



Dear shippers,

In April 2025, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) organised a series of events, the most prominent of which was the national workshop held in Yaoundé from 2 to 4 April 2025. This workshop which had as theme ***"Import-substitution: a key factor for the structural transformation of Cameroon's economy and the CEMAC sub-region"***, was officially launched by **Mr. Achille Bassilekin III**, Minister of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Social Economy and Handicrafts (MINPMEESA), and saw the participation of a host of SMEs.

Amongst its key objectives, the workshop sought to promote and encourage the purchase of local products, as well as boost the image of the local industry. To this end, a dedicated exhibition corner was provided for SMEs to showcase their ***"Made in Cameroon"*** products during the workshop.

Also, CNSC staff celebrated the 139<sup>th</sup> edition of International Labour Day at the CNSC in a festive atmosphere under the theme ***"Social dialogue and decent work: for a peaceful Cameroon"***. It was an opportunity for CNSC staff to engage in a wide range of intellectual, recreational, cultural and sporting activities, all in an effort to foster a conducive corporate environment.

Have an enjoyable reading!

Auguste Mbappe Penda

CNSC General Manager

## IMPORT-SUBSTITUTION

### CNSC ORGANISES WORKSHOP TO PROMOTE THE "MADE IN CAMEROON" BRAND



CNSC rallies over 500 SMEs for a workshop on Import-Substitution in Yaounde

ILD: CNSC staff actively take part in Labour Week activities organised by staff representatives

CNSC envisages signing an agreement with the University of Douala and University of Toulouse in France

CNSC officials attend training on maritime transport rules and contracts in France

## National workshop

### Import-substitution policy at the heart of discussions

CNSC rallies some 500 participants for a national workshop.



GM CNSC at the opening ceremony

On 2 April 2025, **Mr. Achille Bassilekin III**, Minister of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Social Economy and Handicrafts (**MINPMEESA**), officially launched the national workshop on Import-substitution, assisted by Mr.

**Auguste Mbappe Penda**, General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**). This workshop was organised by the CNSC which has amongst its key missions providing assistance to foreign trade actors through training.

Having as theme: **"Import-substitution: a key factor for the structural transformation of Cameroon's economy and the CEMAC sub-region"**, the workshop was attended by a number of experts from CNSC partner administrations, most of whom are engaged in promoting the import-substitution policy: **MINEPIA, MINEPAT, MINADER, GECAM, CEMAC, Customs, BC-PME, ANOR** and the **Customs Department**, and all contributed to the smooth organisation of the workshop.

One of the specific objectives of the workshop was to promote local products and develop local industry. To this end, a dedicated exhibition room was provided for SMEs to showcase their **"Made in Cameroon"** products during the workshop. CNSC teams on site conducted a review of products, their packaging, preservation methods and branding, with a view to provide SMEs and craftsmen with an outline of the elements that will enable them to be competitive on the international market and the intra-African market in particular.





## Celebration

### CNSC celebrates International Labour Day

CNSC staff take part in various activities organised by staff delegates.



CNSC staff at the awareness-raising session

**E**mployees of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) in Douala and other CNSC offices, more especially its regional offices, took part in a series of activities to mark the celebration of International Labour

Day in their cities, namely Yaoundé, Kribi, Limbe, Garoua, Kyé-Ossi, Ngoulentang and Abang Minko'o. The theme **"Social dialogue and decent work: for a peaceful Cameroon"** was chosen for this year's celebration of the 139<sup>th</sup> edition of International Labour Day in Cameroon.

In prelude to the big parade that took place on 1 May 2025, a number of activities were organised during Workers' Week. **Mrs Adele Massem**, from the Labour Inspectorate in Douala, was invited to give educational talks on social dialogue while **Dr Christian Eyoum**, a psychiatrist at Laquintinie Hospital in Douala, focused his presentation on psycho-social problems.

On the recreational, cultural and sporting front, CNSC staff took part in team-building exercises at its Dibamba trucker facility, followed by the finals of the GM's Mini Tournament on 27 April at the Bepanda Annexe Reunification Stadium in Douala. The football match ended with a 2-2 tie leading to a penalty shoot-out that saw the victory of the CNSC white team manned by new recruits. Lastly, staff were treated to a screening of the movie **"The Pursuit of Happiness"** at the Douala Maritime Museum in Douala.





## Cooperation

### CNSC to partner with Douala and Toulouse Universities

**CNSC envisages partnership with the University of Douala and the University of Toulouse in France.**



*Tripartite talks giving shape to the agreement*

On 15 April 2025, the General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) - **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**, held a working session with **Professor Hugues Kenfack**, President of the University of Toulouse Capitole in France, accompanied by **Professor Henri Modi Koko Bebey**, Secretary General at the University of Douala. The purpose of the meeting was to examine the possibility of a tripartite agreement between all three institutions with a view to offering training courses on In-land Transport, International Transport and Logistics to Master's level students.

The proposed agreement would take into account factors such as executive learning, distance learning and the mobility of both lecturers and students. It was against this background that CNSC's General Manager, **Mr Auguste Mbappe Penda**, reassured his guests of CNSC's ability to provide students with the practical support they need to enter the job market quickly. This envisaged partnership agreement between the CNSC, the University of Douala and the University of Toulouse would be signed in June 2025, hoping to launch classes at the start of the 2025-2026 academic year.

## Training

### Focus on maritime transport issues

**CNSC officials attend training in France.**



*CNSC officials at the training session*

From 23 to 25 April 2025, a team from the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC), led by **Mrs Claire Onana Takouchop**, Director for Shippers' Assistance, took part in a training workshop on maritime transport rules and maritime transport contracts at the Mahbouli Law Firm in Paris, France. The CNSC delegation included **Mrs Rahimatou Bello**, Sub-Director for Operations, **Herman Ngassa**, Sub-Director for Transports Observatory, **Mrs Eboupeke Gaelle**, Service Head at the Legal Department and **Mrs Nkama Stella**, Service Head for Public Relations.

This workshop sought to give them a better mastery of issues relating to maritime safety and security, as well as the responsibilities various parties to maritime expedition. The session was facilitated by two experts. **Barrister Chawky Mahbouli**, a member of the Paris Bar, highlighted new forms of risk affecting maritime security, such as attacks on computer systems and the decryption of operating systems. **Professor Martin Ndende** of the University of Nantes and Director of the Maritime and Oceanic Law Centre (CDMO) reviewed all the legal instruments governing maritime transport. Particular emphasis was placed on the most recent case law which has laid bare some legal exceptions.

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