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Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Committee on Safeguards

NOTIFICATION OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER ARTICLES 18.5, 32.6 AND 12.6 OF THE AGREEMENTS

CAMEROON

Supplement

The following communication, dated and received on 8 February 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Cameroon.

DECREE No. 2017/6524/PM of 7 June 2017 setting out the procedures for the organization and functioning of the Anti-Dumping and Subsidies Committee.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND HEAD OF GOVERNMENT,

Having regard to the Constitution;

Having regard to Law No. 2016/004 of 18 April 2016 governing foreign trade in Cameroon;

Having regard to Law No. 2007/006 of 26 December 2007 on the State finance regime;

Having regard to Decree No. 92/089 of 4 May 1992 specifying the powers of the Prime Minister, as amended and supplemented by Decree No. 95/145-bis of 4 August 1995;

Having regard to Decree No. 2011/408 of 9 December 2011 on the structure of the Government; **Having regard to** Decree No. 2011/409 of 9 December 2011 appointing the Prime Minister and Head of Government;

Having regard to Decree No. 2013/160 of 15 May 2013 containing the general regulations on public accounting;

Having regard to Decree No. 2017/6523/PM of 7 June 2017 establishing the rules for implementing Law No. 2016/004 of 18 April 2016 governing foreign trade in Cameroon,

HEREBY DECREES:

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

- (1) This Decree sets out the procedures for the organization and functioning of the Anti-Dumping and Foreign Trade Subsidies Committee or "COMADSU" for short (hereinafter: **the Committee**).
- (2) It is issued under Article 29(3) of the above-mentioned Law No. 2016/004 of 18 April 2016.

Article 2

- (1) The Committee, which is established under the Ministry in charge of foreign trade, is an import monitoring and advisory body, the responsibilities of which include investigating and giving its opinion on all matters related to dumping, subsidies and imports that cause or threaten to cause serious injury to a domestic industry.
- (2) In this connection, the duties of the Committee include:
 - (a) conducting any investigations aimed at determining the existence of:
 - dumping, subsidy or a massive increase in imports, as the case may be;
 - injury and the causal link between this injury and the dumping, subsidy or massive increase in imports;
 - (b) verifying the accuracy of any information or data provided over the course of trade defence investigations;
 - (c) holding any public hearings required over the course of trade defence investigations;
 - (d) giving its opinion on:
 - the application of a provisional or definitive anti-dumping duty, a provisional or definitive countervailing duty, or a provisional or definitive safeguard measure;
 - price undertakings;

- the revocation, maintenance, revision, prolongation or extension, as the case may be, of a trade defence measure, following a review or circumvention investigation;
- any other matter relating to trade defence measures, which shall be submitted to it by the Government.

CHAPTER II

ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING

Article 3

(1) The Committee shall be composed as follows:

Chairperson: the Minister in charge of foreign trade or their representative.

<u>Vice-Chairperson</u>: the Minister in charge of finance or their representative.

Members:

- one (01) representative of the Office of the Prime Minister;
- two (02) representatives of the Ministry in charge of foreign trade, one from the directorate for foreign trade and one from the directorate for prices;
- one (01) representative of the Directorate-General of Taxation;
- one (01) representative of the Directorate-General of Customs;
- one (01) representative of the Ministry in charge of the economy;
- one (01) representative of the Ministry in charge of small and medium-sized enterprises;
- one (01) representative of the Ministry in charge of industry;
- one (01) representative of the Ministry in charge of justice;
- one (01) representative of the Ministry in charge of foreign affairs;
- one (01) representative of the Ministry in charge of agriculture;
- one (01) representative of the Ministry in charge of livestock, fisheries and animal industries;
- one (01) representative of the National Institute of Statistics;
- one (01) representative of the Agency of Standards and Quality;
- one (01) representative of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Crafts;
- one (01) representative of the Chamber of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock and Forests;
- one (01) representative of the Cameroon Employers' Group;
- one (01) representative of the Union of Cameroon Industrialists;
- one (01) representative of the Cameroon Import and Export Traders' Union;
- one (01) representative of the associations for the protection of consumer rights.
- (2) The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the departments and entities to which they belong.

Article 4

- (1) The Committee shall have a Permanent Secretariat in order to carry out its duties.
- (2) The Permanent Secretariat shall be placed under the authority of a Coordinator, who may be assisted by a Deputy Coordinator, and shall act as the Committee's operating body.

In this connection, its tasks shall include:

- drawing up and monitoring the implementation of the Committee's action plan;
- preparing the Committee's budget;
- receiving, processing and distributing the Committee's mail;
- examining applications and requests for review of the trade defence measures taken;
- practical preparation for and servicing of the sessions of the Committee;
- preparing the Committee's draft opinions and reports;
- monitoring the implementation of the Committee's recommendations and decisions;
- keeping the Committee's documents and records;
- any other task entrusted to it by the Committee.

Article 5

- (1) The Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator of the Committee's Permanent Secretariat shall be appointed by order of the Ministry in charge of foreign trade, based on their skills and experience in the relevant areas.
- (2) The Permanent Secretariat shall have specialists and supporting staff, who are government officials or employees, made available to it at the request of the Coordinator. It may not be staffed by more than 15 people.

Article 6

The composition of the Committee shall be established by an order of the Minister in charge of foreign trade.

Article 7

The members, the Coordinator, the Deputy Coordinator, and the staff of the Committee's Permanent Secretariat shall take an oath prior to assuming their position, the wording of which is established in the Law governing commercial activities in Cameroon.

Article 8

- (1) The Committee shall be convened by its Chairperson as often as the circumstances require, and at least once every six months.
- (2) The notices, together with the working documents, shall be sent to the members at least seven days prior to the date of the meeting, except under emergency circumstances. They shall indicate the place, date, time and agenda of the meeting.
- (3) The Chairperson and the Coordinator of the Permanent Secretariat may, as part of the Committee's activities, call on any natural or legal person in view of their expertise on the matters to be addressed.
- (4) The decisions of the Committee shall only be valid when at least half its members are present.

Article 9

The opinions, decisions and recommendations of the Committee shall be adopted by a simple majority of the members present. In the event that the vote is tied, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

CHAPTER III

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 10

- (1) The operating expenses of the Committee shall be covered by:
 - appropriations made in the State budget;
 - a share of the fees for enrolment in importer and exporter registers, and a share of the proceeds from trade-related fines and transactions, which shall be determined by a specific text;
 - a share of the proceeds from the submission of import declarations to the Ministry in charge of foreign trade;
 - any fees collected for the issuance of import permits for products excluded from the free foreign trade regime.

(2) In addition, the Committee may, in carrying out its duties, receive technical and/or financial assistance from any person or national or international agency, in accordance with the regulations in force.

Article 11

The Chairperson is the authorizing officer for the Committee's budget. They may, however, delegate this task to the Coordinator of the Permanent Secretariat.

Article 12

- (1) The Committee's financial resources are public funds and shall be managed in accordance with the principles and rules of public accounting.
- (2) The management of the Committee's financial resources shall be subject to controls by the competent State services.

CHAPTER IV

MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 13

- (1) The Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the members of the Committee, the Coordinator, the Deputy Coordinator and the staff of the Permanent Secretariat, in addition to persons called in as consultants, shall enjoy working facilities and receive a sessional indemnity within the limits set by the regulations in force.
- (2) The Committee's Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, the Coordinator, the Deputy Coordinator and the staff of the Permanent Secretariat shall receive a monthly allowance, the amount of which shall be set by a joint decision of the Ministers in charge of foreign trade and finance respectively.

Article 14

This Decree rescinds all earlier incompatible provisions, particularly those of Decree No. 2005/1362/PM of 6 May 2005 establishing the composition of the Anti-Dumping and Subsidies Committee and its operating and referral procedures.

Article 15

This Decree shall be recorded and published as a matter of urgency, and included in the Official Journal in French and in English.

Yaoundé, 7 June 2017 THE PRIME MINISTER AND HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, Philemon YANG