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THE TEST OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM: CUSTOMS IN THE COMMUNITY OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY

Wullson Mvomo ELA Professor

Head of the Research and Documentation Centre
of the International School for Security Forces (EIFORCES)

PRESENTATION PLAN

- I. COMBATING LAND AND MARITIME TERRORISM: MAJOR STAKE OF CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL SECURITY**
- II. STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL CHANGES FOR MODERN CUSTOMS**
- III. MODERN CUSTOMS: AN UNAVOIDABLE PLAYER OF THE DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMUNITY**

I. COMBATING LAND AND MARITIME TERRORISM: MAJOR ISSUE OF CONTEMPORARY WORLD SECURITY

1. A BASICALLY CROSS BORDER THREAT

In a post-bipolar international context marked by a complex conflictuality, there is a:

- **Mutation of the phenomenon of war :**

- Threats / Fissiparous and protean wars
- border and transnational dynamics of threats
- hybrid, nomadic and virtual threats
- Proliferation of terrorist organisations (AQIM, Boko Haram, ISWAP - the Islamic State of West Africa Province) and rise of terrorism worldwide

- **The Continuum Logic between external and internal security**

- Comprehensiveness of the impact of threat (the effect of the glocalisation of threats)
- Total connectivity between the inside and the outside

2. THE NEED FOR AN OVERALL AND COMMON STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM

For an **efficient defence and security community, modern in the search of the root causes of terrorism and border security**

- Dynamic Action multi-sector;
- The multi-level mobilisation of all public policies of the State (national, regional, international)

A global threat , global responses

- Example: **The United Nations doctrine of comprehensive fight against terrorism** (2006) - application version in Central Africa developed under the auspices of UNSAC (2012) with the Customs contributions of the Central African countries.

The said doctrine rests on the following 4 pillars:

- Measure aiming to eliminate the propitious conditions to the propagation of terrorism;
- Measures aiming to prevent and combat terrorism;
- Measures aimed at increasing the means which States possess to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role played by the United Nations Organisation in this regards;
- Measures guaranteeing the respect of human rights and the primacy of law as a fundamental base for the anti terroriste fight.

II. CHANGES FOR STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL CUSTOMS MODERN

1. INTEGRATION OF CUSTOMS IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMUNITIES: THE NEED FOR CULTURAL REVOLUTION

- **The doctrine of the Coordinated Border Management (2006)** : Managerial, ethical, technical, technological and administrative modernity of the Customs;
- Moving from annuity Customs to modern customs
- **The Punta Cana Resolution (2015)**: conceptual and paradigmatic shift from the border - a traditional role to a new role as a contribution to global efforts against terrorism;
- Customs within the defence and security communities:
 - profound transformation and cultural revolution within Customs
 - An integration driven by the State and the regional and international communities
 - The need for accession of Customs to this new vision
 - The imperative of acceptance of Customs by other actors of the national and international community of defence and security

2. STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONALITY OF MODERN CUSTOMS IN COMMUNITY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

Importance of Customs as a protective force of State-territoriality but also a composition of geopolitical force;

- Customs at the forefront of cooperation and collaboration in the field of defence and security;
- Customs: a Standby force and an interface force;
- The dual function of the Customs: protection and cooperation;
- Customs: a collective and cooperative security force;
- Customs: internal and external geopolitical tool at the regional, continental and international - the importance of the MDGs

III. CENTRAL AFRICA / GULF OF GUINEA: A SPACE-STAKE OF THE GLOBAL GEOSTRATEGY AND SITE FOR EXCELLENCE REDEFINING THE ROLE AND THE PLACE OF CUSTOMS AS AN ESSENTIAL LINK OF THE COMMUNITY OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY

1. The efforts of ECCAS

- Adoption of the Central African Convention for the Control of SALW, their ammunition and all parts and components that can be used for their manufacture, repair, assembly (30th Meeting of UNSAC, Kinshassa April 30, 2010); adoption of the Regional Strategy for the fight against terrorism and trafficking of SALW in Central Africa (41th Session UNSAC, Libreville, 23-27 November 2015)
- The recognition of the essential role in the Custom implementation of the four pillars of this strategy "Prevent, Protect, Pursue, Respond" and its collaboration with ECCAS, CEMAC, UNSAC, UNOCA, but also Interpol, the IMO, UNODC, the ACSRT, ICAO,

2. The need for customs modernization in the Gulf of Guinea, contact zone of the global geo-economy of natural resources

- * The Gulf of Guinea: space-stake since the colonial penetration - areas of rivalries from the shore to the hinterland;
- * Strong state fragmentation (most fragmented region in Africa);
 - Competition and colonial rivalry for monitoring an area intended to be one of the pivots of the global geostrategy and geo-economy of resources in particular, where the limnic and complex framework, entangled and rich in disputes comes from.
 - Globalisation and globalisation (glocalization) of stakes: the maritimisation of the geo-economy and of the geostrategy of resources;
 - The borders in the Gulf of Guinea: element of fragility



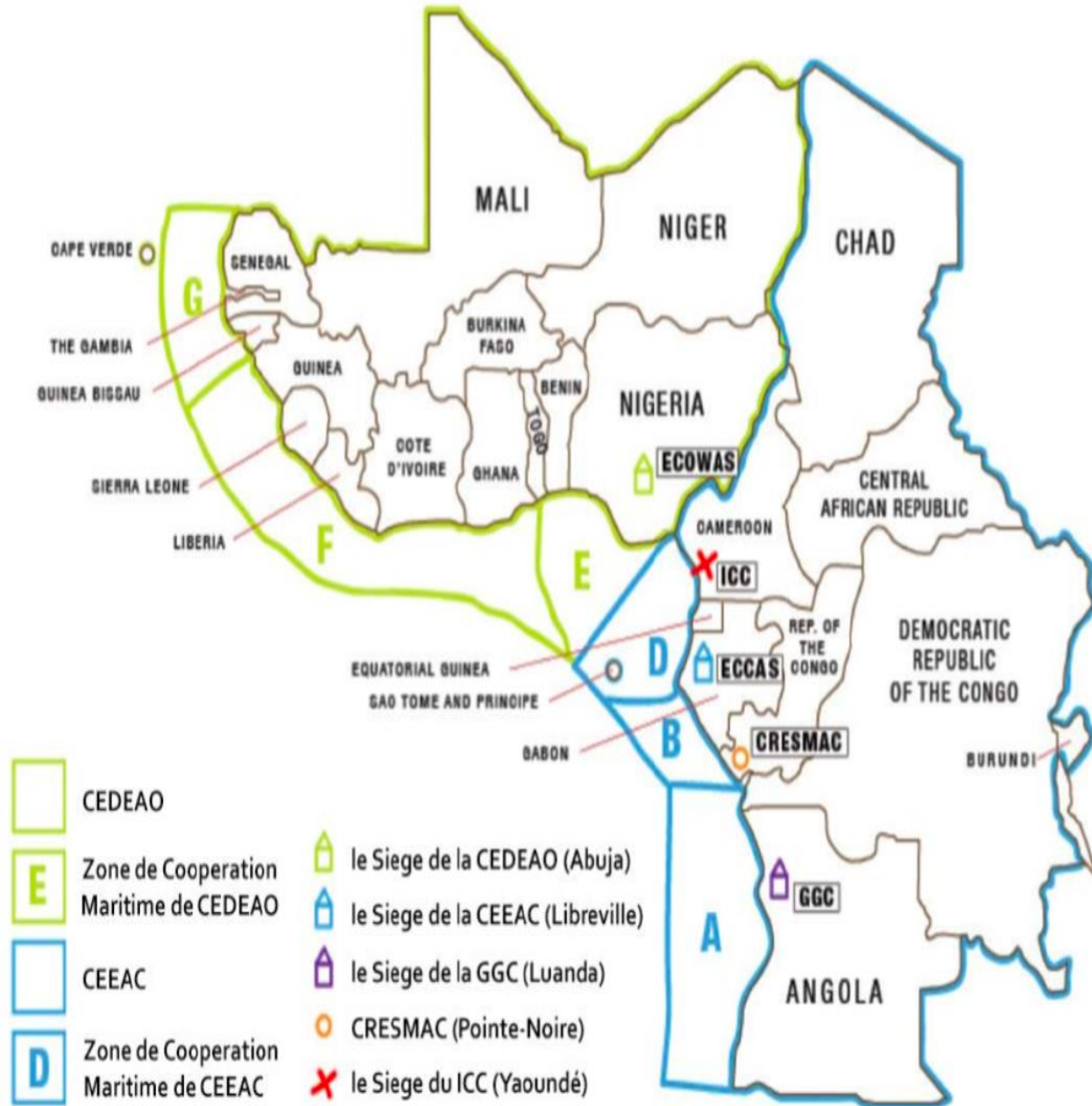
The Geographic Gulf of Guinea (International Hydrographic Organization) vs. The institutional Gulf of Guinea (CGG member countries) *Source: NchareName, 2009, p. 36-37*

Cameroon in the Gulf of Guinea :
Prisoner of its environment in terms of
its limnic map;

*Cameroon: link between West Africa
and Central Africa

* A strategic position placing the
Cameroon Customs in the heart of
the coordinated management devices
of borders and secure movement of
people and goods

Image source: International Crisis Group (2014)



Modernity Strategic and operational Cameroonian customs



• The virtuous character of the modernisation of Customs: crucial axiological dimension:

- Strengthening the strategic virtue of Customs - the strategy is virtuous;
- Limitation of the annihilating capacity of the vice, fundamentally an anti-strategic factor;
- Significantly improved performance of the Cameroon Customs compared to the situation 20 years ago;

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Customs are an important tool as a protective force of State-territoriality but also a force of geopolitical composition. It is at the forefront of cooperation and collaboration in defence and security.
- Their function is part of the duality of protection and cooperation. Customs are also an internal geopolitical tool that is to say within the State, and external to the regional, continental and international hence the importance of the World Customs Organisation as framework for cooperation and collective action.
- The triptych "coordination", "complementarity" and "consistency" ("3C") for collaboration and enhanced cooperation between different actors engaged in border security and related tasks.

- Also, it is necessary to increase the capacity and capabilities of Customs in view of its double function of protection and cooperation. This could be done in particular by various means in which rank:
- Integrated training in joint training and research centres such as: the International School for Security Forces (EIFORCES), open to Customs officials for the dissemination of standards , of good practices, of culture and of the operational doctrine;
- The development of the convergence criteria in terms of logistics, legal, good practices and standards, at the national, regional and international level in the communal perspective ;
- Enhancing interoperability of Customs of States of the Gulf of Guinea ;

- The insertion of Customs within the relevant frameworks for action that are the Peace and Security Council of Central Africa within the Economic Community of Central African States, the Economic and Monetary Community of Central African States, the Economic Community of West African States, the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security and Safety (CIC) in the Gulf of Guinea, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, including the African Union in the Council of Peace and Security but also the African Standby Force.
- Nonetheless, Customs have to do their *aggiornamento* in the defence and security community.



Thank you for your attention