

**A SPEECH PRESENTED BY THE TRADITIONAL RULER OF EBANGA  
VILLAGE, DURING THE VISIT OF THE SENIOR DIVISIONAL OFFICER FOR  
KUPE -MUANENGUBA ON THE 14<sup>th</sup> OF AUGUST 2012**



The SDO for KUPE-MUANENGUBA & his entourage,  
The DO of NGUTI Sub-Division & his entourage,  
Traditional Rulers,  
Notables and Councillors,  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

I stand here on behalf of the noble people of EBANGA Village to say WELCOME to the Senior Divisional Officer for KUPE-MUANENGUBA and his entire enlarged entourage.

Mr. Senior Divisional Officer, we the population of EBANGA Village want to thank the Government, through your high Office, for coming personally at last to our Chiefdom to **supervise the removal of Beacons wrongly planted by SG-SOC's surveyors in the villages of EBANGA, TALANGAYE and MANYEMEN in NGUTI Sub-Division**, following our Protest Letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012. This great symbolic gesture on your part will certainly go a long way to re-assure the Peace-loving people of EBANGA Village that their Ancestral Land shall not be confiscated by force.

Permit me, at this juncture, to state just **a few significant pre-occupying worries** of my people:

- i. When we say **"99 years renewable"** without stating any upper limit, we are actually saying that the **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** signed with the Government can be renewed more than once. If it is renewed a minimum of 2 times, then we are talking of a period of **297 years**. What if the MOU is renewed 9 times? Then that makes it a period of **990 years**, in fact, **up to 21 years above the age of Biblical METHUSELAH**. We believe that these figures strongly speak out for themselves.
- ii. Mr. Senior Divisional Officer, this is a true saying: "The richest people in Europe and America are mostly FARMERS, while the poorest people in AFRICA are mostly FARMERS". What a paradox! **Our question is: Can our local Farmers not also become one of the richest classes of people in the next century following the modern trend of globalisation?** This, in fact, is our common vision and also the dream of our departed Forefathers.

What then is THE WAY FORWARD? Mr. SDO, below are **some useful suggestions** to be studied carefully:

- i. **Joint Demarcation of village boundaries:** SG-SOC's Survey team can help in the materialisation of these boundaries using the GPS and Cartographic software like Map Source.
- ii. **Buffer Zones:** Buffer Zones for future village development and expansion shall then be carved out conjointly from the geographical location maps so created.
- iii. **Out-growers' Scheme:** This is the most cherished alternative of our local farmers and needs to be encouraged in a Win-Win relationship.

- iv. **Write out a Binding Convention:** Before the exploitation of our ancestral land can be fully accepted, we must first of all sit down together on a table and **draft a Binding Convention between the people of EBANGA Village and the management of SG-SOC.** The final document has to be signed conjointly by both parties. After that, traditional libation rites shall then be carried out to inform and appease our Ancestors of the developments going on in the village.

Mr. Senior Divisional Officer, may the Almighty God guide us in our **Thinking**, in our **Speaking** & in our **Actions**, as we proceed, and may He also grant you all **Travelling Mercies** as you journey back to your various destinations to meet with your beloved Family members and Friends.

**Long Live EBANGA Village,**  
**Long Live NGUTI SUB-DIVISION,**  
**Long Live the Republic of CAMEROON.**



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