

The Shippers' Newsletter



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Family picture taken during the Bagofit International Business Week

Edito

Dear Shippers,

During the month of August 2026, several actions aimed at promoting foreign trade were carried out at the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC). Among these was the institution's participation in the Bagofit International Business Week in the East Region. At the event, the CNSC presented the corridors through which goods transit to and from Chad and CAR as levers for economic development, and carried out awareness-raising on logistics and trade challenges.

In the same light, CNSC's General Manager, **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**, and the president of the East Regional Council, **Mr.**

Alphonse Wouamane Mbele, signed a strategic partnership in a solemn ceremony presided over by the Governor of the East Region, **Mr. Gregoire Mvongo**.

In a bid to strengthen regional integration in Central Africa, the CNSC received a delegation of French experts at its head office on 9 July 2026. They came to present the outline of the Central African Strategic Corridors project (**CORAC 5 & 6**).

The CNSC equally equipped shippers on international trade concepts by organizing a **"Level Up Your Business"** seminar on the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (**PAPSS**) on 5 August 2026. Furthermore, a training themed **"All About LCL sea freight groupage (technical aspects, documentation,**

invoicing and strategic management)" was held at CNSC's head office on 26 and 27 August 2026. This attests to the institution's commitment to supporting innovation and seeking solutions to concerns raised by shippers.

Have an enjoyable reading !

Auguste Mbappe Penda,
CNSC General Manager

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Bagofit International Business Week

CNSC places corridors at the heart of trade exchanges



Cutting of the symbolic ribbon by the Minister of Trade

The event sought to strengthen the economic attractiveness of Cameroon's East Region.

As patron of the first edition of the Bagofit International Business Week, Cameroon's **Trade Minister Luc Magloire Mbarga Atangana**, chaired the event's opening ceremony on Wednesday, 5 August 2026 at Bagofit in the Abong-

Mbang Sub-Division, East Region. This international business meeting, organised by **Minister Joseph Le**, brought together an array of high-profile personalities among whom were members of Government, officials from public institutions as well as General Managers of public and private companies.

Among the key actors was **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**, General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**), acknowledged for his commitment to promoting trade within the sub-region and making the Douala/Kribi-Bangui and Douala/Kribi-N'Djamena Road corridors more competitive. These are all considered strategic levers for sub-regional economic integration. At the fairground, CNSC's stand, designed to showcase the know-how of some Cameroonian SMEs, caught the public's eye and pulled in many visitors. These SMEs used the event to win over investors from CEMAC, Turkiye, China, India and several other partner countries of Cameroon.

This first edition of the Bagofit International Business Week took place from 5 to 8 August 2026 and sought to strengthen Cameroon's economic attractiveness, while placing the East Region in the limelight. Taking place on the sidelines of the 3rd edition of the International Mountain Bike Race championed by Cameroon's First Lady, the fair served as a platform for trade exchanges.

The agreement is intended to benefit SMEs of the East Region and transporters.

On 6 August 2026, **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**, General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**) and **Mr. Alphonse Wouamane Mbele**, President of the East Regional Council, signed an agreement in Bertoua. This agreement aims to promote Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in the East Region and to construct rest areas for transporters plying the Douala/Kribi-Bangui and Douala/Kribi-N'Djamena Road corridors. The signing of this agreement was witnessed by national and international investors as well as many personalities, among whom were the Minister of Public Service and Administrative Reform (**MINFOPRA**), **Mr. Joseph Le**, elite of the East Region and organiser of the East Investment Forum.

The Governor of the East Region, **Mr. Gregoire Mvongo**, praised this partnership which aims to facilitate cross-border trade. Goods that transit through this region are mainly bound for the Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as Cameroon's northern regions. To officially mark its presence in the East

Cross-border trade

CNSC and the East Regional Council seal a strategic partnership deal



CNSC's General Manager shakes hands with the President of the East Regional Council

Region, the CNSC inaugurated its regional office and Trucker Accommodation Centre in Garoua-Boulai on 5 September 2025.

This first edition of the East Investment Forum, organised under the theme **"Investing in East Cameroon:**

opportunities, innovations and sustainable development", took place within the context of the Bagofit International Business Week and on the sidelines of the 3rd edition of the **Chantal Biya** International Mountain Bike Race.

Training

CNSC trains business persons on PAPSS



Participants at the training seminar

Shippers enlightened on the importance of this financial platform.

The Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC) organised a **"Level-up Your Business"** seminar on the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS), in its training hall on Wednesday, 5 August 2026. Held under the theme: **"PAPSS: Facilitating cross-border payments and**

accelerating intra-African trade", this session aimed to school business persons on this financial market infrastructure designed by Afreximbank and the African Union.

At the start of the seminar, **Mrs. Armelle Belibi Makasso**, Sub-director for Shippers' Assistance, recalled CNSC's role in the implementation of the African Continental

Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement. She went further to highlight the difficulties business persons face in enrolling on the ATG platform proposed by Afreximbank.

Mrs. Annette Owona, Service Head for Financial Stability and Economy Financing at the Bank of Central African States (BEAC), in her presentation, gave insights on the workings of instant cross-border payments, which ally central banks, commercial banks, Afreximbank and enterprises. She recalled that Afreximbank is both the initiator and guarantor of PAPSS, governed by partnerships entered into with the African Union and the AfCFTA. She then presented the three main products of this financial infrastructure, which include: the PAPSS Instant Payment System, the PAPSS African Currency Marketplace and the PAPSS card.

During the seminar, **Mr. Hamadou Boubakari**, Senior Group Manager Trade Services at Ecobank, presented PAPSS as a veritable lever for the development of intra-African trade. He also presented the Ecobank Single Market, a free and reliable platform which enables business persons get a better understanding of products available on the market while engaging partnerships at an international level.

National integration

Youths from Diaspora on a historic discovery at the Douala Maritime Museum

The visit provided an opportunity for the appropriation of Cameroon's historic and cultural heritage.

On 9 August 2026, the Douala Maritime Museum welcomed participants of the 2nd edition of The National Integration Camp for Diaspora Youths (CINA-JEDI). This guided tour brought together 30 young Cameroonians from abroad and 10 supervisors, who all came to the Douala Maritime Museum to reconnect with the country's historic and cultural heritage. Upon arrival, the delegation was warmly received by the Service Head at the Museum, **Mr. Vincent Debien Mbock**.



Souvenir pictures following the tour of the DMM

At the end of the visit, **Mr. Anselme Epoko**, Coordinator of the Support Programme for the Return and Integration of Youth from the Diaspora (PARI-JEDI), praised the guided tour, which was conducted in English and in French, enabling all to feel included. This memorable moment

immersed the diaspora youth into Cameroon's maritime history. The visit was in line with the National Integration Camp for Diaspora Youths (CINA-JEDI), organised by the Ministry of Youth and Civic Education from 6 to 14 August 2026 in the cities of Yaounde, Douala and Kribi.

Initiated by the Ministry of Youth and Civic Education and supported by the General Manager of the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (CNSC), **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**, this action seeks to strengthen the sense of national belonging among these youths and ease their future contribution to the development of Cameroon.

The CORAC 5 & 6 project seeks to improve the fluidity of trade along corridors.

On 9 July 2026, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**) received a delegation of French experts at its head office. This visit by a subsidiary of the French Development Agency was to present the outline of the Central African Strategic Corridors project (**CORAC 5 & 6**).

The delegation was received by **Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda**, CNSC's General Manager, in the presence of **Mr. Fernand Douglas Nolga**, Director for Trade Facilitation and Transport Observatory. Discussions focused on areas of collaboration in view of the implementation of the CORAC 5 & 6 project, which covers the Libreville–Douala/Kribi–N'Djamena and Douala/Kribi–Bangui–Kampala corridors. **Mr. Kevin Kumapley**, Project Head for CORAC 5 & 6, revealed that this initiative, funded to the tune of 30 million Euros by the European

Consultations

French experts on working visit to the CNSC



CNSC's General Manager poses with delegation of French experts

Union, hinges on four components, including: Planning, coordination and management of corridors, transport facilitation, trade facilitation and support to cross-border trade.

Mr. Auguste Mbappe Penda thanked the delegation for this

move while underscoring that this project ties in with the missions of the CNSC. He equally made known the institution's availability to join forces in the implementation of the project through concrete measures.

Training

LCL sea freight consolidation addressed in training at the CNSC



A view of participants at the training

The training session further strengthened the skills of shippers and logistics actors in attendance.

On 26 and 27 August 2026, the Cameroon National Shippers' Council (**CNSC**) organised a training seminar at its head office themed: **"All about LCL sea freight groupage (technical**

aspects, documentation, invoicing and strategic management". In a context where SMEs are increasingly resorting to sea freight consolidation in an effort to optimise costs, this training sought to strengthen the skills of logistics chain actors on the entire LCL sea freight consolidation process.

The training opened with a presentation by **Mr. Felix Ndongso Essoke**, staff at the phytosanitary office of the Port Authority of Douala. He enlightened participants on the procedure for the issuance of the electronic phytosanitary certificate, which is an indispensable document in the import/export chain.

On his heels, **Mr. Martin Adepi**, Director for Operations at the Container Terminal Management Unit, schooled the shippers on the concept of import franchise. He mainly explained how franchise deadlines are calculated, based on time-related performance indicators, the actual date of the vessel's arrival at quay and its turn-around time.

This training session, which the shippers found extremely valuable, was coordinated by **Mr. Telesphore Tonye**, Sub-Director for Training and International Cooperation. Technical support for this training was provided by **Mr. Jean Louis Boya**, certified Customs expert for the CEMAC zone and **Mr. Bievenu Molo**, international trade expert.

"The poor mastery of basic principles in sea freight consolidation reduces expected benefits for shippers and gives rise to additional costs", both experts decried. With this state of affairs, the training on LCL sea freight consolidation was an opportunity to raise awareness among foreign trade actors on best practices, thus enabling them to better manage their operations.