

The Last Great Ape Organization – LAGA

June 2022 Report



Highlights

- **Deputy Director held a meeting with an INTERPOL Criminal Intelligence Officer of the Regional Bureau for Central Africa to discuss on wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration.**
- **The Deputy Director held meetings with officials at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife on issues related to the signing of a new MoU.**
- **The Deputy Director held a meeting with officials of the Tikki Hywood Foundation to discuss pangolin rescue and rehabilitation.**
- **There were no operations this month and efforts are being made to ensure operations take place next month.**

General

The Deputy Director held a meeting with officials of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife to discuss issues related to the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding. He was accompanied to the meeting by the assistant head of the investigations department.

The Deputy Director held a meeting with officials of the Ministry of Territorial Administration to discuss issues related to the Minister's decision requesting international non-governmental organisations to submit documents to the ministry. He was accompanied by the assistant head of the investigations department to the meeting.

The Deputy Director held a meeting with officials of the Tikki Hywood Foundation to discuss pangolin rescue and rehabilitation. They also discussed law enforcement activities and the strengthening of collaboration.

No operations took place this month and efforts are being made to ensure operations take place next month.

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Investigations

- **16 investigation missions** out in **6 Regions** out of 10 of Cameroon including: Littoral, West, South, Centre, Adamawa and East Regions.

Investigations Table

Investigation Missions	Regions	No. of Operations	No of traffickers arrested
16	6	0	0

- **This month no operations took place, but the department brainstormed and came out with new strategies to ensure arrests next month.**

Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **10 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 1 in Ebolowa (South), 1 in Sangmelima (South), 3 in Douala (Littoral), 1 in Akonolinga (Centre), 1 in Ngoumou (Centre), 1 in Bafoussam (West), 1 in Dschang (West) and 1 in Bankim (Adamawa).
- There are **17 traffickers behind bars this month**: 4 in East Region, 2 in South Region, 2 in Centre, 3 in Littoral Region and 6 in West Region.
- **42 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department.
- **37 cases** were scheduled in court this month.
- **2 traffickers** were convicted.
- **Prosecutions**: There was a court ruling.
 - **23/06/2022**: The Yaounde – Centre Administratif Court of First Instance found the accused **ADAMA Mana and TCHAMGNE NDJENDE Mario guilty, and ordered them to pay 200,000 FCFA each as fines, 195,000 FCFA each as court fees and 3,000,000 FCFA jointly as damages.**

They were arrested in Yaounde on the 09/06/2022 for the illegal possession of 1 lion skin and 1 leopard skin.

Legal Table

No of Missions (Out of Yaoundé)	No of Court Judgements	No of Traffickers Given Prison Sentence	Prison term (in months)	No of Traffickers Sanctioned (No prison sentence)	No of Appeals lodged	No of Cases Tried in Courts
10	1	1	0	2	0	37

Media

- 33 media pieces were produced and pushed to the media including: written press, radio, and internet. That is 13 written press (9 in English language and 4 in French language), 17 radio news flashes (9 in French language, 8 in English language), and 3 internet publications (2 in French and 1 in English).
- Giving a total of 18 media pieces produced in the English language and 15 in the French making 54.5% in English, and 45.5% French.
- Subjects focused on wildlife law enforcement including: the court hearing of the case against a traditional ruler arrested with two baby chimps in Yaounde, the court case of a man arrested with a mandrill in Douala, the arrest of 4 traffickers with 90kg of pangolin scales in Akonolinga.

Media table

<i>No of media pieces</i>	TV	Radio	Newspapers	Internet
33	0	17	13	3

External Relations and Policy

- The Deputy Director held a meeting with officials of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife to discuss issues related to the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding. He was accompanied to the meeting by the assistant head of the investigations department.
- The Deputy Director held a meeting with officials of the Ministry of Territorial Administration to discuss issues related to the Minister’s decision requesting international non-governmental organizations to submit documents to the ministry. He was accompanied by the assistant head of the investigations department to the meeting.
- The Deputy Director held a meeting with officials of the Tikki Hywood Foundation to discuss pangolin rescue and rehabilitation. They also discussed law enforcement activities and the strengthening of collaboration.
- The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the State Counsel of Douala - Bonaberi on legal strategies after the execution of an arrest warrant.
- A legal adviser held meetings with the State Counsel of Sangmelima and Ebolowa respectively to discuss legal strategies concerning matters pending before their courts.
- Another legal adviser held two meetings: one with the Bertoua State Counsel and the second with the Bertoua Attorney General to discuss matters at their courts.
- A third legal adviser held meetings with the State Counsel of Dschang and Douala respectively to discuss legal strategies concerning matters pending before their courts

Management

- The investigator from Cote d’Ivoire continue his with his stay and experience sharing mission to country.

Activism Front:

All the activism fostering activities carried out by the LAGA family are online; this could be gotten at the LAGA website – <http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Activism/tabid/77/Default.aspx>.

Finance

In preparation and would be made available soon as possible on the LAGA website www.laga-enforcement.org .

Link of the month

Camer be, an online news site this month published the story of the arrest of 4 traffickers with 91kg of pangolin scales in Akonolinga. Here is the link:

<https://www.camer.be/mobile/91280/11:1/cameroun-quatre-trafiquants-decailles-de-pangolin-arretes-dans-la-ville-dakonolinga-cameroon.html>