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PAIX-TRAVAIL-PATRIE

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
PEACE-WORK-FATHERLAND



**REPORT BY THE MINISTRY OF
JUSTICE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
IN CAMEROON IN 2014**

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REPORT BY THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CAMEROON IN 2014

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ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF CAMEROON



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ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF CAMEROON



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JUDICIAL MAP OF CAMEROON





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FOREWORD

"... we were obliged to prioritize the defence of the national territory, for, there can be no peace without security and no development without peace. Nonetheless, we have not relented in our efforts to revive growth."

**Paul BIYA, President of the Republic,
Message on the occasion of the
National Youth Day,
Yaounde, 10 February 2013**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

///	Empty box due to nature of things
...	Result not available
AAA:	African Action on AIDS
ACAFEJ:	Association of Cameroon Female Jurists
ACHPR:	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
AFD:	French Development Agency
AfDB:	African Development Bank
AFHALITD:	Association for the Inclusion of Girls and Women with Disabilities in Development
African Commission:	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
AIDER:	<i>Association Internationale des Enfants de la Rue</i>
AIR:	Rapid Intervention Unit
ANIF:	National Financial Investigation Agency
ARMP:	Public Contracts Regulatory Board
ARSEL:	Electricity Sector Regulatory Agency
ART:	Telecommunications Regulatory Agency
ARV:	Antiretroviral
ASGIRAP:	Support Project for the Security and Integrated Management of Agro-pastoral Resources
ACMS:	Cameroon Social Marketing Association
BADEA:	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
BFDC:	Budget and Financial Disciplinary Council
BIM:	Motorized Infantry Battalion
BPW:	Building and Public Works
CA:	Court of Appeal
CAMAIR-CO:	Cameroon Airlines Corporation
CAMCCUL:	Cameroon Cooperative Credit Union League
CAM-DTV:	Steering and Monitoring Committee for the Implementation of the Migration from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting
CAMWATER:	Cameroon Water Utilities Corporation
CAPIEMP:	<i>Certificat d'Aptitude Pédagogique d'Instituteurs de l'Enseignement Maternel et Primaire</i>
CBF:	Cameroon Business Forum
CCC:	Cameroonian Citizens Council
CCFF:	Financial Assistance Committee
CD2:	Debt Relief and Development Contract

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CDE:	Camerounaise des Eaux
CDVTA:	Community Development Volunteers for Technical Assistance
CEBNF:	Informal Basic Education Centres
CEDAW:	Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women
CEP:	<i>Certificat d'Etudes Primaires</i>
CERD:	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR:	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CFC:	Cameroon Housing Loan Fund
CFCE:	Formalities Centres for the Establishment of Enterprises
CFI:	Court of First Instance
CICC:	Interprofessional Cocoa and Coffee Board
CIMENCAM:	<i>Cimenteries du Cameroun</i>
CLCC:	National Coalition for the fight against
CLTS:	Community-led total sanitation
CNC:	National Communication Council
CNPRH-CPEL:	Cardinal Paul Emile Leger National Centre for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities)
CNTD:	Chronic Non Transmissible Diseases
CONAC:	National Anti-Corruption Commission
CONRHA:	The National Committee for the Readaptation and the Socio economic reinsertion of Persons with Disabilities
CONSUPE:	Supreme State Audit
CPA:	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
CPC:	Criminal Procedure Code
CPE:	Cameroon Publi-Expansion
CSO:	Civil Society Organizations
CTF:	Call for Tender Files
DAFI:	German Scholarship Programme
DAPEN	<i>Direction de l'Administration Pénitentiaire</i>
DECC:	Department of Examinations and Certification
DGSN:	General Delegation of National Security
DIDE	Dignity in Detention
DPDC:	<i>Dibamba Power Development Company</i>
EAE:	Child Friendly Areas

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ECOFI-A:	Economy and Finance; Cycle A
ELECAM	Elections Cameroon
EmONC:	Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care
ENAM:	National School of Administration and Magistracy
ENAP:	National School of Penitentiary Administration
ENEO:	Energy of Cameroon Company
ENIEG:	General Education Grade I Teachers Training College
ENS	<i>Ecole Normale Supérieur</i>
ENSET:	Technical Education Grad I Teachers Training College
FAPH:	African Forum of Persons with Disabilities
FEDIPRESSE:	Federation of Newspaper Publishers of Cameroon
FEICOM:	Special Council Support Fund
FENASSCO:	Federation of National School Games
FENASU:	Federation of National University Games
FGM:	Female Genital Mutilation
FIUS:	Financial Intelligence Units
FLC:	Functional Literacy Centre
FP:	Family Planning
FPIC:	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
FSLC:	First School Leaving Certificate
GAFI:	Financial Action Group
GBV:	Gender-based Violence
GCE A/L:	General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
GCE O/L:	General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level
GCE Board:	General Certificate of Education Board
GESP:	Growth and Employment Strategy Paper
GICAM:	Interprofessional Group of Cameroon
GLOBE:	Observations to Benefit the Environment
GTHS:	Government Technical High School
HACA:	High Audio-visual Communication Authority
HC:	High Court
HCR:	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
HILF:	High Intensity Labour Force
HIV/AIDS:	Human immunodeficiency virus/Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
HJC:	Higher Judicial Council
HTTTC:	Higher Technical Teacher Training College

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IAI:	African Institute of Computer Sciences
ICCPR:	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICT:	Information and Communication Technology
IDP:	Internally Displaced Persons
IFAD:	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IHC:	Integrated Health Centre
IITA:	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
ILO:	International Labour Organization
IM:	Indecency with Minor
IMCI:	Integrated Management for Childhood Diseases
INJS:	Higher Institute of Youth and Sports
Interpol ICPO:	International Criminal Police Organization
IPAVI:	Interprofessional Poultry of Cameroon
IRAD:	Agricultural Institute for Research and Development
IRD:	International Relief and Development
ISESCO:	Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IVP:	Indigenous Vulnerable People
KPDC:	Kribi Power Development Company
LD:	Legal Department
MAETUR:	Mission for the Development and Equipment of Urban and Rural Land
MDG:	Millennium Development Goals
MINAC:	Ministry of Arts and Culture
MINAS:	Ministry of Social Affairs
MINATD:	Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization
MINCOM:	Ministry of Communication
MINCOMMERCE:	Ministry of Trade
MINDCAF:	Ministry of Land, State Property, Surveys and Land Tenure
MINDEF:	Ministry of Defence
MINEDUB:	Ministry of Basic Education
MINEE:	Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
MINEFOP:	Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training
MINEPAT:	Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development
MINESEC:	Ministry of Secondary Education
MINESUP:	Ministry of Higher Education

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MINFI:	Ministry of Finance
MINFOF:	Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
MINFOPRA:	Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms
MINJUSTICE:	Ministry of Justice
MINMAP:	Ministry of Public Contracts
MINPMEESA:	Ministry of Small and Medium-Size Enterprises
MINPOSTEL:	Ministry of Post and Telecommunication
MINPROFF:	Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and the Family
MINRESI:	Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation
MINSANTE:	Ministry of Public Health
MINTOUL:	Ministry of Tourism and Leisure
MINTSS:	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
MIRAP:	Essential Goods Supply Regulation Authority for the Regulation and Supply of Staples
MNV:	Measure, Notification and Verification”
MOU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MTN:	Mobile Telephone Network
NAACP:	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
NAC:	National Advertising Council
NACS:	National Anti-Corruption Strategy
NACC:	National Aids Control Committee
NSPFM:	National Malaria Control Strategic Plan
NCHRF:	National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms
NEF:	National Employment Fund
NEPAD:	New Partnership for Africa’s Development
NGO:	Non-Governmental Organization
NIS:	National Institute of Statistics
NSIF:	National Social Insurance Fund
NSP:	National Strategic HIV/AIDS Plan
NTD:	Neglected Tropical Diseases
NUDP:	National Union for Democracy and Progress
OAU:	Organization of African Unity
OBC:	Cameroon Baccalaureat Board
OF:	Obstetric Fistula
OIF:	<i>Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie</i>
PADDL:	Decentralisation and Support Programme for Local

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	Development
PADER:	Rural Development Employment Programme
PADMIR:	Support Project for Rural Microfinance Development
PAME:	Self-Employment and Micro Enterprises Programme
PAP:	Priority Action Plan
PC:	Penal Code
PCC:	Pre-nursery Community Centre
PDPP/PNDP:	Plan for the Development of the Pygmies / National Community Driven Programme
PDUE:	Project for the Development of Urban Areas and Water Supply
PEA:	Priority Education Areas
PEPFAR:	President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PFIPWD:	Platform Society for Persons with Disability
PIAASI:	Integrated Support Project for Informal Sector Stakeholders
PLWHA:	Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
PNDP:	National Programme for Participatory Development
PMTCT:	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV
PRINCES:	Economic and Social Inclusion Programme
PRODERIP:	Project for the Development of Rainfed Rice
PRODHAFE:	Association for the Promotion and Harmonious Development of Women and Children
PTA:	Parent/Teacher Association
RAFAMI:	Female Agricultural Associations in Mbam-and- Inoubou Division
RECODH:	Cameroon Network of Human Rights Organizations
REDD+:	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Sustainable Management of Forest and Forest Conservation
REFRAM:	Francophone Regulators Media Network
REPECC:	Enhancement of Population Resilience against Effects of Climate Change
RMIA:	Joint Military Regions
RRI:	Rapid Results Initiatives
SAS:	Social Action Services

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SBEP:	Special Bilingual Education Programmes
SCC:	Special Criminal Court
SEMYR:	<i>Société d'Expansion et de Modernisation de la Riziculture de Yagoua</i>
SHUMAS	Strategic Humanitarian Services in Cameroon
SITIC:	Communication Technologies
SMC:	Sub-Divisional Medical Centres
SME:	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SMIG:	Guaranteed Minimum Wage
SMS:	Short Message Service
SNLCC:	National Strategy for the Fight against Corruption
SNSCF:	National Forest Carbon Monitoring System
SOCAM:	Cameroon Civil Society for Musical Arts
SYNAVCAM:	National Audiovisual Union of Cameroon
TB :	Tuberculosis
TPD:	<i>Tribunal de Première Degré</i>
UAR:	African Broadcasting Union
UNAPHAC:	National Union of Associations and Institutions of and for Persons with Disabilities
UNCHRD-CA:	United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa
UNDAF:	UN Development Assistance Framework
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA:	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNHCR:	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNVDA	Upper Noun Valley Development Authority
WACS:	West African Cable System
WASH:	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP:	World Food Programme
WHO:	World Health Organization
WILPF:	Women and International League for Peace and Freedom

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Preface

The State is the main guarantor of Human Rights, which is why it has once more, through this Report, provided the public with the essential information and evaluation of the actions carried out for this purpose.

Although current events have directed attention to some issues such as security, with focus on the fight against the *Boko Haram* Sect, health with the threat of the Ebola virus or even the fight against high cost of living with new fuel price hikes, the State logically concentrated on consolidating the rule of law and preserving the rights of all persons living within its jurisdiction.

This Report therefore deals with issues relating to both civil and political rights, economic, social and cultural rights, the right to a healthy environment, cross-cutting issues and the rights of specific groups. It highlights progress and achievements made without concealing grey areas, since the choice is to make a self-evaluation which will allow for an objective orientation of future actions.

Even though the promotion and protection of Human Rights is the prime priority of the State, it is not a solitary endeavour. All constructive contributions and proposals are therefore welcome. It is for this reason that I wish that each and every one carefully read this Report in order to identify the area in which they could usefully contribute towards the achievement of this goal.

Laurent ESSO

***Minister of State, Minister of Justice,
Keeper of the Seals***



GENERAL

INTRODUCTION



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1- This Report of the Ministry of Justice on Human Rights in Cameroon in 2014 is the 10th of a series launched in 2005. It remains true to the initial ambition of availing the public of information on how the State, as main guarantor of Human Rights, discharged its mission during the reference year. Although it takes into account adjustments made during this period with regard to both form and content, it obviously maintains its singularity given the headline news which constitutes the source of the material analyzed.

Context

2- In fact, 2014 was rich in Human Rights events. One of the most significant, given its magnitude and impacts, was the intensification of terrorism, which was topical because of repeated assaults by the *Boko Haram* Sect at the North Western border. Incursions by Central African armed groups at the Eastern border also helped increase the security threat. Thus trapped, Cameroon, a country known for its peace and stability, has seen the tranquillity of its population troubled.

3- The enjoyment of Human Rights was therefore, significantly hampered by security concerns, obliging the State to strike a balance at several levels: balance between the fight against this form of criminality and the guarantee of the rights of persons prosecuted; balance between freedom and security; balance between the guarantee of collective security and the continuation of development objectives. The adoption of an anti-terrorism law has clearly highlighted these concerns. It was also the focus of debates on the guarantee of freedom of expression and communication, all the more because communication in time of war is guided by specific constraints. However, the intensification of the deployment of the National Communication Council (CNC) was not always welcomed by Communication professionals.

4- These concerns as well as the measures taken for the protection of internally displaced persons as a result of the insecurity and the traditional actions aimed at guaranteeing the right to life and security of persons are contained in the Report. Although no election was organized this year, participation in the management of public affairs was also in the lime light

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through continued decentralization and preparation of future elections, by both political stakeholders and the body in charge of the organization of elections.

5- Just as security concerns resulted in the massive displacement of people, the threat of the Ebola haemorrhagic fever virus, which went wild in some West African countries, imposed restrictions on the freedom of movement as part of the alert strategy. Management of this threat was also a priority for the preservation of the human being who is the essential resource and final recipient of any development action. The fundamental nature of the right to health was thus strongly underscored because of its impact on guaranteeing other rights, including the right to adequate standard of living.

6- How can the population be effectively guaranteed an adequate standard of living based on the economic consequences of measures taken to avert the threat to health peril? This issue was all the more crucial because fuel prices were increased during the reference year. To deal with it and maintain social cohesion, dialogue and consultations were part of the tools mobilized as in the previous year. Implementation of the prohibition of plastic packaging below 61 microns also became effective in 2014.

Institutional and Normative Framework

7- The institutional landscape was enriched with a new body: the Social Dialogue Consultation and Monitoring Committee. The concerted management of humanitarian emergency arising from the situation at the borders also justified the setting up of an *Ad hoc* Inter-ministerial Committee for the Management of Emergency concerning Refugees in Cameroon. Other forums have also been put in place to give greater impetus to the consideration of Human Rights in the development process; for example, the National Committee for the Fight against Child Labour¹. It is part of the framework for the promotion of decent work and is based on the protection of this vulnerable group.

8- Protection and inclusion concerns also led to the design and/or adoption of policies including Corporate Responsibility and the National Gender Policy to give a more equitable face to the development process.

¹Order No. 82/PM of 27 August 2014 to set up and lay down the organization and functioning of the National Committee to Fight against Child Labour.

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9- Overall, the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms (NCHRF) welcomed new members while the mandate of other members was renewed². The number of Judicial and Legal Officers, Lawyers and Bailiffs has also increased significantly.

10- The institutional arrangements and the drawing up of policies were thus associated to changes in the normative framework translated by adherence to international standards and the development of internal mechanisms.

10.1- In 2014, Cameroon ratified or acceded to the following instruments:

- the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights establishing the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, adopted on 10 June 1998 in Ouagadougou, ratified by Decree No. 2014/266 of 22 July 2014;
- the African Union Convention on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa signed in Kampala on 22 October 2009, ratified by Decree No. 2014/610 of 31 December 2014;
- the Convention of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on the Prevention and the Fight against Terrorism, adopted on 14 July 1999 in Algiers, ratified by Decree No. 2014/605 of 31 December 2014;
- the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter adopted in N'djamena on 30 April 2012 and ratified by Decree No. 2014/608 of 31 December 2014;
- the Protocol to the OAU Convention on the Prevention and the Fight against Terrorism adopted on 8 July 2004 in Addis Ababa, ratified by Decree No. 2014/606 of 31 December 2014; and
- the Charter for the Cultural Renaissance of Africa, adopted in Khartoum on 24 January 2006 and ratified by Decree No. 2014/607 of 31 December 2014.

10.2- At the internal level, the statutory and regulatory instruments below may be mentioned:

- Law No. 2014/28 of 23 December 2014 on suppression of acts of terrorism;

²Decree No.2014/399/ of 8 October 2014 to renew the mandate of some members of the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms.

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- Decree No. 2014/58 of 18 February 2014 on the commutation and remission of Sentences;
- Decree No. 2014/881/PM of 30 April 2014 on the organization and functioning of the National Museum;
- Decree No. 2014/882/PM of 30 April 2014 on the organization and functioning of National Archives;
- Decree No. 2014/1001/PM of 15 May 2014 on the organization and functioning of the National Ensemble;
- Decree No. 2014/1882/PM of 4 July 2014 to amend and supplement some provisions of Decree No. 2002/648/PM of 26 March 2002 to lay down conditions for the implementation of Law No.1 of 16 April 2001 on the Mining Code;
- Decree No. 2014/2217/PM of 24 July 2014 on the increase of the Guaranteed Minimum Wage (SMIG);
- Decree No. 2014/2377/PM of 13 August 2014 to lay down the terms and conditions of support for voluntary insured persons to the old age, invalidity and death pension insurance scheme;
- Decree No. 2014/2378/PM of 20 August 2014 to amend and supplement some provisions of Decree No.2007/1419/PM of 2 November 2007 to lay down the conditions for the implementation of Law No. 97/3 of 10 January 1997 on real estate development ;
- Decree No. 2014/2379/PM of 20 August 2014 to lay down the procedures for the coordination of inspection of hazardous, unhealthy or noxious establishments;
- Decree No. 2014/3209/PM of 29 September 2014 to lay down the minimum annual fees for the occupation of State land appurtenances; and
- Decree No. 2014/3211/PM of 29 September 2014 to lay down the minimum prices applicable to transactions on private property of the State.

General Measures on Human Rights Promotion

11- In order to promote and consolidate the Human Rights culture, awareness and capacity-building activities were carried out. In this respect, mention can be made of:

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- a capacity building seminar for Judicial and Legal Officers on Human Rights, organized in Kribi, from 23 to 24 January 2014;
- a national seminar for some 60 local elected representatives in Cameroon and in Africa, held on 10 and 11 June 2014;
- the international consultation meeting of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUS) of Nigeria, Niger, Mali and Chad on the fight against the financing of the *Boko Haram* Sect, held from 2 to 4 September 2014 in Yaounde;
- a seminar on the application of international Human Rights standards by national judges, held in Yaounde, from 8 to 12 September 2014;
- International seminar on the theme "National observation of elections, political Communication during election period and consultation between stakeholders in the electoral process", organized in Yaounde, from 11 to 13 November 2014;
- capacity building seminar for Judicial and Legal Officers, Probation Officers and Social Workers on alternatives to the imprisonment of minors, organized in Douala from 12 to 13 November 2014;
- a symposium on the facilitation of the Public Contracts process with the focal points of big spender Project Owners conferred with a strategic mission, organized on 10 December 2014 by the Public Contracts Regulatory Agency (ARMP); and
- training seminar for Judicial and Legal Officers on the principles of fair trial, organized in Yaounde, from 16 to 19 December 2014.

Methodology

12- The methodology does not derogate from the participatory approach used in previous editions. Thus, a data collection phase from different stakeholders including, State Services, independent administrative institutions and civil society organizations preceded the drawing up of a draft Report by the MINJUSTICE team. Before its publication, the draft was submitted for validation by the different stakeholders. The list of the different contributors is appended to the Report.

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Structure of the Report

13- A preliminary chapter handling Cameroon's cooperation with international and regional Human Rights mechanisms precedes the three parts of the Report. Part One is devoted to civil and political rights while Part Two deals with economic, social and cultural rights and the right to a healthy environment. Part Three focuses on cross-cutting issues of Human Rights and the rights of specific groups.

PRELIMINARY Chapter

COOPERATION OF CAMEROON WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROMOTION AND PROTECTION



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14- In 2014, Cooperation of Cameroon with International Human Rights mechanisms received a strong impetus. Major developments in the orientation of this cooperation were recorded at both the global and regional levels and focused on contentious and non-contentious aspects.

SECTION I: CONTENTIOUS COOPERATION

15- Some matters involving Cameroon and pending before both the United Nations mechanisms and the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) were resolved in 2014.

§1: Cooperation with UN Mechanisms

16-The UN Human Rights Committee and the Working Group of the Human Rights Council on Arbitrary Detention ruled on communications filed against Cameroon.

A: Decisions of the Human Rights Committee

17- The Human Rights Committee gave a decision on the merits in Communication No. 1965/2010, **John NJIE MONIKA** and a decision of inadmissibility in Communication No. 2325/2013, **Jean Emmanuel KAMDEM FOUMBI**. As at 31 December 2014, 4 matters concerning Cameroon were listed before this treaty body, that is, 2 old and 2 new.

1) Decision on the merits in the Communication John NJIE MONIKA³

18- The Communication was based on the violation of Articles 2, 6, 7, 9 and 26 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) respectively on the right to a remedy, the right to non-discrimination, the right to life, the prohibition of slavery, the right to liberty and security and on equality before the law. After analysing the facts, the Committee found, on some aspects, the absence of violation of rights while on others, it concluded that there was violation and made recommendations.

³Views adopted on 21 October 2014 during the 112th Session of the Committee, held from 7 to 31 October 2014.

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a) Facts

19- It is clear from the said Communication that, following an altercation in the premises of the Limbe Urban Council, in August 2002, between **LIFANDA Samuel EBIAMA**, then Government Delegate of the Limbe City Council and **John NJIE MONIKA**, the latter lost an eye. In his petition, the author of the Communication stated that the threats and physical assaults by his opponent and his supporters, continued in October 2002 right into the hospital where he was receiving treatment. He noted that the various complaints filed since 2002 before judicial authorities as well as requests for intervention submitted to the administrative authorities and even the President of the Republic, remained a dead letter.

b) Unviolated Rights

20- The Committee declared inadmissible the allegation of discriminatory treatment, based on the institution of proceedings against **NJIE MONIKA** for disturbance of service and the absence of proceedings against **LIFANDA**. According to the Committee, the author of the Communication did not sufficiently establish the existence of a difference in treatment based on origin, social status, birth, or other status.

21- The part of the Communication based on facts that occurred in October 2002 was also declared inadmissible because the author himself had not started proceedings against the alleged perpetrators.

c) Violated Rights

22- To establish that the State failed in its obligation to guarantee the right to security and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, the Committee noted the absence of an effective investigation of the responsibility of public officials suspected of having committed the facts deplored in August 2002; that is, the absence of an explanation on the late opening of an investigation in 2011 and the absence of information on the results of the said investigation.

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d) Recommendations

23- As reparation, the Committee recommended the finalization of the legal proceedings initiated. This should include a full investigation of the allegations by **NJIE MONIKA**, the prosecution of perpetrators and compensation of the victim. The State should also ensure that violations do not recur in the future.

2) Decision of Inadmissibility of the Communication by Jean Emmanuel KAMDEM FOUMBI⁴

24- The Communication was based on the allegations of violation of Articles 7, 10, 11, 12 and 14 respectively of the ICCPR on the prohibition of torture, right to freedom, prohibition of imprisonment for debt, right to freedom of movement and right to fair trial. It was declared inadmissible for several reasons.

a) Allegations

25- **Jean Emmanuel KAMDEM FOUMBI**, through the Informative Integrated Platform www.Dev.Hope.com, proposed to Government, a means of mobilizing non-debt financing.

26- Relations between the two parties had already materialized through several acts including a mutual agreement and a procurement contract. In the course of this partnership, several complaints were filed against him by his partners of the Hope Finances Project. Remanded in custody, in the context of these proceedings before the Courts of Douala, he alleged the arbitrary nature of his detention. He argued that the proceedings against him were marred by irregularities including the absence of a link with Cameroon, that the offence was time-barred or that the facts were of a commercial nature. For him, these proceedings were simply a conspiracy hatched by the State of Cameroon through the Ministries in charge of the Economy and of Justice, with the complicity of the complainants, to dispossess him of his innovation www.Dev.Hope.com and reap the financial benefits.

⁴Views adopted on 28 October 2014 during the 112th Session of the Committee, held from 7 to 31 October 2014.

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27- The petitioner argued that the administrative and judicial remedies he had sought were ineffective to stop the violation deplored.

b) Reasons for Inadmissibility

28- The Committee considered that certain grievances relating in particular to detention under inhuman conditions, had not been submitted to the national courts and that the Supreme Court had been seised of an appeal on the application for *habeas corpus*. In addition, it noted that the State had done due diligence to safeguard the right to health of the claimant and that he was not detained for debt. For these reasons, it declared the communication inadmissible for non-exhaustion of domestic remedies. It also pointed out that the protection of intellectual property does not fall within its jurisdiction.

B: Opinion of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

29- The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention delivered its Opinion in 2 matters concerning Cameroon.

1) Opinion on the Communication Paul Eric KINGUE

30- During its 70th Session, held from 25 to 29 August 2014, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Human Rights Council issued Opinion No. 38/2014 relating to the Communication filed by **Paul Eric KINGUE**, former Mayor of the Njombe-Penja Council.

31- Detained following warrants issued against him in 2008 and 2009 within the framework of 3 cases, he alleged irregularities in the process of deprivation of his liberty. He based his argument on the absence of summons to appear, lack of information on the charges against him, absence of information on the date of the trial, arrest without warrant and the absence of a detention or imprisonment warrant.

32- Although comments by the State to rebut the said allegations were received by the Working Group, they were not taken into account because they were time-barred. It is therefore essentially on the basis of information provided by the author of the Communication that the Working Group gave its opinion.

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33- To qualify **Paul Eric KINGUE**'s detention as arbitrary, under categories I and III⁵ of its working methods, the Working Group noted the following irregularities: the non-presentation of the suspect to a judge during the first 20 days following his arrest and the unreasonable length of 2 proceedings pending before the Supreme Court since 2011 and 2012.

34- The Working Group recommended that Government should take steps to put an end to the detention and grant the appropriate damages to the victim.

2) Opinion on the Communication of Christophe Désiré BENGONO

35- Arrested on 6 January 2010, **Christophe Désiré BENGONO**, former Accounting Director at *Aéroports du Cameroun* (ADC) was charged the following day with 8 other persons, then remanded in custody for embezzlement of public property. The facts are related to the withdrawal of funds belonging to the ADC Company, valued at CFAF 1,447,344,905⁶ and deposited in the account of the Local Safety Committee.

36- In the petition sent to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, **BENGONO** complained of several irregularities marring the proceedings against him. He mentioned the absence of notification of grounds of custody, exceeding the time limits of preventive detention, the absence of criminal qualification of the facts, the nullity of several acts of procedure and the absence of a judgment within a reasonable time limit.

⁵Following § 15 of the Resolution 1997/50, the Working Group considers a deprivation of liberty as "arbitrary" in the following cases:

- (a) When it is clearly impossible to invoke any legal basis to justify the deprivation of liberty (such as when a person is kept in detention after the completion of his or her sentence, or despite an amnesty law applicable to the detainee, or when a person detained as a prisoner of war, is kept in detention after the cessation of effective hostilities);
- (b) When the deprivation of liberty results from the exercise of the rights or freedoms guaranteed by articles 7, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20 and 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and, in-so-far as States parties are concerned, by articles 12, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26 and 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- (c) When the total or partial non-observance of the international norms relating to the right to a fair trial, established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the relevant international instruments accepted by the State concerned, is of such gravity as to give the deprivation of liberty an arbitrary character;
- (d) When asylum seekers, immigrants or refugees are subjected to prolonged administrative custody without the possibility of administrative or judicial review or remedy;
- (e) When the deprivation of liberty constitutes a violation of international law for reasons of discrimination based on birth, national, ethnic or social origin, language, religion, economic condition, political or other opinion, gender, sexual orientation, disability or other status, and which is aimed at or may result in ignoring the equality of human rights.

⁶About 2,209,686.87 Euros

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37- The Working Group heard and determined the matter by giving its Opinion No. 46/2014 during its 71st Session held from 17 to 21 November 2014. Due to lack of information from the State, the Group relied on the version of the author of the Communication to qualify his detention arbitrary. Under Category I of its working methods, it thus considered the detention unfounded in law. In the context of Category III, it concluded that there was a violation of the right to be tried within a reasonable time limit, taking into account not only the extension of the procedural time limit, but also of the detention period in relation to the maximum penalty for the offence alleged.

38- Accordingly, the Working Group requested Government to proceed without delay with the release of the applicant and to take the necessary steps to repair the prejudice he had suffered, by granting him reasonable and appropriate compensation in accordance with Article 9 (5) of the ICCPR.

§2: Cooperation with African Union Mechanisms

39- Cooperation with African Union mechanisms was marked by constancy and progress. Constancy encompasses the management of Cameroon's litigation before the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Commission). Progress comprises ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) on the establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Court) dubbed "Ouagadougou Protocol"

A: Ratification of the Ouagadougou Protocol

40- Pursuant to Law No. 2014/13 of 18 July 2014, the President of the Republic signed Decree No. 2014/266 of 22 July 2014 on the ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights relating to the setting up of the African Court adopted in Ouagadougou on 10 June 1998. As a result of this ratification, Cameroon's litigation may be brought before the Court by the African Commission⁷.

⁷As at 31 December 2014, the ACHPR was plaintiff in 2 of the 32 cases already entertained by the Court.

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41- When Cameroon became State Party to this important instrument, the system experienced another change. On 27 June 2014, the Conference of Heads of State and Government adopted the Protocol on the Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice, Human and Peoples' Rights in Malabo⁸. This change could concern Cameroon. Indeed, the litigation pending before the African Commission concerning the entry into force of the Protocol will be transferred to the appropriate Section of the new Court in accordance with Article 6 of this Protocol. While awaiting these contingencies, Cameroon's litigation was brought before the African Commission.

B: Litigation before the African Commission

42- The African Commission delivered its findings in Communication No. 287/4, **DUGA TITANJI** on behalf of **Martin CHEONUMU** and Others. It confirmed its previous decision of inadmissibility of the Communication Bakweri Land Claims Committee. It struck off Communication No. 390/10, **ABBA BOUKAR** from its cause-list for want of the author's interest⁹. With these decisions, 7 communications concerning Cameroon remained pending before the African Commission as at 31 December 2014.

1) Findings in the Communication CHEONUMU Martin

43- Filed by Lawyer **DUGA TITANJI** on behalf of the 18 members of the Southern Cameroons National Council who had been arrested in March 1997 in the North West Province for secessionist activities and transferred to Yaounde to be tried before the Military Tribunal, the Communication focused on the violation of Articles 5 and 7 of the ACHPR relating to the right not to be subjected to physical or moral torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and the right to fair trial. At the end of the full hearing,

⁸These amendments confer criminal jurisdiction to the court, to hear and determine 14 offences and provide for immunity from prosecution for incumbent Heads of State or Government of the AU, or any person acting or empowered to act in this capacity or any other top public official by virtue of his functions (Art. 46 (A) of the Statute of the Court).

The offences are: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, crimes relating to unconstitutional changes of government, piracy, terrorism, mercenary activities, corruption, money laundering, trafficking in persons, illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, illicit traffic of hazardous waste, illicit exploitation of natural resources, and aggression (Art. 28 A) of the Statute of the Court).

⁹Decision delivered during the 16th Extra-ordinary Session, held from 20 to 29 July 2014.

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the African Commission found that some rights were violated and other rights were not. It made recommendations.

a) Violated Rights

44- Pursuant to Article 5, the ACHPR confirmed allegations that detainees had been beaten resulting in the death of some while others were without care. It considered that the State had not tendered evidence on the respect of the right of detainees to physical integrity. It did not further demonstrate that the latter actually had access to care, even if there is an infirmary within the detention facility. The African Commission also criticized the lack of investigations of torture allegations.

45- With regard to Article 7, the African Commission, *prima facie*, reiterated its policy position on the prohibition of the trial of civilians by military courts. In addition, it considered that the duration of 7 years taken by the Court of Appeal, Yaounde to decide on detainees' appeals was unreasonable. The same was true for the extension of the proceedings, for more than 5 years, before the Supreme Court which, as at the time when the African Commission took the decision, had not yet determined the matter.

b) Unviolated Rights

46- Since the State sufficiently demonstrated that the accused persons who are English-speaking, had been entitled to interpretation services during their trial, the allegation of the violation of the right to be tried in the language that one understands was not upheld.

c) Recommendations

47- The African Commission recommended that the State should release the persons still under detention, pay an appropriate, fair and equitable compensation to the victims and to their successors¹⁰, punish those responsible for the acts of torture suffered by the victims and withdraw the jurisdiction of military courts to try civilians.

¹⁰The authors of the Communications sought the sum of CFAF3,000,000,000 as compensation. The Commission recognized the principle of monetary compensation when the victim so requests, but recalled that the assessment of such compensation is left to the Courts or to the national authorities of the respondent State.

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2) Confirmation of the Inadmissibility of Communication Bakweri Land Claims Committee¹¹

48- The African Commission had already examined the Communication Bakweri Land Claims Committee. It had declared the Communication inadmissible for non-exhaustion of domestic remedies during its 36th Ordinary Session held from 23 November to 7 December 2004 in Dakar. On 12 September 2013, the authors of the Communication seized the Commission again to reconsider its decision. They argued that the Commission, in another Communication **KEVIN GWANG GUMNE** and Others v. Cameroon, had itself established the lack of independence of Cameroonian courts. On this ground, they concluded that there were no domestic remedies.

49- Taking an opposing view, the Commission held that the authors of the Communication **KEVIN GWANG GUMNE** had sufficiently indicated the steps taken to exhaust domestic remedies. The decision in this Communication was taken at the stage of examination on the merits and on the basis of full hearing on the violation of the right to fair trial. According to the Commission, this decision does not constitute a general clause of exemption from the requirement of exhaustion of domestic remedies in all cases against Cameroon. In each case, the applicant should not rely on an opinion on the availability and the effectiveness of domestic remedies, but should demonstrate how he has specifically tried to mobilize them. Under these conditions, the Commission concluded that there was no new argument that could justify the revision of its first decision in this case.

SECTION 2: NON-CONTENTIOUS CO-OPERATION

50- Non-contentious cooperation was vigorously pursued within the UN system. Thus, Cameroon defended Periodic Reports before 2 treaty bodies and maintained constructive dialogue with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

¹¹Decision rendered during the 16th Special Session, held from 20 to 29 July 2014.

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§1: Defence of Periodic Reports

51- On 12 February 2014, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) examined Cameroon's 4th and 5th Reports presented in a single document. Six months later, on 18 and 19 August 2014, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) also examined Cameroon's 19th, 20th and 21st Periodic Reports, presented in a single document. At the end of this exercise, the 2 treaty bodies made observations and recommendations that should be explored.

A: CEDAW's Concluding Observations

52- At the end of the Report review, CEDAW noted positive points and raised issues of concern on which it made recommendations.

1) Positive Points

53- Besides progress at the normative level on the adoption of Law No. 2011/24 of 14 December 2011 relating to the fight against trafficking in persons and slavery, and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child concerning the involvement of children in armed conflicts, CEDAW welcomed the adoption of policies to eliminate discrimination against women. These policies relate to curbing violence against women, trafficking in persons and the fight against HIV/AIDS.

2) Recommendations

54- Overall, and in order to assess the level of consideration of gender equality in policies and programmes, the Committee recommended the definition of gender indicators.

54.1- As regards the **normative and institutional framework**, it was recommended that:

- a clear timetable be provided for the completion of the legislative reforms announced (Civil Code, Penal Code, Code of the Person and the Family, Law on violence against women), which should be carried out in consultation and in collaboration with civil society;

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- the Nationality Code be revised to guarantee equal rights for women and men on matters of nationality, in particular as regards the acquisition, transmission and conservation of nationality;
- the reform to extend social protection to persons working in the informal sector be completed;
- the draft law on the protection of persons living with HIV/AIDS be adopted; and
- the ratification of the Convention (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on Decent Work for Domestic Workers (2011), the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention)¹² be considered.

54.2- On access to law and justice, the Committee asked for the raising of women's awareness, strengthening of the capacities of personnel responsible for the implementation of laws on the rights of women and the carrying out of a study on judgments of customary and other courts quashed on appeal on grounds of discrimination against women.

54.3- The recommendations on the **national mechanisms for women empowerment** aim at the allocation of sufficient resources, the adoption of the National Gender Policy, the evaluation of the implementation of the National Plan of Action for the Integration of Women in Development (1999).

54.4- The Committee recommended **special temporary measures** like quotas, information and support programmes and specific programmes for the empowerment of rural women.

54.5- With a view to eliminating **stereotypes and harmful practices**, the Committee suggested a comprehensive strategy including awareness campaigns on these practices, the criminalization of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), breasts ironing, discriminatory widowhood rites, as well as punishment of perpetrators of abduction, sale of children and trafficking in organs.

¹²On the response to this recommendation, see §10.1 supra at the general introduction.

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54.6- The recommendations on curbing **violence against women** tend to focus on efficient investigations and effective punishment on perpetrators based on law rather than mediation in the treatment of violence and training of law enforcement officials.

54.7- The three-dimensional aspects of prevention-punishment-compensation are benchmarks of the Committee's vision for combating trafficking and **exploitation of prostitution**. Accordingly, it suggested that a study be carried out on the extent and causes of trafficking in persons, the awareness of migrant women on the risk of exploitation abroad for prostitution be raised, the perpetrators of trafficking and abduction of newborn babies be punished, and prostitution be decriminalized. It also recommended measures to discourage men from resorting to prostitution and the drawing up of support programmes for the rehabilitation and reinsertion of women victims of prostitution.

54.8- With respect to *participation in political and public life*, the Committee focused on the promotion of equal representation of women at the national, provincial and local levels, particularly in Government and in decision-making positions, in Parliament, the Judiciary and the Public Service. In addition to the temporary measures already mentioned above, the Committee proposed the use of targeted training and mentoring programmes for women in public offices on managerial and negotiation skills. It paid particular attention to raising the awareness of rural women on the importance of participation in decision-making.

54.9- In the field of **education**, the Committee called for the strengthening of adult literacy programmes, especially for women living in rural areas, the effectiveness of equal access of girls and young women to education at all levels and their retention in school, the allocation of sufficient resources to education, in particular, facilities in rural areas and those designed for indigenous children, continued special educational projects for indigenous girls, including nomadic girls, adoption of school-adapted calendars, teaching in and of indigenous languages.

54.10- In terms of **employment**, the Committee wished that Section 74 of Ordinance No. 81-2 of 29 June 1981 on the Organization of Civil Status Registration, which authorizes the husband to object to his wife exercising a given profession be repealed; that the wage gap between

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men and women be reduced, in particular by addressing the problem of occupational segregation of women and in guaranteeing equal pay for work of equal value; that access of women to micro-finance and micro-loans with low interest rates be extended to women in order to enable them to undertake income generating activities. Moreover, it recommended the protection of women and girls who work in plantations or the mining sector, as well as women employed as domestic servants, against dangerous and exploitative working conditions, by regulating and controlling their working conditions, increasing the number of inspections and imposing fines on the employers concerned; the compilation of information on reported cases of women held in hereditary slavery by traditional chiefs; public awareness of the adverse consequences of the exploitation of girls in the context of arrangements on family placement and the punishment of perpetrators of such acts.

54.11- For the Committee, guaranteeing *the right of women to health* is achieved by the effective implementation of the 2014-2020 National Strategic Plan on Maternal, Neonatal and Child Reproductive Health; increase in resources allocated to health care, the number of health care institutions and the number of trained caregivers to improve access of women and girls, particularly rural women, to basic health services; the large-scale promotion of education on sexual and reproductive health and related rights through advocacy campaigns on available contraceptive methods and facilitating access to reliable and inexpensive contraception services; strengthening measures to reduce the abnormally high rate of HIV/AIDS among women. It further suggested that there be expansion of the conditions under which abortion can legally take place, particularly in the case of incest.

54.12- Since the private sphere abounds in discrimination against women, the Committee made some recommendations in respect of **marriage and family relationships**. Repealing discriminatory legal provisions¹³ and raising the awareness of traditional chiefs, and the population in general, tend to be the main measures proposed.

¹³These are discriminatory provisions relating to polygamy, the role of the husband as head of the family (S. 213 Civil Code), the choice of residence by the husband (S. 215 Civil Code), the administration of the property of the family and of the wife by the husband (S. 1,421 and 1 428 Civil Code) and the difference between the boy and the girl with regard to the minimum age of marriage, the definition of adultery which is more comprehensive for women than for men (S. 361 Penal Code)

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54.13- The committee was particularly interested in the situation of certain groups of women. This is the case of **rural women** for which the Committee indicated specific measures aimed at removing obstacles to birth registration; their participation in the decision-making process; access to land; access to basic services and infrastructure, including health and education services, as well as the economic outlook, in equal and equitable conditions with men, and with urban women; and equal access to micro-loans for income-generating activities.

54.14- With regard to other groups, the Committee called for raising awareness among the population in order to eliminate the stigma of albino women, street girls, older women and women with disabilities and to ensure that the latter have access, without discrimination, to support services of income-generating activities and to guarantee that refugee and displaced women are not victims of discrimination. Certain CERD recommendations fall within this framework.

B: Concluding Observations by CERD

55- CERD noted advances related to the setting up of the Senate, the adoption of the enabling instrument of the Law on Refugees and the acceptance by Cameroon of the amendment to paragraph 6 of Article 8 of the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The recommendations made in the light of the concerns raised are intended primarily to ensure social harmony through the inclusion of all strata and social groups. This has resulted in both the reaffirmation of the principle of equality and the insistence on the adoption of special measures with a view to taking into account the most vulnerable strata in order to avoid discrimination, and promote inclusion.

1) Recommendations on the Fight against Discrimination

56- The Committee identified concerns at the level of the normative and institutional framework and some specific issues.

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a) Normative and Institutional Framework

57- At the normative level, the Committee recommended the elimination of legal discrimination and the criminalization of discrimination, and requested the State to:

- take the necessary measures to prevent, prohibit and eradicate racial segregation in its legislation in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention;
- ensure that its legislation contains appropriate provisions and to enable the public know its rights, including all existing legal remedies in respect of racial discrimination;
- accelerate the harmonization process of the Penal Code in order to ensure that acts of racial discrimination and incitement to racial hatred are defined and criminalized in the light of the Convention;
- account for the adoption of the revised Labour Code with provisions defining and explicitly prohibiting direct or indirect discrimination on all the grounds enumerated in the Convention;
- effectively adopt the draft law on the rights of indigenous peoples through a participatory approach; and
- ratify other instruments the provisions of which are directly related to racial discrimination.

58- At the institutional level, the Committee advocated that the NCHRF be given a constitutional base, its independence be enhanced and its financial autonomy guaranteed in accordance with the Paris Principles¹⁴.

b) Specific Issues

59- On this score, the Committee targets participation in the management of state affairs, the right to work as well as access to citizenship and the risk of statelessness.

¹⁴According to the Paris Principles on National Human Rights Institutions: independence goes hand in hand with pluralism. It implies financial and administrative autonomy: "National institutions must have infrastructure which is suited to the smooth conduct of its activities in particular, adequate funding. The purpose of this funding should be to enable it to have its own staff and premises, in order to be independent of the Government and not be subject to financial control which might affect its independence".

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59.1- As regards **participation in the management of public affairs**, the State was invited to:

- take measures to guarantee the effective participation of all socio-cultural components, including minority groups and indigenous peoples, in political and public life. These measures can include quotas, mentorship programmes and taking into account in electoral lists;
- ensure especially access to information, awareness of civic rights as well as direct participation in elections; and
- ensure diversity and multiculturalism in the Public Service.

59.2- Concerning the right to work, the effective implementation of the principle of equal opportunity and treatment in respect of employment was of interest to the Committee. It wished to be informed of measures taken to this effect, including those taken in law and in practice to help workers prove the existence of discrimination.

59.3- With regard to **citizenship and the risk of statelessness**, the Recommendation emphasized on the issuance of official documents to all citizens and the encouragement of inclusion. It also stressed on the situation of the vulnerable, including indigenous peoples and minority groups, the Bakassi Peninsular population, refugee women and girls.

2) Recommendations on Promotion and Inclusion

60- These recommendations focused on special measures for the effective participation of specific groups in the development process. Beyond the concerns of specific groups identified, the Committee recommended the adoption of a comprehensive strategy on the issue.

a) Comprehensive Strategy to take Account of Minority Groups

61- The Committee underscored the need for a comprehensive strategy on the situation of minority groups and indigenous peoples and the coordination of policies and programmes in order to ensure consistent and effective actions. In this perspective, it is essential to identify target groups. To this end, the Committee recommended the collection and publication of

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reliable and comprehensive statistical data on the composition of the population living within its territory, in particular socio-economic indicators, disaggregated by ethnic origin and sex, notably on minority groups and indigenous peoples as well as immigrants, based on surveys or national self-identification censuses.

b) Specific Groups

62- The Committee showed concern for the special situation of some groups. This is the case of the English-speaking population, refugees and asylum seekers, minorities and indigenous peoples.

62.1- Concerning the English-speaking population, the State should intensify its efforts to ensure the full and effective implementation of the official bilingualism policy and ensure that the English-speaking population is not victim of inequalities particularly in relation to employment, education and judicial proceedings.

62.2- As regards refugees and asylum seekers, the State is required to guarantee their full enjoyment of economic and social rights, in particular their right to work. Alternatives to detention or the adjustment of detention measures for asylum seekers are also expected. These measures should be used only as a last resort, for as short a period as possible and carried out in premises separate from those of other suspects.

62.3- Minorities and indigenous peoples constituted the bulk of the Recommendations which primarily related to completing the study aimed at identifying people that could be regarded as indigenous.

63- Recommendations on **access to education** were related to the issuance of birth certificates, the effectiveness of free primary education, adapting the education system to their mode of life and culture, drawing up of education programmes that meet their specific needs and cover their history, knowledge and techniques, their value systems and the requirement of particular attention to be paid to the situation of girls.

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64- The Committee was also concerned about **land rights** and identified the need for the statutory recognition of the right of indigenous peoples to own, use, develop and control their land, territories and resources. At the decision-making level, these people should participate in the amendment of legal instruments.

65- On the management of these resources, the Committee highlighted the requirement of consultation and cooperation with a view to obtaining free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their land or territories and other resources, particularly as regards the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or others. It insisted on the guarantee of fair and just compensation for the land of which they are dispossessed and requested that the statutory procedure for land registration should adequately respect the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned without any discrimination.

66- Recommendations on **access to justice** concerned the reduction of distances separating national courts from areas where some minority groups and indigenous people live and the provision of official interpretation services in the language of minority groups and indigenous peoples in national courts, including customary courts.

§2: Dialogue with the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council

67- Cameroon took a further step in cooperation with the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council by accepting the standing invitation system that was formalized on 25 September 2014. This was a follow-up to the commitment made in September 2013 in the context of the second round of the Universal Periodic Review. By this act, the country marked its availability to receive and reply to all requests for visits by all holders of thematic mandates of the Human Rights Council.

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68- The State contributed in enhancing universal and regional Human Rights promotion and protection systems within the framework of traditional actions through adherence to normative instruments, participation in meetings and sessions of the various bodies, and the acceptance of the standing invitation system of special procedures of the Human Rights Council. Compliance with State obligations in this domain was evaluated both during cases brought before the supervisory mechanisms by individuals or during implementation Reports review. All these activities resulted in Recommendations that may guide future actions.



PART ONE

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS



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INTRODUCTION TO PART ONE

69- In 2014, activities for the promotion and protection of civil and political rights were influenced by the adoption of the Law on the suppression of acts of terrorism. This Law gave rise to varied reactions both at the national and international levels because of its possible impact on Human Rights, especially the right to life, physical and moral integrity, the right to freedom and the right to fair trial.

70- Furthermore, there was a remarkable increase in actions intended to strengthen freedom of expression and communication particularly on the eve of the analogue-to-digital switch planned for June 2015, with the changeover of the telephone numbering system and the arrival of a 3rd mobile telephone operator. All these actions did not diminish Government's concern to involve all citizens in the management of public affairs through the consolidation of the electoral system and the continuation of the transfer of skills to councils.

71- To be current, Human Rights issues and the fight against terrorism have been added to topics which are normally examined in Part One of the Report. Thus, this part comprises the following 5 chapters:

- Right to Life, Physical and Moral Integrity, Right not to be Subjected to Torture and the Right to Freedom;
- Right to Fair Trial;
- Freedom of Expression and Communication;
- Right to Participate in the Management of Public Affairs; and
- Human Rights and Combating Terrorism.



Chapter

1

RIGHT TO LIFE,
PHYSICAL AND
MORAL INTEGRITY,
RIGHT NOT TO BE
SUBJECTED TO
TORTURE AND THE
RIGHT TO FREEDOM



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72- The protection of the right to life, physical and moral integrity and the prohibition of acts of torture or interference with the freedom of persons have remained constant concerns of public authorities. This was reflected in the capacity-building actions of law enforcement officials. Statistics on violent crime are used to assess the degree of violation of this right at the national level, which violation have resulted in sanctions against perpetrators. Litigation on freedom has been used as justification for steps taken to promote respect of individual freedoms.

SECTION 1: CAPACITY BUILDING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS¹⁵

73- Capacity building activities were carried out for Judicial and Legal Officers, and Police and Gendarme Officers, in order to prevent violations of the right to life. In this regard, 3 seminars were organized for Judicial and Legal Officers. The first, held in Kribi from 23 to 24 January 2014, focused on building the capacities of Judicial and Legal Officers in Human Rights. The second, held in Yaounde from 8 to 12 September 2014, dealt with *"the application of international Human Rights standards by the national Judge"*. The third, held in Douala from 12 to 13 November 2014, helped to strengthen the capacities of Judicial and Legal Officers, Probation Officers and Social Workers on imprisonment alternatives for minors.

74- Education of National Security staff on Human Rights was also carried out. Thus, the module "Human Rights and Freedoms" was taught in Training Centers following the time slots below:

- initial training: 30 hours for 18 months;
- ongoing training:
 - maintenance of law and order: 15 hours for 3 months; and
 - Judicial police: 12 hours for 3 months.

74.1- During the same period, 1,231 National Gendarmerie staff were trained on rules of conduct concerning the proportional use of force, arrest, detention, interrogation and punishment.

¹⁵According to the UN Code of Conduct for law enforcement officials, this category encompasses elected or designated law enforcement officials, who exercise policing powers and in particular the powers of arrest and detention.

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75- These capacity building activities were designed to provide law enforcement officials with tools that would enable them to integrate into their activities, the protection of the right to life and the prohibition of torture, while avoiding exposure to sanctions.

SECTION 2: SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

76- These sanctions were either disciplinary or judicial.

§1: Disciplinary sanctions

77- Disciplinary sanctions concerned National Security and National Gendarmerie officers.

A: National Security

78- In 2014, 29 National Police officers were sanctioned for misconduct relating to violation against the physical integrity of third parties, and for offences against their colleagues.

79- The table below summarizes disciplinary measures taken against police officers.

Table 1: Disciplinary Sanctions Imposed on National Security Officers

No.	Name and First Name	Rank	Offence	Sanction
1	OUMAROU Christopher	IP1	Assault on a Public Force officer	Suspension for 15 days without salary
2	BANYAKWE Dieudonné	IP2	Assault on superior	Reprimand
3	MAKANDA Jacques	IP2	Assault on superior	Delay in promotion for one year
4	NKWA Linus EYOH	IP2	Abusive use of fire arm and assault on superior	Delay in promotion for one year
5	OBA ELLE Guy Rolland	SIP	Assault on person conducted to police station	Warning
6	SOM PEMHA Simon Honoré	IP2	Assault on detainee	Delay in promotion for one year
7	BIDJAM Elie Robert	SIP	Assault on a detainee	Reprimand
8	MEPOUI BELECK Roza Angelo	IP2	Assault on user	Reprimand
9	BEDZISSI Odile Rosine	SPC	Assault on a colleague	Reprimand
10	NDOUM ASSAM Daniel	SPC	Assault on a municipal authority	Reprimand

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No.	Name and First Name	Rank	Offence	Sanction
11	NDZIE NGOA Jules Célestin	SPC	Assault on a detainee	Reprimand
12	MALONG MINKA Jean Jacques	PC2	Assault on a detainee	Delay in promotion for one year
13	LEPIDJA Richard Landry	PC2	Assault on a user	Reprimand
14	ABOELAM Patrick Emmanuel	PC2	Assault on a user	Suspension for 20 days
15	ASSAKO Eric Junior	PC1	Assault on a third party	Reprimand
16	OWONA ESSOMBA Ernest	PC1	Assault on a user	Reprimand
17	NANGA SAMBA Catherine	SIP	Assault on superior	Demotion in rank
18	MEDJO Abel	SIP	Assault on superior	Drop in incremental position
19	ETOGO MODO Damien	IP2	Assault on a junior colleague	Demotion in rank
20	MOUNGOU EBOUEL Prince	SIP	Assault on a third party	Suspension for 3 months
21	BILO'O Jean Richard	PC1	Assault on a third party	Suspension for 3 months
22	OHANDJA ABOUGA	PC2	Assault on a user	Drop in incremental position
23	GOLLO GANADA ARAMDA John	PC2	Assault on superior	Demotion in rank
24	ASSOLA EBOSSO	PC2	Assault on superior	Demotion in rank
25	AWONO NGONO Laurent	SPC	Assault on superior	Dismissal
26	TENLEP Bertrand Bonaparte	SASP	Assault on police officer	Reprimand
27	CHUO MVO Gilbert	ASP2	Assault on superior	Reprimand
28	MAAWIYAH HAMDAKAN	ASP	Assault on a collaborator	Delay in promotion for one year
29	NGANDJOUANG	SASP	Assault on a user	Delay in promotion for one year

Source: DGSN

Key:

- SPC** : Senior Police Constable
PC1 : Police Constable First Grade
PC2 : Police Constable Second Grade
IP1 : Inspector of Police First Grade
IP2 : Inspector of Police Second Grade
SIP : Senior Inspector of Police
ASP2 : Assistant Superintendent of Police Second Grade
SASP : Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police

B: National Gendarmerie

80- In 2014, 15 Gendarme officers were investigated for torture, violation of physical integrity or the right to life, arbitrary arrest and detention.

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§2: Judicial sanctions

81- Judicial proceedings were instituted, and sentences passed against law enforcement officials in military tribunals.

A: Judicial proceedings before the Military Tribunals

82- During the reference year, 2 officers, 7 non-commissioned officers, 6 privates, 2 soldiers and 1 Gendarme were brought before the military tribunals for offences relating to capital murder, murder and torture among others. The table below is illustrative.

Table 2: Judicial Proceedings at Military Tribunals

Name	Rank	Offence	Military Tribunal
-WADI DRI Justin -EMANOU -NGOUM Jonas -ATANGANA AFANA -BOUM Freddy -VODOU -NLEND Emmanuel -EPANDO SANTINI	-Lieutenant -Warrant officer 1 st class -Staff sergeant -Private - Private - Private - Private - Private	Murder, accessory to murder, violation of instruction	Bertoua
-BIWOLE MVELE JeanMichel -ANDZE Samuel -NJOYA ANDI	-Sergeant -Private -Soldier	Capital murder and violation of instruction	Bertoua
MFACHIKO MAMA	-Warrant Officer	Slight harm	Maroua
-MANWE DOGUE Albert -NWAYANG Jean Claude -SEINI MATI	-Sergeant -Leading Seaman 1 - Civil	Harm, attempted capital murder, violation of instruction, torture, desertion of post and accessory to torture	Maroua
MENGONG Rosalie	Sergeant	Desertion of post, disturbance of service, contempt of superior, slight harm and violation of instruction	Maroua
PFOUER ZOLO François Sébastien	Gendarme	Slight harm, violation of instruction, manifest public drunkenness	Maroua

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Name	Rank	Offence	Military Tribunal
TINA Ernest	Chief Petty Officer	Dangerous carriage of weapon, capital murder, conditional threats, embezzlement of military gear	Buea
BILONGO Zacharie	Private	Capital murder and violation of instruction (irregular use of service weapon)	Buea
HEUDOU Schoresse	Private	Capital murder, aggravated theft, theft of military gear	Buea
NDOUMBA Gabriel	Lieutenant	Complicity in torture and slight harm	Yaounde

Source: Ministry of Defence

B: Convictions

83- The Military Tribunal, Garoua sentenced **ANUGE MESUMBE**, Private, to life imprisonment for capital murder, while non-commissioned officers **Philippe MWEMENGEME** and **Peter EDJEME** were sentenced to 5 years imprisonment for rape and violation of instruction.

84- Statistics on convictions by military tribunals are presented in the following table.

Table 3: Convictions by Military Tribunals

Name	Rank	Offence	Military Tribunal	Sanction
ANUGE MESUMBE	Private	Violation of instruction and capital murder	Garoua	Life imprisonment
NYEMB Serge Eric	Private	Accomplice in torture	Garoua	1 year imprisonment suspended for 3 years
MBOMO NGARA Félix	Sergeant	Violation of instruction, accomplice in rape and slight harm	Maroua	Fine of CFAF 50 000
Philippe MWEME NGEME Peter EDJEME	Lance Corporal Chief Warrant Officer	Violation of instruction, accomplice in rape and slight harm	Maroua	5 years imprisonment each
OUMAR	Sergeant	Unintentional killing and involuntary harm, rash driving, poor mastery, driving without required licence	Maroua	Fine of CFAF 25 000 with suspended sentence for 3 years

Source: Ministry of Defence

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SECTION 3: STATISTICS ON VIOLENT CRIME

85- The data of the National Gendarmerie, National Security and Judicial Services illustrate the reality of criminality.

§1: National Gendarmerie

86- The commitment of the National Gendarmerie to secure persons and property continued throughout 2014. Thus, its determination to combat violent crime contributed to a drop in crime wave compared to 2013. By way of illustration, in the East Region, the number of rapes dropped from 1,418 in 2013 to 42 in 2014, as a result of the strengthening of security measures at border posts and the control of movements of persons in refugee camps.

Table 4: Statistics on violent crime at the National Gendarmerie

Offence	Statistics of 2013	Statistics of 2014
Rape	1,418	42
Kidnapping of minor	103	2
Violent crimes committed with firearms	6	4
Other violent crimes recorded	4,382	1870

Source: National Gendarmerie

87- National Gendarmerie staff sometimes committed themselves at the expense of their lives. In this regard, 43 of them were killed while on duty.

§2: National Security

88- Offences relating to violent crime reached their peak in December and January, periods with high population mobility and agitation. Although the number of offences relating to assault and harm were most recurrent, those concerning murders, homicide and kidnapping of minors were also prosecuted.

89- In addition, the intensification of security measures and the mobilization of the defence forces in the Northern part of the country helped to reduce attacks by highway robbers and the terrorist sect *Boko Haram*. In the

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Eastern part of the country, 13 attacks by *ex-Seleka* and *Anti-Balaka* caused the loss of human lives.

90- The statistics are given below:

Table 5: Statistical data on violent crime at the National Security

Offence	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Murder and attemptedmurder	23	11	9	7	6	7	13	12	10	7	5	21	131
Infanticide	9	7	6	8	7	3	5	3	6	11	3	9	77
Suspiciousdeath	4	7	2	13	1	5	4	9	12	2	9	6	74
Unintentional killing	18	16	9	2	8	15	14	11	13	12	4	5	127
Harm	235	122	125	156	147	53	79	41	112	158	225	251	1704
Assault	45	66	55	63	34	15	36	7	23	30	51	75	500
Rape	17	11	12	8	15	9	10	14	8	6	9	15	134
Kidnapping of minor	4	7	5	6	2	4	7	4	8	7	8	12	74
Humantrafficking	3	1	1	0	4	2	3	2	1	3	1	2	23
Total	358	248	224	263	224	113	171	103	193	236	311	396	2840

Source: DGSN

§3: Courts

91- Figures on Police investigations concerning violent crime sent to the courts are increasing considerably. While there were 1007 cases in 2013, this number almost doubled to 2236 cases in 2014. This disturbing situation is also reflected in the high number of women and children who are victims. The number of cases of violence against women rose from 195 in 2013 to 428 in 2014. Based on statistics, the number of children victims of violence increased to 657 as against 64 cases the previous year.

The table below illustrates this state of affairs.

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Table 6: Judicial Statistics on Criminality

Offences	Number of case files received	Number of proceedings instituted		Number of convictions	Number of discharge/acquittals	Victims			Offenders		
		Preliminary inquiry	Before the Courts			M	W	C ¹⁶	Law enforcement officials	Persons with authority over the victim	Others
Capital murder	274	216	38	117	49	161	34	10	19	11	156
Murder	333	106	189	161	45	213	75	4	21	7	210
Torture	10	5	10	7	2	10	2	1	6	1	13
Greivous harm	227	109	103	86	15	82	46	11	5	1	141
False arrest	73	46	67	40	8	142	14	11	4	1	65
Slavery of persons	4	2	2	1	0	11	1	0	1	0	01
Human trafficking	8	7	4	2	0	0	0	10	1	2	06
Assault on children	109	85	21	17	2	0	0	73	0	17	08
kidnapping of minor	152	97	86	46	20	0	0	63	0	20	83
kidnapping with fraud and violence	57	39	36	43	7	3	8	86	0	4	26
Indecency to child under16	493	398	191	192	32	19	74	167	0	35	263
Indecency to child between 16-21	200	149	144	76	16	18	57	160	0	10	79
Rape	240	123	84	93	20	7	115	123	15	3	153
Inceste	4	5	1	1	01	0	2	2	0	2	0
Total	2184	1387	976	882	217	666	428	721	72	114	1204

Source: MINJUSTICE

SECTION 4: LITIGATION ON FREEDOM

92- The position of Judicial and Legal Officers towards provisions on bail is reflected in the table below. Thus, 3,230 decisions were taken to release detainees, against 1,084 rejection decisions.

93- This upward trend is also noticeable in the case of *habeas corpus* decisions where 178 release decisions were made against 59 rejections. The principle of the two-tier court system has also contributed to the substantial increase of cases of release.

¹⁶M, W and C stands for men, women and children.

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Table 7: Litigation on Freedom

Courts	Number of detentions	Applications for bail		Release		Habeas corpus (Approved (A) Rejected (R))								Release	Appeals on release reviewed by courts of Appeal
		Approval	Rejection	Withsurety	Without surety	Administ rative detention		Military detention		Ordinary law detention		Others			
						A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R		
CFI	9246	2723	678	2132	807	///	///	///	///	///	///	///	///	1152	4
HC	3595	490	390	261	199	2	1	2	3	6	53	1	3	191	
CA	105	17	9	5	23	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	22	
SC	13	...	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	8	

Source: MINJUSTICE

94- As in previous years, Government continued to protect the right to life and to prohibit torture. The training of law enforcement officials should be continued and intensified. Disciplinary and judicial measures taken to guarantee such rights must be both effective and efficient. This is obvious in Decree No. 2014/58 of 18 February 2014 on commutation and remission of sentences that excludes persons convicted for capital murder and torture.



Chapter 2

RIGHT TO FAIR TRIAL



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95- The right of the defence, the fight against judicial delays, promotion of the right to an independent and impartial judge which are important elements of the right to fair trial and the review of cases by appellate courts were highlighted in 2014.

SECTION 1: GUARANTEE OF THE RIGHTS OF THE DEFENCE

96- The rights of the defence were guaranteed through the promotion of the right to be assisted by counsel. Indeed, the number of lawyers increased. Statistics of cases in which litigants were represented by counsel allowed for the appreciation of the reality of these rights.

§1: Increase in Number of Lawyers

97- The Bar Association recorded an increase of 174¹⁷ new advocates. Also, 1,453 candidates passed the 2014 Bar Part One examination.

98- In spite of the increase in the number of lawyers, their geographical distribution remains uneven. In effect, whereas the jurisdictions of the Centre and the Littoral have the bulk of Advocates (more than 1,100 of the 1,834¹⁸, representing 60%), the rest of the country has only 735 that is barely 40%.

§2: Statistics on Representation of Litigants by Counsel

99- The right to be represented by counsel is important to fair trial, whether he be chosen by the parties or appointed *ex officio*.

100- The analysis of statistics on representation by counsel in 2014 revealed an increase in the number of briefs and *ex officio* appointments. Thus, about 8,365 lawyers were briefed against 5,900 in 2013 and lawyers appointed *ex officio* in about 1,481 cases against 969 the previous year.

¹⁷This number includes both the candidates who passed the Bar Part One Examination; that is 128 and 46 others who were called directly to the Bar. This is essentially the last group that sat the 2008 Bar Examination; the first group was called to the Bar in 2011.

¹⁸As at the session of 6 December 2014.

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Table 1: Statistics on Representation by Counsel

	Number of suspects/accused/applicants/defenders represented								Counsel appointed ex officio	Counsel briefed by suspect/accused
	Civil		Labour		Customary Law		Simple offence / misdemeanours	Felonies		
	APP	DF	APP	DF	APP	DF				
CFI	1,823	1,402	542	445	2,699	27	4,223	...	394	5,641
HC	1,311	768	150	121	///	///	...	2,284	1,060	2,385
CA	142	161	93	108	13	10	306	147	29	339
SC	498	442	...	...	55	25	...	...	...	...
	Total								1,483	8,365

Source: Legal Departments of Courts of Appeal

Key:

APP: Applicants

DF: Defenders

101- The fight against judicial delays was continued.

SECTION 2: REDUCING JUDICIAL DELAYS

102- In 2014, Pupil Judicial and Legal Officers were absorbed into the Judiciary and new offices assigned to Bailiffs. These actions can contribute to the fight against judicial delays.

§1: Absorption of Pupil Judicial and Legal Officers

103- The Higher Judicial Council (HJC) absorbed 450 Pupil Judicial and Legal Officers, drawn from three Batches: 195 from the 2011 Batch; 195 from the 2012 Batch and 60 from the 2013 Batch. The absorption brings to 1,553 the total number of Judicial and Legal Officers working in Cameroon. This number is still insufficient, given that the Judicial and Legal Officer/population ratio is 1:27, 350¹⁹. It is hoped that this measure will speed up the processing of files just as the commissioning of more Bailiffs to office will accelerate the enforcement of judgements.

¹⁹It is worthy of note that there are 33 Legal Officers on secondment and 94 in the Ministry of Justice.

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§2: Commissioning of Bailiffs

104- Pursuant to Decrees No. 2014/27 of 28 January 2014 and No. 2014/118 of 28 March 2014, Bailiffs waiting for commissions since 2006 were assigned 127 and 50 commissions respectively, thus bringing to 503 the total number of Bailiffs commissioned. Although Bailiffs are unevenly distributed across the country, it is hoped that enforcement of court decisions and processes will be improved.

105- The right to be tried without delay contributes to the promotion of the right to fair trial as well as the right of access to an independent and impartial judge.

SECTION 3: PROMOTION OF THE IMPARTIALITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDGE

106- In order to guarantee the impartiality and independence of the Judge, emphasis was placed on respect of ethics and efforts made to improve the working conditions of judicial staff.

§1: Respect for Ethics

107- Respect for ethics was recalled during the speeches made at the solemn opening of the Supreme Court and it has been at the centre of the action of the Anti-corruption Unit of the Ministry of Justice. In addition, some Judicial and Legal Officers were prosecuted and some were punished.

A: Reminder on Respect of Ethics

108- During the solemn reopening of the Supreme Court on 26 February 2014, the Chief Justice by way of a reminder, drew attention to the obligation to respect the ideals of Justice. These ideals require that the Judicial and Legal Officer should respect his professional ethics, he said, adding that the behaviour of the Judicial and Legal Officer serves as an indicator on whether or not he respects professional ethics.

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109- Concerning the obligation to be discrete, the Chief Justice explained that this obligation which is one of the guarantees of impartiality, means the ability to remain neutral and is based on the Judicial and Legal Officer's ability to abstain from or show restraint in expressing an opinion likely to cast doubt on his impartiality.

110- Breach of these obligations is likely to undermine the right to fair trial and expose its authors to sanction. In this regard, petitions were made against Judicial and Legal Officers for violation of ethical obligations, various irregularities and oppression.

B: Actions by the Anti-corruption Unit of the Ministry of Justice

111- The Anti-corruption Unit (CLCC) of the Ministry of Justice conducted a series of activities within the framework of its mandate. In this regard, it carried out an evaluation mission from 4 to 8 March 2014 within the jurisdiction of the South West Court of Appeal. This Unit also held, on 14 July 2014, an ordinary session during which it designed, printed and distributed proceedings of its sessions.

112- On 11 December 2014, the CLCC held 4 *ad hoc* Committee meetings on the display of messages relating to the fight against corruption, the publication of its sub-internet site and the gradual inclusion of content.

C: Proceedings against and Punishment of Judicial and Legal Officers

113- In 2014, some Judicial and Legal Officers were prosecuted and punished for non-respect of ethics and professional conduct. Thus, the following were recorded: 2 queries, 18 requests for comments, 2 warnings, 16 denunciations, 2 files forwarded to the disciplinary bodies and dismissal of Mr. **Etienne JOUNKO**, Judicial and Legal Officer, 4th grade President of the East Court of Appeal, as he then was.

114- In addition, litigants suspecting the impartiality of judicial officers exercised the right to challenge same as provided for by law. Thus, before Courts of Appeal, 5 of the 6 applications for recusal were granted as against 16 of the 19 applications filed before the Supreme Court. In 2014, the Courts of Appeal received 3 suits filed against judicial officers for miscarriage of justice.

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§2: Improvement of the Working Conditions of Judicial Staff

115- In order to guarantee the impartiality and independence of the judge, efforts were made to improve the working conditions of staff including:

- increasing the budget of the Supreme Court from CFAF4,347,000,000²⁰ in 2013 to CFAF4, 410, 000, 000²¹ in 2014, giving an increase of CFAF63,000,000²²;
- Computerization of services; the CFI, Douala, Bonanjo has been computerized, bringing to 4 the number of computerized courts²³; and
- the acquisition of new vehicles for Heads of Court of Appeal and the Judges of the Supreme Court.

SECTION 4: EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RIGHT TO APPEAL

116- The guarantee of the right to fair trial includes the right to have a case reviewed by a higher court. Statistics show fluctuations in the exercise of the right to appeal. The number of convictions reduced or quashed declined (255 as against 319 in 2013) while that of preventive detention rose.

117- Statistics of cases appealed against in 2014 are presented in the table below.

Table 2: Statistics on Remedies

Type of remedy	Number of appeals received				Applicants			Number of decisions reviewed				Number of decisions on pre-trial detention reviewed			
	TPD	CFI	HC	CA	LD	Parties	Others	TPD	CFI	HC	CA	TPD	CFI	HC	CA
Objection	255	1,456	98	57	11	1,330	78	4	60	25	...	///	16	35	...
Appeal	309	2,998	534	///	571	2,563	218	///	85	1	...	///	32	65	3
Appeal to the Supreme Court	///	///	20	1,251	2	190	...	///	///	///	81	///	///	5	50
Review				2											

Source: MINJUSTICE

²⁰About 6 636 641.22 Euros

²¹About 673 282.44 Euro

²²About 96 183.20 Euro

²³The other computerized courts are: the CFI, Yaounde-Ekounou, the CFI Yaounde-Centre Administratif and the HC, Mfoundi.

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Key:

TPD: *Tribunal de Première Degré*

CFI : Court of First Instance

HC : High Court

CA : Court of Appeal

LD : Legal Department

118- Although staff recruitment in the various judicial corps is likely to reduce judicial delays, the problem will not be solved unless other actions are taken such as the building of new infrastructure (court rooms and prisons), purchase of appropriate material, completion of the computerization of the judicial system and significant improvement in the services rendered to stakeholders in the administration of justice.

Chapter 3

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND COMMUNICATION



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119- Several major developments were recorded in the area of freedom of expression and communication in 2014 in Cameroon. These include especially development of the advertising industry, improving access to information and communication technologies, and consolidation of access to information, and communication and telecommunication regulation actions. In addition, prosecutions and judicial sanctions were recorded in this area.

SECTION 1: DEVELOPMENT OF THE ADVERTISING INDUSTRY

120- After the appointment of members of the National Advertising Council (NAC), the duties of the Councils and the Cameroun Publi-Expansion (CPE) were defined. In addition, authorizations issued to advertising professionals contributed more to the development of this industry.

§1: Composition of NAC

121- The composition of NAC, the organization and functioning of which had been laid down since 2008²⁴, was set out by Order No. 1143/CAB/PR of 13 November 2014 by the President of the Republic. Thus, in addition to the Chairperson of the Board who is the Minister of Communication, its 26 members are distributed as follows:

- 12 Administrative representatives²⁵;
- 2 representatives from Councils;
- 11 representatives from professions²⁶; and
- 1 representative of the Civil Society.

These members are called upon to manage an industry the competence of which has been defined.

§2: Defining Duties in the Advertising Industry

122- In order to put an end to the recurrent conflicts relating to taxes and royalties on advertising between Councils and the CPE, the agent of the

²⁴Decree No. 2008/440 of 18 December 2008 relating to the organization and functioning of the National Advertising Council.

²⁵Including the Presidency of the Republic, the Prime Minister's Office, MINCOM, MINCOMMERCE, MINDCAF, MINATD, MINFI, MINJUSTICE, MINSANTE, MINAS, MINAC and MINTOUL.

²⁶They are the representatives of Advertising Agencies (03), Advertising Management (2), Advertisers (2), Audiovisual media (2) and the Print media (2).

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public domain, the Ministers involved in advertising signed Joint Circular No.1/MINDCAF/MINATD/MINFI/MINCOM of 18 November 2014 relating to roadside hoarding on classified roads in the public domain and its appurtenances.

123- This circular recalls the various public royalties and taxes to which advertising on the public domain and its appurtenances are subject to. It also defines the domain of competence of Councils and the CPE in terms of taxes on advertising. Development also concerned issuing licences to advertising professionals.

§3: Issuing Licenses to Advertising Professionals

124- The MINCOM issued a total of 111 licenses to advertising professionals in 2014. These are divided between Advertising Agencies (71) and Advertising Management (40). Although this figure is a substantial increase compared with the previous year during which only 92 licenses were issued, beneficiaries criticized their annual validity. They are expecting a review of the law on advertising that will raise the validity of a license to 5 years for better protection of consumers of the advertising market.

125- In addition to development in the advertising industry, advances were recorded in the areas of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

SECTION 2: ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

126- The improvement of access to information and communication technologies was manifested through more access to telephone services, the preparation of the passage from analogue to digital telephone numbering system as well as access to the Internet.

§1: Access to Telephone Services

127- Access to different telephone services increased considerably in 2014 in particular with the starting of activities by the 3rd mobile telephone operator and the changing of the numbering system.

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A: Activities of the 3rd Cellular Telephone Operator

128- After obtaining its cellular telephone license in November 2012, the Vietnamese telecommunications company, *Viettel*, finally started its activities in September 2014. The arrival of this 3rd mobile operator is part of the drive to facilitate access to technologies through the expected decrease of costs induced by competition.

129- *Viettel*²⁷ was equally granted exclusive right to 3G²⁸ in 2014, which is a cellular technology standard that allows for considerable increase of download and navigation speed with a cellular phone. The arrival of this cellular telephone operator provoked change in numbering.

B: Telephone Numbering

130- To adapt to the evolution of the telecommunications market and especially to fill the gap of the series of numbers granted to each operator, the Telecommunications Regulatory Agency (ART) initiated with MINPOSTEL, as well as the other operators, the switching of the numbering plan to 9 digits. With this switching, Cameroon made its 3rd change after those of 2001 (6 to 7 digits) and 2007 (7 to 8 digits), to deal with the continuing increase in the number of subscribers²⁹.

131- The goal of the new telephone numbering plan is to streamline Cameroon to the considerable progress of the telecommunications market that has experienced significant subscriber increase since 1999. The consequence of this growth being the saturation of the old plan (the one with 8 digits), characterized by the exhaustion of the series of numbers granted to each operator. After the change in numbering, Cameroon prepared for the passage from the analogue to the digital numbering system.

²⁷*Viettel* is the name of the Mother Company and Nexttel its commercial name in Cameroon.

²⁸The 3G, the speed of which goes up to 2048kbits, is an evolution of the cellular multifunctional network (sms, Internet, download, video telephony, streaming etc.).

²⁹From 1999 to 2014, Cameroon had 16, 000, 000 subscribers.

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§2: Transition from Analogue to Digital Numbering System

132- As a prelude to the transition from the analogue to the digital numbering system planned for June 2015, the Steering and Monitoring Committee for the Implementation of the Migration from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting (CAM-DTV) launched from 22 October to 10 November 2014, a broad public awareness campaign across the 10 Regions of the country to outline the digital transition.

133- The aim of the transition is to substantially improve both the quality and quantity of available offer. This is an efficient way to transmit sounds and images that offers many potential benefits. However, it has disadvantages³⁰.

134- In order to raise awareness among communication stakeholders, audiovisual media officials, the public and advertisers on the importance of the changeover of radios and televisions to the digital format and the stakes of this migration, the National Audiovisual Union of Cameroon (SYNAVCAM) organized a Seminar on the theme "*Digital Radio and Television: Technological, Economic and Cultural Challenges of Changing over*".

135- However, it is important to mention the fears raised by the Steering Committee during deliberations at its 2nd Session held on 27 January 2014, relating to the delay in achieving its missions. These concerns relate in particular to the acquisition of the necessary technology for the planned migration provided for in the Strategy Document adopted by the Government in September 2012. The same concerns were raised by the African Broadcasting Union (UAR), during its 7th General Assembly held in Yaounde on 27 and 28 January 2014. The idea of postponing the digital shift deadlines was presented in the so-called Yaounde Declaration.

136- It is hoped that the legislative reform announced³¹ in the industry will dispel apprehensions of the digital transition. These improvements have a positive impact on access to the Internet.

³⁰These advantages and disadvantages will be presented in the 2015 Report.

³¹This reform was realized with the adoption and promulgation of Law No. 2015/007 of 20 April 2015 governing audio visual and media activities in Cameroon.

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§3: Access to the Internet

137- Given the considerable extension of the optical fibre throughout the national territory³², the Internet network has been revitalized.

138- In 2014, the urban optic loops of Douala (50km long) and Yaounde (67, 681km long) were received thus allowing the country to have an optical fibre network of 6,000Km; the aim being to reach 20,000km in 2020. The spill-over impact of this technological infrastructure is the improvement of access to the Internet. Thus, 31 out of 36 Ministries, as well as 23 public or semi-public enterprises now have an operational Web site.

139- Meanwhile the management of the West African Cable System (WACS) optic cable, which was ceded to the Government of Cameroon on 24 July 2014 by the South African Mobile Telephone Network company (MTN) stirred some controversy. In effect, the accession procedure to the WACS submarine cable and management of the takeover of the Limbe landing station had been originally entrusted to the *Société Internationale des Télécommunications du Cameroun* (SITELCAM), specialized in telecommunications transport, since 2009. In 2014, the Government decided to entrust management of this important infrastructure to MINPOSTEL, through CAMTEL due to limitations observed in optical fibre management. It is noteworthy that accession to the WACS South Africa submarine cable cost the State of Cameroon the sum of CFAF12,000,000,000³³, while takeover of the Limbe Station cost CFAF2,000,000,000³⁴.

140- The acquisition by Cameroon of WACS optic cable has enabled improvement of access to the Internet, increase of its speed, improvement of international communications quality, restriction of the dependence of our country vis-a-vis major international companies and consequently declining communications costs.

³²Cameroon has an optic fiber network of 6,000 km which goes from Kye-Ossi to Kousseri and from Mamfe to Bertoua (source: MINPOSTEL during the 3rd pilot session of Telecommunications Network Project).

³³About 18, 320, 610. 69 Euros

³⁴About 3,053,435.11 Euros

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141- All these improvements are guarantees for greater access to information.

SECTION 3: CONSOLIDATION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION

142- To consolidate access to information e-postal service was introduced and Government supported the private press.

§1: E-post Postal Service

143- E-post is a postal service which ensures speedy information processing. The e-post platform is a communication key that guarantees Cameroon's access to an inclusive information society based on online data and services. This infrastructure is based on three components:

- a data centre intended to host the servers of the project;
- a call centre or network supervision centre; and
- a remote monitoring centre.

144- It also has a telecommunications network which interconnects approximately 240 post offices including 130 by optical fibre and 110 by Vsat (satellite interconnection). In addition, e-post offers video conferencing services.

145- The National Coordinator of the e-post Project organized a seminar on e-post infrastructure ownership on 25 and 26 November 2014, for Public Administrations. The goal of this seminar was to understand e-post techniques in order to better apply them in the different public administrations where the need for storage, access and sharing of information is acute.

146- Government continued to support private mass communication companies as part of its desire to diversify information sources.

§2: Public Aid to Private Mass Communication Companies

147- Pending the setting up of the Special Trust Fund, the State continued to provide assistance to private mass communication companies. New selection criteria were laid down by MINCOM to qualify for this aid for 2014.

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A: New Criteria for Selecting Mass Communication Companies

148- The MINCOM enacted new criteria to combat fraud and restrict access of fictitious companies to Government assistance. Thus, to qualify for public aid, companies must show proof of:

- continuous operation of radios or televisions;
- permanent visibility and animation of information sites;
- respect of frequency by written press organs and by printing presses; and
- a taxpayer card.

B: Public Aid Beneficiaries

149- As in 2013, a total amount of CFAF270,000,000³⁵ was granted to private media by the Government for the 2014 financial year. It should be noted that of the 209 organs that deposited their files in 2014 (compared with 207 in 2013) for this aid, 167 were selected. The beneficiaries include 42 community radios; 11 commercial radios; 5 television channels; 3 producers; 71 written press companies; 29 professional organizations; and 6 printing presses.

150- The various regulators intervened to contribute to the improvement of the quality of media activities.

SECTION 4: COMMUNICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATION

151- Regulation activities were carried out both by the National Communication Council (NCC) and the ART.

§1: NCC Activities

152- The NCC organized seminars on building the capacities of both Media Regulatory Bodies of Central Africa, members of the Francophone Regulators Media Network (REFRAM)³⁶ and those of its staff. The NCC was seized of, and it also, on its own motion, instituted regulatory proceedings which sometimes resulted in controversial punishments.

³⁵About 412,213.74 Euros

³⁶REFRAM: was set up in Ouagadougou on 1 July 2007 and it is composed of 27 countries. Cameroon is a founding member.

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A: Capacity Building

153- At the national level, the NCC organized 2 seminars to raise the awareness of media professionals on 25 and 26 August in Bafoussam and on 27 and 28 August 2014 in Bamenda.

154- At the international level, the NCC organized, in collaboration with the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF) in Yaounde, from 12 to 14 May 2014, a Sub-regional Seminar for Media Regulators of Central Africa who are members of the REFRAM on the theme "*Harmonization of Procedures for Handling Complaints and Regulations of Media Regulatory Bodies of Central African countries*". Follow-up of recommendations made at the end of this seminar was the subject of a round table organized in the margins of the International Exhibition of Information and Communication Technologies (SITIC) organized from 9 to 12 September 2014 in Chad³⁷.

155- The NCC also participated from 21 to 22 October 2014 in Togo in another seminar on "*The Protection of Minors by Media Regulators who are Members of REFRAM*" organized by the High Audiovisual Communication Authority (HACA), in Togo and by the OIF.

156- These actions were aimed, among others, at strengthening capacities in handling complaints.

B: Handling of Complaints by the NCC

157- In 2014, the NCC registered and treated 74 as complaints against 88 in 2013. These complaints came from the NCC (41), public authorities (20), Professional Associations (7) and finally from citizens (6). Some of the punishment handed down at the end of the examination of the complaints gave rise to controversy.

³⁷The other point on the agenda of the round table focused on the adoption of a platform of Central African Regulators.

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C: Punishment by the NCC

158- The NCC conducted educational activities prior to taking sanctions which were subject to debates and appeals.

1) Educational Activities of the NCC

159- The NCC organized a series of consultation meetings with communication industry stakeholders (Cable industry operators, the Federation of Newspaper Publishers of Cameroon (FEDIPRESSE), Cameroon's section of the Bureau of the International Union of Francophone Press and Cameroon Cyber press Union on issues relating to the social responsibility of the media, their economic regulation or the continued training of professionals in this industry.

160- In addition, on 27 June 2014, the Council convened a consultation meeting at its headquarters between national and international operators relating to illegal practices and disputes between cable industry stakeholders. Failure to implement the recommendations from the educational activities sometimes led to sanctions.

2) Sanctions taken by the NCC

161- In application of the provisions of Article 6 (1) and (2)³⁸ of the Decree of 23 January 2012 on the Reorganization of the NCC, this body issued 2 press releases on call to order, 3 general press releases, 23 formal notices, 3 warnings, as well as 8 temporary suspensions not exceeding 6 months for cases of breach of ethics and professional conduct. Divergent views were expressed on these decisions.

3) Controversy over NCC Sanctions

162- Communication professionals have heavily criticized sanctions by the NCC. The FEDIPRESSE that launched its activities in May 2014 for

³⁸This Article stipulates: "In the exercise of its functions referred to in Articles 4 and 5, the Council may issue warnings and/or inflict reasoned sanctions to public and private operators as well as to professionals of the mass communication sector.

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example, considered that these sanctions were inconsiderate. According to it, the NCC, because of the severe nature of its sanctions, has ignored the educational approach in favour of its repressive role.

163- The grievances focused on the handling of complaints on violation of the principles on the classification of sanctions, and quorum³⁹ (2/3 of its members present or represented) as provided for by the procedure enforced.

164- These recriminations resulted in appeals both before the Administrative and Criminal Courts.

4) Appeals against NCC Decisions

165- AYISSI ETOA Parfait, Deputy Director of the television channel, Vision 4, instituted proceedings before the CFI, Yaounde *Centre Administratif*, against the NCC and its Vice-President for oppression (S. 140 PC)⁴⁰.

166- As regards administrative appeals, 4 decisions by the NCC were brought before the Administrative Court, Yaounde. This Court ordered the stay of execution of the suspension decisions taken on 27 November 2014. These included Decisions No.9/NCC against **Jacques Blaise MVIE**, No.10/NCC against **Ernest Obama**, No. 11/NCC against **Ines BELINGA** and No.12/NCC against **Romeo MBIDA**⁴¹. The main grounds of appeal against the decisions were lack of the signature of the members who took part in the deliberations and non-compliance with the quorum fixed by the internal regulations of the NCC.

167- The Telecommunications Regulatory Agency also meted out sanctions.

§2: Sanctions by the ART

168- In January 2014, the ART Regional Delegation for the Littoral instructed ORANGE Cameroon to waive the option of limiting transfers of

The sanctions referred to under paragraph 1 above shall be: temporary suspension of activities for a period not exceeding 6 months and ban from operating activities".

³⁹Article 13 (1) of the Decree of 23 January 2012 cited above.

⁴⁰The matter is ongoing.

⁴¹These decisions were appealed against before the Administrative Bench of the Supreme Court.

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airtime to consumers. In another case, the ART ordered the same operator (ORANGE) to restore the communication airtime (CFAF5,000) of Mr. **WAMBA Aloys**. The latter had bought, in April 2014, an airtime card worth CFAF 5,000 that was empty.

169- Furthermore, following a petition by Mr. **ATEBA AKOA Maurice**, in July 2014, demanding the withdrawal of his number from the MTN message server relating to promotional offers, the ART ordered MTN to act accordingly, which it did.

170- Judicial proceedings were also instituted against certain media professionals.

SECTION 5: JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST SOME COMMUNICATION STAKEHOLDERS

171- Several media professionals were brought before the courts either for invasion of privacy or breach of communal interest.

§1: Judicial Proceedings for Invasion of Privacy

172- Apart from matters that were pending before the court and that were mentioned in previous reports, new matters were entertained by the courts in 2014.

173- The courts entertained the following matters for invasion of privacy:

- **CAVAYE YEGUIE Djibril vs Magnus BIAGA, KAMI Jefferson**, respectively Editor of the daily, *Emergence* and Journalist of the said paper for defamation and contempt of public bodies pursuant to sections 74, 96, 152, 154 and 305 of the PC⁴². This matter is pending before the court;
- **Cameroon Cooperative Credit Union League (CAMCCUL) vs AMUNGWA TANYI Nicodemus**, Editor of the weekly *The*

⁴²This matter is ending before the CFI, Yaounde, Centre Administratif.

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Monitor, for defamation (Sections 74 and 305 of the PC). He was convicted and sentenced to 4 months imprisonment and a fine⁴³ of CFAF10,000,000.⁴⁴

§2: Judicial Proceedings for Breach of Common Interest

174- TONGUE Rodrigue, EBOLE BOLA Cyriaque and BABA WAME respectively Journalists at *Le Messager*, *Mutations* newspapers, and Lecturer at ESSTIC were prosecuted for Failure to Report (sections 74 and 107 of the PC). These three media men were accused of receiving and keeping information likely to jeopardize national defence in the matter against one **HARISSOU**, Notary Public, for contempt of President of the Republic. The matter is pending.

175- There was a strong desire in 2014 to move forward with freedom of expression and communication, the development of ICT and the management of sanctions as noted by actions of the Administrative Court, Yaounde to stay the execution of judgments. However, regulations on competition and Short Message Service (SMS) sent unexpectedly to customers are required. In addition, the setting up of the Trust Fund, that was announced, for the private media is keenly awaited.

⁴³This judgment was appealed against.

⁴⁴About 15,267.18 Euros

Chapter 4

RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS



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176- The right to participate in the management of public affairs⁴⁵, for the reference year, was marked by enhancement of the electoral system and instituting local governance.

SECTION 1: CONSOLIDATION OF THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM

177- Although 2014 was not an election year, political parties continued to expand their activities. The organ in charge of managing the electoral process continued preparation for future elections. The map of representatives elected during the 2013 elections was remodelled because of cases of interruption of mandates.

§1: Consolidating Multiparty System

178- In 2014, new political parties were legalized and the other parties that participated in previous elections received State support.

A: Legalization of New Political Parties

179- In 2014, 6 new political parties were legalized thus bringing the total number of legally recognized parties to 298 as at 31 December 2014.

Table 1: Political Parties Legalized in 2014

No.	Name of political party	Declaration of legal existence	Acronym
1	<i>Parti pour la Dynamique du Cameroun et ses Valeurs Institutionnelles</i>	Decision No. 21/D/MINATD/DAP/SDE/SPP of 24 February 2014	PADY-CAMVALINS
2	<i>Mouvement Camerounais pour la Sociale-Démocratie</i>	Decision No. 32/D/MINATD/DAP/SDE/SPP of 10 March 2014	MCPSD
3	<i>Croire au Cameroun</i>	Decision No. 250/D/MINATD/DAP/SDE/SPP of 15 July 2014	CRAC
4	<i>Parti des Démocrates Chrétiens</i>	Decision No. 312/D/MINATD/DAP/SDE/SPP of 26 August 2014	PDCH
5	<i>Front des Forces Républicaines</i>	Decision No. 395/D/MINATD/DAP/SDE/SPP of 22 October 2014	FFR
6	Cameroonian Citizens Council	Decision No. 00043/D/MINATD/DAP/SDE/SPP of November 2014	CCC

Source: MINATD

⁴⁵Further developments on the right to participate in the management of public affairs have also been included respectively in the chapters on Right to Work and Social Security, and Promotion and Protection of Women's Rights.

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B: State Support to Legalized Political Parties

180- Equitable access to public media was guaranteed in addition to funding of political parties.

1) Equitable Access of Political Parties to the Public Media

181- In addition to strategies by political parties through animation by communication support bodies, the equitable distribution of the order of passage and airtime allotted on CRTV to political parties represented at the National Assembly, within the framework of the programme known as "Political slot", a live television programme, was laid down by Order No. 4/MINCOM of 13 June 2014. This distribution is reflected in the table below:

Table 2: Allocation of airtime in 2014

Order of passage	Political Parties	Votes validly cast	Weekly airtime schedule over radio	Weekly airtime schedule over television
1	CPDM	2,555,389	49'56''	24'58''
2	SDF	505,007	38'25''	19'12''
3	UNDP	463,719	9'03''	4'31''
4	MRC	142,620	10'51''	5'25''
5	CDU	73,454	5'35''	2'47''
6	UPC	67,421	5'07''	2'33''
7	MDR	50,889	0'59''	0'29''

Source: MINCOM

2) Public Funding of Parties

182- By joint Order No. 1467/A/MINFI/MINATD of 8 September 2014 relating to the allocation of subvention for public financing of political parties for the 2014 Financial Year, the State allocated CFAF1,500,000,000⁴⁶ to 31 political parties in two instalments, depending on either the number of seats or votes.

⁴⁶About 2,290,076.34 Euros

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a) Distribution Depending on the Number of Seats

183- The 1st instalment of CFAF750,000,000⁴⁷ was divided into three equal parts to the Senate, National Assembly, and Municipal Councils. The part received by each institution was redistributed to political parties represented, based on the number of seats obtained.

i) Senate

184- Six political parties were concerned with the distribution at the Senate as illustrated in the table below:

Table 3: Distribution of the 2nd Quarter of the 1st instalment of public funding

No.	Political parties	Number of seats at the Senate	Amount (in CFAF)
1	CPDM	82	205,000,000 ⁴⁸
2	SDF	14	35,000,000 ⁴⁹
3	UNDP	1	2,500,000 ⁵⁰
4	MDR	1	2,500,000
5	FSNC	1	2,500,000
6	ANDP	1	2,500,000
Total		100	250,000,000

Source: MINATD

ii) National Assembly

186- Distribution at the National Assembly was as follows:

⁴⁷About 1,145,038.17 Euros

⁴⁸About 312, 977. 10 Euros

⁴⁹About 53 435, 11 Euros

⁵⁰About 3, 816. 79 Euros

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Table 4: Distribution of the 1st Quarter of the 1st Instalment of Public Funding

No.	Political parties	Number of seats at the National Assembly	Amount (in CFAF)
1	CPDM	148	205,555,555.56 ⁵¹
2	SDF	18	25,000,000.00 ⁵²
3	UNDP	5	6,944,444.44 ⁵³
4	CDU	4	5,555,555.56 ⁵⁴
5	UPC	3	4,166,666.67 ⁵⁵
6	MDR	1	1,388,888.89 ⁵⁶
7	MRC	1	1,388,888.89
TOTAL		180	250,000,000⁵⁷

Source: MINATD

iii) Municipal Councils

186- In municipal councils, 22 political parties benefited from the distribution as described in the table below:

Table 5: Distribution of the 3rd Quarter of the 1st Instalment of Public Funding

Rank	Political parties	Number of seats at the Municipal Council	Amount (in CFAF)
1	CPDM	8,685	204,192,546.58 ⁵⁸
2	SDF	826	19,433,465.09 ⁵⁹
3	UNDP	518	12,187,088.27 ⁶⁰
4	UPC	179	4,211,368.34 ⁶¹
5	CDU	163	3,834,933.18 ⁶²
6	MDR	149	3,305,552.42 ⁶³
7	UFP	25	588,179.94 ⁶⁴
8	UMS	21	494,071.15 ⁶⁵
9	MRC	19	447,016.75 ⁶⁶
10	FSNC	14	329,380.76 ⁶⁷
11	ANDP	13	305,853.57 ⁶⁸
12	ADD	5	117,635.99 ⁶⁹
13	MP	3	70,581.59 ⁷⁰
14	CPP	2	47,054.39 ⁷¹
15	PADDEC	2	47,054.39
16	UNIVERS	2	47,054.39
17	AFP	1	23,527.20 ⁷²

⁵¹About 313, 825.28 Euros

⁵²About 38, 167.94 Euros

⁵³About 10, 602.21 Euros

⁵⁴About 8, 481.76 Euros

⁵⁵About 6, 361.32 Euros

⁵⁶About 2, 120.44 Euros

⁵⁷About 381, 679.39 Euros

⁵⁸About 311,744.35 Euros

⁵⁹About 29,669.41 Euros

⁶⁰About 18,606.24 Euros

⁶¹About 6,429.57 Euros

⁶²About 5854.86 Euros

⁶³About 5,046.64 Euros

⁶⁴About 897.98 Euros

⁶⁵About 754.31 Euros

⁶⁶About 682.47 Euros

⁶⁷About 502.87 Euros

⁶⁸About 466.95 Euros

⁶⁹About 179.60 Euros

⁷⁰About 107.76 Euros

⁷¹About 71.84 Euros

⁷²About 35.92 Euros

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Rank	Political parties	Number of seats at the Municipal Council	Amount (in CFAF)
18	FDP	1	23,527.20
19	MLDC	1	23,527.20
20	PURS	1	23,527.20
21	MCNC	1	23,527.20
22	RCPU	1	23,527.20
Total		10632	250,000,000

Source: MINATD

b) Distribution Based on Votes Cast

187- The 2nd instalment of CFAF750,000,000⁷³ was equally shared for elections to the National Assembly, Senate and Municipal councils. It was distributed to political parties that obtained at least 5% of the votes cast in those elections.

i) Senate elections

Table 6: Distribution of the 1st Quarter of the 2nd Instalment of Public Funding

Rank	Political parties	Number of Constituencies where the party obtained at least 5% of votes	Amount (in CFAF)
1	CPDM	8	117,647,058.82 ⁷⁴
2	SDF	4	58,823,529.41 ⁷⁵
3	UNDP	4	58,823,529.41
4	CDU	1	14,705,882.35 ⁷⁶
Total		17	250,000,000

Source: MINATD

ii) National Assembly Elections

Table 7: Distribution of the 2nd Quarter of the 2nd Instalment of Public Funding

Rank	Political parties	Number of Constituencies where the party obtained at least 5% of votes	Amount (in CFAF)
1	CPDM	85	115 489 130.43 ⁷⁷
2	SDF	35	47 554 347.83 ⁷⁸
3	UNDP	25	33,967,391.30 ⁷⁹
4	MRC	6	8,152,173.91 ⁸⁰

⁷³About 1,145,038.17 Euros

⁷⁴About 179,613.83 Euros

⁷⁵About 89,806.92 Euros

⁷⁶About 22,451.73 Euros

⁷⁷About 176,319.28 Euros

⁷⁸About 72,602.06 Euros

⁷⁹About 51,858.61 Euros

⁸⁰About 12,446.07 Euros

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Rank	Political parties	Number of Constituencies where the party obtained at least 5% of votes	Amount (in CFAF)
5	CDU	5	6,793,478.26 ⁸¹
6	ANDP	5	6,793,478.26
7	MDR	4	5 434 782.61 ⁸²
8	UPC	4	5 434 782.61
9	PAP	3	4 076 086.96 ⁸³
10	LD	2	2 717 391.30 ⁸⁴
11	FSNC	2	2 717 391.30
12	MDP	1	1 358 695.65 ⁸⁵
13	AMEC	1	1 358 695.65
14	MLDC	1	1,358695.65
15	MANIDEM	1	1,358695.65
16	PURS	1	1,358695.65
17	MCNC	1	1,358695.65
18	PADDEC	1	1,358695.65
19	CDP	1	1,358695.65
TOTAL		184	250,000,000

Source: MINATD

iii) Council Elections

Table 8: Distribution of the 3rd Quarter of the 2nd Instalment of Public Funding

Rank	Political parties	Number of constituencies where the party obtained at least 5% of votes	Amount (in CFAF)
1	CPDM	359	129,136,690.65 ⁸⁶
2	SDF	103	37,050,359.71 ⁸⁷
3	UNDP	101	36,330,935.25 ⁸⁸
4	UPC	20	7,194,244.60 ⁸⁹
5	CDU	15	5,395,683.45 ⁹⁰
6	MRC	14	5,035,971.22 ⁹¹
7	MDR	13	4,676,258.99 ⁹²
8	FSNC	11	3,956,834.53 ⁹³
9	ANDP	10	3,597,122.30 ⁹⁴
10	UMS	9	3,237,410.07 ⁹⁵
11	ADD	6	2,158,273.38 ⁹⁶
12	MLDC	4	1,438848.92 ⁹⁷
13	PAP	4	1,438848.92
14	UFP	4	1,438848.92
15	CPP	3	1,079,136.69 ⁹⁸

⁸¹About 10, 371.72 Euros

⁸²About 8, 297 378.03 Euros

⁸³About 6, 223.03 Euros

⁸⁴About 4, 148.69 Euros

⁸⁵About 547.63 Euros

⁸⁶About 197,155.25 Euros

⁸⁷About 56,565.43 Euros

⁸⁸About 55,467.08 Euros

⁸⁹About 10,983.58 Euros

⁹⁰About 8,237.68 Euros

⁹¹About 7,688.51 Euros

⁹²About 7,139.33 Euros

⁹³About 6,040,968.75 Euros

⁹⁴About 5,491,789.77 Euros

⁹⁵About 4,942,610.79 Euros

⁹⁶About 3,295.07386 Euros

⁹⁷About 2196.72 Euros

⁹⁸About 1,647,536.93 Euros

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Rank	Political parties	Number of constituencies where the party obtained at least 5% of votes	Amount (in CFAF)
16	MDP	3	1,079,136.69
17	AFP	2	719,424.46 ⁹⁹
18	MCNC	2	719,424.46
19	PADDEC	2	719,424.46
20	CDP	1	359,712.23 ¹⁰⁰
21	FDP	1	359,712.23
22	MP	1	359,712.23
23	PAGEN	1	359,712.23
24	PUR	1	359,712.23
25	PURS	1	359,712.23
26	RCPU	1	359,712.23
27	RDDR	1	359,712.23
28	RDI	1	359,712.23
29	UNIVERS	1	359,712.23
	Total	695	250,000,000

Source: MINATD

§2: Preparation of Future Elections by ELECAM

188- Elections Cameroon (ELECAM) built the capacities of electoral process stakeholders and updated the electoral register.

A: Strengthening the Institutional and Human Capacities of Electoral Process stakeholders

189- ELECAM built the capacities of the electoral process stakeholders and organized in-service training for them in elections observation.

1) Consolidation of the Institutional Architecture of ELECAM

190- The institutional architecture of ELECAM was consolidated by providing resources both to the Electoral Board and the General Directorate of Elections.

191- Concerning the Electoral Board, Mr. **MOHAMADOU BOUBAKAR**¹⁰¹ assumed duty after taking oath on 27 February 2013 before the Supreme Court.

⁹⁹About 1,098,357.95 Euros

¹⁰⁰About 549.18 Euros

¹⁰¹See Presidential Decree of 9 September 2013 appointing him member of ELECAM.

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192- In order to enable the Electoral Board to carry out its missions, a special allocation¹⁰² of CFAF892,500,000¹⁰³ was made by Government.

The Directorate General of Elections has continued to improve staff working conditions by:

- signing 1,837 labour contracts;
- signing 546 recruitment decisions;
- affiliating 2,271 employees to the National Social Insurance Fund (NSIF); and
- providing financial support for incremental position.

193- In 2014, ELECAM's budget stood at CFAF10,636,000,000¹⁰⁴ contained in the Finance Law.

194- Equipped with these resources, exclusive of operating expenses, the General Directorate of Elections signed with the Company *SIKABAT Conseil*, on 26 November 2014, a contract to build the headquarters of ELECAM in the administrative neighbourhood of Yaounde, for a period of 6 months from December 2014.

2) Continuous Training of Elections Observation Stakeholders

195- In 2014, voters' awareness was constantly raised through the normal communication channels. Thus, an International Seminar on the theme "*National Elections Observation, Political Communication during Election Period and Consultation between Stakeholders in the Electoral Process*", was organized in Yaounde, jointly by the Electoral Board of ELECAM and the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie*, from 11 to 13 November 2014. Participants included civil society observers consisting of nationals and foreigners from Chad, the Central African Republic, Gabon, Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and Lebanon.

196- The goal of the Seminar was to promote dialogue between all electoral process stakeholders for greater impartiality and professionalism. Participants

¹⁰²This information is culled from ELECAM's 2015 Budget.

¹⁰³About 1,362,595.42 Euros

¹⁰⁴About 16,238,167.94 Euros

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exchanged ideas on persistent socio-political constraints such as pervasiveness of voters' national languages at the detriment of official languages and the lack of objectivity of some national observers especially during previous elections. In addition, discussions focused on the role of the civil society in election observation.

B: Updating of Electoral Register

197- The electoral register was updated in the country through revision and abroad by renewal of electoral lists.

1) Internal Revision of Electoral Lists

198- Revision of electoral lists started on 2 January and ended on 31 August 2014 throughout the country. Before the revision was launched, awareness campaigns were organized by ELECAM in order to explain the challenges and practical modalities to voters and encourage mass voter registration on the biometric electoral lists.

a) Awareness Campaigns

199- To encourage voter enrolment on the electoral register, ELECAM implemented a targeted communication strategy, among others, around the young aged between 20 and 35 years and persons living with disability.¹⁰⁵ In this connection, television or radio programmes such as "*Fréquence ELECAM*" were organised. Display ads and social networks were also used.

b) Internal Consolidation of Electoral Register

200- In 2014, 149,957 new voters were registered on the electoral lists, thus bringing the gross figure of registered voters to 5,631,183 against 5,481,226 as at 30 September 2013.

201- At the end of the streamlining exercise, 49,580 voters were taken off the electoral list thereby consolidating as at 31 December 2014, the internal

¹⁰⁵ELECAM won the 1st prize "Accessibility Award", an international distinction by the International Centre for Parliamentary Studies (ICPS), for taking the Disability Approach into account in Cameroon's electoral process, at the 9th Symposium of International Electoral Affairs, held from 3 to 5 December 2014, in Cape Town, South Africa.

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electoral register at 5,581,603 voters comprising 2,910,047 men and 2,671,556 women. The said file comprising 33,458 electors with disabilities including 11,324 men and 22,134 women was posted on line for consultation: www.elec.cm. Thanks to a security device, this digital migration enabled each person to check only his data for reasons of confidentiality.

202- As regards elector data changes, ELECAM received and processed 6,282 petitions relating to sundry amendments of biographical data of electors concerned. The overall situation is reflected in the following table:

Table No. 9: Number of Registered Voters at the End of the Revision of Electoral Lists

Regions	Registered as at 31/12/2014	Men	Women
Adamawa	367,508	201,533	165,975
Centre	925,262	515,402	409,860
East	284,588	155,384	129,204
Far North	101,328,2	504,625	508,657
Littoral	735,846	418,866	316,980
North	583,510	302,034	281,476
North West	519,578	237,391	282,187
West	593,187	271,512	321,675
South	228,303	125,437	102,866
South West	330,539	177,863	152,676
Total	5, 581 603	2,910047	2,671556

Source: ELECAM

2) Renewal of Electoral lists of Cameroonians Resident Abroad

203- The deployment of *ad hoc* technical teams allowed for the collection, processing, and centralization of the data of Cameroonians resident abroad.

a) Deployment of *Ad hoc* Technical Teams

204- Launched in Libreville, Gabon, data collection of voters in the Diaspora was preceded by training sessions moderated by *ad hoc* teams set up for the purpose. The teams covered 39 of the 40 destinations shortlisted for the presidential election of 9 October 2011, excluding the Central African Republic hit by internal unrest.

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b) Data Collection, Processing and Centralization

205- Some 30 registration centres for the Diaspora sent their raw statistics on about 8,033 voters. At the end of data processing, 42 irregular registrations were found and deleted, thus bringing the number of registered voters as at 31 December 2014 to 7,991 voters comprising 5,115 men including 9 with disabilities and 2,876 women including 9 with disabilities.

206- As within the country, corresponding lists and voter cards were produced and made available. However, the involvement of political parties, the civil society and voters concerned by these operations was timid. This timidity may be due, among others to, the usual reluctant voters who rush only at the verge of elections.

§3: Interruption of Mandate of Elected Representatives

207- Mandates were interrupted either because of death or accumulation of functions.

208- Cases of death were recorded in the two Houses of Parliament and in councils. At the Parliament, 3 Senators and 1 Member of the National Assembly, all from the CPDM died. For councils, 4 mayors died including 3 from the CPDM and 1 from the NUDP. All of them have been replaced in accordance with S. 70 of Law No. 2004/18 of 22 July 2004 to lay down rules applicable to Councils.

209- Similarly, accumulation of functions in the CPDM led to the resignation from office of some elected representatives in 2014. With regard to Senators, Mr. **El Hadj ABBA BOUKAR**, Senator of the Far North Region and Mayor of the Mora Council renounced the position of Senator in the March 2014 session. Pertaining to Mayors, Mr. **Jean Paul NANA SANDJO**, Mayor of the Bazou Council, appointed to the post of Director General of Cameroon Airlines Corporation (CAMAIR-CO), on 25 June 2014, resigned because of incompatibility of functions. He was replaced by Mr. **Jerome YACTCHOUA TOUNOUKEU**, elected on 3 October 2014.

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210- Besides renewal of the mandates of a few elected officials, the decentralization process continued.

SECTION 2: GRADUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF DECENTRALIZATION

211- The decentralization process continued in 2014 with the devolution of powers by Government to mayors and through decentralized cooperation.

§1: Transfer of Skills from the State to Councils

212- Skills and resources were transferred to Councils in 2014.

A: Transfer of Skills

213- Tasks previously assigned to the State were transferred to Councils. In this respect, 16 ministries¹⁰⁶ transferred 19 skills among which the promotion of rural development activities, supply of drinking water, management of vocational training centres, road maintenance and the enhancement of council tourist sites.

214- In spite of the weak technical capacity of mayors¹⁰⁷, the transfer schedule drawn up by the National Decentralization Board, the monitoring body, envisages complete transfer by 2015, to Councils and Urban Councils of skills provided for by the Law laying down rules applicable to Councils.

B: Transfer of Resources

215- For the 2014 financial year, CFAF38,079,915,000¹⁰⁸ was transferred from the State to Council accounts thus bringing to CFAF144,541,157,000¹⁰⁹, the total amount transferred since 2010.

216- In addition, Overall Decentralization Allocation increased from CFAF7,500,000,000¹¹⁰ to CFAF10,000,000,000¹¹¹ respectively from 2013 to 2014. The distribution spelt out appropriations for the remuneration of Mayors¹¹².

¹⁰⁶These include *inter alia* MINADER, MINAS, MINEPIA, MIN-PROFF, MINSANTE, MINEDUB and MINTP.

¹⁰⁷Because of the renewal rate of Municipal Councils and Mayors which stands at 70% as the result of the last municipal elections of 30 September 2013.

¹⁰⁸About 58, 137, 274.81 Euros

¹⁰⁹About 220, 673, 522.14 Euros

¹¹⁰About 11, 450, 381.68 Euros

¹¹¹About 15,267,175.57 Euros

¹¹²See Section 67 of Law No. 2004/18 of 22 July 2004 to lay down rules applicable to Councils. The implementation of this provision could resolve the problem of residence of Mayors.

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217- Analyses show that the investment budget is now equal to the operation budget which stood at CFAF5,000,000,000¹¹³. These transferred budgetary resources remain inadequate in terms of the volume of real resources to be transferred, for their adaptation to local realities.

217.1- By Circular Letter of 13 March 2014, signed by the Minister of Finance, Mayors and Council Treasurers were instructed to ensure good governance including centralization of the financial operations of Councils. Apart from transferred resources, Councils requested FEICOM to finance council and inter-council investment works¹¹⁴. In this regard, the 18th session of FEICOM's Financial Assistance Committee¹¹⁵ (CCFF), held on 17 July 2014, approved 52 projects for a total amount of CFAF9,904,359,352¹¹⁶, prepared by 47 Councils and 3 City Councils.

217.2- Geographically, funding is distributed as follows:

Table 10: Distribution of Project Funding by FEICOM

Region	Number of projects	Total amount (in CFAF)	Percentage of Distribution (%)
Adamawa	4	475, 369, 600 ¹¹⁷	5
Centre	6	1, 243, 533, 320 ¹¹⁸	13
East	5	1, 347, 032, 120 ¹¹⁹	14
Far North	9	1, 219, 527, 767 ¹²⁰	12
Littoral	3	623, 476, 830 ¹²¹	6
North	2	670, 000, 000 ¹²²	7
North West	5	1, 178, 030, 675 ¹²³	12
West	6	819, 726, 247 ¹²⁴	8
South	7	1, 415, 537, 732 ¹²⁵	14
South West	5	912, 125, 061 ¹²⁶	9
General Total	52	9, 904, 359, 352¹²⁷	100

Source: FEICOM

¹¹³About 7633587.79 Euros

¹¹⁴See Article 4, indent 2 of Decree No. 2000/365 of 11 December on the reorganisation of FEICOM.

¹¹⁵Set up by Decision No. 2/D/FEICOM/CA of 16 November 2007.

¹¹⁶About 15, 121, 159.32 Euros

¹¹⁷About 725,755.12 Euros

¹¹⁸About 1,898,524.15 Euros

¹¹⁹About 2,056,537.59 Euros

¹²⁰About 1,861,874.45 Euros

¹²¹About 951,873.02 Euros

¹²²About 1,022,900.76 Euros

¹²³About 1,798,520.11 Euros

¹²⁴About 1,251,490.45 Euros

¹²⁵About 2,161,126.31 Euros

¹²⁶About 1,392,557.35 Euros

¹²⁷See above

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218- Funding is split as stated below for sectors and areas of intervention:

Table 11: Sector distribution of funding by FEICOM

Sector	Domain	Number of Projects	Amount granted (in CFAF)
Teaching and research	Basic Education	5	675, 430, 000 ¹²⁸
Infrastructure	Land tenure	1	253, 500, 000 ¹²⁹
	Water and sanitation	7	1, 002, 570, 069 ¹³⁰
	Basic education	2	311, 922, 732 ¹³¹
	Electrification	3	586, 552, 420 ¹³²
	Social Housing	1	400, 000, 000 ¹³³
	Town Halls	26	5, 184, 797, 528 ¹³⁴
	Roads and bridges	1	136, 824, 989 ¹³⁵
Production and trade	Markets and motor parks	5	1, 202, 761, 614 ¹³⁶
	Tourism	1	150, 000, 000 ¹³⁷
Overall Total		52	9,904,359,352

Source: FEICOM

§2: Continuation of Decentralized Cooperation

219- To strengthen coordination of interventions, some Councils collaborated in the areas of intellectual services and construction of infrastructure

A: Strengthening of Technical Capacity

220- Built with the technical and financial support of the French Cooperation, the *Centre de Ressources des Communes et Villes Unies du Cameroun (CVUC)*, Network of Councils, was inaugurated on 8 August 2014. As regards its means of action, the Centre intends to advocate the enhancement of local authority through lessons relating to the exercise of the transfer of skills at the local level; strengthen the technical capacities of CVUC Members for local governance; and promote the coordination of interventions by providing information relating to local authority.

¹²⁸About 1,031,190.8 4Euros

¹²⁹About 387,022.90 Euros

¹³⁰About 1,530,641.33 Euros

¹³¹About 476,217.91 Euros

¹³²About 895,499.88 Euros

¹³³About 610,687.02 Euros

¹³⁴About 7,915,721.42 Euros

¹³⁵About 208,893.11 Euros

¹³⁶About 1,836,277.27 Euros

¹³⁷About 229,007.63 Euros

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B: Road Construction Cooperation

221- On 11 November 2014, partnership agreements were signed between the State and the following 5 Councils: Baham in the West Region, Sangmelima II in the South Region, Ndom in the Littoral Region, and Ombessa and Okola in the Centre Region. The State was represented by the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT) that provided additional support of CFAF1,000,000,000¹³⁸.

222- These contracts are designed to achieve collective equipment works by using a technique called "High Intensity Labour Force" (HILF)¹³⁹. Through this technique, the absence of expensive machines is compensated for by the use of local materials. In addition, it enables reduction of production costs and income redistribution to the population.

223- According to the terms of the agreements, the Baham Council will rehabilitate a stretch of 3,540m of rural road linking Whom-Kam to the Baham-Bandenkop border; the Sangmelima II Council will rehabilitate the roundabout at Monavebe-Industrial cassava processing firm of Sangmelima; the Ndom Council will rehabilitate the access road to the *Cercle Municipal* that is 450m long with concrete cobblestones; the Ombessa Council will be responsible for paving roads on a stretch of 1,200m of the Yaounde-Bafia road; and works in the Okola Council will consist in rehabilitating the junction, *Place du Renouveau*-residential area slum.

224- In conclusion, ELECAM participated in the modernization of the electoral system and decentralised cooperation was strengthened. In spite of progress made, there are still obstacles to the right to participate in the management of public affairs. With regard to political life, there was little interest in biometric registration. In addition, a major decentralization difficulty persisted in 2014 including, the lack of expertise by Councils that could be corrected either by the in-service training of Mayors or helping the staff of decentralized services of ministries.

¹³⁸About 1,526,717.56 Euros

¹³⁹See Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP) that recommends the use of these approaches in the strategy for the improvement of employment offer. It even advocates the obligation to have recourse to HILF technologies in the execution of certain types of works, in particular in the Building and Public Works (BPW) sector.



Chapter 5

**HUMAN RIGHTS AND
COMBATING TERRORISM**



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225- In 2014, peace and security were severely threatened in Cameroon because of repeated attacks by the terrorist sect *Boko Haram*. Since peace is an essential condition for the enjoyment of Human Rights, this situation had negative implications on the rights of the people. The response of the State was based on respect for the Rights of the person.

SECTION 1: TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION

226- The strategy of nuisance by the *Boko Haram* Sect that started in 2013 with abductions especially of foreigners, was intensified in 2014 by taking a more military approach with many incursions in various localities and direct attacks against the national army. Thus, more than a hundred attacks were carried out, sometimes simultaneously on different fronts, almost on a daily basis from May 2014. This war that was imposed on Cameroon was carried out by the perpetration of criminal acts that resulted in terrible consequences on the rights of the people.

§1: Perpetration of Criminal Acts by Boko Haram

227- Members of the *Boko Haram* sect carried out different types of criminal acts. They conducted widespread and indiscriminate attacks, accompanied by barbaric acts on Cameroonian armed forces, civilians and their property. Thus, although some attacks targeted military installations (Gendarmerie brigades, military bases etc.), most of them were conducted against villages and their people causing damage to both persons and property.

A: Attacks on Persons

228- Deprivation of life, liberty and security was carried out through murder and hostage-taking.

229- With regard to murder, the attackers on several occasions used barbaric and inhuman methods such as decapitation or slaughtering of persons. On the night of 9 to 10 August 2014 for example, members of the sect attacked Bla-Sale and Hardori villages in the Logone and Chari Division, decapitated **EL GOUDJA** and carried away several bags of sugar. On 19 November 2014, *Boko Haram* members raided Leimari Village in the same division where they slaughtered Chief **BLAMA MALOUM** and his son in front of the population.

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230- Religious leaders were also victims of deprivation of life. In this regard, on the night of 16 to 17 August 2014, terrorists attacked Grea Village in the Mayo-Sava Division, killing 3 persons, among whom the local Imam whose sermons were directed against their sect.

231- The means used have contributed to amplifying the attacks. The combatants of the sect used anti-personnel mines in violation of the principle of humanity¹⁴⁰. A dozen people lost their lives during the explosion of anti-personnel mines laid by the followers of this sect. A vehicle of the 42nd Motorized Infantry Battalion (BIM) for example, on patrol on the Maltam-Fotokol road, drove on a mine between Fina and Madina villages in the Logone and Chari Division, killing a Cameroonian soldier and seriously wounding 2 others.

232- With regard to kidnappings and hostage-taking, more than a hundred foreigners and Cameroonians were involved. On the night of 16 to 17 May 2014, for example, in an attack by the sect *Boko Haram* at Waza, on the installations of the Chinese Hydro Corporation, responsible for rehabilitating the Dabanga-Mora road, 10 Chinese workers were kidnapped while a soldier from the Rapid Intervention Battalion (BIR) and a Chinese were killed. There were also abduction of Italian missionaries **GIAN Antonio Alligri** and **GIAN Paolo Marta** and the Canadian religious **Gilberte BUSSIÈRE** at Tchere on 5 April 2014, that of Dr. Mrs. **ALI MOUKOURI Agnès**, wife of the Vice-Prime Minister in charge of Relations with the Assemblies, as well as Dr **SENI BOUKAR**, Lamido and Mayor of Kolofata and 15 relatives of the last two mentioned persons, during a raid on Kolofata on 27 July 2014. Similarly, on the night of 30 July 2014, the trader **ALAH DJI WOBRI** and his son were abducted in Koumbe Village in the Logone and Chari Division.

B: Destruction of Property

233- Thousands of herds of cattle and small livestock were carried away after systematic looting and torching of dwellings in different localities of the Region. On the night of 13 to 14 December 2014, the assailants attacked Gangawa and Talla-Malla Brachim villages in the Mayo-Sava Division where they took

¹⁴⁰The use of weapons in the natural environment that cause serious long-term damages is equally prohibited.

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away 215 sheep and some one hundred chickens. They took away some 900 oxen and sheep from Danga Danga Village. From 1 October to 1 November 2014, terrorists attacked a ranchers' encampment in Nguetchewe Village, Mayo-Tsanaga Division taking away 200 heads of cattle, after assaulting the shepherds.

234- Religious and cultural buildings were not spared. In this regard, on the night of 13 to 14 September 2014, the sect members attacked Ldamang, Ldudam, Vreket, Vouzi and Moskota villages in the Mayo-Tsanaga Division burning 8 houses, including that of Pastor **WARDA Jean Thomas** and the local Protestant Church. On 21 September 2014, they killed 2 inhabitants of the Ldamang Village and set fire on the prayer ground of Catholic Christians. The Protestant and Catholic Churches as well as Government School, Amchide were ransacked and burnt down during the attack of 15 October 2014.

235- All these abuses by members of the Sect *Boko Haram* had perceptible and far-reaching consequences on the rights of the people.

§2: Consequences on the Rights of the People

236- The insecurity imposed by the barbaric acts of *Boko Haram* had far-reaching consequences on the enjoyment of Human Rights by the people, including the right to security or economic and social rights.

237- Pertaining to security, high flow of arms and ammunition and the enlistment of many young people was noted.

238- On the social level, massive displacement of persons was recorded with about 30, 000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) and thousands of Refugees¹⁴¹.

239- On the economic front, agriculture and herding of animals and trade with Nigeria were paralyzed, giving rise to foodstuff shortage with risks of famine. Besides, there was a sharp decline in tourist activity in the Far North Region which is a preferred tourism destination with a drop in the number of tourists recorded at the national level¹⁴².

¹⁴¹See infra Chapter on the Protection of Refugees.

¹⁴²See infra Chapter on the Right to Culture and Leisure.

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240- In addition, schools such as the Government High School, Kolofata were closed, thus depriving children and young people of the right to education. The same applied to health facilities.

241- Faced with the magnitude and consequences of the atrocities of the sect, it was necessary for the State to react.

SECTION 2: STATE REACTION: RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

242- Besides the humanitarian response¹⁴³ and readjustment of the normative frame work, the State took measures to guarantee the right of the people to security and respect for the rights of suspects with regards to human rights standards.

§1: Right to Security

243- The willingness to ensure collective security justified restrictions of some freedoms, because the nature of the danger required the reorganization of the military and security system.

A: Restriction of Freedoms

244- In compliance with International Human Rights Law standards contained, *inter alia*, in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), measures to restrict freedom of movement were taken by administrative authorities in some localities attacked by *Boko Haram*. Restrictions to freedoms are not admitted except where they aim at ensuring recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and to respond to the just requirements of morality, public order and general welfare in a democratic society.

B: Reorganization of the Military and Security System

245- At the military level, the territorial command of the army was reorganized into 4 Joint Military Regions (RMIA), with the setting up, by Decree No. 2014/308 of 14 August 2014 to amend Decree No. 2001/180 of 25 July 2001 on the Reorganization of the territorial Military Command, of a Joint

¹⁴³See infra Chapter on the Protection of Refugees.

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Military Region in the Far North, based in Maroua. This new Decree therefore splits the 3rd RMIA which initially covered the Adamawa, Far North and North Regions. The 3rd Gendarmerie Region was also reorganized, with the setting up of the Far North Gendarmerie Region pursuant to Decree No. 2014/309 of 14 August 2014, to amend Decree No.2001/181 of 25 July 2001 relating to the organization of the National Gendarmerie.

246- Military Sectors for the Ground Forces henceforth became Military Sectors purely and simply thereby placing them fully within their joint military framework. The Military Sector is the sub-division of the RMIA and it covers the territorial jurisdiction of an administrative region.

247- The 41st Motorized Infantry Battalion (BIM) was also set up by this Decree and corresponding military staff deployed in these new command units.

248- The restructuring of the military and security system contributed significantly to repel the onslaughts of this sect and to restore the security of persons and property. This military response was accompanied by a willingness to comply with the updating of the normative framework.

§2: Enhancement of Normative Framework by International Law

249- Willingness to curb the atrocities of the sect in compliance with standards for combating terrorism has led the State to enrich the normative framework by the ratification of other international legal instruments to combat terrorism and the adoption of an anti-terrorism law.

A: Ratification of International Legal Instruments to Combat Terrorism

250- Cameroon has consolidated its accession to international instruments to combat terrorism. Cameroon, that is already party to 12 of the 16 existing conventions on the subject, has ratified 2 other conventions at the African regional level. These include the Convention of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism of 14 July 1999 ratified pursuant to Decree No. 2014/605 of 31 December 2014 and its Protocol of 8 July 2003¹⁴⁴ ratified by Decree No. 2014/606 of 31 December 2014.

¹⁴⁴The President of the Republic was authorized to ratify these two Conventions by Laws No. 2014/18 and 2014/19 of 23 December 2014 respectively.

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B: Adoption of Law No. 2014/28 of 23 December 2014

251- In a bid to consolidate Government determination to include the mandatory resolutions of the UN Security Council calling on States to criminalize acts of terrorism in their national laws, Law No. 2014/28 of 23 December 2014 on suppression of acts of terrorism was enacted. This Law is in line with the Resolutions of the UN Security Council, the most illustrative being Resolution 2178 of 24 September 2014 that urges States *“to ensure that the classification of criminal offences in their legislation and their internal regulations allow, in proportion to the seriousness of the offence, to prosecute and punish acts of terrorism”*.

252- Thus, in the absence of a universal precise and concise definition of terrorism, the Law criminalizes acts of terrorism on the basis of the above Resolutions and by using the definition of Article 1 paragraph 3 of the OAU Convention. In addition to acts of terrorism, the Law is directed against the financing of acts of terrorism, the laundering of proceeds of acts of terrorism, the advocacy of terrorism as well as the hiring and training of persons in view of their involvement in acts of terrorism.

253- The offences are punishable by loss of liberty ranging from determinate term of imprisonment with the maximum of 20 years, life imprisonment to death penalty. Fines oscillate between CFAF 20,000,000¹⁴⁵ and CFAF 50, 000 000¹⁴⁶.

254- The law further lays down the procedure for investigation and trial. The period of remand in custody is 15 days renewable on the authorization of the competent Commissioner of Government. For the sake of expediency, trial without preliminary inquiry is chosen as a mode of referral to the Military Court, competent to try crimes covered by the Law. The criminal proceedings and penalties are not covered by limitation period.

255- The Law has generated a debate on several of its aspects, in particular, the extensive nature of the definition of acts of terrorism, the provision of death penalty and entrusting jurisdiction to Military Courts. Cameroon has also been the subject of inquiries by 7 Holders of Mandates of the Human Rights Council of the United Nations to which it responded.

¹⁴⁵About 30,534.35 Euros

¹⁴⁶About 76,335.88 Euros

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§3: Willingness to Treat Persons Arrested in Keeping with Human Rights

256- To reaffirm its determination not to systematically execute enemy combatants, the State instituted proceedings against the persons arrested, followed possibly by their detention, while responding to certain allegations of Human Rights violation.

A: Opening of Proceedings against Persons Arrested

257- Judicial proceedings were instituted against the persons arrested in the context of the fight against *Boko Haram*. As at 31 December 2014, there were respectively 4, 32 and 4 proceedings pending before the Military Courts of Yaounde, Maroua and Garoua. As at that date, 330 detainees were related to these proceedings. They were brought before the court by way of summary trial (without a Preliminary Inquiry being carried out).

B: Detention of Persons Prosecuted and Prison Overcrowding

258- Several prisons, including the Central Prison, Maroua, hosted detainees as a result of this conflict. Their large number in some cases helped to aggravate the problem of prison overcrowding. Thus, the Central Prison, Maroua, with a capacity of about 300 beds had approximately 900 detainees at the end of 2014 of which 559 were related to *Boko Haram*. This excess number led to the deterioration of detention conditions to which the State has had to cope with the help of partners. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), for example, provided support in the area of food and sanitation. Strengthening of technical equipment was envisaged for the improvement of medical care and more generally, an increase in the budgetary allocation assigned to prisons. The acceleration of judicial proceedings was also integrated as part of the answer to this situation in the redevelopment of the normative mechanism.

C: Alleged Human Rights Violation

259- Some allegations of Human Rights violation were made regarding the response of the State to the *Boko Haram* phenomenon. This is the case of the

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death of 25 persons on the night of 27 to 28 December 2014 in the premises of the Gendarmerie Legion of the Far North, Maroua. It is proper to state the facts before indicating the response of the State.

1) Facts

260- On the night of 26 to 27 December 2014, in order to avert a planned attack by terrorists, a combined operation was organized in the villages of Magdeme and Doublé by a joint detachment of the military and the National Security. This operation enabled the arrest of 70 suspects, who were transferred to the Gendarmerie Legion, Maroua for further investigation.

261- Among the persons arrested, 14 were conducted to the cells of the Territorial Gendarmerie Brigade, Maroua, whereas the other 56 were remanded in custody in a premises prepared for the circumstance at the Gendarmerie Legion, because all the Gendarmerie cells, as well as the premises of the Central Prison, Maroua were saturated. The convoy carrying the suspects arrived in Maroua on 27 December 2014 at around 10 : 30 pm. Sorting was to be carried out the next day, in order to possibly release innocent suspects after examination of their situation, and referral of the others to the competent courts.

262- At dawn on 28 December 2014, on opening the premises where the suspects had been locked up on the eve at the Gendarmerie Legion, it was discovered that 25 of the 56 persons had lost their lives.

2) Reaction of Authorities

263- At the judicial level, military justice was seised of the matter and an investigation opened. A forensic physician performed autopsies on the remains before their burial while two senior officers of the central services of the gendarmerie, including a Legal Officer, were sent to the field, to conduct thorough investigations, and to shed light on this situation.

264- In the meantime, and as a precautionary measure, the Commander of the Gendarmerie Legion, Maroua, at the time of the incident, was discharged of his duties and put at the disposal of the Judiciary. In addition, the Commander of the Military Region of the Far North, was called to other duties.

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265- Through its terrorist activities, *Boko Haram* has violated many Human Rights, such as the right to the security of individuals and of the community, the right to life, the right to peace, freedom and security, the right to property, the right not to be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Different measures taken by the State are beginning to yield results which should be consolidated with the support of the international community.



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CONCLUSION OF PART ONE

266- The political landscape was relatively calm in 2014 which, although not an election year, was used to improve the electoral system with the updating of the electoral register and the consolidation of the decentralization process through the continued transfer of skills and resources.

267- The fight against the impunity of law enforcement officials and recourse to the Courts was intensified in order to ensure the enjoyment of civil rights. Thus, with regard to the preservation of the right to life and the right to physical integrity, apart from capacity building measures, both disciplinary and judicial sanctions were imposed in cases of violation of Human Rights. Cases brought against the NCC decisions and judicial proceedings against media professionals are also illustrative of this trend. More so, the consolidation of freedom of expression and communication, requires a normative framework in addition to technological progress.

268- The fight against terrorism took into consideration the judicial guarantees for persons prosecuted. The response of the State to the many abuses of the nebulous *Boko Haram* was based on the respect of Human Rights although criticisms were recorded concerning the Law on suppression of acts of terrorism adopted in December 2014.

269- The judicial system that guarantees effective recourse to the Courts was enhanced and staff recruited into the different judicial corps as a partial solution to judicial delays. Besides, a Judicial Officer was dismissed within the framework of the obligation of a judge's impartiality, even if access to justice needs to be improved especially by reducing costs.



Part Two

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS AND RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT



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INTRODUCTION TO PART TWO

270- The implementation of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to a healthy environment remained a major challenge in 2014. Emphasis was placed on actions aimed at strengthening the educational system in order to ensure education for all and adapt higher education to the labour market. Besides, apart from traditional measures for curbing pandemics, preventive actions were taken to avoid the Ebola epidemic.

271- Furthermore, the willingness to guarantee the right to health to all is coupled with that of ensuring a healthy diet, equitable access to water and energy as well as adequate housing and decent work. Major actions under these different endeavours include the completion of the pilot phase of agropoles, rehabilitation of drinking water production stations in order to meet constantly increasing demand as well as the revaluation of the Guaranteed Minimum Wage (SMIG) and the basic monthly salary of civilian and military personnel. Concerns relating to culture and environment also aroused particular attention, especially through the opening of the National Museum and the entering into operation of the repressive phase of the ban of plastic packaging of less than 61 microns.

272- This part will deal with the:

- Right to Education;
- Right to Health;
- Right to Adequate Standard of Living;
- Right to Work and Social Security;
- Right to Culture and Leisure; and
- Right to a Healthy Environment.



Chapter 1

RIGHT TO EDUCATION



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273- The right to education is both a Human Right *per se* and one of the keys to the exercise of other rights.¹⁴⁷ As a right which contributes to individual empowerment, education is the primary tool that can lift economically and socially marginalized adults and children out of poverty and enable them to obtain the means to participate fully in the life of their community.¹⁴⁸ The vision of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) guided State action in 2014 to ensure the guarantee of this right at the primary, secondary and higher education levels.

SECTION 1: PRIMARY EDUCATION

274- With a constantly increasing budget, CFAF160,830,000,000¹⁴⁹ in 2012 to CFAF 171, 818,000,000¹⁵⁰ in 2013 and CFAF174,580,000,000¹⁵¹ in 2014, that is, an increase of CFAF2 762,000,000¹⁵² in absolute value and 1.58 % in relative value, representing 5.03% of the national budget the Ministry of Basic Education , (MINEDUB) carried out actions to promote access to education, equity and the enhancement of the quality and effectiveness of the educational system.

§1: Promotion of Access to Education

275- Consolidation of education supply and increasing demand were the main actions carried out by MINEDUB to improve access to education.

A: Consolidation of Education Supply

276- Education supply was consolidated at the level of public and private education.

1) Public Supply

277- The consolidation of education supply was marked by increased school infrastructure and equipment, increased number of teachers, continuation of activities relating to literacy and non-formal education.

¹⁴⁷Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Twenty-first session (1999), General Comment No. 13: Right to Education (Art 13 of the Covenant).

¹⁴⁸*Idem.*

¹⁴⁹About 245, 514, 984.73 Euros

¹⁵⁰About 262, 317, 557.25 Euros

¹⁵¹About 266, 534, 351.14 Euros

¹⁵²About 4, 416, 783.89 Euros

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a) Increase of School Infrastructure and Equipment

278- MINEDUB and Councils constructed, equipped and rehabilitated new classrooms and administrative offices¹⁵³.

i) Actions by MINEDUB

278.1- The following results were recorded with regard to preschool development:

- construction of 33 nursery schools;
- equipment of 33 nursery schools and 20 classrooms with 1,320 tablets, 5,280 small chairs, 198 tables on trestles and 66 teachers' offices; and
- rehabilitation of 8 nursery schools.

278.2- The following achievements were obtained at the level of primary education:

- construction of 1,459 new classrooms equipped with 45,000 desks;
- construction of 291 latrines;
- construction of 35 computer laboratories equipped with 2,308 computers used for teaching ;
- construction and rehabilitation of 247 boreholes/water points; and
- rehabilitation of 268 public schools.

278.3- Finally, the outcomes below were noted regarding the construction of administrative blocks:

- construction of 10 blocks of 2 guest houses for teachers, including 7 in the ceded areas of Lake Chad and the Bakassi Peninsula, and 3 in Mouanko, Manoka and Le Vele that are insular areas with difficult access; and
- acquisition of 5 engine-boats for retroceded and insular areas including Bamusso, Kombo-Abedimo, Mouanko and Manoka.

¹⁵³As per publication of Decree No. 2010/247/PM of 26 February 2010 to lay down procedures for the exercise of certain skills transferred by the State to Councils as regards Basic Education read together with Order No. 2010/246/B1/1464/MINEDUB/CAB of 31 December 2010 relating to specifications on the technical terms and conditions of the exercise of the skills transferred by the State to Councils.

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278.4- The summary of Government efforts in equipping primary and nursery schools in 2014 financed by the Public Investment Budget (PIB) compared to 2013 is as follows:

Table 1: Increase in Primary and Nursery School Equipment

No.	Cycles	Equipment	Years		Total number ¹⁵⁴
			2013	2014	
1	Primary Education	Desks	21856	45,000	2, 081, 836
		Teachers' Offices	671	741	30,874
		Guest Houses	10	10	883
		Micro sciences Kits	300	350	1550
2	Nursery Education	Tablets and small chairs	7550	6600	159,910
		Boards on easels	255	198	7386
		Teachers' Offices	60	66	7481

Source: MINEDUB

279- The school infrastructure map for 2013-2014 stands as follows:

Table 2: Overview of Infrastructure for the 2013-2014 School Year

Cycle	Infrastructure	French-speaking	English-speaking	Public	Private	Parent + PCC ¹⁵⁵	Total
Nursery	Schools	3623	1848	3439	4,530	298	8267
	Classrooms	8753	5827	4364	10084	132	14580
Primary	Schools	108,81	3831	11906	5561	668	18135
	Classrooms	58097	23916	51229	29698	1086	82013

Source: MINEDUB

ii) Council Actions

280- MINEDUB transferred skills and financial allocations for infrastructure development and provision of school supplies to Councils.

281- The share allocated to Councils for infrastructure development and the acquisition of supplies is fairly stable in MINEDUB's budget. In terms of proportion in relation to its overall budget, excluding salaries, it increased

¹⁵⁴Represents the global situation in the country.

¹⁵⁵PCC: Pre-nursery Community Centre

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respectively from 25.21% in 2010 to 26.63% in 2014 for a four-year average estimated at 24.83 % as shown in the Table below.

Table 3: Allocations to Councils for Infrastructure and Acquisition of School Supplies

No.	Year	Amount allocated to construction, rehabilitation, maintenance and equipment of schools (CFAF)	Amount allocated to acquisition of school supplies under the minimum package	Cumulative Total for infrastructure development and acquisition of school supplies	Overall Budget of the Ministry excluding salary (in CFAF)	Proportion in relation to the overall budget of the Ministry excluding salary.
1	2010	13,064,050000 ¹⁵⁶	2072704,000 ¹⁵⁷	15,136,754000 ¹⁵⁸	60,048,000000 ¹⁵⁹	25.21%
2	2011	6,636,479000 ¹⁶⁰	1,958,629000 ¹⁶¹	8595108,000 ¹⁶²	35,213000000 ¹⁶³	24.41%
3	2012	8,139,755984 ¹⁶⁴	2,067,939000 ¹⁶⁵	10,207,694984 ¹⁶⁶	42,225000000 ¹⁶⁷	24.17%
4	2013	8,265,341000 ¹⁶⁸	2,085,553000 ¹⁶⁹	10350 894 000 ¹⁷⁰	43,880000000 ¹⁷¹	23.59%
5	2014	900,600000 ¹⁷²	2,085,553000 ¹⁷³	11086153,000 ¹⁷⁴	41,627000000 ¹⁷⁵	26.63%
TOTAL		45 106 225 984¹⁷⁶	10 270 378 000¹⁷⁷	55,376,603984¹⁷⁸	222,993000000¹⁷⁹	24.83%

Source: MINEDUB

282- There is synergy between councils and MINEDUB to develop school infrastructure. However, difficulties related to delivery of the Minimum Package that are persistent, in particular because of the complex procurement procedures, compounded by the refusal of some municipal authorities to assume responsibility, must be denounced.

b) Increased Number of Teachers

283- Over the past 3 years, the number of teachers has increased both in pre-school and primary education. Primary school teaching staff strength thus increased from 56,026 in the 2011-2012 Academic Year, to 60,357

¹⁵⁶About 1,194,511.50 Euros

¹⁵⁷About 3, 164, 433.58 Euros

¹⁵⁸About 2, 310, 954 48.09 Euros

¹⁵⁹About 9,1676,335.87 Euros

¹⁶⁰About 101, 320.29 Euros

¹⁶¹About 2 990, 273.28 Euros

¹⁶²About 119, 45 1,1.50 Euros

¹⁶³About 537, 603, 05.34 Euros

¹⁶⁴About 124, 271, 08.37Euros

¹⁶⁵About 3, 157, 158.77 Euros

¹⁶⁶About 15, 584, 267.15 Euros

¹⁶⁷About 644 ,656, 48.85 Euros

¹⁶⁸About 1,26 1,88 4,1.22 Euros

¹⁶⁹About 3, 184, 050.38 Euros

¹⁷⁰About 15, 802,891.60 Euros

¹⁷¹About 669, 923, 66.41Euros

¹⁷²About 137, 961.83 Euros

¹⁷³About 3, 1840,50.38 Euros

¹⁷⁴About 169, 254, 24.42 Euros

¹⁷⁵About 119, 45 1,1.50 Euros

¹⁷⁶About 688, 644, 67.15Euros

¹⁷⁷About 119 ,45 1,1.50 Euros

¹⁷⁸About 845, 444 ,33.56 Euros

¹⁷⁹About 340 ,447, 328 .24 Euros

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during the 2013-2014 academic year. This increased number of teachers is due to the absorption of 25,000 young people into the Public Service¹⁸⁰ and to recent recruitment initiated by MINEDUB with the support of donors such as the World Bank. In the latter case, 3,060 Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) teachers were recruited during the 2014 financial year.

284- The number of teachers is summarized in the following table:

Table 4: Number of Teachers of Public Nurseries and Primary School Education during the 2011-2012 and 2013-2014 Academic Years¹⁸¹

No. of Teachers		Academic Years	
		2011-2012	2013 - 2014
Nursery	Paid by the State	5,429	6,633
	Paid by parents	1,177	2,265
	Total	6,606	8,898
Primary	Paid by the State	46,083	42,703
	Paid by parents	9,943	17,651
	Total	56026	60354

Source: MINEDUB

c) Literacy and Informal Education

285- MINEDUB also made a commitment to promote access to literacy and informal education by strengthening the capacities of the main stakeholders involved in the training, monitoring and evaluation of related activities. This was done in the 821 Functional Literacy Centres (FLC), and the 28 Informal Basic Education Centres (CEBNF), as shown in the table below:

¹⁸⁰2537 young people were assigned to MINEDUB within this recruitment programme.

¹⁸¹Statistics of the 2012-2013 academic year were not available

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Table 5: Distribution of Literacy and Informal Basic Education Centres

No.	Regions	Number of FLCs	Number of CEBNF
1	Adamawa	218	28
2	Centre	49	0
3	East	31	0
4	Far North	108	0
5	Littoral	63	0
6	North	149	0
7	North West	28	0
8	West	98	0
9	South	1	0
10	South West	125	0
Total		870	28

Source: MINEDUB

2) Private supply

286- To consolidate private supply, the State provided support to promoters and organizations of private education and continued the fight against illegal schools.

a) Subvention to Private Education Organizations

287- Government granted a subsidy of CFAF1,857,772 000¹⁸² to 4 private education organizations during the reference year as given below:

- Catholic education CFAF527,761,001¹⁸³;
- Protestant education CFAF181 905,260¹⁸⁴;
- Islamic education CFAFF131, 967,737¹⁸⁵ ; and
- Lay education CFAF1,016,137,996¹⁸⁶.

b) Fight against Clandestine Schools

288- The fight against clandestine schools continued and led to the closing of 369 schools as shown in the following table:

¹⁸²About 283 6293.19 Euros

¹⁸³About 805741.98 Euros

¹⁸⁴About 277 717.95 Euros

¹⁸⁵About 201477 Euros

¹⁸⁶About 1,551,355.71 Euros

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Table 6: Statistics on Clandestine schools by Region

No.	Regions	Lack of establishment and opening decision	Lack of opening decision	Total
1	Centre	101	13	114
2	Littoral	143	10	153
3	North West	31	0	31
4	West	56	0	56
5	South West	15	0	15
	Total	346	23	369

Source: MINEDUB

B: Increase of Education Demand

289- To strengthen education demand, emphasis was placed on the fight against corruption, the distribution of school textbooks, the granting of subsidy to private education organizations, all of which led to an increase in the number of pupils.

1) Fight against Corruption

290- In order to consolidate the principle of free public primary education, MINEDUB, through its Anti-Corruption Unit, has since 2010 been carrying out, a fierce crusade against school officials who, as prerequisites for school admission, require uniforms to be bought, photocopies of documents including identity card, remedial courses or PTA fees.

291- In a bid to promote the awareness of all stakeholders in the Basic Education chain, MINEDUB organized, from 27 February to 1 March 2014, in the 10 Regional Headquarters, public awareness and experience sharing workshops within the framework of the National Strategy for the Fight against Corruption.

292- During the reopening of the 2014-2015 Academic Year, the Ministerial Anti-corruption Unit was deployed in the field for 10 days. It found no irregularities in the 1,861 schools covered out of the 5,982 public primary schools targeted. In addition, the said Unit verified 11 cases of denunciation of corruption acts in 2014, including 3 that involved 10

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officials who were found guilty and were punished in accordance with the regulations in force and they were relieved of their duties.

293- Measures relating to the improvement of public primary schools management like strengthening the capacities of PTA officials and officials of institutions were also implemented.

2) Purchase and Distribution of Textbooks

294- Actions carried out by MINEDUB in 2014 also focused on the purchase and free distribution of textbooks to poor children mostly from rural areas.

295- In 2014 , within the context of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) funded by the World Bank, some 300,000 English and French readers and Mathematics texts books were purchased for *SIL* (class one in the French-speaking sub-system) and Class one. The first phase of this programme is planned for 5 years.

296- In addition, MINEDUB benefited from the Debt and Development Contract (CD2) as part of the distribution of 12,900 teaching kits in 12,924 public primary schools, at a total estimated cost of CFAF320,858,394¹⁸⁷. On the whole, these kits consisted of English French, Mathematics and Science manuals.

3) Increased Pupil Enrolment

297- As with the number of teachers, pupil enrolment increased. Nursery enrolment, for example, increased from 388,585 pupils in 2011-2012, to 467,237 in 2013-2014, and in the primary, it rose from 3,848,611 pupils in 2011-2012 to 4,136,912 pupils in 2013- 2014 as shown in the table below.

¹⁸⁷About 489, 860.14 Euros

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Table 7: Number of Nursery and Primary School Pupils for 2011-2012 and 2013-2014¹⁸⁸

Sub-system		Number of pupils				
		Nursery			Primary School	
		Girls	Boys	and	Girls	Boys and
English-speaking	2011-2012	63766	125,886		402,431	816,687
	2013-2014	80,457	159,431		447,641	904,364
French-speaking	2011-2012	131,622	262,699		1,381,737	3,031,924
	2013-2014	153,814	307,806		1,486,795	3,232,548

Source: MINEDUB

298- The increase in teachers and pupils led to an increase in the gross enrolment rate which, for primary schools, rose from 116% in 2011-2012 to 188% in 2013-2014. The gross nursery enrolment rate increased from 30% in 2011-2012 to 34.4 % in 2013-2014.

§2: Promotion of Equity

299- Promotion of equity consisted in curbing discrimination in school. Thus, the participatory approach was maintained and the fight against violence strengthened¹⁸⁹.

A: Maintenance of the Participatory Approach

300- To consolidate the participatory approach, a total number of 850 child Governments were set up in primary schools in the Adamawa, Centre, Far North, North and the North West Regions.

B: Intensification of the Fight against Violence in School

301- In order to combat school violence, MINEDUB raised awareness among teachers and pupils. Teachers' awareness was raised on statutory and regulatory instruments which prohibit violence in school so that no one

¹⁸⁸Statistics of 2012-2013 academic year were not available.

¹⁸⁹The improvement of girls' level of education and the consolidation of the promotion of schooling of children of indigenous peoples will be examined in the chapters relating to the rights of vulnerable persons and women's rights.

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should remain ignorant. Pupils' awareness was raised on the values of non-violence in school and respect of the points of view of different partners involved in their training.

§3: Quality and Efficiency of Education System

302- Despite a drop in success rate, efforts were made to improve the quality of the education system.

A: Strengthening of Education Quality

303- Actions to enhance the quality of education by MINEDUB involved school health promotion, teaching of information and communication technologies as well as learning of national languages.

1) School Health Promotion

304- Measures were taken in 2014 to continue with school health improvement, in particular through the organization of deworming campaigns for 7,528,000 children of school age against helminthiasis and schistosomiasis, and the drawing up and implementation of Family Life Education programmes on population and STI/HIV/AIDS. Vaccination campaigns and medical consultations were organized for children from the vulnerable segments of the population.

305- In addition, with the aim of promoting better preventive policy of diseases affecting children of school age, Units set up in 2010 continued to carry out their activities in 2014.¹⁹⁰

306- Finally, oral health campaigns and those relating to the washing of hands, abbreviated WASH, were also organized in nursery and primary schools all over the country.

¹⁹⁰They are:

- Unit for the prevention and Fight against HIV/AIDS;
- Monitoring Unit of the Helminthiasis Project in school;
- Unit for the Prevention and Fight against Cholera in school;
- Monitoring Unit of the project "Washing of Hands with Soap".

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2) Teaching of Information and Communication Technologies

307- The learning of ICTs has become an important economic and intellectual development factor and an opportunity for opening up to the world. Aware of this reality, MINEDUB instituted an optional assessment in ICTs at all examinations since the 2010 examination session, including the *Certificat d'Etudes Primaires (CEP)* and the First School Leaving Certificate (FSLC).

308- Besides, measures were taken at the educational level through:

- experimentation with pedagogical integration of XO-type computers, in pilot schools;
- training of trainers and teachers in the pedagogical integration of XO-type computers; and
- training of teachers in the pedagogical integration of Information and Communication Technologies.

309- In any event, this subject is effectively taught and pupils are regularly assessed during certificate examinations at the end of the academic year

3) Learning of National Languages

210- The experimental phase of the teaching of National Languages actually started during the 2013-2014 Academic Year in 35 selected pilot schools in the Centre, Littoral, Far North and West Regions split as follows:

Table 8: Distribution of Pilot Schools

No.	Regions	National Languages Experimented	Number of Pilot Schools
1	Centre	Ewondo	10
2	Far North	Ffulde	11
3	Littoral	Bassa	8
4	West	Ghomala'a	6
Total			35

Source: MINEDUB

311- These lessons are geared towards preserving and sustaining local culture and customs for future generations through the learning of local languages.

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B: School Efficiency

312- The results and certification of official examinations made it possible to assess the efficiency of the school system.

1) Drop in Success Rate at Official Examinations

313- Statistics of results of public examinations in 2014 show a success rate of 75.63% at the CEP, 80% at the FSLC, and 77.24% at the Common Entrance Examination. However, these results show a drop when compared to the results of 2013 for the same examinations: 85.12% at the CEP, 89.72% at the FSLC, and 78.72% at the Common Entrance Examination.

2) Certification of Official Examinations

314- MINEDUB continued to issue certificates for CEP, FSLC, and CAPIEMP. In 2014, it issued 387,000 certificates, and this brought the number of certificates issued to 1,689,914 since the beginning of this operation in 2011.

315- In addition to efforts made to guarantee the right to education and provide quality and effective education to a large number of children in primary school, Government and its partners are focused on doing same for secondary education.

SECTION 2: SECONDARY EDUCATION

316- In 2014, with a budget of CFAF232,600,000,000¹⁹¹ MINESEC continued to improve access to secondary education, and consolidate the quality and efficiency of the education system.

§1: Improving Access to Secondary Education

317- Measures taken to improve access to secondary education included expansion of the school map, and enhancing school governance.

¹⁹¹About 354,198,47.32 Euros

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A: Expansion of the School Map

318- MINESEC took the following actions to expand the school map: building and equipping classrooms, granting subsidies to private education, and implementing policies aimed at rationalizing the school map.

1) Buildings

319- The following actions were carried out:

- building of 754 classrooms, 46 workshops, 59 latrines, 32 IT halls, and 4 administrative blocks;
- start of construction of 3 schools dubbed "turn keys", namely GSS Nyom, Centre Region, GSS Mora Massif, Far North Region, and GBSS Bonassama, Littoral Region; and
- establishment of vocational high schools (with 10% construction of the vocational agricultural school, Yabassi).

2) Equipment

320- Regarding the equipment, 23 workshops were equipped with teaching aids, 10 Teacher Training Colleges with IT tools, 4 bilingual and monolingual high schools with weather stations while 13,748 desks were acquired.

3) Subsidies

321- Running subsidies were granted to 1,763 secondary schools¹⁹² and CFAF900,000,000¹⁹³ to 577 lay private schools.

322- With regard to the implementation of policies aimed at rationalizing the school map, the fight against illegal schools continued with the closing down of 120 illegal schools, among which 1 in Adamawa Region, 9 in Centre Region, 3 in East Region, 79 in Littoral Region, 11 in North West Region, 4 in West Region, and 13 in South West Region.

¹⁹²623 technical secondary schools and 72 secondary schools.

¹⁹³About 1,374,045.80 Euros

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323- Besides, the school card index was drawn up and an investigation on the security of public schools opened.

B: Enhancing School Governance

324- The following control measures were taken to enhance school governance:

- control of 30 Technical High Schools (in the 10 Regions) to help school officials improve management of funds allocated for school projects;
- auditing of the Pedagogic Inspectorate of Social Sciences; and
- control and investigation on the administrative and financial management of 66 schools.

325- Findings:

- non respect of regulations on the use of State subsidies by 80% of schools controlled; and
- poor management of PTA and IT fees in many schools.

326- It is hoped that the controls will help enhance school governance.

§2: Consolidating the Quality and Efficiency of the Education System

327- Actions taken to consolidate the quality and efficiency of the education system were a continuation of actions of previous years.

A: Strengthening the Quality of the Education System

328- Teacher training and human resource management, continuation of curricula reform, enhancement of extra-curricular activities and teaching of national languages, improvement of school and professional orientation, and the promotion of bilingualism helped step up the quality of the education system.

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1) Teacher Training and Human Resource Management

a) Teacher training

329- With regard to initial training, 1,102 student teachers of the Higher Technical Teacher Training College (HTTTC), Douala, 1,405 of HTTTC, Bambili, 1,142 of the Higher Teacher Training College (ENS), Yaounde, 787 of ENS, Maroua, and 120 of ENS, Bambili rounding off their teaching practice were trained. Another 1,324 student teachers graduating from Government Technical Teacher Training Colleges in all fields were also trained in the same period.

330- Regarding in-service training, teachers of Home Economics from the 10 Regions had their capacity built in the new assessment method of CAP examination. Similarly, teachers were trained in science practicals through activities of the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Programme. More so, pedagogical days, regional and inter-regional seminars were organized during which 6,923 teachers, 143 Regional Coordinating Inspectors, and 66 pedagogical facilitators were trained.

331- Furthermore, 11,973 counsel-inspections were conducted for teachers of IT, German, Life Sciences, Earth Sciences, bilingual teachers¹⁹⁴, teachers of Social Sciences, and Chemistry as well as bilingual training teachers.

b) Human Resource Management

332- Human resource management was geared towards improving the standard of living and better career management of teachers so as to increase their output.

333- Financially, payment of the start-up salaries of 5,209 teachers was approved and new teachers absorbed into the Public Service.

¹⁹⁴French/English

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334- At the level of career management, graduates from ENS, ENSET, and the 2013 batches from INJS and CENAJES were posted. The ultimate goal was to avoid keeping newly trained teachers inactive for many months due to their inability to assume duty either for lack of financial means or for not being posted. Printing and distribution of more than 40,000 pay vouchers, issuance of soft copies of signed decisions, online and SMS (short messaging system) information of teachers on the level of their career and payment files were some of the actions taken to make staff management more efficient.

335- In addition, CFAF52,070,000¹⁹⁵ worth of aid for medical care and purchase of lenses was granted 98 teachers as part of assistance and support to staff.

336- Although this reform is laudable, young teachers still work under difficult conditions due especially to the unnecessarily long period before the payment of their first salaries. This situation often has a negative impact on their diligence at work.

2) Curricula Reform

337- Curricula reform continued with the aim of providing a quality education system. The reform that was initiated in 2013 in the form of trial in 6^{ème} and 5^{ème}, for French-speaking schools, and Form I and Form II for English-speaking schools, was in 2014, extended to 4^{ème} and 3^{ème}, and Form III, Form IV and Form V for French-speaking and English-speaking schools respectively.

338- In addition, Special Bilingual Education Programmes (SBEP) were drawn up for 1^{ère} and *Terminale* (French-speaking schools) and Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth (English-speaking schools); workshops to lay down teacher training programmes were organized in 11 GTTTCs and 62 GTTCs; workshops on teacher training evaluation programmes were organized in the 10 Regional Headquarters; modules for Hotel and Tourism training in science and techniques at the tertiary level and 21 training modules for 1st Cycle of Secondary Technical and Vocational Education were validated.

¹⁹⁵About 79,4 96.18 Euros

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339- Furthermore, training modules in Jewellery-Goldsmith's art and in accounting were launched and disseminated in Government Technical High School (GTHS), Bertoua Kano, and in GTHS Akwa, Douala. ICTs, English, and French syllabuses were drawn up for GTTCs, and curricula for the training of trainers of teacher training colleges implemented.

340- Main curricula reform activities included support in implementing an IT course in general education, work-based learning in new fields such as Maintenance and Installation of Electronic Systems, and Hospital/Biomedical Maintenance.

341- Lastly, partnership was established with some NGOs and companies involved in the professionalization of education. Thus, the first partnership was concluded with *AMOM CHARITY CAMEROON* to support the professionalization of secondary technical and vocational education in Cameroon, and the second with *MTN Foundation* to promote excellence in the sciences and facilitate access of secondary schools to ICTs.

3) School Guidance

342- Under school guidance, 50 student Guidance Counsellors from ENS Yaounde, 46 from ENSET Douala, and 44 from ENSET Bambili were monitored, supervised and assessed during their teaching practice.

343- Many manuals and tools were drawn up, aptitude tests conducted, and information days organized in public and private schools in the 10 Regions.

4) Extra-curricula Activities

344- The finals of the National School Sports Federation (FENASSCO) League A were organized from 6 to 12 April 2014 and enabled an intermingling of 1,860 students from the 10 Regions of the country. In addition, FENASSCO-League A attended the General Assembly of the International School Sports Federation in France (Besançon) that held from 4 to 7 June 2014 and brought together more than 60 countries.

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5) Promotion of bilingualism and teaching of national languages

345- Promotion of bilingualism continued with the implementation of the SBEP. The outcome shows that the 2nd batch of 1,326 students sat for the *BEPC bilingue* and the 1st batch of 657 students sat for the GCE Ordinary Level Bilingual Speciality examinations. The National Bilingualism Week was also organized under the theme “*Bilingualism, an asset for an emerging Cameroon.*”

346- As concerns national languages, there was a progressive generalization of the teaching of national languages and cultures with an increase in the number of schools concerned from 77 in 2013/2014 to 112 in 2014/2015.

B: Efficiency of the Education System

347- The efficiency of the education system was reflected in preparations, organization and results of examinations.

1) Preparation of Examinations

348- With a view to improving the results of examinations, MINESEC organized catch-up classes in various schools during the 2nd term holidays, systematic revision of examination topics, radio programmes and lectures on methodology for answering questions.

349- At the institutional level, a Committee was set up to monitor activities on the conduct of official examinations, the structure of the invigilating team in charge of defining the relevant guidelines for the proper conduct of all phases (organizational, material and financial phases) of the examinations.

2) Organization of Examinations

350- Innovations were observed in the organization of examinations. Thus, the following innovations were observed in examinations organized by the Department of Examinations and Certification (DECC):

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- **CAPIEMP:**

- suppression of practicals and thesis;
- suppression of the subject "*drafting and evaluation of school syllabuses*"; and
- introduction of a new subject called "*Initiation to research-action*".

- **Entrance Examination into ENIEG:**

- at the *BEPC*, candidates answered questions in *Reading Comprehension* instead of *Dictation and Questions*;
- at the *Probatoire*, candidates were examined in "*Exploitation de Texte*" instead of "*Text Analysis*";
- at the *BACC*, candidates were assessed in *General Knowledge* instead of *Essay in Philosophy or Literature*.

- **CAP with major in ESF:** the examination is conducted in only one phase and all candidates must do the practicals.

351-Examinations organized by the *Cameroon Baccalauréat Board (OBC)*:

- **Brevet Professionnels Industriels:**

- suppression of the oral examination; the examination is conducted in only one phase and all candidates must do the practicals;
- the examination is open to holders of *CAP, BEP, Probatoires, BEPC, GCE Ordinary Level Technical* who have been trained in an approved centre; it is no longer open to only professionals with some years of experience; the possibility of candidates who have scored more than 14/20 in the practicals to carry forward the mark to the following 2 sessions in case they fail the examination.

- **Probatoire de l'Enseignement Secondaire Général:** one compulsory paper on *IT Theory*;

- **Probatoire de l'Enseignement Technique Industriel, Probatoire de Brevet de Technicien Industriel et Brevet d'Etudes Professionnelles Industrielles:**

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- one compulsory paper on IT Theory;
- one paper on IT Practicals only for candidates who have passed in vocational practicals.

352- The innovation in examinations organized by the General Certificate of Education Board (GCE Board) was the institution of a Bilingual General Certificate of Examination.

353- On the whole, the mechanisms set up made it possible to achieve better management of teachers and proper supervision of students with a satisfactory coverage rate of 90% of school syllabuses, a better organization of mock examinations and other forms of assessments taking into account the innovations in some examinations. Some 393 new examination centres were set up to improve the quality of assessment conditions and address the ever increasing demand for education.

3) Results

354- In 2014, 1,029,281 candidates sat for the 27 examinations organized by MINESEC as against 1,004,626 in 2013. In examinations organized by the DECC, the percentage pass dropped from 66.21% in 2013 to 64.23% in 2014 as shown in the table below:

Table 9: Examinations Organized by DECC

<i>Examinations</i>	<i>Registered</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Passed</i>	2014 (%)	2013 (%)	Gap
<i>BEPC Ordinaire</i>	217,790	4,420	213,370	106,837	50.18	59.38	-9.31
<i>BEPC Bilingue</i>	1,336	10	1,326	999	75.34	61.12	14.22
<i>CAP Commercial</i>	12,101	169	11,932	4,964	41.60	32.06	9.54
<i>CAP Industriel</i>	43,479	567	42,912	17,523	40.83	44.37	-3.53
<i>CAPIEMP</i>	15,378	81	15,297	13,527	88.43	98.70	-10.27
<i>CAPIET</i>	1,345	7	1,338	1,173	88.67	97.50	-9.83
<i>Concours d'entrée en 1^{ère} année</i>	46,728	1,099	45,629	34,238	75.04	72.56	2.48
<i>Concours ENIEG</i>	13,789	542	13,247	9,798	73.96	56.64	17.32
<i>Concours ENIET</i>	5,317	889	4,428	2,078	46.93	22.34	24.50

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Examinations	Registered	Absent	Present	Passed	2014 (%)	2013 (%)	Gap
<i>Concours d'entrée en 6^{ème}</i>	172,347	2,136	170,211	104,547	61.42	67.44	-6.02
Total	529,610	9,920	519,690	295,684	64.23	66.21	-0.68

Source: MINESEC

355- There is a higher percentage pass in examinations organized by the OBC, from 39.38% in 2013 to 42.07% in 2014 as can be seen in the table below:

Table 10: Examinations Organized by the OBC

Examinations	Registered	Absent	Present	Passed	2014 (%)	2013 8%)	Gap
<i>Baccalauréat General</i>	103,626	1,339	102,287	56,384	55.12	53.44	1.68
<i>Baccalauréats techniques industriels</i>	6,719	81	6,638	3,294	49.62	43.68	5.94
<i>Baccalauréats techniques commerciaux</i>	8,784	139	8,645	5,509	63.72	66.03	-2.31
<i>Brevets de techniciens industriels</i>	5,080	58	5,022	1,819	36.22	46.44	-10.22
<i>Brevets de techniciens commerciaux</i>	1,731	27	1,704	913	53.58	56.58	-3
<i>Brevets professionnels commerciaux</i>	69	16	53	15	28.30	28.05	9.25
<i>Brevets professionnels industriels</i>	550	63	487	316	64.89	44.95	19.94
<i>Probatoires STT</i>	14,350		14,006	6,019	42.97	38.55	4.42
<i>Probatoires ESG</i>	164,671		159,395	48,639	30.41	41.52	-11.11
<i>Probatoires industriels</i>	16,296		16,046	3,731	23.25	24.75	-1.50
<i>Probatoires de brevets de techniciens industriels</i>	9,438		9,201	1,981	21.50	29.85	-8.32
<i>Probatoires de brevets de techniciens commerciaux</i>	3,610		3,540	1,555	43.93	30.49	13.44
<i>BEP industriels</i>	34		33	12	36.36	7.69	25.64
<i>BEP commerciaux</i>	1		0	0	0	0	
Total	334,959	1,723	327,057	130,187	42.07	39.38	0.68

Source: MINESEC

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356- The percentage pass in examinations organized by the GCE Board dropped from 45.61% in 2013 to 44.27% in 2014 ; that is, a drop of - 1.33% as shown in the table below:

Table 11 Examinations organized by the GCE Board

Examinations	Registered	Absent	Presents	Passed	2014 (%)	2013 (%)	Gap
Advanced Level General	47,048	1,236	45,812	29,311	62.35	49.92	12.43
Advanced Level Technical	4,799	112	4,687	2,611	51.18	64.71	-13.53
Baccalaureat technique	1,736	93	1,643	1,081	64.33	53.19	11.14
Ordinary Level General	96,005	14,102	81,903	28,928	38.14	49.92	-11.78
Ordinary Level Technical	8,013	590	7,423	2,410	29.49	39.76	-10.27
Probatoire de Brevet de Technicien	2,222	42	2,180	858	34.28	44.45	-10.17
Probatoire Technique	3,638	144	3,494	1,141	24.06	31.80	-7.74
Brevet de Technicien	1,251	34	1,217	718	50.37	31.12	19.25
Total	164,712	16,353	148,359	67,058	44.27	45.61	-1.33

Source: MINESEC

357- The promotion of the right to education in both primary and secondary education was extended to higher education.

SECTION 3: HIGHER EDUCATION

358- With a higher budget of CFAF49,200,000,000¹⁹⁶ in 2014 as against CFAF48,200,000,000¹⁹⁷ in 2013, the Ministry of Higher Education (MINESUP) took steps that helped improve access, efficiency, and the quality of education.

¹⁹⁶About 751,145,038.16 Euros

¹⁹⁷About 735,877,862.59 Euros

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§1: Access to Higher Education

359- Stepping up access to higher education focused on expanding the university map and improving demand.

A: Expanding the University map

360- New schools were opened, lecture halls built and rehabilitated. Although huge efforts were made at the level of infrastructure to enhance enrolment capacity, supervision of students may be affected for lack of sufficient lecturers.

1) New Schools

361- The university map was expanded with the opening of 9 Private Higher Education Institutes, and the creation of 13 others, thereby bringing the number of private institutions to 163. Besides, there were also 43 non university higher education schools,¹⁹⁸ 3 Institutes under the supervisory authority of MINESUP (ENSTP, ENSPT and INJS), and 63 higher education public schools with special status. Furthermore, international institutions such as *Institut de la Gouvernance Numérique Universitaire*, *Institut pour la Promotion des Sciences, de la Créativité, de l'Innovation et des Technologies*, and *Institut de la Francophonie pour la Gouvernance Universitaire* were opened. The *Campus Numérique Francophone* was finally transferred to the University of Yaounde II, Soa.

2) Construction and Renovation of Buildings

362- Buildings of various university institutions were constructed or renovated. At the University of Yaounde I, some pedagogical infrastructure was built and equipped. At the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, a library was built, an in-service training centre was built and equipped, 12 laboratories and classrooms were built, and 35 laboratories rehabilitated. At the Higher Teacher Training College, a computer section and 8 amphitheatres were built.

¹⁹⁸Generally, they are under the supervisory authority of technical Ministries other than MINESUP.

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363- At the University of Maroua, 2 halls of residence with a capacity of 300 beds were built.

364- At the Faculty of Industrial Engineering, University of Douala, a three-storey building for classrooms and an amphitheatre were built and equipped. Another three-storey building for administrative offices and a library was built as well as a laboratory, specialized halls and 7 workshops.

365- At the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Buea, a two-storey building for classrooms, a laboratory and specialized halls (phases I and II), an amphitheatre, and a restaurant were built.

366- At the Higher Teacher Training College, University of Bamenda, 3 classroom blocks were built and furnished; a hall of residence, a restaurant and a laboratory were built.

3) Shortage of Lecturers

367- At the end of 2014, there were only 4,027 lecturers for an estimated student population of 375,504; that is, a lecturer/student ratio of 1:93. The distribution of lecturers per grade is as follows:

- Research Attachés: 95;
- Assistant Lecturers: 1,715;
- Lecturers: 1,491;
- Associate Professors: 512; and
- Professors (Pr): 214.

B: Enhancing Demand

368- Increase in student enrolment and support given to them helped enhance demand.

1) Increase in Student Enrolment

369- In 2014, 39,000 new students were registered thereby bringing the number of the student population in public and private higher education

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schools to 375,504. The rate of available space for students increased from 2% to 8% in 2014; that is, 18,136 additional places. The number is very low when compared to the demand considering that 66,281 students in all fields and subsystems (English-speaking and French-speaking) obtained their GCE A/L and *Baccalauréat* in 2014.

2) Grants

370- The following grants were allocated to reduce the financial burden of students:

- 400 bursaries to students in 12 countries;
- 59 assistance packages to foreign students; and
- 299 assistance packages to national students.

371- In addition, 100,000 students from State Universities and Private Higher Education Institutes were awarded academic excellence bursaries worth CFAF50,000¹⁹⁹ each, totalling CFAF5,000,000,000²⁰⁰. Furthermore, 1,365 students were given holiday jobs.

§2: Enhancing the Quality and Efficiency of Higher Education

372- The quality and efficiency of higher education were improved.

A: Enhancing Quality Education

373- Payment of research allowance, improving university governance and professionalization of education all helped enhance the quality of education.

1) Payment of Research Allowance

374- Some 5,000 university lecturers of all grades were awarded the research allowance amounting to a total of CFAF96,000,000,000²⁰¹ as

¹⁹⁹About 763.35 Euros

²⁰⁰About 7,633 587.78 Euros

²⁰¹About 146,564,885.49 Euros

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per the Special Allocation Account to modernize university research. In addition, 15 of the lecturers were granted a mobility or study award abroad.

2) Improving University Governance

375- As per the results of the staff census conducted by MINFOPRA, 277 fake lecturers were revealed. This helped the State recover CFAF150,000,000²⁰² per year. Besides, 14 lecturers were sanctioned for indiscipline and violation of ethics. In addition, 173 students were sanctioned for examination fraud as against 244 in 2013.

3) Professionalization

376- In order to consolidate professionalization of education, the University of Yaounde II, Soa awarded specific professional Bachelors, Masters and PhD degrees to students. In this light, subjects open to professionalization include Public Law, Business Law, Private Law, Criminal Sciences, Political Sciences, English Law, Law of Public Contracts, Law of Decentralization and Administration of Councils, Law of Natural Resources, Financial and Organized Crime, Internal Security, Conflict and Disaster Management. Lectures in the new professional subjects are given as part of a new platform comprising Research Centres.

377- A partnership Agreement was signed between the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development on 25 September 2014, to modernize education systems in universities in Central Africa and the Great Lakes Region.

B: Enhancing Education Efficiency

378- With regard to education efficiency, certificates were awarded for national examinations. Besides, 833 equivalent certificates were approved in 2014. Furthermore, the University of Douala graduated its 1st batch of 56 Pharmacists.

²⁰²About 2,290.08 Euros

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379- In 2014, Government continued to promote the right to education throughout the national territory. Although more infrastructure has been built to enable a larger number of pupils and students to have access to the right to education at all levels, it is obvious that improving the working conditions of teachers, governance and increase in success rate at some certificate examinations remain permanent challenge Government must address.



Chapter **2**

RIGHT TO HEALTH



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380- In order to guarantee the right to health in 2014, the Government and its partners continued to focus on implementing programmes on health district servicing, improving maternal, adolescent and child health, controlling major pandemics like Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), endemic and other diseases, and enhancing acceptability of care. The sum of CFAF165,870,000,000²⁰³ representing 5% of the national budget²⁰⁴ was allocated to the Ministry of Public Health to achieve its objectives²⁰⁵. Part of this budget, CFAF10,000,000,000²⁰⁶ was transferred to Regional and Local Authorities .

SECTION 1: HEALTH DISTRICT SERVICING

381- In 2014, Government continued to focus on servicing health districts in order to reach the 80% target. In order to achieve this objective, Government embarked on strengthening care supply. The mutual health insurance scheme posed a challenge to Government's efforts in improving accessibility to healthcare.

§1: Strengthening Care Supply

382- Measures were taken to improve the availability of care facilities, human resources and drugs.

A: Availability of Care Facilities

383- Government constructed and equipped new health facilities. It also equipped existing facilities. It is within this framework that the Gyneco-Obstetrics and Pediatric Hospital, Douala, the Referral Hospital, Sangmelima and the Emergency Centre, Yaounde were constructed. Furthermore, 6 out of the 8 Regional hospitals, 22 out of the 70 District Hospitals, 19 out of the 60 Sub-divisional Medical Centres (SMC) and 103 out of the 266 Integrated Health Centres (IHC) programmed were constructed.

²⁰³About 253,236,641 Euros

²⁰⁴CFAF 3 312 000,000,000 (about 2,169,360,000,000 Euros)

²⁰⁵Although this represented an increase of 2.1% on the 2013 allocation of CFAF162,448,000,000 of a total budget of CFAF 3,312,000,000,000, it was still far from the minimum 15% of the national budget as required by the Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and other Related Infectious Diseases of 2001.

²⁰⁶About 1,526,175 Euros

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384- These buildings helped Government move closer to its objective of providing health facilities within every 5km, thereby enabling easier access to health care and also offering diversity of care.

385- Furthermore, 5 District Hospitals, 3 SMCs and 61 IHCs were provided surgery rooms, blood banks, obstetric kits, beds and cradles while the *Laquintinie* Hospital, Douala received a new scanner on 10 December 2014.

B: Human Resources

386- Government strove not only to train and recruit medical staff but also diversified training. Thus, 3,500 health providers were trained, 334 of whom were medical doctors recruited. Amongst these doctors were psychiatrists, pulmonologists, gastroenterologists, nephrologists, urologists, orthopaedists and neurosurgeons trained in Cameroon for the first time, an asset in providing specialized care to patients.²⁰⁷

C: Availability of Drugs

387- On 6 May 2014, 2 new protocol agreements were concluded between the Ministry of Public Health (MINSANTE) and 2 Regional Funds for the Promotion of Health,²⁰⁸ namely, those of the North and South Regions which were funded to the tune of CFAF291,000,000²⁰⁹ and CFAF241,000,000²¹⁰ respectively. These agreements helped strengthen good governance, development of community health as well as the management and distribution of drugs and other pharmaceutical products. Software was also installed for the rational management of Antiretroviral (ARV) stocks at the level of the Regions. Furthermore, fake drugs valued at CFAF180,383,736²¹¹ were seized and destroyed to protect the health of the population.

²⁰⁷A total of 56 pharmacists trained in Cameroon for the first time also graduated from the University of Douala.

²⁰⁸It is a decentralized structure in health governance made up of the State, technical and financial partners notably the World Bank, GIZ, KFW as well as communities to improve the performance of the national health system.

²⁰⁹About 44,4275 Euros

²¹⁰About 367,938 Euros

²¹¹About 275,395 Euros

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§2: Affordability of Care

388- In an effort to assist those who have financial challenges accessing healthcare, the project on “*Mutual Health Insurance*” was initiated in 2010. Then, there were 158 mutual health insurance structures in 74 health districts representing 35% of health districts. Very few of these health schemes existed in 2014 due to the bankruptcy of many, thereby leading to the discouragement of members. Government, however, made commendable efforts in enhancing accessibility to healthcare by reducing the cost of certain drugs and other utilities²¹².

389- Government paid particular attention to the health of mothers, adolescents and children.

SECTION 2: MATERNAL, ADOLESCENT AND CHILD HEALTH

390- In 2014, the objective was to reduce maternal, adolescent and child mortality.

§1: Maternal Health

391- Maternal mortality remained a major public health concern in spite of a reduction of the ratio from 782 deaths per 100,000 in 2011²¹³ to 590 deaths per 100,000 in 2013²¹⁴. The quality of maternal care was globally improved through a number of interventions.

A: National and Multisector Programme to Reduce Maternal and Child Mortality

392- On 9 May 2014, Government, assisted by its partners like the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) launched its National and Multi-sector Programme to Reduce Maternal and Child Mortality. The programme aims to reduce maternal and child mortality by 25% within a period of 5 years (2014-2018).

²¹²See Sections 2 and 3 of this Chapter.

²¹³National Institute of Statistics (NIS), 2011.

²¹⁴Statistics of the World Health Organization

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B: Enhancing Care Availability

393- One of the Strategies of the Priority Action Plan (PAP) of MINSANTE (2014-2018) is the increase in the number of skilled personnel attending to births. Thus, the capacity of 2,629 health personnel was enhanced to provide better reproductive health services, including the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT), Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC)²¹⁵, Family Planning (FP)²¹⁶ and the Integrated Management for Childhood Diseases (IMCI).

394- With regard to the management of Obstetric Fistula (OF), efforts were made to reduce morbidity by conducting 2 campaigns at the Protestant Hospital, Ngaoundere during which 107 women benefited from surgery, 3 buildings were refurbished and a permanent treatment centre created. Furthermore, the Central Hospital, Yaounde was equipped with treatment kits for obstetric fistula and 21 women received surgery therein.

C: Improving Accessibility to Care

395- Under the programme “*Health Voucher*” financed by the State and its partners, post partum care was improved. This programme has as goal, watching over the health of pregnant women for up to 45 days after delivery. It is thus in this context that on 5 December 2014, 9 new 4 wheel drive²¹⁷ vehicles were purchased to meet the need of access to health by pregnant women.

396- Affordability of care was improved through the strategy for the pre-positioning of delivery kits in the implementation of the Project on maternal death audits. Pre-positioning made available at health facilities, delivery kits for uncomplicated pregnancies at the cost of CFAF6,000²¹⁸ only and kits for caesarean section. Thus, the proportion of births attended to by skilled health personnel increased by 56%.

²¹⁵A total of 180 medical staff were trained in EmONC.

²¹⁶A total of 405 were trained in FP and the capacity of 20 FP trainers enhanced with support from the UNFPA, the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and Association Camerounaise de Marketing (ACMS).

²¹⁷The vehicles will be distributed in 2015

²¹⁸About 9.15 Euros

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397- Affordability to the female condom was ensured by the reduction of its price from CFAF100²¹⁹ a packet to CFAF100 for 3 packets during activities to mark the International day of the female condom which led to the sale of 83,470 female condoms.

D: Maternal Death Audit

398- The Project on maternal death audit destined to empower authorities to understand challenges and take steps to improve maternal health went operational in the 10 Regions of the country, with the training of 400 health workers on maternal death audit, the formation of committees for the said audit and weekly notifications of maternal and neonatal deaths²²⁰.

§2: Adolescent Health

399- Efforts in the improvement of reproductive health, reducing harmful practices and the control of pandemics like HIV/AIDS and other diseases contributed to enhancing adolescent health.

400- It was pursuant to achieving this goal that a number of activities were carried out: the launching of the 12th edition of HIV/AIDS free Holidays on 13 August 2014 with the objective of sensitizing 700,000 adolescents and screening 30,000 of them for HIV/AIDS, the launching of the pilot phase of free vaccination against the papilloma virus for girls between 9 and 13 years which targeted 15,000 girls in the Health Districts of Edea and Foumban, the improvement of the capacity of intervention of 30 trainers in the reproductive health of adolescents in the Northern Regions and East Region, and the opening of 2 reproductive health services in the Regional Hospitals in Bertoua and Ngaoundere.

401- The "Calculator 28" tool was introduced as part of the revival of family planning. This tool helps young girls to master their menstrual cycle so as to avoid unwanted pregnancies. It is within this context that African Action on AIDS (AAA) launched a family planning campaign on the

²¹⁹About 0.15 Euros

²²⁰The availability of full information and timeliness remain a challenge.

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International day of the Girl Child on 11 October 2014 in Yaounde and Abem/Akonolinga with the objective of enabling 2,000 girls to understand “Calculator 28”.

402- To combat drug and alcohol consumption by youths, the Police patrolled around Schools and Universities from September 2014. Also, at the start of the 2014/2015 academic year, a message against drug consumption from the Subcommittee for International Cooperation of the National Drug Control Committee was sent to students in Yaounde.

§3: Child Health

403- The goal was to reduce neo-natal and infant mortality. Actions to reach this target were particularly centred on the reduction of mother to child transmission of HIV and vaccination campaigns to control diseases in children aged 5 and below.

A: Reducing mother to child transmission of HIV

404- The target in the National Strategic HIV/AIDS Plan (NSP) (2014-2017) is to reduce mother to child transmission of HIV to less than 5% by 2017.

405- As a result of this Plan, out of 3,466 health facilities, 693 offered Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) services in 2014, contrary to 682 in 2013, representing a coverage rate of 20%. Of 20,584 children born of HIV pregnant women, 10,749 (52.2%) received ARV prophylaxis at birth.

406- Furthermore, the capacity of health providers was strengthened in implementing the Option B+ policy for PMTCT²²¹ which was offered in 210 health facilities, through the support of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and other partners.

407- In spite of efforts to reduce mother to child transmission of HIV, the rate increased significantly from 6.3% in 2013 to 11.1% in 2014.

²²¹This was adopted according to the 2013 WHO Recommendations.

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B: Access to Vaccines

408- Children were vaccinated to eradicate certain diseases. Consequently, 10 campaigns against the Poliomyelitis (polio) epidemic targeting children 0-5 years old was organized, during which 5 million children were vaccinated. A total of 576,874 children aged between 5 and 10 were also vaccinated in refugee camps in the East Region²²². Due to the intensity of these campaigns, by October 2014, the rate of unvaccinated children dropped to 2.6%, from between 7 and 9% at the start of the year. The last cases of the polio virus were detected at a refugee camp at Kete, East Region, on 7 July 2014.

409- In addition to the vaccine against polio, between January and September 2014, other vaccination campaigns were carried out: Of 610,442 children aged 0-11 months targeted, 502,671 received the third dose of the combined vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, hepatitis B and Haemophilic influenza B (Penta 3), representing a coverage rate of 82.35%, and a total of 460,409 children were immunized against measles representing a coverage rate of 74.42%. The vaccine against rotavirus diarrhoea was added to the calendar of vaccination and on 28 March 2014, children aged 0 to 11 months were vaccinated nationwide.

410- Disease control and health promotion were also the concern of Government.

SECTION 3: DISEASE CONTROL AND HEATH PROMOTION

411- Government took measures to control the spread of diseases and promote health.

§1: Disease Control

412- The prevention and integrated management of Transmissible Diseases, Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) and Chronic Non-Transmissible Diseases (CNTD) remained a significant health priority in 2014.

²²²A total of 83,000 adults were also vaccinated against polio in the East Region.

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A: Transmissible Diseases

413- In view of the outbreak of the Ebola fever in some West African countries in 2014, Government was on maximum alert and sustained its efforts in fighting against major transmissible diseases.

1) Control of Hepatitis

414- Information and screening campaigns were carried out for staff of the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT), the police and other administrative departments as regards hepatitis B and C to promote behavioural change. Affordability of drugs was improved as the 12 month treatment per person of both types of hepatitis dropped from CFAF5,468,000²²³ to CFAF2,736, 000²²⁴ following the signing of an agreement between the State and *Hoffmann-La Roche* Laboratories. Moreover, the treatment for Hepatitis for patients infected with HIV/AIDS was free.

2) Access to Tuberculosis (TB) Treatment

415 -In the year under consideration, of the 19,792 cases of TB diagnosed, 11,566 were pulmonary tuberculosis with positive microscopy. The treatment success rate for newly diagnosed cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with positive microscopy stood at 82% and the treatment success rate for co-infection of TB/HIV stood at 36%.

3) Ebola Control

416- With the Ebola fever raging in 3 West African countries, the turning point came when some positive cases were declared in neighbouring Nigeria. The National Ebola²²⁵ Control Plan was adopted, and CFAF630,000,000²²⁶ was disbursed by Government to support it.

²²³About 83.50 Euros

²²⁴About 41.80 Euros

²²⁵This Plan is in conformity with the WHO Checklist for Ebola preparedness.

²²⁶About 960,429 Euros

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417- Measures taken to prevent the Ebola virus in the country included the closing of Cameroon's land, air and maritime borders with Nigeria, the installation of thermal cameras²¹⁷ at the Nsimalen and Douala international airports, and the dissemination of guidelines on prevention measures to health personnel.

418- In addition to prevention measures, medical staff were trained in the management of Ebola, and health facilities were equipped with laser thermometers to detect suspected cases of Ebola and relevant material to treat any positive cases.

419- Due to the robust system of surveillance set up by Government, no case of Ebola was recorded in Cameroon in 2014.

4) Malaria Control

420- The National Malaria Control Strategic Plan (NMCSP) (2011-2015) endorses the distribution of insecticidal nets and the availability of anti-malarial drugs as strategies to fight against malaria. Thus, anti-malarial drugs continued to be available through collaboration with State partners like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Clinton Foundation. As such, between January and September 2014 in health facilities, of the 769,976 cases of mild malaria and 295,160 cases of severe malaria, 120,678 children under 5 years of age received free treatment for mild malaria and 13,873 for severe malaria.

421- Insecticidal nets continued to be distributed pursuant to one of the objectives of the NMCSP which is that 80% of the population should sleep under insecticidal nets by 2015. In that process, on 25 April 2014, the *Association Camerounaise pour le Marketing Social* (ACMS) distributed 25,000 insecticidal nets in Lolodorf. The distribution of insecticidal nets and treatment of malaria patients succeeded in reducing the malaria morbidity rate from 38% in 2010 to 30% in 2014. Mortality for malaria stood at 4,000 in 2014.

²²⁷The thermal camera takes the travelers' photograph and exact temperature.

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5) HIV/AIDS Control

422- Two of the components prioritized in the NSP are prevention and an integrated treatment of persons living with HIV/AIDS.

a) Prevention

423- Campaigns were organized on the prevention of HIV, amongst them a bazaar for the sensitization of youths on HIV/AIDS which brought together more than 1,000 youths from 35 Secondary schools on 29 November 2014. This and other measures led to an increase in the number of persons screened. In 2014, 667,770 people were screened as against 538,252 in 2013 representing an increase of 24.1%.

424- The HIV prevalence rate dropped from 4.3% in 2011 to 4.0 % in 2014²²⁸. An estimation of new cases of HIV shows that more women than men were infected as seen in the table below.

Table 1: Estimate of new cases of HIV in 2014

AGE	TOTAL	PROPORTION	MALE	% MALE	WOMEN	%WOMEN
0-4	8,570	19,0%	4,354	50,8%	4,216	49,2%
5-14		0,0%	...	...	...	...
15-19	3,681	8,2%	1,112	30%	2,569	69,8%
20-24	8,517	18,9%	3,253	38,2%	5,264	61,8%
25-29	8,110	18,0%	3,536	43,6%	4,574	56,4%
30-34	6,067	13,5%	2,888	47,6%	3,179	52,4%
35-39	3,993	8,9%	1,977	49,5%	2,016	50,5%
40-49	3,958	8,8%	1,884	47,6%	2,074	52,4%
50 and +	2,195	4,9%	1,040	47,4%	1,155	52,6%

Source : National Aids Control Committee

b) Treatment of Persons Living with HIV/AIDS

425- As regards treatment, the objective of the NSP is to increase to more than 95%, the 12 month follow up of Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). The main strategies that were used to achieve this in 2014 were the procurement of drugs, monitoring of PLWHA, capacity building of all

²²⁸National Aids Control Committee

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stakeholders at all levels of the treatment chain, availability of laboratory equipment, improvement of the supply and Management system, and the integration of the supply of TB, hepatitis and nutrition services in the HIV package. The number of diagnosis and treatment centres increased from 155 in 2013 to 166 in 2014 consequently diversifying the offer of care.

426- The subvention of the Head of State in 2014 of CFAF5,000,000,000²²⁹ to the National Aids Control Committee (NACC) for the procurement of ARV was an energetic response to a low supply of ARV and therefore bolstered availability for patients as they continued to have a ready supply of ARV free of charge. The said stock of drugs was expected to last until at least April 2015.

427- The treatment of co-infections for PLWHA was ensured and the number receiving cotrimoxazole prophylaxis²³⁰ increased by 44.7%, that is from 22,934 in 2013 to 33,192 in 2014. A total of 1,074 PLWHA with cerebral toxoplasmosis, 256 with cerebral cryptococcosis and 3,521 with oropharyngeal candidiasis pharyngo-esophageal were treated free of charge.

428- The strategy of a comprehensive response to the care of PLWHA was adopted and thus the focus was no longer only on treatment with the ARV therapy as in the past but now included a nutritional component. Consequently, 400 copies of the National Guide for the nutritional care of PLWHA was produced and distributed. In order to enhance the capacity of health providers in taking care of patients, the "Consolidated National Guide" and a "Pocket Guide" on HIV/AIDS was drafted for health providers at all levels of the health system.

429- The OPERA Project executed by ESTHER²³¹ was launched on 10 April 2014 making available a high tech apparatus to enable cheaper and more accessible viral load screening for PLWHA. This apparatus is good for monitoring patients' response to treatment in order to prevent resistance and avoid going to second and third line treatment which are more expensive.

²²⁹About 7,633,580 Euros

²³⁰Cotrimoxazole prophylaxis is part of the standard care for people living with advanced HIV disease. It is primarily used to prevent illnesses such as pneumonia and toxoplasmosis.

²³¹This French Public Interest group, "Ensemble pour une Solidarité Thérapeutique Hospitalière En Réseau" (the Network for Therapeutic Solidarity in Hospitals) facilitates access to care for people living with HIV/AIDS in developing countries.

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430- The above actions resulted in the increase in the number of PLWHA on treatment from 131,531 in 2013 to 143,837 in 2014 (9.4%).

B: Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD)

431- The Master Plan for NTD for the period 2012 to 2016 continued to be implemented. Between January and October 2014, cases of leprosy diagnosed and treated stood at 577, while 77 cases of buruli ulcer were diagnosed and treated and 301 new cases of yaws were reported. Furthermore, 6 ophthalmologists and 20 ophthalmic nurses deployed on the field to fight blindness helped improve eye care in terms of cataract surgery, correction of refractive errors and glaucoma. Furthermore, cases of African trypanosomiasis were screened and treated in 5 sites where it is prevalent in Cameroon. Mectizan and albendazole were distributed nationwide, and Zythromax in the Far North and North Regions.

C: Chronic Non Transmissible Diseases (CNTD)

432- Sensitization on and treatment of CNTD focused on dental diseases, diabetes and cancer. In the control of dental diseases, a sensitization and screening campaign was effected in primary schools and 2 free dental treatment campaigns were organized at the Central Hospital, Yaounde and the Chantal Biya Foundation during the Cameroon week of dental and oral health.

433- In 2014, 1,371 patients were treated as part of control of diabetic retinopathy. On 24 November 2014, the MTN Foundation and the SANOFI Laboratory signed a 2-year partnership agreement within the framework of the "Alerte Santé" Project to provide information by telephone to the public on the prevention, screening and management of diabetes and hypertension.

434- As regards cancer control, the National Cancer Control Committee focused on prevention, early detection and treatment. It organized sensitization campaigns for schools and the public, carried out free screening of 500 women for cervical and breast cancers and 160 men for prostate cancer at the Central Hospital, Yaounde and the Eglise Presbytérienne Camerounaise Hospital, Djoungolo.

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§2: Health Promotion

435- The main areas of intervention were environmental health and high impact nutrition.

A: Environmental Health

436- Within the framework of the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme, Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) was carried out in 57 villages in the Adamawa, North and Far North Regions. This was aimed at ending open defecation, thereby improving hygiene and reducing sanitation-related diseases. The capacity of field workers was also enhanced on essential family practices through the *"Bouclier et Coup de Poing"*²³² approach in the management of cholera in these Regions.

B: High Impact Nutrition Interventions

437- A total of 934 personnel were trained in malnutrition management and 60 health workers and 15 community relay workers were trained on the feeding of infants and young children in the Far North Region.

SECTION 4: REINFORCING ACCEPTABILITY OF CARE

438- A system of governance was commenced to promote acceptability of services by both users and staff of health services. In 2014, MINSANTE carried out activities to attain this objective. The development of transparent complaint procedures led to 285 complaints against 162 in 2013. These complaints resulted in 146 positive and 37 negative sanctions. More than 100 health facilities including public and private pharmacies were controlled compared to 50 in 2013.

439- Government with assistance from its partners, made commendable efforts towards guaranteeing the right of the population to health in 2014, despite material and financial challenges. It has the ambition to continue making quality health services accessible to all particularly through health district development and promotion of governance.

²³²The *"Bouclier et Coup de Poing"* strategy for the management of cholera consists of a quick response in affected areas upon confirmation of the first cases, and taking measures to prevent the spread of the outbreak by protecting the population in unaffected areas.



Chapter 3

RIGHT TO ADEQUATE
STANDARD OF LIVING



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440- To guarantee the right to adequate standard of living in 2014, the State took significant steps to ensure sufficient food for all, access to water and energy, and access to acceptable accommodation.

SECTION 1: RIGHT TO ADEQUATE FOOD

441- In order to preserve food security, modernization of the factors of production continued with the view to stimulating productivity. This resulted in improved foodstuff availability and the guarantee of its accessibility and acceptability.

§1: Food Supply

442- The Government focused its strategy on improving factors of production, with a view to optimizing production performance in the different sectors, one of the results of which was the completion of the pilot phase of agropoles²³³.

A: Improving Factors of Production

443- With the support of partners, financial resources allocated to agriculture, livestock and fisheries were increased. Since the human factor is important in production, the technical capacity of agro-producers was improved and the restructuring of training centres continued. The constitution of land reserves was one of the key links in this strategy with the development of land for agribusiness²³⁴.

1) Financial Incentives

444- In addition to the budgetary allocation of the State, several partners assisted in the financing of agricultural activity.

²³³A big agriculture centre

²³⁴See Section 3 on the right to adequate housing, §551.

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a) Financial Support of the State

445- On an overall budget of CFAF3,312,000,000,000²³⁵ in 2014 against CFAF3,236,000,000²³⁶ in 2013, MINADER received an allocation of CFAF98,300,000,000²³⁷ in 2014 against CFAF88,841,000,000²³⁸ the previous year, representing an increase of CFAF9,459,000,000²³⁹ in absolute terms corresponding to a growth rate of 10.65% in relative terms. Large agricultural industries received a block grant of CFAF9,526,000,000²⁴⁰ with CFAF4,083,000,000²⁴¹ assigned to cash crops and CFAF5,443,000,000²⁴² to food crops.

446- MINEPIA meanwhile received a total allocation of CFAF29,923,127,000²⁴³ against CFAF 28,766,000,000²⁴⁴ in 2013, an increase of CFAF 1,157,127,000²⁴⁵ in absolute terms corresponding to a growth rate of 4% in relative terms. In 2014, a total of CFAF13,240,484,558²⁴⁶ was used to finance pastoral production activities and CFAF1,622,703,893²⁴⁷ to finance fish farming activities against CFAF 2,500,000,000²⁴⁸ for both types of activities in 2013.

b) Contribution of Partners

447- With the support of financial partners, stakeholders of the agro-pastoral and rural sectors received assistance to optimize their production. To this end, funding agreements were signed between the Government and various partners. In order to facilitate access to credit at affordable cost to producers, the Support Project for Rural Microfinance Development (PADMIR), a governmental project geared towards the development of the rural sector with support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), during the 5th ordinary session of the National Steering Committee, announced the operationalization of a financing fund of CFAF 2,000,000,000²⁴⁹, out of an expected amount of CFAF9,550,000,000²⁵⁰, released for the benefit of rural producers. These funds were made available to microfinance institutions to finance the 62,000 targeted small rural producers in the Centre, West and Far North Regions.

²³³A big agriculture centre

²³⁴See Section 3 on the right to adequate housing, §551.

²³⁵About 5,056,488,549.62 Euros

²³⁶About 4,940,458,015.27 Euros

²³⁷About 150,076,335.88 Euros

²³⁸About 135,635,114.50 Euros

²³⁹About 14,441,221.37 Euros

²⁴⁰About 14,543,511.45 Euros

²⁴¹About 62,337.79 Euros

²⁴²About 830,923.66 Euros

²⁴³About 45,684,163.35 Euros

²⁴⁴About 43,917,557.25 Euros

²⁴⁵About 1,766,606.11 Euros

²⁴⁶About 20,214,480 Euros

²⁴⁷About 2,477,411 Euros

²⁴⁸About 3,816,793.89 Euros

²⁴⁹About 3,053.435.11 Euros

²⁵⁰About 14,580,152.67 Euros

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448- Besides, the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Government signed in Garoua on 17 February 2014, a Financing Agreement amounting to more than CFAF65,000,000,000²⁵¹ spread over 3 years, for 20 councils and 200 villages in the Adamawa, North and Far North Regions. Almost 60% of resources reserved for agriculture was mobilized from the amount as part of the Support Project for the Security and Integrated Management of Agro-pastoral Resources (ASGIRAP), which aims at promoting responsible environmental practices and curbing poverty in the Northern Regions. The actions to be carried out will include, among others, the rehabilitation of water points, the opening of transhumance trails for livestock, the organization of agro-pastoral areas, the development of new farming techniques to optimize production yields, fodder storage for livestock and human resources support.

449- During the 14th edition of *Téléfood* organized in Douala on 11 December 2014, CFAF240, 000,000²⁵² was collected and distributed to breeders, farmers and all small producers in the 10 Regions of the country, who do not always have the necessary means to develop their activities or receive adequate training.

2) Strengthening Training Structures and Producers' Technical Capacity

450- To promote access to innovation and research and thus furnish the farming and fishing industry with quality human resources to provide expertise and support to the transformation of subsistence agriculture to large farms, actions were carried out to build the technical capacity of producers and training structures. Besides, new training approaches were experimented.

451- This is the case of farmer schools that are an innovation in training centres. In this regard, the Farmers' School, Nsélang in the Biwong Bulu Sub-Division, Mvila Division, was inaugurated on 19 March 2014. This first experience is a training mechanism for peasants in the cultivation of 4 food varieties: cassava, maize, upland rice and yams. The training is geared toward making available to farmers' organizations improved crop

²⁵¹About 99,236,641 Euros

²⁵²About 366,412 Euros

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seeds selected for seed farms, the setting up of seed fields that will be used at the same time as demonstration plots under the “*learning through practical exercise*” approach and the training of farmers.

452- Moreover, to boost intensive production of seeds and fodder for livestock feed, a workshop was organized for 30 breeders of the Vina Division on 3 and 4 June 2014 in Ngaoundere. The workshop aimed at helping them to switch from traditional to intensive farming that involves the use of best species of exotic forage. To contribute to this switch over, the Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation (MINRESI), through the Regional Centre for Research and Innovation, Adamawa, initiated an extension and enhancement research project on the improvement of fodder in the 3 Northern Regions.

453- Two training centres for fishermen were built and equipped in the South West and Littoral Regions to equip industry stakeholders in order to increase their production. In the same vein, egg producers were trained in the Agropole of Baleng during a workshop aimed at strengthening the production techniques of breeding egg producing hens in order to make these producers more competitive on the market in a bid to boost the industry.

B: Intensification of Production

454- Emphasis was placed on the development of production in the various agricultural, animal and fishery sectors.

1) Agriculture Sectors

455- The development of these sectors was the lever for increasing agricultural productivity to meet the quality and quantity of food needs. The action was accompanied by the distribution of seeds to boost productivity. The option was to develop both medium and large agrigole farms and to continue to support subsistence farms.

456- In order to make quality seeds available to producers in sufficient quantity, the strategic priorities with regard to agriculture consisted in the setting up of seed farms and the rehabilitation of those in fallow.

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457- To this end, in the maize sector, to meet the very high domestic demand both by households and the agricultural industry, the Government focused on popularizing hybrid varieties of seeds. Therefore, 900 tonnes of seed were produced and distributed to farmers, which allowed for the cultivation of 35,000 hectares of land.

458- In the rice sector, 10 seed farms with a total area of 77 hectares were set up. The Project for the Development of Rainfed Rice (PRODERIP), fruit of the Japan-Cameroon Cooperation continued. This project enabled 2,400 rice farmers from across the country, to receive 60 tonnes of rice seeds adapted and selected for local farmers in different agro-ecological zones of Cameroon and multiplied by 36 producer groups. These 60 tonnes of seeds, adaptable to rainfall and irrigation, the cycle of which oscillates between 95 and 135 days, were produced in the highlands of the West and forests of the Centre.

459- Regarding the plantain sector, 11.3 hectares of seed farms were set up for an expected production of 100,000 shoots. The sum of CFAF1,000,000,000²⁵³ was allocated for the production of plantain vitro-plants, to resolve the problem of viroses, which are diseases that attack this plant.

460- Pertaining to *okok*²⁵⁴, 79,296 plants were acquired for the setting up of 419 nurseries.

461- In the potato sector, 431 tonnes of seeds were produced and distributed to 2,154 producers to be sown on 187 hectares. These same producers received 436 tonnes of fertilizer.

462- As for the palm oil sector, 250,000 pre-germinated seeds were acquired for the setting up of 307 hectares of palm groves.

463- With regard to the roots and tubers sector, 7,100,000 cassava cuttings were distributed after certification. These cuttings were planted in 710 hectares of land, 11 timber yards with a total area of 50 hectares and

²⁵³About 1,526,717.56 Euros

²⁵⁴The scientific name is *Gnetum africanum*.

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6 seed farms with a total surface area of 40 hectares were set up. More specifically, new cassava varieties were introduced with the Forest-Savannah Sustainability Project (FOSAS). Thus, new varieties such as 92/0326 (*Abui- Kpem*) 96/0057 (*Nko'h Menzui*), 96/0023 (*Abeng Ngon*), 92/0057 (*Ayeng Ye-sahti*), and 92/0061 (*Mbong wa tobo*) were tested in Andom in the South Region with a yield of between 30 and 40 tonnes per hectare based on soil type instead of 16 to 25 tonnes for the local varieties.

464- In order to ensure the launch of the arboriculture sector, a nursery of 400,000 mango and citrus plants was set up.

465- The revival of the cocoa-coffee sector received particular attention, with 5,571,000 cocoa seedlings and 2,411 coffee plants (Arabica and Robusta) produced and distribute. In addition, 14 hectares of which 8 hectares of coffee seed farms and 6 hectares of cocoa were set up; 4,603,000 bags of fungicides were distributed and 1,216 projectors, 803 sprayers and 603 protection kits were given to producers.

466- To further arouse the interest of producers in this sector, the Interprofessional Cocoa and Coffee Board (CICC) launched a sustainable rescue and recovery plan for the coffee sector through the Coffee Farming Targeted Emergency Recovery Programme. This Programme, initiated on 29 January 2014 at Lamba, Haut-Nyong Division in the East Region, provides training and monitoring for 6 years to coffee farmers in production areas including the East, Littoral and West Regions. These producers are monitored from the setting up of nurseries to marketing. Thus, 200ha per year are set up in each of these 3 Regions, that is, 600ha with a projection of 3,600ha in 6 years.

467- Young producers were trained, among others, on production techniques, the coffee chain and filling. Following this training, 120 young people selected for the rejuvenation of the productive forces received grants and 208,005 bags for the nursery. They also benefited from the logistical support of the CICC for 3 years with the provision of inputs, technical guidance in the conduct of operations and the marketing of products derived from coffee exploitation. Eventually, some 600 young

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producers from the Regions concerned benefitted from that programme. After the East Region, other Regions followed. This programme came in the wake of the New Generation Programme which started 2 years ago to include the young as agricultural entrepreneurs, experts in cocoa and coffee farming and to support them for 3 years in setting up new plantations.

468- As regards financing, the CICC had a guarantee fund that was increased to CFAF1,000,000,000²⁵⁵ by providing a 50% guarantee for loans taken by producers (development of coffee and cocoa production activities) and producer organizations (equipment) from banking establishments.

469- The search for a balanced diet also called for the development of the livestock industry.

2) Livestock Industry

470- In the animal industry, priority was given to the promotion of short-cycle livestock, facilitation and encouragement for the setting up of average and big ranches for cattle farming with the support of the private sector, the protection of livestock against various diseases in order to make animal resources available.

471- In the poultry sector, and with the view to developing short-cycle farms, 15 technical proposals were made to importers of hatching eggs and day-old chicks to supply hatcheries and large farmers in the poultry sector. The production of day-old chicks reached 950,000 a week. This provided stability in the production of chicken estimated at about 120,000 tonnes as at 2013, in a context where broiler shortfall amounted in 2012 to 35,000 tonnes. However, 4,362,443 laying hens produced 1,221,484,040 eggs, that is. 70,846 tonnes of eggs in 2014. Overall, the poultry sector organized around 14 hatcheries and presented at the end of the year a potential of 45,000,000 poultry, about 223,000 flesh breeders, 60,000 laying breeders and 3,500,000 laying hens, plus a very large variety of unconventional species.

²⁵⁵About 1, 526, 717.56 Euros

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472- Regarding the promotion of poultry farming, MINEPIA organized in partnership with the Interprofessional Poultry of Cameroon (IPAVIC), the first edition of the International Poultry Show of Yaounde (SAVI 2014) from 23 to 25 October 2014. Professionals presented their know-how and discussed the workings of the industry, identified the problems and outlined solutions for the development of this sector. The difficulties of the sector remain the scarcity and high cost of raw materials, obsolescence of production equipment, poor marketing and especially the low processing chain.

473- In the pig sector, which had a potential of 1,700,000 heads, Naima strain improved piglets were distributed to farmers to increase their productivity, while 70 producer organizations were trained in the structuring of pig farms and the awareness of industry stakeholders raised on improved biosecurity and the collective fight against diseases. This struggle was intensified especially with regards to hog cholera. Emphasis was laid on reducing the impact on the stock, and protecting consumers against this zoonosis. Taking advantage of the import and installation of 73 cross-breed parents at the Kounden Zootechnical Station in Noun Division, 387 high yielding piglets were given to producer groups in the West, Littoral, South and Centre Regions, bringing to 2,838 the number of improved breed piglets made available to breeders in 2014. Similarly, 30 hectares of input fields (corn) were set up in these Regions for the manufacture of pig feed. All these actions contributed to the production of 39,000 tonnes of pork.

474- The beef industry experienced an important moment with the organization of a cattle show in Ngaoundere from 4 to 6 April 2014. The aim of this initiative of the Confederation of Livestock Breeders of Cameroon (CNEBCAM) was to improve the production of cattle and dairy. As such, 23 pastoral wells equipped with a solar panel were built for pastoral communities for livestock watering in the Northern Regions and 70 fodder fields set up and secured. A dump truck for transporting fodder, 2 grinder and mixer mills for the production of animal feed, equipment for the production of hay and packaging of agricultural by-products were bought for the Livestock Pulse Modernization Stations of Kounden and Wakwa. All these actions have contributed to a significant upswing in meat production which increased from 88,091 tonnes in 2013 to 99,628 tonnes in 2014.

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475- In the dairy sector, 135 farmers were trained in modern milk production techniques, while 60 heads of regional structures were trained in management techniques. The sector's stakeholders were structured in some 20 specialized cooperatives for the selection and insemination of dairy cattle, production, collection and processing of milk, and the use of farm machinery. A paper/advisory support tool for dairy farmers was produced and popularized among industry stakeholders. This sector was also marked by the establishment of 160 hectares of fodder crops, the building of 7 milk collection centres at Bouhari Mbang, Mbarang, Mbadjer in the Adamawa, at Guider and Gashiga in the North and Mindif in the Far North Region, the construction of 4 mini-dairies in Maroua, Garoua, Ngaoundere and Meiganga, the purchase and distribution to farmers of 15 pumps, 3 mowers, 27 motor-tricycles, 15 artificial insemination kits and 25 rod mills as well as the purchasing of 126 stainless steel and aluminum cans for the transport and storage of milk. All these actions contributed to a production of 139,341 tonnes of milk, which does not cover local demand, hence the import of 27,908.99 tonnes of dairy products by Cameroon in 2014.

476- In the sheep and goat sector, with a potential of 7,000,000 heads, the option to increase animal semen resulted in the acquisition of seeds for artificial insemination and better spawning of small ruminants. Herds of sheep caprine²⁵⁶ and breeds²⁵⁷ for nurseries set up in the Lougguere Zootechnical Station concretized the political will for the purchase of effective spawners to increase production.

3) Beekeeping

477- With support for the beekeeping sector, including the transfer of skills to councils in the context of decentralization, the construction of 2 honey collection centres in Meiganga and Ngaoundal in the Adamawa Region worth CFAF60,000,000²⁵⁸, the purchase of 250 beehives, 50 bee smokers, and 25 ripeners, resulted in the production of 3,800 tonnes of honey and 350 tonnes of wax. Moreso, 115 beekeepers including 25 women were trained in modern techniques production and processing of honey and other bee products.

²⁵⁶Sahel goat, known for its ability to produce a lot of milk.

²⁵⁷Fat tail of Sudanese race and Poulfouli.

²⁵⁸About 91,603.05 Euros

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4) Fishing industry

478- The Government intensified fish production to make up for the shortfalls and meet the protein needs of consumers. In this regard, the aquaculture stations of Yaounde, Ebolowa, Ngaoundere and Kumba were rehabilitated.

479- Emphasis was placed on aquaculture and particularly the extension of closed circuit fish farming. This is an innovative technique that requires little water and space, allowing each household to engage in domestic aquaculture. It also involves promoting intensive aquaculture and the availability of genetic material. This explains the construction of modern hatcheries in Maroua, Yaounde, Ngaoundere, the equipping of 10 hatcheries including those of Ku-Bome, Maga, Lagdo, Ebolowa and some private farms, as well as the putting into operation of the modern hatchery at Logbaba in Douala, to significantly reduce the chronic fry deficit. This falls in line with the strengthening of the technical and operational capacity of 20 officials of public and private hatcheries in modern fry production techniques. Similarly, 2,500 spawners were acquired and 300,000 fries produced.

480- The operationalization of the first ever pilot intensive above ground aquaculture plant in Meyomessala, Dja and Lobo Division crystallised the strategy of Government in this sector. The unit consists of an administrative block and infrastructure dedicated to the breeding of catfish commonly called silure including 6 circular plastic bins and 12 masonry bins offering a breeding volume of 146 cubic metres. The expected annual output is 17 tonnes of table fish.

481- As regards monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities, the implementation of the MINEPIA/MINDEF agreement on the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing signed on 20 December 2013 materialised through 2 visits to inland water ways and 3 visits to the coastline. In order to strengthen this monitoring, 9 motorized canoes in fiber glass were bought for Fisheries Centres and Fisheries Control Posts. As a result of these actions, 8 offending industrial fishing vessels were apprehended in Limbe, Douala and Kribi, leading to the

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provision of 20 tonnes of fish on the Cameroonian market. Moreover, 7 councils received support totalling CFAF8,000,000²⁵⁹ each for the implementation of biological recovery. Besides, 65 industrial fishing licences and 19,000 small-scale fishing permits were issued.

482- In order to reduce post-harvest losses, 1,500 insulated boxes were distributed to fishermen. These measures will help to capitalize on fishery products and thus make them available to consumers.

483- These combined efforts raised fish production to 2,368 tonnes in 2014 as against 1,404 tonnes in 2013, and fisheries capture production of about 64,238 tonnes as against 60,683 the previous year. These results, which have failed to satisfy local demand, justified recourse to imports. In this regard, 25 technical import authorization opinions were granted in 2014 as against 31 in 2013, for a quantity of 166,507,954 tonnes of fish products imported in 2014.

484- In order to make fisheries products available, 38 authorizations for the setting up and 28 authorizations for the processing, stocking and marketing of such products were issued.

485- Harnessing the potential in domestic animal and fishery resources contributed to an annual combined production estimated at 180,000 tonnes of fish and 240,000 tonnes of meat of all species. Animal and fish production is improving significantly thanks to the different actions taken in the sector.

C: Results of the pilot phase of Agropoles

486- Set up in 2013, the pilot phase of the Regional Development Economic Programme for the Promotion of Large and Medium-sized Enterprises in the Rural Sector in Cameroon (Agropoles Programme) was evaluated in 2014. Thus, some 15 agropoles have already been set up in 7 Regions of Cameroon in the plant and animal sectors. The plant sector is composed of soybean, cocoa, sorghum, maize and rice, while the animal sectors include fish farming, pig farming and poultry farming. The results

²⁵⁹About 12,213.74 Euros

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are already visible. In the egg production sector, for example, the price dropped from CFAF1,800²⁶⁰ to CFAF1,300²⁶¹ per tray. Regarding table eggs, the setting up of Agropoles, the pilot phase of which was completed in 2014, will step up egg production from 142,650,000 to 251,250,000 eggs per year.

487- In 2014, a new cocoa production Agropole was launched in Mbalmayo, in the Centre Region, with the aim of locally transforming 16,000 tonnes of cocoa beans to cocoa butter and powder.

488- In the same vein, a soybean processing plant was inaugurated in Yato in the Littoral Region, and it is an extension of the Mokolo Agropole in the Far North Region which is expected to produce 8,000 tonnes of soybeans.

489- The extension of these actions is a guarantee of access to food.

§2: Guarantee of Access to Food

490- In order to make foodstuff accessible to consumers, efforts were made to master distribution channels and to stabilise prices in the wake of Government decision to increase fuel prices.

A: Efforts to control Distribution Channels of Consumer Goods

491- During 2014, the Government continued to work towards the facilitation of supplies to the people and to clean up distribution channels for consumer goods.

492- Market supply consisted in making available consumer goods like food and manufactured goods. To achieve this purpose, the following actions were taken:

- special authorization by MINCOMMERCE in May 2014 for the importation of 85,000 tonnes of sugar to supplement the 120,000 tonnes produced locally;

²⁶⁰About 2.75 Euros

²⁶¹About 1.98 Euros

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- authorization by MINCOMMERCE for the import of palm oil to overcome the local production deficit of this foodstuff;
- setting up of a monitoring committee to facilitate the docking of ships transporting consumer goods; and
- increasing the storage capacity of over 100,000 tonnes of fisheries products, including fish.

493- The consolidation of the distribution channels of mass-marketed products was done through increased promotional or direct sales to consumers at prices approved by the Central and Deconcentrated Services of the Ministry of Trade and the setting up of 20 additional periodic markets. Awareness campaigns conducted with vendors in the markets also aimed at curbing rising prices, thus contributing to their stabilization.

494- Several promotional rice sales, for example, in collaboration with the Rice Farming Modernization Company, (SEMRY), Yagoua and the Upper Noun Valley Development Authority (UNVDA), were organised at the initiative of the Ministry of Trade, mainly in Yaounde and Douala. At the same time, promotional campaigns of vegetable oils and by-products of local origin were also organized. Through these transactions, approximately 46,375 litres of refined oil, 3,085 tonnes of soap and 11,710 tomato bags were sold directly to consumers.

495- The promotion also targeted local products with the organization of the National Days for the Promotion of Consumption of Products from Promising Sectors. Thus, the 2nd edition of "FESTICAFE"; the coffee promotional days, took place from 29 to 31 May 2014, while the 3rd edition of the International Cocoa Festival (FESTICACAO) took place from 10 to 14 December 2014 with an exhibition on the cocoa value chain. The 3rd edition of the Nde Gastronomic Fair, otherwise known as NDE'LICES, held from 13 to 31 December 2014 at Bangangte. An exhibition on Cameroonian food and the golden fork competition were organized.

496- All these actions that reflect a genuine desire to promote mass-marketed products portray efforts made by the Essential Goods Supply Regulation Agency (MIRAP). The basis of the activity consisted in the

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organization of proximity markets after the payment of salaries.²⁶² Thanks to the appeal to agro-producers, fishmongers and other companies, Periodic Model Markets²⁶³ and Roving Markets²⁶⁴ were set up with the aim of streamlining the channels for the marketing of products by discouraging speculators. Through these markets, food security was consolidated by the marketing of agropastoral products at good prices,²⁶⁵ that provide consumers with supplies at affordable costs.

497- In this regard, every month, 560 producer organizations participated in Periodic Model Markets comprising 240 Roving Markets in Douala and 320 in Yaounde. To this end, 192 Roving Markets were held including 110 in Yaounde and 82 Douala, as well as 144 Periodic Model Markets in all Regional headquarters and some divisional headquarters. As a result of these markets, 10,365,213 tonnes of mass-marketed products were sold, including:

- 865,153 tonnes of animal products;
- 677,414 tonnes of manufactured products;
- 8817,209 tonnes of plant products; and
- 5,438 tonnes of cooking gas.

498- The goods sold were estimated at 301,374 kg of beef, 291,207 kg of pork, 145,166kg of chicken meat, 59,401 kg of eggs, 55,248kg of fish, 4,372,940 kg of plantain, 1,640,094kg of roots and tubers and 93,204kg of refined vegetable oil.

499- Total supplies for the month of December amounted to 1,537,521 kg, an upward trend compared to the month of December 2013 during which the monthly rate of supply was 1,234,554kg which was proof of households' interest in these markets.

²⁶²These markets are set up between the 26th of the current month and the 7th of the following month.

²⁶³Periodic Model Markets are set up monthly in all the Regional headquarters and in some divisional headquarters. These markets provide an opportunity to make available to the population mass-marketed products at "ex field" prices.

²⁶⁴The Roving Markets are organised mainly in the cities of Douala and Yaounde. In each city, they organised 4 times a week in the different sub-divisions, from Tuesday to Saturday. Mobile teams are deployed throughout the day in a given neighbourhood.

²⁶⁵The average price per kilogramme of beef is CFAF2,150 (3.28 Euros) in Yaounde, CFAF2450 (3.74 Euros) in Douala, CFAF 2,150 in Nanga Eboko CFAF2,185 (3.34 Euros) in Ebolowa. That of pork is CFAF2,200 (3.35 Euros) in Yaounde, CFAF 2,200 (3.36 Euros) in Douala, CFAF2,000 (3.05 Euros) in Nanga Eboko. A kilogramme of chicken costs CFAF 1,193 (1.82 Euros) in Yaounde, CFAF 1350 (2.06 CFAF Euros) in Douala, CFAF1,130 (1.73 Euros) in Bafoussam. A kilogramme of banana costs CFAF 34 (0.05 Euro) in Yaounde, CFAF68 (0.10 Euros) in Douala, CFAF42 (0.06 Euros) in Nanga Eboko. A kilogramme of plantain costs CFAF 102 (0.16 Euros) in Yaounde, CFAF102 in Douala, CFAF 94 (0.14 Euros) in Nanga Eboko, CFAF110 (0.17 Euros) in Bafoussam.

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500- Due to the actions of MIRAP, there was an average reduction of 17% on the price of products during these markets, resulting in sales to the tune of FCFA2,727,970,362²⁶⁶ approximately, that is, CFAF17,895,725²⁶⁷ per organized market. All these initiatives helped to keep inflation rate at 2.2%, despite fears caused by the adjustment of fuel prices.

B: Impact of Price Adjustment of Fuel on Marketing of Mass-Consumption Products

501- After the decision by Government relating to the readjustment of the prices of fuel and domestic gas, public authorities consulted businesses, consumer associations and wholesalers of the mass-marketed product sectors (rice, sugar, fish, refined vegetable oils and derivative products, wheat flour, pasta and poultry) in order to prevent speculation, shortages and higher prices in the markets.

502- Concerning refined oils, for example, consultations were held with the Association of Oilseed Refiners of Cameroon (ASROC) for the continuous supply of the market with products derived from palm oil, cotton, soybean and peanut.

503- As a result of the above consultations with a large number of wholesalers (Soacam, Fokou, Olam Cam Sarl, Agriex Cameroun Sarl etc.) the impact of the adjustment of fuel prices was contained. These wholesalers speculated on available stocks by storing large quantities of food in order to supply markets during the year. Therefore, for example, 220,400 tonnes of rice including 60,000 tonnes from SEMRY were available before, during and after the 2014 end-of-year celebrations.

504- The determination of public authorities to ensure the availability of foodstuffs, obliged them to guarantee their acceptability.

§3: Acceptability of Foodstuffs

505- In order to improve the quality of foodstuffs, preventive actions were carried out through the development of facilities, including the putting into

²⁶⁶About 4,164,840.25 Euros

²⁶⁷About 27,321.72 Euros

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service of the slaughterhouses at Meiganga, Nanga Eboko, Mfou, Edea, Limbe I, the rehabilitation of the killing floor of Bangangte and the construction of the fence of the slaughterhouse at Pitoa. A marking and quarantine pig park was also constructed at Ngaoundal. The Animal Production Development Company (SODEPA) and the City Councils of Bamenda, Ebolowa, Garoua and Maroua were each equipped with an insulated vehicle for upgrading standards for safe and healthy transportation of meat carcasses from slaughterhouses to markets. SODEPA, MIRAP, the Councils of Douala III, IV and V, Dziguilao, Bafoussam I, Yaounde IV, Nkambe, Oku, Sangmelima and Maroua III were provided with tricycles for the transport of meat carcasses. Through these actions, Government intended to subject the marketing of meat products to strict hygiene measures. Six halls for the sale of fish were built at Banka, Meyomessala, Elak-Oku, Garoua, Figuil, Kutwa and improved smokehouses made available to fishermen at Nkilzofe and Ntoussaing.

506- The regulatory framework was strengthened to protect food safety. To this end, Decision No. 463 of 19 August 2014 relating to the suspension of the import of certain animal species, their products and by-products from countries infected with the Ebola haemorrhagic fever was taken. The suspension targeted animals prone to Ebola, particularly chimpanzees, primates (gorillas and monkeys), forest antelope and porcupines, their trophies as well as all meat derived from them (fresh, smoked, salted or dried). The regulatory mechanism was accompanied by a monitoring plan against the Ebola virus implemented under the National Programme for the Prevention and Fight against Emerging and Re-emerging zoonoses.

507- Control of animal diseases was intensified for the safety of foodstuffs of animal and fish origin and the protection of the health of livestock against major animal diseases. The action was conducted within the context of prevention leading to the unprecedented introduction in Cameroon of the vaccine against the foot-and-mouth disease²⁶⁸. The campaign was launched on 18 March 2014 in Ngaoundere, and the intensive dairy farming Regions of Adamawa and North West were first targeted. For this purpose, animals were inoculated with 150,000 doses²⁶⁹ of Aphotovax. To

²⁶⁸The foot-and-mouth disease is a highly contagious animal disease affecting both domestic and wild species, with cloven-hoofed animals such as cattle, sheep, goats and pigs being most prone.

²⁶⁹Vaccine produced in Botswana from a Cameroonian strain for CFAF 200,000,000(305,343.51 Euros).

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improve the monitoring of so-called priority animal diseases, the Network for the Epidemiological Surveillance of Animal Diseases of Cameroon (RESCAM) was formalized. The Special Mission for Tsetse Eradication (MSEG) was given trypanocides, insecticides and control materials (traps, capture equipment) amounting to CFAF 68,356,000²⁷⁰. The capacities of the National Veterinary Laboratory (LANAVET) were also strengthened through a support of CFAF200,000,000²⁷¹ as part of the implementation of contract plan No. 3.

508- As regards veterinary public health, the construction and rehabilitation of 39 Zootechnical centres, equipping of 21 others, the construction of 16 vaccination parks, 3 cattle quarantine parks and 6 quarantine and transit parks for cattle and pigs were added to the infrastructure available the field. The *Centre Pasteur* in Yaounde received support amounting to CFAF 30,000,000²⁷² for the diagnosis of rabies and the vaccination of MINEPIA staff at risk.

509- Sanitary and veterinary inspection of foodstuffs of animal and fish origin continued in 2014. The Sanitary and Veterinary Inspection Posts (ISV), industrial slaughterhouses in Yaounde and Douala, the Ports Authority, Douala, the international airports, Yaounde (Nsimalen), Douala and Garoua were provided with sanitary and veterinary inspection kits. Inspectors of slaughterhouses and regional veterinary service heads were trained in the use of these kits. The certification of meat was improved with the continued acquisition of food ink and stamps as well as the strengthening of the technical capacities of sector operators. Technical staff was trained in the use of such pads and stamps. Health checks were conducted in 200 bakeries after which 30 were temporarily suspended for failure to comply with rules of hygiene.

510- The action of the National Control and Fraud Repression Brigade (BNCRF) yielded the following results: seizures of products and measuring instruments, namely: 13,372 tonnes of imported rice that was unfit for consumption, 2.6 tonnes of granulated sugar based on speculation, 185

²⁷⁰About 104,360.31 Euros

²⁷¹About 305,343.51 Euros

²⁷²About 45,801.53 Euros

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litres of spirits, 5,780 litres of wine, 36,204 cartons of unstamped cigarettes and 4,375 litres of vegetable oil.

511- These actions contributed to improving the quality of foodstuffs of animal origin on the market, in order to provide adequate standard of living for the people, of which access to water and energy are also components.

SECTION 2: WATER AND ENERGY SUPPLY

512- The Government of Cameroon, during 2014, continued its efforts of improving water and energy supply.

§1: Supply of Drinking Water

513- In 2014, Government's action was to promote equal access for all to safe drinking water and in sufficient quantity, especially in urban areas and to improve access on rural areas. At the same time, the implementation of administrative decentralization has had an impact on the water management process.

A: Access to Water in the Urban Area

514- Some projects started in previous years were completed, while others are in progress. The strategy developed consisted not only in rehabilitating the existing stations, but also in building water stations and continuing the realization of previously started projects. These actions should make water affordable for the people.

1) Rehabilitated Networks and Stations

515- In 2014, the commissioning of the rehabilitated Mefou Station, which already supplies 50,000m³/D in Yaounde and its environs became effective, increasing the capacity to 150,000m³/D for needs estimated at 300,000m³/D. This reflects low supply over the demand of households and industries.

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516- The rehabilitation of network extensions undertaken within the framework of the Urban Sector Development and Water Supply Project (PDUE) funded by the World Bank to the tune of CFAF46,000,000,000²⁷³, will improve and increase the production capacity to 200,000m³/D. Storage structures have been rehabilitated. Expectations are summarized in the following table:

Table 1: PDUE Expectations

	Unit	Rehabilitation	Renewal	Extension and Strengthening
Production Capacity	m ³ /D	200,000	...	...
Reservoirs	m ³	24,000	...	250
Network	km	...	...	...
Private Connections	u	...	...	32,000

Source: Cameroon Water Utilities Corporation (CAMWATER)

2) Built Works

517- Under the Programme mentioned above, 250km of pipes have been laid in Bamenda, Douala, Garoua and Yaounde.

518- The 10 Regions of Cameroon benefited from the realization of 363 human-powered motor boreholes and 20 small drinking water supply systems.

519- In Douala, the Yatto water treatment plant and pipe bridge have been operational since September 2014 and will pump 250,000m³/D (Phases 1 and 2).

520- Under the Emergency Water Programme of Yaounde and its environs, 3 small drinking water supply systems were completed with the mini drinking water supply of Nyom II, Nkolmesseng, Efoulan and an extension to Ahala-Tunisian Camp, the construction of 3 productive boreholes at Ahala Market, Odza Aserdi, and Ahala Koungou Street.

²⁷³About 70,229,007.63 Euros

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521- In semi-urban areas, 200 human-powered motor boreholes were constructed in Limbe, Buea, Tonga, Nanga-Eboko, Bikok, Tokombere, Kribi, Maroua, Mefou, Mbouda, Abong-Mbang, Foumbot, and Akom-Nyada Meyomessala.

3) Ongoing Projects

522- Work to increase the production capacity of the Akomnyada pumping station on the River Nyong, started in 2013, is ongoing. It will allow for the production of 40,000m³/D and increase to 190,000m³/D, the volume of drinking water in the city of Yaounde.

523- Funds, worth CFAF400,000,000,000²⁷⁴, for the project to supply Yaounde with drinking water from the Sanaga River were obtained from EXIMBANK China. Its estimated production of 300,000m³/D is expandable to 400,000m³/D. The completion of this project is expected, in the medium term, to provide a lasting solution to the population's access to clean water.

524- The Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Projects in Urban and Semi-urban Areas in 18 secondary centres, for Improved Drinking Water Supply in Yaounde and 3 towns (Bertoua, Edea and Ngaoundere), the rehabilitation, reinforcement and extension of drinking water supply systems of 52 centres (scales 2, 3, 4 and 5 and the commercial scale) financed by international partners were ongoing. The same applies to works undertaken in the context of the Project for the Strengthening and Improvement of Drinking Water Supply and the effective implementation of the second phase of the Project for the Strengthening of the Drinking Water System in Douala, under the Investment Programme entrusted to CAMWATER for a total cost of CFAF52,000,000,000²⁷⁵.

525- Pending completion of these major projects that will provide final solutions through increased production capacity and access to drinking water, the Transitional Emergency Measures Project for Innovative Solutions in order to improve drinking water supply in Yaounde and

²⁷⁴About 610,687,022, 901 Euros

²⁷⁵About 79,389,312.97 Euros

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Douala, financed by CAMWATER itself allowed, in 2014 for the expansion and strengthening of the distribution capacity to 65,000m³/D.

4) Evaluation of Coverage Rate

526- Consequent to the signing and entry into force of the leasing contract signed in 2008 between the Government of Cameroon, CAMWATER and *La Camerounaise des Eaux* (CDE), the number of subscribers rose from 250,000 to 380,000 giving an increase of 130,000 subscribers. The objective is to double their number to 500,000 in 2018.

527- Taking advantage of a donation by the Results-Based Global Partnership managed by the World Bank, 32,000 social connections (at low cost) were made to reduce substantially the cost of connection to the network of CDE to be borne by households.

528- In August 2014, CAMWATER supplied 25,000 water metres. This figure is in addition to 47,300 subscribers' metres supplied in December 2012.

529- Under the above-mentioned Agreement, 100,000 metres were renewed, giving a completion rate of over 100% compared to contractual obligations. The CDE has currently renewed 12,944 connections for a commitment of 13,333 representing a completion rate of 97.5%. The CDE equally supplied 192km of pipes of all diametres and types including 113km of cast iron pipe of 100 mm diametre, representing 100% of the contractual commitment at the end of 2014. In the same period, 167km of pipes of different diametres and types were laid, including 81km of cast iron pipe with a diametre of 100 mm, representing a completion rate of 71%.

530- The laying of the remaining pipes already provided was going on.

B: Water Supply to Rural Areas

531- The Government has undertaken, with the support of its partners, to develop a programme of access to drinking water for the rural masses. This in the long-term is aimed at improving the rate of access to drinking water

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in the localities concerned, securing access of the people of these regions to drinking water, increasing the coverage rate in order to reduce waterborne diseases and, finally, promoting health and reducing water-related chores.

532- Thus, in the context of improving peoples' access to drinking water, the Government of Japan, UNICEF and the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MINEE) signed, on 31 March 2014, an agreement for the financing of the Project for the Improvement of Access to Drinking Water and the Promotion of Hygiene for the people of the Mayo Kani and Diamare Divisions. This project worth about CFAF1746819314²⁷⁶ will allow for the realization of 132 human-powered boreholes for the benefit of nearly 100,000 people in 13 Councils, and strengthen the capacities of different stakeholders involved in the management of water sources and facilities in place.

533- To ensure the sustainable management and autonomy of water points, technical support was provided for the establishment in each of the villages concerned of management structures called Association of Water Points Users. The support also focused on the development of an operating system, management and maintenance of water facilities by training Artisans Repairers of Pumps.

C: Decentralized Management of Water Points

534- The Decentralisation and Support Programme for Local Development (PADDL) launched under the aegis of the German Cooperation provided technical support to Councils in the development and management of modern water points. This technical assistance takes into account the diagnosis, mapping and training of repair workers. In this light, on 3 March 2014, PADDL initiated a presentation and support tools capitalization workshop for 22 Councils²⁷⁷ in the management of water points.

²⁷⁶About 2,666,899.71 Euros

²⁷⁷Councils of Bafang, Bafoussam I, Bafoussam II, Bamendjou, Baham, Banwa, Batcham, Batié, Dschang, Fokoué, Fongo-Tongo, Foumbot, Kouoptamo, Nkongzem, Penka-Michel and Santchou (West Region), Akoeman, Ayos, Mbalmayo, Mengueme, Ngomedzap and Soa (Centre Region)

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535- The supply of drinking water in areas not covered by the CDE network was entrusted to the Councils, in the wake of the transfer of skills to Councils within the context of decentralization enshrined in the 1996 Constitution. In 2014, CFAF2904,000,000,000²⁷⁸ from the PIB was assigned to Councils.

536- The actions taken to improve supply and access to drinking water, do not ensure the guarantee of optimal coverage of drinking water needs. The actions taken in the energy sector aim at eliminating the existing short fall.

§2: Improving Energy

537- Persistent load shedding across the country and disturbances on the electrical grid have led authorities to reorganize the institutional framework of the electricity sector and to carry out actions to improve its supply and access.

A: Institutional Framework

538- The institutional framework of the power sector was marked by two events: first, the transfer of shares held by AES-Sonel to ACTIS and second, the incorporation of the Energy of Cameroon (ENEO) Company.

1) Sale of AES-Sonel shares to ACTIS

539- In December 2013, Government authorized the American Group AES-Sonel to sell all its assets in the energy sector in Cameroon to the British investment fund ACTIS. Through this sale, ACTIS took control of AES-Sonel, the Kribi Power Development Company (KPDC) and the Dibamba Power Development Company (DPDC) for a total cost of CFAF1 10,000,000,000²⁷⁹.

540- On 23 May 2014, the British investment fund ACTIS and the Government of Cameroon, represented by the Ministers in charge of Finance and Energy formalized the takeover of all assets of the American Group AES Corporation (AES-Sonel, KPDC and DPDC) in the electricity sector in Cameroon.

²⁷⁸About 4,433,587.78 Euros

²⁷⁹About 167 938,931.29 Euros

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2) Incorporation of ENEO

541- During the General Meeting of the shareholders of ACTIS held on 23 May 2014, they decided to incorporate ENEO, a company governed by Cameroon law, to continue with the AES Corporation activities in the field of distribution of electric energy. This company actually started its activities in 2014.

B: Offer and Access to Energy

542- Actions were carried out to ensure the availability of electrical power and to enhance renewable energy.

1) Electric Power Sector

543- The objective in this sector is to increase current power production estimated at 1,000 megawatts (MW) to 3,000MW in 2020 and 6,000MW in 2030. To install this power, the Government has continued the implementation of projects undertaken in previous years. The stability of the cost of electric power in 2014 was an important thrust of Government intervention.

a) Boosting Supply

544- With regard to electric energy, provided for the State Budget continuation of the Lom-Pangar Dam reservoir works. Overall, over 62%²⁸⁰ has been realized. On the other hand, the realization of the Memve'ele Dam works on the Ntem River are estimated at 45%²⁸¹ and those of the Hydroelectric Plant in Mekin at 70%²⁸².

b) Enhancing Access

545- In January 2014, work on the electricity interconnection project of the electrical grids of Cameroon and Chad started. Funded by the African

²⁸⁰The priming of this work is scheduled for September 2015. It will store nearly 3,000,000,000 cubic metres of water that may, at minimum flow in 2015 (January-June), ensure additional water power of about 70 megawatts (MW) at Edea and Songloulou.

²⁸¹Commissioning is planned for 2016/2017 .

²⁸²Commissioning of the work is scheduled for May 2015.

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Development Bank (AfDB) to the tune of CFAF1,800,000,000²⁸³, it is controlled by the Central Africa Power Pool. This project involves the construction of a 700km electrical transmission line between Ngaoundere and Maroua (Cameroon) and N'Djamena (Chad), a ramp of 250km between Maroua (Cameroon), Morgrom and N'Djamena (Chad) and a rural electrification programme along each transmission line.

546- In order to improve access of people in urban and suburban areas to modern energy services, the following actions were undertaken:

- the electrification of localities in the 10 Regions of Cameroon, on PIB funding, worth CFAF 2,236,000,000²⁸⁴;
- the realization of 4,500 connections to households in 40 localities as part of the CEMAC Energy Project;
- the continuation of the Decentralized Rural Electrification project (ERD RUMPI);
- the realization of 2,000 new connections to households in 33 localities of the Centre, North, North West and South West Regions as part of the rural electrification project;
- the continuation of the Rural Electrification Project for the Extension of the South and North Interconnected Networks (PERERINS) as part of the Rural Energy Fund;
- the continuation of the project for the strengthening, extension, transport and distribution of electrical grids, financed by the AfDB, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the State; and
- the continuation of the Thermal Emergency Programme leading to the final purchase of the Ahala Plant, with a capacity of 60MW that was previously operated under lease, as part of a contract with the British Company, AGGREKO .

c) Stability of Cost of Access to Electricity

547- Government, with the support of social stakeholders such as the Consumers League of Cameroon, did not accept the request by ENEO made to the Electricity Sector Regulatory Agency (ARSEL), to increase the

²⁸³About 2,748,091.60 Euros

²⁸⁴About 3,413,740.45 Euros

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cost of electric power. Thus, the prevailing rate schedule remained unchanged in 2014 as indicated in the table below:

Table 2: Rate schedule Cost of Electricity

Capacity (KWH)	Cost (CFAF)/KWH
0 -110	50
111-400	79
401-800	94
801 - 2000	99

Source: ARSEL

2) Enhancement and Diversification of Renewable Energies

548- The main areas of development were:

- strengthening logistics through the purchasing of project monitoring and control equipment for renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- exploring and assessing resources available for renewable energies. The first phase focused on the Centre, East, Littoral, South and South West Regions; and
- enhancing renewable energy other than wood energy, including the construction of electrification works or solar street lighting in some areas²⁸⁵.

549- Besides these activities, feasibility studies for the construction of a wind farm of 42MW expandable to 80MW on Mount Bamboutos were completed.

550- If the actions taken to improve access of the people to energy sources were significant, they are still insufficient to address load shedding and power disturbances. That is why the authorities have continued to increase their efforts as has been the case with access to decent housing.

²⁸⁵Elat in Nkoteng, Ngoumou, Mbalelon II in Ngoumou, Nanga Eboko in the Centre Region, Nkizok through Zoetele, Meyomessi and Mvomeka in the South Region, Ngomdouma in Doumaintang in the East Region.

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SECTION 3: RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING

551- In 2014, the Government of Cameroon intensified activities undertaken previously to meet the needs of the people for suitable housing. Although activities relating to the production of plots, availability of building materials and the continuation of Government social housing went on, legal security of tenure remained a constant concern for public authorities.

§1: Legal Security of Tenure

552- To ensure legal security of tenure, Government facilitated access to land ownership, protected citizens against forceful evictions, compensated people in the event of expropriation for public utility and set up land reserves. Particular attention was paid to the issue of land grabbing by private investors.

A: Guarantee of Access to Land

553- Access to land was secured through the issuance of land titles. The establishment of one-stop facilitation procedures for establishing land titles continued in 2014. Thus, all Regional headquarters and Kribi were equipped with these special structures housed in the Land Conservation. A total of 11 equipped facilities were set up and focal points designated in each of the services involved. However, these measures did not help in increasing the number of land titles granted.

554- In fact, in 2014, 6,411 land titles were issued including 4,307 by direct registration and 2,104 by parcelling. This figure included 149 land titles established on behalf of customers of the Mission for the Development and Equipment of Urban and Rural Lands (MAETUR). These indicators have dropped²⁸⁶ compared to those of 2013 during which, 11,937 land titles were established.

555- The proportion of women who have land titles has also declined significantly to 1,274 as against 2,309 the previous year.

²⁸⁶This fact can partly be explained by the unavailability of land title forms produced by the National Printing Press.

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556- Additional measures are being taken to modernise access to land ownership. These include, the Support Project for the Modernization of Surveys and the Business Climate (PAMOCCA). The Project is split into 4 major parts namely: the Geodesic Network of Cameroon (RGC), National Large Scale Cartography, National Survey and Strengthening the Capacities of Surveyors.

557- The Geodesic Network of Cameroon enables the setting up of a single geodesic referential and aims at ensuring the reliability of cadastral documents, improving the credibility of land titles and curbing land disputes. In 2014, 25 pillars and 510 base terminals covering the whole territory were installed and received. This increased the number of pillars to 624 in Bamenda, Bafoussam, Bertoua and Ebolowa in 2014, raising their number to 1,159 throughout the national territory. Cadastral documents prepared as part of the registration procedures in these areas are henceforth subjected to this new technology.

Other projects were still at the start up stage in 2014.

B: Litigation on Registration

558- Litigation on registration is the right of appeal available to parties who consider their rights violated. In this respect, 1,521 appeals were lodged before the Administrative Bench and 514 before the Judicial Bench. In the latter case, 61 decisions were delivered in favour of the State as against 11 lost²⁸⁷.

C: Compensation for Expropriation for Public Utility

559- In 2014, 14 decrees were signed on compensation²⁸⁸:

²⁸⁷These figures include only cases of litigation at the Administrative Bench.

²⁸⁸The compensation process was divided into two phases: the preparation of compensation Decrees by the Ministry of State Property, Surveys and Land Tenure (MINDCAF) and that for payment by applicants.

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Table 3: Compensation

No.	Projects	Reference Decree	Amount CFAF
1	Complex " YOYO 'at Mouanko, Sanaga-Maritime	2014/17 / PM of 24.1.2014	847,490,783 ²⁸⁹
2	Limbe Multipurpose Quay and ISUNGO-Fako	...	1,014,724,725 ²⁹⁰
3	Extension of Wouri-East, Douala	2014/32 / PM of 31/1/2014	172,986,602 ²⁹¹
4	Resettlement site of "DANA CRJA and BAGARA", Mayo Danay	2014/3204 / PM of 23/9/2014	30,508,650 ²⁹²
5	Right of way, CLEH MINRESI, Yaounde II, Mfoundi	2014/3442 / PM of 27/10/2014	68,177,544 ²⁹³
6	Construction of MINEPIA services at Biyong Dja and Lobo-Biyong	2014/2085 / PM of 14/7/2014	2,335,200 ²⁹⁴
7	Construction of the Gendarmerie post of Biyong-Dja and Lobo	2014/2088 / PM of 14/7/2014	177,227,501 ²⁹⁵
8	Development of the Industrial Zone in Bertoua, Lom and Djerem	2014/2081 / PM of 7/11/2014	943,200 ²⁹⁶
9	Construction of the Dja loop at Meyomessala, Dja and Lobo	2014/2099 / PM of 14/7/2014	202,171,321 ²⁹⁷
10	MV/LV Networks at Naka and Bassa-Mezam	2014/3443 / PM of 3/11/2014	15,513,115 ²⁹⁸
11	Social housing at Dschang-Menoua	2014/3213 / PM of 29/9/2014	33,416,500 ²⁹⁹
12	PRERETD Project at Ebolowa-Mvila	2014/2215 / PM of 9/21/2014	9,938,530 ³⁰⁰
13	Construction of hospital pharmacy, Mvomeka'a -Dja and Lobo	2014/2090 / PM of 14/7/2014	3,281,000 ³⁰¹
14	Construction of Highway, Yaounde-Nsimalen-Mefou and Akono	2014/2154 / PM of 7/21/2014	148,828,700 ³⁰²

Source: MINDCAF

560- As part of the Yaounde-Nsimalen Highway Project, 79 victims of expropriation received from MAETUR, the sum of CFAF25,747,151³⁰³ before resettlement work started at Ekoko II.

D: Constitution of Land Reserves

561- To better organize access to land, the State continued with the constitution of land reserves. The situation is illustrated in the following table:

²⁸⁹About 1,293,879.05 Euros

²⁹⁰About 1,549,198.05 Euros

²⁹¹About 264,101.68 Euros

²⁹²About 46,578.09 Euros

²⁹³About 104,087.85 Euros

²⁹⁴About 3,565.19 Euros

²⁹⁵About 270,576.33 Euros

²⁹⁶About 1,440 Euros

²⁹⁷About 308,658.50 Euros

²⁹⁸About 23,684.14 Euros

²⁹⁹About 51,017.55 Euros

³⁰⁰About 15,173.32 Euros

³⁰¹About 5,009.16 Euros

³⁰²About 227,219.38 Euros

³⁰³About 43,362.06 Euros

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Table 4: State Land Reserves

Allocation of land Reserve	Forecast	Development	Location
Land allotment	24,000 ha programmed in 24 Divisions	18,000 ha completed in 18 Divisions between 2012 and 2014	Benoue, Bui, Djerem, Diamare, Haute-Sanaga, Mayo-Tsanaga, Mbam-and Inoubou, Mbam-and-Kim, Meme, Menoua, Mezam, Mefou and Akono, Mungo, Nde, Nkam, Noun, Ocean, Sanaga-Maritime
Agribusiness	700,000 ha programmed	415 ha 80a 99 ca achieved in 5 of 8 Divisions	Benoue, Mayo-Danay, Mbam-and-Inoubou, Ocean, Ntem Valley
Social Housing	400 ha programmed in 2 Divisions	50a 58ca 183ha realised in 2 Divisions	Mfoundi: 62a 49ca 103ha Mvila: 79ha 88a 09ca

Source: MINDCAF

E: Land Grabbing by Investors

562- Ordinances No. 74-1 and No. 74-2 of 6 July 1974, followed by their regulatory instruments, Decrees No. 76/166 and 76/167 of 27 April 1976 makes the State the custodian of all lands in Cameroon in order to ensure rational use. Increased requests by both foreign and domestic major investors for vast areas of land was observed. This situation is disturbing for Cameroonians who are afraid of the development of the phenomenon of land grabbing.

563- In response, Government set up a regulatory framework through Circular No. 1/CAB/PM of 1 April 2014 on the legal provisions applicable to investors for access to land in Cameroon. This legal instrument, like those mentioned above, advocates the allocation of land for economic development projects, while preserving the social and cultural interests of the people and avoiding any form of speculation and grabbing for individualistic purposes.

564- Henceforth, the Minister in charge of Lands, is responsible for concessions of small sizes whose surface areas range from 100m² to 49ha. The Head of State is responsible for awarding concessions and leases above these surface areas. The statistical data below reflect the application of this Circular.

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Table 5: Statistics on Award of Concessions and Leases in 2014

Number	Concessions < 50ha (Responsibility of Minister)		Concessions ≥ 50ha (Responsibility of Head of State)		Lease	
	Provisional	Definitive	Provisional	Definitive	Small Surface Areas	Large Surface Areas
	1,216	67		1		0
Cumulative Area	44 581ha	125ha		83ha		0

Source: MINDCAF

§2: Production of Plots

565- Development works of 1,104 building plots in Yaounde (Mbalngong and Olembe) and in Douala (Bwang Bakoko) were nearing completion. The second phase of works on the installation of water, electricity and telephone networks, as well as tarring of the main roads were ongoing.

566- The table below shows the proportion of land improvements made during 2014.

Table 6: Land Development

Title	Number of Planned Plots	Number of Plots Developed beyond 50%	Location
Developed Building Plots	50,000	1,104	Mbalngong (Yaounde): 384 plots Olembe (Yaounde): 296 plots Bwang Bakoko I (Douala): 238 plots Bwang Bakoko II (Douala) 186 plots

Source: MAETUR

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§3: Building Material

567- The development of housing infrastructure led the Government to expand cement supply. The recent setting up of the DANGOTE CEMENT CAMEROON plant has increased to 3 the number of cement producing industries in the Cameroonian market, after the *Cimenterie du Cameroun* (CIMENCAM) and *Ciment d'Afrique* (CIMAF). The production capacity of these 3 companies is estimated at 3,600,000 tonnes per year, that is, 1,600,000 tonnes for CIMENCAM, 1,500,000 tonnes for DANGOTE and 500,000 tonnes for CIMAF. Beside this local production, 3 other imported brands are offered to consumers ("*Alpha*", "*Conch*" and "*Boem*" cement).

568- In 2014, local production was estimated at 1,321,195 tonnes, while imports stood at 1,247,415 tonnes. The overall cement supply (local production and imports) rose from 1,137,921 tonnes in 2013 to 2,588,510 tonnes in 2014, which did not still meet national demand estimated at 3,000,000.

569- Despite the ban on imports in order to encourage local production, imported brands continued to occupy a privileged position on the market. According to the Ministry of Trade, quantities of imported cement increased from 561,190 tonnes in 2011 to nearly 1,300,000 tonnes in 2014. The full operation of CIMAF and DANGOTE CEMENT CAMEROON could raise local production to 3,600,000 tonnes of cement per year.

§4: Low-cost Housing³⁰⁴

570- The marketing of the first houses built as part of Government programme for the construction of 10,000 low-cost houses continued, efforts were made to complete other housing and measures were taken to remove constraints and revive public property development by the State.

³⁰⁴See 2013 Report § 493 et seq

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A: Marketing of Houses

571- The marketing of houses started on 18 September 2013 by the sale of the first lot of houses T4 (CFAF17,000,000³⁰⁵) and T5 (CFAF 23,000,000³⁰⁶)³⁰⁷. Measures were taken to facilitate their purchase. To this end, as from November and December 2013, 663 houses could be bought with loans granted by the Cameroon Housing Fund (CFC) that has CFAF 9,929,000,000³⁰⁸ at its disposal to be granted as loans comprising CFAF2,001,000,000³⁰⁹ for the purchase of 106 houses in Yaounde and CFAF7,928,000,000³¹⁰ for the purchase of 557 houses in Douala.

572- As at 30 September 2014, the CFC had granted 76 loans worth FCFA 1.358,000,000,000³¹¹ of which 5 in Yaounde and 71 in Douala, giving a completion rate of 13.67% of allocated houses and 7.98% of the objective set.

573- In 2014, a total of 146 houses including 109 in Yaounde and 37 in Douala were equally bought by down payment.

574- Concerning the other programmes, only 5 loan applications were submitted including 1 loan for SAD Bonamatoumbe, 2 for Nkoldom and 2 for Hippodrome.

B: Other Housing

575- In 2014, the construction of some houses was completed. However, focus was on Roads and Utility Networks to link up these houses. In this context, the construction of the Yaounde-Olembe access road, worth CFAF15,000,000,000³¹², awarded after a tender to RAZEL, was started. For works assigned to national SMEs, the situation was as follows at the end of the year: 4 model buildings completed in Yaounde including 2 T4 buildings comprising 20 units each and 2 T5 buildings also including 20 units each.

³⁰⁵About 25,954.20 Euros

³⁰⁶About 35,114.50 Euros

³⁰⁷See 2013 Report §499

³⁰⁸About 15,158,778,626 Euros

³⁰⁹About 3,054,961.83 Euros

³¹⁰About 12,103 816.79 Euros

³¹¹About 2,073,282.44 Euros

³¹²About 22, 900,763,358 Euros

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576- In Douala, 90 units were completed, including 50 for the first phase (30 T4 units and 20 T5 units) and 40 T5 units (2 buildings).

C: Public Real Estate

577- To boost public real estate development, the State undertook the rehabilitation of companies entrusted with the implementation of public policies on housing. In this regard, the State/MAETUR 2013-2015 Contract Plan was achieved at 15%, the financial situation harnessed by 50%, for a physical realization rate of 53%. Land purchase was realized at 50% representing 100ha of the 200ha expected.

578- With the support of its partners, the State continued its actions geared towards improving the living conditions of the people in 2014. Although food security assurance was achieved through the completion of the pilot phase of Agropoles and the testing of intensive aquaculture, water, energy and housing supply remain insufficient to meet demand. It is hoped that the priming of hydroelectric dams under construction would reduce the energy deficit, and that the constraints that hinder the development of the low-cost housing sector will be overcome in order that the population may enjoy their right to adequate housing.

Chapter 4

RIGHT TO WORK AND SOCIAL SECURITY



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579- The right to work and social security was guaranteed by measures geared towards improving access to decent jobs and consolidating social security.

SECTION 1: ACCESS TO DECENT JOBS

580- Measures geared towards guaranteeing access to decent jobs included activities to encourage vocational insertion and improving decent working conditions.

§1: Vocational Insertion

581- In order to enhance performance of the labour market, main actions focused on improving job-seeking mechanisms and providing labour in both the public and private sectors.

A: Job-seeking Mechanisms

582- Improving job-seeking mechanisms consisted in increasing vocational training and continuing intermediation activities with employers.

1) Vocational Training

583- Traditional programmes helped increase the skills of job seekers. Thus, 11,779 persons were trained in 2014 as against 6,089 in 2013; that is, an increase rate of 93%. In this connection, 1,461 youths underwent the so called formal training while 10,318 were trained in trades such as hairdressing. Besides, as part of the *Programme Emploi Diplômé* (PED) for inexperienced certificate holders, 658 youths were granted pre-employment training; that is, an achievement rate of 58% in relation to the annual set goals of 1,140 youths to be employed.

2) Intermediation with Employers

584- As part of intermediation activities which facilitate contact between job seekers and companies, the National Employment Fund (NEF):

- received and guided 47,607 job seekers out of the expected 45,000; that is, an annual rate of 106%;

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- registered 107,164 job seekers as part of the National Skills Identification Programme (PROCCON); that is, 94% in relation to the objective of 114,000 candidates to be registered; and
- visited 60,543 companies throughout the national territory as at 31 December 2014 ; that is, a rate of 106% in relation to the annual objective of 57,000 visits.

585- In addition, job seeking strategies were improved to meet ICTs targets. Thus, 34,348 job seekers visited the NEF website in 2014 as against 3,843 in 2013, and 340 job openings were put online for 2,715 job positions, as against 202 vacancies for 7,375 job positions in 2013. Besides, 11,164 candidates applied for job positions online through the NEF website in 2014 as against 8,160 as at 30 September 2013. Lastly, 323 job seekers were recruited through the website as against 232 in 2013.

586- These structural activities and programmes helped provide labour on the job market.

B: Provision of Labour

587- Besides self-employment, specific programmes helped companies recruit job seekers. Nevertheless, employment into the public service continued.

1) Jobs Created through Specific Programmes

588- In order to promote self-employment, projects were financed by NEF and the Integrated Programme to Support Informal Sector Stakeholders (PIAASI).

589- NEF financed 9,033 micro-projects submitted by youths either individually or in groups. Thus, as part of the Self-Employment and Micro Enterprises Programme (PAME) and the Rural Development Employment Programme (PADER) to promote individual or group project creation, 9,033 new promoters received financing for 504 individual projects and 8,529 group projects; that is, 103% rate of achievement of annual objectives set at 8,780 promoters to be financed as part of PADER.

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590- Under PIAASI, 300 micro-projects submitted by youths were financed in partnership with councils that are signatories to the agreement. In addition, 260 micro-projects submitted by groups and associations of women and persons with disability were also financed.

591- Nevertheless, recruitment into the Public Service continued.

2) Recruitment into the Public Service

592- In this area, 722 students were admitted into the National School of Administration and Magistracy (ENAM).³¹³ Furthermore, 640 candidates were recruited through competitive examinations while 2,727 were recruited directly into the Public Service. A breakdown of these recruitments is as follows: statistics (25); sports (260); customs and finance (1,500); stores accounting (100); social affairs (49); surveys (57); civil engineering (154), agriculture (150); rural engineering (60); mines (10); water and forestry (135); livestock and maritime fishing (40); animal husbandry (65); and public health (407).

593- Measures were equally taken to enhance working conditions.

§2: Improvement of Working Conditions

594- In order to ensure decent working conditions and social peace, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Government and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Gender emphasis was placed on tripartite consultations, steps were taken to increase awareness of professional risks and several labour disputes were resolved.

A: MoU between Government and ILO

595- On 22 October 2014, Cameroon and the ILO signed an MoU entitled: *“Country Programme to Promote Decent Employment”*. The programme which covers the period 2014 – 2017 aims at:

³¹³For disaggregated statistics, see the chapter on women’s rights, §947.

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- increasing opportunities for decent jobs and promoting income-generating activities especially for women, youths and vulnerable groups;
- improving the normative framework and working conditions for all; and
- building the capacities of representatives at the tripartite social dialogue (Government, employers, employees).

596- The programme falls in line with promotion of tripartite consultations.

B: Prioritizing Tripartite Consultation

597- Prioritizing tripartite consultation focused on registration of new trade unions in different areas, setting up a Consultation and Social Dialogue Committee, and negotiations with social partners which led to an increase in the Guaranteed Interprofessional Minimum Wage (SMIG).

1) New Trade Unions

598- The registration of 12 trade unions in the transport, agriculture, education, commerce, mines, and handling sectors brought the number of Trade Unions to about 812 in 2014. The new Trade Unions are found in the table below:

Table 1: New Trade Unions Registered

Regions	No.	Denomination	Activity	President	Registration No.	Date
Littoral	1	<i>Union des Entreprises de Manutention du Cameroun (UEMC)</i>	Handling	Jean Paul KAMGA NENKAM	SN/218	17/06/2014
	2	<i>Syndicat national des Travailleurs des Entreprises Portuaires du Cameroun (SYNTEPOC)</i>	Transit	EKEDI JACQUES BERNARD	SN/203	23/05/2014
	3	<i>Syndicat Départemental des Dockers et des Travailleurs Patriotes du Ports de Douala (SDDTPPP)</i>	Handling	DEUMENI Lafayette	SD/54	08/04/2014
	4	<i>Syndicat des importateurs et des distributeurs des motos et pièces détachées du Cameroun (SYDIMOCAM)</i>	Commerce	KENFACK Célestin	SN/219	13/10/2014
	5	<i>Fédération Minière du Cameroun (FMC)</i>	Mines	MBIAM Emmanuel

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Regions	No.	Denomination	Activity	President	Registration No.	Date
	6	<i>Syndicat National des Prestataire des Marchés Publics (SYPREMAC)</i>	Services	Pierre Dinogui	SN/212	31/10/2014
	7	<i>Syndicat National de la Communication, de l'Information et Technologie de services du Cameroun (SYNACITS)</i>	Communication	ASSANGO JUSTINE	SN/223	10/10/2014
North West	8	Kumbo Diocese Catholic Education Workers' Trade Union (KUDCEWOTU)	Education	Paul BERINYUY	SD/170	03/04/2014
South West	9	Regional Agriculture Worker Basic Trade Union (Primary Secteur)	Agriculture	NKWINKEH NCHIJJIE	...	21/11/2014
	10	<i>Syndicat Départemental des Chauffeurs de l'Axe Routier de la Meme (MERADU)</i>	Road Transport	NANA Evaristus Mulim	SD/217	09/10/2014
	11	<i>Syndicat National des Chauffeurs de Transports Péri - Urbain et de Brousse du Cameroun</i>	Transport	ESSOMBA Prosper Aimé	SN/220	17/10/2014

Source: MINTSS

2) Increase in SMIG and Salaries

599- In response to increase in fuel prices and to curb any social crisis, negotiations were undertaken with social partners to identify stop-gap measures to address the high cost of living. Thus, in the private sector and pursuant to Decree No. 2014/2217/PM of 24 July 2014, the SMIG amount increased from CFAF28,216³¹⁴ to CFAF36,270³¹⁵; that is, an increase of 28.54%. In the Public Service, following a special measure by the Head of State, salaries were increased by 5% as per Decree No. 2014/253 of 7 July 2014.

3) Social Dialogue Monitoring and Consultation Committee

600- The Social Dialogue Monitoring and Consultation Committee set up by Order No. 67/CAB/PM of 14 July 2014, is a tripartite organ under the Minister of Labour and Social Security, in charge of overseeing the effective implementation of Government measures on social dialogue. In this connection, the Committee carries out the following activities:

³¹⁴About 43,078 Euros

³¹⁵About 55,37 Euros

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- establish social dialogue between different partners in order to prevent all forms of social conflicts;
- receive, discuss, examine and assess claims from professional organizations so as to seek negotiated solutions;
- diligently propose precautionary measures to halt strikes;
- encourage discussions between Government and social partners on all social issues;
- give opinions that will help pre-empt social crisis; and
- monitor and oversee the effective implementation of measures taken by Government to restore social peace.

C: Increased Awareness of Professional Risks

601- In respect of occupational diseases and industrial injuries, 168 companies were visited by the National Social Insurance Fund (NSIF) officials to raise their awareness on the risks of industrial injuries and occupational diseases, on health and safety rules, on the need to own appropriate safety equipment and on risk management.

D: Settlement of Labour Disputes

602- Labour disputes were settled by labour administration and the courts.

1) Labour Administration

603- In 2014, claims by employees on improvement of working conditions or equal treatment were filed before the administration for arbitration. In this connection, 2 case studies are worth examining: management of the strike action by workers at the construction site of the Lom Pangar Hydroelectric power Dam, and Government's call to order of the telecommunications company *Viettel SA* following reports on non compliance with employment regulations.

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a) Lom Pangar Strike Action

604- In order to maintain a peaceful social climate among workers at the Lom Pangar Hydroelectric power Dam,³¹⁶ Government held peace talks with the said workers from 2 to 4 July 2014. The claims were, among others, on risk allowance or dirty-work bonus,³¹⁷ improvement of working conditions and equal treatment of both national and foreign staff.

605- As a result of the talks between staff representatives, Chinese Engineers, and representatives from State structures, negotiations were concluded and work effectively resumed.

b) Government's call to Order of the Telecommunications Company *Viettel*

606- Following investigations of allegations that the majority of workers recruited by the telecommunication company *Viettel SA* were Vietnamese nationals to the detriment of local manpower, MINTSS issued Circular No. 9/MINTSS of 1 October 2014 on the implementation of the National Collective Convention on Telecommunications and Related Activities in Cameroon to *Viettel SA*. Non compliance with the Convention included absence of labour contracts of expatriates duly signed by MINEFOP, non-respect of quotas in the use of local manpower, failure to register workers with the NSIF, lack of a consultation and social dialogue framework, concealment of the real salaries of expatriates, and absence of Staff Representatives.

607- Furthermore, upon examination of an inventory of *Viettel* workers in the different Regions of the country, it was observed that as at 31 December 2014, out of 818 employees, 619 were nationals and 199 expatriates. Findings further showed that there was an imbalance in categorization of professionals; for example, 502 Cameroonians were recruited as Foremen

³¹⁶Tension at the Lom Pangar Hydroelectric Dam construction site dates back to the strikes of 25 June 2012, 29 October 2012, and 19 December 2012. The institutional measures taken include a tripartite consultation platform set up by Order No. 488/MINTSS/DRE/BI to set up within the China International Water Electric Corporation (CWE), a platform for social dialogue. In addition, as part of independent missions conducted on the site by the NCHRF and the Cameroon Network of Human Rights Organizations (RECODH), reports were drawn up on the conditions of workers. The reports contained violations of employment contracts.

³¹⁷Dirty-work bonus stood at CFAF50 (about 0.077 Euros) per day.

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(Categories 7 and 9) as against 10 expatriates, while only 9 Cameroonians were recruited as Senior Staff (Categories 10 and 12) as against 189 expatriates.

608- As a result, *Viettel* was ordered to comply with the provisions of the said Convention, and organize elections of Staff Representatives in the first half of November 2014.

2) Before the Courts

609- Disputes brought before the courts in case of non conciliation are contained in the table below:

Table 2: Trend of Labour Disputes

Unlawful dismissal	Matters brought before the courts by employers				Matters brought before the courts by employees				Matters determined							
									In favour employees				In favour employers			
	CFI	HC	CA	SC	CFI	HC	CA	SC	CFI	HC	CA	SC	CFI	HC	CA	SC
	316	58	49	175	573	520	129	132	499	164	83		145	49	22	

Source: MINJUSTICE

SECTION 2: RIGHT TO SOCIAL SECURITY

610- Guaranteeing the right to social security resulted in many disputes.

§1: Guaranteeing the Right to Social Security

611- With the opening of social security to the informal sector and liberal professions, the right to social security witnessed a leap forward while traditional actions on the registration of employers and insured persons, payment of social benefits, and recovery of social security contributions continued.

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A: Voluntary Insurance

612- With a view to increasing social security coverage from 10 to 20% of insured persons in 2015, the voluntary insurance scheme was established by Decree No. 2014/2377/PM of 13 August 2014 to lay down the terms and conditions of management of voluntarily insured persons under the old age, invalidity, and death pension scheme.

613- Within the meaning of the instrument, the following persons shall be voluntarily insured:

- persons with a capacity to contribute but who are not obliged to contribute against old age, invalidity and death risks;
- employees who do not fulfil the conditions of membership to the general scheme, State personnel scheme, or any other special social security scheme; and
- former insured persons who continue to fulfil the conditions of the general scheme.

614- Although the Decree is an instrument that will help cover a large part of the population not under the obligatory insurance scheme, voluntary insurance can only provide long-term benefits. Just like obligatory insurance, voluntary insurance does not cover immediate concerns such as family allowance and compensation for occupational hazards.³¹⁸

615- In addition to raising the awareness of the population on voluntary insurance, Government continued to register employers and insured persons with the NSIF.

B: Registration of Employers and Insured Persons

616- In 2014, the NSIF registered 5,872 new employers and 82,054 insured persons. Thus, the number of up-to-date as per NSIF active employers as per NSIF increased from 52,400 as at 31 December 2013 to 58,272 as at 31 December 2014, while the number of insured persons

³¹⁸In addition, measures to reduce the effects of the instrument were suggested due especially to restrictions on membership of persons above 60 years old and the amount of contributions due to annual payment requirements.

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increased from 683,365 to 765,419 during the same period. However, while updating its records, the NSIF registered 51,677 active employers and 686,746 insured persons as at 31 December 2014.

C: Payment of Social Benefits

617- The sum of CFAF69,700,000,000³¹⁹ was redistributed as social benefits in 2014 as against CFAF65,800,000,000³²⁰ in 2013. Details of payment are contained in the table below:

Table 3: Payment of Social Benefits

Branches covered	Amount in 2013	Amount in 2014
Pensions	CFAF57,100,000,000 ³²¹	CFAF61,500,000,000 ³²²
Family allowance	CFAF6,200,000,000 ³²³	CFAF5,600,000,000 ³²⁴
Occupational hazards	CFAF2,400,000,000 ³²⁵	CFAF2,500,000,000 ³²⁶

Source: NSIF

618- In 2014, 101,341 beneficiaries received social benefits as against 110,211 in 2013³²⁷; 97,575 allowance recipients in respect of 370,457 children in 2014 as against 74,868 allowance recipients in respect of 223,894 children as at 31 December 2013; and 4,397 annuitants in 2014 as against 4,083 annuitants as at 31 December 2014.

619- The number of pensioners paid through the bank increased from 69% as at 31 December 2013 to 96.8% as at 31 December 2014, amongst whom 7.68% receive their pension by use of electronic cards.

D: Recovery of Social Security Contributions

620- In 2014, the amount of social security contributions recovered stood at CFAF111,800,000,000³²⁸, of which CFAF109,000,000,000³²⁹ was recovered from NSIF employers in business and CFAF2,800,000,000³³⁰

³¹⁹About 106,412,213.74 Euros

³²⁰About 100,458,015.27 Euros

³²¹About 87,175,572.52 Euros

³²²About 93,893,129.77 Euros

³²³About 9,465,648.85 Euros

³²⁴About 8,549,618.32 Euros

³²⁵About 3,664,122.14 Euros

³²⁶About 3,816,793.89 Euros

³²⁷The drop observed was due to clean up operations of the NSIF card index.

³²⁸About 170,687,022.90 Euros

³²⁹About 166,412,213 Euros

³³⁰About 4,274,809.16 Euros

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from the State as part of the Cross-Debt Convention between the State of Cameroon and NSIF.

§2: Social Security Disputes

621- Social benefits disputes and disputes on social security contributions recovery occurred at the same time.

A: Social Benefits Disputes

622- In 2014, 91 applications for social benefits were examined by the Preliminary Complaints Committee. The committee ruled on all of them except 10 that were adjourned for additional information.

B: Disputes on Social Security Contributions Recovery

623- The Preliminary Complaints Committee held sessions during which 82 files of CFAF784,918,994³³¹ were examined. The outcome shows that 50 decisions were taken in favour of NSIF for an amount of CFAF377,292,485³³², while 3 decisions were taken against the NSIF for an amount of CFAF407,626,509.³³³

624- Furthermore, some decisions of the Committee were appealed against before the Supreme Court either on grounds of implicit dismissal by the Committee or of other files on health insurance and/or complementary retirement.

625- On the whole, although increase in SMIG and monthly basic salaries of civil servants and military officers gave beneficiaries a glimmer of hope, these remain insignificant compared to increase in the prices of fuel and foodstuffs. Besides, enhancement of the mechanisms to encourage registration of employers with the NSIF will obviously help guarantee better promotion of the right to social security.

³³¹About 1,198,349.61 Euros

³³²About 576,019.06 Euros

³³³About 622,330.55 Euros



Chapter

5

**THE RIGHT TO CULTURE
AND LEISURE**



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626- The focus in 2014 was to make culture a lever of development. Strategies were therefore set up for the qualitative and quantitative improvement of cultural artefacts and services for consumption by nationals and foreigners. The promotion and development of leisure was also in the spotlight. Activities were carried out relating to the preservation of artistic and cultural heritage, access to and enjoyment of cultural rights, the promotion of the moral and material interests of artists and the promotion and development of leisure.

SECTION 1: PRESERVATION OF ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

627- The objective of preservation was to restore, safeguard and render cultural and artistic heritage profitable. Activities relating to the revamping of the national collective memory, the safeguard and protection of cultural and artistic heritage, and the restoration and development of cultural heritage helped achieve the objective.

§1: Revamping National Collective Memory

628- Revamping consisted in identifying and carrying out an inventory on all tangible and intangible artistic and cultural artefacts. It was in consonance with this that the identification and setting up of a directory of more than 300 cultural sites in the 10 Regions of the country was done. None existed prior to this time.

§2: Safeguard and Protection of Cultural and Artistic Heritage

629- The safeguard and protection in issue envisaged the development of standards for the legal protection of cultural and artistic heritage. Decree No. 2014/1001/PM of 15 May 2014 on the organization and functioning of the National Ensemble empowered this Institution to promote culture through festivals, shows, exhibitions and other events. It is in pursuit of this objective that the National Ballet showcased the rich cultural heritage of the country through dances from 19 to 23 July 2014 during the 103rd Annual Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in Las Vegas, USA and at *The Liberty Theater* in New York, USA in August 2014.

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630- Furthermore, Decree No. 2014/882/PM of 30 April 2014 on the organization and functioning of the National Archives entrusted the National Archives with the collection, preservation, communication and control of documents drawn up or received by physical or corporate entities of public or private law.

631- Safeguard was also ensured by the Ministry of Arts and Culture (MINAC) through the organization of holiday workshops for children in Yaounde from 14 July to 8 August 2014. The goal was to encourage children to take interest in the country's cultural and artistic heritage. During the workshop, children had the opportunity to visit cultural and historical sites, participate in the manufacture of art and craft products, learn national languages and games, watch films and partake in music, dance and drama workshops.

§3: Restoration and Development of Cultural Heritage

632- Decree No. 2014/881/PM of 30 April 2014 on the organization and functioning of the National Museum stated as one of the objectives of the National Museum, the showcasing of its collections by promoting visits to the Museum. The refurbishing of the Museum was thus completed and it was reopened to the public in November 2014. In order to safeguard cultural heritage and rehabilitate traditional conservation structures nationwide, Government allocated CFAF100,000,000³³⁴ to various institutions. The monument marking the 50th anniversary of independence was also inaugurated in Buea on 19 February 2014.

633- Government also focused on access to and enjoyment of cultural heritage

SECTION 2: ACCESS TO AND ENJOYMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

634- Government laid down conditions to encourage the population to participate in cultural activities by providing financial, material and technical support to associations for the organization of cultural events.

³³⁴About 152, 449,02 Euros

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Amongst several of these events were the 18th edition of the film festival "Ecrans Noirs", the 2014 edition of the *Ngondo* Festival in Douala, the 454th edition of the *Nyang Nyang* Festival in Bafoussam, and the 15th edition of the "Festi- Bikutsi" Festival from 3 to 15 November 2014 in Yaounde.

635- Moreover, within the framework of the "Shoot in Cameroon" Project, Government signed a partnership agreement with the association "Cinéma Numérique Ambulant" to offer free film screenings to the population across the nation.

636- The capacity of journalists in reporting on cultural issues was enhanced. The Arterial Network Cameroon organized a Seminar on "Cultural journalism and art criticism" in Douala from 24 to 26 September 2014, while The Cameroon Art Critics organized a seminar at the Goethe Institute in Yaounde from 16 to 17 December 2014 to improve on the ability of cultural journalists to understand and analyze shows, films, works of art or books.

637- Efforts were made to safeguard the moral and material interest of artists.

SECTION 3: PROTECTION OF THE MORAL AND MATERIAL INTERESTS OF ARTISTS

638- In 2013, there was recurrent dysfunctioning of the Cameroon Civil Society for Musical Arts (SOCAM) due to the absence of conditions for a healthy collective management of copyright and related rights. This led to the dismissal of its Director General and the setting up of an interim Board of Directors, the dismissal a month later of the Board Chair and the election of a new Board on 2 November 2013. The Minister of Arts and Culture took a decision³³⁵ putting an end to the mandate of this Board of Directors and another³³⁶ cancelling elections of the said Board as they were considered to have been carried out in violation of the basic instruments of SOCAM.

³³⁵Decision No. 59/59/MINAC/CAB of 23 December 2013

³³⁶Decision No. 60/MINACAB of 23 December 2013

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639- Ndedi Eyango Pierre Adolphe, Board Chair, elected on 2 November 2013 filed 2 suits before the Administrative Court, Yaounde for a stay of execution of both decisions³³⁷. The Court, by 2 rulings,³³⁸ held that **Ndedi Eyango Pierre Adolphe** lacked the *locus standi*³³⁹ to seise the Court.

640- In order to redress this malfunction, by Decision No. 2/MINAC/CAB of 21 January 2014, the Minister of Arts and Culture set up an *Ad Hoc* Committee to restructure the collective management of copyright in music and related rights. The Committee was tasked amongst others, to revise the basic regulations of the organ in charge of copyright and related rights in category B³⁴⁰ and update the directory of members of the said organ.

641- As a measure to tackle the problems of copyright and related rights globally, the Committee on the standardization of the collective management of copyright and related rights was created by Decision No. 4/MINAC/CAB of 23 January 2014 of the Minister of Arts and Culture and tasked with legal reform of the sector.

642- Promotion and development of leisure was also a major concern of Government.

SECTION 4: PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF LEISURE

643- Government strove to enhance visibility of the sector, strengthen infrastructure and develop Eco-tourism. Leisure activities were also organized.

§1: Enhancing Visibility

644- One of the strategies to maintain the country as a tourist destination was participation at international forums to showcase its touristic potential.

³³⁷The suits were registered as *Recours n° 01/2014 du 02 Janvier 2014* and *Recours n° 02/2014 du 02 Janvier 2014*

³³⁸*Ordonnance n° 04/OSE/CAB/PTA/YDE/2014* and *Ordonnance n° 03/OSE/CAB/PTA/YDE/2014*

³³⁹By virtue of Section 36 of the Statutes of SOCAM, only Cameroonians can be members of its Board of Directors. Pursuant to Law No. 68-LF-3 of 11 June 1968 to set up the Cameroon Nationality Code, **Ndedi Eyango Pierre Adolphe** lost his Cameroon nationality when he opted for the American nationality in 2004. Thus, he could not be a member of the Board of Directors of SOCAM.

³⁴⁰This category concerns musical arts.

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Hence, the participation at events like the FITUR fair in Madrid, Spain from 20 to 26 January 2014, the General Assembly of the Africa/World Tourism Organization (WTO) Commission, held in Luanda, Angola from 24 to 30 April 2014 and the meeting of the Executive Council of WTO³⁴¹ held at Samarkand, Uzbekistan from 1 to 4 October 2014.

645- The Ministry of Tourism and Leisure (MINTOUL) also participated in national events to get the population interested in leisure namely, the International Exhibition for Entreprises (PROMOTE) in Yaounde from 6 to 14 December 2014, the *Nyem Nyem Festival* organized in Tignere and the *Ngouon Festival* in Fouban³⁴².

646- Another strategy to ensure visibility was capacity building of stakeholders. Accordingly, on 3 and 4 February 2014, in Yaounde, a seminar was organized for promoters and private partners to improve on the quality of products and services offered. This was done with the goal of improving on professionalism, competitiveness and innovation.

647- The number of tourists in 2014 stood at 900,000 as opposed to 912,000 in 2013. This drop was due to attacks by the terrorist group *Boko Haram* in the Northern Regions of the country.

§2: Strengthening Leisure Infrastructure

648- An inventory of recreational facilities and touristic sites was carried out. In order to encourage the development of more of such structures, procedures for the construction, opening and operation of tourism and recreational facilities were simplified. This led to the issuance of permits for the building of 76 hotels with a capacity of 1,386 rooms, the opening of 40 hotels with a capacity of 2,428 rooms, 7 restaurants with a capacity of 621 seats, 11 recreational facilities for 1,150 seats, and the licensing of 8 travel agencies and 8 tourist guides.

³⁴¹The World Tourism Organisation.

³⁴²MINTOUL set up stands and informed the public on leisure and touristic opportunities available.

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§3: Organization of Leisure Activities

649- The goal was to encourage educative and healthy leisure activities. Thus, the following activities were organized: Holiday camps in Bamenda, Mbalmayo and Sangmelima for more than 400 children aged 10 to 18; 7 excursions in Buea, Bamenda, Ngaoundere, Garoua, Bertoua and Yaounde for pupils and one for deaf children.

650- Besides, studies for the establishment of amusement parks in Yaounde and Douala, holiday camps in Sangmelima and Ebolowa, and a giant freshwater species aquarium were completed.

§4: Development of Eco-tourism

651- A strategy to promote ecotourism was the rehabilitation of touristic sites. Thus, the Korup National park, the Dja reserve, the *Ma Mbed-Mbed* Reserve, the Waza Park, the touristic sites at Ebogo, Kribi-Campo, Lake Awing and Mount Cameroon were refurbished. Moreover, from 14 to 16 December 2014 in Bamenda, a seminar was organized on the reception, ethics and treatment of tourists, and the development of ecotourism.

652- MINTOUL and the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) also signed a collaboration agreement on 11 August 2014 to enhance ecotourism in and around protected areas in Cameroon.

653- Government pursued its efforts to maintain Cameroon as a tourist destination despite challenges. The safeguard of culture was sustained through the strengthening of the legal framework. The setting up of the Committee on the standardization of the collective management of copyright and related rights gave a ray of hope in handling the existing difficulties of this sector.

Chapter

6

**RIGHT TO A HEALTHY
ENVIRONMENT**



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654- Actions were taken to ensure biodiversity conservation and geared towards guaranteeing a healthy environment. The determination to punish man-made environmental degradation resulted in a huge volume of disputes with the establishment of Administrative Courts.

SECTION 1: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

655- Biodiversity conservation was guaranteed by combating the encroaching desert and climate change, conservation of vegetation cover and protected areas, and waste management.

§1: Combating Desertification and Climate Change

656- In order to combat desertification and climate change, reforestation activities continued and the Enhancement of Population Resilience against Effects of Climate Change (REPECC) project was implemented.

A: Reforestation

657- Reforestation activities were carried out as part of the Operation “Green Sahel” as well as other reforestation initiatives

1) Operation “Green Sahel”

658- The implementation of Operation “Green Sahel” in the Northern part of the country enabled the planting of 300,000 trees in 10 sites of 250ha each to restore 2,500ha. In addition, 4,500 improved stoves³⁴³ were distributed to households in the localities concerned. The table below shows the sites where the trees were planted:

³⁴³Benefits of the improved stoves (MINEPDED).

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Table 1: Trees Planted in the Far North Region

Sites	Division	Area (ha)	Plant /Year
Zidim 2	Mayo-Tsanaga	250	30,000
Zidim 3	Mayo-Tsanaga	250	30,000
Kalliao 2	Diamare	250	30,000
Kalliao 3	Diamare	250	30,000
Gouada	Mayo-Kani	250	30,000
Moudouf	Mayo-Kani	250	30,000
Maklingai 2	Mayo-Sava	250	30,000
Ouda	Logone and Chari	250	30,000
Tchatibali	Mayo-Danai	250	30,000
Missiliam	Mayo-Kani	250	30,000
Total		2,500	300,000

Source: MINEPDED

659- Besides, the following activities were carried out through the Benoue Watershed Basin Development Project:

- identification of sites for the planting of 15,000 trees along the right bank of River Benoue;
- starting the process of planting 15,000 trees to stabilize 37.5ha of river banks; and
- execution of the contract to protect the 37.5ha site, and installation of the water sprinkler mechanism.

2) Other Reforestation Initiatives

660- Reforestation activities were equally carried out by 142 participants from Associations, Common Initiative Groups (CIG), Councils, and Chiefdoms. These stakeholders received support from the State worth CFAF870,000,000³⁴⁴, and they reforested 2,000ha of land. The table below shows distribution of the allocation received for other reforestation activities:

³⁴⁴About 1,328,244.27 Euros

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Table 2: Support to other Reforestation Activities

Stakeholders	Number	Amount in financial support from MINFOF	Area to be reforested (ha)
Councils	88	374,460,000 ³⁴⁵	1,382.5
NGO/CIG/Associations	50	272,760,000 ³⁴⁶	117.5
Chiefdoms	3	12,180,000 ³⁴⁷	...
ANAFOR	1	200,000,000 ³⁴⁸	500
Total	142	870,000,000³⁴⁹	2,000

Source: MINFOF

B: Implementation of the Enhancement of Population Resilience against Effects of Climate Change (REPECC) project

661- The following activities were carried out as part of the REPECC project:

- a survey conducted on Knowledge, Skills and Practices, and a workshop to present and validate the survey was organized in Maroua; and
- a Communication Programme was drawn up on change of behaviour by all categories of the population including administrative, religious and traditional authorities for the adoption of best practices for agrosylvopastoralism, disaster prevention and management.

§2: Conservation of Vegetation Cover and Protected Areas

662- Actions were taken on conservation of protected areas and forests.

A: Forest Conservation Actions

663- Forest management was carried out through application of the Principle of Participation under the mechanism to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Sustainable Management of Forest and Forest Conservation (REDD+). In addition, with a view to preventing the

³⁴⁵About 571, 695 Euros

³⁴⁶About 416,427 Euros

³⁴⁷About 185, 954.42 Euros

³⁴⁸About 305,344 Euros

³⁴⁹About 1,328, 244.27 Euros

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harmful effects of deforestation, forest monitoring activities were carried out under the "Measure, Notification and Verification" (MNV)³⁵⁰ Project.

1) Application of the Principle of Participation under REDD+ mechanism

664- This Principle was applied through the Guide on National Directives of the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and the involvement of the civil society in the REDD+ mechanism.

a) Guide on National Directives of FPIC

665- The Guide on National Directives to obtain FPIC, a document drawn up using the participatory approach with consultation and involvement of indigenous peoples³⁵¹ and natives, draws inspiration from international³⁵² and national³⁵³ instruments that aim at involving the people in the implementation of the REDD+ mechanism. It contains useful guidelines for promoters of REDD+ projects and initiatives to obtain a free, informed and prior consent of indigenous communities and/or natives before and during the implementation of REDD+ initiatives. The Guide proposes 3 phases (preparation, implementation and monitoring/evaluation) in seeking Free, Informed and Prior Consent in the development process of REDD+ strategy, programmes and projects in Cameroon.

666- The FPIC Guide, with 2,000 copies published, focuses on the following 4 principles: free, prior, informed and consent. Specifically, promoters must, through indicators, negotiate freely as per the traditions of members of the community concerned so as to obtain their consent where and whenever necessary, which must be respected for the validation or not, of the REDD+ project initiative.

³⁵⁰The MNV is one of the components of the R-PP (Readiness Preparation Proposal) Document the preparation of which constituted a step in the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy. It aims to ensure monitoring and verification of the level of forest carbon.

³⁵¹These communities include Mbororo, Baka, Bagyeli, Bakola and Bedzang settled in the 5 agro-ecological areas.

³⁵²The UN Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples calls on States to obtain the consent of communities and comply with the procedures for obtaining such consent. Articles 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 of the ICESCR; Article 1 of the ICCPR (the right of all peoples to freely and by themselves, dispose of their wealth and natural resources); the Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development (1992).

³⁵³The Preamble of the Constitution of 18 January 1996; the Forest Law of 20 January 1994.

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b) Involvement of the Civil Society in the REDD+ Mechanism

667- A civil society forum on REDD+ and Climate Change in Cameroon was held from 23 to 25 July 2014 in Yaounde. The forum was organized at the initiative of the National Coordination of the National REDD+ and Climate Change Platform with the financial support of MINEPDED and development partners among whom MNV/FAO/COMIFAC, the World Bank, IUCN, WWF, CIFOR, SNV, and Transparency International Cameroon.

668- The main goal of this forum was to help civil society members achieve the following:

- capacity building for better participation in the drawing up of the national REDD+ strategy and mechanism in Cameroon; and
- elect a new National Civil Society Coordination bureau after the end of the first term of office.

669- At the end of the forum, a draft of the plan of action was produced with the following thrusts:

- capacity building of the national platform stakeholders;
- simplification of the language of REDD+ and climate change, and development of appropriate tools to facilitate information, education and awareness-raising;
- structuring the REDD+ and Climate Change Platform at the council and community level;
- seeking financing to implement the plan of action developed at all levels of involvement; and
- development of pilot projects and a proper communication strategy.

2) MNV Project Activities

670- As part of the "National Monitoring and MNV Systems with a regional approach for countries of the Congo Basin", a national workshop on the Plan of Action for the National Forest Carbon Monitoring System (SNSCF) was organized from 5 to 6 August 2014. The workshop brought

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together representatives from Member Ministries of the REDD+ Steering Committee, Parliament, civil society, teachers, researchers, the media, and development partners (AfDB, FAO, and COMIFAC). At the end of the workshop, participants took stock of activities of Phase I of the MNV Project and validated the SNSCF Plan of Action.

671- The National MNV Plan of Action was equally validated. Three awareness-raising workshops in relation to the Plan of Action were organized in Bafoussam, Bertoua, and Garoua. A consultation workshop for stakeholders on the implementation of Phase II of the MNV/FAO Project was also organized.

B: Protection of Wildlife

672- In 2014, the number of protected areas which is an essential component of biodiversity conservation strategies increased with the opening of the Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve of 156,672ha in the East Region. Thus, on the whole, protected areas include 18 National Parks, 3 Zoos, 4 Sanctuaries, 7 Wildlife Reserves, 47 Game Reserves, and 23 Community-managed Game Reserves.

673- Furthermore, security of protected areas continued through Operation “*Coup de poing*” initiated in 2013. In this connection, the repression operation resulted in the drafting of 124 reports of findings of threat to endangered species, the destruction of 544 camps for poachers, and seizure of 40 elephant tusks and tails.

674- The table below shows that the Operation “*Coup de poing*” produced significant results essentially characterized by a drop in wildlife offences in the National Park, Bouba Njidda, North Region.

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**Table 3: Results of Operation Coup de poing in Protected Areas
in 2014**

Region or Park	Reports drawn up	Guns seized	Camps destroyed	Cartridges	Steel cable	Cartridge pack	Other hunting material (machetes, spears, knives, etc.,) seized	Animal remains		Trophies
								Weight (kg)	Elephant tusks and other trophies	
Benoue National Park	51	0	401	0	0	0	5 generators, 2 Motorcycles, 1 gold detection apparatus, 2 music centres	300Kg	0	
Mengame Gorilla Sanctuary, Nyong and So'o Division	6	24	10	86	44	391	12 machetes, 15 knives, 17 headlamps	472Kg	40 tusks + 1 elephant tail	
Waza National Park	1	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Faro National Park	6	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bouba Njida National Park	46	0	8			0	11 Motorcycles, 15 gold mining accessories	0	0	
Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve, East Region	0	34	1	180	590	0	1 motorcycle	220kg	0	
Dja Reserve	14	35	49	154	453	243	4 gun barrels, 2 butts, 3 motorcycles, 6 machetes	527kg	9 elephant tails	
Total	124	93	544	420	1 087 + 4 rolls	634	5 generators, 17 motorcycles, 16 gold mining devices/accessories, 2 music centres, 17 headlamps, 18 machetes, 15 knives, 4 gun barrels and 2 butts	1,519kg	40 tusks and 10 elephant tails	

Source: MINFOF

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§3: Waste Management

675- The entry into force of the prohibition of the use of plastic packaging of less than 61 microns and the increase in environmental inspection missions enabled better waste management.

A: Prohibition of Plastic Packaging of Less than 61 Microns

676- Following the entry into force of Joint Order No. 4/MINEPDED/MINCOMMERCE of 24 October 2012 to regulate the manufacture, importation, and commercialization of non biodegradable packaging,³⁵⁴ actions were taken to raise public awareness on the regulatory instrument, compliance checks of the plastic packaging and seizure of improper packaging conducted, as well as offenders punished.

1) Public Awareness

677- Public awareness which was preceded by technical meetings with the administrations concerned (MINCOMMERCE, MINFI (Customs), MINATD), was conducted from 2 to 22 March 2014 throughout the national territory. The awareness included consultation meetings with manufacturers from the plastics processing sector, and communication with the public through radio programmes.

678- Furthermore, in seeking solutions to the use of improper plastic packaging, missions were conducted in Yaounde and Douala to identify structures of production, importation, and commercialization of biodegradable packaging. Thus, 18 structures were identified, among which 11 in Douala, 5 in Yaounde, 1 in the North West Region, and 1 in Bangante.

679- At the end of the activities and in spite of the obvious approval of the campaign by the population and support of many manufacturers who put proper plastic packaging on the market, compliance checks conducted showed that there were still pockets of resistance.

³⁵⁴See 2012 (§ 722 to 725) and 2013 Reports (§612 and following)

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2) Compliance Checks

680- As part of support to the compliance checks, Government allocated CFAF620,801,000³⁵⁵ to MINEPDED. With this financial support, compliance checks were conducted from June to December 2014 in all the Regions. The outcome was the seizure of 332 tonnes of plastic packaging of less than 61 microns broken down as follows: Adamawa Region (3.5 tonnes), Far North Region (21.5 tonnes), East Region (1.12 tonnes), Centre Region (73.3 tonnes), Littoral Region (200 tonnes), North Region (7 tonnes), North West Region (3.5 tonnes), West Region (6.75 tonnes), South Region (6.03 tonnes), and South West Region (9.2 tonnes).

681- In addition, fines for non compliance paid into the Special Forest Development Fund stood at CFAF3,152,500³⁵⁶.

B: Environmental Inspection and Impacts

682- There was an increase in coordination of environmental inspection, issuance of environmental permits, and conduct of environmental impact audits and studies.

1) Coordination of Environmental Inspection

683- There was an increase in coordination of environmental inspections following the signing of Decree No. 2014/2379 of 20 August 2014 to lay down the terms and conditions of coordination of inspection of establishments classified as dangerous, unhealthy or uncomfortable.³⁵⁷

684- The Decree seeks to establish a coherent system of inspection by avoiding inspections that are few are far between by the different administrations. Thus, a National Inter-ministerial Inspections Committee was set up,³⁵⁸ under the coordination of the Minister in charge of establishments classified as dangerous, unhealthy and uncomfortable, and

³⁵⁵About 947,787.79 Euros

³⁵⁶About 4,813 Euros

³⁵⁷The Decree was an outcome of the recommendations of the 2013 Cameroon Business Forum.

³⁵⁸The National Inspection Committee comprises a representative of the Minister in charge of classified establishments, a representative of the Minister in charge of the environment, a representative of the Minister in charge of public health, a representative of the Minister in charge of water and energy, a representative of the Minister in charge of civil protection, a representative of the Minister in charge of justice, a representative of the Minister in charge of finance, a representative from the National Fire Brigade, a representative from the General Delegation for National Security, and a representative from the Secretariat of State for Defence in charge of the National Gendarmerie.

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the Minister in charge of the environment. The setting up of the Committee falls in line with the promotion of planning, harmonization and monitoring/evaluation of supervisory missions relating to the security of installations, and protection of health and the environment.

685- The Committee shall be in charge of the following:

- harmonization of inspection calendars of establishments classified as dangerous, unhealthy or uncomfortable;
- planning annual checks;
- validation and monitoring the implementation of the annual inspection programme in establishments classified as dangerous, unhealthy or uncomfortable;
- periodic evaluation of inspections conducted in establishments classified as dangerous, unhealthy or uncomfortable;
- overseeing the implementation of the law and regulations on the environment and sustainable development;
- make proposals to strengthen the action of the administration on the security of installations, preservation of health and protection of the environment;
- seek ways and means of avoiding duplication and conflict of jurisdiction;
- initiate and monitor findings in case of accidents in establishments classified as dangerous, unhealthy or uncomfortable to determine the causes, assess damages and establish responsibility; and
- specific activities relating to activities that may be assigned to it, at the request of public administrations, private enterprises, or civil society.

686- Besides, in order to improve the efficiency of environmental inspection missions, 130 inspectors and controllers from central and external services of MINEPDED were trained in Mbalmayo, Bana, and Garoua on environmental inspection and control procedures and on expert opinion of inspectors in court. At the end of the training, 70% of inspectors were declared qualified to carry out inspection missions. The table below shows the number of inspections conducted and the results obtained.

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Table 4: Environmental Inspections and Controls in National and Regional Brigades³⁵⁹

Region	Number of Inspections	Number of Environmental Reports	Number of Environmental Control Reports
Adamawa	111	111	2
Centre	64	64	6
East	23	23	5
Far North	22	22	1
Littoral	247	247	72
North	29	29	0
North West	25	25	4
West	35	35	3
South	51	51	1
South West	37	37	3
National inspection Brigade	12	12	0
Total	656	656	97

Source : MINEPDED

2) Issuance of Environmental Permits

687- At the end of 30 sessions of the Committee to examine applications for Environmental Permits, 137 permits were issued. Working sessions were equally held with officials from different structures to improve their waste management plan contained in their environmental permit.

SECTION 2: MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTES

688- Disputes were handled both in the sector of forestry and wildlife, and the sector of the environment.

§1: Forestry and Wildlife Sector

689- In the forestry sector, forestry control and anti-poaching operations resulted in initial notification of fines to the tune of CFAF311,550,000³⁶⁰ for illegal logging, illegal felling, and non-compliance with specifications.

³⁵⁹At the end of environmental inspections, reports were systematically drawn up. The inspection may be followed by checks which may result or not in findings of offence.

³⁶⁰About 475,648.85 Euros

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690- In the wildlife sector, 61 matters were brought before the courts on grounds of killing, possession and commercialization of endangered species, illegal possession of animal remains, collection of dead animals in protected parks, among others.

§2: Environmental Sector

691- Environmental inspections resulted in notifications of fine. Preliminary complaints were also registered.

A: Notification of Fines

692- Environmental inspections resulted in an average 250 notifications of fine for failure to conduct environmental impact studies, failure to carry out environmental audit, soil and subsoil pollution, air and water pollution, possession, distribution and commercialization of plastic packaging of less than 61 microns.

B: Petitions

693- In 2014, most of the appeals on environmental matters were brought before administrative courts after being dismissed by the administration concerned either on grounds of cancellation of findings of offence of “possession of plastic packaging of less than 61 microns”³⁶¹, or cancellation of environmental compliance certificate³⁶².

³⁶¹Examples: *DOVV Distribution SARL vs. The State of Cameroon (MINEPDED)*, Appeal No. 185/2015, Administrative Court, Yaounde; *Pharmacie De Gaulle SARL vs. The State of Cameroon (MINEPDED)*, Appeal No. 102/2015, Administrative Court, Yaounde.

³⁶²*Association CLUB H.S.E (EKOBO Thomas) vs. The State of Cameroon (MINEPDED) and DANGOTE CEMENT CAMEROON*, Appeal No. 44/RG/F/13, Administrative Court, Douala, for the cancellation of Decision CCE/EIE No. 12 of 8 February 2013 on Environmental Compliance Certificate issued DANGOTE CEMENT CAMEROON ; *Association CLUB H.S.E (EKOBO Thomas) vs. The State of Cameroon (MINEPDED)*, Appeal No. 25/RG/QD/14, Administrative Court, Douala (applicants request the cancellation of Decision CCE/EIE No. 12 of 18 February 2014 on Environmental Compliance Certificate issued RODEO Development Ltd (Gaz du Cameroun) as part of the distribution network extension project by gazoduc in Douala).

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694- Besides, civil courts heard some matters on offences of “soil and subsoil degradation”³⁶³ and failure to conduct environmental impact study³⁶⁴. The matter **BUNS**³⁶⁵ **vs. State of Cameroon** (MINEPDED) is illustrative of an environmental dispute brought before a civil court.

695- On the whole, through actions on biodiversity conservation and combating wastes, Government made possible a better perception of the right to a healthy environment. This could be evident by the increase in the number of petitions filed before administrative courts by associations. In addition, capacity building of Judicial and Legal Officers on Environmental Law will enable a proper examination of such petitions.

³⁶³Examples: The People and MINEPDED vs. Station service Total Ayos, and The People and MINEPDED vs. SO-CAEPE Akonolinga, both parties heard by CFI Akonolinga. The request of MINEPDED was disallowed.

³⁶⁴With regard to failure to conduct an environmental impact study, an example is The People and MINEPDED vs. Gladys NGOUINSEUH, CFI Mbalmayo.

³⁶⁵In this matter, on 24 April 2012, a report was drawn up establishing a failure to conduct an environmental impact study by BUNS Quarry as provided for by S. 17 of Law No. 96/12 of 5 August 1996 on the framework law on environmental management and its enabling instrument. Decree No. 2013/171/PM of 14 February 2013 to lay down the terms and conditions of conducting an environmental and social impact study, and Order No. 70/MINEP of 22 April 2005 to lay down the different categories of operations subject to conducting an environmental impact study. By Judgment No. 320/COR of 19 June 2014, CFI, Mbalmayo found the offender (representative of BUNS) not guilty, for non established facts. The State of Cameroon appealed against the judgment.



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CONCLUSION OF PART TWO

696- Actions carried out by Government with the support of its partners helped ensure the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, and the right to a healthy environment.

696.1-With regard to education, in-service training of teachers and the expansion of the school map helped guarantee better access to schooling although the quality and efficiency of the school system are still to be consolidated.

697- In addition, though laudable efforts have been made in the health sector, financing is still a major threat to access to health care. Besides, the mechanized agricultural programme continued to be implemented with a view to improving food security.

698- Furthermore, due to the consolidation of social dialogue, the participatory approach was used to address difficulties in maintaining a good standard of living. This explains the extension of social security coverage to stakeholders in the informal sector.

699- The quality of the environment was a further concern especially with the entry into force of the prohibition of plastic packaging of less than 61 microns. The prohibition was not properly welcomed given the insufficient alternatives.



Part Three

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND SPECIFIC RIGHTS



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INTRODUCTION TO PART THREE

700- The enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights by all social categories of persons and the need to combat discrimination obliged Government to take specific actions in 2014. Policies and programmes were thus designed to target equity and equal treatment for women, refugees, children, prisoners, persons with disability, the elderly and indigenous peoples.

701- Very significant measures taken include adoption of the National Gender Policy Document and the National Plan of Action to Combat Child Labour. These efforts did not overshadow the constant concern to preserve the dignity of prisoners whose increasing number due to the security threat in the East and Far North Regions, required adjustment measures such as increasing prison staff. In addition to freedom of movement, the massive influx of refugees from conflict zones was addressed in a holistic manner with support from partners. The cross-cutting nature of the humanitarian response to the vulnerability of the refugees explains why the concern is contained in this part of the report. The consolidation of reforms taken in the Public Contracts sector, the promotion of good governance and the fight against corruption aimed at proper management of the State for in order to provide a proper guarantee of all Human Rights.

702- All these issues are dealt with in the following chapters in this part of the Report:

- Promotion of Good Governance and the Fight against Corruption;
- Detention Conditions;
- Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Vulnerable Groups;
- Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women; and
- Protection of Refugees.



Chapter

1

**THE PROMOTION OF
GOOD GOVERNANCE
AND THE FIGHT
AGAINST CORRUPTION**



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703- With a view to improving the quality of governance, Government, in addition to consolidating reforms in the Public Contracts sector, continued to promote good governance in general and curb corruption and misappropriation of public property in particular.

SECTION 1: PROMOTION OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

704- Promotion of good governance was guaranteed through public/private sector dialogue within the framework of the Cameroon Business Forum (CBF), implementation of the investment incentives policy in Cameroon, and major reforms on public finances.

§1: Public/private Sector Dialogue

705- In order to improve the business climate in Cameroon, Government continued public/private sector dialogue by organizing the 5th session of the Cameroon Business Forum (CBF), and adopting new recommendations during the said session.

A: Fifth CBF Session

706- The CBF is a privileged framework for dialogue and consultation between public authorities, businessmen and development partners. Its 5th session was held on 6 March 2014 in Douala under the theme *“Speed up the facilitation of procedures to lay the foundation for emergence.”*

707- The main goal of the Forum was to take stock of the application of the 49 recommendations adopted in 2013,³⁶⁶ 25 of which were new and 20 brought forward. It was observed that the speed of implementation of the said recommendations was relatively slow since only 20 were effectively implemented, 17 were under implementation, 8 requalified or cancelled, and 4 remained a dead letter.

³⁶⁶These recommendations concern 13 sectors.

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B: Recommendations of the Fifth CBF Session

708- During the 2014 CBF session, 36 recommendations covering 12 sectors of reforms were adopted. Among the recommendations, 6 were new and 30 brought forward, some of which were requalified. Considering the slow speed of implementation observed the year before, it was agreed that priority be given to completing the ongoing reforms by reducing the number of proposed reforms.

709- As at 31 December 2014, 19 of 36 recommendations were either implemented, or near completion; that is, an implementation rate of 50%. The above-mentioned reforms focused on establishment of enterprises (3 on 4), payment of taxes (1 on 2), commercial litigation (0 on 3), ease of trans-border trade (2 on 6), access to property (1 on 2), building permit (1 on 3), promotion of investments (3 on 4), access to financing (3 on 6), inspection (2 on 2), consolidation of dialogue (1 on 1), licences and authorizations (1 on 1), and governance (1 on 2).

710- Some officials of employer organizations were not happy with the slow pace of reforms. Only the following 2 reforms were effectively implemented:

- the opening of formalities centres for the establishment of enterprises that has helped bring together all stakeholders in the process of establishment of enterprises; and
- amendment of the OHADA Uniform Act on Commercial Companies and Economic Interest Groups, and the Law to Lay down the Organization of Security Rights.

711- According to the business community, such a slow pace seriously affects Cameroon in the Doing Business classification index of the World Bank. Thus, between 2010 and 2011, Cameroon moved 12 places upwards; this coincided with the first two editions of the CBF. In 2013 and 2014, Cameroon dropped by 7 places.

§2: Investment Incentives Policy

712- In order to consolidate the investment incentives policy, agreements were concluded with investors, initiatives to simplify procedures continued,

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and sanctions were meted out to enhance competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME).

A: Agreements

713- Under Law No. 2013/4 of 18 April 2013 to lay down Private Investment Incentives in Cameroon, 14 agreements were concluded in different sectors, in particular pharmacy, agro-food sector, industry, ironworks, metallurgy, cement industry, building and low-cost houses. The agreements are expected to generate 3,019 jobs for an estimated investment of CFAF183,484,562,354.³⁶⁷

B: Simplification of Procedures

714- In order to simplify administrative procedures for the establishment of enterprises, *e-Regulations* initiatives and the www.cameroun.e-Regulation.org website were launched in Douala on 16 June 2014. The *e-Regulations* system makes it possible to post online, complete information on the establishment of an enterprise, building permit, payment of taxes, transfer of property title, and importation-exportation for Yaounde. More than 400 procedures and 300 administrative formalities were accessible through *e-Regulations* Yaounde website. Businessmen can contact administrative authorities online either to provide additional information or report a poor practice and obtain an answer within 24 hours.

715- Simplified procedures were introduced in 2014 to ease the establishment of an enterprise in Cameroon thereby reducing administrative procedures by 80%. In 2014, the website was visited by more than 46,800 people; that is, an average 900 visitors per week.

In 2014, Formalities Centres for the Establishment of Enterprises (CFCE) in Limbe, Ebolowa, and Bafoussam effectively opened their doors to the public, thereby bringing the number of functional CFCEs to 8 throughout the national territory.³⁶⁸

³⁶⁷About 280,129,102.83 Euros

³⁶⁸The other 5 CFCEs are in Douala, Yaounde, Bamenda, Garoua and Maroua. The CFCEs in Bertoua and Ngaoundere are still to be received. The cost of the 2 CFCEs is estimated at CFAF140,000,000 (213,740.46 Euros).

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C: Improving Competitiveness of SMEs

716- As at 31 December 2014, 31,297 Cameroon SMEs and 1,476 SMEs of foreign origin were registered. In order to build their capacities, activities of the *Bourse de Sous-traitance et de Partenariat du Cameroun* (BSTP-CMR) were consolidated with financing of CFAF300,000,000³⁶⁹ which, among other things, helped draw up a capacity building support strategy for SMEs for subcontracting, and reprofiling³⁷⁰ of more than 150 SMEs to make them ready to carry out subcontracting activities. As part of the implementation of the diagnostic tool, some SMEs were updated. Thus, 104 SMEs were diagnosed and 30 admitted into the updating programme run by the National Updating Office.

717- In addition, loans granted by banks to Cameroon SMEs increased by 48% in 2014 when compared to 2013. However, in spite of the close relationship in 2014 between banks and SMEs, the National Loans Board observed that the interest rates of loans granted to SMEs were still high.

718- In 2014, in order to materialize access to loans by SMEs, CFAF10,000,000,000³⁷¹ was allocated as capital of the SME bank. Officials of the bank known as *Banque Commerciale PME S.A* were appointed.

719- Besides, MINPMEESA set up a Working Group to conduct a study on enterprises. The Group proposed a programme of action and a list of activities to be carried out in order to promote an effective Corporate Responsibility Policy which will be implemented in 2015 to help SMEs better comply with environmental protection and especially take into account the social dimension of the enterprise vis-à-vis its employees.

§3: Public Finance Reforms

720- The implementation of major public finance reforms with the advent of the programmed budget continued in 2014. The reforms include

³⁶⁹About 458, 015. 27 Euros

³⁷⁰This includes restructuring within an enterprise

³⁷¹About 15,267,175.57 Euros

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budgetary, financial and accounting reforms, as well as mastering public expenditure or increasing the financing of the national economy.

721- In the taxation sector, the full discharge tax, the axle tax, and the parking fees were reduced by 50% while the special tax on the sale of petroleum products was also reduced. At the level of the tax administration which was expected to pool about CFAF1,300,000,000,³⁷² the strategy set up consisted in reorganizing services so as to bring them closer to taxpayers.

722- Although improving the business climate was a major concern to Government, reforms in the Public Contracts sector were also made and strengthened in 2014.

SECTION 2: CONSOLIDATION OF REFORMS IN THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS SECTOR

723- As part of consolidation of reforms in the public contracts sector, reforms continued to be implemented, with the monitoring of the award and physical execution of public contracts in the Regions streamlined.

§1: Implementation of Reforms

724- Implementation of reforms continued through improvement of the legal and institutional framework of the public contracts sector and the strengthening of governance.

A: Legal and Institutional Framework

725- The legal framework was improved significantly with the signing of Order No. 38/CAB/PM/2014 of 15 May 2014 that introduces the new models of Call for Tender Files (CTF). The model CTFs are the fruit of a concerted and thoughtful amendment of the types published on 29 August 2007. The new types take into account recent changes made in the public contracts sector. In addition, the amendments strengthen the 3 principles

³⁷²About 1,984,732.82 Euros

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governing the public contracts sector, in particular, freedom to bid a public contract, equal treatment of bidders, and transparency in the procedures.

B: Strengthening Governance

726- Governance of the public contracts system was strengthened with the improvement of rapid and objective management of disputes, systematic control and sanctions against offenders.

1) An Appellate Structure

727- In order to improve good governance in the public contracts sector while enabling every citizen to make claims before an appellate structure,³⁷³ an Appeals and Disputes Committee was set up in the Ministry in charge of Public Contracts in 2014 to assist the service in charge of public contracts to objectively settle disputes arising from the award of public contracts. The Committee received and gave ruling on 433 appeals, and less than 1% of them were declared founded.

2) Systematic Control of Public Contracts and Services

728- In 2014, the physical execution rate of public contracts was 58%, with 40% of contracts received. Thus, more controls of the execution of public contracts were organized to ensure that projects awarded and financed were effectively executed as per the standards and timeframe allocated. The controls helped improve the quality of services. In 2014, out of 1,610 contracts controlled by the central services of MINMAP, some CFAF12,223,470,943³⁷⁴ was recovered and paid into the Public Treasury. In addition, 3,071 contracts were controlled by local controls offices and the sum of CFAF151,000,000³⁷⁵ was recovered³⁷⁶.

³⁷³In the Public Contracts sector, every bidder has the possibility of filing an appeal at all the following phases of the procedure:

- CTF adoption phases;
- opening of bids;
- award of the contract; and
- examination of the contract project.

³⁷⁴About 18,661,787.69 Euros

³⁷⁵About 230,534.35 Euros

³⁷⁶The recovery stemmed mostly from the following fraudulent actions:

- payment of fictitious services;
- overestimation of quantities of deliverables invoiced;
- modification of quantities without order from the service or endorsement;
- failure to include penalties for lateness;
- payment of non employed staff;
- double invoices; and
- endorsements of poorly calculated accounts.

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729- With regard to control, MINMAP received at the level of both the central and external services, 1,968 certificates and payments³⁷⁷ which were all treated in strict compliance with the 3 days timeframe. The obvious improvements include the drawing up in December 2014, of the public contracts planning for 2015 for greater efficiency.

730- In a bid to promote and raise awareness of perpetrators of violations, dysfunctioning and poor practices observed during the award and execution of public contracts, MINMAP organized in April 2014, a vast mission to assess the functioning of external services and local tenders boards, and implement the strategy to curb corruption and fraud in the public contracts system.

3) Sanctions against Offenders

731- In 2014, 56 enterprises were excluded from the public contracts procurement system for different fraudulent practices. Furthermore, 26 persons were excluded for fraud from all activities relating to the award and control of public contracts. This was because they committed acts contrary to the values³⁷⁸ that the reform intends to promote. In this connection, a MINMAP official was removed from office and subsequently sent back to his original administration.

§2: Monitoring Award and Execution of Public Contracts

732- Efforts were made to rationalize the award of public contracts both at the level of the Regions and at the level of Ministries.

A: Award of Contracts in the Regions

733- As at 25 November 2014, out of 3,359 contracts programmed in the 10 Regions for 2014, 2,942 were launched for tender; that is, a rate of 97% in relation to the expected 3,032 calls for tender.

³⁷⁷These are statements of payments.

³⁷⁸This includes freedom of access to public contracts procurement ordering, equal treatment of bidders, and transparency in the procedures.

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734- Furthermore, 3,085 contracts were awarded; that is, a rate of 92% compared to the 3,359 projects identified during the planning. The other projects were executed either directly or by agreement awarded to different Project Managers who applied for, after approval of MINMAP where the conditions so specifically required. In addition, 3,022 contracts had already been signed and notified, of which 2,924 kicked off effectively. In all, 98% of contracts awarded were notified.

735- The overall award and execution of contracts in the Regions in 2014 shows that budgetary savings from the free competition of calls for tenders stood at CFAF6,127,310,881³⁷⁹, representing about 10% of credits allocated to the Regions as part of the public investment budget (PIB) (excluding regional PIB).

736- The physical execution of contracts shows that 1,203 contracts were fully executed, representing a global rate of 40% of contracts signed and notified, with a peak of 83% in the North West Region. The overall execution rate of PIB contracts including contracts under execution, in addition to fully executed contracts, stood at 58%. On the whole, the rate of signed contracts stood at 98% in 2014 as against 85% in 2013; that is an increase of 13%.

737- The same process was followed at the level of Ministries.

B: Award of Public Contracts in Ministries

738- The award of public contracts at the level of Ministries shows that out of 1,140 contracts planned in 37 Ministries for 2014, 826 were opened for tenders; that is, a rate of 91% compared to the expected 963 calls for tender.

739- In addition, 824 contracts were awarded, representing a rate of 76% as compared to 1,140 projects identified during the planning. Besides, 742 contracts were already signed and notified, 603 of which effectively kicked off. In all, 89% of contracts awarded were notified.

³⁷⁹About 9,354,673.10 Euros

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740- In order to stop dysfunctioning and bad practices in the public contracts system, the Public Contracts Regulatory Board (ARMP) organized on 10 December 2014 in Yaounde, a symposium on facilitating the public contracts process with Project Managers as focal points. The goal was to assess the system in relation to some persistent shortcomings in the effective implementation of the reforms undertaken.³⁸⁰

SECTION 3: CURBING CORRUPTION AND MISAPPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

741- As the fight against corruption and misappropriation of public property continued, various institutions stepped up initiatives geared towards preventing, controlling, and detecting corrupt practices.

§1: Prevention Initiatives

742- Prevention initiatives included awareness raising and capacity building of journalists.

A: Awareness Raising

743- As part of implementation of the National Integrity Education Programme, the National Anti-Corruption Commission (CONAC) organized a National Campaign dubbed “*Corruption-free School Reopening*” in September 2014 to prevent acts of corruption. The campaign helped reshape some behaviour contrary to good governance in public and private schools during registration of students and pupils.

744- Moreso, CONAC organized a huge anti-corruption awareness raising campaign for youths during the national finals of FENASSCO³⁸¹ A and B Games held respectively in Mbalmayo from 6 to 12 April 2014 and

³⁸⁰In particular:

- failure by some stakeholders to rationalize new public contracts challenges such as increasing the use of public resources;
- failure to comply with the rules and procedures in force;
- lack of a hitch-free sharing of information and data generated by the public contracts system; and
- poor knowledge of the duties, roles and activities carried out by the different stakeholders of the system.

³⁸¹National School Sports Federation

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Ngaoundere from 12 to 18 April 2014. CONAC was equally present at FENASU³⁸² Games held in Douala from 3 to 10 May 2014.

745- Furthermore, in order to prevent poor ethical behaviour and attitude in some socio-economic activities bringing together financial resources of the State, CONAC organized, following the launch of the 2014 cocoa season, an awareness raising campaign dubbed “*Corruption-Free Cocoa Season*”. Actions carried out then helped reduce abuses by cocoa buyers on cocoa farmers.

746- More prevention initiatives were taken through capacity building of journalists.

B: Capacity Building of Journalists

747- CONAC attended a training seminar on anti-corruption methods and techniques organized in Douala from 10 to 11 April 2014 by the *Réseau des Journalistes en Afrique pour le Développement* (JADE). The seminar enabled 33 media men and women to better understand anti-corruption challenges and strengthened the perception of their role as “*Watchdogs*” and reporters of corrupt practices. CONAC provided journalists with tools for good collection, better treatment and proper and professional analysis of data on corruption.

748- In addition, control activities were stepped up.

§2: Control Activities

749- An analysis of the deployment of CONAC, the Supreme State Audit Services and the Audit Bench of the Supreme Court shows the intensity of control activities.

A: CONAC actions

750- Activities on research and sanctions of acts of corruption, reduction and improvement of public spending, and implementation of the National

³⁸²National University Sports Federation

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Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) and attendance of international meetings were carried out.

1) Investigation of acts of corruption

751- CONAC received 1,665 reports on acts and practices of corruption which resulted in 26 investigations, 21 physical and financial checks on projects financed by public funds, and 3 administrative audits, the files of which were forwarded to the competent authorities.

752- The Rapid Intervention Unit (AIR) carried out many actions to help bring CONAC closer to the people and assist victims of acts of corruption. In all, AIR conducted 22 visits to the *locus in quo* in matters of *flagrante delicto*, in which it received statements from 265, conducted 17 investigations and forwarded the report thereon to the competent authorities in accordance with the organic instruments of CONAC.

2) Reduction and Improvement in Public Spending

753- Based on reports, CONAC conducted 21 physical and financial checks on projects financed by public funds and 3 administrative audits with a view to reducing and improving the quality of public spending, and assessing the conditions of award of some public contracts.

3) Implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy

754- In 2014, CONAC continued to implement NACS through the launching, execution and evaluation of the 6th and 7th series of the Rapid Results Initiatives (RRI)³⁸³ involving some 30 out of the 37 Government Ministries, and 11 public and semi-public enterprises. The activities were presented to the public on 14 February, 30 and 31 October 2014 during the final evaluation of the said series, in the presence of Members of Government, General Managers of the enterprises concerned, civil society stakeholders and some representatives of Diplomatic Missions accredited to Yaounde.

³⁸³The RRI is a method implemented by the SNLCC that consists, in a given short period, in implementing specific techniques and practices to curb corruption in a given domain

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755- The execution of the RRI resulted in a net drop in corrupt practices in some selected areas at the end of the period under examination. The drop was observed especially in the following areas: diversion of patients, illicit sale of drugs, admission of undeserved students into Form One in General Education and Forms One and Five in Technical Education, the non-requirement of PTA fees during registration in some schools, issuance of fake driver's licence in the Regional Delegation for the Centre, Littoral, South, and South West Regions, and the reduction in the cost and the length of time for issuance of land certificates to individuals.

756- CONAC further assessed the implementation of the 2012 annual regional anti-corruption plans of action for the 10 Regions and that of 2013 for Adamawa and North Regions only. The regional annual plans of action for 2014 and 2015 have already been drawn up.

757- Specialized services of CONSUPE equally conducted checks to track down those who attempted to misappropriate public property.

B: CONSUPE Activities

758- CONSUPE Services received and processed reports, and conducted control missions. Besides, as part of activities of the Permanent Secretariat of the Budget and Financial Disciplinary Board (BFDB), files were received for the prosecution of some managers.

1) Reports

759- Many reports were received and processed by CONSUPE Operational Units. In this connection, the Division of Legal Affairs and Information Processing received and processed 54 reports as shown in the table below:

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Table 1: Reports

No.	Administrations concerned	Number
1	Councils	4
2	Public establishments, and public and semi-public enterprises	7
3	School and university establishments	2
4	Personalities	7
5	Administrations/ services	14
6	Third parties/enterprises	20
Total		54

Source: CONSUPE

2) Control Missions

760- In 2014, the Division of Inspection and Control³⁸⁴ conducted 19 control missions³⁸⁵ at the end of which 4 reports were drawn up.

3) Activities of the BFDB Secretariat

761- The Permanent Secretariat of the BFDB received and processed files, held sessions, took decisions and sanctions that were appealed against.

a) Files Received and Processed

762- In 2014, 7 files were forwarded to the BFDB Permanent Secretariat for disciplinary action. Most of the files contained mission reports most of which are still under study. However, a study of the files resulted in the prosecution of 11 managers or unscrupulous public agents. The Table below shows the number of files received and processed:

³⁸⁴The Division for Inspection and Control conducted mobile and verification missions in different structures to collect, build up and update permanent files of the structures, each in their own domain. They also developed verification tools to control the Public Investment Budget (PIB)

³⁸⁵As per the Decree creating it, CONSUPE Services conducted the following missions:

- compliance control;
- performance control;
- environmental control; and
- information system control.

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Table 2: Files received and processed in 2014 by the BFDC

Year	2014
Matters heard	
Number of files received	7
Number of prosecution decisions	5
Number of sessions	23

Source: BFDB Permanent Secretariat

b) Decisions taken by the BFDB

763- In 2014, the BFDB carried out fewer activities than in 2013. It held 23 sessions at the end of which 41 matters were examined and 35 decisions taken and published as against 45 in 2013. The details are as follows:

- 5 full or partial acquittals of the accused;
- 30 financial sanctions resulting in collection orders of from CFAF550,000³⁸⁶ to CFAF2,422,926,236³⁸⁷ amounting to a total of CFAF3,203,819,395³⁸⁸, as well as special fines of from CFAF200,000³⁸⁹ to CFAF2,000,000³⁹⁰;
- 1 decision of forfeiture³⁹¹ for 5 years; and
- 6 decisions of special fines of between CFAF200,000³⁹² and CFAF2,000,000³⁹³, not resulting in collection orders.

c) Appeals against BFDB Decisions

764- Appeals filed against BFDB decisions³⁹⁴ constitute another significant element in guaranteeing the rights of persons brought before the BFDB. In all, 48 appeals (stay of execution or cancellation) were filed against BFDB decisions before administrative courts, among which 5 appeals for stay of execution filed before the Administrative Court, Yaounde (4) and the

³⁸⁶About 839.69 Euros

³⁸⁷About 3,699,124.02 Euros

³⁸⁸About 4,891,327.32 Euros

³⁸⁹About 305.34 Euros

³⁹⁰About 3,053.44 Euros

³⁹¹Forfeiture consists in the prohibition of occupying a duty post in a public administration or management

of public services or in public or semi-public enterprises

³⁹²About 305.34 Euros

³⁹³About 3,053.44 Euros

³⁹⁴As per S. 12 of Law No. 74/18 and Article 16 of Decree No. 2008/28 of 17 January 2008 to lay down the organization and functioning of the BFDC.

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Administrative Court, Buea (1), and 43 appeals for cancellation filed before the Administrative Court, Douala (4), Administrative Court, Buea (1), and Administrative Court, Yaounde (38). In addition, files deemed as complaints on behalf of the State were forwarded to the Ministry of Justice and the Audit Bench of the Supreme Court.

C: Control by the Audit Bench of the Supreme Court

765- The Audit Bench of the Supreme Court carried out control of public accounts through court and administrative controls. It also continued to assist and advise public authorities.

1) Court Control

766- In 2014, control and examination of accounts of public accountants by the Audit Bench consisted in ensuring that Treasury Accountants, Council Accountants and Accounting Officers produce their accounts in the form and time limit provided for by laws and regulations, and conduct all checks and other duties legally assigned to them, in particular, payment of expenses, income recovery, and keeping of funds and securities.

767- In 2014, court control on the production of accounts concerned 504 accounts produced by public accountants broken down as follows: 13 accounts produced by Senior Treasury Accountants, 97 accounts produced by Accounting Officers of public administrative establishments, and 394 accounts produced by Council Accountants. In all, only 167 accounts were produced before the Audit Bench, among which previously uncontrolled accounts as at 31 December 2013.

768- With regard to the examination of accounts, the Audit Bench delivered 21 final decisions among which 20 orders to pay fines³⁹⁵ amounting to CFAF9,436,000³⁹⁶, and 1 collection order³⁹⁷ for CFAF49,988,385³⁹⁸ against a public accountant.

³⁹⁵Fines sanction lateness or failure to produce a management account

³⁹⁶About 14,406.11 Euros

³⁹⁷Deficits stem from irregularities in payment or failure to recover income thereby resulting in a financial prejudice for the State, the Council or public administrative establishment.

³⁹⁸About 76,318.15 Euros

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769- It further examined petitions for review against “*final judgments of an account*”. In this regard, of the 8 applications for review of Judgments delivered by the Audit Bench pending before the Court in 2014, 3 have finally been declared inadmissible.

2) Administrative Control

770- In 2014, the Audit Bench also controlled 67 accounts of public and semi-public enterprises. It drew up final observation reports on the following 4 enterprises: Cameroon Housing Corporation (SIC) for the period 2004–2005; Urban and Rural Lands Development Authority (MAETUR) for the period 2004–2007; AYABA HOTEL for the period 2006–2008, and *Cimenteries du Cameroun for 2004*.

771- The reports show different irregularities, most of which stemmed from the non-compliance of the rules and regulations governing the enterprises, in particular, the absence of social organs guaranteeing good corporate governance (general assembly, auditors). Other irregularities include non-compliance with the Public Contracts Code, payment of expenses without valid supporting documents or questionable payments, lack of convencing financial statements, granting illegal benefits to managers, non-compliance with the rules for budget approval by the competent authority, payment of some expenses that are not related to the objectives of the enterprise, etc.

3) Assistance and Counselling

772- The Audit Bench provided assistance and counselling of both Government and Parliament.

a) Assistance to Government

773- The assistance the Audit Bench provided to Government continued in 2014 within the MINFI-Audit Bench Permanent Consultation Framework. The main focus of the consultations was on clearance of the balance to be recovered as part of the preparation of the opening balance sheet of the State, application of the accrual principle, the annual performance report, implementation of accounting reforms, and difficulties related to the preparation of the Advice to be given on the Settlement Bill and certification of the general account of the State.

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774- In 2014, the Audit Bench drew up the 2013 Annual Report that gives account to the President of the Republic, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the National Assembly, of its deliberations and the observations it deems necessary for the reform and improvement on keeping accounts, and the discipline of accountants.

b) Assistance to and Counselling of Parliament

775- In addition to giving its opinion on the Settlement Bill for 2013 financial year, the Audit Bench held consultation forums with the National Assembly and the Senate.

i) Advice on the Settlement Bill of the 2013 Financial Year

776- In its opinion on the Settlement Bill of 2013 financial year, the Audit Bench made the following proposals on how to improve on the financial management of the State:

- legislative and regulatory evolution of earmarked accounts so as to guarantee best management of allocated resource;
- clearing or settlement of provisional account assignment items at the end of the financial year; and
- proper end-of-year balance sheet with a clear financial statement on the items carried forward.

ii) Exchange Forums

777- On 3 July and 24 November 2014, the Audit Bench held 4 exchange forums with the Finance Committee of the Senate, and on 25 June and 21 November 2014, with the Finance Committee of the National Assembly.

778- In addition to prevention and control actions, focus was also on detection.

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§3: Detection

779- There was capacity building of persons in charge of detection in order to increase the effectiveness of the operations of the institutions in charge of detection. Such operations were facilitated through information sharing. In this regard, cooperation between institutions was consolidated in 2014.

A: Capacity Building of Persons in Charge of Detection

780- Staff of public administrations and institutions, among which, the National Financial Investigation Agency (ANIF), attended capacity building seminars especially those organized by the *Groupe d'Action contre le Blanchiment en Afrique Centrale* (GABAC) on practical techniques on financial investigations, model exercises on vulnerability to money laundering and financing of terrorism. They also shared knowledge on combating terrorism in countries south of the Sahel during a session held in Niger from 12 to 13 October 2014.

781- Furthermore, they were taught new international standards applicable in money laundering and financing of terrorism and its global spread, and the new evaluation method of the Financial Action Group (GAFI) during a workshop organized from 22 to 26 September 2014 in Tunis through the IMF/AfDB partnership.

B: Operations of Institutions in Charge of Detection

782- ANIF received 521 reports of suspicion concerning regulated professions and forwarded 60 of them to judicial authorities.

C: Cooperation between Institutions

783- Cooperation between institutions was characterized by discussions in the areas of combating the financing of terrorism and anti-corruption.

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1) Information Sharing and Combating the Financing of Terrorism

784- In the sphere of international cooperation, after its recognition as a member of the Egmont Group³⁹⁹ at the session held in Doha, Qatar in May 2009, ANIF organized an international seminar on Financial Information Units (FIU) of countries of the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF) and members of the Egmont Group. The seminar took place from 5 to 10 May 2014 in Douala and the objective was to share best practices. In the same vein, it organized a consultation meeting in Yaounde from 2 to 4 September 2014 with FIUs from Nigeria, Niger, Mali, and Chad on combating the financing of the *Boko Haram* sect. The meeting ended with the setting up of a Technical Secretariat to combat the financing of terrorism, bringing together the above-mentioned FIUs and that of Benin. Besides, its new status as member of the Edmond Group helped ANIF to regularly share information with FIUs from other countries. The information sharing enabled the tracking of Cameroonian capital obtained from criminal sources.

2) Anti-corruption Cooperation

785- CONAC signed partnership agreements with the Business Council for Africa and the Interprofessional Group of Cameroon (GICAM) on 19 November 2014 as part of the anti-corruption drive in the private sector. The collaboration will enable a better understanding of corrupt practices in enterprises of the private sector and provide an impetus for the drawing up of a Good Governance Charter.

§4: Stepping up Repression

786- Stepping up repression of corruption and misappropriation of public property was reflected through the consolidation of the repression mechanism by boosting and strengthening the activities of the Special Criminal Court (SCC). It pushed forward the drive already started by the other repressive courts.

³⁹⁹All members of the EGMONT Group have English as a working language.

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A: SCC Activities

787- The SCC which has jurisdiction over matters of misappropriation of sums at least equal to CFAF50,000,000⁴⁰⁰, recorded compared to 2013, not only an increase in terms of the absolute number of enlisted matters but also a boost in its activities relatively to the number of persons effectively tried in comparison to the total number of persons accused. The tables below are quite illustrative:

Table 3: Comparison of Number of Rulings Delivered by Examining Magistrates of the SCC in 2013 and 2014

Year	Preliminary inquiries	Matters closed	Number of persons sent before the SCC	Number of beneficiaries of no suit Ruling
2013	42	18	35	11
2014	31	23	69	22

Source: SCC

Table 4: Comparison of Number of Judgements Delivered by the SCC in 2013 and 2014

Year	Enlisted matters	Judgments	Number of persons convicted	Number of acquittal or <i>nolle prosequi</i>
2013	51	31	49	32
2014	62	25	38	22

Source: SCC

788- The Specialized Division of SCC received 38 matters, heard and determined 19 among which were 9 convictions and 1 acquittal, 1 suspension, 3 withdrawals, and 5 applications for release on bail which were all rejected. The State claims CFAF13,899,474,532⁴⁰¹ from the perpetrators of misappropriation of public property.

788.1- Other repressive courts equally share such litigation.

⁴⁰⁰About 76,335.88 Euros

⁴⁰¹About 21,220,571.80 Euros

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B: Repression before other Courts

789- In 2014, ordinary law courts delivered judgments against perpetrators of acts of corruption and misappropriation of public property. Concerning corruption,⁴⁰² 18 investigations were opened while 14 matters were at the level of preliminary inquiries. In addition, 13 matters were tried among which 11 convictions and 4 acquittals. With regard to misappropriation of public property, 214 investigations were opened, 153 matters were at the level of preliminary inquiries, 171 matters were tried resulting in 92 convictions and 51 acquittals.

790- In addition, the Inquiry Control Chamber of the Supreme Court received 29 appeals on acts of prosecution for which 18 decisions were delivered and among which 16 were declared inadmissible and 2 admissible.

791-In conclusion, Government continued to promote good governance and combat corruption and misappropriation of public property through detection, control, and repressive organs. In spite of these efforts, much is still to be done to eradicate these societal scourge which hampers the smooth building of the State.

⁴⁰²These statistics are indicative and do not reflect those of the national territory since data from the courts in Yaounde and Douala were not included.



Chapter 2

**DETENTION
CONDITIONS**



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792- The treatment of detainees with dignity remained a major concern in 2014. Prison population distribution highlights the challenges the State faced in efforts to improve detention conditions. Emphasis was placed on strengthening the capacities of managerial staff, building prison facilities, improving the living conditions of detainees and preparation for social reintegration. Actions were evaluated through checks and visits.

SECTION 1: DISTRIBUTION OF PRISON POPULATION

793- The prison population is not homogeneous and can be classified by use of various criteria. The 2014 figures classify the inmates as awaiting trials and convicts, and by gender. This population is not static because it can change as a result of the prosecution of cases of detainees or the decisions of the Executive. In the latter case, some prisoners benefited from presidential pardon on the occasion of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of reunification.

§1: Distribution of Awaiting trials and Convicts

794- Overall, it can be seen from a study of the prison population that persons remanded in custody outnumbered convicts, with the significant exception of Prisons in the East (587 out of 597), the Far North (1,351 out of 1,435), and the North (1,175 out of 1,445) Regions. Therefore, out of 25,908 inmates, 15,853 were remanded in custody awaiting trial while 10,055 were convicts.

795- Among persons remanded in custody, 14,823 were men, 365 women and 665 minors while convicted persons comprised 9,738 men, 189 women and 128 minors. The table below illustrates prison statistics in relation to pre-trial detentions compared to convictions:

Table 1: Prison Statistics by Region as at 31 December 2014

No.	Region	Accommodation Capacity	Suspects	Convicts	Total	Occupancy rate (%)
1	Adamawa	1,070	787	559	1,346	125.8
2	Centre	4,700	5,069	1,994	7,063	150.3
3	East	1,475	587	597	1,184	80.3
4	Far North	2,170	1,351	1,435	2,786	128.4

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No.	Region	Accommodation Capacity	Suspects	Convicts	Total	Occupancy rate (%)
5	Littoral	1,550	2,939	1,347	4,286	276.5
6	North	1,450	1,175	1,445	2,620	180.7
7	North West	2,250	657	648	1,315	58.4
8	West	3,020	1,643	919	2,562	84.8
9	South	1,100	648	460	1,100	100
10	South West	1,800	997	651	1,648	91.6
Total		20,585	15,853	10,055	25,908	
Average occupancy rate						125.9

Source: DAPEN

§2 Distribution of Detainees from Gender Perspective

796- The main categories of the prison population in 2014 included women, minors and persons with disabilities.

A- Female Detainees

797- Women represented the lowest proportion of inmates as shown in the table below:

Table 2: Women in prisons as at 31 December 2014

No.	Region	Accused	Convicts	Total
1	Adamawa	13	0	13
2	Centre	166	67	233
3	East	20	11	31
4	Far North	23	29	52
5	Littoral	56	30	86
6	North	23	9	32
7	North West	6	10	16
8	West	39	15	54
9	South	13	9	22
10	South West	6	9	15
Total		365	189	554

Source: DAPEN

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B- Imprisoned Minors

798- Imprisoned minors were unequally distributed in the Regions, with the Centre, the Littoral and the North having the highest numbers as indicated in the table below:

Table 3: Imprisoned Minors as at 31 December 2014

No.	Region	Accused	Convicts	Total
1	Adamawa	27	10	37
2	Centre	217	39	256
3	East	35	1	36
4	Far North	61	7	68
5	Littoral	76	29	105
6	North	91	15	106
7	North West	21	4	25
8	West	60	10	70
9	South	42	4	46
10	South West	35	9	44
Total		665	128	793

Source: DAPEN

799- Besides minor detainees, the *Institution Camerounaise de l'Enfance* (ICE), received 24 minors; 21 by administrative decision and 3 by decision of the court.

C- Persons with Disabilities

800- Apart from the peculiarity of women and minors, the situation of detainees with disabilities is of interest in the analysis of prison statistics. Persons with disabilities constitute a significant proportion of detainees in some Cameroon prisons as seen in statistics of Regions such as Adamawa (17), Centre (79), East (2), Littoral (74), North West (7), West (62) and South West (17). The types of disabilities observed among these inmates included paralysis, amputations, lameness, mental disorders, deafness and blindness.

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§3: Presidential Clemency

801- On the occasion of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Cameroon, the President of the Republic took a landmark humanitarian act in favour of some convicts. He signed Decree No.2014/58 of 18 February 2014 to commute and to remit sentences.

801.1- The direct effect of the said Decree was as follows:

- Commutation of death sentence to life imprisonment. Commutation to 25 years imprisonment in favour of persons initially sentenced to death and whose sentences had already been commuted to life imprisonment. Remission of 3 years in favour of persons initially sentenced to death and whose sentences had already been commuted to imprisonment terms;
- Commutation to 20 years imprisonment in favour of persons initially sentenced to life imprisonment and whose sentences had not yet been commuted. Remission of 3 years in favour of persons initially sentenced to life imprisonment that had already been commuted to a term of imprisonment equal to or more than 10 years. Furthermore, commutation to 25 years imprisonment in favour of persons initially sentenced to life imprisonment for misappropriation of public funds and who had been in prison for a period equal to or more than 10 years pursuant to the said sentence;
- Persons sentenced to imprisonment terms benefited from remission of from 6 months to 10 years depending on the nature of the sentence and period of detention. Moreover, there was total remission of sentence in favour of persons initially sentenced to a term of imprisonment for misappropriation of public funds and who had been in prison for more than 10 years.

802- This measure concerned 6,330 prisoners found in 77 prisons. Some 726 inmates were consequently released, bringing the total number of detainees in Cameroon prisons to 24,789 from 25,515 just before the clemency decision as seen in the table below.

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Table 4: Statistics on Beneficiaries of Commutation and Remission pursuant to Decree No.2014/58 of 18 February 2014

Regions Title	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	North- West	West	South	South- West	Total
Total No. of Beneficiaries	376	1,350	321	910	832	893	316	583	290	459	6,330
Total No. of Beneficiaries released	42	208	36	49	116	65	47	68	59	36	726
No. of Inmates before Commutation and remission of Sentences	1,495	7,406	1,333	2,864	4,105	2,279	1,447	2,299	1,178	1,109	25,515
No. of Inmates after Commutation and Remission of Sentences	1,453	7,198	1,297	2,815	3,989	2,214	1,400	2,231	1,119	1,073	24,789

Source: DAPG/MINJUSTICE

803- To cope with the challenges of prison overcrowding, staff enhancement was underscored.

SECTION 2: IMPROVEMENT IN STAFF SITUATION

804- Government continued its determination to reinforce staff in the detention milieu through increase in staff strength, training of staff and the improvement of their working conditions.

§1: Increase in Staff Strength

805- Direct competitive entrance examinations for the recruitment of personnel into different grades of the Penitentiary Administration were organized in May 2014. Thereafter, some 305 successful candidates underwent initial training at ENAP Buea.

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806- These candidates included for the grade of Prison Administrators, 1 psychologist, 1 civil engineer and 13 non-specialists; for Prison Superintendents: 9 State-Registered Nurses and 22 non-specialists; for Chief Warders: 8 Nurse Aids and 52 non-specialists; while 200 candidates were admitted into the grade of warders. The recruitments targeted young Cameroonians with the main objective of making prisons autonomous.

807- Based on these staff reinforcement measures, the national warder/inmate ratio was 1:10. However, the Bazou and Upper-Farms Secondary Prisons had a warder/inmate ratio of 1:2, while that of the Bavenga, Baham, Lomie and Betare-Oya Secondary Prisons was 1:3. In the Centre Region, the ratio was estimated at 1:10, while in the North and Littoral Regions it was 1:14 and 1:13 respectively.

808- During the 8th Annual Conference of Regional Delegates of Penitentiary Administration⁴⁰³, the following recommendations were made in order to ensure efficient recruitment and training of prison staff:

- raising the minimum required certificates for the recruitment of prison warders and chief prison warders;
- instituting morality clearance during the recruitment of staff into the different categories of the Penitentiary Administration⁴⁰⁴;
- ensuring in-service training of penitentiary staff by Regional Delegates of Penitentiary Administration⁴⁰⁵; and
- increasing the number of training modules at ENAP.

§2: Staff Capacity Building

809- In order to reinforce Human Rights in the implementation of security measures in penitentiary establishments, a sub-regional workshop was

⁴⁰³Took place in Yaounde on 15 and 16 December 2014 under the theme “*Jail breaks, statistics, causes and solutions*”. Regulatory provisions in the domain of jail breaks recommended the systematic issuance of a search notice for every jail break addressed to appropriate authorities, the building of a disciplinary file to sanction personnel responsible for any jail break, the institution of a register for jail breaks in every penitentiary establishment and the encouragement of outstanding personnel in the fight against jail breaks.

⁴⁰⁴Similar Recommendation was made during a seminar co-organized by MINJUSTICE and the UNCHR-CA in February 2013 to validate the draft Code of Conduct for the personnel of Penitentiary Administration in Cameroon as indicated in the 2013 Report, paragraph 737.

⁴⁰⁵*ibid*

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organized in Douala on 8 and 9 July 2014 by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (UNCHRD-CA) and the Permanent Consultative Committee of the UN in charge of Security Issues in Central Africa under the theme “*Human Rights and Penitentiary Security*”. Some 25 participants including 15 staff members of the Penitentiary Administration from the Central African sub-region and 10 civil servants including Military Judicial and Legal Officers and the forces of law and order in Cameroon, took part in the workshop.

810- Apart from presentations on the obligations of prison warders and staff, the need to improve on their working conditions was highlighted. The workshop took place in the wake of arrests and detentions of pirates and many members of the terrorist group, *Boko Haram* in the Far North Region.

811- These workshops and seminars empowered stakeholders involved in the promotion and protection of the rights of detainees and in particular penitentiary personnel, while contributing to the improvement of their working conditions.

§3: Staff Working Conditions

812- Besides the above-mentioned recruitment, emphasis was placed on the career of staff through the promotion of deserving staff at different grades. The regulatory framework also attracted attention with the final review of some texts including that on staff outfit and equipment, technical diplomas and the reorganization of ENAP, Buea.

813- Beyond these actions, Regional Delegates of the Penitentiary Administration, at their annual Conference made the following recommendations:

- giving incentives such as allowances to staff who singled out themselves in the fight against escapes in prisons, and escort allowance; and
- strengthening security through equipping prisons with modern surveillance means, providing non-lethal weapons, building fences and towers.

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814- They also requested the installation of digital cameras and scanners in prisons.

815- Similar recommendations on increasing the human, financial and material resources given to the Penitentiary Administration were made at a sub-regional workshop organized by the CNUDHD-AC. During this meeting, participants were called upon to reinforce active security in prisons and to promote collaboration among stakeholders of the judicial chain by setting up a forum for discussion, consultation and regular meetings among stakeholders.

SECTION 3: BUILDING OF INFRASTRUCTURE

816- In a bid to improve prison infrastructure, the State focused its strategy on the construction, rehabilitation and equipment of prisons. This had an impact on the reception capacity of prisons.

§1: Building, Rehabilitation and Equipment of Prisons

817- In 2014, the construction of new prisons continued as well as the rehabilitation of existing ones. In this regard, 22 prisons were rehabilitated at the cost of about CFAF 373,900,000⁴⁰⁶. Rehabilitation work consisted in enlarging cells, building others and maintaining general hygiene and sanitation in prisons. Furthermore, 15 prisons were equipped with diverse material amounting to CFAF74,500,000⁴⁰⁷ and drinking water was provided to 8 other prisons. New prisons, like the Bali Secondary Prison were under construction, whereas the architectural studies of the Central Prison, Douala-Ngoma were completed. All these aimed at responding to the immediate needs of inmates.

818- Some recommendations aimed at improving detention conditions in order to ensure the right to dignified treatment of inmates were made during the 8th Annual Conference of Regional Delegates of Penitentiary Administration which included the:

⁴⁰⁶About 570,840 Euros

⁴⁰⁷About 113,740 Euros

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- construction of kitchens in prison establishments;
- construction of decent toilets in cells;
- development of drinking water points in all prisons;
- equipping prisons with adequate means of transportation;
- equipping prisons with generators; and
- creation of buffer zones around penitentiary establishments.

§2: Prison Intake Capacity and Occupation Rate

819- The highest number of detainees was found in the Centre (7,063) and Littoral (4,286) Regions while the least number of inmates was found in the South (1,100) and the East (1,184) Regions. The Centre Region had the highest intake capacity of 4,700 beds while the South Region with 1,100 beds and the East Region with 1,184 beds had the lowest.

820- Prison overcrowding is still significant in the Yaounde and Douala Main Prisons with 3,974 inmates for 1,000 beds and 2,900 for 960 beds respectively. The Main Prison, Yoko on the other hand, with an intake capacity of 700 beds had only 8 inmates since it hosts only persons sentenced to death. Other prisons with low occupation rates include the Secondary Prisons, Buea, Upper-Farms, Ndikinimeki, Betare-Oya, Lomie, Messamena, Makary, Moulvoudaye, Ngambe, Baham, Bazou and Bavenga as they equally host only convicts. Some newly set up prisons like Bandjoun, Touboro, Bali, Batibo, Bengbis, Mundemba, Menji, Tombel, Mbankomo and Bangem were still to go operational. As soon as these prisons become operational, living conditions will be improved.

SECTION 4: IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS IN PRISONS

821- To treat inmates with dignity, their feeding, health coverage and socio-cultural activities were guaranteed.

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§1: Feeding of Prisoners

822- Just like the preceding year, the budget allocated for the feeding of prisoners increased. The budget for 2014 stood at CFAF2,313,799,000⁴⁰⁸ as against CFAF2,030,000,000⁴⁰⁹ in 2013. The increase raised the general average rate per detainee per day to CFAF 263⁴¹⁰ compared to CFAF231 FCFA⁴¹¹ in 2013. However, reports from all prisons indicated that this package remained very insufficient.

823- In most prisons, only one meal was served daily to prisoners and the Body Mass Index of a few prisoners was less than 18.5. However, in a few prisons like the Secondary Prison, Upper Farms, Buea, 2 meals were served to inmates per day.

824- Generally, minors, women, the elderly and the sick were given more meals according to their special needs.

825- Besides feeding concerns, measures were taken to enhance the health of inmates and cure the sick.

§2: Health Coverage

826- The budget allocated for the health of prisoners in 2014 stood at CFAF157,740,000⁴¹² same as that of 2013, giving an annual rate of CFAF6,235⁴¹³ per inmate as against CFAF6,114⁴¹⁴ in the previous year⁴¹⁵. A slight improvement was noticed in 2014 in the domain of prisoners' health coverage. Infirmaries were established, equipped and trained nurses appointed in Central Prisons. The number of medico-sanitary staff was increased to ensure the follow-up of the health of inmates with the posting of 5 additional medical doctors, bringing the total number of doctors in prisons in Cameroon to 23, as well as 36 nurses, 121 assistant nurses and 37 assistant laboratory technicians, as at 31 December 2014. Despite this improvement, the NCHRF observed that a lot still needed to be done especially in the Central Prison, Douala where the prison pharmacy was not well equipped and drugs were not well preserved. The infirmary had

⁴⁰⁸About 353,251.56 Euros

⁴⁰⁹About 3,099,236.64 Euros

⁴¹⁰About 0.40 Euros

⁴¹¹About 0.35 Euros

⁴¹²About 240,824.43 Euros

⁴¹³About 9,51 Euros

⁴¹⁴About 9,33 Euros

⁴¹⁵The difference in the annual rate per detainee is in relation to the slight drop in the total number of detainees in 2014.

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merely 2 doctors, 10 nurses and 10 beds for more than 3,000 inmates. It is worth mentioning that apart from Central Prisons (except Maroua, Buea and Bafoussam) and the Secondary Prison, Foumbot which have acceptable infrastructure (infirmaries, laboratories, isolation wards), prisons have poorly equipped infirmaries.

827- Available statistics indicate that detainees mostly suffered from malaria with 6,512 cases giving a prevalence rate of 34.4%, dermatosis with 2,772 cases giving a prevalence rate of 14.64% and diarrhea with a prevalence rate of 11.3% representing 2,140 cases. Other frequent illnesses recorded in 2014 included HIV that had a prevalence rate of 4.36% with 826 cases and tuberculosis with 451 cases representing a prevalence rate of 2.38%.

828- A total of 76 deaths were registered with 38 cases as a result of non-detected illnesses. Other deaths emanated from infectious syndrome, anemia, cardiac failure, lung infections among others.

829- It is worth noting that a series of deaths were recorded in the Central Prison, Maroua and the Main Prison, Kribi as a result of cholera outbreak and gastro-enteritis respectively.

§3: Socio-Cultural Activities

830- As in the previous year, socio-cultural activities were mainly carried out by social welfare workers or inspectors, NGOs, religious associations and private partners with the aim of restoring hope to detainees and facilitating their acquisition of knowledge.

SECTION 5: SOCIAL REINSERTION

831- Education and training in productive activities were developed in view of the social reinsertion of detainees.

§1: Training in Productive Activities

832- Emphasis was laid on the promotion of small businesses in agriculture and animal husbandry which had to be consolidated with the deployment of the first batch of agriculture technicians trained in ENAP.

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§2: Education

833- Concerning education, most prisons do not have educational facilities. Nevertheless, some of the Central Prisons provided at least formal learning facilities and registered candidates for official examinations. The Juvenile Reformatory School at the Central Prison, Bamenda, for example, scored 75% in the First School Leaving Certificate Examinations (FSLC). The Central Prison, Douala had a total of 47 students (43 boys and 4 girls) with a teaching staff of 4. In the Centre Region, only the Central Prison, Yaounde had a socio-educative centre. The following results were obtained in the 2013/2014 Academic Year thanks to efforts made by the personnel and social actors for the guidance of young people in the education sector as seen in the table below:

Table 5: Success rate of the inmates of the Yaounde Central Prison in official exams

Examinations	Sat	Passed	Percentage
<i>CEP</i>	1	1	100
<i>GCE O/Level</i>	2	1	50
<i>BEPC</i>	4	2	50
<i>Probatoire</i>	3	2	66.67
<i>Baccalauréat</i>	4	2	50
Total	14	8	57.14

Source: Centre Regional Delegation of Penitentiary Administration

834- From what precedes, it is worth noting that more efforts could be made to post qualified teachers, youth and animation counselors, social workers and other professionals for the education, leisure, socio-cultural guidance and social reinsertion of inmates.

835- Regional Delegates of Penitentiary Administration during their annual meeting recommended the development of a preparation policy for social reinsertion, the institution of committees for the selection of prisoners eligible to work out of the prison, and the institution of alternative sanctions to imprisonment. The need to reinforce partnership with NGOs in order to

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improve the social reinsertion of detainees was reiterated by the UNCHR-CA during the workshop on the reinforcement of penitential security.

836- In order to evaluate the impact of these actions and detention conditions in general, control missions and visits of prisons were carried out by different actors.

SECTION 6: CHECKS AND VISITS OF PRISONS

837- Control activities were mostly carried out by the State Counsel and some officials from the Ministry of Justice. In addition to these regular control missions, some stakeholders equally visited a few prisons.

838- Besides, members of NCHRF visited different detention structures. The main objective of the visits was to evaluate general detention conditions, especially the right to a fair trial and the effective implementation of the Decree to grant presidential clemency of 18 February 2014. The Commission visited the Central Prison, New-Bell, Douala (22 to 24 January 2014), the Central Prison, Yaounde (June 2014), the Secondary Prison, Yaounde (26 to 31 May 2014) and the Main Prison, Kumba (21 to 24 October 2014). They also visited detention units in the North West Region from 8 to 12 December 2014.

839 In its report, the NCHRF mentioned general detention conditions which were below standard and at times deplorable. It highlighted the non-respect of the right to fair trial marked by slow judicial proceedings, disappearance of documents from files, non-respect of the right of defence and the violation of the right to information. The Commission, however, observed a significant improvement in the management of detention cells by competent authorities.

840- Apart from the NCHRF, NGOs like Lawyers without Borders, Cameroon⁴¹⁶, *Avocats Sans Frontières Barreaux de Paris*, the International Red Cross, as well as religious associations (CARITAS, the National Justice

⁴¹⁶From February to April 2014, within the framework of the Project "Dignity in Detention", members of Lawyers without Borders Cameroun (ASF) visited the Central Prisons of Bamenda, Ngaoundere and Yaounde. During these visits, 24 lawyers provided free legal services to 367 detainees who were selected because of their vulnerability.

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and Peace Commission) equally visited some prisons. The Archbishop of Bamenda representing the Catholic Church visited and celebrated mass with inmates of the Central Prison, Bamenda during Easter.

841- The UNCHR-CA and the Permanent Consultative Committee of the UN in charge of security issues in Central Africa recommended that all Central African States should set up an independent prisons observatory at the sub-regional level to verify the application of norms in the penitentiary and ensure regular control of prisons.

842- Despite efforts made by Government and the support of its partners to enhance detention conditions in Cameroon, much remains to be done to align feeding and health in prisons with international standards. Jail breaks, strengthening of prison staff, acquisition of transport logistics and prison overcrowding remain major issues to be handled by competent authorities. It is expected that newly set up prisons will soon be built and made operational so as to decongest existing ones.

Chapter 3

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF SOCIALLY VULNERABLE PERSONS



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843- In 2014 as in previous years, Government continued to promote and protect the rights of socially vulnerable persons comprising children, persons with disability, the elderly and indigenous peoples.

SECTION 1: PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

844- Government and its partners took several measures aimed at promoting and protecting children's rights. These measures were geared towards serving the best interest of the child in the domain of civil rights and freedoms, respect for the views of the child, alternative care, right to health⁴¹⁷ and special protection measures.

§1: Civil Rights and Freedoms

845- Government made sure that the civil rights and freedoms of children were respected especially with regard to birth registration and issuance of birth certificates to children, protecting children against violence, child labour and child trafficking. Statistics from the courts indicate that sanctions were meted out on perpetrators of violence on children and other related offences.

A: Issuance of Birth Certificates to Children

846- Difficulties encountered in the birth registration system⁴¹⁸ have led to about 30% of births of children not registered and the declaration of only 6% of the deaths of children. In 2014, Government distributed 46,800 registers to Civil Status Registries.

847- To support Government in its endeavour to improve the rate of birth registration, Plan Cameroon in collaboration with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), on 24 September 2014, organized a day of awareness on the importance of children refugees having birth

⁴¹⁷See chapter on Right to Health.

⁴¹⁸These difficulties are *inter alia* the inadequacy of human resources, insufficient means of logistics and infrastructure, the irregular supply of registers to Civil Status Registries, poor conservation of archives (half of the existing 9 to 11 million civil status certificates are unreadable).

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certificates, under the theme: *“Promoting the rights of children refugees to identity through the establishment of birth certificates”*.

848- This day was also marked by the distribution of a pamphlet entitled *“The Alphabet on the Rights of a Child”* to educational structures including 12 primary schools with a high concentration of refugees in Yaounde I Subdivision.

849- Plan Cameroon also organized a workshop from 23 to 24 October 2014 in Yaounde, on the process to establish birth certificates and its impact on refugees. Civil Status Secretaries and Registrars, leaders of refugee communities and others in charge of registration of births in Cameroon took part in the workshop.

850- Furthermore, this workshop was to draw the attention of actors and those responsible, on the need to declare births as per the Law⁴¹⁹ in Cameroon and to popularize the rights of children refugees in schools and the family. The objective to attain was to increase the number of children refugees having birth certificates.

851- It is worth mentioning that with the technical support of Plan Cameroon in partnership with local councils, 2,357 births (1,098 boys and 1,259 girls) were registered in Haut-Nyong Division, East Region and 10,822 births of which 5,948 were girls in the Centre, Adamawa, North West, Far North and North Regions in 2014.

B: Violence on Children and Child Labour

852- In order to continue the fight against violence on children and child labour, Government and other stakeholders carried out measures to improve institutional framework, adopted a national plan of action and promotion measures through sensitization and capacity building.

⁴¹⁹Law No. 2011-11 of 6 May 2011 to amend and supplement some provisions of Ordinance No.81-2 of 29 June 1981 to Organize Civil Status Registration. Section 30 (new).

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1) Institutional framework

853- The Prime Minister, Head of Government through Decision No. 82/PM of 27 August 2014, created the National Committee for the Fight against Child Labour which is made up of representatives from 8 ministries, the Gendarmerie, the Police, the National Institute of Statistics as well as Civil Society Organizations. The said Committee has the task amongst others to:

- draw up a check-list of children who are victims of exploitation;
- examine strategies to fight against child labour and propose measures to render them more efficient; and
- propose measures for Cameroon to better apply International Legal Instruments on the fight against child labour.

2) Adoption of a National Plan of Action

854- Under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MINTSS), a workshop to validate a national plan of action to eliminate all forms of child labour was organized on 19 March 2014 in Yaounde. The said plan is aimed at eliminating child labour by 2017. Participants at the workshop included the representatives from the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family (MINPROFF) and the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training⁴²⁰.

3) Sensitization

855- Actions to sensitize parents, families and the public on the fight against child labour were also carried out. In this regard, the Minister of Women's Empowerment and the Family on 1 August 2014 in Yaounde, organized a press conference to sensitize parents and families on the dangers of children carrying out commercial activities along the streets and markets during the third term holidays.

⁴²⁰See Chapter on Right to Work and Social Security.

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856- In the same light, the NCHRF with Plan Cameroon organized a series of activities to sensitize the public on the rights of the child and the fight against violence on children in school. To this effect, as at 13 February 2014, the two structures created and trained trainers of Human Rights Clubs in schools in Mbalmayo, Centre Region.

4) Capacity Building

857- As part of celebrations to mark the Day of the African Child, under the theme *“Free quality education, compulsory and accessible for all”*, a declaration against violence on children in school was adopted on 20 June 2014, after an information and action day organized by the NCHRF in Buea, South West Region, with support from Plan Cameroon.

858- Furthermore, during the celebration of the World Day for the fight against Child Labour on 12 June 2014 in Cameroon, under the theme: *“Extend Social Protection: combat child labour”*, the charity SOS Children’s Village Cameroon organized a workshop to discuss the setting up of a network of NGOs and Associations working against child labour. The objective of the workshop was to plan activities for an efficient fight against child labour by different organizations.

859- Equally, MINAS and MINSANTE in partnership with Plan Cameroon, gave psychosocial support and aid to about 2,600 children, victims of child abuse and diverse forms of violence in the North West Region. All the above measures were geared towards reducing violence on children and child labour.

C: Strengthening the Fight against Child Trafficking

860- As part of the fight against child trafficking, police officers were trained on the subject and a Committee was formed to intensify this fight.

861- The International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol ICPO) Regional office in Yaounde on 19 March 2014, organized a two-day workshop to drill police officers on human trafficking. The aim of the workshop was to train participants on the techniques of tracking down perpetrators of this phenomenon.

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862- In the South West Region, the Governor on 4 June 2014, installed the Coordination Platform to fight trafficking in persons dubbed “Task Force”. Officials of the “Task Force” are drawn from social workers, gendarme and police officers, lawyers, Judicial and Legal Officers and the NGO, *Nkumu Fed Fed*.

D: Repressive Measures on Violence against Children and other Offences

863- Statistics from some courts⁴²¹ indicated that about 938 offences all over the national territory (indecenty with a minor less than 16 years (IM), violence on children, kidnapping of minor, kidnapping by fraud or violence and trafficking in persons) were committed against children in 2014. A total of 334 resulted in convictions, 59 resulted in acquittals, 176 were pending before the trial courts, 290 were at the preliminary inquiry and 74 were still under police investigations.

864- Also, about 117 offences of violence on children were registered. Of these cases there were 5 acquittals, 57 convictions, 13 under police investigations, 26 at preliminary inquiry and 16 pending before the trial courts.

865- The offence with the highest number of cases was indecenty with a minor less than 16 years, with about 574 cases of which 200 resulted in convictions, 31 in acquittals, 32 were under investigations, 199 at the level of preliminary inquiry and 112 pending before the trial courts. The offence of trafficking in persons stood at 10 cases of which 2 resulted in convictions, 3 pending before trial courts, 4 pending at preliminary inquiry and 1 at the level of police investigation.

866- Concerning the offence of kidnapping of minors, about 172 cases were registered. Amongst these cases, 39 resulted in convictions, 18 in acquittals while 24 were still under investigations, 50 were at the preliminary inquiry and 41 were pending before trial courts.

⁴²¹Courts of First Instance, High Courts and Courts of Appeal.

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867- With regard to the offence of kidnapping by fraud or violence, about 53 offences were registered against children, 34 resulted in convictions, 4 in acquittals, 11 were at the preliminary inquiry, 4 were under police investigations and 4 were pending in trial courts.

868- The Region with the highest number of offences (281) perpetrated against children was the Centre Region, with the High Court, Mfoundi recording some 121 offences amongst which were 73 cases of IM less than 16 years. The Littoral and West Regions followed with each recording about 116 offences. The Region with the least number of offences was the Adamawa Region with only about 37 offences registered.

§2: Respect for the Views of the Child

869- In 2014, the principle of participation was guaranteed through the organization of Children's Governments and Children's Parliament.

A: Children's Government

870- In primary schools of the Centre, North West, and Far North Regions, 850 Children's Governments were formed by MINEDUB in collaboration with Plan Cameroon in order to give children the opportunity to participate in matters concerning them.⁴²²

B: Children's Parliament

871- The 16th Session of the Children's Parliament was organized on 16 June 2014. The Junior MPs asked questions to Government Ministers especially those of MINAS, MINPROFF and MINEDUB. They called for the construction of modern infrastructure in schools, provision of more facilities and the respect of student-teacher ratio among others. The Junior MPs regretted that in most areas where they came from, there were still girls who did not go to school.

⁴²²Plan Cameroon.

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§3: Alternative Care

872- In 2014, 2,361 children were taken care of in 192 structures under the supervision of MINAS. Government strengthened the administrative procedures for foster placement and the Courts registered some adoption cases.

A: Strengthening Administrative Procedure for Foster Placement of Children

873- In order to resolve difficulties in the administrative foster placement of children, the Minister of Social Affairs on 29 April 2014 in Yaounde, presented to the public, the procedure manual for foster placement of children in Cameroon. It is a 76 page manual comprising 8 different steps for the foster placement of children. It starts with:

- registration on the foster family roster in Cameroon;
- taking care of an abandoned child in a health centre;
- taking care of an abandoned child in a place other than a health centre;
- temporary placement by the administration of an abandoned child with a foster family;
- departure of child from a foster home;
- authorization to leave the national territory of a child who has been placed in a foster home;
- Monitoring of child after placement in a foster home in Cameroon; and
- general information on some aspects of the process.

B: Judicial Adoption

874- Within the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal, South West Region, 46 applications by nationals and 28 applications by foreigners were granted. A total of 82 applications by nationals were filed in some trial Courts⁴²³ of which 9 were granted. Also, 40 applications by foreigners were filed in the High Courts of Mfoundi, Lékié and Benoue.

⁴²³CFI Yaounde-Centre Administratif, CFI Yaounde-Ekounou, High Courts: Mfoundi, Mounjo, Mvila, Mbam and Sangha Maritime.

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§4: Special Protection Measures

875- The phenomenon of street children, protecting children in situation of emergency and children in conflict with the law got special protection measures.

A: Curbing the phenomenon of street children

876- In 2014, 75 children were retrieved from the street and reunited with their families. To support this action, social partners focused on sensitizing street children on the need to return to their families. Thus, the Association *La Jeunesse et l'Enfance* in collaboration with Cameroon Forum for Development concluded an agreement to organize the return of these street children to their respective families in the Northern Regions where most of them hail from⁴²⁴.

B: Protecting Children in Situations of Emergency

877- Given the fact that certain parts of the country are risky due to insecurity or floods during the rainy season, Government and its partners undertook to build the capacity of humanitarian actors on protecting children in situation of emergency. Hence a workshop to train humanitarian actors in the Adamawa, East and Far North Regions on the protection of children in situation of emergency took place in Bertoua, from 28 to 31 October 2014. The workshop which was organized by MINPROFF with the technical and financial support of UNICEF brought together representatives from public administration, NGOs and Civil Society Organizations (CSO).

878- Apart from the main objective which was to reinforce the capacity of humanitarian actors in situation of emergency to protect children, some other specific objectives were to:

- describe the effect of a situation of emergency on children, the family, the community and the preparation of a response thereto;

⁴²⁴This action was supported by **JOB Désiré**, former player with Cameroon football national team the Indomitable Lions.

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- identify environmental risk, social, political and legal factors rendering children vulnerable during emergency situations;
- explain the different forms of sexual violence based on gender and specific factors increasing the vulnerability of women and children in the context of emergency situations; and
- describe the essential elements of the programme on the protection of children to all at each stage of an emergency situation notably, preparation, response and re-adaptation.

879- Papers presented at the said workshop covered the protection of children in humanitarian situations, the basic principles of humanitarian interventions, the international legal framework on the protection of children in humanitarian situations, the minimum standard and basic principles on the protection of children in humanitarian interventions and violence based on gender in situations of humanitarian emergency amongst others.

880- At the end of the deliberations, the following recommendations were made:

- draft/revise regulations governing the functioning of schools so as to incorporate gender and children's rights;
- involve parents in the protection of children through associations like the AME (*Associations des Mères d'Enfants*) and the Parent/Teacher Association;
- lobby for the revision of the law on the orientation of school education;
- create and set up structures for the expression of children in schools (the children's government, girls clubs, gender clubs);
- draft a strategic plan for better coordination of urgent intervention situations;
- enhance capacities of actors in the area of humanitarian situations;
- set up a coordination platform of humanitarian interventions bringing together relevant administrations, international and local NGOs and CSOs; and
- provide adequate functional means to the structures that intervene in humanitarian emergencies.

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881- It is worth noting that Plan Cameroon invested more than CFA1,000,000,000⁴²⁵ for the education of the child in the Far North Region who is exposed to floods and insecurity.

C: Children in conflict with the law: Alternatives to Imprisonment of Minors

882- A training workshop to enhance the capacity of juvenile justice actors on alternatives to the imprisonment of minors was organized by MINJUSTICE with support from UNICEF in Douala from 12 to 13 November 2014. Some 30 participants took part in the said workshop amongst whom were: Judicial and Legal Officers, Assessors, Probation Officers and Social Workers from the Littoral Delegation of Social Affairs.

883- Participants at the said workshop identified the placing of a child in a Borstal Institute as an alternative measure to imprisonment.

884- Furthermore participants:

- deepened their knowledge on the measures of placing children;
- mastered the modalities and procedures on the application of probation;
- exchanged experiences and best practices;
- determined the modalities for respecting Section 710 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC)⁴²⁶;
- learned about institutions that cater for minors; and
- better understood the alternatives to the imprisonment of minors and their implementation

885- At the end of the deliberations the following recommendations were made:

- ensure continuous enhancement of the capacity of those in charge of juvenile justice in order to master the different instruments governing juvenile justice and also to include Judicial Police Officers and Penitentiary Administration staff in the process;

⁴²⁵About 1,526,717.55 Euros

⁴²⁶Section 710 CPC provides: assessors shall have the right to deliberate and vote on the sentence and measures to be taken against the infant.

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- ensure effective application of Section 710 CPC mentioned above;
- provide financial means to social workers, assessors and probation officers;
- provide logistics to divisional platforms to ensure a smooth functioning that will enhance cooperation between stakeholders, and the speeding up and efficiency in the handling of files of children in conflict with the law;
- include opinion leaders, teachers, traditional and religious authorities in divisional platforms; and
- raise awareness on functional alternative care institutions for children.

886- Apart from the rights of children, Government equally focused on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

SECTION 2: PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

887- The rights of persons with disabilities were taken care of by promoting accessibility to public buildings, capacity building and sensitization, lobbying and advocacy, economic empowerment, participation in cultural activities, participation in public life and education.

§1: Promoting Accessibility to Public Buildings

888- In order to consolidate laws and regulations⁴²⁷ that take into account the “disability approach” in the construction of public buildings, a Joint Circular was signed by the Minister of Social Affairs, the Minister of Public Contracts, the Minister of Housing and Urban Development and the Minister of Public Works.

889- Newly constructed buildings at the campus of the University of Yaounde I integrated the “disability approach” as was mentioned by the Minister of Social Affairs during her visit there on 28 January 2014.

⁴²⁷This duty is recalled by the Circular of the Prime Minister of 18 April 2008 and enshrined in the 2010 Law on the protection and promotion of persons with disabilities.

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§2: Capacity Building and Sensitization

890- In order to enhance capacity and sensitize young girls and women with disabilities on their rights, the Association for the Inclusion of Girls and Women with Disabilities in Development (AFHALITD) on 10 October 2014 in Douala, organized a forum on the theme: *“Breaking the barrier of violence”*. The forum focused on sensitizing girls and women with disabilities on their rights and how they could be included in the mainstream of social, economic and political life of the country.

891- In 2014, The National Union of Associations and Institutions of and for Persons with Disability (UNAPHAC)⁴²⁸ translated the 2010 Law on the Promotion and Protection of Persons with Disability into 2 local languages, *Béti* and *Ghoma’la*. The intention was not only to sensitize and disseminate the translated version of the said law amongst persons with disabilities both in towns and villages but also to facilitate access to this Law by persons with disabilities.

§3: Lobbying and Advocacy

892- The United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (UNCHRD-CA) organized a two-day workshop from 20 to 22 March 2014 in Yaounde, on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The workshop served as a platform to highlight the basic principle of promoting the rights of persons with disabilities by applying specific instruments protecting this vulnerable group.

893- Also in prelude to celebrations to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, on 2 December 2014 in Yaounde, the NCHRF signed a Memorandum of Understanding with an NGO, Inclusive Platform Society for Persons with Disabilities (PFIPWD) for the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities within a timeframe of 4 years. The NCHRF undertook to strengthen the mechanisms for lobbying and advocacy for the respect of the rights of persons with disabilities.

⁴²⁸It is worth noting that Cameroon through the UNAPHAC was elected into the Executive Bureau of the African Forum of Persons with Disability (FAPH) during the Constitutive Assembly held on 19 November 2014 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

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§4: Economic Empowerment

894- The Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training granted professional and apprentice training scholarships to some persons with disability to help guarantee their economic empowerment. Also, the *Centre de Formation et de Production pour Femmes handicapées, "Bobine d'Or"* supported the socio-economic settlement of 8 girls with disabilities by granting sewing machines to them.

895- The Vocational Rehabilitation Centre of Strategic Humanitarian Services (SHUMAS), a Civil Society Organization based at Nkwen, Bamenda III Council on 6 May 2014, graduated 8 trainees in traditional embroidery, shoe making, marking, knitting, sewing, hairdressing and cane weaving at the said Centre.

896- On 26 November 2014, the 8th meeting of the National Committee for the Re-adaptation and the Socio-economic reinsertion of Persons with Disabilities (CONRHA) was held. This meeting served to define strategies for the universal accessibility of persons with disabilities to transport facilities, adapted work places, lodging, information and communication technology.

§5: Participation in Cultural Activities

897- During celebrations to mark the 23rd edition of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2014 under the theme "*Sustainable Development: the Promise of Technology*", MINAS organized a trade fair at the Yaounde Sports Complex and sports tournaments among persons with disabilities. The occasion permitted them to showcase their ability to be independent by producing items that can generate income like bracelets, body lotion from cocoa beans, painting, clay pots and flower pots.

§6: Participation in Public affairs

898- Persons with disability were not left out in public affairs as evident in the appointment of Mr. **TEZANOU Paul**, a visually impaired, representing NGOs of Human Rights pursuant to Decree No. 2014/399/ of 8 October 2014 to renew the mandate of some members of NCHRF.

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§7: Education of Children with Disability

899- Motivated by the need to give quality education to all children without exclusion, especially children with special needs, the Director of the Cardinal Paul Emile Leger National Centre for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disability (CNPRH-CPEL) from 10 to 12 June 2014, organized a reflection on the issue of quality, free, obligatory and adapted education to all children at the Centre in Yaounde. Participants at the reflection came from MINEDUB, MINESEC, UNESCO and UNICEF.

900- In the same vein, Mr. **Joli-Bean KOUBE**, a Cameroonian based in Italy together with *APRI Onlus*, an Association for the blind and visually impaired based in Italy sponsored a library project for the blind at the University of Douala. This ultra modern specialized library for the blind and the visually impaired dubbed "*Bibliothèque le Pavillon Blanc*" was inaugurated on 28 January 2014. The library will enable the visually impaired to study in an atmosphere of tranquillity.

901- MINEDUB signed a cooperation agreement with the NGO, Sight-savers on 28 April 2014, to enhance the capacity of teachers in inclusive education and to equip specialized schools with didactic materials.

902- Furthermore, the Regional Delegation of Social Affairs, West Region on 5 June 2014, organized a one-day workshop in Bafoussam aimed at sensitizing stakeholders, leaders of associations and NGOs in charge of securing the well-being of children as well as heads of educational establishments on the rights of vulnerable children to free education and the duty of State parties to respect the rights of children to freedom of thought.

903- In 2014, Government also focused on improving the rights of the elderly.

SECTION 3: PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE ELDERLY

904- To improve the living conditions of the elderly, Government and development partners took certain measures to ensure their well-being.

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These measures included the right to work, the right to cultural activities and the right to physical and mental health.

§1: Right to work

905- The fact that elderly persons may be physically weak should not stop them from working, for their past and rich experience could always be useful to society. As such, Government, through MINAS, officially launched the *Fichier de Compétences des Seniors* on 1 October 2014. This is a database of knowledge, talents and know-how of old/retired persons which is available and accessible for development projects

906- Also the elderly grouped themselves into self-help associations to keep them active. In this light, the Community Development Volunteers for Technical Assistance (CDVTA), an elderly peoples' club with 350 branches spread all over the North West Region with a total of 13,061 members organized the following activities: gardening, micro-credit scheme, local manufacturing of soap, detergent production from wax and medicinal plants, livestock rearing and self-help activities.

§2: Cultural Activities

907- MINAS organized cultural activities in which the elderly actively took part. On 8 August 2014, a competition was launched to select the best work for the drafting of *La Grande Encyclopédie du Passé et du Futur*. This document will serve as a base for transforming our oral history into written history. Also, during the celebration on 1 October 2014 of the 24th edition of the International Day of the elderly under the theme: "*Together promote a society for all ages*", a trade fair, open door day, relaxation exercises and socio-cultural activities were organized for 4 days in Yaounde by MINAS.

§3: Physical and Mental Health

908- A Practical Guide for old persons, drafted by MINAS was presented to the public on 29 July 2014. The Guide gives practical counselling on aging, especially on old age illnesses and the respect of hygienic conditions.

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909- The enhancement of the rights of indigenous people was also the concern of Government.

SECTION 4: ENHANCEMENT OF THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

910- In 2014, Government continued to enhance the rights of indigenous people such as Pygmies and Mbororos through a reflection on the methods of teachings adapted to the realities of these people, local development programmes and creation of social services.

§1: Education of Children from Indigenous Peoples

911- Actions for the education of children from indigenous communities were consolidated during the reference year.

912- Regarding the Baka communities, teaching in the Baka language was tested in 8 pilot schools in the East Region, with an enrolment of 734 children, from the 2013-2014 academic year as part of the Project called "Baka Rights and Dignity" (BRD) with the aim of improving the education of Baka children while maintaining them rooted in their culture⁴²⁹.

913- To support this project, the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) produced:

- 421 manuals composed of syllabaries (spelling tables) and books on mathematics integrating Baka cultural values;
- 421 slates with the Baka alphabet on the back;
- 8 reading scales;
- 321 kits distributed to 321 pupils in SIL, each comprising a slate, a bag, a spelling table, a mathematics book, two dual-line books, a dozen pencils and a pencil sharpener.

914- This support helped record an increase of 5% of the school enrolment rate of Baka children.

⁴²⁹Providing specific education for them was not a preferred policy option.

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915- Regarding Mbororo communities, focus was on the construction of school infrastructure. In this regard, the following were identified: the construction and equipment of a kindergarten at Sambo, Batouri, East Region; the construction of 256 classrooms, 30 water points and 55 latrines, and the rehabilitation of 58 classrooms.

916- More so, 1,290 scholarships were granted to pupils admitted into Form I and 2,350 PTA Members were trained.

917- The number of indigenous children in school is given in the table below:

Table 1: Number of Indigenous Pupils enrolled in 2014

No.	Regions	Number of Indigenous Children enrolled	Number of Children enrolled	Percentage
1	Adamawa	9,398	190,000	4.9
2	East	12,782	228,087	5.6
3	North West	23,111	280,166	8.24
4	South	1,884	146,766	1.24
	Total	47,175	845,019	5.58

Source: MINEDUB

918- The results recorded by indigenous children in the East Region at the *Certificat d'Etudes Primaires (CEP)* examination are presented as follows:

Table 2: Results of Indigenous Children in CEP 2014 in the East Region

No.	Indigenous Pupils	CEP 2014		
		Sat	Passed	% Pass
1	Bakas	20	11	55
2	Mbororos	75	39	52
	Total	95	50	53

Source: MINEDUB

919- MINEDUB, in partnership with the UNCHR-CA, organized a discussion workshop on the "*Strategies and Methods of adapting Education to the Culture and Lifestyle of Indigenous Peoples*" from 5 to 6 August 2014 in Yaounde.

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920- At the end of the workshop, participants made the following recommendations to Government:

- draw up an inventory of schooling for indigenous children in Cameroon;
- identify the difficulties and challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the schooling of their children;
- identify positive discrimination measures and best practices that can contribute to greater education of indigenous children;
- encourage the development of tools to assess the education of such children; and
- promote the effective implementation of the recommendations of treaty monitoring bodies and special mechanisms for the education of indigenous children.

921- In order to implement the first two recommendations, a collection campaign was launched by the Ministries concerned, in collaboration with the UNCHR-CA.

§2: Promotion of Local Development Programmes for Indigenous Vulnerable People (IVP)

922- Within the framework of the Plan for the Development of Pygmies of the National Community Driven Programme (PDPP/PNDP) whose main objective is to take into consideration the specific needs of pygmies in the process of local development, Government took several actions including:

- issuance of official documents (national identity cards, birth certificates, marriage certificates);
- support to agricultural activities;
- follow up of students in training schools; and
- support and follow up in the education and health sectors .

§3: Setting up of Special Social Services for Indigenous People

923- MINAS, with the support of the PNDP, set up 37 special social services dubbed "Social Action Services" (SAS) in the Centre, South and East Regions, comprising 31 SAS for Pygmies and 6 for Mbororos. The Centres ensure:

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- promotion and protection of the social rights of the IVP;
- promotion of civic education and community life;
- access to Civil Status Certificates, social representation and participation in the management of their own affairs;
- access to basic social services; and
- support to socio-economic and cultural initiatives of IVP.

924- In order to ensure the success of the SAS/IVP mission, 2 workshops were organized to build the capacity of those in charge of the day to day management of these structures in the South Region. These workshops enabled the drafting of performance specifications of SAS and the review of procedure manuals.

925- Also, the International Day of the Indigenous Population was celebrated on 9 August 2014 under the theme: *“Enhancement of Capacities and Partnership for an Integrated Social Action in favour of Indigenous Vulnerable Population”*. Several activities took place during the celebration which was crowned with the offering of computers and motor cycles as support to SAS/IVP to enable them efficiently carry out their mission towards IVP⁴³⁰

926- Although Government effort to improve the condition of the socially vulnerable in 2014 is laudable, lapses related to the poor living conditions of the elderly, not-adapted means of transportation for persons with disability and the phenomenon of street children in major towns remain areas of great concern that require urgent solutions.

⁴³⁰MINAS.



Chapter 4

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS



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927- In addition to evaluating achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and Reformulation of the Post 2015 Agenda, many actions were carried out to consolidate promotion of gender equality, curb violence against women and girls, and oversee the economic promotion of women for their empowerment.

SECTION 1: PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY

928- The National Gender Policy Document⁴³¹ that was adopted in April 2014, is a major asset in curbing discrimination which is one of the MDG goals. Besides, advocacy for a significant increase in the Gender budget was taken into account in the Budget Circular. MINJUSTICE further ensured promotion of gender equality through its actions. All these strategies constituted a springboard for more participation of women in political life and decision-making.

§1: Adoption of the National Gender Policy Document

929- The National Gender Policy Document is a tool for planning, guidance and consistency of action by Government and other stakeholders on gender equality in all sectors of national development.

930- The specific goals of the Document are based on the following 6 strategic thrusts:

- promoting equal access of boys and girls, men and women to education, training and information;
- improving access of women to health services, especially reproductive health;
- promoting equal opportunities for both men and women in the employment and economic domains;
- promoting a socio-cultural environment that complies with the rights of women;

⁴³¹The idea of streamlining a National Gender Policy was nursed at the Cabinet meeting of 24 April 2013. After the drawing up of the 3 sector plans in 2013, 7 plans were earmarked as the main guidelines of the National Gender Policy. Thus, the National Gender Policy Document substituted the Policy to integrate women into development of the 1990s. The National Gender Policy Document was published on 21 January 2015 during a ceremony chaired by the Minister of Women's Empowerment and the Family. Each Ministry should properly understand the document which shall be implemented over the period 2011-2020. A Multi-sector Plan of Action to implement this guideline framework is near completion.

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- stepping up participation and representation of women in political life and decision-making; and
- consolidating the institutional framework of Gender promotion.

931- The adoption of the National Gender Policy and the inclusion of Gender in the budget are the fruits of a long-standing advocacy.

§2: Gender-Sensitive Budgeting

932- Circular No. 1/CAB/PR of 2 August 2014 on the preparation of the 2015 State budget laid down the general guidelines of the budget policy and practical modalities for the drawing up of the 2015 budget.

932.1- At the social level, actions were expected to be taken to encourage the inclusion of the gender-approach and disability-approach in all the socio-economic sectors of national life so as to capitalize the potentials of women, youths and person with disabilities, continue to trim down inequalities, curb all forms of gender-based discrimination and violence, and oversee the achievement of MDGs.

§3: Action by MINJUSTICE

933- MINJUSTICE participated in curbing discrimination and promoting gender equality through the monitoring of some procedures. The goal was to encourage the equal enjoyment of rights by both men and women especially in civil life at the time of marriage, during the dissolution of marriage, and in all other things. That is why through the Department of Civil Matters and the Seal, MINJUSTICE monitored 157 matters concerning women during the reference period in the following areas:

- 32 files on naturalization, among which 10 for women;
- 66 files on change of name, among which 16 for women; and
- 59 files on succession, among which 25 for women.

934- The monitoring of these matters consisted in ensuring the respect of equality between men and women in the acquisition of Cameroon nationality, with women having the privilege of freely choosing Cameroon nationality for themselves or for their children, and to bear the name of their choice.

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935- Concerning succession, MINJUSTICE globally carried out monitoring actions of these proceedings with regard to the respect of the principle of equality in matters of succession, preserving the property and non-property rights of women, and reducing the timeframe of processing files.

936- Curbing discrimination against women was equally extended to the right to management of public affairs.

§4: Women in the Management of Public Affairs

937- The participation of women in the management of public affairs can be analysed both at the level of politics and public life.

A: Participation of Women in Politics

938- During the 2013 elections, it was necessary to consolidate achievements by building the capacity of elected persons. This was one of the concerns of female Commonwealth Parliamentarians.

1) Participation of Cameroonian Parliamentarians at the 60th Conference of the Association of Commonwealth Parliamentarians

939- On the sidelines of deliberations of the 60th Conference of the Association of Commonwealth Parliamentarians held in Yaounde from 8 to 9 October 2014, the General Assembly of Female Commonwealth Parliamentarians adopted a strategy to increase the number of women in Parliaments. The 800 Delegates and 1,500 other participants assessed progress made after the decision taken in 1997 to attain by 2015 in Parliaments of Commonwealth member countries, the quota of 30% of women per legislative period. The meeting equally served as a springboard to examine possibilities for better participation of women in decision-making.

2) Political Capacity Building of Women

940- Capacity building sessions were organized for female mayors. In this regard, a seminar was organized from 10 to 11 June 2014 in Yaounde for some 60 local elected women from Cameroon and other African countries

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to improve on their leadership. The goal of the seminar was to promote gender equality as per Government plan geared mainly towards having a great number of women in governance positions.

941- In addition, dissemination of the Manual on Political Training of Women continued and was distributed to 300 women.

942- In the Far North Region, 159 women were educated on the right to vote and the role they might play in moving their locality forward.

943- The political rights of women were in correlation with conflict management and it was in this light that a workshop was organized on the participation of women in conflict resolution and crisis management as well as launching the process to draw up a National Plan of Action. The workshop was organized from 9 to 10 October 2014 by the Women International League for Peace and Freedom-Cameroon (WILPF) with the support of various partners. The main goal of the workshop was to promote the role of women in the prevention and response in the face of the current crisis and to determine their role in conflict resolution and peace building as per Resolution 1325 of the UN Security Council and, where necessary, to lay the foundation for the drawing up of a National Plan of Action in this direction.

B: Participation of Women in Public Life

944- There has been a significant increase in the participation of women in public life within the Judiciary, in access to decision-making positions, within the public service and in territorial command.

1) Promotion of Women in the Judicial Corps

945- Following the Higher Judicial Council session of 18 December 2014, the number of female staff increased. Infact, the staff strength of Judicial and Legal Officers increased from 1,167 in 2012 to 1,553 with 449 women as against 305 before; that is, a female representation rate of 28.92%, and an increase of female staff of 2.77% in relative terms.

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946- With regard to appointments to decision-making positions, the situation of women improved qualitatively. At the level of the Central Administration, parity was achieved with the appointment of 4 women as Directors of strategic departments and in positions ranking as such⁴³², out of the 8 available positions, as against no woman in 2010 out of the 7 available positions or only 2 women in 2012.

947- Generally, the appointments in the judicial corps enabled the achievement of parity or at least the 30% rate provided for by the Growth and Employment Strategic Paper (GESP) and the international community as shown in the table below:

Table 1: Female Representation in Decision-making Positions in the Judicial Corps following the Higher Judicial Council Session of 18 December 2014

No.	Duty post	2012					2014					Variation of positions occupied by women
		M	W	TOTAL	% M	% W	M	W	TOTAL	% M	% W	
Supreme Court												
1	Chief Justice	1	0	1	100	0	1	0	1	100	0	0
2	Procureur General	1	0	1	100	0	1	0	1	100	0	0
3	Presidents of Bench	3	0	3	100	0	3	0	3	100	0	0
4	Judges	47	5	52	90.38	9.62	44	8	52	84.62	15.38	+3
5	Advocates General	11	0	11	100	0	10	0	10	100	0	0
Court of Appeal												
6	Presidents of Court of Appeal	8	2	10	80	20	8	2	10	80	20	0
7	Procureurs General	9	1	10	90	10	9	1	10	90	10	0
Courts of First Instance and High Courts												
8	Presidents of Court	62	15	77	80.52	19.48	64	18	82	78.05	21.95	+3
9	State Counsel	66	6	72	91.67	8.33	65	16	81	80.25	19.75	+10
Central Services, Ministry of Justice												
10	Inspectors General of Services	0	1	1	0	100	0	1	1	0	100	0
11	Technical Advisers	0	2	2	0	100	1	1	2	50	50	-1
12	Directors of Central Administration	4	2	6	66.67	33.33	4	4	8	50	50	+2

⁴³²These include the Department of Judicial Professions, Department of General Affairs, Department of Human Rights and International Cooperation, and Division of State Disputes.

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No.	Duty post	2012					2014					Variation of positions occupied by women
		M	W	TOTAL	% M	% W	M	W	TOTAL	% M	% W	
13	Inspectors at General Inspectorate of Judicial Services	4	2	6	66.67	33.33	6	1	7	85.72	14.28	-1
14	Sub-Directors and persons ranking as such	13	7	20	65	35	13	8	21	61.9	38.4	+1
Special Criminal Court (national)												
15	President	1	0	1	100	0	1	0	1	100	0	0
16	Procureur General	1	0	1	100	0	1	0	1	100	0	0
17	Advocates General	7	0	7	100	0		1	8	87.5	12.5	+1
18	Vice-Presidents	6	3	9	66.66	33.33	8	4	12	66.66	33.33	0
19	Examining Magistrates						9	2	11	81.81	18.18	
Administrative Courts (Regions)												
20	Presidents						7	3	10	70	30	
21	Judges						30	1	41	73.28	26.82	

Source: MINJUSTICE

948- Furthermore, a gender analysis of the results of the end-of-pupillage examination organized from 22 to 24 February 2014 by the Cameroon Bar Association with the support of MINJUSTICE show that Gender was taken into consideration with the admission of 44 women out of 128 Lawyers into the Bar Council, representing 34.38%. Nevertheless, the percentage pass of women at the end of the Bar Part One examination for the same year stood at 26.91% representing a drop as compared to 2013 where the percentage pass for the same examination stood at 34.38%.

2) Gender in Recruitment into the Public Service

949- A gender analysis of the recruitment into the public service is shown in admission statistics into the School of Administration and Magistracy (ENAM) in the table below:

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Table 2: Admission Statistics into ENAM (2014)

Section and Cycle	No. on Roll	Men	Women	%	Foreigners	Persons with Disability
AG-A	47	31	16	34.04	2 (Chad, 1 CAR, 1)	
ECOFI	43	27	16	37.20	1 (CAR)	
AH-A	32	15	17	53.12		
AP-A	16	4	12	75		
TRA-A	50	23	27	54		
PPM-A	44	38	6	13.63		
Subtotal DA, A	232	138	94	40.51	03	
AG-B	44	29	15	34.09	1 (CAR)	
TRA-B	51	16	35	68.61	1 (CAR)	
PPM-B	33	24	9	27.27		
Subtotal DA, B	125	78	47	37.6		
Subtotal DA	360	207	151	41.95	5	
FINANCE DIVISION						
IMP-A	41	28	13	31.70	4 (Chad 3, CAR 1)	
TRE-A	42	28	14	33.33	4 (Chad 3, CAR 1)	
Subtotal DRF, A	83	56	27	32.54	8	
IMP-B	33	20	14	33.33	3 (CAR 2, Chad 1)	
TRE-B	31	15	15	48.39	1 (Chad)	(1) Motor disability
Subtotal DRF, B	64	35	28	43.75	4	1
Subtotal DRF	147	92	55	37.42	12	
DIVISION OF MAGISTRACY AND REGISTRY						
AJA	25	17	8	32	10 (Congo)	
AJC	18	12	6	33.33	3 (Congo)	
AJJ	78	44	34	43.5	40 (Congo)	
GRF-A	38	15	23	60.52		
Subtotal DMG, A	159	88	71	44.65	53	
GRF-B	56	22	34	60.71		
Subtotal DMG	215	110	105	48.84	53	
GRAND TOTAL	722	409	313	43.36	70	

Source: MINFOPRA

Key:

AG-A: General Administration Section; Cycle A

AH-A: Hospital Administration Section; Cycle A

AP-A: Parliamentary Administration Section; Cycle A

PPM-A: Weights and Measures Section; Cycle A

AG-B: General Administration Section; Cycle B

ECOFI-A: Economy and Finance; Cycle A

TRA-A: Labour Administration; Cycle A

TRA-B: Labour Administration; Cycle B

GRF-A: Registry Section; Cycle A

GRF-B: Registry Section; Cycle B

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IMP A: Taxation Section; Cycle A

IMP-B: Taxation Section; Cycle B

TRE A: Treasury Section; Cycle A

AJA: Pupil Magistrates,
Administrative Section

AJC: Pupil Magistrates,
Audit Section

AJJ: Pupil Magistrates,
Judicial Section

950- On the whole, out of a student population of 722 at ENAM, there were 313 women, representing 43.35% as against 40.86% in 2013. The gender breakdown is as follows:

- out of 474 students in Cycle A, the Administrative Division, AP-A Section admitted 75% of women while the Division of Magistracy and Registry, AJJ Section admitted 43.5% of women; that is, more than the 30% ceiling provided for by the GESP. At the GRF-A Section, 60.52% of women were admitted, thereby exceeding the parity threshold; and
- out of the 245 students admitted in Cycle B, the admission rate of women reflects the effective application of the gender approach with a systematic exceeding of the 30% threshold in most of the sections, or better still, attaining the parity threshold. At the Administrative Division, TRA-B Section is the most satisfactory with 68.62% of women admitted. At the Finance Division, TRE-B Section, 48.38% of women were admitted among whom one woman with motor disability. At the DMG, GRF-B Section, 60.71% of women were admitted.

951- As regards the public service, out of 640 candidates admitted into training schools, 268 were women. Also, 385 women were admitted into professional schools through direct competitive entrance examinations. On the whole, out of 2,727 candidates undergoing training, 968 are women and 1,759 men. The 30% threshold was attained as shown in the table below:

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Table 3: Summary of other Recruitments into the Public Service

No.	Description	Men	Women	Percentage of women	total
1	Training schools	372	268	41.87%	640
2	Professional schools	947	385	28.81%	1,336
3	Direct competitive entrance examinations	1,759	968	35.49%	2,727
Total		3,078	1621	34.46%	4,703

Source: MINFOPRA

3) Women in Territorial Command

952- As per Order No. 97/PM of 14 October 2014, 43 women were appointed Assistant Subdivisional Officers. The situation of women in Territorial Command is as follows: 1 Senior Divisional Officer, 1 Secretary-General at the Governor's Office, 8 Assistant Subdivisional Officers, and 8 Assistant Senior Divisional Officers.

953- The trend to consolidate the Gender Approach in the Public Service and in public life would have a positive impact on the situation of women if developments are registered correlatively at the level of private life by stepping up combating violence against women and girls.

SECTION 2: PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS AGAINST VIOLENCE

954- Violence against women or gender-based violence is a form of discrimination that hinders women from enjoying their rights and freedoms as defined by the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.⁴³³ The setting up of a Platform of Action between Government and its partners added to the many actions on prevention, sanction, and support to and rehabilitation of victims of violence.

⁴³³Violence against women means "all acts perpetrated against women which cause or could cause them physical, sexual, psychological, and economic harm, including the threat to take such acts; or to undertake the imposition of arbitrary restrictions on or deprivation of fundamental freedoms in private or public life in peace time and during situations of armed conflicts or of war."

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§1: Platform against Gender-based Violence (GBV)

955- In a bid to render the action framework between the State and its partners formal, a Joint Programme between Government represented by MINPROFF and 7 Agencies of the UN System to “*speed up prevention of Gender-based violence and holistic management of survivors in the most affected Regions of Cameroon*” was signed on 8 August 2014. It is the fruit of multi-sector contributions geared towards a synergy of actions on a common base.

956- By signing the Joint Programme that falls in line with the implementation of the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Plan 2013-2017, the Agencies of the UN System intend to support Government in its efforts to comply with international commitments in combating GBV.

§2: Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls

957- Prevention of Violence against Women included 3 aspects: awareness raising, advocacy, and capacity building of stakeholders.

A: Awareness Raising

958- Celebrations to mark days dedicated to women were the melting pot for awareness raising on violence against women, with special focus on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Indeed, during celebrations to mark the International Day against FGM on 6 February 2014 under the theme “*Synergy of actions between Government, the International Community and Civil Society to speed up implementation of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation*”, special attention was paid to households in the Far North, South West, and Centre Regions.

959- An awareness raising March was organized in the streets of Yaounde culminating in an assembly in front of one of the identified households, Briqueterie quarters and its neighbourhood. At the assembly, the Minister of Women’s Empowerment and the Family, in the presence of other Ministers, the British High Commissioner to Cameroon, and representatives

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of the civil society appealed for the eradication of such a barbaric practice the prevalence rate of which stands at 20% in all the households, and exposes the girl child to sexually transmitted diseases such as Hepatitis, and HIV. During the ceremony, an excision practitioner symbolically handed over his knife.

960- In the same vein, celebrations to mark the International Women's Day on 8 March 2014 under the theme "*Challenges and Achievements of the Millennium Development Goals for the woman and the girl child*" helped raise the awareness of the national community on the forms of violence suffered by women and girls. A forum for exchange of ideas was even organized on the subject on 3 April 2014 at the French Embassy in Cameroon, by the Association of Cameroon Female Jurists (ACAFEJ) and the Association for the Struggle against Violence against Women (ALVF). The objective of the meeting was to share information on acts of violence against women and rape, especially to avail participants of practical tips to help women victims of violence. Special focus was laid on possible remedies. Besides, the NCHRF organized awareness raising campaigns and legal clinics at the esplanade of the 20 May Boulevard, Yaounde, on the need to curb all forms of violence against women with a view to achieving the MDGs by 2015. During the campaign, 580 visitors, among whom were 26 complainants were received at the legal clinic and 1,000 awareness raising tools (leaflets, flyers, magazines, posters, etc) distributed.

961- In addition, the NCHRF organized a workshop at the Handicraft Centre, Maroua from 16 to 17 January 2014, on combating violence against women in general, and women with disabilities in particular in the Far North Region. Deliberations focused mainly on the normative and institutional framework of the rights of women with disabilities and their participation in social and political life. At the end of the workshop, a Regional Committee of persons with disabilities was formed to combat violence against persons with disability.

962- During celebrations to mark the International Day of the Girl Child on 11 October 2014, issues of violence were discussed under the theme "*Empowering adolescent girls: Ending the cycle of violence*". Celebrations brought together administrative, religious, and traditional authorities,

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national elected representatives, local elected officials, and leaders of groups and families in combating socio-cultural barriers with a view to encouraging the girl child to respect herself and others.

963- During celebrations to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November 2014, MINPROFF launched a 16 day traditional campaign on Activism against Gender Violence. The objective of the campaign under the theme *“From peace at home to peace in the world, let’s defy militantism and end violence against women”*, was to create a socio-cultural environment that will enable women and girls, without discrimination, to fully exercise their rights.

964- Actions to legally protect and support widows continued in MINFOPRA, MINFI, and NSIF to oversee the successful payment of death benefits or pension.

965- Similarly, the ALVF in partnership with the NCHRF Regional Office, Littoral Region organized an educative discussion on the theme *“Rights of succession”*. The objective was to educate participants among whom were representatives from administrations, members of the civil society and refugee communities Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Central African Republic (CAR), on succession in Cameroon law regarding children, surviving spouse(s), ascendants and extended family. They received tips on the jurisdictions of various courts, and the documents to be provided in filing matters before the courts.

966- Refugee women were given special attention with the implementation of the *“Social cohesion and rehabilitation of refugee women who survived GBV and rape, victims of conflict in CAR in the East Region”* Project in the localities of Lolo, Mbile, and Timangolo, Kadey Division, and Gado Mbadzeri, Lom and Djerem Division. The Project facilitated awareness raising of 31,680 refugees on GBV and the setting up of 4 exchange forums between refugee women and those of the host communities in Gado Badzere, Timangolo, Mbile, and Lolo.

967- Dissemination of documents such as the Guide on Global Management of GBV and the Guide on Management of Women Victims of Obstetrical Fistulas, with the support of partners, constituted one of the

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strategic thrusts of the awareness raising. That is why the National Strategy to combat GBV and the National Plan of Action on the Elimination of FGM were distributed to social and institutional stakeholders. The dissemination often resulted in real advocacy.

B: Advocacy before National Elected Officials

968- In order to involve Parliamentarians from the Senate and the National Assembly in curbing FGM and other forms of violence suffered by women, on 7 April 2014 at the Senate, and 17 June 2014 at the National Assembly, MINPROFF organized advocacy on the scope and consequences of the phenomenon. The objective was to inform Parliamentarians of the harm, causes and consequences of the phenomenon on the health of women, and especially to obtain their support and commitment to the noble cause.

C: Capacity Building of Stakeholders

969- In order to provide community relays who are members of Local Anti-FGM Committees with tools, capacity building seminars were organized for them in Mamfe, Maroua, and Yaounde and its environs with the support of the British High Commissioner to Cameroon. There are at least 25 functional Local Anti-FGM Committees in areas with high prevalence of violation.

§3: Repression of Violence against Women

970- Analysis of the table on criminal response to Human Rights violation⁴³⁴ reveals that women suffered a lot of sexual violence in 2014. Rape, indecency, and sexual intercourse with minors were some of the most recurrent cases, and their perpetrators were prosecuted and convicted.

971- 84 matters were registered before trial courts⁴³⁵, 240 investigations were opened for rape, and 46 prosecutions for grievous harm. Reported cases of indecency with minor of 16 years gave rise to 493 investigations that resulted to 192 convictions.

⁴³⁴See, supra §3, Chapter 1, Part One.

⁴³⁵These data concern 54 of the 58 HCs in the judicial map of the country, excluding the HCs of Wouri, Sanaga-Maritime, Momo, and Ndian Divisions.

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§4: Support and Rehabilitation of Victims

972- In 2014, MINPROFF Services provided psycho-social support to victims of violence. Thus, 45 home visits were carried out; 103 cases of violence identified; and 888 cases of matrimonial, family and common law partner disputes registered. 654 cases were processed while 52 meditation sessions were conducted for couples, and 100 persons were received for counselling.

973- At the institutional level and in order to consolidate the administrative management of victims, Reception Centres for Women in distress were opened in the Centre (Yaounde V) and West Regions, Call Centres in the Littoral (Douala I), Centre (Yaounde VII), and Far North (Maroua) Regions that are counselling centres for women victims of violence. A toll free telephone number **233 42 56 68** was opened on 2 December 2014 at the Counselling Centre, Akwa (Douala I).

974- At the level of medical care, the commemoration of the day, 23 May 2014, dedicated to combating Obstetrical Fistulas (OF) which are often the outcome of pregnancy and/or early marriage or sexual violence, was an opportunity to administer proper healthcare to victims. The day was placed under the theme “*Screen fistulas-transform lives*”. Activities were carried out as part of implementation of the National Anti-Fistula Strategy 2005-2015⁴³⁶.

975- The support was extended in the form of psychosocial support, reassurance, and socio-professional reinsertion with a view to empowering the woman.

SECTION 3: EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH ECONOMIC PROMOTION

976- The economic and financial dependence of women makes them vulnerable and compromises their chances of having access to factors of production and resources. It is in order to wipe out these draw backs that more value was added to promoting women’s empowerment, and that public authorities helped supervise women’s entrepreneurship.

⁴³⁶See supra, chapter on Right to Health, §394

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§1: Promotion of Women's Empowerment

977- In order to make the woman autonomous, Government focused its efforts on the technical capacity building of women, and provided incentives for the education of the girl child.

A: Technical Capacity Building of Women

978- The technical capacities of women were built through training and awareness raising activities.

979- 10,260 rural women and 15 women's groups were trained on the modern techniques of production, processing, and conservation of farm products. The training helped them obtain income from their activities. In addition, 232 female leader poultry farmers were trained in the production of old layers in the Centre, East, Adamawa, North and Far North Regions. They will in turn train their peers in the same production techniques.

980- Besides, 4,628 women and girls were trained on how to set up a project and manage an enterprise.

981- The Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), in partnership with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), organized training in sewing and embroidery for 20 women, at the end of which 20 sewing and broidery machines were offered to them as start-up equipment.

982- In order to reduce the adverse effects of climate change, 50 rural women were trained during a national advisory planning workshop on implementation of the Gender Support Programme to climate change and agriculture, with the support of NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency.

983- During a guided tour at the Agricultural Research Institute for Development (IRAD), 50 rural women were introduced to preparation and processing techniques of foodstuffs, and observed the results of the research.

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984- In order to support women's associations in the changeover of Common Initiative Groups (CIG) to Cooperative Societies as per the provisions of the OHADA Uniform Act to organize Cooperative Societies, the awareness of 452 rural women from 9 councils (Nkolmetet, Mbankomo, Obala, Ngaoundere I, Ngaoundere II, Ngaoundere III, Yaounde II, Yaounde VII, and Kette) was raised on the challenges of the changeover of CIGs to Cooperative Societies, especially on the ownership of such corporate bodies in order to henceforth expect support from Government.

985- The end of "Operation 100,000 Women By 2012" which helped train 103,350 women did not end the training of women in computer literacy. Thus, during celebrations to mark the International Women's Day, the *Institut Africain d'Informatique (IAI) - Cameroun*, through its Regional Office, South Region, organized a special session on Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for women in Kribi. The training which started on 9 February 2014 ended on 7 March 2014 with the solemn award of End-of-Course Certificates to 150 laureates henceforth aligned to modernity through ICTs. IAI will further open a Divisional Centre in Kribi for permanent capacity building of the public in general and women in particular.

986- The State has the obligation to oversee the education of the girl child, one of the main steps towards her empowerment.

B: Incentives for the Education of the Girl Child

987- One of the MDGs is to promote access to primary and secondary education so as to combat disparities and ensure access of women to decent jobs. That is why in addition to the actions carried out by the State to promote the right to education, the education of the girl child remains a priority. In 2014, a national awareness raising campaign for communities and families on the schooling of girls was organized at the end of which prizes were awarded to 70 laureates who obtained the *Baccalaureat* and GCE A/L in sciences.

988- Although the realities are not the same in the community and in schools, progress was made in the schooling of the girl child in the 3

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Northern Regions of the country from efforts by public authorities, private initiatives and partners thereby reducing the number of school dropouts. Government sought ways and means of providing the girl children concerned with incentives for their schooling, in particular, food rations, school kits, and bursaries. The distribution of foodstuffs to female pupils and students in the Priority Education Areas (PEA) with the support of partners was part of the strategy adopted under the girl child schooling incentives.

989- Thus, 19,459 pupils and students from 84 schools received foodstuffs from the World Food Programme (WFP) in the Far North Region (223,610 tonnes) and North Region (149,699 tonnes), comprising mainly rice, beans, oil, salt and maize.⁴³⁷ The NGO Counterpart which combats malnutrition and encourages the schooling of the girl child, also executed the “*School Canteen and Dry Ration*” Project in 150 schools in the North Region by distributing dry rations to female pupils in classes *CE2*, *CMI* and *CMII*. Bursary grants to girls in class *CMII* to help them compile their files for the *CEP* and *Concours d’entrée en 6^{ème}* examinations in the PEAs was also one of the measures taken to encourage the schooling of the girl child.⁴³⁸

990- In order to improve the schooling rate of the girl child, Ngaoundere III Council organized on 22 March 2014, with the support of the National Community-driven Programme, a workshop aimed at acceding to quality primary education throughout the cycle. Only 51% of girls in the Adamawa Region and 74% of boys attend school. Some of the bottlenecks include illiteracy of parents, acute poverty of families, and early pregnancies. Thus, the Mayor undertook to renovate 3 destroyed classrooms and provide 20 primary schools with teaching aids.

991- As an illustration, in the 47 schools in Porhi Subdivision, Mayo-Kani Division, Far North Region, 7,668 girls and 8,909 boys were registered in the 2013/2014 academic year. In Government School, Touloum II, capital of the Subdivision, 512 pupils among whom 308 girls were

⁴³⁷Since 2010, the implementation of this programme has been hampered by many difficulties relating to the financing of projects by the WFP that decided to reduce the number of WFP-assisted schools from 109 in 2012 to 84 in 2014, with a student population of 19,459 in 2014 as against 25,875 before.

⁴³⁸In addition to promoting female teachers in rural schools to serve as models to female pupils and students, separate latrines for girls and boys were built.

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registered during school reopening on 8 September 2014. The number of girls effectively present in classrooms at the end of the last academic year increased significantly.

992- Efforts made showed an increase in schooling rate from 116% in the 2011/2012 academic year to 118% in the 2013/2014 academic year, with a completion rate of girls in primary school climbing from 69% to 70.3% during the same periods. These measures were further aimed at developing female entrepreneurship.

§2: Development of Female Entrepreneurship

993- Government, with the support of its partners, made significant efforts in the institutional and material guidance of women or women's groups.

A: Institutional Guidance of Women

994- Constant training is one of Government's strategies to empower women. That is why the development of structures to guide women such as the Women and the Family Centre, Mbanga and Fifinda, and the completion of the Centres of Dschang, Bafang, and Bibemi significantly helped in reducing the duplication of training for women.

995- The structures are specialized technical units in charge among others, of ensuring intellectual, civic, moral, and vocational training of female and male school dropouts in areas such as dress making, hotel industry and restaurants, hair dressing, processing and conservation of farm products, and many other social strategies.

996- It is worthy to mention the implementation of programmes, projects, strategies, and studies on the insertion of women in the economic circles such as the Agricultural Development Programme in humid tropical zones "Humid Tropics", with the support of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA); the Economic and Social Inclusion Programme (PRINCES), with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and the Poverty Reduction Programme at the Base-phase II, which aim at supporting the local economy to speed up growth.

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B: Material Support for Income-generating Activities

997- Public authorities provided vulnerable women with material and financial support. In the 10 Regions of Cameroon, women organizations received:

- small agricultural material to the tune of CFAF25,000,000⁴³⁹; and
- grants for the structuring and execution of income-generating activities worth CFAF30,000,000⁴⁴⁰.

998- During celebrations of the 19th edition of the International Day of Rural Women on 15 October 2014 under the theme *"Together, let's celebrate family agriculture"*, a kit worth CFAF50,000,000⁴⁴¹ comprising dismantlable poultry houses, sprayers, and shovels was handed to rural women in Mbam-and-Inoubou Division by the Group of Female Agricultural Associations in Mbam-and-Inoubou Division (RAFAMI) to enable them to changeover from subsistence agriculture to the development of income-generating activities.

999- The opening of an unprecedented promotional fair dedicated to female entrepreneurship was organized from 27 November to 1 December 2014 at the Chamber of Commerce, Handicrafts and Industry of Cameroon under the auspices of the Association for the Promotion and Harmonious Development of Women and Children (PRODHAFE), and geared towards the socio-economic insertion of women, thereby giving added value to their work. During the fair, products from local dyeing, embroidery, knitting, and small-scale pastry were exhibited. At the end of the fair, PRODHAFE decided to set up a cooperative society to promote the activities of women in Cameroon.

1000- Women and young school dropouts in the North Region benefited, with the support of the NGO Care International, from a project to improve insertion and development opportunities of income-generating activities.

⁴³⁹About 38,167.94 Euros

⁴⁴⁰About 45,801.53 Euros

⁴⁴¹About 76,335.88 Euros

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The goal of the project was to set up savings and solidarity assistance mechanisms through village savings and loan associations. Thus, 12 groups of 20 vulnerable women, organized in associations were selected from 3 pilot councils of the project: Garoua I Council, Garoua II Council, and Pitoa Council. An additional 100 young school dropouts divided into 10 groups of 10 youths were added to the women's groups.

1001- The adoption of a Gender Promotion institutional framework constitutes the formal bedrock that aims at driving forward the rights of women in all areas and sectors of national life if the stakeholders properly understand this document. All in all, progress made in 2014 on the right to participate in the management of public affairs or in curbing violence against women reflects the efficiency of Government measures that need to be consolidated.

Chapitre

5

**PROTECTION
OF REFUGEES**



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1002- The political instability in the Central African Republic, acts by the terrorist group *Boko Haram* committed against the people of North Eastern Nigeria, conflicts between breeders and farmers in Benoue and Cross River States, Nigeria, caused a massive influx of foreigners seeking refuge, and the displacement of people in border areas. The management of such humanitarian emergency directed Government's actions supported by development partners⁴⁴² towards the setting up of a refugee management coordination structure in charge of reception and settlement, health and nutrition, sanitation, education, and security of refugees.

SECTION 1: MASSIVE INFLUX OF REFUGEES

1003- As per the procedure of acquisition of the status of refugee, in an emergency situation such as the massive influx of foreigners observed, Cameroon received 145,649 persons of Central African and Nigerian nationalities settled in rural sites prepared for such purpose by Government. These persons were recognized as *prima facie*⁴⁴³ refugees.

1004- With regard to the individual procedure, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (HCR) registered 9,102 applications for asylum in Yaounde and Douala.

1005- Concerning refugees, 30,673 applications in all and 1,836 application from Nigerians were registered in the Far North and South West Regions, while 113,140 applications from Central Africans were registered in the East, Adamawa, and North Regions.

1006- On the whole, in 2014, Cameroon received 275,880 persons from 38 nationalities. They comprised 11,754⁴⁴⁴ asylum seekers and 264,126 refugees⁴⁴⁵. Central Africans have the highest number with 230,106 persons (126,476 children, 56,422 women, 45,774 men) followed by Ni-

⁴⁴²Great Britain donated £5,500,000 (about 7,599,376.76 Euros and CFAF4,977,591,777.8), the European Union, 6,500,000 Euros (about CFAF4,225,000,000), the International Civil Defence Organization of Russia, CFAF3,500,000,000 (about 5,343,511.45 Euros) and the Republic of Turkey through the Cameroon Association for Assistance and Solidarity (ACAMAS), humanitarian assistance worth \$50,000 (about 38,167.93 Euros and CFAF25,000,000) and 26 tonnes of different products provided by Turkish charity organizations.

⁴⁴³Refugees recognized in a group based on an evaluation of the situation in the country of origin that has caused their departure.

⁴⁴⁴About 3,989 children, 2,803 women and 4,962 men.

⁴⁴⁵About 139,587 children, 60,272 women, 47,919 men and 16,919 persons for whom pre-registration data were not yet fully verified.

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gerians with 40,009 persons (15,030 children, 5,495 women, 4,390 men). A number of measures were taken to oversee their proper settlement.

SECTION 2: ESTABLISHMENT OF A REFUGEE MANAGEMENT COORDINATION STRUCTURE

1007- In order to ensure proper management of emergency situations concerning refugees in Cameroon, the Head of State signed Order No. 269 on 13 March 2014 to set up an *Ad hoc* Interministerial Committee with a defined plan of action.

§1: Ad hoc Interministerial Committee

1008- The Committee which is chaired by the Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization, comprises the Minister of External Relations, the Minister Delegate at the Presidency in charge of Defence, the Minister of Public Health, the Minister in charge of Missions, the Permanent Secretary of the National Security Council, the Secretary of State to the Minister of Defence in charge of the National Gendarmerie, the Delegate General for National Security, and the Director General for External Research.

1008.1- The Committee works in close collaboration with the HCR to harmonize the responses of the different stakeholders on the field. It is in charge of examining the humanitarian, socio-economic, health and security challenges, and the legitimate concerns of receiving communities with a view to proposing appropriate measures to Government. Besides, regional sub-committees were set up to achieve the results and the monitoring/evaluation of actions on the affected sites.

§2: Plan of Action of the Committee

1009- In order to give proper attention to adequate supervision of refugees, a Plan of action focusing on the following 4 challenges was designed:

- at the humanitarian level, step up health care, feeding and accommodation of refugees in the sites prepared for such purpose;
- at the level of security, strengthen the security mechanism at borders

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- and prevent cohabitation conflicts;
- at the socio-economic level, improve basic social infrastructure of the localities concerned and support socio-economic reinsertion both for refugees and migrants, and members of the receiving communities; and
- at the management level, oversee the proper functioning of the above-mentioned subcommittees.

SECTION 3: RECEPTION AND SETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES

1010- Refugees, who are found in 8 Regions of the country, except in the West and South Regions, were welcomed and settled on sites developed for such purpose, and in local communities.

§1: Settlement at Site

1011- Central African refugees who are settled mainly in the East, Adamawa and North Regions, were accommodated in the following 6 camps: Lolo I (48ha), Mbile (48ha), Timangolo (46ha), Zimbi (50ha), Garoua-Sambe (50ha), Mborguene in the Lom and Djerem Division where tents with a capacity of some 10,000 men were built on some 40ha of land, and Mbounou (50ha).

1012- Nigerian refugees were settled in Mayo-Tsanaga and Logone and Chari Divisions, Far North Region. The majority of them were accommodated in the Minawao Camp, Mayo-Tsanaga Division. In addition, some 3,582 refugees settled in the South West Region (following inter-ethnic conflicts and conflicts between farmers and breeders).

1013- On the whole, 7,343 settlements were created in order to accommodate refugees. Although the number of settlements is significant, the initiative did not meet the high demand. That is why it is intended to create a further 9,500 semi-permanent settlements.

§2: Reception in Local Communities

1014- Some refugees living away from the settlements were given accommodation mainly in rural areas in host communities, especially in 308 villages across some 50,000km².

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1015- In order to guarantee the protection and well-being of refugees living in and out of the settlements, a call for \$111,134,636⁴⁴⁶ was launched in 2014. Only 42% of the amount was received, and the funds were used to provide health and food coverage for refugees.

SECTION 4: HEALTH AND FOOD COVERAGE

1016- Actions were taken to guarantee refugees' health and food coverage for their survival.

§1: Health Coverage

117- Health care was administered to refugees, treatment for severe acute malnutrition provided to mother and child, and more health facilities built.

A: Administration of Health Care

1018- Both preventive treatment and cure was given to refugees.

1) Preventive Care

1019- Before the distribution of refugees to various settlements, MIN-SANTE took measures to vaccinate them, and the International Medical Corps deployed medical staff to provide them with emergency health care. The Health District, Mokolo, Far North Region, with the support of WHO continued routine vaccination of refugees and awareness raising to eradicate poliomyelitis.

1020- At the entry port of Tocktoyo, East Region, 25 child refugees were vaccinated against measles and 53 others against poliomyelitis, with the support of WHO and UNICEF . In fact, UNICEF shared the results of the immunization carried out from 29 December 2014 to 4 January 2015 at the ports of entry of Kenzou, Garoua Boulai, Tocktoyo, and Gbiti. Some 15 children (0-59 months) received the oral dose of the poliomyelitis vaccin and 73 others (6 months-15 years) were vaccinated against measles.

⁴⁴⁶About 104,923.59 Euros and CFAF68,724,951.45

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1021- In urban areas, the HCR offered refugees a minimum package of assistance comprising 6 months free medical care at arrival, and after 6 months, payment of 30% of their treatment.

2) Treatment

1022- Taking into account promiscuity and poor hygienic conditions in some camps, outbreaks of cholera were registered especially in one of the reception camps in Touboro, Mayo-Rey Division, North Region, as well as cases of measles, acute flaccid paralysis, and yellow fever, with a predominance of acute respiratory infections, malaria, and dermatitis.

1023- Other measures were taken to guarantee the health of patients suffering from infections. The French Red Cross Society, for example, conducted 471 consultations. At the end of the consultations, there were 26 admissions, 25 referrals/evacuations, and 9 ante-natal consultations at the District Hospital, Kette and the Integrated Health Centres in Timangolo and Bethany. Furthermore, a surveillance mechanism was set up for diseases such as malaria and cholera.

B: Reduction of Severe Acute Mother and Child Malnutrition

1024- Actions on awareness raising, support and treatment of severe acute mother and child malnutrition were taken.

1) Awareness Raising and Support Actions

1025- Through *Action Contre la Faim (ACF)*, UNICEF carried out activities on emergency infant and young child feeding. With regard to awareness raising, 50 group discussions were organized in Timangolo, Mbile and Lolo camps; 2,995 home visits to women with difficulties in breastfeeding or in need of healthcare practices for children; educational talks with 1,171 pregnant women and/or nursing mothers and infected mother/child couples; some 5,838 persons sensitized on breastfeeding, healthcare practices and psycho-social problems (men, women, grandmothers, etc).

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1026- As concerns support actions, 7 baby tents were built in Lolo, Mbile and Timangolo camps. Besides, the International Federation of Red Cross distributed milk for infants and 35 food kits to patients admitted in the Regional Hospital, Bertoua. A total of 57 tonnes of nutritional inputs were also distributed to pregnant women, nursing mothers and children in December 2014.

2) Management Actions

1027- As part of treatment of severe acute malnutrition, actions were taken in camps and health structures. Support was provided by UNICEF to management structures in the East Region, nutrition services in the Regional Delegation of Public Health and partners of the nutrition sector for the collection of management data of patients. UNICEF further provided support to the East Region in setting up a database of the severe acute malnutrition management programme for all the 14 health districts and those of emergency zones.

1028- At the operational level, nutrition centres were set up. The most attended centres in 2014 included the Ambulatory Nutrition Centre for the Severely Malnourished, which identified 6,189 new admissions and 2 Internal Therapeutic Nutritional Centres with 2,180 new admissions registered. Thus, the total number of new identified admissions through UNICEF stood at 8,369, representing 106.54% of expected cases.⁴⁴⁷

1029- Besides, in December 2014, the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme⁴⁴⁸ (BSFP) carried out a coverage rate of 97% for children and 86% for pregnant women and nursing mothers. There was an overall improvement of the nutritional situation with general acute malnutrition rates dropping to 2% and 3% respectively for children, pregnant women and nursing mothers. However, the rates are strictly indicative and limited solely to sites covered by the BSFP with the use of the Mid-Upper Arm Circumfe-

⁴⁴⁷7,855 new refugees were expected in the most affected areas by the crisis.

⁴⁴⁸It is a supplementary food ration given to a vulnerable group and for a given period. The aim is to prevent acute malnutrition and treat moderate malnutrition in the target group.

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rence⁴⁴⁹ for screening. The Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme⁴⁵⁰ conducted in December 2014 covered 9,325 children and 4,792 pregnant women and nursing mothers.

1030- About 3,141 beneficiaries were discharged from the programme in the same month and as an example, performance indicators of the Health Districts of Batouri, Betare Oya, Bertoua, and Kette were acceptable while those of Ndelele and Garoua Boulai were below standard.

C: Strengthening Health Structures

1031- Actions to promote the health of refugees were hampered by shortage of stock of nutritional inputs and drugs, lack of equipment, poor technical facilities of health structures of reception zones, and low distribution coverage of insecticidal nets. In order to address the situation, the HCR supported Government in the East and Adamawa Regions through the building of 7 health centres, a surgical theatre in Djohong Hospital and renovation of 13 Integrated Health Centres, while the UNDP helped strengthen the Mokolo Hospital.

§2: Distribution of Foodstuffs and Promotion of Personal Empowerment

1032- In the East and Adamawa Regions, the HCR took part in the construction of 235 water points and provided food support to the residents of the *Case Sociale* in Mandjou on the Timangolo site where the International Relief and Development Organization (IRD) continued to monitor the kitchen gardens. Furthermore, WFP provided food rations to refugees through the Cameroon Red Cross Society, and the Republic of Turkey offered 50 cattle to Central African refugees in the East Region during the feast of the Tabaski.

1033- In order to strengthen self-empowerment of refugees, Government, assisted by UNICEF, distributed seedlings and agricultural tools to refugee

⁴⁴⁹A bracelet used to measure the perimeter of the arm of children between 6 months and 5 years old. It indicates the level of malnutrition of children and helps to quickly evaluate the nutritional situation of a population.

⁴⁵⁰A supplementary ration given to persons suffering from moderate acute malnutrition in specific vulnerable groups.

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and Cameroonian families, while the HCR organized income-generating activities for the most vulnerable groups with sporadic assistance where and whenever necessary. Thus, beneficiaries of vegetable cultivation harvested and sold the products of their labour.

SECTION 5: SANITATION ACTIONS

1034- Sanitation actions consisted in distributing hygiene products, building health installations, and taking environmental protection measures.

§1: Distribution of Hygiene Products

1035- A number of actions were taken to ensure the hygiene and sanitation of refugees; for example, during the 22nd edition of the World Water Day in March 2014, Government and UNICEF distributed gifts to refugee camps and schools. Thus, 3,000 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) kits were offered to 3,000 families in the Mborguene and Gado-Badzere camps, Garoua Boulai Subdivision, and Lolo camp, Bombe Subdivision. The families also received 40kg of granular calcium hypochloride to purify water, 8,640 aqua tablets for water purification at home, 100 hygiene kits for adults, and 3 reservoirs of which 2 of 5,000 litres and 1 of 10,000 litres. In primary schools along the Bertoua-Garoua-Boulai road, the caravan distributed 50 wash hand kits to reduce the risk of epidemics in the localities.

1036- Furthermore, in the Timangolo camp, the HCR distributed 4,318 cubes of soap and 929 packets of sanitary napkins to women of child-bearing age, while the organization CARE completed the distribution of household kits comprising a 20 litre jug, a 15 litre bucket, a kettle, 4 cubes of soap and 1 cup. Besides, 251 WASH Kits were distributed as motivation to households in Ndokayo that completed the building of their Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) latrines.

§2: Health Installations

1037- Many actions were taken to help refugees live in a decent environment with sanitary installations. Some of the actions included contribution by the Swiss organization *Afrique Solidarité*, UNICEF's partner that sup-

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ported the CLTS process and helped build latrines for 251 households in Ndokayo mentioned above. In addition, the renovation of vandalized UNICEF latrines by refugee communities of Gado site, carried out by the *Association Internationale des Enfants de la Rue* (AIDER) was completed, and the newly operational 2 pumping stations distributed 80m³ of water per day on average; that is, 25% of daily water needs. Such support and other existing infrastructure helped improve the ratio of water availability that stood at 16.9 litres/person/day. About 2,501 showers were built, 565 of which were built by UNICEF, 6 by Plan Cameroon, and 1,930 by the HCR which further helped build 187 boreholes.

1038- The infrastructure enabled the achievement of the following ratios per site:

- Lolo (18 functional boreholes): 22 litres/person/day, 23 persons per latrine and 32 persons per shower;
- Mbile (12 boreholes): 15 litres/person/day, 24 persons per latrine and 43 persons per shower;
- Timangolo (5 boreholes): 16 litres/person/day, 18 persons per latrine and 13 persons per shower;
- Ngarisingo (2 boreholes): 25 litres/person/day; 11 persons per latrine and 12 persons per shower;
- Gado (21 boreholes and 1 water trucking system): 13.4 litres/person/day, 34 persons per latrine and 61 persons per shower;
- Borgop (13 boreholes and 4 wells): 19.1 litres/person/day, 29 persons per latrine; 31 persons per shower; and
- Ngam (4 boreholes): 19.2 litres/person/day, 14 persons per latrine and 23 persons per shower.

1039- Analysis shows that efforts made are still insufficient, for the needs in boreholes and latrines in 2014 that stood at 398 and 828 respectively were not fully met. Therefore, it is necessary to build an additional 54 boreholes, 865 latrines and 1,123 showers to try to meet the needs of all the sites.

§3: Environmental Protection

1040- In order to reduce the use of firewood and preserve the environment, the weeding of new farmland in the sites started and continues, just like the training of refugees in the manufacture of improved stoves. To this

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effect, 1,600 stoves have already been manufactured, and a project to open a nursery of 10,000 trees to be planted in the camps is envisioned to resolve among other things, the problem of shade and firewood.

SECTION 6: EDUCATION OF REFUGEES

1041- The strategy to guarantee the right to education of thousands of refugee children consisted, for the most part, in updating the Temporary Learning Areas and Protection of Children (ETAPE), registering them in public schools, and providing them with necessary didactic material.

§1: Refresher Courses in ETAPES

1042- In order to encourage the protection and development of children, MINAS, in collaboration with the HCR designed a project to set up Protection ETAPE/Child Friendly Areas (EAE) in many camps. They include temporary school areas with accelerated programmes, and each site has 16 of such programmes. Among the 87 ETAPES constructed by UNICEF and its implementation partner Plan Cameroon, educational activities reopened in 68 education-dedicated Areas in 5 sites (Gado, Timangolo, Mbile, Lolo, and Borgop) in the East and Adamawa Regions after their suspension during holidays. In these sites 9,269 refugee children (6-9 years old) benefited from educational activities, among them, 3,323 girls (36%) and 5,946 boys (64%). In addition, 112 temporary apprenticeship workshops were organized in camps in the said Regions by Plan Cameroon, UNICEF and the HCR.

1043- With regard to the teaching staff, there were 74 teachers in the ETAPES, among who 54 qualified volunteers and 20 support staff working under the supervision of Head Teachers of host schools.

1044- All in all, 572 pupils from ETAPES were transferred to host schools after placement tests for their reinsertion in the regular school system.

§2: Integration into Public Schools

1045- During the 2014/2015 academic year in the East Region and especially in the Timangolo, Lolo I, Gado-Badzere, and Gari Simbo sites, 2,216 refugee children were registered in schools, in addition to those al-

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ready attending school outside the localities. On the whole, 1,720 pupils were in *SIL*, and the others in higher classes. The Cameroon school syllabuses designed by UNICEF were taught in the said schools as part of education acceleration dubbed "*Preparatory accelerated Curriculum for Primary School*" and "*Reinsertion accelerated Curriculum for Children with no Schooling*".

1046- In the Bilingual Primary School and Bilingual Secondary School set up by Government in Minawao Camp, lessons were taught by qualified staff comprising 12 teachers, among whom were 9 Cameroonians and 3 refugees.

1047- The Guiwa-Yangamo High School had 102 Central African refugees out of 302 students on roll at the opening of the 2014/2015 academic year, while younger refugees attended the Government Primary School, and Nursery, Yangamo.

1048- On the whole, the HCR gave the parents of the pupils and students financial assistance to cover the different expenses. The same applied to the most deserving university students through the German Scholarship Programme (DAFI).

§3: Supply of Education Material

1049- Considering the increase in the number of students, the following measures were taken to address the shortage of existing infrastructure, and facilitate teaching: construction of 26 schools with 10,000 desks and distribution of desks to many other schools by the HCR in East and Adamawa Regions; construction of 2 buildings, renovation and distribution of latrines and 1 borehole for drinking water in Government High School, Yangamo by the HCR.

1050- Concerning training, the distribution of pedagogic materials handed to Plan Cameroon by UNICEF continued in the ETAPes and host public schools. Furthermore, 7,713 children and 74 teachers in the sites as well as 2,636 pupils and 6 teachers in host public schools received pedagogic and apprenticeship material. In addition, Government granted

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CFAF1,000,000⁴⁵¹ to Government Primary School, Minawao for the management of emergency actions.

1051- The overall analysis shows a low intake capacity of public schools in refugee accommodation areas, shortage of qualified staff, and poor attendance of learners, especially young girls.

SECTION 7: GUARANTEEING THE RIGHT TO SECURITY

1052- Preventive and repressive measures were taken to promote smooth cohabitation between refugees and local people.

1053- In accordance with the principle of non-discrimination, public authorities and the HCR adopted a strategy aimed not only at raising awareness of refugees and drawing their attention to their rights and duties in their host land, but also designing joint projects between indigenous people and refugees to preserve peaceful cohabitation. That is why constructed or rehabilitated schools, health centres, and water points are used by the two communities.

1054- On the whole, joint actions by Government and its partners helped address this serious humanitarian challenge, thereby enabling a large number of the recent wave of refugees to benefit from emergency humanitarian assistance. The earlier refugees are socially and/or economically well integrated, while waiting for an alternative status guaranteeing their legal integration. In order to consolidate the solidarity option taken by Cameroon, the multi-faceted support of partners is necessary, since the financial burden to meet the scope of the needs in 2015 is estimated at \$145,304,541.⁴⁵²

⁴⁵¹About 1,526.71 Euros

⁴⁵²About 110,919,490 Euros or CFAF72,652,270,500

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CONCLUSION OF PART THREE

1055- Efforts made by Government with the support of its partners to improve specific rights brought changes in the areas discussed although there are still significant hitches.

1056- Strengthening governance and sanctions to curb corruption, increasing penitentiary staff and setting up Social Action Services for indigenous people and a Platform to combat Gender-Based Violence are some of the actions taken by Government. Order No. 269 to set up an *Ad hoc* Interministerial Committee for Emergency Management of Refugees will help coordinate the management of humanitarian crises efficiently.

1057- However, these actions cannot overshadow the challenges still to be addressed, especially overcrowding in prisons, stepping up care for the elderly, improper management of public affairs, and inadequacy of the institutional framework designed to tackle the issues of Gender. In this regard, it is hoped that the National Gender Policy Document and the Multi-sector Implementation Plan under completion, will provide solutions especially with the strong political determination and commitment of all the stakeholders.



GENERAL

CONCLUSION



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1058- An analysis of Human Rights in Cameroon in 2014 shows both achievements and shortcomings.

1059- Whereas one could have expected that the relative political calm due to the absence of electoral disputes would make it possible to fully dedicate efforts towards meeting the needs of the people, the fight against the *Boko Haram* Sect and incursions of armed groups from the Central African Republic imposed border defence and maintenance of security as priorities in order to preserve peace. Therefore, in addition to the humanitarian response, the military and security mechanism was readjusted and the normative framework amended. These measures should be consolidated just as the protection of Human Rights in the fight against terrorism that could flourish in a context of socio-economic hardship.

1060- In this regard, although one can be satisfied with the improvement of schooling indicators, extension of social security to stakeholders of the informal sector, and the confirmation of social dialogue, measures intended to enhance the standard of living of the people were not fully satisfactory. Indeed, shortage of water and electricity supply persisted just like difficult access to low-cost housing and healthcare, with the disturbing maternal mortality rate being one of the most illustrative indicators. Furthermore, adapting the education system to the labour market is still to be consolidated in order to encourage a better social insertion of youths. The same holds true for the prohibition of using plastic packaging of less than 61 microns the effectiveness of which, in addition to repression, depends on continued awareness raising with a view to changing consumption habits and developing relevant alternatives.

1061- In order to achieve a faster pace of reforms and register, in the short-term, a more perceptible impact of Government's social and economic actions⁴⁵³, a 3-year Emergency Plan to accelerate growth was validated by the President of the Republic who, by Decree No. 2014/575 of 19 December 2014, to set up a monitoring Committee to that effect. The involvement and participation of the people in the implementation of the Plan

⁴⁵³The sectors referred to include road infrastructure, urban development, energy, water, health, agriculture, and security.

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and all other initiatives to improve the standard of living of the people must be strengthened to ensure sustainability.

1062- On the whole, with regard to guaranteeing rights, more courts have been set up to that effect. The effective functioning of administrative courts has offered a large number of people the opportunity to exercise the right to an effective judicial remedy, thereby highlighting the submission of the State before the law, an essential condition of the rule of law.

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Appendix

The following institutions contributed in preparing this Report: the Sub-regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa, the UNHCR, the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and Lower Courts, Ministries, Government Services, independent services, public and semi-public establishments, and civil society organizations:

Ministries

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER);
- Ministry of Arts and Culture (MINAC);
- Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB);
- Ministry of Commerce (MINCOMMERCE);
- Ministry of Defence (MINDEF);
- Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT);
- Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training (MINEFOP);
- Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED);
- Ministry of External Relations (MINREX);
- Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF);
- Ministry of Higher Education (MINESUP);
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MINHDU);
- Ministry of Justice;
- Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MINTSS);
- Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry (MINEPIA);
- Ministry of Mines, Industry and Technological Development (MINMIDT);
- Ministry of Post and Telecommunication (MINPOSTEL);
- Ministry of Public Contracts (MINMAP);
- Ministry of Public Health (MINSANTE);
- Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reform (MINFOPRA);
- Ministry of Secondary Education (MINESEC);
- Ministry of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Social Economy and Handicrafts (MINPMEESA);
- Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS);
- Ministry in charge of Supreme State Audit (MINCONSUPE);

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- Ministry of State Property Lands, Surveys and Land Tenure (MINDCAF);
- Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (MINATD);
- Ministry of Tourism and Leisure (MINTOUL);
- Ministry of Water Resources and Energy (MINEE);
- Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family (MINPROFF);
- Ministry of Youth and Civic Education (MINJEC).

Government services

- General Delegation for National Security (DGSN);
- National Gendarmerie.

Councils and Independent Administrative Services

- Authority for the Development and Equipment of Urban and Rural Lands (MAETUR);
- Authority for the Regulation and Supply of Staples (MIRAP);
- Cameroon Bar Association;
- Cameroon Housing Corporation (SIC);
- City Council, Douala (CUD);
- City Council, Yaounde (CUY);
- Elections Cameroon (ELECAM);
- Electricity Sector Regulatory Agency (ARSEL);
- National Anti-Corruption Commission (CONAC);
- National Employment Fund (FNE);
- National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms (NCHRF);
- National Communication Council (CNC);
- National Financial Investigation Agency (ANIF);
- National Institute of Statistics (NIS);
- National Programme for good Governance (PNG);
- National Social Insurance Fund (NSIF);
- Standard and Agency Quality (ANOR).

Civil Society Organizations

- ACAT-Cameroon;
- African Action on Aids (AAA);

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- *Afrique Future*;
- Cameroon Network of Human Rights Organizations (RECODH);
- Citizens Governance Initiatives (IGC);
- Confederation of Cameroon Trade Unions (CSTC);
- DESC-CAM Plateform;
- National Associations and Institutions of and for Persons with Disabilities of Cameroon (UNAPHAC);
- Plan Cameroon.

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