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Peace Palace
2517 KJ The Hague
Netherlands

Your Ref

Our Ref **THD/CPH/102280/kys**

25 March 1998

Dear Sir

**Land and Maritime Boundary between Cameroon and Nigeria
(Cameroon -v- Nigeria)**

On behalf of the Agent for the Government of the Federal Government of Nigeria, we attach the Written Reply to the question raised by Judge Guillaume on 6th March 1998, after the first round of oral pleadings by Nigeria and Cameroon. This is a copy of the original, which was signed by the Agent for Nigeria, His Excellency, Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim OFR, SAN, and which was sent to you by overnight courier yesterday.

Yours faithfully

Associate
John Skrimshire*

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The Firm's membership is regulated in the conduct of its investment business by the Law Society

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**CASE CONCERNING****THE LAND AND MARITIME BOUNDARY****BETWEEN CAMEROON AND NIGERIA****(CAMEROON V NIGERIA)****PRELIMINARY OBJECTIONS HEARING 2 - 11 March 1998****NIGERIA'S ANSWER TO QUESTION OF JUDGE GUILLAUME**

The land boundary between Nigeria and Cameroon is not described by reference to geographical co-ordinates. Rather, the relevant instruments (all of which pre-date the independence of Nigeria and Cameroon) and well-established practice, both before and after independence, fix the boundary by reference to physical features such as streams, rivers, mountains and roads, as was common in those days. Since independence, the two States have not concluded any bilateral agreement expressly confirming or otherwise describing the pre-independence boundary by reference to geographical co-ordinates. Nevertheless, the course of the boundary, which was well-established before independence and related UN procedures, has continued to be accepted in practice since then by Nigeria and Cameroon.


Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim, OFR, SAN
As Agent of Nigeria