



Dear shippers,

In keeping with its mission to support and assist shippers, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**), *Your Partner*, organised a series of events for Cameroon's foreign trade players. These included a capacity-building workshop on airfreight procedures, which was attended by several sector players whose goods pass through Cameroon's airports.

The Syndicat National des Sociétés de Traitement, d'Hygiène, d'Assainissement et des Revendeurs du Matériel Phytosanitaire (**SYNTHAR-PHYTO**) called off its strike thanks to CNSC's mediation. Through a meeting which brought together professionals of the phytosanitary treatment sector at the Port of Douala, the CNSC succeeded to find common ground between the parties and thus defused the crisis triggered by the introduction of a fee of 700 F CFA/tonne or m³ of merchandise by the Port Authority of Douala.

This edition of the Shippers' Newsletter also reports on the CNSC's participation in the 10th session of the International Maritime Organisation's (**IMO**) Sub-Committee on the Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (**CCC**). Since mid-November 2024, the Douala Maritime Museum, which recently took part in the International Tourism and Travel Show in France, has been hosting a photography exhibition on the life of internationally acclaimed Cameroonian saxophonist **Manu Dibango**.

Have an enjoyable reading!

Auguste Mbappe Penda

CNSC General Manager

Phytosanitary treatment

CNSC MEDIATES FOR PEACE



● **Strike called off by phytosanitary treatment companies thanks to CNSC intervention**

● **CNSC attends IMO sub-committee meeting on container and cargo security in London**

● **Douala Maritime Museum hosts photo exhibition on the life and career of Manu Dibango**

● **Air freight: CNSC organises a capacity-building workshop for shippers**

● **Douala Maritime Museum exhibits in Colmar, France**

● **Second edition of the CNSC Ngoulentang periodic market**

Consultations

CNSC calms the storm

Phytosanitary treatment companies call off strike action.



Debate during negotiations

The General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**), **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**, presided over a consultation meeting on 12 October 2024 at the CNSC head office building with the Syndicat National des Sociétés de Traitement, d'Hygiène, d'Assainissement et des Revendeurs du Matériel Phytosanitaire (**SYNTHAR-PHYTO**). This trade union had called a strike in protest to the 700 F CFA/tonne or m³ fees recently introduced by the Port Authority of Douala. The meeting was an opportunity for all sector stakeholders, including the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the National Ports Authority (**NPA**), the Port Authority of Douala (**PAD**), exporters and trade unionists, to examine the issue that had for several days paralysed exports via the Port of Douala. Three key recommendations emerged from the discussions, including the calling off of the strike, the suspension of the new measure through an official correspondence from PAD to MINADER, and the scheduling of a consultation meeting between PAD and the different trade unions involved in the phytosanitary treatment of goods. The purpose of such a meeting will be to agree on an applicable fee before the end of the year 2024. At the end of the meeting, the Secretary General of SYNTHAR-PHYTO, **Mr. Didier Baleguet**, reassured participants that steps would be taken as of 12 November 2024 to call off the strike. The CNSC's mediation in resolving the crisis was warmly commended by all parties involved.

IMO

Better safety for containers and cargoes

CNSC attends session in London.



Container vessel

The Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**) was present at the 10th session of the Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (**CCC**) of the International Maritime Organisation (**IMO**) held in London (**United Kingdom**) from 16 to 20 September 2024. The session was presided over by the sub-committee chair **Miss MaryAnne Adams**, ably assisted by the Vice-Chair **Mr. David Anderson**. CCC 10 was a very fruitful and productive meeting with insightful proposals to amend some international conventions such as the SOLAS Convention, the International Convention for Safe Containers (**CSC Convention**), as well as the Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing (**CSS Code**). Adopted amendments will reshape the maritime regulatory landscape worldwide and seek to reduce significantly the frequency and impact of container losses at sea, thereby enhancing maritime safety and environmental protection. Statistics hold that only 221 containers were lost at sea (**of which 33 % were recovered**), out of the 250 million containers transported in 2023 and the IMO further wants to guarantee container safety through the development of measures to prevent the loss of containers at sea in the biennial agenda of the CCC Sub-Committee for the 2024-2025 biennium. For effective monitoring, SOLAS Regulations V/31 and V/32 require a mandatory reporting of lost containers at sea as from 1 January 2026. Beyond this regulatory approach, shipping lines and cargo handlers are encouraged to use software to supplement the cargo securing manual or loading software for greater safety in their operations. The industry has developed solutions considering the requirements of shipping stakeholders, including the BoxTech database of the BIC (Bureau of International Containers).

Culture

Tribute to Manu Dibango

Douala Maritime Museum exhibits on the artist's career.



TLittoral Governor and retinue visiting the exhibition

On 20 November 2024, the Governor of the Littoral Region, **Mr. Samuel Dieudonné Ivaha Diboua**, was the special guest of the General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC), **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**. He was invited to the Douala Maritime Museum to preside over the dual ceremony for the **"Soul Makossa Man"** book launch and the opening of an exhibition on the life of internationally renowned Cameroonian artist **Manu Dibango**. Organised by Cameroonian journalist and photographer **Samuel Nja Kwa**, in collaboration with the CNSC, promoter of the Douala Maritime Museum (DMM), the exhibition will run from 20 November to 20 December 2024 at the Douala Maritime Museum. The exhibition comprising over a hundred pictures, retraces key moments in the life of the famous saxophonist **Manu Dibango**. Throughout this period, several literary and artistic activities will be organised to pay a vibrant tribute to this international icon and worthy ambassador of Cameroon.

Training

All about airfreight

CNSC organises a capacity-building workshop.



Participants at the training workshop

Upon recommendation by the Shippers' Assistance Department, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) organised a training workshop from 26 to 27 November 2024 themed: **"Mastering airfreight import and export procedures"**. The workshop was chaired by CNSC Director for Shippers' Assistance, **Mrs. Claire Onana Takouchop**. Over a hundred importers, exporters and foreign trade actors took part in the training workshop. Presentations were delivered by experts from the CNSC, the Customs Department, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and a Licensed Customs Broker. Discussions focused on 4 main topics: ECTN issuance procedures for airfreight import/export operations; mastering airfreight import/export procedures; sanitary and phytosanitary standards and procedures for airfreight import/export in Cameroon; as well as the applicable customs requirements.



Tourism show

Douala Maritime Museum exhibits at Colmar

Visitors learn about Cameroon's rich maritime history.



DMM stand at Colmar

For the 6th time, Cameroon, through the Douala Maritime Museum, was present at the 39th International Tourism and Travel Show. The show opened its doors on 9 November 2024 at the Parc des expositions in Colmar, France, with some 200 exhibitors from all over the world. This presence in Colmar was to highlight Cameroon as a tourist destination, and to showcase the Douala Maritime Museum, which focuses on Cameroon's maritime heritage. For greater visibility, the Douala Maritime Museum's stand was decorated with photographs providing information on the different activities and digital attractions offered to the public. Visitors were welcomed in batches by the staff, who provide information on the museum's origins, Cameroon's maritime history, artefacts depicting man in his natural environment, and the centuries-old relationship man has had with water. On the sidelines of the show, the non-governmental organisation Tourisme Sans Frontière (TSF), chaired by **Mr. Marc Dumoulin**, held its board meeting in Colmar on 10 November 2024, and the Douala Maritime Museum was equally present there. The focus of the meeting was to take stock of existing partnerships with TSF and to look at the prospects for a more fruitful collaboration with its various members. This is notably the case of the Douala Maritime Museum which enjoyed technical assistance from TSF during its organisation of the 7th Conference on Responsible and Sustainable Tourism in 2020 in Douala – Cameroon.

Cross-border trade

Second edition of the Ngoulentang periodic market

CNSC Ngoulentang trucker facility delivers on its promises.



Food market at the CNSC Ngoulentang trucker facility

On 28 November 2024, the District Officer of the Mengang District, **Mrs. Nadine Valerie Zo'obo Afane**, officially opened the 2nd edition of the Ngoulentang periodic market at the CNSC (**Cameroon National Shippers' Council**) Ngoulentang trucker accommodation centre, in the presence of local administrative authorities and a host of guests. The event was attended by **Mr. Owono Bob Philippe Olivier**, CNSC Centre Regional Branch Manager and personal representative of the General Manager. The presidents of the Networks of Mengang and Endom Women's Associations (**RAFAM**) and other locals contributed greatly to the success of this second edition by mobilising traders and the local community. Renewed gratitude for this wonderful initiative was addressed to CNSC's General Manager **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**. The Ngoulentang periodic market, held on the last Thursday of every month, is a great opportunity offered by the CNSC to women's associations in the Nyong et Mfoumou division to sell their farm produce or processed products.

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