

**Press Release****UNOWA/CNMC/07**

UNOWA - Dakar 18 August 2004: The Eleventh session of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission (CNMC), is scheduled to take place from 18 to 19 August 2004, in Yaoundé. This session follows the most recent visit of President Obasanjo to Cameroon, on 28-29 July 2004. According to the Final Communiqué and the press reports, Cameroon and Nigeria are on the same wavelength concerning the implementation of the work programme adopted by the Mixed Commission.

The transfer of authority in the Lake Chad area and along the Land Boundary have taken place peacefully from December 2003 to July 2004, and with no disruption to the daily lives of the concerned populations. Moreover, observer personnel of the Mixed Commission have been deployed and visited the two areas.

Discussions on the implementation of the withdrawal and transfer of authority in the Bakassi Peninsula will continue in this forthcoming session of the Mixed Commission. The issue of the Maritime Boundary is also on the agenda.

The Chairman of the CNMC, the UN Special Representative Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah expressed satisfaction at the success of the visit of President Obasanjo to Yaounde and at the continued dialogue between the leaders of the two sister countries. This dialogue reflects their commitments before and after the ruling of the ICJ, when at the invitation of the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, they met respectively in Paris, September 2002, and in Geneva, November 2002, and again in Geneva last January.

He also noted that the two parties have reached a critical stage and that their willingness to peacefully follow up the implementation of the ruling of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) should ultimately prevail. He further noted that Senior Minister Amadou Ali and Prince Bola Ajibola representatives of Presidents of Cameroon and Nigeria respectively, are fully aware of the irreversibility of the process of withdrawal and transfer of authority in accordance with the ruling of ICJ.

For more information on the Cameroon/Nigeria Mixed Commission please visit our website at:

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