

**Press Release****UNOWA/CNMC/2005/8**

UNOWA, Dakar – 29 November 2005. The Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for West Africa and Chairman of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission, Mr. Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah, notes with great satisfaction the meeting between President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria and Prime Minister Inoni Ephraim of Cameroon to discuss outstanding issues and the way forward on the Bakassi Peninsula issue.

The two leaders renewed their countries' confidence in the UN Secretary General's continued role in supporting the full implementation of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling of 10 October 2002.

The Special Representative also noted a statement made in the media by Prince Bola Ajibola, Head of the Nigerian Committee on the Bakassi issue, who informed the Nigerian public on progress achieved so far in the settlement process. All these efforts are a further testimony of the two Governments' commitment to peacefully settle their dispute and strengthen their ties of cooperation.

It will be recalled that since the two Heads of State of Cameroon and Nigeria met in Paris in September 2002 in the presence of the UN Secretary General, and the ruling of the ICJ in October 2002, far-reaching progress has been achieved, in particular, in the area of Lake Chad Basin demarcation and alongside the land boundary between the two countries. It is hoped that, at last, the outstanding issue of the Bakassi Peninsula will be settled in the benefit to the two neighbouring countries.

The Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations reaffirms the United Nations' commitment to providing support to the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission and facilitating the full implementation of the ICJ ruling.

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