

The Last Great Ape Organization – LAGA

January 2024 Report



Highlights

- **The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Regional Delegate of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife of the South Region on issues related to the wildlife trafficking and the strengthening of collaboration.**
- **The LAGA Team returned from an annual vacation that started in December last year.**

General

The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the South Regional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. They discussed cases pending at the various courts in the South Region while strategizing on doubling efforts to fighting wildlife crime in a region that is considered to be a major area for illegal trade in the country.

The legal advisers held meetings with several State Counsels to discuss ongoing cases in their respective jurisdictions.

Inquiries were made into the administrative procedures on the renewal of the MoU at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife and arrangements for meetings with officials working on the renewal procedure.

No operations were carried out this month and strategies were put in place to ensure arrests are being carried out next month.

Investigations

- **6 investigation missions** were carried out in **4 regions** including the Littoral, Centre, East and South regions.

Investigations Table

Investigation Missions	Regions	No. of Operations	No of traffickers arrested
6	4	0	0

No operations were carried out this month and strategies were put in place to ensure arrests are being carried out next month.

Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **6 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 2 in Ntui (Centre), 2 in Akonolinga (Centre), 1 in Ebolowa (South) and 1 in Djoum (South).
- There are **11 traffickers behind bars this month**: 2 in Centre, 3 in Littoral region and 6 in West region.
- **21 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department this month.
- **18 cases** were scheduled in court this month.
- **No traffickers** were convicted this month.
- **Prosecutions**: There were no court ruling this month.

Legal Table

No of Missions (Out of Centre Region)	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
6	0	0	0	0	0	18

Media

- 1 print article in English was produced and published in a newspaper. The article focused on the arrest of a city council worker with a drill in Yabassi.

Media Table

<i>No of media pieces</i>	TV	Radio	Newspapers	Internet
1	0	0	1	0

External Relations and Policy

- The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the South Regional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. They discussed cases pending at the various courts in the South Region while strategizing on doubling efforts to fighting wildlife crime in a region that is considered to be a major area for illegal trade in the country.
- The Head of the Legal Department held meetings with the State Counsels of Djoum, Akonolinga and Ebolowa respectively, to discuss legal strategies on cases pending in courts at their respective jurisdictions.
- A legal adviser held a meeting with the State Counsel of Ntui to discuss legal strategies concerning a matter pending before the court and another legal adviser held a meeting with the same State Counsel for the same purpose during another visit.

Management

- The annual financial and activity reports were successfully completed. The activity report was published online alongside the second semester report.
- The Team returned from a three-week long vacation that started in December 2023 and activities fully resumed.

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/Actiwithvism/tabid/77/Default.aspx>.

Finance

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