



Extraordinary Plenary Session of the National Assembly on Road Safety
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CONAC'S ANTI-CORRUPTION DRIVE ON THE HIGHWAY

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Missions of CONAC

CONAC is an independent public body set up on 11 March 2006 by a decree of the President of the Republic. Pursuant to Article 2 of its constitutive instrument, it is charged with contributing to the fight against corruption in Cameroon.

In that capacity, the Institution carries out prevention, education and investigation activities. It conducts studies to identify the causes of corruption and proposes measures to eradicate it and establishes cooperation with other national and international anti-corruption bodies to enhance the anti-corruption drive in Cameroon.

Corruption on the highway has become one of the most noticeable and frequently reported cases at CONAC, which has not been indifferent to this trend, especially as it conveys the impression of widespread impunity and hence tarnishes the image of Cameroon. Over the years, CONAC has been conducting awareness-raising and repressive actions in this sector.

Actions of prevention

- Training of members of transporter unions in the fight against corruption;
- Production and distribution of motorbike and car stickers bearing CONAC's toll-free number 1517 to ease whistle-blowing on corruption on the highway;
- Sensitisation of driving school operators on the damaging effects of corruption in the issuance of driving licences.
- Sensitisation of officials at toll gates, weigh stations and road checkpoints on the harmful effects of corruption through a Road Show.

Repression

- Conducting Rapid Intervention Actions at official driving test centres in order to uncover acts of corruption;
- In collaboration with the National Gendarmerie and the General Delegation for National Security, conducting Rapid Intervention Actions in order to identify acts of corruption perpetrated by some forces of Law and Order, agents of the Ministry of Transport, Ministry of

Forestry and Wildlife, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries, as well as some officials of toll gates and weigh stations under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Public Works respectively, and have them prosecuted.

Results

- Several suspects were referred to court;
- Almost no reports on cases of impersonation at driving tests, a phenomenon that was recurrent before 2018;
- prompt reporting by road users of acts of corruption through CONAC's toll-free number, 1517;
- sanctions imposed on corrupt officials by the various administrations affected by corrupt practices on the highway;
- dismantling of networks of fake toll tickets;
- deposit, in the public treasury, of money seized during crackdowns.

Recommendations

a) To administrations:

CONAC has consistently made recommendations to the following administrations whose officials are often involved in acts of corruption on the highway:

- the Ministry of Defence,
- the Ministry of Transport
- the Ministry of Public Works
- the Ministry of Finance,
- the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife,
- the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries and,
- the General Delegation for National Security.

Such recommendations include:

1. The eradication of the phenomenon of "account rendering" instituted by some senior officials in the Gendarmerie and the Police. This phenomenon is a catalyst for corruption by officers in the field;
2. Dissuasive sanctions against gendarmes of the Motorised Road Squads caught in the act of defrauding transporters;
3. Use of speed cameras as a means of prevention and not repression. To achieve this, the positions of the speed cameras must be indicated and known by road users;
4. Better safeguards for the fines paid by users who infringe the law;
5. Dissuasive sanctions against the Divisional Transport Delegates who violate road safety rules;
6. Capacity building of officials of the Ministry of Transport and improvement of the legal framework of road safety activities;
7. Deterrent measures against weigh station and tollgate officials caught in the act of corruption;
8. Regular check-up and maintenance of weigh stations;
9. Stringent application of the regulations governing passage through toll gates;
10. Safeguarding the production of toll tickets;
11. Dissuasive sanctions against veterinary and Water Resources and Forestry officials caught in the act of defrauding road users;
12. Computerization of toll gates and weigh stations;
13. Proper demarcation of the roads and road signs.

b) To road users:

1. Meet all the legal requirements in terms of documents;
2. Resist corruption and report their offenders through 1517, CONAC's toll-free number.

c) To lawmakers:

1. That Cameroon should pass an anti-corruption law in order to, among other things, internalise the provisions of the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption, ratified by Cameroon on 1 April 2020. This will also give CONAC more power to fight corruption in Cameroon.

**Corruption is not inevitable,
Together we can eradicate it.**