

The Last Great Ape Organization – LAGA

March 2024 Report



Highlights

- **The Deputy Director participated at a ceremony organised by WWF to welcome their incoming National Director, Alain Ononino. He was formerly Head of Legal Department in LAGA.**
- **The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Littoral Focal Point for INTERPOL to discuss issues related to wildlife crime and to strengthen collaboration**
- **An investigator travelled to Uganda where he provided technical assistance and training to the new project.**
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General

The Deputy Director participated at a ceremony organised by WWF to welcome their incoming National Director, Alain Ononino. The new country director of the organisation was formerly the Head of the Legal Department and the first ever Deputy Director of LAGA.

An investigator travelled to Uganda where he provided technical assistance and training to the new project. Among other activities he carried out several field missions and assisted the young investigation team. He equally worked with the coordination team on investigation planning and strategy.

The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Littoral Focal Point for INTERPOL to discuss issues related to wildlife crime and to strengthen collaboration

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

No operations were carried out this month and several new efforts were made to ensure arrests are carried out next month.

Investigations

- **11 investigation missions** were carried out in **4 Regions** out of 10 of Cameroon including the Littoral, Centre, East and South.

Investigations Table

Investigation Missions	Regions	No. of Operations	No. of traffickers arrested
11	4	0	0

No operations were carried out this month and several new efforts were made to ensure arrests are carried out next month.

Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **8 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 2 in Ntui (Centre), 1 in Ebolowa (South), 1 in Djoum (South), 1 in Amabam (South), 1 Kye-ossi (South) and 2 in Douala (Littoral).
- There are **11 traffickers behind bars this month**: 2 in Centre, 3 in Littoral region and 6 in West region.
- **17 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department this month.
- **16 cases** were scheduled in court this month.
- **A trafficker** was convicted this month.
- **Prosecutions**: There was 1 court ruling this month.
 - **19/03/2024**: The Littoral Appeal Court reversed the judgment of the Bonanjo Court of First Instance against **BOUNDUMA Benoît** and, ruling again, ordered the defendant to **pay 3.040.000 CFA F as damages**.

He was arrested in Douala on the 03/08/2020 for the illegal possession of one rhinoceros horn.

Media

- No media pieces were produced

Media Table

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

Activism Front

A power point presentation was given by Loveline (Legal Adviser) in view of the celebration of the International Women’s Day (TWD) titled ‘*IWD 2024, time to accelerate*’. The presentation examined the political, social and economic achievements of women since the creation of IWD. It equally stated the need to accelerate things in order to meet up with it objectives of gender equality by 1949.

External Relations and Policy

- The Deputy Director participated at a ceremony organised by WWF to welcome their incoming National Director, Alain Ononino. The new country director of the organisation was formerly the Head of the Legal Department and the first ever Deputy Director of LAGA. During the meeting he had a brief discussion with the Head of the Department of Cooperation at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife.
- The Head of the Legal Department a held meeting with the State Counsel of Ebolowa discuss legal strategies on a case pending in court.
- A legal adviser held a meeting with the State Counsel of Djoum to discuss legal strategies concerning a matter pending before the court.
- He had a meeting with the general attorney of Douala to discuss legal strategies concerning a matter pending before the Appeal Court of Littoral.
- A legal adviser held a meeting with the State Counsel of Ntui to discuss legal strategies concerning a matter pending before the court
- Another legal adviser held a meeting with the same State Counsel for the same purpose

Management

- The recruitment process for new investigators was carried out with a couple of candidates interviewed.