

# OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 6, 2013

**TO:** Ms. Meg Taylor, Compliance Advisor Ombudsman, CCAVP

**FROM:** Tom Butler, Acting Director, CN2DR

**EXTENSION:** 35989

**SUBJECT:** IFC RESPONSE TO CAO ASSESMENT REPORT FOR THE COMPLAINT REGARDING AES SONEL PROJECT (IFC PROJECT #11579) IN CAMEROON JULY 2013

IFC thanks the CAO for its report: "*CAO Assessment Report: Complaint Regarding the AES Sonel Project (IFC Project #11579) Cameroon*" dated July 2013.

We request the CAO to consider the following points and clarify as necessary in the report:

1. The complainant case pertains to an alleged incident or incidents that transpired in 2002, prior to IFC's investment in the project.
2. The complainant and AES Sonel have taken the case through the Cameroonian courts and the case is currently pending in the Supreme Court of Cameroon.
3. IFC notes that AES Sonel has demonstrated significant commitment to resolving this through the Cameroonian courts for the past 10 years and is willing to consider mediation to resolve the outstanding issue.

Finally, IFC notes that both sides have voluntarily agreed to the proposed mediation in this case. Furthermore, we understand that before taking them up the CAO carefully evaluates all such requests for frivolous intent, to ensure that its efforts are not misused.

Cc : Rashad Kaldany, Jean-Philippe Prosper, William Bulmer, Yolande Duhem, Oumar Seydi, Ram Mahidhara, Bilal Rahill, Bernard Sheahan