

**REPORT OF THE SUPERVISION VISIT OF
MISS VERENA SMYKALA (AWI ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT)
TO THE AWI/FORCE-CAM PROJECT - CAMEROON
2, 6 and 7 March 2008**

Introduction

The visit of Miss Verena Smykala to the AWI-FORCE CAM Project had been planned to start from Saturday 1st to Thursday 6th March 2008. Unfortunately due to severe transporters' strike which caused a lot of disruption in Cameroon, the mission could not be carried out as planned. Instead an urgent and practical modification was done on the schedule to ensure maximum safety and effectiveness.

Sunday 2nd March 2008

Though being awaited on Saturday 1st March, 2008, due to transportation difficulties, Verena and Hedwige did not arrive Bamenda as expected. In preparation, at 5:30am early morning of Sunday 1st, fuel was bought in the car to be used. The President of FORCE-CAM picked up Verena and Hedwige at the Amour Mezan transport agency at 6.00 am. We took off straight to Ndu where we arrived at about 10.00am. At Ndu, we were received by Mr Edward Ngi who is the Project Coordinator in the field. Giving that the team was to spend just half a day in Ndu to be back in Bamenda to reach Yaounde that same night, the following children's families were visited in this order.

- PA 20/07 Bongon Brightly
- PA 22/07 Randolph Bamboh
- PA 07/06 Morine Motap
- PA 12/06 Believe Gohla
- PA 15/07 Nformi Safi
- PA 14/06 Madimatu Mformi
- PA 09/07 Glory Ntathi
- PA 02/06 Yayah Blaise
- PA 10/06 Evert Goh
- PA 23/07 Abilu Ndzi
- PA 09/06 Onorine Bongake
- PA 04/06 Brain Yuniwo
- PA 06/06 Nelson Njonyu
- PA 01/06 Sharon Bey

By the end of the day, 14 families were visited, though Sharon Bey came over to the President's house to meet Verena that night in Bamenda.

During the visits, Verena talked with the children and their caretakers who were all very grateful for the support AWI is giving them with their Foster Parents and express their immense thanks for what they are receiving. Verena gave letters from the foster parents of Morine Motap, Onorine Bongake, Sharon Bey and Mirabelle Mawa; and a parcel for Abilu Ndzi. She also gave various toys and gifts to all the children visited. Some more toys and gifts were left with Edward Ngi to give to the other children who were not visited. In all the homes, the families in show of gratitude and welcome gave some cola nuts to Verena. The group of caretakers also gave Verena some potatoes they had gathered. At the home of Brain Yuniwo, his grandmother cooked some food for Verena and the visiting team. The team left Ndu at 2.30 pm for Bamenda though the car had a breakdown on the way, but we managed to reach Bamenda safely at 6:30pm. After having supper at my home, Verena and Hedwige left Bamenda for Bafoussam at about 7.30pm to continue to Yaounde.

Thursday 6th March 2008

Giving that the strike did not continue as feared, Verena returned to Bamenda on Thursday 6th March 2008. Arriving at about 4.00pm, I picked her up from the motor park. We went straight to the home of Sharon Bey where we met her and her sister's husband. After, we went to my house where she rested for us to start work later. At 8:00 pm, after our family's evening devotion, we went to the office where we went through the AWI/FORCE-CAM 2008 financial report and the accompanying receipts. After examination, Verena made the following recommendations for subsequent reports:

1. During all caretaker/orphans' meetings, the list of those in attendance should be attached to the receipts
2. FORCE-CAM should institute a computerized cash book on an Excel file on which all the AWI/FORCE-CAM Project expenses are recorded as they occur. To facilitate this, Verena promised to send to FORCE-CAM through email, a sample of what AFASO is using.
3. Receipts should be sort and eventually grouped at the end of each financial year according to the various expenditure headings on the Financial report such that under each heading, all the detailed expenses within could be easily determined.

The working session ended at about 11:00 pm and we returned to my home where she spent the night.

Friday 7th March 2008

On Friday, Verena spent most of the morning at the President's home. At 2.00 pm, we traveled for site seeing to Ndop and visited the Prespot site where pottery is made. The trip was interesting and a few souvenirs were gotten. We returned at about 4:30 pm. We then visited Sharon Bey who had invited us to her birthday party at their house. The party was interesting and we were highly welcomed. After our evening devotion at 8:00 pm, Verena boarded the 9:30pm bus for Yaounde.

Observation

Though the visit of Verena was very brief, we strongly believe that it was very useful and necessary both to AWI and FORCE-CAM /Orphans families.

For AWI, this visit:

- provided a means to verify the use of AWI support and to see how useful the support is to the orphans families
- made it possible to know the people whom the support is reaching and also just how far AWI support is reaching
- enabled the assessment of the real living conditions of these children and their families and their needs
- provided an opportunity to understand field realities

For ORPHANS/CARETAKERS, this visit:

- made them recognize those who are involved in their support
- guaranteed their hope of AWI support
- offered them the opportunity to express their gratitude directly to AWI

For FORCE-CAM, this visit:

- enabled us to discuss challenges faced in project execution
- gave us very useful recommendations for project implementation
- made us happy to meet Verena

RECOMMENDATION/CONCLUSION

- Request another visit next year since the previewed duration at FORCE-CAM for this year was not realized due to the strike in Cameroon
- Appreciated immensely the dynamism of Verena and her recommendations

YUNIWO Edison
President