

**HONOURABLE ATTORNEY-GENERAL
OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA
AND MINISTER OF JUSTICE**

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Ref No. BO.16/S.4/VIII

Date: 10th August, 1999.

Mr. Eduardo Valencia Ospina,
The Registrar,
International Court of Justice,
Peace Palace,
The Hague 2517KJ,
Netherlands.

Sir,

CASE CONCERNING THE LAND AND MARITIME
BOUNDARY BETWEEN CAMEROON AND NIGERIA
(CAMEROON V. NIGERIA):

Application by Equatorial Guinea for
Permission to Intervene

I have the honour to refer to the Deputy-Registrar's letter of 30 June 1999 giving Nigeria the opportunity to furnish written observations on Equatorial Guinea's Application for Permission to Intervene.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria notes that Equatorial Guinea does not seek to intervene as a party in the Proceedings.

Nigeria further notes that according to its Application, Equatorial Guinea had no prior notice (any more than did Nigeria) of Cameroon's maritime claim as announced in its Memorial, and that there have been no negotiations on that claim, nor any request for negotiations.

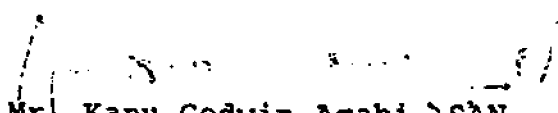
Nigeria and Equatorial Guinea have agreed that the delimitation of their respective maritime zones is to be determined by agreement following negotiations in accordance with Articles 76 and 83 of the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea. Nigeria

confirms that negotiations have been held between Nigeria and Equatorial Guinea on their respective maritime claims, but that those negotiations have as yet reached no agreement, either at the level of principle or of detail. In particular Nigeria does not accept the position of Equatorial Guinea with respect to the delimitation of the maritime zones lying between their respective coasts.

Whether or not Equatorial Guinea's Application is accepted, it will in Nigeria's view make no difference to the legal position of Nigeria to the present proceedings, or to the jurisdiction of the Court. On that basis, Nigeria leaves it to the Court to judge whether and to what extent it is appropriate or useful to grant Equatorial Guinea's Application. Nigeria would, however, hope that, if the Application is granted, it would be done in such a way as not to affect the timetable for the non-maritime aspects of the case presently before the Court.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours faithfully


Mr. Kanu Godwin Agabi, SAN
Hon. Attorney-General of the Federation
and Minister of Justice,
Agent of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.