

International Advisory Group
Chad-Cameroon Petroleum Development and Pipeline Project

February 4, 2003.

COMMUNIQUE

2003 Planning Meeting

Dakar, 27 – 29 January 2003

The International Advisory Group to the Chad-Cameroon Petroleum Development and Pipeline Project (IAG) held its annual planning session in Dakar, Senegal, from 27 to 29 January.

Information up-date.

The Group exchanged information on recent activities of its members (including participation in the Maputo workshop of the Extractive Industries Review) and on Project developments since its November 2002 mission.

Reflections on IAG mission and work.

The Group continued the general assessment of its work to the end of 2002, which it had initiated last July in Washington.

Specifically, six months ahead of “First Oil” it undertook a systematic review of actions taken on each of its recommendations by its principal interlocutors. It agreed to advise interested parties of the follow-up to its recommendations in February and to make this a focus of its forthcoming April visit.

Having reflected globally on its activities in relation to its Terms of Reference and its Work Plan, the IAG noted that its fourth visit to Cameroon and Chad, October 15 to November 4 2002, had met the priorities and goals it had set for itself in Washington in July 2002.

Work plans and methods

As it does regularly, the IAG examined its working methods and its internal and external procedures for their continued relevance and drew pertinent lessons to apply to the transition phase that precedes the exploitation of the oil fields.

In accordance with its mandate, the IAG intends to continue to focus on the need to catch up on accumulated delays in Capacity Building, on development of social dialogue, reinforcing good governance, an early start to regionalisation and the sound management of oil revenues.

Fifth Statutory Visit

The Fifth statutory visit to Chad and Cameroon will take place from April 22 to May 10, 2003. That mission will focus on the state of preparedness of all parties prior to First Oil in July 2003. The Group will assess what is required by July and by the end of 2003 to ensure proper management of the production phase and sound management of oil revenues in a perspective of poverty reduction and sustainable development.

Annual Work Plan

The Group agreed on the following calendar for 2003:

- Fifth Statutory visit to Chad and Cameroon: April 22 – May 10.
- Mid-year session and meeting with President of World Bank Group: Washington, July 7- 10.
- Sixth statutory visit to Cameroon and Chad: 5 – 25 October 2003.
- Specific visits as required.

The Group will continue to hold regular telephone conferences to prepare and to assess its missions.

Communications

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