

31<sup>st</sup> March 2012

**Chief TAMBE John BITA**  
**Traditional Ruler of EBANGA**

(E-mail: btambe2002@yahoo.co.uk)

**EBANGA Village**

3<sup>rd</sup> Class Chiefdom

NGUTI Sub-Division

Kupe-Muanenguba Division

South-West Region

TO:

**DIVISIONAL OFFICER**

**(NGUTI Sub-Division)**

**Subject: Widespread invasion of EBANGA Village  
Farmlands by SG-SOC's Technical  
Personnel, following instructions from  
the Chief of TALANGAYE Village.**

Mr. Divisional Officer,

I wish to draw your attention to the very provoking phenomenon of the widespread and abusive invasion of EBANGA Village Farmlands and Sacred Sites by the Technical Personnel of SG Sustainable Oils Cameroon Ltd (SG-SOC), following instructions from the Chief of TALANGAYE Village.

In effect, by Presidential Decree NO. 67/DF/231 of 26<sup>th</sup> May 1967, creating NGUTI Sub-Division, EBANGA shares territorial boundaries with TALANGAYE.

I wish to state here in good faith that the Peace-loving people of EBANGA, since the time of our great Fore-fathers, have had only one boundary dispute requiring "Land Demarcation" with TALANGAYE Village. This occurred just recently in the year 2004 when the Timber Company "Transformation REEF Company (TRC)" encroached into our forest, logging our timber whereas EBANGA was not included in their concession.

Letter NO. 92/LG42.02/J6/5 of 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2004 from your Office and signed by your Predecessor on the Subject-matter "Demarcation of Village Boundary" actually kick-started the peaceful demarcation exercise carried out by the King-makers and Notables of both villages, whose population have co-habited peacefully for hundreds of years.

Concerning the recent problems caused by SG Sustainable Oils Cameroon Ltd (SG-SOC), the enlarged Traditional Council Meeting of EBANGA Chiefdom held on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2012 at EBANGA Village, had the following points to illuminate:

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2011, EBANGA Village received a letter from SG Sustainable Oils Cameroon Ltd (SG-SOC) in which they proposed the "Joint Demarcation of Farmlands". The personnel of SG-SOC failed to show up. Again, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2011, EBANGA Village received a second letter from SG-SOC bearing on the same subject-matter and specifying that:

*"We regret that we could not carry out the demarcation exercise as planned. We are now ready to start this process exercise. For it to be carried out smoothly, we kindly request that you select a number of able bodies and knowledgeable men and women in your village who will work with the SG-SOC's technical team to demarcate areas of current farmlands and buffer zones for future village use and sacred sites. The marked out areas will not be used by the company."*

Mr. Divisional Officer, I wish to clearly state here that, up till now, we the Peace-loving people of EBANGA, are still waiting for the meeting with the technical team of SG-SOC, so that the said demarcation exercise could begin in our village. So far, SG-SOC has never held any meeting in EBANGA Village.

However, to our greatest dismay, while we are still patiently waiting, **Survey-lines** and **Beacons** have already been planted in our "Farmlands and Backyards" by the technical team of SG-SOC, with the following implications:

- ❖ a very clear indication that these farms shall be seized, hence creating future land scarcity in the village;
- ❖ also, the closeness of these Survey-lines to the village of EBANGA means that **Buffer Zones** for future village development and expansion shall not be allocated;
- ❖ the engulfment of the **Catchment Areas** of our village water supply system (*which actually supplies three villages: EBANGA, MANYEMEN & BETOCK*) is a serious cause for concern as **Water pollution** may ensue, leading to a high vulnerability of water-borne diseases for three village agglomerations, and in a more solemn note, the eventual destruction of these **Catchment Areas**.

In reality, the valuable Farmlands that our Fore-fathers left behind were meant to be managed sustainably and rationally by the Guardian Family Heads, under the supervision of the Traditional Ruler of the village, for the benefit of both the present and the future Generations of our Ancestors, and intended to guarantee the sustainability of their cherished Off-springs.

Mr. Divisional Officer, it should be noted that EBANGA Village has been quite generous in terms of allocation of land for "Forest Reserves". In this light, there is the NGUTI Council Forest, the Buffer Zone of the KORUP National Park, and the REPA-CIG Community Forest. All these three exploit land from EBANGA Village and there is certainly no doubt that the remaining land has become limited with respect to the needs of the future generations. No wonder SG-SOC is already interfering with "Farmlands and Backyards" at EBANGA, at the detriment of the local population.

Sir, this widespread, abusive and provocative invasion of EBANGA Village Farmlands and Sacred Sites by the Technical Personnel of SG-SOC, following instructions from the Chief of TALANGAYE Village, certainly requires your PROMPT and URGENT intervention. If not, I am afraid that this uncontrolled State of affairs may degenerate into a situation whereby the much valued long-lasting Peace and Tranquillity that has so far reigned from time immemorial within this traditional jurisdiction shall be unavoidably jeopardised in no distant future.

**ENCLOSURES:**

- Decree NO. 67/DF/231 of 26<sup>th</sup> May 1967 creating NGUTI Sub-Division;
- Letter: Demarcation of Village Boundary by Chief of TALANGAYE;
- Letter: RE: Demarcation of Village Boundary by Chief of EBANGA;
- 02 Maps of the area of jurisdiction;
- Letter: Joint Demarcation of Farmlands by SG-SOC.

**CC:**

- Prime Minister/Head of Government;
- Minister of Territorial Administration & Decentralisation;
- Governor/SWR;
- SDO/Kupe-Muanenguba;
- Chief of Post, Public Security - NGUTI;
- Managing Director, SG-SOC - LIMBE;
- TALANGAYE Traditional Council;
- EBANGA Traditional Council. ✓

**THE TRADITIONAL RULER OF EBANGA**



**HRH Chief TAMBE John BITA**  
Civil Engineer / Environmentalist