REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE

MINISTERE DES MARCHES PUBLICS

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace-Work-fatherland

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF OFFICIALS OF THE CENTRAL AND DEVOLVED SERVICES OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS COUPLED WITH THE CEREMONY OF PRESENTATION OF NEW YEAR WISHES TO HIS EXCELLENCY IBRAHIM TALBA MALLA, MINISTER DELEGATE AT THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS

23-24 JANUARY 2025
****

YAOUNDE – AMPHITHEATRE "JACQUES MENIER", ENAM
****

CLOSING SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY IBRAHIM TALBA MALLA, MINISTER DELEGATE AT THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS

- **THE BOARD CHAIR OF THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS REGULATORY AGENCY;**
- **THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS REGULATORY AGENCY;**
- **THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS;**
- **THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS CONTROL;**
- **DIRECTORS GENERAL;**
- **DIRECTORS AND PERSONS RANKING AS SUCH;**
- **REGIONAL DELEGATES;**
- **REGIONAL HEADS OF BRIGADE ;**
- **CHAIRPERSONS OF TENDERS BOARDS, CENTRAL CONTRACTS CONTROL BOARDS AND THE COMMISSION FOR THE CATEGORISATION OF BUILDING AND PUBLIC WORKS SECTOR ENTERPRISES;**
- **DEAR COLLABORATORS;**
- **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ALL PROTOCOL DULY RESPECTED.**

I AM REALLY DELIGHTED TO TAKE THE FLOOR AGAIN AFTER TWO DAYS OF INTENSE ACTIVITY AND AT A TIME WHEN THE CURTAINS ARE ABOUT TO COME DOWN ON THE DELIBERATIONS OF OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR THE YEAR 2025, COUPLED WITH THE CEREMONY OF PRESENTATION OF NEW YEAR'S WISHES WITHIN OUR MINISTERIAL DEPARTMENT.

I WOULD FIRST AND FOREMOST EXPRESS WARM WELCOME AND SINCERE THANKS TO MY COLLEAGUES MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT HERE PRESENT OR REPRESENTED FOR THIS OCCASION.

THEN, I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE PRESENCE HERE WITH US, OF THE BOARD CHAIR OF THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS REGULATORY AGENCY AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THIS INSTITUTION, WHICH, WITH MINMAP, FORMS THE TANDEM OF THE MAIN INSTITUTIONAL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS SECTOR.

FINALLY, MY DEEP ENCOURAGEMENTS GO TO ALL MY COLLABORATORS OF THE DEVOLVED SERVICES WHO HAVE TRAVELLED FROM AFAR SOMETIMES FAR-FLUNG PLACES TO TAKE PART IN THIS CONFERENCE, NOTABLY, REGIONAL DELEGATES AND HEADS OF REGIONAL BRIGADE.

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL,

DEAR COLLABORATORS,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

AT THE OPENING OF OUR DELIBERATIONS YESTERDAY MORNING, I MADE IT MY DUTY TO SET OUT THE AMBITIONS BEHIND THE MAIN THEME OF OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND THE DELIVERABLES EXPECTED OF YOU AT THE OF THIS MEETING. I ALSO URGED YOU TO ADOPT A CERTAIN CODE OF CONDUCT TO ENSURE THAT THE EXPECTED RESULTS OF OUR DELIBERATIONS ARE ACHIEVED.

AFTER TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MEASURE THE PROGRESS MADE OVER THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS, TO MAKE A CLEAR DIAGNOSIS OF OUR SECTOR OF ACTIVITY AND TO CHOOSE, BY

MUTUAL AGREEMENT, THE STRATEGIES BEST SUITED ENABLING US TO FURTHER IMPROVE ON OUR PERFORMANCE. AT LEAST THAT IS WHAT EMERGES FROM THE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE JUST BEEN READ OUT. I URGE YOU, MR SECRETARY GENERAL, TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE DILIGENTLY IMPLEMENTED.

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL,

DEAR COLLABORATORS,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

FOR HAVING ASSIDUOUSLY FOLLOWED YOUR DELIBERATIONS, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE RELEVANCE OF THE ISSUES ADDRESSED, THE QUALITY OF THE PRESENTATIONS, THE LEVEL OF THE DEBATES AND THE QUALITY OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FORMULATED. THESE MUST NOT REMAIN MERE PIOUS WISHES BUT MUST BE THE COMPASS THAT SHOULD GUIDE OUR ACTIONS DURING THIS YEAR THAT HAS JUST BEGAN.

FOR MY PART, I PLEDGE TO SPARE NO EFFORT OR RESOURCES, SO THAT WE CAN, AS FAR AS THE MEANS WILL PERMIT, GIVE SHAPE TO THESE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THROUGH CONCRETE AND EFFECTIVE ACTIONS.

THUS, THE HEADS OF THE CENTRAL AND DEVOLVED STRUCTURES CONCERNED, ALL PROTOCOL DUELY RESPECTED, ARE HEREBY URGED, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO FULLY AND RELENTLESSLY DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES SET FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL,

DEAR COLLABORATORS,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

AS IT IS A TRADITION, THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO MAKE AN EXHAUSTIVE AND UNCOMPROMISING BALANCE SHEET OF THE PAST YEAR, AS THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS JUST DONE SO BRILLIANTLY, BUT IT IS ALSO THE OCCASION TO MOBILISE OURSELVES FURTHER AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE TOGETHER.

WHILE WE ARE REALLY SATISFIED WITH THE REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2024 THAT WAS PRESENTED, WE MUST ALSO POINT OUT THAT THE YEAR 2025 THAT HAS JUST STARTED, APPEARS WITH AS MANY AS SIGNIFICANT STAKES AND CHALLENGES.

IT IS IN THIS REGARD THAT, WHEN I WAS BEFORE THE PARLIAMENT MEETING FOR THE BUDGETARY SESSION LAST DECEMBER, OUTLINED THE ACTIONS THAT THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS INTENDS CARRY OUT DURING THE 2025, FINANCIAL YEAR, IN LINE WITH THE GUIDELINES OF THE NDS30 AND THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROGRAMME AGREED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE IMF. THESE ACTIONS ARE CLEARLY SET OUT IN

OUR THREE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND OUR SUPPORT PROGRAMME, WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- PROGRAMME 027 “PUBLIC CONTRACTS ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM” WHICH AIMS AT ENSURING THE PROPER FUNCTIONING OF THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS SYSTEM;
- PROGRAMME 028 “PROGRAMMING AND MONITORING OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS” WHOSE OBJECTIVE IS TO ENSURE THE PROGRAMMING AND PROPER AWARD OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS;
- PROGRAMME 029 “EXTERNAL CONTROL OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS EXECUTION” IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND QUALITY OF SERVICES PROVIDED;
- PROGRAMME 030 “GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT TO THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS SUB-SECTOR” WHICH AIMS AT IMPROVING SERVICE PERFORMANCE.

WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THESE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES, WE SHALL WORK DURING THIS 2025 FINANCIAL YEAR, NOTABLY:

- TO ENSURE THAT CATEGORISED ENTERPRISES IN THE BUILDING AND PUBLIC WORKS SECTOR ARE EFFECTIVELY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN CONTRACTING THE PROJECTS CONCERNED, AND TO CONTINUE THE CATEGORISATION OF ALL COMPANIES IN THE SAID SECTOR;
- CONTINUE FINALISING ALL THE IMPLEMENTING INSTRUMENTS OF THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS CODE IN ORDER TO PRODUCE A COMPENDIUM OF ALL THE INSTRUMENTS IN THE SECTOR;
- CONTINUE BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF STAKEHOLDERS IN THE SECTOR;
- UPDATE THE REGULATORY MECHANISM FOR ONLINE AWARD OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS;
- IMPROVE COMMUNICATION ON THE DEMATERIALISATION OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS PROCEDURES;
- CONTINUE USING THE COLEPS PLATFORM WITH THE AIM OF ELECTRONICALLY AWARDING PROJECT OWNERS AND DELEGATED PROJECT OWNERS’ CONTRACTS;
- CONTINUE TO DISSEMINATE PROCEDURES AND PUBLIC CONTRACTS PROGRAMMING STANDARD MODELS IN LINE WITH INFRA-ANNUAL BUDGET PROGRAMMING;
- EXTEND THE USE OF THE COLEPS PLATFORM TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS SYSTEM IN ORDER TO MONITOR THE ENTIRE LIFE CYCLE OF ALL PUBLIC CONTRACTS;
- STEP UP THE MONITORING OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVENESS, QUALITY AND POSITIVE IMPACT OF PROJECTS AND REDUCE THEIR RISKS, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON MAPPING THE ABANDONED CONTRACTS AND CONTRACTS THAT HAVE NOT STARTED WITH A VIEW TO TAKING APPROPRIATE REPRESSIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE PERPETRATORS ;
- FINALISE AND OPERATIONALISE THE NEW COLEPS PLATFORM AND STEP UP THE ACTIVITIES OF THE E-PROCUREMENT PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT;

- STEP UP THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION AND MALPRACTICE IN PUBLIC CONTRACTS;
- STREAMLINE THE DEVICE FOR MANAGING PETITIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR THE LIFTING OF SUSPENSIONS;
- EXPLOIT THE DIGITIALISATION SYSTEM SET UP FOR THE MINISTRY'S ARCHIVES;
- IMPROVE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS SECTOR TO ACHIEVE THE NDS30 GOALS SET FOR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT;
- COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE FAR NORTH REGIONAL DELEGATION BUILDING, CONTINUE CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE WEST REGIONAL DELEGATION BUILDING AND START CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE FAKO DIVISIONAL DELEGATION BUILDING;
- CONTINUE THE RENEWAL OF EQUIPMENT FOR CENTRAL AND DEVOLVED SERVICES.

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL,

DEAR COLLABORATORS,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

WHEN ASSIGNING YOU THE ABOVE OBJECTIVES, I HAVE NOT LOST SIGHT OF THE DIFFICULTIES THAT SOMETIMES LIMIT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR ACTIONS. FOR THE MOST PART, THESE RELATE TO THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND CONDITIONS, WHICH ALTHOUGH IMPROVED IN 2024 ARE STILL INADEQUATE. THE SAME GOES WITH THE LIMITED BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS, THE SHORTAGE OF MATERIAL, LOGISTICAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES, AND SO ON.

IN THIS RESPECT, I WOULD LIKE TO REASSURE YOU THAT THESE DIFFICULTIES, WHICH ARE INHERENT IN ANY HUMAN ACTION, SHALL NOT BE A HINDRANCE TO THE TREND THAT HAS ALWAYS CHARACTERISED US. LET US REMAIN COMMITTED AS IN THE PAST.

AS STIPULATED IN THE PUBLIC CONTRACTS CODE OF 20 JUNE 2018, OUR MINISTERIAL DEPARTMENT MUST CONTINUE TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND QUALITY OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED, WITHOUT LOSING SIGHT OF THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECTS. I THEREFORE EXPECT THE OFFICIALS CONCERNED TO PRODUCE QUARTERLY PLANS OF ACTION THAT CLEARLY SET OUT THE OBJECTIVES PURSUED, THE EXPECTED RESULTS AND THE INDICATORS THAT WILL ENABLE US TO MEASURE AND IMPROVE OUR LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT AND SATISFACTION THROUGH ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS PRODUCED WITHIN DEADLINES.

AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, I AM COMMITTED TO PURSUING ACTIONS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING MATERIAL AND LOGISTICAL RESOURCES AND INCREASING THE LEVEL OF RESOURCES ALLOCATED TO CONTROL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES OF OUR MINISTERIAL DEPARTMENT.

IN OTHER WORDS, IMPROVING THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND CONDITIONS WILL REMAIN ONE OF MY PRIORITIES IN 2025, AS IT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST.

OF COURSE, WITH REGARD TO BONUSES, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER BENEFITS PROVIDED FOR BY THE INSTRUMENTS IN FORCE, I WILL ENSURE, AS I HAVE RESOLUTELY COMMITTED TO DO, THAT THIS ISSUE REMAINS AT THE CENTRE OF MY PRIORITIES THIS YEAR, AS IT HAS BEEN IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

HOWEVER, WE MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE FACT THAT IN 2025, WE WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE IN A CONTEXT MARKED BY PERSISTENT BUDGETARY AUSTERITY, UNDERPINNED BY THE NEED TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE GOVERNMENT SPENDING.

CONVINCED THAT YOU ARE FULLY AWARE OF THIS, I WOULD SPECIFICALLY LIKE TO TURN TO THE DELEGATED AUTHORISING OFFICERS, WHOM I URGE TO MANAGE THE APPROPRIATIONS ALLOCATED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE STRUCTURES IN A JUDICIOUS, PARSIMONIOUS, FAIR AND EFFICIENT MANNER. YOU MUST ACT IN ALL RESPECT, BEARING IN MIND THE ETHICS OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, A GUARANTEE TO ACHIEVE GOOD GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVES ASSIGNED TO US BY THE HEAD OF STATE. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED TO ME THAT SOME HEADS OF STRUCTURE ARE LOSING SIGHT OF CERTAIN FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THEM.IN THIS REGARD, I URGE THEM TO QUICKLY ADJUST.

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL,

DEAR COLLABORATORS,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

COMING NOW TO THE SECOND PART OF OUR CEREMONY, WHICH IS RESERVED TO THE PRESENTATION OF NEW YEAR WISHES, I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY EXPRESSING MY GRATITUDE TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL FOR THE KIND WORDS AND WELL WISHES HE HAS KINDLY EXPRESSED TO ME AND MY ENTIRE FAMILY, ON HIS OWN BEHALF AND ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE STAFF OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS.

BESIDES, I NOTE THAT MINMAP STAFF IS NOW BETTER TAKEN CARE OFF WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR MINISTRY'S MUTUAL ASSISTANCE FUND, ABBREVIATED AS "MUPMAP". I AM ALSO PLEASED TO NOTE THAT, THROUGHOUT THE PAST YEAR, THE MUTUAL ASSISTANCE FUND HAS ENDEAVORED TO PURSUE ACTIONS DESIGNED TO ENSURE GREATER FULFILMENT FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE. I URGE THE BUREAU OF OUR MUTUAL ASSISTANCE FUND TO CONTINUE WITH THIS TREND THROUGHOUT THIS YEAR.

AND AS WE ARE TALKING ABOUT STAFF DEVELOPMENT, I WOULD LIKE TO PAY A PROFOUND TRIBUTE TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE TO LEAVE US BECAUSE YOU HAVE REACHED THE RETIREMENT AGE LIMIT. I ASSUME THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE MEMBERS OF THE LARGE MINMAP FAMILY, NOTABLY THROUGH THE MUTUAL ASSISTANCE FUND, AND I WISH THEM GOOD LUCK AND FULL SUCCESS IN THEIR NEW LIFE.

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL,

DEAR COLLABORATORS,

MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS,

HAVING REACHED THIS POINT IN MY SPEECH, I WOULD NOW LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL, DEAR COLLABORATORS, INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS, EVERY OFFICIAL HERE PRESENT AND ALL THE STAFF OF THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS, AS WELL AS YOUR RESPECTIVE FAMILIES, MY BEST WISHES OF HEALTH, SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS FOR THE YEAR 2025.

HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL DEAR COLLABORATORS.

AT THIS JUNCTURE, I DECLARE CLOSED THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF OFFICIALS OF THE CENTRAL AND DEVOLVED SERVICES OF MINMAP.

LONG LIVE THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CONTRACTS!

LONG LIVE HIS EXCELLENCE PAUL BIYA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, HEAD OF STATE!

LONG LIVE CAMEROON!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION.