

6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY

The variety and complexity of the infectious disease burden in Cameroon is enormous. Substantial efforts have been made to develop the geographic distribution of diseases in Cameroon. Disease rates clearly have geographic distribution as a function of local ecological conditions. The project area is located in a variety of provinces that have high levels of many vector and non-vector infectious diseases. Much of the available data have been presented, although additional information and mapping is contained in Dames and Moore (1997). Sections 7.0 and 8.0 of the EA present and discuss the different strategies available to control these diseases. The World Bank (Listorti, 1996) has adopted a series of guidelines that emphasize the role of subsector analysis (housing, water and sanitation, transportation, and telecommunications) in managing and controlling disease burdens associated with infrastructure projects like the proposed pipeline and oil field development. Sections 7.0 and 8.0 of the EA describe in detail the approaches and benefits of the subsector remediation approach for large projects like the this Project. Strategy interventions and policy tools within the control of the project are further explored; however, policy tools are primarily a function of government rather than the private sector. The critical issues of STDs and AIDS amplification has been presented and discussed. STD/AIDS spread represents the most difficult public health issue associated with the project. Further development of intervention and policy strategies are presented in Section 8.0 of the EA and in the Cameroon Environmental Management Plan—Volume I.

Overall, the analysis of baseline disease and demographic data demonstrates that Cameroon is still in a pretransitional state subject to the problems associated with high fertility and high mortality disease problems. However, sufficient detailed baseline geographic disease data are available so that appropriate intervention strategies can be developed. These strategies and proposed interventions are subjects of Sections 7.0 and 8.0 of the EA and the accompanying Cameroon Environmental Management Plan—Volume I.