



EITD Research

Research for Enterprise, Industries, Technology and Development

Director: D.M. Mbwoye. B.Eng(Hons), B.A., M.Phil.

P.O. Box 168, Kumba. South West Region, Cameroon.

Tel: (237) 3335-4623/7766-2395/9794-7734 Fax: (237) 3335-4623

E-mail: info@eitdr.org Web site: www.eitdr.org

Judge Avoided Meeting, Ordered Adjournment!

Friday September 25, 2009, High Court Registry, Kumba

Subject: Letter of the EITD Research RJJR Programme to Justice Evande on his judgment in Suit No. HCK/31/2008 and related matters in his High Court Registry

Yesterday, 24/09/09, Justice Evande met with us (Mr. Mesue, Intern of the EITD Research RJJR Programme, and Mr. Mbwoye, Director of EITD Research) in his office as he had requested. The meeting ended with a command (Convocation of 24/09/09) from the Judge to us to appear before him today! Our report of the meeting is available on the Revival of Justice and Judiciary Reform (RJJR) Programme website, address: www.rjjr.eitdr.org.

So today, Mr. Mbwoye was at the High Court premises at 9.00 am waiting for his colleague, as was arranged, to see the Judge. Mr. Mesue phoned Mr. Mbwoye at 9.40 am to say he was feeling unwell and so unable to be at the programmed meeting with the Judge, probably due to fear and the battering from yesterday's meeting with the Judge. Mr. Mbwoye then walked into the Judge's office waiting area and presented his convocation to the senior police inspector who is the security officer of the Judge. The officer said the Judge was in his office and took the convocation to him. The inspector returned with the paper a while after, gave it to Mr. Mbwoye and asked him to take a seat and wait.

The Judge appeared busy. About four State Counsels (one male) came in and out of the Judge's office. At 10.30 am, a buzzer rang not far from where Mr. Mbwoye was sitting. The police inspector got up and went into the Judge's office. He soon returned and asked to see Mr. Mbwoye's convocation, and took it into the Judge's office, again. He later came out of the office with the paper and took it to Mme. Tiku (Registrar of the High Court), who was using a computer at the other end of the room, and said something to her. The Registrar wrote on the piece of paper, got up and consulted a calendar that was on another table, returned to complete what she was writing, and asked the security officer to take the convocation paper and hand it to Mr. Mbwoye.

The Registrar had added "Adj to Monday 28/09/09" to, and signed on, the convocation paper the police officer had taken from and was now returning to Mr. Mbwoye. In return, Mr. Mbwoye produced three copies of the EITD Research report of the RJJR Programme meeting with Justice Evande yesterday, and pleaded with the inspector to keep a copy, as he also played a role in the meeting, and help pass the other two copies on to the Judge and Registrar. Mr. Mbwoye was leaving quickly feeling disappointed, having so looked forward to meeting with the Judge and waiting in vain, when he was called to return to the room and asked to sit down and wait again. He did.

The inspector had given all the three report copies to the Registrar. She took them to the Judge in his office. Later, when she came out of the Judge's office, she was reading a copy of the report and, in passing, said "Monday" to Mr. Mbwoye. Mr. Mbwoye then said "Thank you" and left.

The EITD Research RJJR Programme uses various political processes and public interest litigation to robustly engage the justice system and hold it account continually. Website address: www.rjjr.eitdr.org.