

# The need for an international instrument on corporate accountability and liability



## Introduction

At the Johannesburg Earth Summit, Greenpeace is calling on World Governments to endorse the Bhopal Principles on Corporate Responsibility. Experience in the post-Rio Decade has shown that the adoption of these ten Principles is urgently needed. They form a comprehensive set of measures that would ensure that corporations act in a manner that is consistent with Principles 13 (Liability), 14 (Double Standards), 15 (Precautionary Principle) and 16 (Polluter Pays Principle) of the Rio Declaration.

States are ultimately responsible for public welfare, and they must not abdicate this responsibility to the private sector. Unfortunately states are increasingly doing just this, by relying on voluntary agreements, and by failing to develop international instruments to prevent transnational corporations from slipping through holes in the net of national legislation. The few voluntary initiatives with which some corporations are willing to comply, such as the Global Reporting Initiative, the OECD guidelines, and the UN Global Compact, are just not enough.

Corporations benefit from a global market for the development of their business but are not held globally accountable. Therefore, current moves to ensure sustainability require an international instrument of corporate responsibility, accountability and liability. Now is the time for an international instrument that ensures rights and duties, reporting, monitoring, and verification of consistent responsible corporate behaviour. Such an instrument should encompass, *inter alia*, compensation for damages, remediation, right to know, and respect for human and community rights.



New logging road in east Cameroon. July 2001. © Greenpeace/Filip Verbelen

Corporate accountability is a subject of concern for a wide range of groups campaigning on issues including human rights, environment, development and labour. Corporate crimes committed on all continents across a range of industrial activities in various sectors (e.g. chemicals, forestry, oil, mining, genetic engineering, nuclear, military, fishing, etc.) clearly point towards the need for greater control, monitoring and accountability of corporate activity in a globalised economy. This condensed report looks specifically at corporate crimes being committed in the forestry sector.<sup>1</sup>

The ten 'Bhopal Principles' address concerns about corporate accountability across a wide range of issues. We have chosen to call them the 'Bhopal' Principles because this disaster<sup>2</sup> more than any other, highlights the current failure of governments to protect public welfare and the failure of corporations to observe basic standards including the avoidance of liability by parent corporations and the avoidance of responsibility for compensation and environmental cleanup.

### notes

<sup>1</sup> For the full version of this report, including case studies from outside the forest sector see [www.greenpeace.org](http://www.greenpeace.org).

<sup>2</sup> On 3 December, 1984, the world witnessed the worst chemical disaster ever when a gas leak in the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India, killed at least 8,000 workers and residents in the first three days after the disaster and caused permanent and debilitating injuries to more than 150,000.

## The Ten Bhopal Principles on Corporate Accountability

### 1. Implement Rio Principle 13

States shall as a matter of priority enter into negotiations for a legal international instrument, and adopt national laws to operationalise and implement Principle 13 of the Rio Declaration, to address liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage.

### 2. Extend Corporate Liability

Corporations must be held strictly liable without requirement of fault for any and all damage arising from any of their activities that cause environmental or property damage or personal injury, including site remediation. Parent companies as well as subsidiaries and affiliated local corporations must be held liable for compensation and restitution.

Corporations must bear cradle to grave responsibility for manufactured products. States must implement individual liability for directors and officers for actions or omissions of the corporation, including for those of subsidiaries.

### 3. Ensure Corporate Liability for Damage Beyond National Jurisdictions

States shall ensure that corporations are liable for injury to persons and damage to property, biological diversity and the environment beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, and to the global commons such as atmosphere and oceans. Liability must include responsibility for environmental cleanup and restoration.



Logs from Lebanese company Hazim, logging illegally in Cameroon. © Greenpeace

### 4. Protect Human Rights

Economic activity shall not infringe upon basic human and social rights. States have the responsibility to safeguard the basic human and social rights of citizens, in particular the right to life; the right to safe and healthy working conditions; the right to a safe and healthy environment; the right to medical treatment and to compensation for injury and damage; the right to information and the right of access to justice by individuals and by groups promoting these rights. Corporations must respect and uphold these rights. States must ensure effective compliance by all corporations of these rights and provide for legal implementation and enforcement.

### 5. Provide for Public Participation and the Right to Know

States shall require companies routinely to disclose to the public all information concerning releases to the environment from their respective facilities as well as product composition. Commercial confidentiality must not outweigh the interest of the public to know the dangers and liabilities associated with corporate outputs, whether in the form of pollution by-products or the product itself. Once a product enters the public domain there should be no restrictions on public access to information relevant to environment and health on the basis of commercial secrecy. Corporate responsibility and accountability shall be promoted through environmental management accounting and environmental reporting which gives a clear, comprehensive and public report of environmental and social impacts of corporate activities.

## 6. Adhere to the Highest Standards

States shall ensure that corporations adhere to the highest standards for protecting basic human and social rights including health and the environment. Consistent with Rio Declaration Principle 14, States shall not permit multinational corporations to deliberately apply lower standards of operation and safety in places where health and environmental protection regimes, or their implementation, are weaker.

## 7. Avoid Excessive Corporate Influence over Governance

States shall co-operate to combat bribery in all its forms, promote transparent political financing mechanisms and eliminate corporate influence on public policy through election campaign contributions, and/or non-transparent corporate-led lobby practices.

## 8. Protect Food Sovereignty over Corporations

States shall ensure that individual States and their people maintain sovereignty over their own food supply, including through laws and measures to prevent genetic pollution of agricultural biological diversity by genetically engineered organisms and to prevent the patenting of genetic resources by corporations.

## 9. Implement the Precautionary Principle and Require Environmental Impact Assessments

States shall fully implement the Precautionary Principle in national and international law. Accordingly, States shall require corporations to take preventative action before environmental damage or health effects are incurred, when there is a threat of serious or irreversible harm to the environment or health from an activity, a practice or a product. Governments shall require companies to undertake environmental impact assessments with public participation for activities that may cause significant adverse environmental impacts.

## 10. Promote Clean and Sustainable Development

States shall promote clean and sustainable development, and shall establish national legislation to phase out the use, discharge and emission of hazardous substances and greenhouse gases, and other sources of pollution, to use their resources in a sustainable manner, and to conserve their biological diversity.



Greenpeace highlights the import of illegally logged timber into Europe. © Greenpeace

## Concord Pacific (Papua New Guinea)

PO Box 1213 Boroko, Portion 2150, Tarport Road Four Mile, N.C.D., Papua New Guinea

Director: Datuk Yaw Teck Seng

Concord Pacific is directed by its controlling shareholder Datuk Yaw Teck Seng, founder and Chairman of the Malaysian logging giant Samling Group.<sup>1</sup>



Rainforest in Papua New Guinea.  
© Greenpeace/Solness

### Company activity

A Malaysian-owned logging company operating in Papua New Guinea, Concord Pacific is—in theory—building a road between the small township of Kiunga and the village of Aiambak in the country's remote Western Province. In practice, the company has illegally extracted millions of dollars worth of timber from the region's pristine rainforests: seven years on from the beginning of 'road' construction, more than 179 km of forest have been cleared but there is not – and never has been—a functional highway.

#### Location of damage

Papua New Guinea – the Kiunga-Aiambak 'road' Project<sup>2</sup>  
Active in Papua New Guinea's Western Province, Concord Pacific is logging in the heart of Asia Pacific's largest tract of ancient rainforest.

#### Type of incident

- Illegal transfer of logging rights under a Timber Authority<sup>3</sup>
- misrepresentation of landowners<sup>4</sup>
- unlawful extension of the project<sup>5</sup>
- large scale (more than 600,000 cubic metres) extraction of illegal logs<sup>6</sup>
- human rights abuses<sup>7</sup>

#### Type of damage

- theft from local landowners and loss of revenue through logs removed and sold without landowner consent
- alleged health and safety risks related to forest damage and poor logging practice
- alleged links with the illegal trade in drugs and guns between Papua New Guinea and Australia<sup>8</sup>
- poor government performance and allegations of corruption

#### Range of damage, amount of loss

This logging activity has disturbed and degraded thousands of hectares of pristine forest, leading to an estimated loss of more than US\$60 million of potential revenue to local landowners<sup>9</sup>. Forest disturbance results in scarcity of game animals traditionally hunted as food, loss of clean water supplies, and loss of traditional building materials and medicines<sup>10</sup>.

### Who is responsible?

Concord Pacific, Mr Philip Lee; various members of the Papua New Guinea government; and importers and consumers of Concord Pacific's unlawfully acquired timber.

#### notes

1 - Samling control 1.5 million ha of forest concessions in Sarawak, Malaysia, as well as concessions in Cambodia and Guyana. Traditional indigenous peoples in Sarawak such as the Penan have been disputing their logging operations for more than 15 years, including most recently in April 2002. A summary of Penan protests against Samling and the company's practices in Guyana and Cambodia can be found in 'High Stakes: the need to control transnational logging companies – A Malaysian case study' by World Rainforest Movement and Forest Monitor Ltd, August 1998

2 - For a full report on this project see Greenpeace (2002) Partners in Crime: Malaysian loggers, timber markets and the politics of self-interest in Papua New Guinea.

3 - In 1995 the then Forest Minister for Papua New Guinea, Tim Neville, who now denies he signed the Timber Authority, and says his signature was forged, issued a permit known as a Timber Authority to a company called Paiso Ltd, which professed to be a 'landowner company' representing the local landowners in the region. The company immediately subcontracted the permit to Concord Pacific, despite a prohibition in the Papua New Guinea Forest Act against transferring rights under a Timber Authority. Independent Review Team (2001) Review of forest harvesting projects being processed towards a Timber Permit or Timber Authority. October 2001.

4 - See footnote 1. In fact, Paiso Ltd was not owned by or representing local landowners. Rather it was owned by Malaysian-born Philip Lee (general manager and major shareholder in Concord Pacific) and a Papua New Guinean called David Kaya who did not belong to a local landowner group with land along the Kiunga Aiambak road. See: Registrar of Companies; Post Courier Port Moresby, 15 March 2002.

5 - Letter from Minister for Forests, Dr Fabian Pok, to Paiso Ltd, dated 21 September 1997

6 - Independent Review Team (2001) Auditing forestry projects currently 'in process' for compliance with the requirements of the policy, the Forestry Act and other regulations and guidelines. Individual project review report number 31: Aiambak-Kiunga Road Timber Authority (Western Province). March 2001; PNGFA (2001) Papua New Guinea Forest Authority Annual Timber Digest, 1995-2001

7 - Letter from CELCOR to Mr Klaus Roland, World Bank, dated 1 November 2001; CELCOR (2001) Submission to the World Bank Inspection Panel for inspection of Kiunga-Aiambak Road filed by certain named customary owners of forests in Kiunga-Aiambak, Western Province Papua New Guinea. November 2001

8 - Alleged by local Police Commander, in: Papua New Guinea Forest Watch (2002) Impacts of logging on forest-dependent communities. PNG Forest Watch, Port Moresby

9 - PNGFA (2001) Papua New Guinea Forest Authority Annual Timber Digest, 1995-2001

10 - Independent Review Team (2001) Auditing forestry projects currently 'in process' for compliance with the requirements of the policy, the Forestry Act and other regulations and guidelines. Individual project review report number 31: Aiambak-Kiunga Road Timber Authority (Western Province). March 2001; Papua New Guinea Forest Watch (2002) Impacts of logging on forest-dependent communities. PNG Forest Watch, Port Moresby

**Legal and/or public action taken**

The issue of the Kiunga Aiambak 'road' has been raised publicly in Papua New Guinea by affected landowners, by Greenpeace taking action to prevent the loading illegal logs for export, and at international fora such as the Convention on Biological Diversity. The former Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea stated that the project should not have gone ahead, and that the extension should be stopped<sup>11</sup>.

The PNG government sued the logging company in 1999, but the case languished when a temporary injunction was obtained by the logging company to stop the government interfering in operations while the case was being heard. Landowners in 2002 attempted to become a "party" to that legal action, but have met with vigorous opposition.

Landowners have also launched a case for damages, while Greenpeace China served a customer of Concord Pacific with an "injunction" in an attempt to stop them contributing to forest destruction in Papua New Guinea. The Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights also filed an ultimately unsuccessful Inspection Panel Claim against the World Bank on behalf of the Kiunga Aiambak landowners saying the release of funds to the Papua New Guinea government contravened World Bank conditionality on forest management as witnessed by the logging by Concord Pacific.

**Subsequent behaviour of company**

Despite public protests and attempts at legal action, the company has continued with business as usual – logging and exporting illegal logs. Concord Pacific has vigorously defended itself in Papua New Guinea courts against government attempts to close it down.

**Current status**

Concord Pacific obtained an unlawful extension to the current road-alignment and the logging and so called 'road building' has continued<sup>12</sup>. The three-year old court action by the government has stalled, allowing the logging to continue. Meanwhile following elections in June 2002, the formation of the newly elected government is taking place and the country awaits any action the government may take on the road.

**notes**

11 - See <http://www.pm.gov.pg/pmsoffice/pmsoffice.nsf/Pages/ress>

12 - This new Timber Authority is totally illegal as it was granted without the approval of the Provincial Forest Management Committee and without any of the detailed procedures of either the 1993 Forestry Act or the 2000 Amendment Act having being followed. In: PNG Forest Watch; "Concord's new illegal logging permit gives access to 2.7 million hectares of forest", June 6, 2002

**Final Greenpeace statement**

The 'Paradise' forests of Kiunga-Aiambak are part of the largest remaining intact rainforest in Asia-Pacific – the third largest on the Earth. The Papua New Guinea government and the international donor community need to ensure that these highly biodiverse forests in Papua New Guinea's western border areas are protected. Additional aid and incentive funds are urgently required to support the PNG government to move away from large-scale destructive logging and to provide alternatives for the customary landowners in this isolated, sparsely populated area. They have so far failed to take adequate measures to protect the livelihoods of the landowners or to sanction Concord Pacific's unlawful logging activities. Meanwhile demand from importing nations and companies continues to drive the activities of this company.



Greenpeace gets the thumbs up from a local landowner, supporting their seizure of Concord Pacific's illegal timber in Papua New Guinea. © Greenpeace

## Dalhoff, Larsen and Horneman (DLH) (Denmark)

DLH Group, Skagensgade 6, DK-2630, Taastrup, Denmark

CEO: Jørgen Møller-Rasmussen

Headquartered in Høje Taastrup, Denmark, the DLH Group has purchase and sales offices throughout Europe, Africa, Asia, Russia, and North and South America.



DLH logs

### Company activity

The Danish-owned trading giant DLH operates in over 26 countries worldwide. Today DLH is one of the world's largest timber traders, involved in the procurement, global distribution and marketing of hardwood, softwood, wooden sheet materials and plywood.<sup>1</sup>

#### Location of damage

Ancient forests of the Amazon, West and Central Africa, European and Far East Russia, and South-East Asia.<sup>2</sup>

#### Type of incident

Purchasing of timber and wood products from ancient forest destruction worldwide, including from suppliers known to be:

- involved in illegal logging on indigenous lands
- subject to repeated sanctions for violating national forest laws<sup>3</sup>
- involved in violation of national and international labour laws<sup>4</sup>
- implicated in social conflict and human rights abuses

#### notes

1 - [www.dlh-group.com](http://www.dlh-group.com)

2 - The DLH Group sources the majority of its hardwood timber from some of the world's most vulnerable ancient forest regions, including the Amazon (Bolivia, Brazil, Peru), Central and West Africa (Cameron, Congo, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Ghana, Liberia) and Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia). It also procures softwood from European Russia. See: [www.dlh-group.com](http://www.dlh-group.com)

3 - Several of DLH's suppliers of Cameroonian timber including Vicwood-Thanny (Hong Kong), Rougier (France) and the notorious Société Forestière Hazim (SFH) have been repeatedly fined—or even had their operations suspended—over years of illegal forestry practices, including logging outside legal boundaries, cutting undersized trees. See: Greenpeace International (2002)

4 - Global Witness and International Transport Workers Federation (2001). Taylor-made: the pivotal role of Liberia's forests and flag of convenience in regional conflict.

5 - DLH buys from three of the 'Santarem Five'—five large producers/exporters linked to illegal land titles and other legal violations in the Brazilian Amazon. They have also tried to import mahogany which was banned by the Brazilian government in October 2001 because of widespread illegal logging on Indian and public lands. The governments of Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium detained this mahogany, under European CITES law, as it was being imported into Europe. See: Greenpeace International (2001) The 'Santarem Five' and illegal logging: a case study; Greenpeace International (2001) Partners in Mahogany Crime: Amazon at the mercy of 'gentlemen's agreements'.

6 - In 1998, Hazim's bulldozers destroyed part of a Baka 'pygmy' village of 200 inhabitants in preparation for building a fourth sawmill. It was not until the bulldozers destroyed part of the village – including ancestral graveyards – that the Baka were made aware of the company's intentions. Mentens J (2001) Hakken in Kameroten. Koopman en dominee in Afrika. Uitgeverij Papieren Tijger.

7 - DLH buys from Liberian loggers Oriental Timber Company (OTC) and Royal Timber Corporation (RTC) both of which have been linked to illegal arms trafficking, via company director Gus Kouwenhoven. See: United Nations Security Council (2000) Report of the Panel of Experts Appointed Pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1306 (2000) Paragraph 19, in relation to Sierra Leone S/2000/1195

8 - DLH buys from— Cemex, Madesa and Rancho da Cabocla

9 - Global Witness and ITWF (2001) Taylor-made: the pivotal role of Liberia's forests and flags of convenience in regional conflict.

#### Type of damage

The activities of DLH's controversial suppliers result in widespread environmental and social damage including forest fragmentation and loss of biodiversity. Examples include:

- habitat destruction of species such as Africa's Great Apes, the Amazon's jaguar and Russia's brown bear
- illegal land titles and theft of timber from indigenous landowners<sup>5</sup>
- damage to forest-dwelling communities<sup>6</sup>
- linked with illegal arms trafficking<sup>7</sup>.

#### Range of damage, amount of loss

- Three of the 'Santarem Five' companies supplying DLH<sup>8</sup> have been linked to illegal land titles and other legal violations.
- DLH controls up to 50 % of the multi-million dollar international market in bigleaf mahogany. In Brazil they have bought mahogany from five companies linked to the 'Mahogany Kings' – responsible for controlling the majority of the illegal mahogany trade.
- Liberian supplier OTC is believed to open up between 5,000 and 10,000 hectares of undisturbed forest every month, with hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of Liberia's threatened forest exported as logs<sup>9</sup>
- Hazim and other Cameroon-based logging companies from which DLH is buying are involved in large-scale illegal logging in Cameroon's rainforests.

### Who is responsible?

DLH's dubious suppliers – the logging companies – are committing the crimes in the forest. But by continuing to buy stolen and other tainted wood from these companies – despite being fully and frequently informed of their activities – DLH continues to drive these criminal activities.

African log from DLH ( Nordisk) in port of Leixoes, Portugal. 12 July 2000. © Greenpeace/Daniel Beltrá



**Legal and/or public action taken**

- Hazim, Rougier, Vicwood-Thany and others have all been fined repeatedly for their criminal activities in Cameroon. An independent review team recommended that Hazim should have its operating license revoked.<sup>10</sup>
- Three of the 'Santarem Five' companies have had five forest management plans suspended and a further five cancelled, involving a total area of more than 23,000 hectares of forest<sup>11</sup>
- Following evidence of widespread illegal logging on Indian and public lands organised by the Mahogany Kings (whose companies supply DLH), in October 2001 the Brazilian government suspended the trade in mahogany.
- In 2000 the UN Security Council recommended an embargo on Liberian timber exports "until Liberia could convincingly demonstrate that it was no longer involved in the trafficking of arms to, or diamonds from, Sierra Leone."<sup>12</sup>

**Subsequent behaviour of company**

Regardless of legal action taken against a number of their suppliers, DLH has continued to purchase from these companies. In July 2001 DLH announced that it would suspend buying from OTC pending further investigation. However in February 2002, Greenpeace revealed that the company continued to buy from OTC and RTC.

**Current status**

DLH continues to play a major role in the providing the international timber trade with illegal and destructively logged timber from threatened ancient forests around the world.

**Final Greenpeace statement**

DLH shows little sign of any major change in its procurement practices from some of the worst suppliers and sources in the timber industry.

**notes**

10 - Auzel et al (2001) Impact de l'exploitation forestière illégale sur la fiscalité, sur l'aménagement et sur le développement local: cas de l'UFA 10-030 dans l'arrondissement de Messok, Province de l'Est Cameroun. Study prepared by Forests Monitor, Dutch Committee for IUCN and DFID – UK Department for International Development; Durrieu de Madron L and Ngaha J (2000) Revue Technique des Concessions Forestières. République du Cameroun. Comité technique de Suivi des Programmes. Rapport Version 4

11 - Ministério Público Federal (2001) Termo de compromisso de ajustamento de conduta contra Cemex. 17 July 2001; Ministério Público Federal (2001) Ação civil pública com pedido liminar de antecipação parcial da tutela contra Empresa Madesa – Madeireira Santarém Ltda. 9 July 2001; IBAMA (2001) Relatório sobre a situação dos projectos de manejo florestal no Pará.

12 - See: Pratt D (2001) Sierra Leone: Danger and opportunity in a regional conflict. Report to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs. However, in early 2001, China and France – together responsible for two-thirds of Liberia's timber exports – objected, and the timber clauses were subsequently dropped from the final report. UNSC (2000) Report of the Panel of Experts Appointed Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1306 (2000), Paragraph 19, in Relation to Sierra Leone S/2000/1195

## Société Forestière Hazim (SFH) (Cameroon)

Société Forestière Hazim & cie, B.P. 1477, Bonabéri, Douala, Cameroon

Tel: +237 39 17 56 or +237 39 17 59, Fax: +237 39 17 52

Owned by Mr Hazim Hazim Chehade, the Lebanese consul to Cameroon<sup>1</sup> - and one of Cameroon's richest men.



Hazim logs from an illegal logging operation. © Greenpeace

### Company activity

One of the largest logging companies in Cameroon, Hazim has been active in Cameroon since the early 1980s operating both as a concessionaire and via subcontracting arrangements with other titleholders. Hazim is one of Cameroon's largest timber exporters, with four wood processing units and access to an estimated 280,000 hectares of forest.

### Location of damage

Cameroon - logging concessions (UFAs = Unité Forestière d'Aménagement (logging concession or Forest Management Unit (FMU)):

- UFA 08-003 – Ngambé-Tikar, Centre Province of Cameroon
- UFA 10-029 and 10-030 – East Cameroon
- UFA 10-047 East Cameroon (in the periphery of the Dja Reserve - a World Heritage site).

### Type of incident

Large scale illegal logging including:

- No respect for logging agreements in allocated concession
- Unauthorised logging in state forests
- Fraudulent markings on logs
- Fraudulent use of official documents (production declarations and transportation documents)
- Fraudulent tax declaration
- Fraudulent customs regulations

### Type of damage

- Loss of forest biodiversity
- Massive economic loss to government & local communities
- Social conflicts

### Range of damage, amount of loss

- In 1997 Hazim was granted a 53,000-hectare concession. Hazim was supposed to provide jobs through the management of this forest for at least 15 years. Instead, Hazim organised a highly destructive logging operation in the area.<sup>2</sup> (UFA: 08-003)
- In March 2000: Ministère de L'Environnement et des Forêts (MINEF) fined Hazim 10 million CFA (Central African Francs) (USD13,000) for 'logging anarchically outside the licensed cutblocks.'<sup>3,4</sup> (UFA 08-003)
- In June 2000, MINEF and Global Witness<sup>5</sup> discovered that Hazim was operating illegally on a very large scale in this concession, which at that time was unallocated.<sup>6,7</sup> In 2001 an independent investigation – financed by Forests Monitor, Dutch Committee for IUCN and the UK Department for International Development (DFID) – found that more than 20,000 hectares had been logged illegally<sup>8,9</sup> (UFA: 10-030)
- In June 2000, Hazim (operating as Nadja-EGM) was found to be logging without authorization in this concession which borders the Dja Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The concession, belonging to a Mr Mpongang, had been classified as 'inactive' by MINEF in December 1999. Investigations revealed that 15,000 ha had been logged illegally.<sup>10</sup> (UFA:10-047)

### notes

- 1 - Carret J-C (1999) Industrialisation de la filière bois au Cameroun 4 June 1999. CERNA.
- 2 - Le Messager (2001) Hazim s'en va. 6 June 2001 p11
- 3 - Cameroon Tribune (2000). MINEF Communiqué. 24 March 2000
- 4 - MINEF (1999) Rapport de la mission d'évaluation des progrès réalisés sur les concessions forestières (UFA) attribuées en 1997 dans la province du Centre et Sud.
- 5 - Global Witness was formally accepted by the Cameroonian Government as an independent monitor in 2001.
- 6 - Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Impact de l'exploitation forestière illégale sur la fiscalité, sur l'aménagement et sur le développement local: cas de l'UFA 10-030 dans l'arrondissement de Messok, Province de l'Est Cameroun. Study financed by Forests Monitor, Dutch Committee for IUCN and DFID – UK Department for International Development.
- 7 - Greenpeace International (2000) Plundering Cameroon's rainforests: a case-study on illegal logging by the Lebanese logging company Hazim.
- 8 - Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Impact de l'exploitation forestière illégale sur la fiscalité, sur l'aménagement et sur le développement local: cas de l'UFA 10-030 dans l'arrondissement de Messok, Province de l'Est Cameroun. Study financed by Forests Monitor, Dutch Committee for IUCN and DFID – UK Department for International Development.
- 9 - Greenpeace International (2000) Plundering Cameroon's rainforests: a case-study on illegal logging by the Lebanese logging company Hazim
- 10 - MINEF (1999) Rapport de la mission d'évaluation des progrès réalisés sur les concessions forestières (UFA) attribuées en 1997 dans la province du Centre et Sud.

## Who is responsible?

Société Forestière Hazim, Mr Hazim Hazim Chehade, the Cameroonian government which has failed to curb the company's illegal and destructive forest activities and the importing nations and companies that continue to ignore the company's forest crimes.

## Legal and/or public action taken

- Hazim has received several sanctions from the Cameroonian government as a result of its illegal activities.
- Hazim was excluded from participating in the 2000 bidding process for new logging concessions.
- Hazim was fined 105 000 000 CFA (160.000 US\$) by MINEF for illegal activity in the concession 10-029. These sanctions have been publicly announced by the government in the Cameroon Tribune newspaper. However, the sanctions on Hazim so far reflect only a minor fraction of the economic damage the company has caused, and the following recommendations by World Bank advisors (2000) and independent experts (2001) have yet to be implemented:
  - Withdrawal of Hazim's logging agreements and cancellation of the company's right to operate in the Cameroon forest sector.<sup>11,12</sup>
  - Payment of financial damages and interest calculated on the basis of compromised tax recovery.<sup>13</sup>
- The government of Cameroon recently lost the opportunity to receive an \$8 million bonus from the World Bank. An unofficial reason being the government's refusal to punish flagrant violations of the Forestry Law. Specifically, the Bank wanted to see action taken against the Lebanese logger Hazim Hazim Chehade, guilty of pillaging UFA 10-030 to the tune of 24 billion CFA. On June 13 MINEF published a communiqué<sup>14</sup> in which Hazim was cited as owing 2.5 billion CFA in "penalties" for unauthorized logging in UFA 10-030. The communiqué threatened the firm with the confiscation of its security deposit, the suspension of its activities and legal action if the sum was not paid by June 30.

## Subsequent behaviour of company

In 2000, Hazim obtained access to new concessions in Cameroon via controversial subcontracting agreements despite its formal exclusion in the 2000 bidding process and despite the fact that fines for the 10-030 case were not yet paid.

Mr Hazim claimed in 2000, that " There aren't enough trees over the legal diameter, I've got to cut below the legal minimum to supply my sawmill."<sup>15</sup>

Hazim is expanding its logging activities into neighbouring Congo-Brazzaville.

## Current status

Cameroon's forest laws have yet to be applied and Hazim's infractions adequately sanctioned. Despite recommendations from the World Bank advisors<sup>16</sup> and other independent experts<sup>17</sup>, the Cameroon government has done too little to sanction Hazim's illegal and destructive forest activities.<sup>18</sup>

## Final Greenpeace statement

Operating in Cameroon since the 1980's and expanding into the Republic of Congo, Société Forestière Hazim is one of the most notorious logging companies in the region. Known for its anarchic logging practices and its conflicts with forest dwelling communities, Hazim has cost the Cameroonian government millions of US\$. Rather than improving its forestry practices, the company threatens to take the government to court.



Logyard in Cameroon rainforest, Cameroon, July 2001.  
© Greenpeace/Filip Verbelen

## notes

11 - Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Impact de l'exploitation forestière illégale sur la fiscalité, sur l'aménagement et sur le développement local: cas de l'UFA 10-030 dans l'arrondissement de Messok, Province de l'Est Cameroun. Study financed by Forests Monitor, Dutch Committee for IUCN and DFID – UK Department for International Development.

12 - Durrieu de Madron L and Ngaha J (2000) Revue Technique des Concessions Forestières. République du Cameroun. Comité technique de Suivi des Programmes. Rapport Version.

13 - Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Auzel P, Feteke F, Fomete T, Nguiffo AS (2001) Impact de l'exploitation forestière illégale sur la fiscalité, sur l'aménagement et sur le développement local: cas de l'UFA 10-030 dans l'arrondissement de Messok, Province de l'Est Cameroun. Study financed by Forests Monitor, Dutch Committee for IUCN and DFID – UK Department for International Development.

14 - MINEF communiqué, published in the Cameroon Tribune June 13, 2002.

15 - Mr Hazim Hazim Chehade cited in Durrieu de Madron (2000)

16 - Durrieu de Madron L and Ngaha J (2000) Revue Technique des Concessions Forestières. République du Cameroun. Comité technique de Suivi des Programmes. Rapport Version.

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18 - Greenpeace International (2002) Hazim: plundering Cameroon's ancient forests.

## Oriental Timber Company (OTC) (Liberia)

Oriental Timber Company, LIMINCO Housing estate, Buchanan, P.O. Box 6906, No. 129, Loop 1, Monrovia, Liberia, Tel:+871 762 148 062 or +871 762 388 634, Fax:+871 762 148 064 or +871 762 388 636

Run by Dutch national Gus Kouwenhoven—a close associate of Liberian president Charles Taylor, OTC is linked to the Hong Kong-based Global Star Holdings, part of the Indonesian Djan Djajanti Group. Djan Djajanti has taken responsibility for 70% of the capital investment in the OTC operation <sup>1</sup>



OTC logs imported into Italy, Summer 2001 © Greenpeace

### Company activity

OTC is the largest and most notorious logging company operating in Liberia, producing and exporting hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of timber each year.

#### Location of damage

OTC's massive forest concession—the largest in Liberian history—is located in Liberia's last rainforest block; a forest which represents almost half of what remains of the once extensive Upper Guinean Forest Ecosystem. This threatened ecosystem, which once covered the whole of Liberia, plus parts of Sierra Leone, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Ghana and Togo, has been largely destroyed by over-harvesting.<sup>2</sup>

#### Type of incident

- Operation of an invalid concession<sup>3</sup>
- Massive logging in endangered high conservation value forest
- Involvement in arms trafficking activities<sup>4</sup>
- Violation of national and international labour laws, particularly regarding safety<sup>5</sup>.
- Disregard for rights and customs of local people<sup>6</sup>.
- Intimidation<sup>7</sup>.

#### Type of damage

- Irreversible destruction of some of Liberia's last rainforests.
- Habitat destruction of threatened species such as the pygmy hippopotamus and the forest elephant.
- Human rights abuses

#### Range of damage, amount of loss

It is estimated that 90% of West Africa's forests have already been destroyed—mainly by industrial logging—and what remains is heavily fragmented. OTC has a massive concession of 1.6 million hectares<sup>8</sup> and is believed to open up between 5,000 and 10,000 ha of undisturbed forest every month.<sup>9</sup>

The company is believed to have paid President Taylor between US\$ 3 million and US\$ 5 million for its massive concession – contributing to the “large amount of unrecorded extra budgetary income to President Taylor for unspecified purposes.”<sup>10</sup>

There are numerous reports illustrating how OTC's logging operations have caused severe social conflicts in Liberia. OTC operates armed militias that are causing social conflicts and major harassment to local communities.<sup>11</sup>

### Who is responsible?

Liberian President Charles Taylor and his close associate, Dutch national Gus Kouwenhoven; the international community and the nations and companies that continue to import OTC's timber.

#### notes

- 1 - United Nations Security Council (2001) Report of the Panel of Experts Pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1343 (2001) paragraph 19 concerning Liberia.
- 2 - The remaining Upper Guinean Forest Ecosystem has been identified as one of 15 threatened biodiversity 'hotspots' globally, supporting many plants and animals that are found nowhere else. It is home to some 9,000 species of plants and more than 1,300 species of vertebrate animals – including the only viable populations of the pygmy hippopotamus. It is the last stronghold of the forest elephant in West Africa. See: Myers N, Mittermeier RA, Mittermeier CG, da Fonseca GAB, Kent J (2000) Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. Nature 403 pp 853-858; Peal A (2000) Green spot in Africa. In: Topfar K (ed) Our Planet. The Environment Millennium. UNEP www.ourplanet.com Philadelphia Inquirer (2001)
- 3 - The company is believed to have paid President Taylor between US\$ 3 million and US\$ 5 million for its massive concession. The concession is not legally valid and has never been ratified by the Liberian congress.
- 4 - Gus Kouwenhoven has been described by the United Nations Security Council as “responsible for the logistical aspects of many of the arms deals [with the Revolutionary United Front in Sierra Leone]. See: Global Witness and ITWF (2001) Taylor-made: the pivotal role of Liberia's forests and flag of convenience in regional conflict; UNSC (2000) Report of the Panel of Experts Appointed Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1306 (2000), Paragraph 19, in relation to Sierra Leone S/2000/1195
- 5 - Global Witness and International Transport Workers Federation (2001) 'Taylor-made: the pivotal role of Liberia's forests and flag of convenience in regional conflict.'
- 6 - Ibid.
- 7 - Local government officials and Liberian Forest Authority representatives inspecting the company's interests have been met with police intimidation and arrest. The private militia it operates to protect its holdings are armed with AK-47 assault rifles. See: Global Witness and International Transport Workers Federation (2001) Taylor-made: the pivotal role of Liberia's forests and flag of convenience in regional conflict.
- 8 - This represents one third of Liberia's remaining 4.8 million hectares of forest – of which 3 million have already been allocated to logging. UNSC (2000) Report of the Panel of Experts Appointed Pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1306 (2000) Paragraph 19, in Relation to Sierra Leone S/2000/1195
- 9 - Global Witness and International Transport Workers Federation (2001) Taylor-made: the pivotal role of Liberia's forests and flag of convenience in regional conflict.
- 10 - UNSC (2000) Report of the Panel of Experts Pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1306 (2000) Paragraph 19 in relation to Sierra Leone S/2000/1195.
- 11 - Global Witness 'Taylor made, the pivotal role of Liberia's Forest and Flag of convenience in Regional conflict'. p. 21-25

**Legal and/or public action taken**

In 2000 the UNSC recommended an embargo on Liberian timber exports "until Liberia could convincingly demonstrate that it was no longer involved in the trafficking of arms to, or diamonds from, Sierra Leone."<sup>12</sup>

Various NGOs have campaigned against the role of OTC in illegal arms trafficking and its destruction of Liberia's rainforest.

Public outcry against OTC has been widespread in both national and international press, yet President Taylor continues to defend the company and has responded to criticism by removing people from office and using police intimidation and arrests.

**Subsequent behaviour of company**

There are no indications whatsoever that either the destruction or the social conflicts have stopped. On the contrary, there are new reports of OTC's continued involvement in arms trafficking and other social conflicts<sup>13</sup>

**Current status**

Social conflicts and environmental destruction of Liberia's rainforests by OTC continue unabated, driven by an international market and corporate timber consumers who don't care about the origin of their timber.



*Liberia's threatened forests are the last stronghold of the forest elephant in West Africa. © Greenpeace*

**Final Greenpeace statement**

By far the largest and most notorious logging company in Liberia, Gus Kouwenhoven's OTC is characterised by corruption, illegality and a total disregard for the environmental or social impact of its operations. Yet despite international public outcry against OTC, Charles Taylor's government continues to defend the company.

**notes**

12 - See: Pratt D (2001) Sierra Leone: Danger and opportunity in a regional conflict. Report to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs. However, in early 2001, China and France – together responsible for two-thirds of Liberia's timber exports – objected, and the timber clauses were subsequently dropped from the final report. UNSC (2000) Report of the Panel of Experts Appointed Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1306 (2000), Paragraph 19, in Relation to Sierra Leone S/2000/1195

13 - Washington Post June (2002) Liberian Leader Again Finds Means to Hang On: Taylor Exploits Timber to Keep Power 04.06.02; The Inquirer (2002) Logging companies' workers run amok—hold managers hostage for salary arrears. 18.06.02

## Stora Enso (Finland)

Stora Enso, Kanavaranta 1, 00160 Helsinki, Finland

CEO – Jukka Härmälä

With joint direction in Finland and Sweden, Stora Enso also has an international office in the UK.



Forest in Finland.  
© Greenpeace/Weckenmann

### Company activity

Stora Enso operates in more than 40 countries. Today it is one of the top paper and board producers worldwide, with a turnover of Euros 13.5 billion in 2001. The company is a world leader in integrated forest products, producing magazine papers, newsprint, fine papers, packaging boards and wood products. Its customers are publishers, printing houses and merchants as well as packaging, joinery and construction industries worldwide.<sup>1</sup>

<b>Location of damage</b>	Kainuu, North Ostrobothnia and Lapland regions in some of Finland's last ancient forests <sup>2,3</sup>
<b>Type of incident</b>	Purchasing of timber from endangered ancient forest – timber which is logged in violation of European Union regulations within the Natura 2000 protected areas network. <sup>4</sup>
<b>Type of damage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irreversible destruction of some of Europe's few remaining ancient forests</li> <li>• Habitat destruction of endangered and threatened species such as the flying squirrel and the red-flanked bluetail</li> <li>• Erosion of reindeer pastures which are crucial to the livelihoods and cultural survival of the indigenous Saami and other Finnish people who herd reindeer in these forests</li> </ul>
<b>Range of damage, amount of loss</b>	<p>Only 5 percent of all Finnish forest land is estimated to be ancient forest – and only half of this has been protected. The remaining 500,000 hectares are subject to intensive logging, with an annual loss of ancient forest estimated between 10,000 and 20,000 hectares per year.<sup>5</sup></p> <p>The ongoing destruction of Finland's ancient forests will result in the decline of many forest dependent species. It is estimated that 62 forest species face extinction, and a further 1000 are feared to be at risk of vanishing.<sup>6</sup> For example, the Three-toed woodpecker (<i>Picooides tridactylus</i>) and the Flying squirrel (<i>Pteromys volans</i>) are facing dramatic changes in their habitats. Many species are dependent on dead wood, which has decreased by nearly 90 percent in managed forests.</p>

#### notes

1 - [www.storaenso.com](http://www.storaenso.com)

2 - Ancient forests are defined here as the world's remaining forests which are shaped largely by natural events and are little impacted by human activities. Finland's remaining fragments of ancient forest are generally referred to as 'old-growth' forest.

3 - Despite years of protest and controversy, Finland's state-owned Forest and Parks Service (FPS or Metsähallitus) has continued to log in several of Finland's last remnants of ancient forest – which make up only 5 percent of the country's remaining forests. Stora Enso is the FPS's largest customer, purchasing more than 40 % of their total harvest each year, with timber from the ancient forests of Kainuu, Lapland and north Ostrobothnia going to Stora Enso mills in Kemi and Oulu. Aksenov et al (2000) 'Last of the last – the ancient forests of boreal Europe.' Taiga Rescue Network 2000. Calculations based on figures from [www.storaenso.com](http://www.storaenso.com) and [www.metsa.fi](http://www.metsa.fi). See also Stora Enso (1999) Stora Enso EMS Environmental Report.

4 - The European Union classified all remaining ancient forests as 'prioritised habitats' which should not be logged. The European Union's network of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) is called Natura 2000. See: Directive on the conservation of natural and semi-natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (92/43/EEC) (Habitats Directive, 1992) <http://www.ecnc.nl/doc/europe/legislat/conveu.html>

5 - Greenpeace estimate, 2002, based on field research and investigations in the region

6 - Sources: Finnish Red Data Book 2000 and estimations by Finnish scientists (prof. Ilkka Hanski, 1999)

### Who is responsible?

The state-owned Forest and Parks Service are actively logging the forest, but as the FPS's single largest buyer (buying between 40 and 50% of the FPS timber) Stora Enso are guilty of buying timber logged in contravention of European environmental law (Natura 2000) and are at least partly responsible for driving ancient forest destruction in Europe's last ancient forests.

**Legal and/or public action taken**

- Finnish environmental NGOs have sent several requests to the EU commission regarding the violations of Natura 2000
- Finnish and international environmental NGOs have protested for several years against the FPS cutting of Finland's ancient forests and fully informed Stora Enso of their involvement through their purchasing activities

**Subsequent behaviour of company**

The company has not proved willing to engage in discussions over its purchasing policies and the fate of Finland's remaining ancient forests

**Current status**

The company remains the largest customer of the FPS (the government owned forestry enterprise responsible for logging Finland's last ancient forests), and continues to source some of its raw materials for pulp, magazine and fine paper from ancient forest.<sup>7</sup>

**Final Greenpeace statement**

As one of the world's wealthiest nations, Finland has no economic necessity to log its last fragments of ancient forest. Nevertheless the government-owned FPS/Metsähallitus does just that, and as this body's largest single customer buying from the ancient forest regions of Kainuu, North Ostrobothnia and Lapland, Stora Enso is knowingly responsible for driving this destruction.

**notes**

7 - Greenpeace and Finnish Nature League (2001) 'Anything goes?' Report on PEFC certified Finnish forestry.

## Houthandel Gebroeders Wijma & Zonen B.V. (GWZ) (Netherlands)

Houthandel Gebroeders Wijma & Zonen B.V., Haartland Haven 3, 8263 AS Kampen, The Netherlands

Tel:+31 (0) 383316444, Fax:+31 (0) 383322040

Director: Dirk Willem Ouwehand



Cameroon forest. © Greenpeace/Morgan

### Company activity

The Dutch logger and importer Wijma (GWZ) has had a presence in Cameroon since 1968. It received its first cutting permit (50,000ha) in the South Province in 1970. They currently have some logging concessions of their own but also rely heavily on third parties supplying timber through a variety of short term cutting permits.<sup>1</sup>

Through various timber agents and sawmills, Wijma also buys timber from the rainforests of Latin America (Suriname, Guyana, French Guiana, Brazil) and Southeast Asia (Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore)<sup>2</sup>, as well as trading in non-tropical timber. The company owns subsidiaries and additional sawmills in Germany, Cameroon, Ghana and Ivory Coast; it also has trading activities in Liberia and sales offices in the US, France and the UK. Through these activities, Wijma is also buying from some particularly notorious companies logging elsewhere; most notably the Lebanese company Hazim logging in Cameroon<sup>3</sup>.

Wijma claims that recently they stopped doing business in Liberia with OTC (Oriental Timber Company) and RTC (Royal Timber Corporation), both of which are responsible for causing severe social conflicts and forest destruction.<sup>4</sup>

<b>Location of damage</b>	West Africa's Forest of the Great Apes, in Cameroon's remaining rainforests.
<b>Type of incident</b>	<p>The activities of Wijma and it's third party suppliers include<sup>5</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeated illegal forestry activities in Cameroon</li> <li>• Felling outside allocated cutblocks, and other forms of unauthorised logging.</li> <li>• Failing to pay stumpage fees</li> <li>• In January 2002, Wijma was fined CFA 1,836,415 (US\$2,442) for cutting protected trees without authorisation and for cutting undersized trees.</li> <li>• Tax evasion</li> </ul>
<b>Type of damage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of forest biodiversity</li> <li>• Economic loss to local communities and government</li> <li>• Social conflicts</li> <li>• Habitat destruction of threatened species such as the lowland gorilla and the chimpanzee</li> </ul>
<b>Range of damage, amount of loss</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wijma has access to around 160,000 hectares of forest through its own logging permits<sup>6</sup></li> <li>• Loss in economic revenue to Cameroon due to one of Wijma's suppliers (Hazim) has been estimated at millions of dollars<sup>7</sup></li> <li>• Numerous companies that are supplying timber to Wijma are involved in forest destruction and have themselves provoked severe conflicts and economic damage to the country.<sup>8</sup></li> </ul>

#### notes

1 - Most of Wijma's third party suppliers hold only short-term, small-scale logging licenses - ventes de coupe and récupérations - that are subject to weak controls or none at all .

2 - Wijma Forestry Action Plan

3 - Greenpeace (2002) Forest crime file: Wijma: destroying Cameroon's rainforests. <http://www.greenpeace.org>

4 - Greenpeace (2002) Forest crime file: Country profile. Liberian timber trade fuels regional insecurity. <http://www.greenpeace.org>; Wijma letter to Greenpeace 19 December 2001.

5 - Greenpeace (2002) Forest crime file: Wijma: destroying Cameroon's rainforests. <http://www.greenpeace.org>

6 - for full details see Greenpeace (2002) Forest Crime File. Wijma: destroying Cameroon's rainforests.

7 - Auzel P et al (2001) Impact de l'exploitation forestière illégale sur la fiscalité, sur l'aménagement et sur le développement local: cas de l'UFA 10 030 dans l'arrondissement de Messok, Province de l'Est Cameroun. Study prepared by Forests Monitor, Dutch Committee for IUCN and DFID.

8 - Greenpeace (2002) Forest crime file: Wijma: destroying Cameroon's rainforests. <http://www.greenpeace.org>

**Who is responsible?**

Wijma - its own logging activities can by no means be described as sustainable, and it has been found to be logging illegally as recently as February 2002<sup>9</sup>. Wijma should also be more selective towards its own timber suppliers; Wijma's suppliers - many of whom have been involved in illegal logging activities and social conflicts; the governments and companies who are importing Wijma's products and driving this company's dubious logging and trading practices.

**Legal and/or public action taken**

Wijma has been fined on a number of occasions in Cameroon<sup>10</sup>. As recently as January 2002, Wijma was fined CFA 1,836,415 (US\$2,442) for cutting protected trees without authorisation and for cutting undersized trees.<sup>11</sup> In addition, MINEF's provincial control brigade proposed that local Wijma director Mr Berstein should pay CFA 2,500,000 (US\$3,325) for transporting timber without legal documents. Wijma was assured it would not be taken to court if the fines were paid before 30 January 2002.<sup>12</sup> Many of Wijma's Cameroonian suppliers have been sanctioned for illegal logging but, typically, the level of these fines by no means reflect the true economic and ecological damage provoked.

**Subsequent behaviour of company**

Despite Wijma's own known infractions and those of its suppliers in Cameroon and elsewhere, Wijma continues to log outside its own legal boundaries, and to trade with known rogue companies. Moreover, the company claims that it "will take all possible steps to ensure that its own production of the forests [in Africa] is ecologically sustainable, economically viable and socially acceptable."<sup>13</sup>

**Current status**

Wijma's timber continues to flood international markets – and Wijma remains a key supplier of specialist durable timbers to the Dutch government.

**notes**

9 - Greenpeace (2002) Forest crime file: Wijma: destroying Cameroon's rainforests. <http://www.greenpeace.org>

10 - Greenpeace (2002) Forest crime file: Wijma: destroying Cameroon's rainforests. <http://www.greenpeace.org>

11 - see footnote 6

12 - MINEF (2002).

13 - Wijma/GWZ leaflet Forest management in West Africa

**Final Greenpeace statement**

Any public authority or company buying timber from Wijma should be aware that much of the timber sold by the group comes from highly destructive – and often illegal – forestry operations and from companies responsible for causing social conflicts. Moreover, at a time when governments are starting to review their procurement policies with the aim of avoiding timber from illegal logging operations, they should insist that Wijma provides clear evidence of the origin and the legality of the timber it is offering for sale.



Logging trucks underway to the coast, rainforest, Cameroon. May 1999. © Greenpeace/Steve Morgan