

## Consultations

### Business talks

**EPAs: the CNSC to play an active role raising awareness among SMEs.**

On 1 March 2024, the General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC), Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda, granted audience to a delegation from the European Union in Cameroon, comprised of Mr. Gregor Schneider, EU Africa Regional Counsellor, and Mr. Stephane Andre, Head of the Trade Section, at the CNSC. The working visit was part of a drive to disseminate the tools and opportunities offered by Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) to Cameroonian SMEs. The CNSC took advantage of this working



*Working session*

session to present its achievements in assisting shippers, promoting foreign trade and, in particular, finding new markets for the local business community. At the end of these discussions, both parties agreed to jointly organise an awareness-raising session on the EU-Cameroon Economic Partnership Agreement for SMEs and business persons.

### Photo-reportage on IWD 2024



*Seminar on women's empowerment*



*Donations to IDPs*



*Parade at the Besseke Boulevard*



## The Shippers' Newsletter

Cameroon National Shippers' Council's publication

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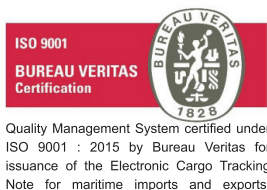
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## IWD 2024

### CNSC Ladies take the spotlight

Dear shippers,

The most remarkable event in the month of March at the Cameroon National Shippers' Council was the celebration of the 39<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Women's Rights Day under the theme: **«Investing in women: accelerate progress»**. The event was marked by the organisation of a hybrid awareness-raising seminar dubbed **«Networking for the economic empowerment of women»**. It was also an opportunity for CNSC ladies to reach out to some internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the Anglophone crisis by providing them with various kits and donations.

This edition of the Shippers' Newsletter also reports on the official flag-raising ceremony held on 4 March to mark the launch of activities towards the commemoration of Commonwealth Day 2024. The CNSC was ably represented at the ceremony.

Echoes from the 4<sup>th</sup> TRANSLOG international symposium on transport and logistics also feature in this edition, where the CNSC delivered a presentation on the theme **«The contribution of the Electronic Cargo Tracking Note (ECTN) to the attainment of AfCFTA objectives»**.

Have an enjoyable reading!

Auguste Mbappe Penda

CNSC General Manager



IWD 2024: CNSC Ladies Steal the Show ;

CNSC showcases trade prospects within the CWEIC network during CWD celebrations ;

CNSC to raise awareness on EPAs among SMEs ;

Cooperation: Contributions from the CNSC at Ouagadougou ;

Photo-reportage on IWD celebration.

## Training

### Women's empowerment

*The CNSC organises a seminar to raise awareness on the subject.*



*Participants pose with GM CNSC*

**I**n line with its calendar of training programmes, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) organised a hybrid awareness-raising seminar at the Douala Maritime Museum's multi-purpose hall on 5 March 2024 themed «**Networking for the economic empowerment of women**». The seminar which brought together some one hundred female entrepreneurs was opened by Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda, General Manager of the CNSC, who was assisted by Mrs. Claire Takouchoup, the establishment's Director for Shippers' Assistance. The event took place on the eve of the celebration of International Women's Rights Day, which for this year had as theme : «**Investing in women: accelerate progress**». The aim was to present good practices in the empowerment of women and the girl child to support SMEs and women-led initiatives in particular, with a view to highlight sectoral projects and programmes in the area of women's empowerment and, lastly, to present programs and projects of the International Organisation of la Francophonie (OIF) to the benefit of women in Cameroon. In addition, the success story of TERRIFIC COFFEE helped to boost the courage and resilience of women entrepreneurs in attendance.

## IWD 2024

### CNSC Ladies take the spotlight

*CNSC Ladies lend a hand to IDPs from the Anglophone crisis.*



*Group picture*

**T**he celebration of the 39<sup>th</sup> International Women's Rights Day was marked by an outpouring of solidarity from CNSC Ladies towards internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the Anglophone crisis. This was why, on 7 March, they turned out in their numbers at the Littoral Regional Delegation for the Promotion of Women and the Family in Douala to cheer up their fellow women through donations and advice. This activity was coordinated by Mrs. Stella Nkama, their president. Since its outbreak, many of these women have lost husbands and children to the crisis and are trying to get back on their feet despite the hardships of everyday life. Kits specifically designed to meet their needs were distributed to them courtesy of CNSC ladies. It was a great moment of communion, cohesion, exchange and sharing in an atmosphere full of love. The women expressed their gratitude to the CNSC for this act of generosity on the eve of the celebration of International Women's Rights Day. CNSC Ladies also joined the ranks of women who came to take part in the IWD 2024 parade at the Besseke boulevard, applauded by the Governor of the Littoral Region. After the parade, CNSC's Management invited the ladies to a family meal.

# CNSC, Your Partner!

## CWEIC

### 2024 Commonwealth Day celebrations

**CNSC showcases trade prospects within the CWEIC network.**



*Officials at CWD commemoration*

The launch of activities for the 2024 edition of Commonwealth Day took place in Yaoundé on 4 March at the esplanade of the Ministry of External Relations, and was presided over by the Minister Delegate to the Minister of External Relations in charge of Cooperation with the Commonwealth, H.E. Felix Mbayu. The ceremony was attended by the High Commissioners of Commonwealth member countries accredited to Cameroon, members of the government and senior officials of public establishments, amongst whom was Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda, General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC). On the sidelines of the celebration of the 2024 edition of Commonwealth Day in Cameroon under the theme «**One Resilient Common Future**» - the Commonwealth Department at the Ministry of External Relations (MINREX) organised a series of thematic symposia to highlight business and development opportunities within the Commonwealth. Two panel discussions were organised on trade to assess the relevance of free trade agreements (Cameroon-UK, EPA, AfCFTA) to the country's economic transformation within the framework of the National Development Strategy (SND-30), and to identify business opportunities for Cameroonian companies in the 56 Commonwealth member states. Both panels offered a platform to underline the CNSC's strategic role, as a pioneer strategic partner, in the creation of the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council (CWEIC) Hub for Cameroon, Gabon and Togo, which today represents a strong trade promotion organisation within the Commonwealth. With inputs from other Strategic Partners such as the Port Authorities of Kribi and Douala (PAK, PAD), the Investment Promotion Agency (IPA) and the Special Council Support Fund for Mutual Assistance (FEICOM), the CNSC was able to point out the benefits of membership to this business network. Speaking at the event, Mr. Njume Randolph - CNSC Service Head for Translation, highlighted the promising future CWEIC holds for its affiliates and its importance in the attainment of the shared prosperity sought by the Commonwealth of Nations.

## Cooperation

### Contributions from the CNSC at Ouagadougou

**Translog Africa focuses on supply chain improvement.**



*Participants receive certificates*

The Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) took part in the 4<sup>th</sup> Translog Africa international symposium on transport and logistics in Ouagadougou - Burkina Faso, from 27 to 29 February 2024. Over three days, participants from more than ten countries discussed issues around the central theme: «**Global Supply Chain Development - Challenges and Opportunities for Shippers within the context of the AfCFTA**». Mr. Etienne Cham Bama, Technical Adviser No. 1 at the CNSC, was invited to deliver a presentation on «**The contribution of the Electronic Cargo Tracking Note (ECTN) to the attainment of AfCFTA objectives**». Drawing on public policy, trade facilitation, customs revenue and national security, the AfCFTA expert demonstrated that the harmonisation of the ECTN and consideration of the Certificate of Origin at a continental level will speed up the achievement of AfCFTA objectives. At the close of the meeting, Roland Somda, Burkina Faso's Minister for Transport, Urban Mobility and Road Safety, thanked the participants for coming and the experts for the quality of their presentations. The Minister invited participants to work together in the application of customs regulations and procedures, taking into account developments arising from the implementation of the AfCFTA.