

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
PAIX-TRAVAIL-PATRIE

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
PEACE-WORK-FATHERLAND

**GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL PROGRAMME FOR THE 2020
FINANCIAL YEAR**

PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

BY

HIS EXCELLENCY JOSEPH DION NGUTE
PRIME MINISTER, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

YAOUNDE, 29 NOVEMBER 2019

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National
Assembly,
Honourable Members of the Bureau of the National
Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am delighted to take the floor before the National Assembly to present the Economic, Financial, Social and Cultural Programme for the 2020 fiscal year prepared by Government, under the supervision of the **President of the Republic, His Excellency Paul BIYA.**

Thank you Mr **Speaker** for the kind words you said to me and the entire Government.

Honourable Members of Parliament,

Government's Economic, Financial, Social and Cultural Programme for 2020 comes in the wake of the **Major National Dialogue** prescribed by the **President of the Republic, His Excellency Paul BIYA**, with a two-fold objective: find a concrete and consensual solution to the

security crisis in the North-West and South-West Regions; and address the underlying issue of development in all the regions of Cameroon.

I will begin the presentation of this Programme with an overview of what Government has achieved in 2019 that is ending. This will be followed by the prospects of Government action in 2020.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

During the course of 2019, Government's activities focused on consolidating the gains of previous years and addressing many challenges and constraints. These include:

- the resolution of the security crisis and socio-political unrest in the North-West and South-West Regions;
- the promotion of peace, national unity and the spirit of togetherness;
- the ongoing finalisation of construction works of sports and ancillary facilities, ahead of the organisation of the 2020 African Nations

Championship (CHAN) and the 2021 African Cup of Nations (AFCON);

- the continued implementation of the Three-Year Emergency Plan for Fast Tracking Economic Growth;
- the implementation of the Three-Year Special Youth Plan;
- the continuation of ongoing major infrastructure projects, especially roads and motorways, and energy projects;
- the continued implementation of the Economic and Financial Programme backed by an Extended Credit Facility, concluded with the International Monetary Fund.

On the social front, the national context was often marked by security constraints and social unrest in the aftermath of post-election litigation. Yet, Cameroonians stood firm against the winds of destabilisation fanned by some enemies of the Republic. Our compatriots remained level-headed with a deep attachment to and respect for republican values and to the **Head of State** who is the symbol of those values.

I seize this singular opportunity to applaud the high republican spirit and the unshakable resolve of our fellow citizens who, in these difficult times, were able to distinguish right from wrong and worked resolutely to preserve peace and national unity.

I will like to spare a special thought for the many innocent victims who are suffering in the different conflict zones of our country and for our valiant and worthy Defence and Security Forces, who, even until death, are toiling to restore the peace and territorial integrity of Cameroon, under the High Command of the **Head of State**, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.

My heart also goes out to all the families of the victims of the tragic landslide that occurred in the Gouache Bamoungoum neighbourhood in Bafoussam, in the night of 22 October 2019, that killed some forty of our compatriots.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National
Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

At the **budgetary and financial level**, the 2019 State budget was implemented in an economic context marked internationally by trade tensions between the United States and China, the uncertainty of Brexit and falling oil prices due to geopolitical tensions, a more stringent credit policy in China and tighter financial conditions.

On the national front, budget implementation was also affected by the persistent security and socio-political crises in the North-West and South-West Regions, as well as the implementation of the Economic and Financial Programme, backed by the Extended Credit Facility concluded with the IMF.

Some external factors also constrained the revenue collection environment. These include the relatively low prices of some of our produce with a high revenue-generating potential like cocoa and coffee and the scarcity of foreign exchange which slowed down the rate of imports.

The situation worsened with the continued dismantling of tariffs due to the implementation of the Cameroon-European Union bilateral Economic Partnership Agreement and the temporary closure of the land borders of Nigeria and Equatorial Guinea. The fire that ravaged the

National Refining Company further compounded the State's financial constraints.

The reform of State enterprises and public establishments marked the State's commitment to cut public spending and to adjust expenditure to the real level of economic activity. The same is true for the budgetary restriction and discipline measures observed throughout this 2019 financial year that is ending.

The overall performance in revenue optimisation is as follows:

- tax revenue mobilised is assessed at **CFAF 1,954 billion;**
- customs revenue stood at **CFAF 812 billion;**
- oil revenue was **CFAF 532 billion;** and
- non tax revenue is assessed at **CFAF 182 billion.**

In the same vein, the State's **recurrent expenditure** stands at **CFAF 2,659 billion**, while **capital expenditure** stands at **CFAF 1,478 billion.**

The investment expenditure dynamic was mainly driven by the acceleration of the 2021 AFCON construction works as well as those of other anchor projects underway.

For its part, **public debt servicing** stood at **CFAF 759.430 billion**.

At the **economic level**, in the first half of 2019, our country registered growth estimated at 4% against 3.7% in the same period last year. Despite an unfavourable socio-economic context, Cameroon's economy did not collapse, but continues to show great resilience, compared to the other CEMAC countries.

The actions carried out in this sector include:

- the strengthening of economic surveillance to predict possible internal and external shocks;
- the development of growth sub-sectors and modernisation of the production machinery;
- the continuation of the enterprise upgrading process, seen in the adherence of 600 of them, and the conduct of meaningful diagnostics;
- the monitoring of the implementation of structural reforms under the 2017-2020 Economic Programme. This helped to significantly advance some key reforms such as the redefinition of the general regulations governing public enterprises and establishments, their categorisation and the

remuneration schemes of their managers. Inter-ministerial and ministerial committees and working groups have also been streamlined.

Furthermore, during the implementation of the 2019 Economic and Financial Programme, Government worked in earnest to meet structural benchmarks. Thanks to the ongoing implementation of the decree of 12 June 2018 laying down rules to guide the public investment projects maturation process, the volume and quality of public investments in our country has improved significantly.

With regard to forging stronger development partnerships, several projects have given rise to the mobilisation of external funding.

Examples of financing from different non concessional windows include:

- a budget support operation of **CFAF 65,600,000,000 (Sixty-five billion six hundred million)**;
- the project to extend the smart urban video-surveillance system nationwide, whose Phase I involving 1,500 cameras, amounts to **CFAF**

22,900,000,000 (twenty-two billion nine hundred million);

- the project to construct the Ebolowa-Kribi (225 kilovolts) and Mbalmayo-Mekin (90 kilovolts) power transmission lines and their related structures, amounting to **CFAF 32,710,000,000 (thirty-two billion seven hundred and ten million);**
- the project to procure rolling stock for CAMRAIL, whose Phase I involving the procurement of 3 locomotives, amounts to **CFAF 7,800,000,000 (seven billion eight hundred million).**

For their part, concessional loans helped to finance, *inter alia*:

- the hydropower development project on River Sanaga, for **CFAF 24,200,000,000 (twenty-four billion, two hundred million);**
- the inclusive and resilient towns development project for an amount of **CFAF 93,610,000,000 (ninety-three billion six hundred and ten million);**

- the social safety nets project for **CFAF 16,200,000,000 (sixteen billion two hundred million);**
- the project to improve the effectiveness of public expenditure and the statistical system, for **CFAF 17,300,000,000 (seventeen billion three hundred million);**
- the project to support the socio-economic reintegration of vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad Basin, amounting to **CFAF 17,300,000,000 (seventeen billion three hundred million).**

With **grants**, Government was able to finance, mainly:

- the National Museum Modernisation Support Project and the Financial Governance Support Project,
- the Education Reform Support Project, for an amount of **CFAF 52,600,000,000 (fifty-two billion, six hundred million).**

The main actions taken to strengthen development planning and intensify regional development activities include:

- the continued implementation of programmes and projects contributing to regional and local development;
- the drafting of the public policies review report for the 2010-2018 period, to plan the 2nd phase of Cameroon's Development Vision;
- continued preparations for the 4th General Population and Housing Census, to be conducted alongside the General Agriculture and Livestock Census, given the State's cash-flow constraints;
- preparations for mapping the national territory, the national masterplan and 10 regional development and sustainable land development plans;
- the rehabilitation of **7,500** hectares of rice growing areas, **27 kilometres** of the Maga Dam dyke and **73 kilometres** of the Logone dyke, to control floods in the Far North Region.

In the **public contracts sector**, Government placed emphasis on enhancing procurement performance, improving the mechanism for controlling the execution of public contracts,

and on diverse sector governance and institutional support actions. This was seen mostly in:

- the online programming, effective since December 2018, of **5,430** contracts of the 2019 fiscal year;
- the support for contracting authorities and delegated contracting authorities to mature projects listed in the public investment budget;
- the appointment and establishment of **569** tenders board chairpersons;
- the award of **2,540** public contracts;
- the control of the physical execution of **1,646** contracts, for a total amount of **CFAF 3,801,000,000 (three billion, eight hundred and one million)**, **72%** of them being infrastructure contracts and **28%** supplies and services contracts;
- the study of at least **437** final, general and definitive liquidations, for a total of **CFAF 63,126,409,487 (sixty-three billion one hundred and twenty-six million four hundred and nine thousand, four hundred and eighty-seven)**;

- the publication online of **197** tender notices on the public contacts website;

With regard to the **fight against embezzlement of public funds**, 2019 was marked by the intensification of audits, the training of auditors on international best practices and the systematisation of sanctions against dishonest managers. These actions were mostly seen in:

- the dispatch of **16 audit missions** to various public entities: State corporations, public establishments, Government departments and local/regional authorities;
- Capacity-building for about **200** senior technical and administrative staff;
- Professional skills development for some 100 vote holders, managers and staff of internal audit bodies;
- The punishment of some dishonest managers for financial losses assessed at a total amount of CFAF **845,636,659 (eight hundred and forty-five million, six hundred and thirty-six million, six hundred and fifty-nine)** to be paid into the State Treasure;

- The ongoing construction in Yaounde of the head office of the African Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions; which will enhance our country's influence and diplomacy in this sector in Africa.

At the level of territorial administration, our country strove to address the security challenges and socio-political unrest that, despite all adversity as you are aware, are being brought under control, under the enlightened leadership of the **Head of State.**

Government also continued modernising territorial administration, especially with the ongoing construction of six (6) DO's offices, two (2) DO's residences, and one (1) SDO's office and residence.

Besides, regarding our border policy, the Cameroon/Nigeria cross-border security committee held a meeting in Yaounde from 4 to 5 July 2019, to develop projects for the joint surveillance and control of cross-border movements between Cameroon and Nigeria.

Government also pursued actions to regulate sensitive sectors like private security companies and gun shops

through systematic controls which revealed that only nine **(9)** of them are duly authorized while fifty-four (54) others operate clandestinely.

With regard to gun shops, **eleven (11)** of them were inspected, which revealed significant departures from the laws and regulations in force. Corrective measures will be taken by Government in that regard.

In the area of **civil protection**, special emphasis was placed on:

- the implementation of the **Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Plan** for the North-West and South-West Regions, decided by the **President of the Republic**. Over one hundred and fifty thousand (**150,000**) families have benefited from assistance in the form of foodstuffs, consumer goods, medication, school supplies and building materials;
- **assistance for the voluntary return of Nigerian and CAR refugees**, estimated at 384,260 persons, plus 8,920 asylum seekers;
- emergency assistance to victims of floods, fire, mudslides and landslides;

In the same vein, Government regularly monitored the revision of voter registers conducted by **Elections Cameroon**.

In that perspective, ELECAM is already working to prepare the twin legislative and municipal elections of 9 February 2020, especially through voter sensitisation campaigns, training of operators of biometric kits and the maintenance of the said kits.

Regarding the activities of the **National Demobilisation, Disarmament and Reintegration Committee**, the three (3) provisional centres in Mora, Far North Region, Buea in the South-West Region and Bamenda in the North-West Region have already received over **255 demobilised ex-combatants**.

In the security sector, the fight against crime and threats of all sorts as well as the control-surveillance-repression

of road traffic offences were the central concerns of the public authorities, through the impetus of the **Head of State**.

Government's priorities in that regard concerned:

- the construction of infrastructure such as gendarmerie brigades and posts of Mboma, Bafia, Gamba, Lafé, Touloum, Dizangué, Minkoameyos, Santchou, Baham and Idabato ;
- the installation of video-surveillance systems in the cities of Yaounde and Douala and in some border towns;
- the absorption of **5,000** new police constables in the national security corps.

The main actions undertaken in the area of **decentralisation**, in line with the instructions of the **President of the Republic**, prescribing the acceleration of the process, were:

- the review and monitoring of the implementation of decentralisation, with the organisation on 6 and 7 February 2019, of the **General Councils Forum**, under the theme: *Deepening*

decentralisation for a renovated Cameroonian council“;

- the physical census of council staff, undertaken in 306 local and city councils in 8 regions, which revealed a total staff strength of **14,827**;
- the strengthening of the legal framework of decentralisation, through the promulgation of Law No. 2019/005 of 25 April 2019 amending and supplementing certain provisions of Law No. 2012/001 of 12 April 2012 instituting the Electoral Code, as well as the law fixing the number, proportion per category and remuneration scheme of Regional Councillors;
- the monitoring and control of local authorities' activities through the training of **30 technical audit controllers**.

In the **Justice sector**, Government's efforts were reflected in:

- the continuation of construction works of modern judicial service complexes in Yaounde and Douala ;
- the construction of courtrooms in Mbalmayo and Nanga-Eboko;
- the rehabilitation of the Centre Court of Appeal;

- the recruitment **86** court registry clerks of all grades;
- the ongoing training of **381** judicial and penitentiary staff;
- the construction of the computer network of the Yaounde-Kondengui Central Prison;
- the preparation of the preliminary draft of the Law on the bilingual Civil Code;
- the continuation of the computerisation of the Trade and Personal Property Credit Register in **30 sites** selected by the OHADA project;
- the punishment of corruption in diverse court cases, which made it possible to pay CFAF **6,403,166,845 (six billion, four hundred and three million, one hundred and sixty-six thousand, eight hundred and forty-five)** into the Public Treasury;
- the improvement of detention conditions, with the construction of the Douala-Ngoma Central Prison and the Bengbis Prison;
- the improvement of health coverage, to benefit **3,334** inmates sensitized on the screening of

HIV/AIDS, meningitis, hepatitis and skin diseases, and administration of HIV tests for the benefit of **3,999** inmates.

Alongside these actions, Government provided **legal and judicial assistance to public entities** to organise and coordinate their defence before national and international jurisdictions as well as during arbitrations and transactions in the State's interest.

In the same vein, several activities were implemented to **promote and protect human rights and freedoms**, through the relevant institution. A case in point is the study of **248** petitions on alleged human rights violations.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

I will now present an assessment of the implementation of the Three-Year Emergency Plan to Accelerate Economic Growth (**PLANUT**) decided by the **Head of State**, whose key focus areas are: agriculture and livestock; urban development;

housing; water and energy; health; roads; regional development; and security.

After a laborious start due to the lack of engineering studies for several projects and the constraints of mobilising funds, this plan is now operating on an even keel.

So far, contracts awarded stand at CFAF **817,614,756,464 (eight hundred and seventeen billion, six hundred and fourteen million, seven hundred and fifty-six thousand, four hundred and sixty-four)**. At the end of 2019, the assessment of the implementation of different components of the Plan is as follows.

With regard to *regional development*, the works and studies underway concern **90,433 hectares** of irrigated areas, out of 120,000 hectares to be developed, making **48,107 hectares** in Adamawa Region; **12,000 hectares** in the North Region and **30,200 hectares** in the Far-North Region.

Regarding the construction of **reservoir structures**, the works to rehabilitate the Ouazzang storage dam in Méri Subdivision, Far-North Region, are **35.49% complete**.

Contracts for the construction of reservoir structures in the localities of Adatz, Mizil, Soukkoungo, Tchévi, Maboudji and Manguirlda are being implemented, for a total cost of CFAF **10,599,661,969 (ten billion, five hundred and ninety-nine million, six hundred and sixty-one thousand, nine hundred and sixty-nine).**

In the North Region, studies have been launched on 16 sites, for a total cost of CFAF **636,397,187 (six hundred and thirty-six million, three hundred and ninety-seven thousand, one hundred and eighty-seven).** Besides, the contract for the rehabilitation of the Chidiffi dam in Mayo-Louti Division is being finalised.

Regarding the **creation of agropoles**, contracts for the supply of inputs and equipment to the Nyamboya maize agropolis were executed satisfactorily. For the Meiganga and Banyo beef agropoles, with a cumulative production target of 11,950 heads of cattle per year, the overall investment cost is CFAF **2,440,659,736 (two billion, four hundred and forty-four million, six hundred and fifty-nine thousand, seven hundred and thirty-six).**

Regarding the *health component*, the rates of physical execution of construction works of regional hospitals are as follows:

- Ebolowa : **84%** ;
- Bafoussam : **52%** ;
- Garoua : **45%** ;
- Ngaoundere: **40%** ;
- Bertoua : **35%** ;
- Maroua : **23%**.

Construction works of the regional hospitals of Buea and Bamenda have been temporarily suspended because of the security situation in the North-West and South-West Regions.

We hope to reverse this trend with the progressive return of peace in these two regions.

The state of progress of works to rehabilitate hospital infrastructure and strengthen technical support facilities is as follows:

- Douala Referral Hospital : **98%** ;
- Yaounde Referral Hospital : **96%** ;
- Yaounde University Teaching Hospital: **50%**.

In the ***housing sector***, the construction of low-cost houses and other community social facilities is nearing completion on different sites, exception in Bamenda and Buea. Works are already complete in Ebolowa and Ngaoundere, and progress on the other sites is as follows:

- Garoua : **85%** ;
- Maroua : **80%** ;
- Bertoua : **80%** ;
- Bafoussam : **75%**.

With regard to the ***road component***, **21** contracts have been awarded for the firm tranche for about CFAF **300 billion, inclusive of taxes**, as follows: 12 supervision contracts and 9 works contracts, one of which has just been terminated for serious default.

In addition, the state of progress of road works is as follows:

- Maroua-Bogo : **45.63%** ;
- Mandjou-Akokan : **38%** ;
- Bonepoupa-Yabassi : **32%** ;
- Akokan-Batouri : **32%** ;

- Douala-Bonepoupa : **26%** ;
- Fouban-Koumpamatapit-West/North-West border: **3.73%**.

The contract for the construction of the Ngaoundere-Paro road was signed on 2 August 2019 and the company is setting up its installations.

Contracts for the Guidjiba-Taparé road in the North Region, the Babungo-Oku-Noni road in the North-West Region and the Olounou-Oveng road in the South Region will be awarded once the engineering studies have been redesigned to reduce costs.

The maturation process continues for the 10 other road sections of the conditional tranche.

As concerns the **water sector**, **806** of the expected 900 **boreholes** are operational across the country. The same is true of **440 of the additional 3,000 boreholes** planned in the three northern regions.

In the **agricultural sector**, engineering and design studies are being finalised for the construction of six supplies markets in Obala, Ngong, Gazawa, Dibombari, Foumbot, Mamfe, as well as a maize seeds storage and packaging complex in Batchenga.

In terms of supporting agro-industries to finance their development projects, a total of **CFAF 11 billion** was allocated especially to SEMRY, SODECOTON, SODECAO, the Cereals Authority, CDC and UNVDA.

Regarding the ***security component***, **2** police stations have been delivered while **4** are being finalised.

Furthermore, **12** border security posts were accepted and **7** are nearing completion. Of the 46 projects to construct gendarmerie posts, **31** are already completed.

In the **urban development sector**, after the completion of Phase I works concerning the light rehabilitation of some urban roads in Yaounde and Douala, 16 contracts have been awarded for Phase II.

Phase II is devoted to heavy rehabilitation works covering a total distance of **73.3 kilometres**, including **37.11 kilometres** in Yaounde and **36.19 kilometres** in Douala.

The average rate of execution of the urban component is about **60%**.

The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,

Honourable Members of Parliament,

I would now like to present the preparations for the Football African Cup of Nations, 2021 TOTAL AFCON CAMEROON.

Overall progress is as follows:

- **On the Yaounde competition site**
 - construction works of the **60,000-capacity** covered Sports Complex in Olembe and two annex stadia, each of

1,000 seats, with covered stands, and a **70-room** hotel, a commercial centre and roads and services, by the Italian company, PICCINI, register an overall execution rate of **59%**. **However, the stadium itself taken in isolation is already 79% complete;**

- the AHMADOU AHIDJO Omnisport stadium at Mfandena, with capacity of **40,000 seats**, and two adjoining training pitches, that served in the organisation of the 2016 women AFCON, is currently under a maintenance contract to guarantee its compliance with CAF requirements. The same is true of the Military stadium in Ngoa Ekelle;
- works are in progress on other training stadia being constructed or rehabilitated. Progress is as follows: BEAC Complex: **40%**, and Annex 3 of the Mfandena Omnisport Stadium: **13%**.
- **On the Douala competition site:**
 - construction works on the Douala-Japoma Sports Complex with capacity of **50,000** seats and two annex stadia, each of **1,000** seats, as well as a covered 8-lane Olympic-size pool with **1,000** seats, a covered multi-sports gymnasium with **200 seats**, tennis courts, volley-ball, handball and

basketball courts, undertaken by the Turkish company, YENIGUN, are **96.7% complete**, but 99.95% for the main stadium and its annex pitches;

- works on the Douala Reunification Stadium, of **30,000** seats, undertaken by CCC, a Canadian company, are 80% complete;
 - works on the Bonamoussadi training pitches, of capacity of **2,000 seats** and the Mbappe Lepé stadium, of capacity of **4,000** seats, are 80% complete.
-
- **On the Limbe/Buea competition sites**, the existing infrastructures are functional and simply need maintenance by contractors hired for that purpose.
-
- **On the Garoua competition site:**
 - Works on the ROUMDE ADJA main stadium, of capacity of 20,048 seats, undertaken by the Portuguese company, MOTA ENGIL, are **97%** complete, while the annex stadium is **99%** complete;
 - Works on the training stadia are ongoing and progress is as follows:
 - GENDARMERIE and POUMPOURE : **62%** ;
 - COTON SPORT : **81.80%** ;
 - CENAJES : **75.17%**.

▪ **On the Bafoussam competition site :**

- The KOUEKONG main stadium, of capacity of **20,000 seats** is functional and simply needs maintenance. There are plans to supply lifts, tollgates and other complementary equipment.
- Works on training stadia on this site post an average global execution rate of **85%**. This involves:
 - ✓ the TOKET stadium, with **20,070** seats;
 - ✓ the 1,500-capacity Fotso Victor stadium in Bandjoun;
 - ✓ the Mbouda stadium, with **1,500** seats;
 - ✓ the Bamendzi Municipal stadium, with **1,500** seats;
and
 - ✓ the Kouekong annex stadium, with **1,000** seats.

In parallel, construction works of access roads to these different sites as well as the construction and rehabilitation of hotels are continuing.

I seize this opportunity to applaud the republican spirit of some private hotel developers who agreed to partner with the State to increase the number of lodging facilities in the Bafoussam and Garoua sites.

Special emphasis is also being placed on health facilities on all competition sites, whose technical support services are being upgraded and strengthened.

Government also ensures that the supply of other ancillary services – water electricity, internet – is effective on these sites.

Given time constraints, I instructed all Administrations and stakeholders concerned to expedite the pace of residual works, and to ensure that their quality complies with CAF requirements.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

Government's action in 2019 was also reflected in the advances made during implementation of other public sector policies.

Significant efforts were made in the **water and energy sector**.

National **potable water** production increased from **731,080 m³/day** in 2018 to **769,680 m³/day** in 2019, equivalent to additional production **38,600 m³/day**.

Similarly, total storage capacity rose to **253,374 m³**, with a production yield of **95%** and a distribution yield rate of **45%**. The total number of subscribers stands at **443,930**, a **4%** increase compared to the previous year.

The Government implements several major projects in this sector, including:

- the **Project to Supply Potable Water to Yaounde from River Sanaga (PAEPYS)**, fruit of Sino-Cameroon cooperation, costing CFAF **399 billion**;
- **the Project to Improve Potable Water Service in Yaounde and three secondary towns**, namely Edea, Bertoua and Ngaoundere; the project benefited from a financing of **CFAF 103,600,000,000** from the French Development Agency and the European Investment Bank;

- **the Nine Towns Project**, financed by EXIMBANK China, to rehabilitate and extend the coverage of the distribution networks of Kribi, Bafoussam, Bamenda, Sangmelima, Garoua-Boulai, Dschang, Yabassi, Maroua and Garoua ;
- **the project to supply potable water to 7 secondary centres**, namely Kette, Messamena, Bot Makak, Akom II, Olamze, Mvengue and Mvangan.

With regard to **electrical energy**, Government continues to implement and carry through major ongoing projects to significantly improve power supply and quality.

The progress achieved concerns the following:

- **the Lom Pangar hydropower dam**; construction of the power plant at the toe of dam started in March 2019;
- **the 211-megawatts Memve'ele hydropower development** on the Ntem River, energized on 14 April 2019, that made it possible to generate additional **225** megawatts hours, whose financial value is estimated at **CFAF 10 billion**.

Construction works of the transmission line are **70%** complete and the commissioning of the transformer station at Djop yekombo has helped to improve the quality of electricity supplied to Ebolowa and its environs;

- **the Nachtigal Upstream 420-megawatts hydropower project**, whose construction works effectively commenced in July 2019.
- **the Mentchum 72-megawatts hydropower development**, with its 90-kilovolt transmission line, **will in the long run offset the power shortage in the North-West Region.**

The final design studies and due diligence for the signing of a new commercial contract are continuing;

- **the Colomine and Ndokayo hydropower development project**, whose engineering studies, particularly the preliminary design and final design studies, are already complete;
- **the Chollet 600-megawatt hydropower development project**, on River Dja, born of the will of **Presidents Paul BIYA** of Cameroon and **Denis**

SASSOU NGUESSO of Congo to endow their respective countries with electricity generation and transmission infrastructure.

- **the Grand EWENG 1,800-megawatts hydropower development project** on River Sanaga, associated with a power transmission line; the related engineering studies have been completed.
- **the Katsina Ala 285-megawatt hydropower development project**, associated with a transmission line; negotiations for its implementation are in progress.

With particular regard to the electricity transmission segment, 2019 is mainly characterised by the operationalisation of the National Electricity Transmission Company which took over the transmission network on 1 January 2019.

Globally, the major projects in this sector are:

- the electricity transmission network upgrade and sector reform project;

- the project to supply and install two transformer benches at Oyom-Abang and Bekoko ;
- the project for the construction of the 225-kilovolt electricity transmission line between Nkongsamba-Bafoussam and Yaoundé-Abong-Mbang, and a high-voltage transformer station and extension of the Ahala, Abong-Mbang and Bekoko stations.

Thanks to projects undertaken to improve the electricity access rate in urban, peri-urban and rural areas, the number of subscribers rose to **1,300,000**.

Actions undertaken in that regard include the electrification of **75** of the 120 localities planned in the 2019 public investment budget, making it possible to connect at least **800** rural households.

Government action targeting **renewable energies** mainly concerned the finalisation of the project to electrify 166 localities and the start of the second phase of the project to electrify **184** localities using photovoltaic solar systems.

Furthermore, Government launched construction works of a **small 1.4-megawatt hydropower plant** at Mbakaou in Djerem Division.

Solar power plants of total capacity of **75** megawatts, will also be constructed in certain localities in the northern regions, especially in Maroua, Guider, Ngaoundere and Garoua.

With regard to **oil and gas products**, our country on 31 May 2019 had to deal with a large-scale fire that damaged 4 units of the National Refining Company (SONARA), leading to the stoppage of its production.

The results of the investigation commissioned are being processed and Government is earnestly looking for financing to rehabilitate these units.

In the meantime, Government has taken all necessary measures to ensure that the country and the populations are regularly supplied with petroleum products, through significant imports. This has helped to mitigate the negative impact of this disaster.

Regarding the petroleum products distribution network, its dynamism is reflected in the construction in 2019

of **17** new filling stations, which brings their number to **835** nationwide.

Several actions were carried out in the **public works sector**, to improve qualitatively and quantitatively the national road network.

The key advances registered in the construction of roads and other infrastructure include:

- the completion of the asphaltting of **221 kilometres 24 metres** of new roads, as well as **59 kilometres 600 metres** of council roads;
- the acceptance of **1,711 metres** of bridges.

To illustrate, we can mention the following:

- the Manki-Mape bridge and construction of the bridge on River Mape, covering a linear distance of 25 kilometres 800 metres and costing CFAF 22 billion;
- the Kumba-Mamfe road, whose lot 1: Kumba-Nfaitock has been accepted and lot 2: Nfaitock-Mamfe is complete on **42 kilometres**. All these works cover a

linear distance of **150 kilometres 540 metres**, for a total cost of CFAF **67,528,000,000**;

- the Songbengue-Ngambe road, covering a linear distance of **16 kilometres** for a cost of CFAF **1,009,000,000**;
- complementary works on the second bridge on River Wouri, are **95% done**, cognizant that the **main contract** comprising viaducts and access roads is already **100% executed**, for a linear distance of **1 kilometre 502 metres** ;
- **the Yaounde-Douala motorway**, whose **phase 1** covering a linear distance of **60 Kilometres** and **25 Kilometres** of restoration roads are **77.5% complete**;
- **the accessibility road to the West agricultural basin**, whose lot 1 is **30.7%** complete.
- **the Obala-Batchenga-Bouam road**, whose lot 2: Nkolessong-Nding and slip roads, of a linear distance of **96 kilometres**, is **74.7% executed**.

- **the 35-km Mbama-Messamena road**, and 5 kilometres of urban roads in Abong-Mbang, are **78.1% done**;
- **the Sangmelima-Djoum-Congo border road**: with the Sangmelima-Bikoula section executed at **80%**; the Bikoula-Djoum section at **47%**; the Mintom-Lélé section at **43.4%**; and the Lélé-Ntam section at **35%**.
- **the second access road to Bamenda**, covering a linear distance of 20 kilometres and costing CFAF 20,900,000,000, is executed at **38%**;
- **the Cross River bridge** with access roads between Ekok in Cameroon and Mfum in Nigeria is **8.5%** done, over a linear distance of 408 metres and at a cost of CFAF 22,430,000,000;
- **the bridge on River Logone**, whose works are about to commence, covers a linear distance of 2 kilometres 228 metres, for a cost of CFAF 72,240,000,000.

Regarding the **rehabilitation of roads** and other infrastructures, some noteworthy achievements include:

- acceptance of the **Ngolbang-Zoétéélé-Sangmelima-Mezesse-Meyomessala road**, covering a total linear distance of **65 kilometres**;
- acceptance of **377 kilometres 580 metres** of maintained roads, notably the Bafoussam-Foumbot-Foumban; Penja-Ebone-Muyuka tollgate; Ndoupe bridge-Dibamba bridge sections;
- rehabilitation of the Maroua-Mora road, **36%** done;
- rehabilitation of the Mora-Dabanga-Kousseri road: **10%** done, with the support of the Military Engineering Corps;
- rehabilitation of the Tonga-Bafoussam-Babadjou road: **13% done.**

Similarly, **routine road maintenance** was done over a total distance of **967 kilometres**, for CFAF 43,820,000,000.

Government also continued to conduct engineering studies for different roads and finalised **railway studies** on a linear distance of over **1,192 kilometres**, mainly on the following itineraries: Douala-Ngaoundere, Edea-Kribi-Campo and Douala-Limbe-Idenau.

In **housing**, Government worked to improve the stock of decent houses as prescribed by the **Head of State**.

Achievements in that regard include the following:

- the continuation of Government's programme of **1,675 low-cost houses** in Yaounde (Olembe site) and Douala (Mbanga-Bakoko site), where works are advancing at an average rate of **78%**;
- the supervision of real estate developers and agents, seen in the grant of **17** authorisations to practice the profession of real estate developer;

In a bid to improve the urban environment, major urban drainage and sanitation projects were undertaken in our large cities.

In Douala, the rain water drainage project covering a linear distance of **39 km**, registers a rate of execution of **93%**.

In **Yaounde**, the Sanitation Project, Phase II, covering a linear distance of **14 km**, registers an execution rate of **90%**.

In Maroua, emergency works to treat critical points on the banks of Mayo Kaliao and Ziling are **40% complete**.

The improvement of **urban mobility** was not left out. For that reason, Government constructed several urban transport facilities. These include:

- the development of **access roads** to sports infrastructure sites to host the CHAN 2020 and AFCON 2021 competitions, which shows the following results:
 - ✓ Yaounde site: 81.2%
 - ✓ Douala site: 72.35% ;
 - ✓ Bafoussam site: 72.66% ;
 - ✓ Bandjoun site: 50.10% ;
 - ✓ Garoua site: 68.87%.

Construction work on the open country section of the Yaoundé-Nsimalen motorway is ongoing and **85%** complete. This infrastructure will be open to traffic during the CHAN 2020.

For their part, road and drainage works undertaken as part of the Urban C2D Regional Capital Cities project are **57%** complete.

In addition, the Maintenance Window of the Road Fund has rehabilitated **26.52 km** of roads in Tignere, Yaounde, Lomie, Kye-Ossi, Bertoua, Ndom, Bandjoun, Limbe and Pitoa.

With regard to **Transport**, the activities carried out have recorded the following progress:

- Regarding **road transport**:

- the identification and formal notice of **85** interurban passenger transport companies that were operating clandestinely;
- the supervision of **150** travel agencies, in order to ensure that they comply with the required norms and standards in this area.

- regarding **rail transport**:

- the acquisition of **75** coaches and **100** flat wagons;
- the renewal of **175 km** of railway lines between Batchenga and Ka'a;
- the securing of six (6) level crossings in Yaounde and Douala;

- the development, modernization and security of the Yaoundé, Douala, Ngaoundere, Nanga-Eboko, Belabo, Eseka and Makondo train stations.

- Regarding **maritime transport**:
 - the revitalization of the Kribi deep-sea port, which has enabled our maritime transport chain to be enriched by **20** jetties over **6.5 km**; a container terminal as well as a multi-purpose terminal;
 - the modernisation of the Douala port and the strengthening of its competitiveness, in particular with the installation and commissioning of a third quayside gantry;

- With regard to **air transport**, activities focused on:
 - the rehabilitation of the apron, acquisition of equipment and the launch of modernisation works at Douala International Airport, with a view to its certification;
 - the ongoing rehabilitation of the Bafoussam-Bamougoum airport;
 - the lease-purchase of a new Bombardier Q400 aircraft; which currently brings the CAMAIR-CO fleet to 6 aircraft;
 - the signing of **68** Agreements to allow the establishment of air services between Cameroon and certain countries;

- Cameroon's accession to the Single Market for Air Transport in Africa, under instructions of the **Head of State**.

In the **Post and Telecommunications** sector, Government has focused on better network and improved postal coverage, as well as the optimization of telecommunications and ICT networks and services.

With regard to the regulation of postal sector activities, the following activities have been introduced:

- the streamlining of the postal market through the special operation to recover the entry fees of private postal operators;
- the continued restructuring of CAMPOST, through the signing of a Plan Contract based on a financing plan of more than **CFAF 22 billion**;

In order to increase access to electronic communication networks, activities were carried out in 2019 as part of the implementation of the 2020 Cameroon Digital Strategic Plan.

By way of illustration, the following can be mentioned:

- the continuation of the equipment of the Zamengoé Datacentre and its Kribi branch;
- the implementation of the national policy on network and information system security;
- capacity-building for security and defence forces on digital investigation techniques;
- the security audit of the information systems of **27** ministries and **39** public institutions;
- the identification and location of cybercriminal suspects in **2,623 investigations**.

In the area of **Scientific Research and Innovation**, Government has focused on scaling up research, development and innovation, as well as improving research structures.

To this end, the following major achievements can be highlighted:

- the recruitment of **150 Researchers**, bringing the number of newly recruited Researchers since 2015 to **748**, out of the **1,000** authorized by the **Head of State**;
- the production of about 50 new maize hybrids;

- the distribution of **800,000** cashew tree plants in Garoua by the **Agricultural Research Institute for Development**;
- the selection of 20 high-yielding wheat varieties;
- monitoring of degassing and security activities on Lakes Nyos and Monoun, as well as the strengthening of the natural dam on Lake Nyos;
- the inspection of **50** hospitals and industrial establishments using ionizing radiation sources.

In the **Mines, Industry, and Technological Development** sectors, the most significant actions include:

- the production of **227 kilograms 28 grams** of gold, of which **56 kilograms 82 grams** represent the cumulative tax of **CFAF 1 billion 51 million 145 thousand and 25**;
- the channelling in the formal circuit of **11 kilograms 500 grams** of gold, worth **CFAF 203 million 500 thousand**;
- the sanctioning of **7 mining operators** and the sealing of **18 sites** for the uncontrolled exploitation of earth quarries;

- the finalisation the enabling instruments of the Mining Code.

In the **Trade sector**, special emphasis was placed on developing exports through market diversification and regulation. In that regard, we can mention:

With regard to export development:

- the organisation of the 10th edition of the CEMAC Cross-border Fair in Kyé-Ossi, Ntem Valley Division;
- the alignment of Cameroonian cocoa with international standards.

In a bid to regulate the internal market, over **7,000** control missions have been fielded and offenders punished.

Similarly, with a view to developing trade, Government has adopted a **National Electronic Commerce Strategy**, working in partnership with the Commonwealth General Secretariat.

In addition, several other actions have been carried out to promote the consumption of local products. These include, in particular:

- the organisation of fairs and promotional events;
- the increase in SIC CACAOS' installed capacity from **30 thousand to 55 thousand tonnes**;
- the commissioning of the NEOINDUSTRY cocoa processing plant in Kékem.

These achievements will increase the national installed capacity to nearly **120 thousand tonnes** of locally processed cocoa.

In order to promote fairness in trade transactions, the activities carried out concerned:

- ✓ the verification of **6,196** measuring instruments;
- ✓ the approval of **4** price lists of brewing companies;
- ✓ the production of **300** sets of **3** volumes of the official price list.

In the **Small and Medium-sized Enterprises** sector, the flagship actions carried out in 2019 relate, in particular, to:

- the training of **1,720** young entrepreneurs, potential entrepreneurs and students on entrepreneurial awareness, as well as **362** others on the promotion of young entrepreneurship through living together;
- the linking of **153** SMEs with large companies through the Subcontracting and Partnership Exchange;
- the establishment of **11,302** companies thanks to the online platform "myBusiness.cm" as part of the Business Creation Formalities Centres. This has created more than **20,000** jobs;
- the establishment of **55** new local raw materials processing units, as part of the activities of the Programme to support the creation and development of SMEs;
- the granting of **148** financial supports amounting to **CFAF 735 million 681 thousand** to social economy organizations in **84** municipalities;
- the registration of **9,500** new craftsmen in municipal registers, bringing their number to **80,000**, with a view to their migration to the formal sector.

In the **Tourism and Leisure** sector, the major activities carried out by the Government can be illustrated by the following achievements:

- **the development of several tourist sites** through the construction of various infrastructure and their equipment, in particular:
 - ✓ the "*Bois de Mardock*" in Ngaoundéré;
 - ✓ the Ebogo ecotourism site in Mengueme;
 - ✓ Ekom-Nkam Falls in Bare-Bakem;
 - ✓ the Caves of Ngok Lituba in Nyanon;
 - ✓ Lake Awing in Santa; and
 - ✓ the historical site of Bimbia in Limbe.

- **the development of the State hotel infrastructure,** in particular through:
 - ✓ the completion of the hotel of the Ebolowa Agropastoral Show;
 - ✓ the continuation of the construction work on the Meyomessala Tourist Centre.

- **the development of leisure infrastructure,** in particular through:
 - ✓ the construction of the Lagdo nautical station;

- ✓ the construction and equipment of the Maga nautical station;
 - ✓ the construction of the Ebolowa Recreational Park;
 - ✓ the construction and equipment of a holiday village in Buea.
- **improving the training offer in tourism, hotels and leisure**, through the implementation of geotechnical studies for the construction of a vocational school for tourism, hotels and leisure in Bertoua.

In the **Environment** sector, Government's action focused on measures for resilience, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, as well as sustainable biodiversity management.

With regard to the **forestry and wildlife** sector, particular emphasis was placed on the management and renewal of forest resources, the securing and enhancement of wildlife resources and protected areas, as well as the enhancement of timber and non-timber forest resources.

The main performances recorded are as follows:

- In the **forest** sub-sector:

- the development of **117,130 hectares** of Forest Management Units;
 - the placing on the market of more than one million cubic metres of legal timber;
 - the establishment of **64,894 hectares** of communal and community forests;
 - the creation of **1,733** direct jobs in the forestry sector ;
 - the training of **148 craftsmen** in woodwork;
 - the export of **4,900,9 tons** of non-timber forest products, with an estimated value of **CFAF 4,440 million**.
- In the **wildlife** sub-sector :
 - the registration of **387** tourist hunters in 2019, compared to **270** in 2018;
 - the contribution of the wildlife sub-sector to the national economy to the tune of **CFAF 819 million 14,164**;
 - the mobilization of **CFAF 8,781 million 207,354** to finance wildlife management and protected areas.

The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,

Honourable Members of Parliament,

Government has also worked to develop and promote agropastoral and agro-industrial activities.

In the **agricultural sector**, Government has focused on improving the productivity and competitiveness of agricultural sectors and modernizing rural and agricultural production infrastructure, in particular by carrying out the following actions:

- the production of **335,850 tonnes** of cocoa;
- the production of **7,418 tonnes** of Arabica coffee and **27,797 tonnes** of Robusta coffee;
- the production of **320 000** tonnes of cotton seeds;
- the production of more than **413 000** tonnes of palm oil;
- the production of more than **364,456** tonnes of irrigated and rainfed rice, thanks to the efforts undertaken by the State through the development of new hydro-agricultural areas;
- the production of **2,257, 000 tonnes** of maize;
- the production of **5,582,387 tonnes** of cassava, **666,331 tonnes** of yams and **408,236 tonnes** of potatoes;
- the production of **238,000** tonnes of pineapples;

- the distribution of plant material in all the 05 agro-ecological zones;
- the distribution of **13,142 litres** of foliar fertilizer;
- the start of the process of labelling Cameroon's red cocoa.

In the area of **livestock farming and the development of animal industries**, several actions have been carried out, in particular with a view to developing animal production and industries, improving livestock health coverage and combating zoonoses, and developing fisheries production.

Among these actions, we can mention in particular:

- the production of **345,000,879 tonnes** of meat from controlled slaughter operations;
- the production of **9,298 tonnes** of honey;
- the production of **59,456 tonnes** of table eggs;
- the production of **199,047 tonnes** of milk;
- the development of more than **179 hectares** of land for forage production;
- the development of **63 hectares** of seed crops;

- the ongoing construction of **56** pastoral and zoo-sanitary water infrastructure for community use;
- the distribution of **14,000** small ruminants to **1,400** households;
- the vaccination of **3,698,000,104** small ruminants;
- the production by LANAVET of more than **25 million doses** of vaccines for a turnover of **CFAF 851,995,000**;
- the seizure of **78,529 kilograms** of meat after health inspection for consumer protection;
- the establishment of **03** new ice production plants in Douala, Limbe and Idenau to improve the reduction of post-harvest losses.

Regarding the **public service and administrative reform**, major actions carried out focused on:

- the continued update of the list of positions in the public administration;
- the on-going management of issues resulting from the operation to clean up the State payroll, with the processing of over **13 thousand 585** disciplinary files;

- the continued update of the State personnel database with **256 thousand 864** public employees;
- the organization of a special recruitment into ENAM of the second round of **30 English-speaking student court registrars** and **50 pupil magistrates**, for courts in the North-West and South-West Regions;
- the registration of **20 thousand 169** personnel through the SIGIPES application;
- the computerization of administrative procedures within **18** administrations;
- the on-going update of organic texts and frameworks for certain ministries and public organs.

In **state property, surveys and land tenure**, 2019 was marked by the accomplishment of the following major actions:

- the setting up of basic technical infrastructure to densify the geodetic network, for a sum of **CFAF 316 million 850 thousand**;
- upgrading land technical facilities, for a sum of **CFAF 138 million**;

- the establishment of the national land register, for a sum of **CFAF 2 billion 686 million**;
- the protection and development of State property, specifically through:
 - ✓ the organization and management of the file on public buildings and administrative houses;
 - ✓ the constitution and safeguarding of **land reserves**, for a total surface area of **946 thousand 777 hectares** for various development projects with a high impact on growth;
 - ✓ the physical safeguarding of **87 thousand 334 hectares** in 9 divisions as part of land reserves intended for agro-industry;
 - ✓ the safeguarding of **948** hectares of port domain in the Douala-Bonaberi zone;
 - ✓ the issuance of **3 thousand 862** land titles.

Furthermore, as part of monitoring land royalties, an amount of **CFAF 4 billion 163 million 867 thousand 367** was recovered.

Similarly, major enterprises transferred **CFAF 601 million 307 thousand 64**, whereas advertising displays yielded the sum of **CFAF 60 million** to the State.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

In the **communication** sector, Government has been regularly providing highlights of events marking the life of the nation during 2019, through press briefings, press conferences, statements and press releases.

Moreover, other key actions also need to be noted, particularly:

- the carrying out of studies with a view to establishing a Virtual News Agency;
- the continuation of the project to rehabilitate CRTV`s technical infrastructure;
- the update of the legal framework on public assistance to the press;
- the provision of public assistance to the press worth **CFAF 300 million.**

In the area of **basic education**, Government's action centred on making primary education universal, promoting pre-school education and literacy, and enhancing public services in the basic education sector.

To this end, the following key actions were carried out:

- the construction of **1 693** classrooms in public primary schools;
- the construction of **24** fences to ensure security in public primary schools;
- the equipment of public primary schools with **24 thousand 420** desks;
- the granting of a minimum package of **CFAF 4 billion 88 million 184 thousand** to public primary schools;
- the granting of subsidies to private primary schools worth **CFAF 2 billion 228 million 973 thousand**;
- the printing of **300** thousand certificates;
- the strengthening of incentives for the education of girls and vulnerable children;
- the training of over **40 thousand** teachers and strengthening of the capacities of actors of the pedagogic supervision chain;

- the construction of **26** nursery school buildings and rehabilitation of **2** nursery schools;
- the grant of subsidies to private nursery schools in the basic education sector amounting to **CFAF 955 million, 197 thousand**;
- the construction of **14** blocks and **2** houses for teachers in rural areas;
- the acquisition of **891** tables for teachers in public primary schools.

In the **secondary education** sector, Government's accomplishments in 2019 can be summarized as follows:

- the ongoing construction of **198** blocks and **2** classrooms, as well as **89** blocks and **2** classrooms with an ordinary office;
- the construction of **21** workshops for vocational practice in CETIC and technical schools ;
- the construction of 2 dormitories with refectories in ENIEG Akwa Bakassi;
- the provision of internet connection in **12** schools;
- the equipment of **600** classrooms and **18** thousand desks;

- the equipment of **69** workshops for vocational practice with kits containing teaching materials;
- the provision of computers to **92** schools;
- the grant of subsidies to **718** private schools amounting to over **CFAF 2 billion**;
- the production of **28 pedagogic guides**;
- the training of **27 thousand 304** teachers;
- **666** excellence awards to the best **474** candidates in official examinations and the best young girls in science and technical departments;
- the award of **over a thousand** academic palms to meritorious teachers;
- the carrying out of geotechnical studies on the project to construct the Limbe hospitality management/tourism school.

In the area of **higher education**, Government's efforts focused on commissioning recently created university institutions and increasing the infrastructural offer on various campuses.

Furthermore, while executing the instructions of the Head of State, Government initiated the process to select and recruit **2000** higher education teachers over a period of three years.

To date, the procedure to recruit **1 242 teachers** as part of the first phase of the operation is practically complete.

In **Employment and Vocational Training**, Government's efforts enabled the creation of **457** thousand **640** new jobs in the modern sector of the economy. This was thanks to the joint efforts:

- of the public sector, on the one hand, through opportunities offered by various competitive examinations and the absorption of the workforce by major structural projects and on-going infrastructural projects in our country, under the impetus of the **Head of State**;
- and the private sector on the other hand, whose dynamism should be acknowledged.

In this vein, we can note:

- the granting of various types of financial and material support to Cameroonian ex-migrants returning from the Mediterranean Coast;
- the granting of **200** national and foreign scholarships to youths seeking qualification;

- the supervision of **35 thousand 400** students in approved public and private vocational training structures;
- the fight against clandestine expatriate workers, by controlling **65** enterprises and **8** major projects.

In the area of **Labour and Social Security**, major accomplishments focused on the following actions:

- the registration of **45 thousand 485** new compulsorily insured persons;
- the registration of **18 thousand 96** new voluntarily insured persons ;
- the control of **92 strike notices** and protests;
- the setting up, renewal and installation of **236** hygiene and workplace safety committees within registered enterprises;
- the evaluation of the functioning of **50** hygiene and workplace safety committees;
- the signing of **23** Occupational Health Agreements and **93** visit and care agreements.

As concerns **Youth and Civic Education**, major actions focused on civic education and national integration, the socio-economic integration of youths and the implementation of the Three-year Special Youth Plan.

To this effect, the following results were recorded:

- the deployment of **340** mission volunteers in the education, health and agro-pastoral areas ;
- the supervision of **390** youth camp volunteers as part of the National Volunteer Programme;
- the training of **1 400** conscripts and **900 volunteers** in 15 pioneer production villages;
- the training of **12 thousand 500** youths in urban and rural small-scale trades;
- the training and provision of support for the insertion of **4 thousand 718** youths;
- the sensitization of **40 thousand** youths on migration issues;
- support for the elaboration of **32 thousand 26** business plans for youth projects;
- the registration of **7 thousand 545** youths on the National Youth Observatory platform.

In the area of **Social Affairs**, Government`s action mainly focused on the protection of socially vulnerable persons, and the promotion of national solidarity and social justice.

We can cite, for example:

- the school placement of **1 844** children with disabilities or born to disabled parents;
- the school placement of **539** internally displaced children owed to the security crisis in the North-West and South-West Regions;
- the continued implementation of the project to construct and equip the Disabled Persons Rehabilitation Centre in Maroua.;
- the management of over **1 thousand** child refugees in the East Regions;
- the provision of psychosocial support to **10 thousand 405** internally displaced children and refugees in the Far-North Region and establishment of **2 thousand 267** birth certificates;
- the provision of psychological support to **23 thousand** children victims of the Boko Haram sect.

In the area of **Arts and Culture**, Government's action targeted the development of the cultural and creative industry with a view to improving the quality and quantity of cultural offers, and preserving, popularizing and promoting our national cultural identity.

To this effect, we undertook:

- the reconstitution of the collective memory through data collection missions which helped to identify **60** new cultural property and assets of our intangible cultural heritage;
- the restoration and development of cultural and artistic heritage, through the transfer of cultural centres to over **40** local authorities, for a global envelop of **CFAF 110 million**;
- the granting of awards to **20** young authors during the Youth Literary Contest;
- the production of an inventory and map of cultural and creative industries, which helped to map out **500** cultural industries in Yaounde;
- the continuation of work for the construction of a stele in memory of the railway accident which occurred on 21 October 2016 in Eseka.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National
Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I would now like to present the broad lines of Government's programme for 2020.

As you are probably aware, our country is experiencing a difficult security situation which is quite fragile in certain regions. This requires that we remain vigilant and focused on the stakes and development objectives targeted.

Thus, with regard to the **public procurement system**, Government intends to implement, among others:

- the finalisation of the process to categorise companies in the construction and public works sector for their consideration in the related contract award process;
- the continuation of the operationalization the Cameroon Online E-Procurement System ;

- the finalization of a Grant Agreement to the tune of **CFAF 3 billion 300 million** between Cameroon and South Korea, for the implementation of the second phase of the project on the online signing of contracts.

Regarding the **safeguarding of public funds** in 2020, priority shall be given to the actions targeting:

- the modernization of tools and methods for the verification of the competent services of the State;
- the intensification of audit and control missions, in various administrations, urban and local councils as well as public enterprises and institutions.

In the area of **territorial governance**, Government will pursue the establishment of civil protection structures and finalise studies on the legal and institutional reform of the national civil protection system.

In addition, we will conduct a study on the situation of Cameroon`s international borders, with a view to strengthening and mastering them.

Furthermore, Government will maintain the spirit of national solidarity for the benefit of affected Regions, by speeding up the distribution of emergency humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons of the North-West and South-West Regions.

The year 2020 will also be marked by the organisation of **legislative and municipal elections**. To this effect, ELECAM is already anticipating preparatory activities for the said elections, especially during the pre-election, election and post-election phases.

To this end, Government will spare no effort to enable ELECAM to fully and effectively play its role, particularly through an appropriate security mechanism in certain localities plagued by insecurity.

In the area of **decentralization and local development**, the challenges to be addressed are many, at the institutional as well as structural levels.

Priority will be given to fast-tracking the decentralisation process and implementing the Special Status of

the North-West and South-West Regions as instructed by the **Head of State** following the Major National Dialogue.

To this end, focus will be placed on the revision of laws No. 2004/017 of 22 July 2004 on the orientation of decentralisation and No. 2004/018 of 22 July 2004 to lay down rules applicable to councils.

With regard to **security**, the action of public authorities will especially target:

- strengthening the operational capacities and intervention means of Police and Gendarmerie units, in order to optimise their output;
- continuing the modernisation of Police and National Gendarmerie infrastructure including the acquisition of several rolling stock and specialised equipment.

As concerns the judiciary, Government priority is to carry out the following actions, among others:

- continue the computerization of the judicial system and implement the information technology master plan;

- promote Human Rights, notably by updating the National Action Plan for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Cameroon;
- improve access to justice, notably through the finalisation of construction works on the courthouses of Nanga-Eboko, Mbalmayo and Abong-Mbang, and start construction works on the Ambam Courthouse;
- attribute Bailiff and Notary charges.

Meanwhile, Government will work to improve the **penitentiary policy**, notably through:

- the completion of construction works on the Douala-Ngoma Central Prison;
- the establishment of the agro-pastoral complex in the Upper Farms Prison in Buea;
- the construction of infirmaries in the Nkongsamba and Bangante main prisons.

Concerning the **economy**, Government shall lay special emphasis on concretising the following actions, among others:

- monitoring the effective maturation of public investment projects;

- strengthening the industrial fabric in order to promote the "*Made in Cameroon*" brand;
- monitoring the development of activities of economically depressed areas, in view of designing specific support programmes;
- promoting strategic partnerships with countries of the South and emerging countries;
- launching the **4th General Population and Housing Census**, coupled with that of **Agriculture and Livestock**;
- finalizing the implementation of the Emergency Plan of Action against Floods in the Far North Region.

With regard to **public finances**, Government intends to continue the implementation of measures aimed at ensuring strict budgetary discipline and a further reduction of public expenditures.

To this end, the **process to categorise public enterprises and establishments** shall be completed.

This activity will enable the capitalisation of regulatory demands in force with regard to the remuneration and compensation regime of their respective leaders.

Specific innovations brought about by the Finance Law for the 2020 fiscal year concern the following, among others:

- the alignment of the earmarked accounts to the State Financial Regime;
- the rationalisation of the mechanism of the Treasury Unique Account;
- **customs duties and taxes**, notably:
 - ❖ the adaptation of customs levy policy at the level of processing export goods;
 - ❖ the increase of export duty from **5% to 10%** on some precious stones like gold, diamond and cobalt;
 - ❖ the increase from **5% to 10%** of the assessed value on some goods, such as rice, soy beans, maize and Cameroonian palm oil, produced locally and re-exported although without fully meeting local demand;

- ❖ the institution of a **50%** excise on hydroquinone or cosmetic products containing hydroquinone which cause skin lightening;
 - ❖ the increase of excise tax from **25% to 30%** on tobacco for health reasons;

 - ❖ setting the reduced rate of Common External Tariff at **5%** for taxis and buses acquired from authorized car dealers, and set aside exclusively for the public transportation of persons, in prelude to the 2020 African Nations Championship and the AFCON.
- **The General Tax Code**, particularly:
- ❖ the reduction of the maximum allowable deduction on headquarter and research costs, technical assistance, accounting and finance costs in transactions between Cameroonian enterprises and their subsidiaries based abroad in order to fight against tax evasion and promote local expertise;
 - ❖ the judicial supervision of the deductibility for bad debt expenses;

- ❖ the total exemption of tax burdens and employers' contributions for the benefit of enterprises on salaries paid youths less than 35 years old;
- ❖ the recognition of tax mediation procedures in order to limit disputes and the stock of tax arrears.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

In the **Energy sector**, Government action shall focus on:

- intensifying rural electrification by at least doubling access rate in the rural area;
- completing construction works on the evacuation lines of the energy produced by the Memve'ele and Mekin Power Stations;
- starting construction works on the Menchum hydroelectricity dam and continuing ongoing works on that of upstream Nachtigal.

Regarding **petroleum and gas products**, Government plans, among other things, to begin reconstruction

works on the damaged units of SONARA and the construction of distribution points for petroleum products in rural areas.

As a matter of fact, in the **area of renewable energy**, Government will focus on:

- ✓ implementing the programme to set up **50** small hydropower plants;
- ✓ constructing solar power plants in the three Northern Regions;
- ✓ Commissioning several solar power plants and distribution lines as part of the project to electrify **184** localities with the photovoltaic power system.

Moreover, in the domain of **water and sewage treatment**, emphasis will laid on:

- the continuation of works on the potable water supply project in Yaounde and its environs from the River Sanaga;
- the continuation of the Three Year Emergency Plan with the construction of **3 thousand** boreholes in the three Northern Regions of Cameroon;

- the launching of feasibility studies and conception of the project to supply drinking water to the towns of Muntengene, Buea and Tiko;
- the ongoing project to supply drinking water to **9** towns.

In the **road infrastructure** sector, Government will focus on measures to anticipate demand and extend the road network, mainly through:

- the effective start of road construction works: Phase 2 of the Ring road, Ebolowa-akom 2 - Kribi and the Eastern Entrance to Douala;
- continuation of construction works on the first section of the Douala-Yaounde Motorway;
- tarring of the Mengong-Sangmeli, Sangmelima-Bikoula, Bikoula-Djourn and Djourn-Mintom roads, phase 2;
- the construction of the Olama-Kribi road, Bingambo-Grand Zambi section, on a **45 kilometres** stretch at a cost of **38 billion 5 million CFA francs**;
- linking of the Yaounde-Douala motorway to the Yaounde urban road network through Nkolbisson

and to the National Road No. 3 through Boumnyebel;

- construction of the Ebolowa-Akom II - Kribi road;
- rehabilitation of the East entrance to Douala, Phase II;
- the construction of the Ring Road, for a linear distance of **280 kilometres at a cost of 106 billion CFA francs**;
- the tarring of **601 kilometres** of new roads, 134 kilometres of which are under the three-year emergency plan (PALNUT);
- the tarring of **45 kilometres 460 meters** of council roads as surface dressing;
- the rehabilitation of **295 kilometres** of main roads and **56 kilometres** of council roads;
- the maintenance of **8 thousand 500 kilometres** of untarred main roads in the priority network, **2 thousand 500 kilometres** of paved roads and **2 thousand 800 kilometres** of rural roads of the priority network;

- the continuation of rehabilitation works on the Mora-Dabanga-Kousseri and Babadjou-Bamenda roads;
- the start of maintenance works on certain trunk roads, notably Ekong-Bengbis, Mamfe-Akwaya, Batouri-Yokadouma, Edea-Kribi and Guider-Mayo Oulo.

Besides, in prelude to the **2020 African Nations Championship**, a number of roads shall undergo specific maintenance.

Moreover, Government will continue carrying out **technical studies** in the area of road infrastructure.

In the **Housing sector**, Government intends, among others, to emphasise on the completion of construction works on **1 675** houses awarded to national SMEs within the framework of government programme to construct **10 000** low-cost houses.

The same shall apply for construction works on **700** low-cost houses in Regional headquarters other than Douala,

Yaounde and Ebolowa, within the framework of the Three year emergency plan (PLANUT).

As concerns **Urban Development**, actions to be carried out in 2020 shall revolve around:

- completing construction works on the rainwater drainage system in Douala, of a **39 km** stretch, as well as the second phase of the Yaounde sanitation project on a **14 km** stretch;
- completing construction works on the rural section of the Yaounde-Nsimalen motorway,
- continuing works on road networks and drainage systems in the towns of Bafoussam, Bertoua, Garoua, Bamenda and Maroua.

The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the transport sector, Government will continue implementing actions aimed particularly at promoting a

multimodal approach in order to construct an integrated transport network in the national territory, mainly by:

- experimenting the “scrappage incentive” in view of modernizing the car pool;
- conducting a study aimed at limiting the acquisition or renewal of transport documents for vehicles that are more than 15 years old;
- updating the National Railway Master Plan;
- seeking long-lasting solutions to the structuring of CamairCo.

In the **Posts and Telecommunications** sector, Government will continue implementing the axes of the Strategic Plan for a Digital Cameroon by 2020, as well as improving the national postal coverage.

More specifically, activities to be carried out shall revolve around:

- elaborating instruments to regulate postal activities;
- the digital transformation of the Post Office
- continuing ongoing works to restructure CAMPOST;
- extending the phase IV of the fibre optics National Backbone and the project management;

- setting up facilities for the coverage in telecommunication and ICT services of the 2020 African Nations Championship and AFCON 2021;
- carrying out the digital transformation of the administration and enterprises;
- installing pilot wireless networks in the campuses of the universities of Yaoundé I, Bamenda and Maroua.

With regard to the **Mines and Industry** sector, Government will focus on finalising works to update the industrialisation Master Plan prescribed by the **Head of State**.

A basic strategic study shall be conducted with a view to elaborating an orientation pattern and programming for structuring industries.

Also, Government will continue implementing plans to restructure public enterprises such as CICAM and ALUCAM.

In the **trade sector**, major activities planned for 2020 consist in:

- improving the performance of enterprises in exports by supporting and keeping them abreast of the demands on the international markets;
- increasing border trade infrastructure offer, notably through the construction and maintenance of trans-border facilities for the distribution and sale of goods.

In the **forestry and wildlife sector**, Government will continue and intensify actions aimed at the management, renewal, reforestation and regeneration of forest resources, as well as giving value to timber and non-timber resources.

It will mainly entail increasing to **59 billion 500 million CFA Francs**, the portion of tax and incidental tax revenues generated through the sustainable management of forests.

We equally plan to generate about **38 thousand jobs** through the development of timber and non-timber forest resources.

The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,

Honourable Members of Parliament,

In the domain of **Agriculture**, Government intends to focus its activities on:

- making seed farms operational;
- conducting the General Agriculture and Livestock census, to be done jointly with the General Population and Housing Census, for the purpose of specificity and pooling of intervention means of the State;
- establishing joint-trade in the cotton sector.

Concerning **Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industry**, Government will increase its activities around the following major challenges:

- promoting domestic dairy production, by importing 265 pregnant dairy cows of exotic breeds;
- commissioning a processing unit for bovine semen at the Logguere Station;
- renewing the parent pig at the Kounden Station, through the importation of 100 parent pigs of pure breed;

- funding 1 500 investment projects borne by organisations of meat producers;
- constructing an ice plant in Kribi.

With regard to Tourism and Leisure, major projects to be carried out in 2020 shall entail giving more value to tourist sites, transferring competences and resources to Councils for the enhancement of 18 sites.

Government prospects regarding the **State Property, Surveys and Land Tenure** sector, include:

- the designing of digital cadastral maps of the cities of Yaounde and Douala;
- the dematerialisation and securing of **90 thousand** land titles
- the completion of the stamping of administrative buildings, as well as that of the State immovable asset that will be catalogued
- continuing with the creation of on state housing estates in some Divisions;
- the development of plots of land for the construction of several hotels.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National
Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

With regard to prospects in the **Communication sector**, Government intends to launch the pilot phase and the institutional alignment of the project to set up the Virtual News Agency.

It will also mobilise the necessary funds for the rehabilitation of CRTV's technical infrastructure especially in terms of works supervision.

Furthermore, it will organise the formal acceptance of equipment meant for media broadcasting and video-assisted refereeing (VAR) during the **2020 CHAN** and **2021 AFCON**.

In the **Basic Education sector**, Government will prioritise the achievement of the following objectives:

- the construction of **926** classrooms;
- the construction of **32** latrine blocs ;
- the making of **6,683** desks;
- the rehabilitation of **21** Government primary schools;

- the training of **26,000** primary school teachers;
- the free distribution **2,250,000** core French language, English Language and Mathematics textbooks, to **750,000** Class 1 or Class 2 pupils in Government primary schools;
- the provision of **5,000** micro-science kits, **1,000** of them to be financed by the School Enrolment Support Project in priority education zones;
- the printing of **32,700** certificates for the 2015 examination session;
- the free distribution of school kits to pupils and host communities in at least **50** schools in areas that host refugees;
- the grant of subsidies to private primary schools amounting to CFAF **3,099,995,000 (three billion, ninety-nine million nine hundred and ninety-five thousand)**;
- the distribution of kits to **11,360** learners registered in community preschool centres;
- the increase of public preschool facilities through the construction and equipment of **28** classrooms, **26 nursery** blocs and the rehabilitation of **7** nursery school blocs;

- the grant of subsidies to private nursery schools amounting to **CFAF 1,350,175,000 (one billion three hundred and fifty million one hundred and seventy-five thousand)**;
- ensuring the stability of teachers at their duty stations, through the construction of **63** apartment blocs of **2** houses for teachers in rural areas.

Concerning **secondary education**, Government intends to continue strengthening access to secondary education, as well as to improve the quality of teaching and promote the professionalisation of teaching.

Actions to be carried out in that regard concern especially:

- the construction of new one-storey classroom blocs in urban centres and blocs of 2 classrooms in rural areas;
- the systematisation and widespread use of vocational testing and monitoring of vulnerable learners;
- the establishment of micro-enterprise nurseries to bolster training facilities in the school milieu;

- the strengthening of the practice of bilingualism in schools;
- the promotion of the arts, our national languages and the national cultural heritage in the school milieu.

Government's plans in the **scientific research and innovation** sector will focus on the intensification of research and development, through:

- the strengthening of research activities aimed at increasing agricultural production and intensifying the production of crops of high economic value such as the cashew nut and acacia gum;
- the mapping of risky zones in Cameroon to provide information on climatic variations;
- the strengthening of the technical facilities of the National Radio Protection Agency, by procuring cutting-edge monitoring equipment;
- the rehabilitation of in-laboratory data analysis and processing equipment to develop geological and mining research;

- the continued surveillance of risky zones and assessment of water and renewable energy resources;
- the development of construction systems and materials that minimise the cost and time of building houses;
- the start of activities to set up the Douala-based Specialized Unit for the production of baked bricks and tiles;
- the continuation of studies on traditional medicines, especially the improvement of techniques used in making phyto-drugs;
- the intensification of studies to identify the origin and symptoms of terrorism and the search for strategies to reduce social vulnerability in Cameroon.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National
Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

Government's plans in the **public service sector** have to do with implementing the following landmark activities:

- complete the mapping of work stations in Cameroon's public administration;
- continue the revision of instruments governing the management of State personnel's careers;
- reduce disparities in preliminary procedures for the authentication of certificates;
- disseminate Standard "1756" on "Quality of service rendered to users" among key actors of the process and the general public;
- finalise SIGIPES II works and commission this new software package to manage State human resources and payroll;
- consolidate reforms on the devolved management of State personnel;
- continue the Operation to clean up the State payroll and personnel database.

In **Employment and vocational training**, the priority will be to truly make employment "a national cause" as

prescribed by the **President of the Republic, His Excellency Paul BIYA.**

This will require Government to, among other things:

- increase the supply of decent jobs by significantly reducing unemployment and under-employment, in particular among young people, women and the most disadvantaged and/or vulnerable segments of society;
- ensure consistency in Government's pro-employment actions and initiatives, in order to create **550,000** jobs in 2020 ;
- improve equity, access to, and the quality of vocational training;
- streamline vocational training and guidance activities, and set up a sustainable vocational training funding mechanism;
- transform all rural artisan sections (SAR) and domestic science sections (SM) into trades training centres.

In the **Labour and social security sector**, our action will be geared towards:

- the continued evaluation of the functioning of Industrial Hygiene

- and Safety Committees, to raise their number to at least **80** ;
- the revision of the National Industrial Health and Safety Policy paper;
 - the finalisation of the social security review;
 - the registration of **70** socio-professional associations and **70** mutual societies in the East, Centre, Littoral and West Regions under the voluntary insurance scheme;
 - the effective start of promotion of the mutual principle at the level of local authorities under the slogan: "One Council, One Mutual Society";
 - the organisation of the fourth session of the Social Dialogue Consultation and Follow-Up Committee;
 - the design and implementation of IT platforms on the management of vote-counting/results during in-company elections and the management of honorary distinctions;
 - the intensification of field visits to companies by the Minister of Labour and Social Security;
 - the preparation of the digital mapping of social security mutual organisations;
 - the promotion of the establishment of mutual societies;
 - the establishment of at least **10** industrial hygiene and safety committees in the Administrations.

In the **social sector**, Government's priority activities will be geared towards:

- the social protection of children by intensifying the control of street children;
- the social protection of disabled persons by continuing the construction of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons in Maroua, and the renovation of the Etoug-Ebé Centre in Yaounde;

- the social protection of the elderly, through support to private structures in charge of their welfare;
- the promotion of national solidarity, especially by providing care to internally displaced children due to the security crisis in the North-West and South-West Regions, and refugee children in the East Region, as well as support for children living with a disability or born to parents with disabilities to be admitted to schools;
- the fight against social ills, through the construction of a Reception and Transit Centre in

Mfou, as part of the fight against child trafficking and smuggling;

- assistance to social misfits and other vulnerable people.

With regard to **Women's Empowerment and the Family**, emphasis will be laid on the following activities:

- prenuptial, matrimonial and family education;
- support in guiding couples to regularising their unions;
- the establishment of a helpline for children who are victims of violence;
- the development of early childhood care structures;
- psychosocial support for women and girls within the context of the humanitarian crisis;
- the publication of the 5th edition of the Public Administration Gender Awards, extended to public and parastatal organisations;

- the establishment of monitoring and early-warning units for gender-based violence before, during and after the elections;
- the provision of financial support and basic agricultural equipment to women's groups.

With regard to **public health**, public authorities will focus on the implementation of a **Universal Health Coverage** system, to enable most Cameroonians to benefit from quality healthcare at a low cost.

Also, the health map is expected to become richer and the quality of hospital equipment is expected to improve.

In the **Sports and Physical Education** sector, Government's priority will be to optimise preparations for the 2020 CHAN and 2021 AFCON. To this end, the administrations and actors concerned must ensure that the relevant specifications are scrupulously respected.

The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

With regard to the implementation of the **Three-Year Emergency Plan to Accelerate Economic Growth**, special attention will be given to continuing the work already begun and to finalise procedures for the execution of residual projects. This is the case with the design and implementation of the Yola Maliki-Mokong water retention works, which will include four (4) components, namely:

- the construction of the water retention dam to the west of the city of Maroua, with a capacity of **140 million** cubic metres;
- the development of **14,200 hectares** of irrigated areas in the Mokolo, Gazawa and Maroua I subdivisions, which will be irrigated by gravitation thanks to this water retention system;
- the construction of a drinking water supply system to supply **one million (1,000,000)** inhabitants;
- hydropower generation, to capitalize on the potential of this retention facility.

The maturation process of Phase II of the Livestock component of the Emergency Plan will also be expedited. This phase comprises:

- the construction of a slaughterhouse with a capacity of **150** cows per day and a cannery in Maroua;
- the construction, equipment and commissioning of an animal seed production centre and three relay centres in Louguéré, Dogba and Jakiri;
- the acquisition of **two (2)** trawler boats for the Artisanal Fishing Development Authority in Douala;
- the construction, equipment and commissioning of **three (3)** pig farms in Kounden, Bali and Kaélé.

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Government's Economic, Financial, Social and Cultural Programme for 2020 will be implemented in a context of peace-building and consolidation of national unity, considering the

prevailing security climate. The goal is to set our country back on the growth track, with a view to its emergence by 2035.

The Programme also includes the preparation and organisation of the forthcoming legislative and municipal elections, as well as the drive to accelerate decentralisation, with the **“Special Status”** to be granted to the North West and South West Regions, as announced by the **President of the Republic**.

In addition, Government will consolidate the grounds gained and above all, maintain the momentum generated by structural and institutional reforms. It will also continue the major infrastructure projects underway, in particular:

- preparations and construction sites of CHAN 2020 and AFCON 2021;
- the Emergency Plan to Accelerate Economic Growth and the three-year “Special Youth” Plan;

- the continuation of construction works on the Yaoundé-Douala and Yaoundé-Nsimalen motorways and other major road projects underway;
- the completion of major infrastructure and energy projects underway;
- the development of digital economy, industrialization and second-generation agriculture.

Consequently, the Draft Budget for the 2020 fiscal year, submitted for your approval, is based on a macroeconomic framework based on all these contextual elements.

It is based on a realistic assumption of **4% growth rate in real Gross Domestic Product**, driven mainly by an upturn in activities in the non-oil sector, particularly in agriculture.

Similarly, the drop in oil activity points to an average price of **USD 57.9** per barrel in 2020. In addition, a controlled

inflation rate of around **2.2%** is projected for 2020, below the CEMAC convergence threshold.

The fiscal policy projected for 2020 is also in line with the objective of restoring balance in our public finances in the medium term. It also aims to better rationalize public spending and optimize the mobilization of domestic non-oil revenue.

On the basis of these assumptions, this Finance Bill for the year 2020 is balanced in revenue and expenditure at the sum of **CFAF 4 thousand 951 billion 700 million, against CFAF 5 thousand 212 billion in 2019**, representing a decrease of **CFAF 260 billion 300 million** in absolute value and **5%** in relative value.

This is a reduced budget, given the contextual elements I just mentioned earlier.

In this overall forecast, **internal revenue** stands at **CFAF 3 thousand 719 billion 200 million**, distributed as follows:

- Oil and gas revenue: **CFAF 443 billion;**
- Tax and customs revenue: **CFAF 2 thousand 962 billion 200 million;**

- Non-oil or non-tax revenue: **CFAF 212 billion;**
- Grants: **CFAF 102 billion.**

External funding, for its part, stands at **CFAF 1,304 billion 500 million**, distributed as follows:

- ✓ budget support: CFAF 115 billion 500 million;
- ✓ drawdowns on project loans: CFAF 767 billion;
- ✓ issuance of public securities: CFAF 320 billion;
- ✓ bank financing: CFAF 102 billion.

Projected expenditure amounts to **CFAF 4 thousand 159 billion 700 million**, distributed as follows:

- Current expenditure (operating): **CFAF 2 thousand 663 billion 400 million;**
- Capital expenditure (investment): **CFAF 1,496 billion 300 million;**
- Other financing and treasury expenses: **CFAF 792 billion.**

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the National
Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

This is the outline of Government's Economic, Financial, Social and Cultural Programme for the year 2020, for which the Government is seeking the support of Members of Parliament for its implementation, under the leadership the **Head of State, His Excellency Paul BIYA.**

Thank you for your kind attention.