

A CALL TO END THE CUTTING AWAY OF CAMEROON'S ANCIENT RAINFOREST BY HERAKLES FARMS, USA (SGSOC – Cameroon).

During the 9th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests taking Place in Istanbul Turkey, 08-19 April 2013. <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/session.html>

Local Population protests on Herakles farms occupation.



BRIEF INTRODUCTION:

HERAKLES FARMS USA intends to take away the Livelihood of over 3 Million people surviving directly or indirectly from the Ancient Rainforests of Cameroon with more than 72,781 hectares of ancient forests to be cut down to plant Oil Palms for Biofuel (Oil seed). SGSOC Cameroon is owned by Herakles farms an US Company. Cameroon is housing many Agro-Industrial Plantations. PAMOL is one among these plantations based in N'dian Division of Cameroon with an annual production of about 200,000 metric tons of crude palm oil (CPO) in 2006.

<http://pamol-plantations.com/index.php>

PAMOL was created during the **German Rule** and since 1945 very little changes in the socio economic and cultural wellbeing of the people within these communities have been realized. The promises made have not been fulfilled after over 70 years of existence like building of Hospitals and affordable health Care, Schools and Colleges with equipped Libraries including Scientific Laboratories and Artistic Theatres, Providing Scholarships for students and to acquire foreign education and improve in science and technology, improve Markets, Farm to Market Roads and many opportunities to alleviate rural poverty, hunger and contribute to sustainable development.

Overview and opinion of the local population:

- We the local population including NGOs, CSOs, Farmers, Women and children have survived with our Natural Forests and its resources for decades and admit additional Oil Palm plantation in our community would be unsustainable considering the challenges to forests disappearances and Climate Change Adaptation challenges. Current Oil Palm Plantations have not met with local economic opportunities, hence, the region needs other forms of economic opportunities and research to contribute to the overall Green Economy and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

PRESSING CONCERN and Action.

- HERAKLES FARMS is using a MUST policy and has partnered with some individuals with special influence in government to prevent peaceful protests, intimidate local communities and arrest outspoken community members. It continues to appoint its Board members and Staffs.
- We want to thank all persons of good faith, NGOs, CSOs both National and International who have been outspoken on behalf of the rural poor people and to prevent Herakles farms intentions.
- We also urge the **10th UN Forum on Forests** to do more to prevent this environmental disaster by Herakles Farms by stopping the continuation of this Biofuel Search in times where forests Conservation is fundamental in Climate Change Challenges. Thank you.

Local Population protesting on Economic uncertainties



Photo showing Ancient Forests been cut down, Palm Nursery and Signboard of Herakles Farms

Roads within the communities, of South West Region