

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

**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL SECRETARIAT  
MAITAMA ABUJA, NIGERIA**

P.M.B. No. 192  
Telegrams: Solicitor  
Telephone  
Telex:



Ref. No..... 048/CF/CIJ/97  
Date..... 13th May, ..... 1997.

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

**CASE OF THE LAND AND MARITIME BORDER  
(CAMEROON VS NIGERIA)**

In my capacity as Agent of the Federal Republic of Nigeria I acknowledge receipt of copies of the letters addressed to yourself by the Agent of the Republic of Cameroon dated 9th April 1997 together with copies of the Memorandum and Annexes dated April 1997.

Nigeria is considering the content of the Memorandum and accompanying Annexes and will respond thereto in due course, subject to what is said below. In the meantime Nigeria reserves its position on all of the points made in the covering letters, Memorandum and Annexes.

Cameroon is once again attempting unilaterally to intervene in the processes of the Court. Previous attempts by Cameroon to do this have been made by letter and by seeking and obtaining interviews with the President of the Court to which Nigeria was not invited.

Cameroon has now delivered, for consideration by the full court, a thinly veiled further pleading some 26 pages long, accompanied by 350 pages of exhibits. Once again, the tenor of the Memorandum and of the exhibits appears to be designed to create further prejudice against Nigeria in the eyes of the Court. There is no provision in the Rules of the Court for lodging Memoranda of this kind.

One of Nigeria's concerns about Cameroon's approach is that the Memorandum contains comments which:-

- (a) relate to the Merits Phase of the case; and
- (b) are based on arguments which are clearly intended to be prejudicial and assume the correctness of Cameroon's legal position.

These are of course matters on which Nigeria would in due course respond, depending on the outcome of the Preliminary Objections Phase.

At this stage, as Nigeria's Agent, I can say only that Nigeria is and will remain willing to take whatever course would be of most assistance to the Court.

Yours faithfully,



**CHIEF M. A. AGBAMUCHE, SAN  
HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION  
AND MINISTER OF JUSTICE.**