



REPORT ON

**THE EC FOREST PLATFORM
STRATEGIC SEMINAR ON**

***ILLEGAL FOREST
EXPLOITATION AND THE ROLE
OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY***

**ORGANISED BY THE CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
(CED) AND FERN
FROM THE 6TH TO THE 8TH OF DECEMBER 2004
AT THE CENTER FOR THE REHABILITATED BLIND IN AFRICA (CJARC)
YAOUNDE.**

Within the EC Forest Platform and in pursuit of its campaign to combat illegal forest logging, the Center for Environment and Development, CED and FERN organized between the 6th to 8th of December at the Rehabilitated Blind People Center in Yaounde a strategic seminar on Illegal Logging and Civil Society. This seminar brought together a score of both national and international civil society organizations ranging from environmentally based NGOs to health NGOs, all with a stake in protecting the forest and the environment. It also saw the participation of other civil society actors such as Academics and other independent personalities. This spectrum of participants could be explained with the sensitive theme of the seminar. The rate of forest deforestation in Cameroon and other timber producing countries have been very alarming and this has warranted an international outcry and the emergence of a global coalition by both Northern and southern NGOs to fight against deforestation and illegally logged timber imported by the industrial countries, especially the EU member countries. Apart from national based civil society organizations there was a remarkable presence of an Indonesia NGO, Telapak and FERN, an EU based NGO. For three days participants exchanged experiences on how best to combat illegal logging and how CSOs could be involved in monitoring and controlling global threat. Apart from the experience exchange by participants, the seminar was marked with some remarkable presentations by some imminent civil society resource persons. The seminar also took a critical insight into the EU Development Aid destined for developing countries through instruments like the Cotonou Agreement and the Country Strategic Papers for non-ACP countries.

Welcoming participants to the Seminar, the EC Forest Platform Coordinator for Cameroon, Emmanuel Kam Yogo stressed the importance of the seminar and that he hoped at the end of the three days participants will be better equipped in monitoring illegal logging and EU sponsored projects in their various areas of interventions.

The first presentation of the day was on the European Union initiative to combat illegally logged timber from being imported into EU member countries. The **EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT)** initiative was presented by Iola Leal Riesco of FERN Brussels. In her presentation she highlighted some very pertinent issues that were at the fore of this initiative. With the high level of deforestation in timber producing countries and the high rate of illegally logged timber being imported into the industrialized countries, the G8 Foreign Ministers in the 1998 Summit realized this as an international problem that needs to be redressed. In April 2002, the EC hosted an international workshop to discuss how the EU should combat illegal logging. At the second World Earth Conference on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in September 2002, the EC set out a strong commitment to combat illegal logging and the associated trade in illegally harvested timber. Against this background, the EC adopted in May 2003 the Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade Action Plan or FLEGT. She presented the three main axes of the Action Plan which include;

- Support for improved governance and capacity building in timber producing countries;
- Development of Voluntary Partnership Agreements with timber producing countries to prevent illegally produced timber from entering the EU market;
- Efforts to reduce the EU's consumption of illegally harvested timber and discourage investments by EU institutions that may encourage illegal logging.

On Governance, she reiterated EU's intention to develop a reliable verification system that will distinguish legal timber from illegally logged timber, encourage transparency through the provision of accurate information on forests ownership, condition and legislation. It also aim at building the capacity of government agencies and other institutions to enforce existing legislation implement governance reforms and deal with the complex issues related to illegal logging. Due to

EU's position as an important consumer of timber from areas where illegal logging is a serious problem there was an urgent need therefore to redress this through an initiative as FLEGT. The initiative therefore aimed to curb illegal logging in timber producing countries. FLEGT therefore is to set up a regulatory scheme through voluntary licensing to control illegally sourced timber and voluntary partnership agreements, however for now this scheme is effective in Ghana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malaysia, Indonesia and Gabon. Cameroon has not signed this agreement yet with the EU. She made mentioned that the total cost of the pilot phase of this initiative is supported solely by the EU member countries. The proposed Action Plan has to encourage member states to implement public procurement policies and support the private sector in adopting policies that exclude illegal timber from their supply chains. Generally the Action Plan of FLEGT according to Iola Leal Riesco aims therefore to establish a base from which to progress to sustainability especially in countries and regions with the most destructive and damaging forestry practices. This Action Plan will therefore help to foster the existing economic and political partnership existing between the EU and timber producing countries. While the aspect of legality is not the main issue at stake, the EC is committed to promote sustainable forest management as the more long term goal of policy in the forest sector.

At the end of her presentation, participants all expressed their satisfaction. The greatest worry to most was the concept of free trade as proposed by the World Trade Organization. In response, she made it clear that the Action Plan is compatible with WTO rules and that those countries are free to enter into the voluntary partnership agreements and therefore it is doubtful how such a country will then go to the WTO and mount a challenge. Conclusively, from the above it is unlikely that any other country will bring a WTO challenge.

The afternoon session focused on the **role of the civil society organization to combat illegally sourced timber**. This session was marked with a brilliant presentation from Madam NGIDJOL Marie Michele of Cameroon Ecology. Her presentation was divided into five sections. She gave the institutional framework of forest exploitation. The 1994 Forestry Law and its 1995 decree of Application were all enacted to preserve both Cameroon's forest and wildlife for the benefit of its economy and environment. At the Ministry of Environment and Forest, there is an institutional framework that aim to fight against illegal exploitation. At the central level there is the Central Control Unit and the Provincial Control Brigades at the provincial level. These two control dimensions aim at a coordinated check of forest exploitation in respect of the law and in case of any default noticed they can a institute prosecution procedure against any exploiter who illegally exploit the forest. To control and check illegal exploitation is an independent observatory, Global Witness. She remarked that despite all these check and control mechanisms put in place by the government there have been some numerous loopholes like the non respect of the joint field missions programmed, the non disclosure of the reports of the Central Control Unit to the Independent Observatory and the difficulty in accessing control mission reports by the independent observatory. She further gave a practical experience of her organization in monitoring and combating illegal exploitation. She reiterated that CSO have a vital role in surviving Cameroon's remaining forest against dangers poised by illegal forest exploitation.

Her experience was on an illegal logging in the CF of Boomabong/Poutndjock. She started by giving a presentation of this community forest which is located in the Edea sub-division. The process for the creation of the community forest began in 2002 following the fusion of the two villages to create a unique community forest.. She presented the procedure they undertook to bring these two villages together and the creation of the legal entity that was supposed to manage the forest upon attribution. However, before attribution with the assistance of the Chief of Forest of Makondo, an illegal exploiter entered the forest area. This was also in complicity with a member of the community who presented himself as the village chief. The illegal exploitation

became in January 2004 after the community has been awarded reservation of the forest. Once Cameroon Ecology was notified of this incident, they immediately reported the incident to both the local administrative and forestry authorities and MINEF. She gave an insight of the exploiter's means to corrupt the community so as to continue its illegal activity. Despite numerous complaints made to the local administrative and forestry authorities by Cameroon Ecology which has been working with the communities in the community forest procedure, nothing was done to stop the activities of the exploiter. There was an increasing tension between the community members and the exploiter. Against the backdrop of this tension, Cameroon Ecology sent a team to the field that met the major stakeholders in this conflict; the community; the exploiter and the village proclaimed chief. After this broad based consultation meeting, the exploiter vehemently declared of not being aware of the existence of any community forest application for the said forest deposited by Cameroon Ecology in the Ministry of Environment and Forest. With this declaration, the community which until now has been very much involved became discouraged and wanted a clarification of their position vis a vis the forest.

Despite the strides made by Cameroon Ecology to retrieve the Reservation Letter from the MINEF, their efforts seem futile. After several field trips by a team dispatched by Cam Eco, several official correspondences were addressed to the Prefect, local MINEF authorities, the Sub Prefect, the Mayor of Edea, the Central Control Unit, the International Cooperation missions in Cameroon and the independent observatory in Cameroon, Global Witness and other organizations that may have a leverage on the situation. After a workshop organized by Global Witness in April 2004 in Mbalmayo, they had an opportunity to present the real field situation to all participants. After this by May 5th 2004, they received a certified copy of the letter of reservation. Upon reception of this letter, Cam Eco sent a copy of the letters to the following; the management committee of the forest, the prefect, the sub prefect, the divisional delegate of Environment and Forestry and to the Exploiter who until now has been illegally exploiting the forest.

She went ahead to outline the role played by the various actors; the community members who through the community forest management organ did everything to defend their rights over the forest, the local administration who gave an order for all exploitation in the forest to be brought to a stop and Cameroon Ecology that was the support organization to the communities. With the support of all these actors, they were able to bring to a halt an activity that was impacting both the local communities and the forest biodiversity. She further gave the different forms of illegal exploitation that were very recurrent in Cameroon. Conclusively she reiterated the vital role of the civil society. Together with other actors they have to get involved in the monitoring and control of forest exploitation and that though their role is limited, they can effectively lobby for a more sustainable forest management. She also gave some of those things that disfavor any effective civil society participation in the monitoring and control of illegal forest exploitation such as the ill treatment of information sent by local NGOs to local authorities, the inaccessibility of NGOs to documents of both the government and the industrial exploiters, and the financial handicap of most NGOs to put in place any effective control and monitoring mechanism.

Once she concluded her presentation, most participants responded with questions and personal experiences. Dr. Ahanda of SERDEV wanted to know whether the civil society organizations were really equipped to assume the role of forest independent observatory as advocated by Mme Nicole in her presentation. In answer to this question, she affirmatively said civil society could assume this role and that the monitoring and control of illegal exploitation is not a *stricto sensu* issue. For any effective control, the CSO should do everything to associate the local communities who are victims of illegal exploitation. She remarked that bureaucratic

bottlenecks are largely responsible for the ineffective fight against illegal exploitation. On the case study presented, the question was on whether after the illegal exploitation was halted, there was another forest inventory carried out by Cameroon Ecology on behalf of the community. She responded, once they noticed that illegal forest exploitation was going on in the forest they stopped the inventory and only after receiving the reservation letter did they carry out a comprehensive forest inventory.

Patrice Bigombe presented a paper on the **impact of illegal forest exploitation on both the local and indigenous population**. He started by defining the concept of local and indigenous population in the present context of forest exploitation. He reiterated that generally forest exploitation fails to integrate social considerations as to benefit the local and indigenous population. Taking the example of the pygmies in the forest region of center south and east provinces, forest exploitation deprives these people of their lively hood. In most cases the local population enters into conflict with the exploiter over access to the forest resources. He further remarked that the annual forest fees paid by exploiters to the State, the supposed 10% to be used by the communities around the forest concession is scarcely made available to them. The money is managed by the Mayor and there is a lack of any efficient accountability mechanism. He therefore suggested that for any meaningful benefit to the local community who are deprived of their livelihood, the money should be put in a special account controlled by them. This he believed will have a very positive impact than what presently is obtained. He mentioned also the role village elites play in exploiting with impunity the forest to the disadvantage of the local population. He remarked that the increasing involvement of the elites especially through community forest is viewed as an opportunity to enrich themselves. However ten years after Cameroon adopted its new Forest Law, little has changed at the level of those timber producing communities. He gave the example of Lomie and Mindourou; two communities in the east province. To redress this problem, participants called for intense lobbying and advocacy both within the EU and the USA. Multinationals should endeavor to factor in social considerations into their forest activities so as to benefit the local populations.

The second day of the seminar was marked with two important presentations; the merits and demerits of the implication of civil society in the European Union Cooperation, and a workshop on how to identify illegal exploitation and what exactly to do with such information discovered.

Dr. Ruben BALOCK presented a paper on the **implication of the Civil Society Organizations in the developmental issues of the European Union-ACP Cooperation**. In defining the civil society he focused on the EU-ACP Cotonou Agreement. This Agreement signed in 2000 regarded civil society organizations as non-state actors within the framework of the Agreement. He pointed out that the involvement of the civil society as a principal actor in the realization of the legal instruments of the EU Cooperation is a move on the right direction and recognition of its importance. He however remarked the implication of the civil society within the policy of the European Union according to Title 20 of the Treaty establishing the European Community is implied. The EC Development Aid Policy according to Article 177(1) aim at the following;

- economic and sustainable development of less developed countries
- a progressive integration of these countries into the global economy
- eradication of poverty in these countries.

He gave the general framework of EU-ACP Cooperation. He gave a background to EU-ACP cooperation which is based on several development cooperation agreements signed between them since 1960. All these cooperation efforts culminated in the Cotonou Agreement signed on June 23rd 2000. The objective of the Cotonou Agreement like all previous EU-ACP Agreements

is focused on the eradication of poverty and the integration of ACP countries into the global economy. He stated that a strong development pillar of the Cotonou Agreement is the principle of participation. This principle call for the involvement of all major stakeholders apart in its implementation. The civil society is considered as a non state actor. The consideration of the composition of a civil society depends largely on the context of each particular country. He remarked that for any effective contribution of the CSO to the development aspect of the Cooperation, there is a real need to build the capacity of these organizations. In recognition of the vital role of the civil society, in 2002, the EU addressed a communiqué to both the EU Parliament and the European Commission on a more effective involvement of the civil society.

He gave the particular framework of the EU-Cameroon Cooperation. He cited that Cameroon is one of those countries considered by the EC as a good example where the principle of participation is very much exercised in the implementation of the Cooperation Accords. He gave the participation of the non-state actors in the process of the programming of the 9th EDF(European Development Fund). The participation of the civil society began with the 8th EDF and within the framework of two funded EU projects in the tune of 2,19 millions Euro. The participation of the civil society in the 9th EDF began in February 2001 following the selection of certain non-state actors within the government sponsored participatory approach within the heavily indebted poor countries initiative. The selection procedure made use of a government field investigation mission aimed at identifying those CSO that were very representative and had a strong base. Within the 9th EDF, a budget envelope of 9 millions Euro was put aside for the restructuring of the Civil Society and to consolidate the participatory mechanism for the eradication of poverty in Cameroon. All these consultations led to the adoption of the Country Strategic Paper (CSP) signed on July 17th 2001. The final adopted document was signed to all the representatives of non state actors.

He remarked that the study carried out within the 9th EDF on the civil society had some remarkable demerits that hamper on the effective implication of non state actors in the EU-Cameroon Cooperation. Despite efforts made for an effective involvement of CSO in the EU-Cameroon Cooperation, there has been some demerits in this implication initiative. He mentioned that this demerits range from inadequate organization of the CSO, inadequate capacity by most Cameroonian NGOs, lack of communication, the non representative of these organizations and the administrative and donor bureaucratic hurdles. He recommended that for effective and efficient implication of the civil society, they should carve out precisely their area of intervention and not to be all embracing. This will permit them to build their own organizational capacity and to be able to intervene when appropriate with no complex whatsoever. Lola of FERN added that there is a gross difference between what is made mentioned in the EU Agreements with third world countries and the realities in the field as concerning civil society organizations participation in the implementation.

During the question and answer session following the presentation, participants wanted to know what exactly is the channel to follow in getting EU Cooperation funding. Dr. Ruben BALOCK replied that the EDF(European Development Fund) is an instituted fund managed by the EC in Brussels. However to access this Fund it needs to be done through the Ministry of Economic Affairs; Programming and Regional Planning, MINEPAT or the European Union Delegation in Cameroon. Another question that was addressed to Dr Ruben was whether' the decisions taken by the EC in Brussels were in consideration of the local context or it was a top down strategy. Participants also complained of the EU procedure to access both information and the available finance made available for civil society to carry out projects. Participants also complained of the lack of institutional funding and the conflict between national and international organizations to the call for tenders. International organizations with little

knowledge on the local realities are often retained discriminating against national organizations who best understand the local context. The problem of communication between both the government and the EU Delegation and the civil society was equally evoked. In response to all these complaints poised by different participants. Dr. Ruben advised that for any effective and efficient implication of the CSO in the EU-Cameroon Cooperation there is need for them to network as this will permit the easy flow of available information between members. Citing the example of the EC Forest Platform, he remarked such an initiative will really benefit members and help in the demystification of the EU internal procedure which till now remains a major hurdle to many local NGOs.

Participants were immediately lured to the next issue of the day which was a **workshop on how to identify illegal forest exploitation and what to do with the sourced information.** This workshop was animated by Richard Akoa, a seasoned Forest Engineer. The workshop consisted of acquainting participants with the use of some basic investigation instruments in the control and monitoring of illegal forest exploitation. He made mentioned that with the evolving technical environment, control and monitoring of illegal forest activity is now very easy with the use of the Global Positioning System(GPS) and the ArcView. He gave a brief background on the development of the GPS which could be traced as far back as the year 1978. it was developed by the U.S.A Army but since 1985 has been made available to the public for civil use. The use of the GPS will enable participants to find the exact position of any illegal forest activity. After a presentation of this vital instrument to participants, the participants were divided into three groups of five members and for twenty minutes each, each working group carried out a practical exercise on the use of the GPS to locate positions and collect necessary data for analysis using the ArcView computer programme. The workshop term of reference consisted of locating four positions around the seminar ground and these positions were latter on situated in an area map with the use of ArcView. While participants appreciated this workshop, they all regretted it needed more time to get really acquainted with its use. The afternoon session was marked with the showing of a video footage realized by Telapak on illegal forest exploitation in Indonesia. Mardi Minangsari and Ridzki R. Sigit explained to members the impact illegal forest exploitation is having on both the Indonesia environment, the economy and the local population.

The last day of the seminar focused on a roundtable on the theme the **implication of the civil society organizations in the mid-term review of the EC country co-operation agreements; the experience of Cameroon and Indonesia.** The roundtable began with a word of introduction by the Co-ordinator of the EC Forest Platform for Cameroon. In a brief he remarked that the implication of the civil society in the mid term review of the Cotonou Agreement was an imperative as this is enshrined in the spirit of participation of the Agreement. The first year of the EC Forest Platform was supposed to be tilted towards the mid term review of the Cotonou Agreement in Cameroon and the April 2004 seminar organized by CED was aimed to prepare Cameroon CSO in engaging in the process. When he concluded his introduction, the floor was given over to Mardi Minangsari and Ridzki R. Sigit of Telapak who presented the experience of **EC Development Aid in Indonesia.** They remarked that unlike Cameroon which was linked to the EU through a broader based legal instrument like the Cotonou Agreement, Indonesia had no such existing instrument. However, the legal instrument binding Indonesia to the EU is the Country Strategic Paper (CSP). They gave a background to EC development aid in Indonesia which began in 1976 and since then EC development aid to Indonesia amount to about 300 million Euro and three quarter of this amount is directed to the forest sector. The EC is therefore the biggest donor in the Indonesia forest sector. EC development aid in Indonesia since 1990 has been in the natural resource sector. EC/Indonesia Development Co-operation has been very informal and it was only in 2002 that it was formulated

in a common strategy document, the CSP which covers a period of five years. The CSP is centered on two main issues;

- good governance
- the preservation and sustainable management of natural resources.

The amount allocated to this first five year period which will be coming to an end in 2006 is about 216 million Euro. This period is made up of two National Indicative Program (2002/2004 and 2005/2006). These National Indicative Programs further spell the cooperation between Indonesia and the EC. The first NIP is focused on natural resource management. They lambasted on the failure of the second NIP to include natural resource management despite the fact that it is a focal area of the Country Strategic Paper. They gave the outline of the EC Indonesia Forest Program which consists of six projects, and all these are defined in the 2002-2004 NIP. The projects include ;

- Leuser development project with a financial envelope of 31 million Euro
- South Central Kalimantan Production Forest project, budget allocated is 28 million Euro
- South Sumatra Forest Fire Management, budget allocated 4 million Euro
- Forest Liaison Bureau, budget allocated 5 million Euro
- Berau Forest Bridging Project, budget allocated 697,986 Euro
- Illegal Logging Response Center, budget allocated 2 million Euro.

They remarked that the development of the CSP and the NIP is very opaque and there is no public consultation. This sideline the Indonesian CSO despite the fact that public consultation is an obligation under the EC Development Aid Policy. They remarked that EC development aid given to Indonesia is not included in the State budget and therefore there is little or no accountability of the received fund. EC development aid destined to Indonesia is rocked with lack of transparency. CSO have no role in the identification of projects and the project implementation provides no mechanisms for CSO comments. They regretted that all the six projects programmed in the first NIP achieved their set goals as they failed to address the issues earmarked in the CSP. They gave an experience of how EC development aid in Indonesia in the forest sector impact negatively both the local indigenous population and the environment. This experience was from a study they carried out in the South Central Kalimantan Production Forest Project. This project was supposed to develop and replicate a Sustainable Forest Management model with full participation of all major stakeholders. They gave a brief background of the Project with is placed under the tutelage of the Ministry of Forestry and collaborates with the decentralized forestry services. The project cost is 39 million euro and it is supposed to end this December 2004. The project began in 1998. the Project is implemented in two forest concessions; PT Aya Yayang Indonesia (AYI) in South Kalimantan and PT Dwina Jaya Utama in Central Kalimantan. This project despite its targeted objectives of alleviating the living conditions through an active participation in production forest management, institutional capacity is SFM, the putting in place a legal instrument to combat illegal logging and the development of a good cooperation between the project and the local population, none of these objectives was wholly achieved. The evaluation study carried out by Telapak was aimed at seeking the relationship between the project and the local community, the local counterpart and the PT AYI. Upon completion of the study they discovered that the local population did not benefit from the project and there was a growing conflict between the project implementation team and the local community. This conflict heightened with forest exploitation around the sacred forest area of the indigenous population. This led to street demonstrations in the provincial headquarters by the local people for the restoration of their cultural rights. They also evoked the problem of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The project failed to involve the local forestry administration thus failing to transfer knowledge from the project to the local counterpart. The project equally failed to develop a SFM model and illegal exploitation was instead in the increase.

Community development is worse off than in the years before the project was implemented and the opaque nature of the forest makes it practically impossible for any accountability or public scrutiny.

Upon completion of their presentation, participants all seem satisfied and there was an urge for networking as the best means of engaging development cooperation aid. Mme Christine Andela of COSADER presented the **Cameroon experience of CSO involvement in the mid term review of the Cotonou Agreement**. She reiterated that the Cotonou Agreement gives recognition to the equality of all the parties to the Agreement and this is the entry point of the civil society participation in the mid term review of the Agreement. She focused on the aspect of programming which is supposed to cover the period of the financial protocol. The following highlight this phase of programming; the preparation and development of Cooperation Strategy based on the development strategy of the particular developing country; the exact financial envelope made available by the EC and the amount the country can spend within a five year period, and the preparation and adoption of the National Indicative Program (NIP). Each of the above phase calls for an active participation of the CSO.

However in Cameroon there is the absence of any institutional mechanism for CSO involvement in the EU-Cameroon Cooperation. She gave the Heavily Indebted Poor Country Initiative, where the selection of CSO was the prerogative of the government. There is the lack of any transparent mechanism in the selection of CSO. Selection has been very discriminatory as only those organizations that are pro government are selected. It is due to this machination of the government's selection procedure that she recalled that several CSO began to network as the best means to confront this government machination. Cameroon CSO have grouped themselves into certain platforms depending on the objective as an entry point into the EC-Cameroon Cooperation. For instance there is the EC Forest Platform for organizations working in the environmental aspect and Federation of Cameroon Civil Society Organizations FOSCAM that is working on the Cotonou Agreement. She remarked that following a harmonization workshop organized by FOSCAM in August, they were able to contribute to the mid term review of the Cotonou Agreement. She regretted that the EU Country Strategic Paper and the National Indicative Program were drawn up without enough public participation. In reference to the EU – Cameroon Joint 2003 Report, she remarked that the government discarded some of the projects realized and that most of these projects were not government's priority. This skew projects are largely due to the absence of efficient public participation and the aspect of ownership remains very pressing in the EC – Cameroon Cooperation. While she lambasted at the government and EU hurdles to integrate the CSO, she regretted that the CSO themselves were doing little to understand certain vital instruments of the Cooperation such as the Cotonou Agreement. She further regretted to bring to the notice of participants that EU sponsored projects for next year have been adopted and none of these projects were adopted with public consultation or the government. This goes contrary to the spirit of the Cotonou Agreement which advocates for equality. The projects are general and fail to take the peculiarities of each country in the ACP Bloc. Ending her presentation she gave an outline of the Jeudi de Cotonou which is a platform for CSO involved in the Cotonou Agreement to reflect on certain issues in this Agreement.

At the end of this presentation participants made their own contributions in an effort to better the Cooperation between Cameroon and the EU. For instance the EC should deal directly with the country CSO so as to avoid the government machination of sidelining CSO in the cooperation efforts. The Cooperation should put in place a monitoring and evaluation mechanism that will permit easy CSO participation in EU sponsored projects. They also called for the building of CSO capacity in negotiation and strengthening of their networking.

The afternoon session animated by Samuel NGUIFFO was aimed at adopting certain resolutions which will be addressed to the government of Cameroon and the EU Country Delegation and another to be addressed to the EC in Brussels. See annex of this report for the adopted resolutions.