

**LETTER TO Mr. EL HADJ OMAR BONGO ONDIMBA
PRESIDENT OF GABONESE REPUBLIC**

Mr President of the Republic, you have misled the Gabonese people!

Mister President of the Republic,

For the Gabonese people's honour, for History, and coming generations, the Free Actors of the Gabonese Civil Society have chosen to tell you the truth about the waste you made during the last forty years that you have been President of our country. Gabon is a surprisingly rich country, blessed by nature, however, its underdevelopment is getting worse year after year.

Mister President of the Republic, what have you done with our wealth, and for the common good of the Gabonese people during those four decades?

Our country has the second highest GNP in Africa after Libya. These 30 last years, Gabon accumulated on average almost 1000 billion Fcfa (1.5 billion €) of annual receipts, and during the last 3 years, almost 1800 billion Fcfa (2 billion €) each year. In 2008, the Gabonese corrected budget was 2700 billion Fcfa (almost 4 billion €) of which 1800 billion Fcfa (2 billion €) was oil revenues.

Those resources, with a population of less than 1.5 million inhabitants, should guarantee the Gabonese a better standard of life. It could be the same as in the Gulf countries. But, except for a minority who live around you, the Gabonese people live as poor wretches.

Unemployment is too high and the majority of employees are penniless civil servants. No important Gabonese contractor, independent from the government, can emerge because you are present in all sectors of activity associated in priority with non-Gabonese industries.

Your security and your political systems persecute Gabonese people in their everyday life, because of an authoritarian political management by corrupted magistrates. A complaint has been lodged against the prosecuting attorney (Procureur de la République), who is also your nephew, before the Committee against Illicit Enrichment.

While the major part of the urban population lives in shantytowns, you have restored your palace at a cost of more than 160 billion Fcfa (almost 250 million €). This is equal to the budget for the last 14 years of our capital city, Libreville. It also matches the budget of the last 16 years of the General Hospital, where women give birth on the floor.

Each of your foreign trips is on board two jet aircraft, one for you, and the second one for your retinue of courtiers, who to spend the Gabonese people's money abroad. Your family circle uses private flights which cost several million Euros each year, paid for by the State. All the private transportation companies are yours: Afrijet, Air Service, Nouvelle Air Affaires Gabon... Some of your children don't take anymore regular flights, but travel by private jet. Members of your family have accounts in the most expensive hotels in the world, also paid for by the State.

During the “Turning Parties” each year, which are held to commemorate Independence, the money raised is used for other useless events, whereas it should be used to invest in new infrastructure projects around the country. The major part of the money which comes from these festivities is given to your companies.

SOCOBA, SOCOFI, ENTRACO, are your companies. For all building work programs, those three companies make your partner’s fortune, and probably your own fortune. In Libreville, 90% of building projects are linked to you.

You destroy everything: the insurance company **OGAR**, the Gabonese forest companies, distribution groups such as **CECA-GADIS**, banks such as **BGFI**, telecommunication companies like the mobile network operator **Celtel (Zain)** and **MOOV** and Gabon-Telecom. There is also the mining group **Eramet**, different Gabonese factories (salt, fish, medicine...), the **Tom** group (**PMUG, Kabi immobilier, Afrijet**, and the list goes on.

When, after a strike, the civil servants obtain payment of their overdue salary, it is announced as if it were a proof of generosity, rather than the result of a legitimate claim. However, you don’t forget to make the State pay for goods and services it has received from one of your companies!

Gabonese finances are managed by your inner circle. The former paymaster general succeeded in opening the “National Treasury” to your eldest daughter. To thank him, she promoted him to Minister of Finance.

And this list gets longer year after year: luxurious real estate properties in France, takeover of energy resources ..., but for the people - no roads, no running water, no electricity, no refuse disposal, no equipment for schools and hospitals, no State but the familiar clan with political conniving from both sides, majority or opposition.

You want to impose one of your descendents as your successor, , as if Gabon were your private property. The Gabonese people are sick of their country’s condition. They are sick of being the laughing stock of French-speaking Africa! We don’t accept to live with lies and fear anymore.

Mister President of the Republic, after more than forty years under your control, the Gabonese people ask you, legitimately, to account for what you have done to their country.

For the **Free Actors of Gabonese Civil Society, Bruno BEN-MOUBAMBA**