

# The Last Great Ape Organization – LAGA May 2024 Report



## Highlights

- **The Deputy Director held a meeting with 3 American Embassy officials including the Head of the Political Section to discuss issues related to wildlife law enforcement in the country**
- **He participated at a virtual Regional INTERPOL meeting that was organised to discuss wildlife law enforcement and collaboration.**

## General

The Deputy Director held a meeting with 3 American Embassy officials including the Head of the Political Section to discuss issues related to wildlife law enforcement in the country. ,,

He participated at a virtual Regional INTERPOL meeting that was organised to discuss wildlife law enforcement and collaboration. He highlighted the importance of effective collaboration in wildlife law enforcement.

A legal adviser held a meeting with Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons at the Ministry of Justice to discuss the monitoring of court cases, decisions and to strengthen collaboration.

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

## Investigations

- **16 investigation missions** were carried out in **5 Regions** out of 10 of Cameroon including the West, Centre, East, North, Littoral and South.

*Investigations Table*

Investigation Missions	Regions	No. of Operations	No. of traffickers arrested
16	5	0	0

## Operation

**No operations were carried out this month, efforts are being made to get better results next month.**

## Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **10 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 1 in Akonolinga (Centre), 2 in Doumé (East), 1 in Abong-Mbang (East), 1 in Bertoua (East), 2 in Ebolowa (South), 1 in Kye-Ossi (South), 1 in Ambam (South) and 1 in Douala (Littoral).
- There are **11 traffickers behind bars this month**: 2 in Centre, 3 in Littoral region and 6 in West region.
- **15 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department this month.
- **13 cases** were scheduled in court this month.
- **No traffickers** were convicted this month.
- **Prosecutions**: There were no court ruling this month.

*Legal Table*

<i>No of Missions (Out of Centre Region)</i>	<i>No of Court Judgements</i>	<i>No of Traffickers Given Prison Sentence</i>	<i>Prison term (in months)</i>	<i>No of Traffickers Sanctioned (No prison sentence)</i>	<i>No of Appeals lodged</i>	<i>No of Cases Tried in Courts</i>
10	0	0	0	0	0	16

## Media

- 15 media pieces were produced and pushed to the media including: 13 written press (7 in French and 6 in English), and 2 internet publication all in French.
- Giving a total of 9 media pieces produced in the French language and 6 in English making 60% in French and 40% in English.
- Interviewee: The Founder of EAGLE network,
- Subjects focused on wildlife law enforcement including: 30 traffickers arrested in 4 African countries during the first quarter of the year 2024 and 2 other traffickers arrested in Doume, East Region of Cameroon with gorillas' heads and limbs.

*Media Table*

<i>No of media pieces</i>	<b>TV</b>	<b>Radio</b>	<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Internet</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>

## External Relations and Policy

- The Deputy Director held a meeting with 3 American Embassy officials including the Head of the Political Section to discuss issues related to wildlife law enforcement in the country.
- He participated at a virtual Regional INTERPOL meeting that was organised to discuss wildlife law enforcement and collaboration. He highlighted the importance of effective collaboration in wildlife law enforcement.
- The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Commander of the East Gendarmerie Legion on the two fugitives who are on the run after their escapade at the Doume Gendarmerie Brigade.
- He held a meeting with the Head of Directorate General of External Research of Ambam to discuss wildlife crime.
- He also held a meeting with Directorate General of External Research of Douala to discuss wildlife crime.
- A legal adviser held a meeting with Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons at the Ministry of Justice to discuss the monitoring of court cases, decisions and to strengthen collaboration.
- A legal adviser held a meeting with the Chief of the Brigade at the South Delegation of Forestry and Wildlife to discuss a matter pending in court.
- He also held a meeting with the State Counsel in Ebolowa to discuss a matter pending in court
- Another legal adviser held a meeting with the Sate Counsel in Abong Mbang to a matter pending at the legal department.
- He also held a meeting with the State Counsel in Akonolinga to discuss strategies on a matter pending before the court.

## **Management**

- Financial and activity reports of April 2024 were prepared and made available online.

## **Finance**

**In preparation and would be made available soon as possible on the LAGA website [www.laga-enforcement.org](http://www.laga-enforcement.org) .**

## **Link of the month**

Alwihda info, a news site, published the arrest of 2 traffickers with gorillas' heads and limbs. They were arrested during a crackdown operation carried out by wildlife officials in collaboration with the Gendarmerie and with the technical assistance of LAGA. Click the link below to read the full story:

[Cameroun : deux trafiquants fauniques arrêtés avec des parties de gorilles à Doumé \(alwihdainfo.com\)](http://alwihdainfo.com)