights in accordance to the forestry law Access to forests are regulated and so far respected by indigenous communities | Data Collection geo-reference by GTZ on the progress of sites and agricultural plantations |

Social Aspects

The forest areas managed by SEFAC are situated at remote locations' far away from traditional settlements. The development of the company generated also the development of new settlements. In these settlements' nearly 50 ethnic groups are represented' as well as 11 foreign nationalities. In March 2005' the new "villages" had accumulated a population of 4'659 inhabitants' including 3'615 for the Libongo. These "villages" are the only human settlements in the middle of empty vastness' within a radius of 100 to 170 km' resulting in reduced population densities in the area.

Households number and population trends

| Locality | Number of households | Population in 2005 | Number of persons per household | Population in 1987 (RGPH) | T.A.N.* between 1987/2005 |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Camp SEBAC | 88 | 378 | 4,30 | 0 | - |
| Bela | 164 | 666 | 4,06 | 641 | 0,23 |
| Libongo | 815 | 3 615 | 4,44 | 858 | 18,8 |
| TOTAL | 1 067 | 4 659 | 4,26 | 1499 | 19.03 |

*T.A.N = Natural Growth Rate

RGPH = General Population and Housing Census (Cameroon)

Level of educational, qualification and professional activities. In the "SEFAC" area' the vast majority of people went to school but few have acquired certificates.

| PARAMETERS | CARACTERISTICS | SEBAC CAMP | BELA | LIBONGO | TOTAL | % |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|------|---------|-------|------|
| Level of Instruction | Never went to school | 70 | 126 | 669 | 865 | 19.2 |
| | Illiterate | 24 | 72 | 315 | 411 | 9.1 |
| | Primary | 189 | 332 | 1837 | 2358 | 52.3 |
| | Secondary 1st Cycle | 61 | 78 | 526 | 665 | 14.7 |
| | Secondary 2nd Cycle | 12 | 27 | 150 | 189 | 4.2 |
| | Higher Education | 0 | 2 | 16 | 18 | 0.4 |
| | Total | 356 | 637 | 3513 | 4506 | 100 |
| | No informations | 22 | 29 | 102 | 133 | -- |
| Professional Qualification | At least a qualification | 69 | 116 | 540 | 725 | 29.2 |
| | Without qualification | 124 | 245 | 1389 | 1758 | 70.8 |
| | Total | 193 | 361 | 1929 | 2483 | 100 |
| | Not concern (Young) | 185 | 305 | 1686 | 2176 | -- |
| Activities | Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing | 50 | 92 | 423 | 565 | 21.5 |
| | Forestry sector | 49 | 73 | 406 | 528 | 20.0 |
| | Other sectors | 40 | 89 | 461 | 590 | 22.4 |
| | Without activities and house wife | 65 | 142 | 742 | 949 | 36.1 |
| | Total | 204 | 396 | 2032 | 2632 | 100 |
| | Inactive and students | 174 | 270 | 1583 | 2027 | -- |

Upon reading the above table' two contradictory realities are evident : if the illiterate rate remains low 9.1% (this is justified by the youth of the population and the selectivity of migrants to the "work site"); Education is desperately low. Indeed' 73% of literate individuals have only primary education' while more than a third was limited to preparatory courses especially among the "northerners" (coranic school)' the Baka (initiation classes) and foreigners (West Africans' Central Africans).As a result' 725 people who reported having a qualification' 29.3% were in forestry' 16.0% in the driving' 10.0% in dressmaking' 8.8% in mechanic' 6'6% in carpentry and lower proportions in the building' hairdressing' electricity' medicine or teaching.

Infrastructures and equipments

In terms of transport infrastructure' the region is crossed by two dirt roads relatively well maintained and usable in all seasons and at reasonable cost for transportation. The axis Libongo-Yokadouma by MBoy II (227 km long): 4500 F. CFA that is 1'500 F CFA between Libongo and SEBAC Camp and 3'000 F CFA between SEBAC Camp and Yokadouma and served daily by bush car "SAVI EM".

The axis Libongo-Salapoumbé by Kouméla (100 km long): 3000 F. CFA is served by a "pick up" based on customer needs.

N.B. A shortcut connecting 12 km Libongo to Bela and on which a SEFAC truck performs an average of five movements per day' free of charge for any user.

It should also be noted the presence of a 1 Km dirt airstrip situated 4 km from Libongo Center.

The non-forest economic activities

Agriculture: Food production is geared towards livelihood and the satisfaction of local needs. The main products are: cassava' transformed into chips used for the manufacture of fufu' plantain' maize' groundnuts' cocoyam' potato' yam' cucumber' vegetables (tomatoes' okra' etc.). Apart from these' one should mention Fruits (mangoes' pineapples' avocados' papayas' etc.) which are a significant supplementary food and a source of household income for the producers.

The farms are located in agro-forestry non-permanent forest areas created at the intersection of FMUs 10010 and 10012. In addition they are located not far from the houses.

Bela' radius of 2 km' but three farms located 3-4 km from the village

Libongo' about 3 km from the center and more recent extensions to the airstrip.

Animal Rearing: Livestock rearing remains marginal and is practiced according to traditional methods. It is confined almost exclusively to extensive farming of small livestock (sheep' goat' pig). Poultry is also limited: less than a third of the households reared ducks and chickens. Cattle are non-existent.

Fishing and fish breeding: Fishing is a widespread practice in the area. Various techniques are used:

- Net fishing' which is the most common. Fishermen use canoes' cast the net into the water and then withdrew after 100 to 500 m to control and so forth.

- Fishing at hook. The baits are attached to the hooks and placed on the locations of rivers for 18h and then visited every morning.

- Fishing with line.

- Fishing at the dam mainly by women' Baka and villagers and non-professionals on small streams.

Products are marketed mainly on the spot.

The village hunting: Village hunting is practiced in both agro-forestry areas and in the FMUs.

The hunting techniques are in order of importance trapping with steel cables' vegetable fiber traps' hunting rifle (the number known is zero to camp SEBAC' 5 to Bela and much in Libongo)' hunting with bowl and arrow (especially by the Baka).

The distances to the sites of hunting and trapping usually do not exceed 3 to 5 km for early hunting. But on the occasion of the "big hunt" some residents of PK1 and Aviation go up to tens of kilometers at times' build huts and camps periodically.

The most animals captured as well as the average prices for each of them are the porcupine (2000 F CFA)' the hare (800F CFA)' deer (1'500 F CFA) hedgehog (3'000 F CFA) the pangolin (2000 F CFA) ' monkeys (1'500 F CFA)' Bush pig (15000 F CFA)' moles (or giant rats)' the Warthog.

The use of other natural resources: it is especially the gathering and collection of non-timber forest products (NTFPs). The exploitation of NTFPs is a traditional activity by the population of the area' directed as a priority towards consumption. Their importance is considerable as food' craft' medicinal' or cultural. The use of these resources is done mainly by the resident population without distinction of race' sex or age. However' by virtue of their ancestral knowledge' their mastery of the forest environment' availability and others' the Baka play an essential part' with exclusive use for certain products such as honey and wild yams. The products of the harvest in general are vitally important both in terms of livelihood with regard to the contribution in cash. The use of NTFPs takes place both in the agro forestry zone and in the FMUs.

Environmental Aspects

There are a number of conservation initiatives around the FMUs of SEFAC group. These initiatives are largely driven by international NGOs and development agencies for conservation.

This Section summarizes the objectives of these different initiatives.

GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit-German Agency for Technical Cooperation):

SEFAC group and GTZ-PGDRN have agreed to develop an integrated project Public-Private Partnership

(PPP). The support of the GTZ-PGDRN is linked closely with its Program for Sustainable Management of

Natural Resources (PGDRN) and with the objective of GTZ Cameroon in the framework of support for the

private sector.

The joint project is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) which corresponds to the criteria set by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The objective of the cooperation is to "contribute to the certification process and the rule of law through the establishment of a system of CoC in SEFAC Group and contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of the local population in different sites close to Libongo through the creation of basic socio-economic infrastructure for the supply of food (fruits' vegetables' spices' etc.) and animal protein (cow meat' fish).

WWF (Jengi Program of the World Wide Fund for Nature- Forest Program Southeast Cameroon): Since 2004' the SEFAC group holder of the FMUs 10-008; 10'010' 10'012 and 10'064 in Southern East Cameroon' took the option to promote a process of sustainable management of its four forest concessions' with a view to obtaining a FSC certificate' representing a quality label for products derived from the use of these concessions.

In the context of facilitating the evolution of this process' the SEFAC group has requested assistance from the WWF-Jengi Project.

The activities covered by the collaboration are:

- Capacity Building of Technical Staff of SEFAC group;
- Monitoring of socio-environmental impacts of logging operations;
- Specific scientific studies;
- Establishment of a platform as a consultation with the other stakeholders.

Lobeke Park: It is a protected zone located to the east of the Republic of Cameroon' between 2°05' - 2°30' N and 15°33' - 16°11' E' in the Boumba and Ngoko Division.

The area has a roughly rectangular shape. Its area is approximately 2'100 square kilometers. The northern section is centered around Lake Lobéké. The southern part includes Djamba' a vast marshy basin. The site is bounded in the east by the Sangha river' in the south by the river Moko Paka' in the west by Djombe river and in the North and by Lobéké and Longué rivers.

Since June 1997' the forest surrounding Lake Lobéké is subject to conservation initiative supported by WWF and MINEF with funding from WWF Germany and a GEF project. The project works in close collaboration with the GTZ.

Lobeke Forest is of exceptional interest for the conservation due to various factors. First this area shows especially high densities of forest mammals' and more particularly the megafauna such as elephants' gorillas' chimpanzees' bongos and forest buffaloes.

Many animal species internationally recognized as being at risk' there are still here despite being increasingly threatened by uncontrolled exploitation. In addition' the vegetation type of primary forest is not yet exploited and it is one of the few components of the ecosystem still intact of guinea Congolese forest in Cameroon. At the international level' Lobéké is contiguous to national parks of Republic of central Africa (Dzanga - Sangha) and Congo (Nouabale-Ndoke Forest Reserve) that provides the unique opportunity for a tri national conservation program.

The value of the Lobeke site also result from the existence of ethnic groups (Baka' Bangando) which rely mainly on forest products for their housing' food' health and cultural identity.

Administrative and legal requirements and guides

| <i>Legislation and regulations</i> | Notes |
|---|-------|
| <p>Law No. 94/01 of 20 January 1994-To lay down forestry ' wildlife and fisheries regulations Decree No. 95/466/PM of July 20' 1995-Modalities of the application of forestry law Decree N° 95/531 of 23 August 1995- Forestry Regulation:</p> <p>Art. 12: Authorization to start operations at worksite issued by the Ministry of Forests Art. 50 (1 & 2): Exploitation inventory carried out by certified business forest inventories company and approved in accordance with the standards prescribed by regulation Art 111 (1'2'3): Plan of the network of main tracks of the title Approved (FMU and communal Forest) Art 46 (2'3'4'5): Annual Exploitation Permit allocated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations</p> <p>Art 125 (1): Disposition of field book Art. 72: Authorised Exploitation volumes in the annual permit fixed on the base of exploitation inventories Art. 73 (2): Respect of the annual operation plan controlled and validated at the end of the year and annual activity report prepared and submitted to the Ministry in charge of Forest</p> | |

RAPPORTO PUBBLICO SINTETICO – FSC FM/COC
SEFAC S.A. Certificazione di Gruppo - COD. CERT. ICILA-FM/COC-000181

Update 30/03/2009

| | |
|---|--|
| Art. 127 (2) & 128: Transport of logs by road Art. 118 (1): Disposition concerning regulation on processing (local) Wood Decree N° 95/413/PM of June 20' 1995 Fisheries Regulation | |
| Law No. 98/005 of 14 April 1998-Water Regulation Law No. 96/12 of 05 August 1996-Environmental Management Art. 19 (1) and Art 20: Environmental Management Plan | |
| Law No. 2002/003 of 19 April 2002 - General Tax Code | |
| Decree N° 2001/1034/PM of November 27' 2001 - Slaughter tax and Entry Factory Fee Decree No. 2001/1033/PM November 27' 2001 - Surtaxe for exportation | |
| Decree N° 2005/0577/PM of February 23' 2005 Modalities of realising an environmental impact assessments study | |
| Decree No 99/370/PM March 19' 1999-Forestry enhancement programme | |
| Decree N° 025/PM of April 25' 2001 amending certain provisions of Decree No. 95/531 of 23 | |
| August 1995 laying down detailed rules for implementing the Forestry Regulation | |
| Decree No. 2001/161 / PM' May 8' 2001 Attribution' organization and functioning of the National | |
| Committee of water. | |
| Decree No. 95-466 PM of 20 July 1995 Definition of hunting rules by the operator and the creation of zones of protection of wildlife | |
| Decision No. 029/CAB/PM of June 9' 1999-Establishment of a Committee of Permanent monitoring of the implementation of the resolutions of the Yaoundé Declaration on the Conservation and Management of Tropical Forests | |
| Decision No. 0293/MINEF of March 21' 2000 Selection criteria and procedures for selecting those who submitted documents for logging titles. | |
| Decision 222 (December 2000) relating to the elaboration and the implementation of the Management Plans of the production forests of permanent estate) | |
| Art. 4: External boundaries of title of licence area (FMU' communal and Forest Community Forest) open and materialized | |
| Labour Code-Law 92/2007 of 14 August 1992 | |
| Code of Welfare | |
| Collective National Convention of forest sector in Cameroon in 2002 | |
| ILO: International Labour Organisation | |
| National Guideline for sustainable management of natural forests (March 1998) | |
| Principles Criteria and Indicators | |
| Criteria and indicators for sustainable management of forests and Certification in Cameroon- | |

| | |
|---|--|
| National Working Group on sustainable management of forests and certification in Cameroon in November 1999 | |
| ITTO/ ATO Principles' Criteria and Indicators for the sustainable management of forest in Cameroon' MINEF' 2004 | |
| Practical Guide for the exploiters and industries (Nov. 2003) | |
| Mapping and Study of the natural resource management (April 2001) | |

2.1.1.2 1st SURVEILLANCE audit

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2.1.2 Description of the system of forest management

2.1.2.1 CERTIFICATION audit

The Republic of Cameroon has for over a decade embarked on the path of cleaning up its forestry sector in the framework of its national policy of poverty alleviation and good governance. The implementation of these policies was materialized in particular through the creation of the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 1992, the adoption of a law governing the forest sector in January 1994, the establishment of the Forest Enhancement Program (PSRF) in 1999, the Forest Environment and Sectoral Programme (PSFE), the establishment of an Independent Observer for control and monitoring of forest crimes in 2000, and more recently the National Strategy for Forest and Wildlife Control (SNCFF) validated in March 2005 and the appointment of officers of the National Control Brigade on August 29, 2005. The Republic of Cameroon also has important initiatives on sustainable forest management of ecosystems in the Congo Basin. These include the Yaoundé Declaration, the Plan of Convergence of the COMIFAC and the sub-regional ministerial conference on the Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (AFLEG) in October 2003. Cameroon is also one of the first countries involved in the European initiative 'Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT)' which foresees Voluntary Partnership Agreements 'an important mechanism

2.1.2.2 1st SURVEILLANCE audit

UNCHANGED

2.1.3 Synthèse des Plans d'Aménagements

2.1.3.1 CERTIFICATION Audit

Forest management plans: Apart from the national forests estate, all the other categories of forests are subject to adjustments either through a forest management plan, or a simple management plan. The forestry companies holding FMUs have to prepare management plans for submission to the Ministry of Forest and Wildlife (MINFOF) within three years after the concessions were awarded. This plan should be made on the environmental, economic and social requirements for maintaining sustainable forest exploitation, in accordance with administrative texts (Decisions 0107/D/MINEF/CAB and 0108/D/MINEF/CAB of 9 February 1998).

In the management plan, the FMU is divided into six blocks called Forest Exploitation Units (UFE), and each block is divided into five plots called annual felling areas (AAC).

The concession holder must prepare a five-year management plan for UFE and annual operations plan for AAC. These plans set out in more details the limits of the various felling areas, plan the main road network and remind all actions to be taken by the forester during this period in the implementation of the management plan. These plans must be prepared and approved by the forestry administration prior to the entry into operation of the first UFE and AAC. Assessments of the implementation of the management plan are made at the end of each 5 year period by the Ministry in charge of forests. The management plan may be revised at the end of each five year period by the concessionaire under the supervision of the Ministry in charge of forests.

SUMMARY OF STEMS AND VOLUMES EXPLOITED (Fiscal year 2006)

FMU 10008 AAC 2-1

| CODE | Commercial name | DMA | Number | Volumes(m3) |
|--------------|-----------------|-----|-------------|------------------|
| 1102 | Acajou blanc | 90 | 20 | 294,809 |
| 1107 | Bossé Clair | 80 | 26 | 366,154 |
| 1111 | Dibétou | 80 | 9 | 151,817 |
| 1118 | Kossipo | 100 | 48 | 864,513 |
| 1129 | Sapelli | 100 | 1102 | 20464,205 |
| 1132 | Tali | 80 | 110 | 1051,878 |
| 1211 | Ayous | 80 | 331 | 9490,203 |
| 1220 | Fraké | | 1 | 12,710 |
| 1106 | Bété | 60 | 3 | 22,243 |
| 1116 | Iroko | 120 | 5 | 118,454 |
| 1130 | Sipo | 100 | 53 | 1459,793 |
| 1135 | Tiama | 100 | 19 | 309,502 |
| 1128 | Padouk rouge | 80 | 33 | 366,514 |
| 1104 | Assamela | 100 | 16 | 247,954 |
| 1336 | Eveuss | 50 | 1 | 12,746 |
| TOTAL | | | 1777 | 35233,495 |

FMU 10 010 AAC 2-1

| CODE | Commercial name | DMA | Number | Volumes(m3) |
|------|-----------------|-----|--------|-------------|
| 1102 | Acajou blanc | 100 | 6 | 84,633 |
| 1107 | Bossé Clair | 100 | 5 | 63,671 |
| 1111 | Dibétou | 100 | 1 | 24,728 |
| 1118 | Kossipo | 100 | 4 | 86,019 |
| 1129 | Sapelli | 100 | 117 | 2053,014 |
| 1132 | Tali | 80 | 15 | 147,408 |

RAPPORTO PUBBLICO SINTETICO – FSC FM/COC
SEFAC S.A. Certificazione di Gruppo - COD. CERT. ICILA-FM/COC-000181

Update 30/03/2009

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----|------|-----------|
| 1211 | Ayous | 80 | 837 | 19770,818 |
| 1106 | Bété | 60 | 4 | 42,063 |
| 1116 | Iroko | 110 | 18 | 498,021 |
| 1130 | Sipo | 80 | 1 | 28,619 |
| 1135 | Tiama | 100 | 1 | 14,621 |
| 1128 | Padouk rouge | 80 | 8 | 78,871 |
| 1104 | Assamela | 100 | 15 | 225,418 |
| TOTAL | | | 1032 | 23117,904 |

FMU 10 012 AAC 2-3

| CODE | Commercial name | DMA | Number | Volumes(m3) |
|--------------|-----------------|-----|--------|-------------|
| 1102 | Acajou blanc | 100 | 20 | 292,905 |
| 1107 | Bossé Clair | 80 | 6 | 66,330 |
| 1111 | Dibétou | 90 | 2 | 28,017 |
| 1118 | Kossipo | 100 | 18 | 381,838 |
| 1129 | Sapelli | 110 | 203 | 3928,713 |
| 1132 | Tali | 80 | 144 | 1455,170 |
| 1211 | Ayous | 100 | 725 | 18925,612 |
| 1106 | Bété | 60 | 1 | 9,067 |
| 1116 | Iroko | 100 | 4 | 65,190 |
| 1130 | Sipo | 110 | 4 | 132,283 |
| 1135 | Tiama | 110 | 6 | 80,446 |
| 1128 | Padouk rouge | 80 | 9 | 125,575 |
| 1104 | Assamela | 100 | 46 | 713,136 |
| 1352 | Lati parallèle | 50 | 2 | 45,863 |
| TOTAL | | | 1190 | 26250,145 |

FMU 10 064 AAC 1-3

| CODE | Commercial name | DMA | Number | Volumes(m3) |
|------|-----------------|-----|--------|-------------|
| 1102 | Acajou blanc | 90 | 46 | 679,682 |
| 1107 | Bossé Clair | 80 | 15 | 199,228 |
| 1111 | Dibétou | 80 | 3 | 40,323 |
| 1118 | Kossipo | 80 | 15 | 297,713 |
| 1129 | Sapelli | 120 | 169 | 3.594,471 |
| 1132 | Tali | 80 | 120 | 1.141,347 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|-----|------|------------|
| 1211 | Ayous | 80 | 1922 | 40.510,502 |
| 1220 | Fraké | 70 | 2 | 26,906 |
| 1116 | Iroko | 100 | 12 | 273,079 |
| 1130 | Sipo | 90 | 10 | 247,428 |
| 1135 | Tiama | 80 | 11 | 192,769 |
| 1128 | Padouk rouge | 80 | 15 | 245,399 |
| 1104 | Assamela | 100 | 125 | 1.833,473 |
| 1352 | Lati parallèle | 50 | 4 | 85,112 |
| TOTAL | | | 2469 | 49367,432 |

2.1.3.2 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

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2.1.3.3 FOLLOW UP Audit

UNCHANGED

2.1.4 Monitoring procedures

2.1.4.1 CERTIFICATION Audit

The SEFAC group signed with the WWF Jengi a protocol for follow up/ evaluation of its activities. Currently activities are planned and implemented jointly, supported by environmental and social expertise provided by WWF, in addition to SEFAC's own management team. This complex system is not yet fully operational, but many monitoring activities have begun. This include

- "Procedure for environmental and social monitoring"
- "Monitoring of the dynamics of vegetation S-E Cameroon through the establishment of permanent sample plot
- "Environmental impact assessment studies of FMU No. 10008 - 10009 - 10010 - 10012 - 10064."
- "Monitoring of socio-economic impacts of logging"

In addition, at the forest level, the document "Monitoring of logging activities in the concessions of SEFAC group of Certification" wants to check how much the logging activities have complied with the management plan prescription, the Norms of intervention in forests milieu and constraints related to the certification. Monitoring will focus on the following aspects:

- Compliance with management requirements and regulations
- The planning of operations
- The techniques of exploitation
- Exploitation damages
- The recovery of wood
- Wildlife Silvicultural works
- Research

Also, it is expected that all the data from different monitoring, on the basis of the "Procedure for revising the SEFAC Group management plans" will be integrated into the next revision of the management plan of FMU No. 10008 - 10010 - 10012 - 10064, according to the provisions of art. 34, Decision 222 (the management plans of FMUs of SEFAC group were newly approved. The first revisions will take place in 5 years).

2.1.4.2 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

UNCHANGED

2.1.5 Areas excluded from the PURPOSE OF CERTIFICATION

2.1.5.1 CERTIFICATION and SUPPLEMENTARY Audits

NO area excluded

2.1.5.2 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

UNCHANGED

2.1.5.4 FOLLOW UP Audit

UNCHANGED

2.2 Standards of reference

2.2.1 Standards of reference for carrying out the audits

NOTE: The standards of reference adapted for specific countries, referenced to in this paragraph, are available on the ICILA site: www.icila.org.

2.2.1.1 CERTIFICATION and SUPPLEMENTARY Audits

- ICILA Standard adapted for Cameroon NUMBER: 2203 Revision: 2 of 30/07/2006
AVAILABLE in: www.icila.org

2.2.1.2 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

UNCHANGED

2.2.1.3 FOLLOW UP Audit

UNCHANGED

2.2.2 Process for the local adaptation of proprietors standards (where applicable)

2.2.2.1 CERTIFICATION Audit

With regards to the certification checklist (adapted standard): updates and specific local aspects taken into account referred to the following elements:

- Conventions and International Treaties and Agreements
- Rules and notes on the Definitive Convention on Exploitation given by the national institutions
- Agreement with populations / communities
- Non Timber Forest Products
- Working with national and international NGOs
- Health Management

- Realization of forest research programs
- Low impact logging Techniques
- Hunting management (Poaching)
- HCVF

This adaptation process took into account comments received from various stakeholders (Included Governmental institutions, NGOs, International Organizations and various consultants-sociologists, foresters, naturalists) by e-mail, before the audit in the field and as a result of discussions during the pre-assessment and main assessment. The repository is available on the ICILA website (www.icila.org).

2.2.2.2 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

No subsequent adaptation

2.3 Audit process

2.3.1 Organisation and audit methods

2.3.1.1 Pre-audit

Verified areas: Douala – meeting with the administrative director

Douala – meeting with the commercial director

Douala – visit to the storage platform

Douala – meeting with the trade union representatives

Libongo – meeting with the general manager's office

Libongo – meeting with the representatives of GTZ and WWF

Libongo – visits to the sawmill, to the log depot, to the forest yard of UFA 10012

Libongo – meetings with the delegates and the workmen

Libongo – visit to the dispensary/clinic and the infirmary

Libongo – meetings with the local village authorities and with the local population

Libongo – meetings with the Baka Pygmy communities

Yokadouma – meetings with the regional water and forests delegates, local NGOs, the inspector of the ministry of labour, director of the Lobeke national park.

Timing: from 02/02/2006 to 08/02/2006.

Methods of audit: documentary analysis, interviews, visits to works/yards/sites.

2.3.1.2 CERTIFICATION Audit

Verified areas: All PRINCIPLES applicable

Yaoundè – meeting with the people in charge for the ministry of the forests and fauna (MINFOF) and with the people in charge for the ministry of the environment and for the protection of nature (MINEPN)

Yaoundé – documentary analysis

Yaoundé – meeting with the regional coordinators of Global Forest and Trade Network (WWF)

Yaoundé – MINEPN – encounter with the environmental assessment sub-directors

Yaoundé – encounter with the stakeholders

Yaoundé – documentary analysis of legislation

Libongo / Béla – visit to the sawmill

Libongo / Béla – visit to the health centres
Libongo – interview with the general manager's office
Libongo – encounter with the workmen
Libongo – evaluation of the sanitary installations and encounters with the health staff
Libongo – visit to UFA 10008 (AAC 1 of UFE 2)
Libongo – visit to UFA 10064 (AAC 3 of UFE 1)
Libongo – visit to UFA 10012 (AAC 3 of UFE 2)
Libongo – encounter with WWF and GTZ
Libongo – encounter with the people in charge of water
Libongo – interview with the person in charge of forest management, with the individuals in charge of: logistics, the warehouse, maintenance; with the head of personnel
Libongo – encounter with the personnel delegates
Libongo / Béla – encounter with the local community

Timing: from 30/11/2006 to 10/12/2006

Audit methods: documentary analysis, interviews, visits to works/sites/yards, flights over the forest area.

2.3.1.3 SUPPLEMENTARY Audit

2.3.1.4 Verified areas: All PRINCIPLES applicable

Yaoundé – encounter with people in charge on behalf of the ministry of forests and fauna (MINFOF)
Yaoundé – encounter with the stakeholders
Libongo – interview with the general manager's office
Libongo – encounter with the person in charge of the forest management system
Libongo – visit to the sawmills
Libongo – visit to UFA 10012 (AAC 2-1)
Libongo – visit to UFA 10010
Libongo – visit to a FHCV area
Libongo – encounter with WWF and GTZ
Libongo – interview with the person in charge of forest management and analysis of the UFA management plans
Libongo – interview with the person in charge of forest management and analysis of the FHCV area management
Libongo – interview with the head of personnel and dossier analysis
Libongo – encounter with the local community
Libongo – verification of the social project for building the market
Libongo – visit to a Baka camp
Libongo – analysis and check of the traceability system
Libongo – check of the drinkable water treatment methods

Timing: from 23/07/2007 to 30/07/2007

Audit methods: documentary analysis, interviews, visits to the works/yards/sites.

2.3.1.5 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

Verified areas: P1, P4 (4.2; 4.3), P6 (6.1, 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6), P7 (7.1 and 7.4), P8 (8.1, 8.2, 8.4 and 8.5), P9.

Yaoundé – encounter with the stakeholders

Yokadouma – encounter with the stakeholders
Libongo – interview with the general manager's office
Libongo – encounter [with] the person in charge of the forest management system
Libongo – visit to the sawmills
Libongo – visit to the UFAs 10012
Libongo – visit to the UFAs 10010
Libongo – visit to the UFAs 10064
Libongo – interview with the person in charge of forest management and analysis of the UFA management plans
Libongo – encounter with GTZ
Béla – visit to the sawmills
Various sites – Closure of NCs issued in the Certification audit

Timing: from 31/07/2008 to 08/08/2008

Audit methods: documentary analysis, interviews, visits to sites/works.

Audit Follow-Up

Verified areas: Douala – Verification of the documentary part- NCP closure

Timing: from 20/12/2008 to 22/12/2008

Audit methods: documentary analysis.

2.3.2 Consulting the stakeholders

2.3.2.1 CERTIFICATION Audit and SUPPLEMENTARY Audit

On October 28, 2006, stakeholders in forest management in Cameroon including the municipalities bordering the SEFAC group FMUs, international NGOs, national NGOs, research institutions, agencies for cooperation, Public Administrations, syndicate of foresters have been contacted by email. Fifty persons had been informed on the audit certification of SEFAC group and the checklist icila2203 adapted for Cameroon has been made available to them for their opinions and comments. As a result of this consultation process, no changes were suggested or recommended to the proposed ICILA checklist adapted for Cameroon, dated July 2006.

A first stakeholder meeting was held on November 30, 2006 at MINFOF: This meeting was chaired by the Secretary General of MINFOF in the conference room of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife in the presence of the representative Forest Enhancement Programme (PSRF), the Director of Forests, the Director of Forest Inventory and management, the Technical Adviser No 1. A second meeting was held in the office of the Director of Environmental assessment at the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection of (MINEP).

Additionally, a public consultation meeting was held on 1 December 2006 at the hotel AZUR Yaoundé in the presence of NGOs, Nature protection agencies, research institutes, consultants, government agencies for cooperation, logging companies. The purpose of the meeting was to gather feedback from the various parties involved in relation to forest management of SEFAC group and its initiative to move towards certification.

Two other meetings were held in Libongo respectively on December 5, 2006 with the Chief of forestry and wildlife post and December 9 with representatives of the Forest Enhancement Programme.

Complementary assessment: During the follow-up audit from July 2007, meetings were held with a limited number of selected stakeholders, such as ANAFOR, WWF, CIEFE, CERAD and GTZ to clarify several outstanding issues.

List of the stakeholders met, grouped per category:

INSTITUTIONS

- ABOUEM – PSRF
- ANAFOR
- Brigade National de Contrôle

- Direction des Douanes
- FEICOM
- MINEP
- MINFOF
- POSTE FORESTIER ET POLICE DE LIBONGO

SYNDICATS DES FORESTIERS

- GFBC
- SBMCB

ONG

- CARFAD
- CERAD
- CEW
- CGT LIBERTE
- CIEFE
- CIFOR
- FEDEC
- FSC CAMEROUN
- Global Forest Watch
- GTZ
- HAPPI – UICN
- IRAD
- JENGI
- NESDAC
- ORADER
- SOW
- Tropical Timber Action Plan (TFD)
- UICN
- WWF-CARPO

LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- Association BAKA BELA
- Communauté de LIBONGO et BELA
- Enseignantes
- Groupe Wolo Wolo
- Maire de Yokadouma
- Maire de Salapoumbé
- Pygmée (Baka)
- Projet bas fonds
- Représentant de femmes
- Représentant des jeunes au CPF de Bela
- Responsable du CPF de Bela

WORKERS

- Délégués du personnel

- Worker representative, in the following categories: Driver, Works foreman, Marker, environmental Resp., Loaded with the monitoring of working, Driver of heavy engines, Infermier, Mechanics, Stock controller, Prospector.

2.3.2.2 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

The same stakeholders of the Certification audit were contacted and met.

2.4 Observations

2.4.1 Performances of the certified areas

2.4.1.1 CERTIFICATION Audit

[1] **PRINCIPLE no. 1**

Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur, and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.

- **CRITERION 1.1:** The documents are available and updated; the lists of the documents are distributed to the interested functions; responsibilities for updating and filing are not clearly defined.
Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.
REF. NC: NCS 1 and NCS 4 Ref. 1.1.1 – 1.1.3
- **CRITERION 1.2:** evidence is available indicating the correct and punctilious handling of the aspects concerning the payment of both taxes and of all fees/honoraries due.
- **CRITERION No. 1.3:** CITES's demands are fulfilled; the specific cases, such as the handling/management of the L'Assamela (Afromosia or Afrormosia (=Pericopsis elata) are correctly handled.
The Management service of SEFAC group has documents on the conventions and international treaties signed and ratified by Cameroon. At the same time the management staff use the labour code which takes into account the ILO conventions. At the level of forest exploitation is done in accordance with the forestry law of 1994. Articles 11 to 14 of the law concerning the protection of nature and biodiversity and in since Cameroon is member of ITTO. The Management Service provides and uses the documents on ATO / ITTO PCI for sustainable management of forest adapted to Cameroon.
- **CRITERIO 1.4:** No conflicts between national laws' regulations' and FSC standard were detected.
- **CRITERIO 1.5:** The Plan of Arrangement signed by the Administration defines the legal activities in production forests. According to the socio-economic studies carried out by WWF and the field evaluations during certification assessments ' it has been verified that the villages are quite distant from FMU' and this limits the illegal activities of the populations in the forests subject to the assessment. In addition' site visits of to the annual felling areas and the boundaries of the FMU confirms that the FMUs of SEFAC group are far from human settlements.
- **CRITERIO 1.6:** The SEFAC group certification has issued a declaration of commitment to comply with the requirements of the FSC.

[2] **PRINCIPLE n. 2**

Long term tenure and user rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.

- **CRITERIO 2.1:** The Company FB and SEFAC are registered and have a trade number (No. RC/DLA/1967/B/03266 for SEFAC and No. RC/DLA/1995/B/14106 for FB) with "register du Commerce et du credit immobilier" ' have a taxpayer numbers (No. M 116700000360 F for SEFAC and No. M 119200000510 L for FB)' and have agreement for forestry profession (No. 189 Decision No. 015' November 8' 1980 for SEFAC and 420 Decision No. 022' on March 22' 1994 for FB)

Both companies have also possessed licenses as processors and exporters of logs.

The decrees classifying FMU 10 008 (No. 2005/0245/PM' January 26' 2005)' 10 010 (No. 2005/0247/PM of January 26' 2005)' 10 012 (No. 2005 / 0249 / PM of January 26' 2005) and 10 064 (No. 2005/0260/PM' 26/01/2005) signed by the Prime Minister are available.

The maps of the boundaries of FMUs are available and their materialization on the ground has been done.

The organizational structure and procedures of SEFAC group' as the first does not permit the audit team to understand the responsibilities of different individuals within the company.

Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.

REF. NC: 1 NCS Ref. 2.1.3

- **CRITERIO 2.2:** Use rights of local people are well respected in the area. Interviews with employees and neighboring villagers confirm free access by the local population into the forest in order to exercise their use rights. WWF in its partnership with the SEFAC Group' has also made available a report of the work of identification' localization and analysis of the use and mapping space of BAKA resources in the FMUs 10 008' 10 010' 10 012 and 10 064 and the Management Plan for FMU also set out the procedures for the exercise of user rights by the people in the FMUs cited. The SEFAC Group' COLIDESA and CODEBI (local Associations)' have written agreements for the recovery of sawmill waste' since May 25' 2002. The group donated village a blade cutter. SEFAC has also set up in collaboration with the Administration through prefectural Decision No. 000054' July 6' 2006; six Peasant Forest committees. Copies of the minutes of the election of members of the Peasants Forests Committees (CPF) are available. The strategic project putting in place the Peasant Forest Committees (CPF) is implemented by the prefectural Decision (No. 000054/AP/B12/BAE of July 6' 2006 on the creation and appointment of Peasant Forest committees members of the FMUs 10 008' 10 009' 10 010' 10 064)These CPF are put in place but not yet installed. Their functioning will provide an excellent means of communication between the SEFAC group and the population. It should be noted that' the population was displaced from where Lubing market is located in the framework of the joint SEFAC/GTZ project. Those displaced were compensated by the construction of new houses near the site of the market and the compensation of those who own cultivated farms was done based on the agricultural law. In conclusion' the audit team did not note the existence of any dispute between the company and local communities. On the quantitative and qualitative knowledge of NTFPs (Non Timber Forest Products)' exploitation inventories are of multi-resource type. In the inventory sheets are indicated' NTFP species. The population collects NTFPs in the forest for their personal use or for small businesses. A joint SEFAC/WWF project foresees in its activities the extension of NTFPs use by local population.
- **CRITERIO 2.3:** As part of its group Certification Manual' the company has developed conflict and dispute resolution mechanisms. The FMUs are property of the State of Cameroon' which grants its management to the company. The CPFs being established act as an interface between the population and the company. These are the bodies of consultation' negotiation and participation in resource management. They can speak for the peaceful resolution of conflicts. The auditors and stakeholders did not detect any dispute relating to use rights.

[3] **PRINCIPIO n. 3**

The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.

- **CRITERIO 3.1:** The indigenous population of South East Cameroon is the Baka pygmies. The areas that seem important to them' are places of concentration of wild yams and trees used for traditional medicine. During management inventory' these areas were identified and mapped as the "Baka resource areas " The Baka pygmies of SEFAC concessions' are meeting in associations to protect their interests with the SEFAC (WOLO WOLO at Libongo and TETANOS at Bela) and enjoy the same use rights as the local population. The area of agroforestry (in the case of Libongo) covers 10'000 ha and the local population is not affected by logging activities. The logging licenses are issued by the government of Cameroon. But before the beginning of exploitation' the concession holder held information meetings with the population in the presence of the administration.

Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out the following corrective actions.

REF. NC: NCS 3 Ref. 3.1.3/3.1.7/3.1.8

- **CRITERIO 3.2:** The SEFAC management has produced a policy document on the protection of Baka minorities. The Baka resources areas are mapped gradually from the harvesting inventories. The exercise of the use rights of is provided for all populations' Baka or non Baka are granted by the company.
- **CRITERIO 3.3:** According to studies conducted by the WWF' there are no religious or archaeological site in the FMUs of SEFAC group. The sites with cultural values remain in the Baka resources areas that are identified during the exploitation inventory.
- **CRITERIO 3.4:** Members of the Baka community are involved in forest inventories' because they have a traditional knowledge on tree species. The work is been paid by the company' which supports the Baka in the procedures that are necessary for establishing contractual relationships according to the Cameroonian law...At the level of national and international NGOs working in the environmental sector with the local populations' the companies identified WWF and GTZ to support their activities. WWF for monitoring logging activities and their environmental and social impacts' and GTZ for financing the new market Libongo and support local farmers At the level of national and international NGOs working in the environmental sector with the local populations' the companies identified WWF and GTZ to support their activities. WWF for monitoring logging activities and their environmental and social impacts' and GTZ for financing the new market Libongo and support local farmers.

[4] PRINCIPIO n. 4

Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.

- **CRITERIO 4.1:** The recruitment process at SEFAC group exists and appears to be well known by the local population. According to almost all stakeholders consulted' a call for tenders was launched by the SEFAC group according to its needs. The statistics on employees of SEFAC group' according to their province of origin' the Division of origin and the district show that from about 542 employees of the SEFAC group' 343 are from East province' where the concessions are located' 107 from the Central Province' 22 from Littoral Province' 21 from the South' 18 from the West' 1 from Adamawa and 3 from the Far North. Among SEFAC group employees originated from the East province' 146 are from Boumba and Ngoko and 50 from Salapoumbe District. 9 Baka pygmies are employed at SEFAC group. For other opportunities services' SEFAC group made efforts for the well-being of local population especially regarding health care' education and drinking water to Libongo. Access to drink water is free' the same is true for medical consultations. Medicines are being offered at subsidized prices. . Regarding education' Bela and Libongo schools have three types of teachers: teachers hired by the Ministry of National Education' the council' and those recruited by the SEFAC Group. Three classrooms are also being built at Libongo' with support from the company. An agreement was signed between the District hospital of Moloundou and SEFAC. The Health Center includes nine nurses split between Libongo' Béla and KIKA. A medical doctor visits the area 12 days per month. The various services provided by the Health Center include outpatient care' surgery' medical examinations with photonic microscope' the fight against HIV and AIDS. The Health Center pharmacy is managed by a management committee elected for two years period by the General Assembly with President' the Director of Personnel of SEFAC and adviser the medical doctor. Drugs are purchased at the Center for Pharmaceutical Supplies in Bertoua. Before the drugs are bought the medical doctor give an order and the director of Personnel at SEFAC signs. The capital for the pharmacy of the health center has increased from 2 to 4 million FCFA donated by the SEFAC Group. Medicine prices have fallen sharply and are accessible to all. But the group should continue to work to raise awareness and support for local populations of each FMU (Mongokélé' Socambo' Kika' etc.)

Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out the following corrective actions.

Ref. 4.1.2

- **CRITERIO 4.2:** At the staff office of the SEFAC group'' the official directory from the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and Labor Code are available for consultation. There are procedures in place aimed at limiting the accident risks and on the management of labor accidents. An action plan on security and

hygiene in the workplace' and in addition a security worksheet is prepared and used in the forest and the sawmill. The majority of workers of the SEFAC are housed by the company. To ensure good working conditions' health and hygiene to the workers' SEFAC group has built 12 showers and 4 toilets in Libongo sawmill and other infrastructure as such are under construction in the sawmill of Bela (6 showers and 3 toilets). The Bela sawmill is not included in the scope of the certification assessment at SEFAC. The audit team was able to confirm that sensitization and training was given to workers depending on the type of work performed. For example' all workers have been sensitized on the role of security devices and equipment at work sites that were distributed. Specific Training will be provided to workers in work sites and prospectors (techniques of low impact exploitation' Norms for intervention in forests' digitalized inventory technology). In each site' a record of accidents at work is maintained and there is specific procedure for the treatment of accidents cases. The company has provided the forest workers with the necessary equipment' responding to the needs of the certification standard. The auditors have verified information relating to work-related accidents in the work sites visited especially in the 10 008 and 10 064 FMU where the accident registers were well maintained and updated. Interviews with workers and managers of the SEFAC group as well as documents viewed (collective agreement' statistics of SEFAC group workers according to origins)' it appears that all employees have a regular employment contract. The salary of SEFAC group staff are paid according to the Convention of 2002 Collective-primary sector. Salaries are paid regularly and employees have no arrears of salary. The group also pays the 13th month to all its employees and some of them benefit from the bonus basket or a transport allowance. Apart from the students that the company engages in holiday job to help them prepare for the new school year' SEFAC does not employ minors under the age of 18' the minimum age to be hired in the company' according to the existing regulations. Regarding the reception of the trainees' almost every year' the group receives several interns from Forestry and wildlife school of Mbalmayo and some secondary schools. Whether it is at the staff level' or administration of SEFAC group' no cases of forced labor had been detected at SEFAC group. The employees are paid according to the terms of reference of their contracts and in accordance with the Labor Code. The SEFAC group signed a contract of sub contracting with other companies but does not get involved in personnel management of these companies.

- **CRITERIO 4.4:** Under the partnership between the WWF and SEFAC group ' studies were conducted on the socio-economic context of the FMUs manages by companies in the SEFAC Group. With support from WWF' a manual was developed in order to monitor the social impact of forest management... The CPF' which normally serve as an intermediary between the company holder and the population are in place but are not yet operational. The preliminary results of the assessment of socio-economic impacts' available during the follow-up audit in July 2007' indicate the areas that are in need of more attention. Based on the final version of its impacts evaluation' expected for the beginning of 2008' the company will develop and implement specific measures aimed at mitigating eventual negative social impacts deriving from its operation.
- **CRITERIO 4.5:** A handbook of conflict resolution was prepared by the Management service. The compensation procedures have been implemented in the case of the local market built at Libongo : population displaced from the construction site has been compensated and new homes were built not far from this site for their resettlement

[5] **PRINCIPIO n. 5**

Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.

- **CRITERIO 5.1:** A financial plan is prepared by the Director General of SEFAC group' based on the estimated exploitable volumes of woods and the balance sheets available in Douala.
- The revenues of the SEFAC group are based on FOB prices of its forest products' taking into account the results of inventories carried out each year for the planning of harvesting operations. The main objective of the SEFAC group is the production of timber. Other forest products' such as NTFPs' are reserved for the use rights of the local population. However' the SEFAC group' is aware of the value of biodiversity in the area of its concessions' engages in all protection of this heritage' through the proper management of

forests and the creation of services and incomes for the local community. In addition' from the year 2006' SEFAC Group began contabiliser the cost related to environmental and social aspects' hiring an outside company to increase performance outcomes. But the audit team' stressed the need to develop expertise for the autonomous management of these aspects. Through the certification process' the company started to incorporate in a more systematic way social and environmental costs in its forest management planning and operations.

- *Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.*

REF. NC: NCS 5 Ref. 5.1.3

- **CRITERIO 5.2:** SEFAC group has two processing units one at Libongo and the other at Bela. Wastes from the SEFAC factories are used by the two small sawmills run by the local development committees (COLIDESA and CODEBI). These small sawmills transform this waste into plans' rafters and sell for the realization of development projects in the community. These small factories processing units also produce benches for schools. In terms of valorisation of NTFPs' an action plan was developed with WWF. In each management plan' thirty species are considered in order to promote the so-called minor species. During harvesting inventories which are multi-resources' NTFPs are inventoried to determine the areas that will be used by the local population.
- **CRITERIO 5.3:** At this regard' there are procedures for the purchase and handling of machinery' which are based on the needs identified in the field. The company has a sales office in Douala which chooses suppliers and pass orders according to the needs expressed in the work site. All equipment used for logging belong to SEFAC group.
The teams operating in the forest were trained on low impact exploitation methods. They avoid protected species' future stems and seed. Proper cutting of liana is done prior to harvesting and the teams in the forest are constantly aware of the legal requirements for forestry work' which limits the risk of loss and damage to the residual trees.
- **CRITERIO 5.4:** The FMUs are production forests and management plans contain authorized exploitable species. As previously written' during exploitation inventories' NTFPs are identified' mapped and included in inventory reports. An action plan was developed between the WWF Jengi and SEFAC group to support the valorisation of NTFPs by local population. The techniques of collecting are traditional NTFPs and depend on the part to be remove. In all cases' the collection of these products is done in the agro forestry zone located well away from FMU.
- **CRITERIO 5.5:** The Norms for the use of rivers in the FMUs are specified by the administration through the Norms for intervention in the forest. These norms are enforced by the SEFAC group. However' in a field visit' auditors noted the dumping of soil in a water course during the construction of a bridge' and raised this to the attention of the company. The Plan of land use in FMUs précised fishing activities planned in the forest. Discussions with the forest manager and some stakeholders have helped to note clearly that fishing activities carried out in the FMUs of SEFAC group are directed towards consumption and traditional methods are used. In addition' in collaboration with MINEPIA (Ministry of Livestock' Fisheries and Animal Industries)' GTZ' WWF and local NGOs' gr. SEFAC' introduced in the program to promote fishing and small livestock. During exploitation inventories sites of special interest to conservation' biodiversity' fragile ecological sites are identified and mapped which leads to the road network planning and operations for the protection of these sites.
- **CRITERIO 5.6:** Le plan sylvicole de la SEFAC apparaît dans le document d'aménagement. Les possibilités de coupe dans chaque UFA sont clairement indiquées dans le plan d'aménagement pour la durée de la rotation. Le volume de bois exploitable dans chaque assiette est connu après l'inventaire d'exploitation. Une comparaison faite entre les possibilités de coupe calculées dans les plans d'aménagement et les volumes estimés dans les rapports d'inventaire d'exploitation montre que les quantités susceptibles d'être prélevées sont inférieures à la capacité de production de la forêt.
Les tarifs de cubage utilisés ici sont ceux de l'ONADEF et l'analyse des résultats d'inventaires se fait par le Logiciel TIAMA. Le Gérant Forestier du Gr. SEFAC, a expliqué au Lead Auditor, que dan le Plan d'Aménagement est indiqué que des arbres sont relâchées exclusivement pour la dissémination et en plus les parcelles permanentes mises en place avec SMITHSONIAN pourront commencer à donner dans cinq ans des informations sur la dynamique de croissance des essences des UFA du Groupe SEFAC.

[6] **PRINCIPIO n. 6**

Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.

- **CRITERIO 6.1:** During the elaboration of the management plan' impact assessment studies are conducted and included. In addition' during the exploitation inventory' all sites at risk are identified and mapped' allowing for appropriate planning different intervention in forest areas to minimize environmental impacts. At the same time' maps of the AAC where exploitation is going on and field visits demonstrated the incorporation of the fragile ecological zones' sites with a high density of rare and threatened species' and salty areas and clearances during exploitation inventories. In a partnership with WWF procedures are in place to assess the environmental impact of logging activities and its results will be taken into account during the revision of management plan' scheduled every five years by forestry law. The Norms of intervention in the forest prescribe the application of techniques of low impact harvesting. As such' ongoing training for staff is carried out to compliance with these Norms of intervention.
- **CRITERIO 6.2a:** The wildlife species are grouped into three classes in Cameroon (Decision 0565/A/MINEF/DFAP/SDF/SRC fixing the list of animals in classes A' B and C' the distribution of animal species on which hunting is authorised' also the types of sport hunting and the type of license). In the case of collaboration with WWF' the prospectors of SEFAC group have being trained on the use of cyber tracker. This tool allows them to digitize areas of high concentration of animals' migration corridors' and other sensitive areas that should be protected during the operation and areas that are listed on the map the annual felling area after exploitation inventory. The head of the worksite ensure that these areas are not exploited. Protected plant species are listed in the management plan.
- **CRITERIO 6.2a:** Maps of AAC in harvesting areas and field visits demonstrate that fragile ecological zones' sites with a high density of rare and threatened species' salty areas and other sensitive areas are taken into account during harvesting inventories.
The Norms for intervention in the forest used by SEFAC group state the conservation methods' critical sites and Management Service ant they are implemented by the companies assessed for certification. The Cameroonian forest law is very sensitive to the issue' and requires that management plans take into account protection areas in FMUs and that all management plans provide for full protection of such areas. Protected areas include the following categories:
 - Clearance (It is a zone with marsh and vegetation (prohibition of felling less than 30m of this zone)
 - Salty area (Complementary mineral food for animals)
 - Slope: hilly area or slope exceeding 50%; it is strictly forbidden to fell trees on this area
 - Flooded marshy areas
 - During exploitation inventories' migration corridors are identified and materialized on maps and trees bearing fruits and tree not to be exploited are identify.Trees bearing fruits are marked with an S using red paint and loggers are not allowed to touch them. The list of protected species is available in the inventory report and on the prospecting maps. Measures are foreseen for the protection of future trees.
A committee against poaching was created within the SEFAC Group' aiming to support the forest administration in tackling illegal hunting. All parties seem involved in the process and the rules of the SEFAC group stipulates the prohibition of any poaching activity (active or passive) by workers of the company. Workers are aware of this provision. Cases of dismissal on the grounds of poaching have been reported in this regard. The store of the SEFAC group is supplied with cow meet available to all the populations' in order to satisfy the proteins needs and provide a disincentive to illegal hunting.
- **CRITERIO 6.3:** The logging activities are ongoing. The permanent sample plots installed' will provide the latest information on the dynamic growth of the forest stand. Harvesting is selective and only affects trees with a diameter greater than or equal to DME / DMA set by the forestry administration and the results of management inventory. Future trees and seed trees are excluded from harvesting and protected. . Apart from the windfall and other accidental tree falls ' all trees to be harvested are planned as a result of harvesting inventories.

Trees that are not harvested are either fruit bearing trees or the trees excluded from harvesting according to the management plan due to their low level of regeneration.

The activities foresees in each FMU are specified in the management plan. Forestry operations' including the identification of protected areas and protected trees' the selection of trees for harvesting during inventory' according to the management plan' the Cameroon legislation' and the certification standard ensure that ecological functions and values are maintained.

- **CRITERIO 6.4:** Once identified in the AAC during exploitation inventories' measures are taken for the conservation of these sites in accordance with the Norms of intervention in the forest. A list of types of representative ecosystems that are being preserved is provided under Criterion 6.
- **CRITERIO 6.5a:** The preparation of the annual operation plan for the AAC takes into consideration the planning of the road network. The construction of forest roads is respectful of norms in general and the closure of activities in each AAC' roads are blocked as prescribed by the forestry law. They are planned in advance in accordance with the topography and risk zones. Their width is specified in terms of use (the main road' tracks and hauling tracks).

An environmental impact assessment made by the WWF shows that SEFAC group (who has a proper specific procedure for the opening of roads) complies with Cameroon road building norms. The Audit team verified in FMU 10 064 the dimensions of the roads and reached the conclusion that they are following existing norms. In addition' the group builds its own roads using information obtained during the harvesting inventories carried out for planning purposes. Boards indicating speed limits and speed breaks are placed at the entrances of villages.

- **CRITERIO 6.5b:** All these measures are specified in the Norms of intervention in the forest the SEFAC Group management uses these norms in an acceptable manner. The training received by workers in the forest and the felling techniques are aimed at minimizing negative environmental impacts. The equipment used by the SEFAC group includes machinery that is commonly used for logging in Cameroon.
- **CRITERIO 6.6a:** Chemical products are not used in the forest. However' the SEFAC group has procedures for chemicals use and in the SEFAC Group office documentation indicates that chemicals have been used in the sawmill. L'entreprise dispose également de la liste des produits chimiques homologués par le FSC. Les produits chimiques sont utilisés seulement en saison de pluie pour la lutte contre les champignons qui attaquent le bois. Le produit actuellement utilisé pour le traitement du bois par le groupe SEFAC est le SARPECO TB. Cependant le principe actif du SARPECO TB est la Cyperméthrine qui est considéré comme à risque par le FSC.

La procédure d'utilisation des produits chimiques est disponible à la SEFAC. au bureau de la logistique. L'alternative à l'utilisation des produits chimiques est le séchage du bois. Les produits chimiques ne sont utilisés que pendant la saison de pluie et les méthodes d'application suivent les prescriptions du fabricant. Les produits sont accompagnés d'une notice d'utilisation.

Les produits chimiques sont stockés dans un magasin isolé dans le site de l'usine et assez bien protégé. Les équipements utilisés par les ouvriers lors du traitement du bois sont sécurisants (bottes, masque et des gants). Des panneaux de sécurité sont également affichés dans la station de traitement pour les premiers soins, les méthodes de protection physique et la manipulation des produits dangereux.

- **CRITERIO 6.6b:** The empty drums of chemicals were observed in the store were the chemical were stocked. Currently' no such chemicals are in use at SEFAC Group.
- **CRITERIO 6.6c:** The workers were using boots' masks and gloves when treating wood with chemical product. They were trained on the job.
- **CRITERIO 6.7:** The engine oils and fuels are stored in tanks and indicated fairly well protected and in forest' recycling bins are used to drain waste engine oil. However' small flow of engine oils was noted in the forest (10 008 and 10 064). After these' engine oils are collected with drums and sent to the Libongo factory where workers of petroleum company seek the waste engine oil for recycling; SEFAC group has signed a contract with the petroleum company for recovering engine oils drain. Another contract was signed between SEFAC group and sub contractor for waste cleaning and collection at the sawmill and main roads in the camps as well as transportation and emptying bins. Other contracts cover the recovery of scrap metal and old tires.

Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.

REF. NC: NCS 7 Ref. 6.7.

- **CRITERIO 6.8:** There were no evidence uses of GMOs and biological control agents by SEFAC group
- **CRITERIO 6.9:** All activities of the SEFAC take place in the natural forest. The artificial silviculture and the use of exotic species are non-existent.
- **CRITERIO 6.10:** The management plans of the FMUs of SEFAC group do not preview the conversion of land into agricultural plantations

[7] **PRINCIPIO n. 7**

A management plan -- appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations -- shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long-term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.

- **CRITERIO 7.1a:** The management objectives of FMUs concerned by this assessment are clearly defined in the management plan' and are determined on the basis of the results of the management inventory.
- **CRITERIO 7.1b:** SEFAC Group has the attestation of measurement of total surface areas of FMUs subject to assessment and also the decrees of classification of FMUs signed by the Cameroon PM. Each AAC has a map with a clear description of the resources to be used' roads and all the characteristics of the area to be harvested. The land is identified in the management plan and all SEFAC group FMUs are divided into two sets (production and protection) that are represented on maps of FMUs. All series of protection' and areas with fragile ecology are described in the management plans and précised in the in the exploitation inventory reports. The methods of logging in these areas are specified in the Norms of intervention in the forest. The maps of road network' water network and various sets are available in the logistics office.
- **CRITERIO 7.1c:** The management system is described in the forest uses are described in the management plan of FMUs and maps exist with the different uses allocated to the forest as well as the description of prohibited activities and those that are regulated through the management plan.
- **CRITERIO 7.1d:** Each year an annual operations plan is developed by the Management service based on the results of harvesting inventories; This plan summarizes all interventions (silvicultural treatments and other operations)' it is completed for the following year. and it is approved by the forestry administration before his execution. During harvesting inventories and before the passing of the felling team' seed bearing trees are marked with paint' particular sites identified are also marked on the map. The boundaries of AAC are materialized (marked) in the field. During the visit of permanent plots of the FMU 10 008' the auditors observed the boundary between AAC where harvesting was ongoing and the AAC planned for next year' marked with red paint.
- **CRITERIO 7.1e:** Permanent plots were installed in FMUs 10 008' 10 012 to follow the dynamic of the forest stands. The results of this study constitute a good data base for the monitoring the dynamic of the forest.
- **CRITERIO 7.1f:** The SEFAC group has not suffered from disasters since its installation in the region. The use of Norms of intervention in the forest as applied by the Management Service is likely to avoid disasters. A system of fire management is available at the sawmill. The state of dense humid forest of the FMUs concerned by this certification assessment is not conducive to the spread of wildfire in case if it happen accidentally.
- **CRITERIO 7.1g:** During harvesting inventories' efforts are made to measure the abundance of rare species at risk. More over' in a monitoring carry out by WWF' there is a section that takes into consideration the use of seed and protected species. The map of each AAC allows planning of all interventions in the area to be harvested.
- **CRITERIO 7.1h:** The forest Teams have been trained in low impact logging techniques. They have also been sensitized on the security measures and the Norms of intervention in forest milieu. This was make known through discussions with the head of the Management Service and prospectors.
- **CRITERIO 7.2:** According to the provisions of Decision 222' the revision of management plan takes place every five years since it is approved' in accordance with Cameroon forestry law. The management plans of FMUs assessed during the certification process of the SEFAC Group were newly approved. The SEFAC group did not mention any case of major disturbances' which could trigger a special review of its management plans. During the revision' the results of the impact assessment study should be integrated in the new management plan.

Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.

REF. NC: NCS 8 Ref. 7.2.1

- **CRITERIO 7.3:** Workers are hired to carry out specific tasks and the Director of Personnel keeps personal records for each worker that performs tasks within his/her field of competence.
Training activities have been developed and implemented at worker level' training records are available...
The SEFAC group companies hold valid licenses issued by the forest administration to transform wood and export of logs. They also have forest agreement issued by the administration. The works in the FMUs are planned and executed in accordance with the requirements of the management plans and the annual operation plans. All logging operations are carried out by the company workers who are aware of health and safety' and good practices in forest work.

[8] **PRINCIPIO n. 8**

A management plan -- appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations -- shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long-term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.

- **CRITERIO 8.1:** The SEFAC group signed with WWF Jengi a protocol for follow-up and assessment of its activities. Manuals for monitoring logging activities and social impacts elaborated by WWF are in use and the results of monitoring will be evaluated during future surveillance at SEFAC.
- **CRITERIO 8.2a:** All production data are recorded in the production tables and inventory reports' field books' DF10.
- **CRITERIO 8.2b:** The agreement between the SEFAC Group' WWF and the SMITHSONIAN Institute' which is including also a collaboration with the University of Buea has helped to establish four permanent sample plots of a hectare each in the FMU 10008' 10012 for the monitoring of the dynamics of tree regeneration. These permanent sample plots will provide information on the evolution of the forest.
- **CRITERIO 8.2c, d:** Sensitive areas identified during harvesting inventories are preserved' they are also subject to monitoring. Manuals for monitoring logging activities and social impacts elaborated by WWF are in use.
- **CRITERIO 8.2e:** A financial plan is prepared by the Director General of SEFAC group' based on the estimated exploitable volumes of woods and the balance sheets available in Douala.
- **CRITERIO 8.3:** Products sold by SEFAC are not certified yet. However their traçabilité can be followed by the forest at the sawmill and from the sawmill in the harbour. The notebooks of exploitation site and the books of DF10 allow at any time to know the provenance of the log. The documents of transport (letters of cars) point out the provenance of the timber. The documents of order include all this information nowadays except the code of recording of the certificate. SEFAC is not certified yet obviousness cannot even be raised for the time being.
- **CRITERIO 8.4:** The revision of the forestry management plans will take place in five years and the results of monitoring are not yet available.

Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.

REF. NC: NCS 8 Ref. 8.4.1

- **CRITERIO 8.4:** The documents of monitoring exist. There is not an obviousness which a summary of the activities is available.

[9] **PRINCIPIO n. 9**

Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.

- **CRITERIO 9.1:** The SEFAC Group has completed an assessment aimed at identifying high conservation value attributes. As a result of the main assessment' a major non-compliance was issued against SEFAC

(6 NCP) with regards to high conservation value forests. While the company had assessed the high conservation value attributes' based on its own knowledge of the forest area' and reached the conclusion that some important attributes were present' these had not been confirmed through stakeholder consultation. In order to facilitate the understanding of the High Conservation Value concept' the manager in charge of planning and operations at Group SEFAC attended a course on HCVF organized in Cameroon at the beginning of August 2007. During August 2007' the company prepared a document outlining its findings relating to the presence of high conservation value attributes in its FMUs. This document was sent to key stakeholders in Cameroon' who were invited to a meeting in order to discuss the position of the SEFAC Group on HCVF. The results of this process are presented in the table included in Section 1.1' above. The SEFAC Group has identified the following high conservation value attributes in its forest concessions: Globally' regionally or nationally significant concentration of biodiversity values Forest areas contain rare' threatened or endangered ecosystems. Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations Forest areas fundamental to satisfy the basic needs of local communities. Due to the importance of the forest resources and the presence of the indigenous Pygmei/Baka' the SEFAC Group considers the whole forest area as HCVF from the perspective of its importance for the local Baka communities.

Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.

REF. NC: NCP 6 ref. 9.1.1. – 9.2.1

- **CRITERIO 9.2:** The Norms of intervention in the forest identify steep slopes' salty areas' marshy areas and areas close to rivers courses as conservation zones. These zones are taken into consideration during the management of SEFAC group forest and are allowed intact during logging activities.
Regarding this criterion, the organisation must carry out corrective actions.
REF. NC: 6 NCP ref. 9.1.1. – 9.2.1
- **CRITERIO 9.4:** The zones to be preserved are intact and are not touched by the forestry development.
- **PRINCIPIO n. 10:** Plantations shall be planned and managed in accordance with Principles and Criteria 1 - 9, and Principle 10 and its Criteria. While plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits, and can contribute to satisfying the world's needs for forest products, they should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests. The principle 10 has not been used during the assessment of SEFAC group. In accordance with the FSC principles and criteria in the area managed by the SEFAC group there is no forest plantations.

2.4.1.2 1st SURVEILLANCE Audit

SURVEILLANCE – paragraph NOT APPLICABLE

2.4.2 Non-Conformities noticed the stakeholders

2.4.2.1 CERTIFICATION Audit

No stakeholder has notified ICILA about ANY NON-CONFORMITIES with regard to the SEFAC forest management system– Group Certification

2.4.2.2 1st SURVEILLANCE audit

No stakeholder has notified ICILA about ANY NON-CONFORMITIES with regard to the SEFAC forest management system– Group Certification

2.4.3 Assessment of the handling of Non-Conformities issued in foregoing audits

2.4.3.1 Assessment carried out during the 1st SURVEILLANCE audit

ACTIONS CARRIED OUT by the **ORGANISATION** for the **TREATMENT** of **NON-CONFORMITIES** issued in the previous **CERTIFICATION** and **SUPPLEMENTARY Audit**– 30/7/2007

REPORT of the CERTIFICATION AUDIT issued on 16/09/2007

NCS 1 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 1.1.1; 1.1.3; 2.1.3 (CERTIFICATION Audit) – date of envisioned closure: 30/01/07

The documents related to the management of SEFAC group are unclear' incomplete and are not fully systematized:

- Responsibilities not well precised
- Signatures sometimes missing
- Lack of progressive numbering and date of documents

Need to precise the names of the signatories on the documents and their functions (see organigramme and procedures)

CA carried out: conformity of procedures verified.

NC closed during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit.

NCP 2 – standard references FSC-POL-20-001/Group Certification (SUPPLEMENTARY Audit) – date of envisioned closure: 30/07/08

Workers of Filière bois are not sufficient to carried out the management responsibilities as required by the standards of regulation of staff SEFAC group of certification' rev. 0 of February 10' 2006.

CA carried out: SEFAC Certification Group regulation amended- Rev 1 dated 10.08.2007, when the responsibilities of each group member were better defined in relation to the qualifications of its staff.

Regulation reception verified (Copy of the original of the last page of the SEFAC Group certification regulation– Rev. 1, signed on 10.08.2007).

Enforcement/implementation of the CA verified in the August 2008 surveillance: Filiere Bois's staff and the distribution/apportionment of responsibilities amidst the group entity and the Filiere Bois member correspond to the requirements of the group regulation.

NC closed

NCS 3 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 3.1.3; 3.1.7; 3.1.8 (SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – closure date envisioned: 30/07/08

The modalities of communications with indigenous Baka population currently implemented do not guarantee efficient exchange of information in reference by the indicator 3.1.7. In effect' there is no evidence of written agreements between the company and representatives of indigenous communities which is meaningful to both parties. The process of identifying the areas of interest to the Baka must necessarily be part of these agreements (3.1.3).

CA carried out: The firm has signed agreements with the Baka populations, and it has been confirmed that the same are significant.

NC closed

NCS 4 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 1.1.1 (CERTIFICATION audit) – envisioned closure date: 30/01/07
In the different documents of SEFAC group of certification SEBAC and FMU 10 009 are mentioned which are not member of the group of certification.

CA carried out: document conformity verified.

NC closed during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit.

NCS 5 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 5.1.3 (SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – envisioned closure date: 30/01/07
Environmental and social impact assessment is carried out by external qualified experts. SEFAC group should train its workers to carry out these aspects.

CA carried out: On 28/01/2008, RTS was sent the 1) « SEFAC certification group development strategy in the sectors of inventories, and of environmental and social monitoring» - 31.10.2007. Enforcement/ implementation of the corporate development strategy verified during surveillance. The company has hired new professionals to respond to the difficulties relative to the enforcement of the certification standard. The staff employed is developing specific competencies relative to environmental and social monitoring. Further staff engagements are envisioned in 2008, for the purpose of reinforcing the firm's technical abilities. Such aspects shall have to be reevaluated during the next surveillance audit/visit.

NC closed

NCP 6 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 9.1.1; 9.2.1 (SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – envisioned closure date: 30/01/07

The company did not clearly establish a process of consultation with principal stakeholders for the identification of the attributes consistent with HCVF.

Due to the presence of several endangered and protected species' it is not clear whether the attributes identified are sufficient to characterize the area and permit to elaborate specific management measures' according to FSC principle 9.

CA carried out: A meeting of the stakeholders has taken place to define the attributions of the HCVF. RTS ICILA was sent on 31/08/2007 a copy of the following documents:

- 1) List of Stakeholders invited to the meeting.
- 2) Copy Original of the Invitation letter.
- 3) Summary on the actions of the Forest Manager (GF) for the identification, the management and the follow-up of the drills of the Group of Certification SEFAC (GCS), as Drills with High Value of Conservations (FHVC) - 01.08.2007. Distributed on suspicion to all the guests with the meeting.
- 4) List of Stakeholders intervened to the meeting. It is available, upon request, the handwritten list with signature of tous the participants.
- 5) Final communique of the Workshop on the Drills with High Value of Conservation of Group SEFAC - Yaounde, Seat WWF-CARPO on August 28, 2007.
- 6) Summary on the actions of the Forest Manager (GF) for the identification, the management and the follow-up of the drills of the Group of Certification SEFAC (GCS), as Drills with High Value of Conservations (FHVC) - 28.08.2007. Revised on the basis of consideration leaving the meeting.

NC closed

NCS 7 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 6.7.1 (CERTIFICATION audit) – envisioned closure date: immediately

In the forest' there is need for special attention with regard to the storage of engine oils / fuel used on the work site (remark of a small flow of engine oil in FMUs 10 008 and 10 064 work sites)

CA carried out: oil and fuel deposits checked during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit/check.

NC closed during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit

NCS 8 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 7.2.1; 8.4.1 (CERTIFICATION audit) – envisioned closure date: 30/01/07 (procédure); Révision PA à l'échéance

Revision of management plan in the future revision of management plan preview every five years by law (Decision 222' Article 34 of May 25' 2001 on the elaboration of management plans) should be integrated and complemented with impact assessment studies (see in particular the FMU 10 064 near Lobeke park).

The impact assessment studies will form an integral part of the management plan. Needed for a specific procedure.

CA carried out: procedure was checked/verified during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit.

NC closed during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit

NCS 9 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 1.1.1 (CERTIFICATION audit) – envisioned closure date: 15/01/07
WWF Protocol:

There should be updating of the protocol between WWF and SEFAC group with a clear framework of the activities and officials concerned' with original signature' stamp (letter head)' date' duration and purpose of the convention.

CA carried out: actualisation of documents was verified during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit.

NC closed during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit.

NCS 10 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.1.2 (CERTIFICATION audit) – envisioned closure date: continual
Continue the work of raising awareness and support to local populations of each FMU (Mongokélé' Socambo' Kika' etc.)

CA carried out: actualisation of documents was verified during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit.

NC closed during the SUPPLEMENTARY audit.

NCP 11 – standard references COC: 5.1(SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – envisioned closure date: 30/09/07

Beyond the “abstract” training of some leader and chiefs of sector on the COC, the company has not define a Training program in the management of standard FSC-COC-40-004. It appears obvious that part of the personnel does not understand the COC, it thus appears necessary the definition of a Training program according to criteria 5.1 of this standard thus to meet the needs for formation of all categories of employees implied in the “Chain off Custody” of the company

Putting in place a training plan for workers in the management of the "Chain of Custody" is desired.

CA carried out: On 31/08/2007 RTS ICILA was sent the Training Plan for the COC of G.C.S.-10.08.2007 Plan and enforcement verified during COC surveillance.

NC closed

NCP 12 – standard references COC: 5.1(SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – envisioned closure date: 31/10/07
Putting in place a training plan for workers in the management of the "Chain of Custody" is desired.

Based on the Plan de Formation pour COC du G.C.S. - 10.08.2007, have been sent to RTS ICILA in date 19/10/2007, copy of the report of the formations carried out to staff SEFAC implied in COC (8 in total) beginning from the 06/10 to 17/10 2007.

CA carried out: verified that the training plan was carried out, during COC inspection visit.
NC closed

NCP 13 – standard references COC: 2.1.3 (SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – envisioned closure date: 31/10/07
The definition of group products do not take into account the potential of different species available for certified products by the company. It is necessary to define group products according to the criterion 2.1 of FSC-STD-40- 004.

AC attuata: Envoys to RTS ICILA in date 19/10/2007 1) Lists DES produits inclus dans contrôle de the Chain of Custody FSC” - Rev 1 du 10.08.07 2) “Procédures de contrôle pour the Chain of Custody (CoC)” - Rev 2 du 10.08.07 Performance verified in surveillance COC SEFAC.

NC closed

NCP 14 – standard references COC: 11.2; 16.6; 16.8 3 (SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – envisioned closure date: 31/10/07

The company has not developed procedures for labeling their FSC products.

The putting in place of such procedure is advised before the sell of all FSC products

CA carried out: RTS ICILA was sent on 19/10/2007 the « Procedure for the use of the FSC logo on the certified documents and products of GCS » - Rev 0 of 10.08. Procedure checked/verified during the COC surveillance visit.

NC closed

NCP 15 – standard references COC: 18.1. 3 (SUPPLEMENTARY audit) – envisioned closure date: 31/10/07

SEFAC group have not developed a register of sales between members of the group

CA carried out: 1) «Registre du suivi COC pour les ventes des produits certifiés entre les membres du GCS» sent to RTS ICILA on 19/10/2007 Verified during the COC surveillance visit/audit.

NC closed

EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT

With reference to non-conformities nos. n. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 the actions carried out allow for the recovery of full conformity with the applicable standards.

2.4.3.2 Evaluation carried out during the FOLLOW UP audit

ACTIONS CARRIED OUT BY the ORGANISATION for the TREATMENT of the NON-CONFORMITIES issued in the foregoing SURVEILLANCE audit – 10/08/2008

FOLLOW UP AUDIT REPORT issued on 22/12/2008

NCP 8 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.2.3 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

CA carried out: the Procedure on security and health during forest work and its sectors of activity was elaborated in conformity with the demands set forth by STD ICILA 2203 adapted for Cameroon.

The contents of the document are suitable for the company's context from both the territorial and the available resources viewpoints, a result achieved by getting involved specialised medical staff for the drawing up of the document.

What has been prepared on a documentary level (procedures, instructions, tables) appears to conform with the requirements of the ICILA2203 standard for Cameroon.

The materials bought by S/FB conform, and are adequate, as is also the distribution plan.

GVI reserves the right to verify the evidence of the distribution that has taken place, and to verify in the open the correct use of the DPI (verification of the efficaciousness of the training work carried out).

The handling and availability of the fire extinguishers - as attested to by the evidence verified, appears to conform with the requirements of the standard, and with Cameroon's legislative requirements.

The documentary evidence verified with regard to first aid kits, confirms the adequacy of what has been prepared with reference to the FSC requirement (4.2.3).

What has been prepared from a procedural viewpoint, appears to conform with the provisions of the ICILA 2203 standard; the verified registrations depict a situation which conforms as a whole from a procedural viewpoint.

Verify the application/enforcement during the next audit in the open

NCP 14 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 6.5.a.2 – period envisioned for the closure: 6 months

CA carried out: S/FB procedures foresee that, after the definition of the track/road itinerary, elaboration of cartography be carried out, while arranging for service road communications construction.

This activity is regulated through suitable procedure, where are indicated all the obligations to be carried out to ensure the opening of trails/paths and their specific sizes (S/FB base themselves on FAO data provided in the "Guide to weak impact forest exploitation", 2003). In charge of this activity is the body that manages the forest.

The cartography produced by the company is sent to the MINFOF for approval (pursuant to forest law no. 9401 dated 20/02/94, decree 222 of the MINEF).

A sample of documents prepared has been checked.

What is envisioned on a procedural level by S/FB conforms with the ICILA 2203 standard, and allows for compliance with applicable FSC requirements. The procedures perused are detailed, and allow for the carrying out of activities aimed at building and managing trails/roads conforming with the ICILA 2203 standard.

Verify application/enforcement in the next audit in the open

NCP 16 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 6.6.b.1 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

CA carried out: It is fitting that the Management of S/FB carry out a specific re-examination to verify the consequences of the policy pursued by the Company with regard to the non-use of specific chemical products, so as to evaluate the coherence of its own policy with the need to succeed in completing the activities within the deadlines/the terms established in the agreement with ANAFOR (production of small plants such as may allow for the reforestation of 50 ha/per annum), also in order to emphasise the motivations and methodologies that

brought to the definition of corrective actions of the plans initially defined, such as that of increasing the envisioned annual output of small plants.

Verify enforcement/application in the next audit in the open

NCP 18 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 7.4 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

CA carried out: The document perused during follow-up conforms with the STD Icila2203 adapted for Cameroon (Requirement 7.4).

GVI proposes to ICILA's Certification Committee closure of NCP no. 18.

NCP 26 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 7.3.5– period envisioned for closure: 3 months

CA carried out: The documents checked allow for an evaluation of conformity with the ICILA 2203 standard. Activation of contract revision work, and the structure of the plan, indicate suitable enforcement of the corrective action proposed by F/SB.

Verify enforcement/application in the next audit in the open

EVALUATION

- 1) With reference to non-conformity no.18, the actions carried out allow for recovery of full conformity with the applicable standards
- 2) With reference to non-conformities nos. 8, 14, 16, 26, the actions carried out allow for evaluation of the documentary conformity with applicable standards: full conformity shall have to be evaluated during the next audit in the open.

2.4.4 MAIN Non-Conformities ISSUED

2.4.4.1 1st SURVEILLANCE audit

NCP 8 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.2.3 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

The operational procedures do not cover the exigencies correctly health and of safety as stipulates in the Code of ILO on the health and the industrial safety out of drill. The safety practices are not in conformity with the Code of ILO on the health and the industrial safety out of drill:

- The chain saw machine hasn't a safety device ;
- The cutters do not wear the protective gloves adapt;
- The cutters do not carry the trousers of safety
- The cutters do not carry the boots of safety
- The supervisor of the operations do not carry the waistcoat of safety
- Expiry date of the extinguishers depassee
- The operators of the machines do not carry
- Teams have not medical case of help, in the same way teams of guarding
- No radio operator network for the teams working in forests since 06 months
- Capacity of evacuation in the event of urgency limitee.

CA carried out : primary nonconformity will be stopped by the Forest Manager within the 07.02.2009 with transmission to ICILA:

- Evaluation report of the occupational hazards
- Procedures of health and safety revised according to the standards of the international organization of work (ILO)
- Audit process and exit of the chain saw machines in forests integrated in the general procedure of acquisition and management of the material and equipment
- Procedure of evacuation of the victims revised
- Reports of the meetings of sensitizing of the forest workers on the use of the materials of protection
- Memorandum recalling the provisions of the Rules of procedure on the use of the material of protection
- Subcontract of revised guarding, with integration of the obligation of the subcontractor to place at the disposal of its employees in forest, of the cases of first aid.
- Procedure of equipment of the personnel building site in case of first aid integrated in the general procedure of acquisition and management of the material and equipment
- Card of discharge of the medical cases of help by the foremen
- Card of discharge of the material of communications (radio, turaya, etc) by the Building site Chiefs
- Parts proving to it not time limitation of extinguishers

The listener of Icila will be able to check the conformity of the application on the ground on occasion of the audit of monitoring for certification FSC of the G.C.S.

NCP 14 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 6.5.a.2 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

The planning of the operations of exploitation is not detailed in a precise way:

- The tracks of unloading did not appear on the charts;
- Informations on the charts are not precise

The construction of the roads and the bridges is not planned in order to protect the grounds and the rivers.

The ground close to the rivers is utilised for the construction of the bridges; The bridges and the culverts are mouths by the laterite. Route destroyed by the passage of the trucks which transport logs when rained.

Two of the 40 parks visited have a higher surface that defined in the procedures.

CA carried out: the Forest Manager will close primary nonconformity by the 07.02.2009 with transmission to ICILA:

- Cybertracker charts of the annual plates of cut currently in inventory on behalf of 2009 in which will arise the principal and secondary highway networks, the straps and the tracks of unloading
- Procedure of construction of the roads revised on the basis of standard prescribed by FAO
- Memorandum prohibiting with the trucks and other machines to circulate in the forest yard when it rained With regard to the construction of the bridges, the G.F will take care that the roads are built in accordance with the standards of intervention in forest medium. Measurements are taken for the respect of dimension contained in the procedure of exploitation to weak impact (maximum 1200 m²) The Forest Manager of the GCS commits himself continuing his efforts, in the field of the cartography; in particular on the charts used by the supervisors and the workmen forest on the ground. The listener of Icila will be able to check the conformity of works on the ground on occasion of the audit of monitoring for certification FSC of the G.C.S.

NCP 16 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 6.6.b.1 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

The chemicals prohibited by the FSC are utilised in the seedbed installed by the ANAFOR without the responsible of SEFAC being formless.

CA carried out: Declaration from ANAFOR nursery worker that 100 ml of chemical pesticide was used once, on the 7th of June. Chemical pesticide removed from the FMU.

Fermé 06.08.2008

NCP 18 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 7.4 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

The public summary of the plans of forestry management is not in conformity with the exigencies of the standard.

CA carried out: secondary nonconformity will be closed by 07.08.2009 by the GF which will have to include in the current public summary the aims of forest management.

NCP 26 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 7.3.5 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

The company does not keep under its control the activities of the thirds in its certified FMU and does not manage to secure only the subcontractors and other institutions which take part in these FMU are conscious and satisfying with the requirements of the standard of certification FSC in the fields of their activities and responsibilities. The proof: the use by the ANAFOR of the pesticides prohibited by the FSC under the seedbed of the SEFAC, the bad work conditions of the employees of the company of guarding.

CA carried out: S/FB's General manager's office, answering the indicated NC, instituted, starting on 01/01/2009, a Commission for the Revision of the contracts of all of its services providers.

2.4.5 SECONDARY Non-Conformities ISSUED

2.4.5.1 1ST SURVEILLANCE AUDIT

NCS 1 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 1.1.2 – period envisioned for closure: 12 months

Landings are not successfully replanted as required by company procedures and the management plan.

CA carried out: the secondary nonconformity of the check list 1.1.2 will be closed by the Forest Manager, by the 07/08/2009, with transmission to ICILA of the plan of forestation of the FMU of the group of certification SEFAC in which arise the parks to reforestation according to the progressive order of the production of the seedlings. A report of level of progress of the work on the ground will be also transmitted. The listeners of Icila will be able to check the conformity of works on the ground on occasion of the audit of monitoring for certification FSC of the G.C.S.

NCS 2 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 2.2.2 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

The Comite Paysan Foret (CPF) has started to work informally, but they are not yet fully functional in order to ensure the development of a platform. Draft rules and statutes are not yet available. An agreement between the company and CPF is not yet available. Financing of the CPFs was not yet clarified.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager, by

the 07/02/2009, with transmission to ICILA:

- statute and rules of procedure of all the country committees forests bordering with the FMU of the group of certification SEFAC

- the Conventions of collaboration validated by all the recipients in which the funding sources of the CPF will arise

NCS 3 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 2.2.3 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

General/overall procedure for communicating with local population not available in order to coordinate the various initiatives that are ongoing.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager, by the 07/02/2009, with transmission to ICILA of a procedure of communication with the various social groups.

NCS 4 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 3.1.5 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

An operational plan of action aimed at implementing the agreement with Bakas, and maintain the consultation and information process while responding to standard requirements is not available.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager, by the 07/02/2009, with transmission to ICILA of a transitory action plan while waiting for the development of the social document of strategy of the group of certification SEFAC in which a final action plan screw in opinion of the BAKA would arise. The listeners of Icila will be able to check the conformity of the application of the final action plan on occasion of the audit of monitoring for certification FSC of the G.C.S.

NCS 5 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 3.3.3 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

Methodology for identifying resource areas and results not validated through feedback from the Baka community.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager, by the 07/02/2009 with the transmission to ICILA of the report of restitution/validation of the procedure of identification and management of spaces Baka resource accompanied by the statements and charts attested by the recipients

NCS 6 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 3.3.2 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

Procedures not showing that harvesting teams are informed and trained about Baka resource areas and related protective measures.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager at the same time as preceding nonconformity (07/02/2009), since these details will be included in the procedure of identification and management of spaces resource to be validated. Moreover, a plan of information and training of the forest working groups on the recognition and the management of spaces resources will be transmitted to ICILA by always the 07/02/2009.

NCS 7 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.4.1 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

The existing socio-economic impacts studies are not complemented by a social action plan.

A social strategy, based on the results of the social impact study and the social action plan has not been elaborated.

CA carried out: secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager by the presentation to ICILA, by the 07.02.2009, of the Social Plan of Management of the Group of Certification SEFAC. The listeners of Icila will be able to check the conformity of works on the ground on occasion of the audit of monitoring for certification FSC of the G.C.S.

NCP 8 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.2.3 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

Although a risk monitoring system has been established, no risk assessment has been conducted.

Operational procedures do not cover health and safety requirements correctly, as stipulated in the ILO Code "Safety and Health in Forestry Work".

Safety practices do not comply with the ILO Code "Safety and Health in Forestry Work":

- Chain catcher on chain saw missing
- Chainsaw operator not wearing appropriate gloves.
- Chainsaw operators not wearing safety trousers
- Chainsaw operators not wearing steel-capped boots
- Management entering operational area without high visibility vest
- Fire extinguisher on machine expired
- Operator on machine not wearing ear protection
- No first aid kit at harvesting team and security guard control point
- Harvesting team without radio for 6 months. Limited capacity for urgent evacuation in case it is needed

NCS 9 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.2.5 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

Living conditions of the security contractors' workers are not compliant with the ...the ILO Code "Health and Safety in Forestry work". Housing conditions in camp A, (around 20 houses) poor, below the level of the requirements of national legislation, and not compliant with the ILO Code "Health and safety in forestry work".

- leaking roofs,
- toilets
- wood damaged by insects

Fish sold in the economat extension not permanently frozen.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the direction of the group of certification at the time of the next audit of monitoring by:

- Presentation of the subcontracts revised in accordance with the requirements of ILO as regards health and safety and the obviousness of their application
- Obviousness of the repair of the houses of its workers
- Obviousness of the continuous provisioning of electricity of the stewardships

NCS 10 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.2.6 – period envisioned for closure: 12 months

Harvesting supervisor is responsible for re-training chain-saw operators without being appropriately qualified.
Staff responsible for first aid not properly trained.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager by the 07.08.2009 with transmission to ICILA:

- certificate of training of the person in charge of the trainings of the forests teams on the coal-getting techniques to weak impact.
- certificates of training of the first-aid workers and the report of their recycling

NCS 11 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.2.8 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

No appropriate policy relating to Labor issues, as required by the standard.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by head office SEFAC by the 07.02.2009 with transmission to ICILA of the policy of recruitment and worker salary of the group.

NCS 12– ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.3.4 12 months

Security contractor's workers not aware of the existence of contracts, even if these were available in the company's office.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the head office by the 07.08.2009 with transmission to ICILA of the contract of under treating revised in which, it arises the obligation for those clearly to give to their workers a treatment in conformity to the standards of the national and international legislation of work. The Forest Manager of Group of Certification Sefac will organize meetings in which the workers of the company of the subcontractors will be informed of the existence and the contents of their work contracts.

NCS 15 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 6.6.a.1 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

No procedure for the use of chemical pesticides.

-Chemical pesticide used in nursery in the absence of a procedure.

CA carried out: Letter sent to ANAFOR indicating that pesticides cannot be used in the nursery.

Closure 06.08.2008.

NCS 17 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 6.7.1 – period envisioned for closure: 3 months

Fuel and lubricants storage and handling do not comply with standard requirements.

-Open containers with old oil

-Oil spills not cleaned immediately after occurrence.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the G.F by the 08.11.08 with transmission to ICILA:

- procedure of use and management of the lubricants and waste.

- memorandum ordering the scouring of the oil grounds mottled in the building sites for possible recycling.

The Forest Manager will control the application on the field known as procedures

NCS 19 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 8.2.d – period envisioned for closure: 12 months

The company is not efficient in supervising and validating results of external social and environmental monitoring and in evaluating the tools used for external monitoring in order to ensure that they respond to standard requirements.

CA carried out : secondary nonconformity will be closed by the Forest Manager by the 07.08.2009 with transmission to ICILA of the procedure of analysis of the results of environmental and social monitoring. The listeners of Icila will be able to check the conformity of works on the ground on occasion of the audit of monitoring for certification FSC of the G.C.S.

NCS 20 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 1.5.1 – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

The company does not conduct a comprehensive monitoring of illegal activities on the territory of the 4 FMUs that are part of the group.

CA carried out : This secondary nonconformity will be closed by the 07.02.2009 with transmission to ICILA:

- Of a document recapitulating all the actions carried out by the GCS up to now in the direction of the fight against the illegal activities of exploitation in its FMU

- Of a document of strategy of monitoring of the illegal activities in the FMU of the Group

NCS 21 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 9.3.1 – period envisioned for closure: 12 months

Some of the identified management measures aimed at protecting high conservation attributes are not implemented.

CA carried out : This secondary nonconformity will be closed by the 07.02.2009 with transmission to ICILA: - Of a document recapitulating all the actions carried out by the GCS up to now in the direction of the fight against the illegal activities of exploitation in its UFA - Of a document of strategy of monitoring of the illegal activities in the FMU of the Group

NCS 25 – ICILA 2203 standard references: 9.4.1 – period envisioned for closure: 12 months

The company has not developed and implemented a monitoring program and strategy aimed at the conservation of High Conservation Value Forests

CA carried out : A strategy of research and follow-up of the HVC will be elaborated and visible for next audit of surveillance.

NCS 27 ICILA 2203 standard references: 4.2.2 – – period envisioned for closure: 6 months

CA carried out: The work contracts of the employees of 7th to the 12th category are not in conformity with the labor regulation in force in Cameroun. No knowledge in department of the Personnel.

2.5 Decisions of the Deliberation Committee

- Date of the Deliberation Committee 20/09/2007
- Result of the evaluation

The inspection could appreciate all the efforts made by SEFAC for an effective course of work. She noticed a strong motivation and will to continue certification FSC through the obviousnesses of progress and improvements carried out since February 2006. Therefore, the Committee of Deliberation of ICILA, rough the evaluation of the report, the Plan of the Corrective action and rough it how of Peer-reviews, decided delivered Certificate for SEFAC - Certification Group. The first visit of monitoring will be programmed for July 2008. The management system set up is able to ensure that the whole of the requirements of the applicable standard is respected on the whole of the forest covered by the scope of the certificate. The holder of certificate with as shown, as, rough the resolution of the raised Corrective actions, the management system is implemented in a systematic way on the unit of the forest covered by the scope of the certificate.

- The organisation is:
CERTIFIED
- Date of issue of the Certificate 20/09/2007
- Date of expiry of the Certificate 19/09/2012

2.5.1 1st SURVEILLANCE audit

- Date of the Deliberation Committee 09/10/2008
- Outcome of the assessment/evaluation

The Deliberation Committee has evaluated the results of the audit and the corrective action plans submitted by the certified organisation, while noticing the critical situation generated by the considerable number of non-conformities, even if many of the same have been classified as NCSs (secondary non-conformities).

With regard to the handling of NCPs (main non-conformities) nos. 15 and n. 16, concerning the use of pesticides in the agricultural zone of the nursery for the production of little plants for reforestation purposes, the Deliberation Committee wishes to point out an anomaly in the praxis followed, since ICILA procedures

do not allow for the closure of non-conformities during the audit: such a practice does not allow the Committee to carry out its own right to demanding deepening and/or to modifying the classification of non-conformities. In the ambit of documented evidence, the Deliberation Committee does not have any specific evidence that may allow for the formulation of a further non-conformity on the specific aspect. As far as this is concerned, what is possible in terms of evaluation of the conformity of the enforcement of the management system has already been notified by emitting non-conformity no. 26, added by the Technical Committee to the results of the audit submitted by the audit group.

What is expressed in terms of evidence (type, description, number) - in the documents that attest in a formal manner the results of the audit- doesn't allow for the Deliberation Committee to evaluate if the shortcomings identified by the Audit group during the 1st surveillance audit on the forest management system and notified to the certified organisation be circumstanced to specific ambits of application/enforcement of the system (the sampled ones) or be evidence of widespread, systematic shortcomings. The Deliberation Committee has therefore decided to carry out a Follow Up verification within 3 (three) months for a first verification of the state of implementation of the plans for corrective actions relative the NCPs notified. The chairman of the Deliberation Committee has recommended to envision the presence of a member of the Committee during one of the next audits in the open.

a) POSITIVE ELEMENTS

- a) Commitment of the company in increasing the resources provided for the handling and the enforcement of the forest management system

b) CRITICALITIES

- a) presence of a high number of non-conformities, even if not main ones, spread in various ambits of enforcement of the system.

- The CERTIFICATION of the organisation is:

CONFIRMED with request for a supplementary FOLLOW UP audit

2.5.2 FOLLOW UP Audit

- Date of the Deliberation Committee 09/02/2009
- Outcome of the evaluation

The Deliberation Committee acknowledges the positive evaluation of the enforcement of the documentary part of the corrective action plans, and demands the planning of the second part of the follow up, to be carried out in the open. Given the specific logistical features of the certified organisation, the Deliberation Committee suggests to carry out said stage of the follow up in concomitance with the next surveillance audit/verification.

a) POSITIVE ELEMENTS

- a) prompt activation of the proposed corrective action plans

b) CRITICALITIES

- a) High number and complexity of the corrective actions to be carried out

- The CERTIFICATION of the organisation is:

CONFIRMED with ruling of the Deliberation Committee to carry out the 2nd stage of the FOLLOW UP audit, to verify in the open the completion of the efficacious enforcement of the corrective actions, with planning coordinated at the next surveillance verification/audit.