

Trade facilitation

The CNSC takes stock

Working session held at the CNSC Ngoulentang Trucker Accommodation Centre

The General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC), Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda, led a strong delegation on Wednesday, 2 August 2023, to the CNSC Ngoulentang trucker accommodation centre in Mengang, in the Nyong et Mfoumou Division. The trip to Ngoulentang also featured a working session with Mr. François Etapa, Senior Divisional Officer (SDO) of the Nyong et Mfoumou Division, at the SDO's office.

The primary aim of the meeting was to give new impetus to the activities of this trade facilitation infrastructure situated along the Douala-Ndjamena, Douala-Bangui and Kribi-Ndjamena, Kribi-Bangui corridors.

The CNSC Ngoulentang Trucker Accommodation Centre is a logistics base for actors of cross-border trade carrying goods from or bound for landlocked countries like Chad and the Central African Republic. Constructed on an area measuring 5 hectares, the trucker accommodation centre offers modern facilities with comfortable living and working conditions, thereby guaranteeing the safety of users and their goods. It includes a parking lot for 500 trucks, lodging facilities, an eatery, a shopping area, a mosque, a borehole, a power generator, an administrative block and watchtowers. The facility has been operational since 14 October 2022.



On-site visit of the facility

ECTN for marine cargo

Launch of procedure

Now available at the CNSC Centre Regional Office

On 29 August 2023, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) officially launched procedures for the issuance of Electronic Cargo Tracking Notes (ECTN) at its Centre Regional Office in Yaoundé. The launch featured a training seminar for Yaoundé-based foreign trade actors and was followed by an awareness-raising session for business persons under the technical supervision of Mrs. Rahimatou Bello, CNSC Deputy Director for Operations, and Mr. Owono Bob,

CNSC Centre Regional Branch Manager.



Participants

As part of its mission to assist shippers, the CNSC thought it necessary to streamline this procedure for business persons operating in and around the Centre region. The outcome is that shippers based in the Centre Region will be able to establish their Electronic Cargo Tracking Notes and receive assistance with any other related services at this office as from 5 September 2023.

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Free



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Quality Management System certified under ISO 9001 : 2015 by Bureau Veritas for issuance of the Electronic Cargo Tracking Note for maritime imports and exports.

Dear shippers,

On Wednesday, 27 September 2023, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) will officially open two new trade facilitation infrastructures: the CNSC Far North Regional Office and the CNSC Kousseri Trucker Accommodation Centre. Located some 500 metres from Ndjamea, these two facilities will be used by cross-border traders transporting goods from or bound for neighbouring Chad.

The CNSC recently hosted an important working session chaired by Cameroon's trade minister, Luc Magloire Mbarga Atangana. This working session with international trade stakeholders essentially focused on rice imports and available stocks of this commodity on the market and in warehouses. The objective was to sample measures that could be taken in the event of a shortage in supply.

In line with its mission to promote Cameroon's foreign trade, the CNSC organized an awareness-raising training seminar on the establishment of Electronic Cargo Tracking Notes (ECTNs) for marine cargo at the CNSC Centre Regional Office in Yaoundé, attended by a number of business persons. Meanwhile, another training session on import/export procedures under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) was organized in Douala at the initiative of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee charged with implementing the AfCFTA Guided Trade Initiative in Cameroon.

Rounding-off news for the month of August at the CNSC, the Union of African Shippers' Councils (UASC), headquartered in Cameroon - Douala, officially installed its new Secretary General recently elected in Dakar during the Union's General Assembly.

Have an enjoyable reading !

Auguste Mbappe Penda
CNSC General Manager

TRADE FACILITATION

THE CNSC FAR NORTH REGIONAL OFFICE AND TRUCKER ACCOMMODATION CENTRE GO OPERATIONAL IN KOUSSERI



- **Consultations : Trade Minister chairs working session at the CNSC ;**
- **UASC : New General Secretary takes office ;**
- **AfCFTA : Capacity reinforcement seminar for SMEs ;**
- **Trade Facilitation : Working visit at the CNSC Ngoulentang Trucker Accommodation Centre;**
- **Maritime ECTN now available at the CNSC Centre Regional Office ;**

Cross-border trade

New trade facilitation infrastructures

CNSC opens a Regional Office and Trucker Accommodation Centre in the Far North Region

In 2010, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) launched a nationwide programme to build trade facilitation infrastructures, mainly regional offices and trucker facilities, in the country's border regions brimming with trade flows. The objective of this programme is to promote cross-border trade between Cameroon and its neighbours, especially landlocked countries like Chad and the Central African Republic. The CNSC will officially open the doors of its Far North Regional Office and Kousseri Trucker Accommodation Centre on 27 September 2023, meaning the CNSC will henceforth be present in eight (8) of Cameroon's ten (10) regions.



CNSC and measures 5 hectares in surface area. Construction work at the facility was launched on 13 February 2018 and it comprises an administrative block, a secure parking lot for 200 trucks, an eatery for 60 persons, 40 self-contained rooms, a health centre, a prayer hall, and a truck maintenance workshop, with steady electricity and water supply.

CNSC Far North Regional Office

The facility has a guard post which guarantees extra security. Far from being a rest area with some extra amenities, the CNSC Kousseri Trucker Accommodation Centre will help to promote the Douala/Kribi-Ndjamena road corridor, provide safety for persons and goods, offer affordable accommodation, and fight against uncontrolled parking in public spaces.

CNSC Kousseri Trucker Accommodation Centre

To date, the CNSC has two operational trucker facilities: the Dibamba Trucker Accommodation Centre in Douala (Littoral Region) operational since 2019, and the Ngoulentang Trucker Accommodation Centre (Centre Region) which went operational in 2022. Not forgetting CNSC Trucker Accommodation Centres currently under construction in Garoua-Boulai (East Region), Kribi (South Region) and Ngaoundere (Adamawa Region). The CNSC Kousseri Trucker Accommodation Centre is the third of its kind constructed by the

CNSC Far North Regional Office

As for CNSC Regional Offices, three (3) are now open to business persons in Kribi (South Region) since 2015, in Limbe (South-West Region) in 2016 and in Yaoundé (Centre Region) in 2021. Just like other CNSC regional offices, the soon-to-be inaugurated Kousseri regional office will offer a full range of CNSC services. Its missions will be to bring the CNSC closer to other public administrations, to assist business persons in the conduct of their activities in the region, and promote international trade through the facilitation of trade procedures.

Consultations

Focus on rice imports

The CNSC hosted the meeting chaired by the Minister of Trade

On 11 August 2023, the Minister of Trade, Mr. Luc Magloire Mbarga Atangana, chaired a working session at the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) attended by the Governor of the Littoral Region, Mr. Samuel Dieudonné Ivaha Diboua, and the General Manager of the CNSC, Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda. Many foreign trade actors, notably rice importers, also took part in the meeting convened to ascertain the quantities of rice available in



Panel of the working session

warehouses, as well as pending supplies, in order to avoid a possible shortage on the national territory. At the end of the discussions, the participants dispelled any doubts of a possible shortage in the availability of this commodity, given the quantities of rice in stock. The Minister of Trade called for transparency and good citizenship on the part of all stakeholders of the sector. The working session ended with a visit to warehouses within and without the Douala port area.

UASC

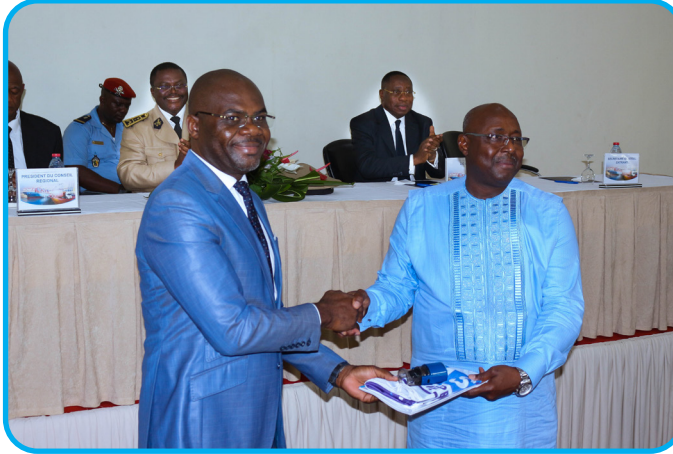
New General Secretary takes office

The installation ceremony was presided over by the Governor of the Littoral region.

On Friday 11 August 2023, the outgoing Secretary General of the Union of African Shippers' Councils (UASC), Mr. Giscard Lilian Ogoula, officially handed over to Niger's Abdourahamane Abba Kafougou, during an installation ceremony in Douala presided over by the Governor of the Littoral Region, Mr. Samuel Dieudonné Ivaha Diboua. The ceremony was attended by UASC's current Chairman and General Manager of the Senegalese Shippers' Council (COSEC) Mr. Abdoulaye DIOP, and Mr. Auguste MBAPPE PENDA, UASC's Statutory Treasurer and General manager of the

Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC).

Mr. Abdourahamane Abba Kafougou was elected on 10 May 2023 during UASC's 13th General Assembly in Dakar, Senegal. The new Secretary General is an expert in international trade and business management. He records over 22 years of experience working for the Niger Council of Public Transport Users (CNUT) holding several positions of responsibility including that of Director of the Trade and Transport Facilitation Observatory.



Handing over ceremony

AfCFTA

Understanding AfCFTA mechanisms

Training seminar organized in Douala for SMEs

On 30 and 31 August 2023, the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee in charge of the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Guided Trade Initiative in Cameroon, chaired by Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda, General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC), organized a training seminar in the CNSC training hall.

In addition to providing participants with a better understanding of the AfCFTA legal framework and its current level of implementation, the seminar also sought to explain the mechanisms of customs tariff liberalization and the associated business opportunities, and finally to provide companies with the information they need to determine the eligibility of their products on the AfCFTA market.

The two-day training seminar featured a number of experts, including Mr. Parfait Eppoh, Chief Negotiator and Coordinator of the Technical Secretariat of the AfCFTA National Committee; Mr. Engelbert Olomo Ateke, Head of the Economic Policy Unit at MINEPAT and Deputy Chief AfCFTA Negotiator for Cameroon; Mr. Cham Étienne Bama, Coordinator of the Technical Secretariat of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee in charge of facilitating the implementation of the AfCFTA Guided Trade Initiative in Cameroon; Mrs. Gisèle Rolande Mvoto, Head of the Studies, Projects and Strategic Monitoring Unit at ANOR and National Non-Tariff Barriers Focal Point for AfCFTA; and lastly Mrs. Hermine Mbarga Azambou, Trade Policy Expert and Executive President of ACODAF.



SMEs attending the seminar