

Decree No. 2025 / 01081 /PM of 17 JUN 2025 to lay down the Rules Governing the Process of Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes

THE PRIME MINISTER, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

Mindful of the Constitution;
Mindful of Ordinance No. 74-1 of 6 July 1974 to establish the Land Tenure System;
Mindful of Ordinance No. 74-2 of 6 July 1974 to establish the Public Land Regime;
Mindful of Law No.2018/011 of 11 July 2018 to lay down the Cameroon Code of Transparency and Good Governance in Public Finance Management;
Mindful of Law No. 2018/012 of 11 July 2018 to lay down the Financial Regime of the State and of other Public Entities;
Mindful of Law No.2023/008 of 25 July 2023 to lay down the General Regime of Public-Private Partnership Contracts;
Mindful of Decree No.92/089 of 4 May 1992 to Specify the Rights and Duties of the Prime Minister, as amended and supplemented by Decree No.95/145-a of 4 August 2015;
Mindful of Decree No.2011/408 of 9 December 2011 to organise the Government, as amended and supplemented by Decree No.2018/190 of 2 March 2018;
Mindful of Decree No. 2018/366 of 20 June 2018 to Institute the Public Contracts Code;
Mindful of Decree No.2019/001 of 4 January 2019 to appoint a Prime Minister, Head of Government;

HEREBY DECREES AS FOLLOWS:

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1.- (1) This Decree sets out the rules governing the process of maturation of public investment projects and programmes.

(2) It determines the terms and conditions for the maturation and validation of a public investment project or programme.

(3) This Decree applies to public investment projects and programmes of public administrations and institutions, public establishments and enterprises, and Regional and Local Authorities.

Article 2.- Under this Decree, the following definitions shall apply:

Public Investment Project: A temporary initiative undertaken by the State or a public entity for the purpose of creating and delivering an asset or capital infrastructure with an expected useful life of at least one year, subject to constraints of time, cost, and quality.

Public Investment Programme: A time-bound group or portfolio of public investment projects, governed and managed in a coordinated manner to achieve strategic objectives and to generate benefits that could not be realized if managed independently.

Output of a Public Investment Initiative: An asset or fixed capital investment resulting from the implementation of a public investment project.

Project life cycle: Refers to a set of defined phases through which a project is carried out from its design to its completion.

Project or Programme Manager: An individual appointed by the competent authority to lead a team responsible for achieving the objectives of the project or programme and for meeting the expectations of stakeholders.

Maturation of a Public Investment Project and Programme: A phase of the life cycle of a public investment project or programme that encompasses all activities undertaken to bring the said project or programme from initiation to the maturity clearance stage. These activities consist in making available all elements necessary to address the administrative, technical, financial, social, economic, organizational, legal, environmental, and climate-related aspects required for preparing the implementation of the project, as well as for planning the operation and maintenance of the resulting investment asset.

Maturity Clearance: An official notification indicating the completion of all formal requirements related to the maturation of a public investment project or programme. This maturity clearance precedes financial closing, which marks

the end of the maturation phase and confirms the availability of the necessary funding for the commencement of project works or implementation.

Public Investment Plan: An operational framework for planning public investment initiatives over a period consistent with the timeframe of the national development strategy, with the objective of achieving the sectoral or thematic goals set out in that strategy.

Portfolio of Public Investment Projects and Programmes: A collection of public investment projects and programmes that are governed and managed as a group with the aim of achieving strategic objectives. These projects and programmes are not necessarily interdependent or directly linked, but are collectively aligned to support the successful implementation of the public entity's strategy.

Project or Programme Management Office (PMO) An organizational unit responsible for managing the portfolio of projects and programmes within a public entity. With the aim of ensuring the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the entity's investments, the PMO periodically evaluates the entire portfolio to develop a dashboard of public investment projects that supports the comprehensive oversight of the full project and programme life cycle.

Maturation Guide: A document that outlines the processes and stages involved in the maturation of a project or programme.

Guide for the Socioeconomic Assessment of Public Investment Projects and Programmes: A document that sets out the procedures and methods for conducting the socioeconomic evaluations of public investment projects or programmes.

ARTICLE 3. The maturation process of public investment projects and programmes contributes to the achievement of the objectives set by public policies and aims in particular to:

- Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of public spending;
- Improve the performance of public administrations and other public entities through the promotion of results-based management;
- Ensure sound control of the cost, timeframe, and quality of each public investment project and programme;
- Guarantee that public investment projects and programmes implemented are the most relevant to achieving development objectives;
- Promote the success of public investment projects and programmes in terms of economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

ARTICLE 4. (1) Public investment projects are classified into four categories: small-scale projects, medium-scale projects, large-scale projects, and mega-projects.

(2) A decree issued by the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall set the thresholds applicable to each project category.

ARTICLE 5. (1) A public investment programme shall group several projects together with the aim of:

- Supporting the planning, prioritization, and programming of the grouped projects;
- Strengthening the accountability of public administrations for small-scale projects;
- Promoting integration among projects to enhance their functionality;
- Building synergies to improve efficiency in project implementation;
- Ensuring more effective support by State Engineers and technical administrations for the maturation and execution of the said projects.

(2) Small-scale projects, as well as projects involving recurring acquisitions, repetitive procurements, or general supplies, shall be prepared and implemented through the public investment programme vehicle. The maturation of such programmes shall include:

- A comprehensive assessment of existing equipment or infrastructure;
- The establishment of allocation standards for the relevant equipment or infrastructure;
- The identification of the entity's needs in relation to the current situation and the equipment or infrastructure allocation standards;
- The preparation and programming of acquisitions in line with budgetary allocations.

(3) Public investment programmes shall be classified into four categories: small-scale programmes, medium-scale programmes, large-scale programmes, and mega programmes, based on the classification of the highest-cost project within the programme.

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CHAPTER II

MATURATION PROCESS FOR A PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROJECT OR PROGRAMME

ARTICLE 6. The maturation process of a public investment project or programme includes a pre-selection phase and a preparation phase.

SECTION I

PRE-SELECTION PHASE

ARTICLE 7. (1) The pre-selection of public investment projects and programmes shall constitute the first stage of the maturation process, with a focus on rationalization and quality at entry, ensuring that only the soundest investment choices, those aligned with strategic objectives, are selected for preparation.

(2) The objective of the pre-selection of public investment projects and programmes is to:

- Admit to the preparation phase only those projects or programmes whose relevance has been demonstrated;
- Plan and identify the financing needs for the preparation of projects and programmes;
- Ensure sectoral and/or cross-sectoral coherence of projects and programmes from the initial stages;
- Guide public procurement choices for each project or programme by indicating a preferred implementation option, such as standard public contracting authority, Public-Private Partnership, or design-build arrangements.

ARTICLE 8. The pre-selection phase shall be divided into three steps: the drafting of the Concept Note, the evaluation of the public investment project or programme proposal, and the pre-selection decision.

ARTICLE 9. (1) At the pre-selection stage, the Contracting Authority shall prepare a Concept Note for the public investment project or programme, which shall serve as the primary document for the pre-selection process.

(2) The Concept Note shall be a brief presentation document of the project or programme, serving as the basis for evaluating its relevance and compliance according to the following eleven (11) criteria:

- Presentation of the public investment project or programme, including verification of its justification, relevance, and the project's or

programme's ability to meet the identified need (s), along with an analysis of its coherence with projects already completed, ongoing, or under preparation;

- Preliminary assessment of the costs and benefits of the public investment project or programme, as well as the State budget's capacity to support the proposed project or programme;
- Evaluation and comparison of a full range of alternatives to the proposed public investment project or programme;
- Assessment of the sustainability of the public investment project or programme, including operations and maintenance;
- Estimation of the contribution of the public investment project or programme to employment and to economic, social, and local development;
- Orientation of the project's or programme's technical specifications toward the use of local materials;
- Preliminary identification of potential risks and constraints;
- Assessment of environmental and climate sensitivity;
- Identification, where applicable, of land needs and access modalities;
- Evaluation, based on a cost-benefit analysis, of the optimal public procurement modalities for the implementation of the public investment project or programme, including potential use of public-private partnerships or design-build contracts;
- Planning of the activities required for the preparation of the public investment project or programme, estimation of their costs, and identification of financing arrangements.

ARTICLE 10. (1) Based on the information provided in the Concept Note referred to in article 9, the competent bodies specified in this Decree shall conduct an assessment of the relevance of the public investment project or programme.

(2) The assessment referred to in paragraph (1) above leads to the issuance of either a favourable or unfavourable pre-selection notice for the public investment project or programme.

(3) The pre-selection notification referred to in paragraph (2) above shall specify, in particular, the name, estimated cost, Contracting Authority, proposed implementation modality, category of the public investment project or programme, and the opinion of the competent body.

(4) The pre-selection notification results in the project or programme being admitted to the preparation phase.

(5) Only pre-selected public investment projects and programmes may receive budget allocations, whether from internal or external resources, for the preparation of their maturity documents.

SECTION II

PREPARATION PHASE OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

ARTICLE 11. (1) Upon notification of a favourable pre-selection opinion for the public investment project or programme, the Project Owner, or where applicable, the Competent Authority, shall appoint a Project or Programme Manager.

(2) The Project or Programme Manager referred to in paragraph 1 shall be responsible for coordinating the activities of the public investment project or programme. In this capacity, the Manager shall be tasked with the following:

- Coordinating all project or programme activities, each of which may be subject to public contract procedures;
- Proposing and overseeing the implementation of a work plan for the project's or programme's activities;
- Reviewing and approving interim and final documents, and submitting them for validation by the Project Owner;
- Monitoring budgets, timelines, and the quality of preparatory studies and works;
- Assessing and managing risk factors;
- Reporting to the Project Owner.

ARTICLE 12. (1) At the preparation stage of the public investment project or programme, the Project Owner shall carry out studies to gather all baseline data and the full range of administrative, technical, strategic, economic, financial, legal, organizational, social, environmental, and climate-related information necessary for the proper implementation of the project or programme.

(2) The studies referred to in paragraph 1 above shall provide the documentation required for a proper assessment of the projected viability of the project or programme.

(3) The conduct of these studies requires consultation with stakeholders, both direct and indirect beneficiaries, in conjunction with

Regional and Local Authorities (RLAs), beneficiary communities, and civil society organizations concerned by the project or programme.

SUB-SECTION I **CONTENT OF THE STUDIES**

ARTICLE 13. From a technical standpoint, feasibility studies shall include, in particular: the evaluation of existing technologies and their relevance; the definition of geotechnical requirements; the sizing of infrastructure; the analysis of necessary related or ancillary infrastructure; or any other essential and necessary study, depending on the type of project or programme to be implemented.

ARTICLE 14. (1) From a land tenure standpoint, the preparation of the project or programme, where infrastructure is concerned, is marked, where applicable, by the clearance of rights-of-way or the project site. This is carried out through the issuance of instruments such as declarations of public utility, land classification, expropriation orders, incorporation or declassification acts, compensation decisions, land assignment, or any other legal instrument attesting to the availability of the site.

(2) The instruments referred to in paragraph 1 above, along with proof of the inclusion within the first year of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework or in the budget of the responsible entity, of the compensation amounts for expropriated persons or the cost of acquiring the required land parcels, shall be prerequisites for the issuance of the maturity clearance of the public investment project or programme and for financial closing, whether using internal or external funding sources.

ARTICLE 15. (1) In terms of anticipated operational measures, and in order to ensure the proper commissioning and use of the public investment asset, the studies must make it possible to anticipate the effects induced by the public investment project or programme on the beneficiary populations, in terms of changes, strengthening, and/or improvements compared to the initial situation of the project or programme.

(2) The measures referred to in paragraph 1 above shall include, in particular:

- Identification of the potential beneficiaries of the public investment asset and assessment of potential demand;
- Formulation of the conditions necessary for the proper operation of the public investment asset;

- Development of a forward-looking human resource allocation plan required for the effective operation of the public investment asset;
- Identification of related or accompanying infrastructure necessary for the proper functioning of the project's or programme's outputs, along with the estimation of the costs for their implementation;
- Assessment of the projected recurrent costs associated with the commissioning and operation of the public investment asset.

ARTICLE 16. (1) In terms of forecast measures required to ensure the viability and sustainability of the outputs of the public investment project or programme, the studies must indicate how to operate and maintain the public investment asset at a satisfactory technological level in order to fully derive its value and the expected benefits for users.

(2) The measures referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be consolidated into a forward-looking maintenance and servicing plan, specifying, for each year, the estimated maintenance and servicing costs.

ARTICLE 17. In terms of feedback and lessons learned, the studies must enable the capitalization of all positive or negative lessons drawn from similar public investment projects or programmes that are ongoing or completed.

ARTICLE 18. (1) In terms of risk, the studies must allow for the identification and analysis of qualitative and/or quantitative risks, and the proposal of mechanisms to mitigate such risks. This results in the development of a risk matrix that facilitates the monitoring and control of risks during both the construction phase and the operation and maintenance phases.

(2) The risk management referred to in paragraph 1 above shall apply to all phases of the life cycle of the public investment project or programme.

ARTICLE 19. (1) In terms of environmental and social aspects, the studies must provide the Environmental and Social Compliance Certificate or any other document attesting to Environmental and Social Compliance, issued in accordance with the applicable regulatory framework.

(2) The social aspects referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be detailed in a Social and Economic Support Plan as well as in a Population Protection Plan, which shall provide information on:

- the number of direct beneficiaries of the project or programme implemented;

- the location of the project or programme and its impact on the indicators of public service provision in the geographic area;
- the number of direct jobs created during the implementation phase of the project or programme;
- gender mainstreaming;
- respect of fundamental social principles and mainstreaming of social approaches in project or programme management, in particular mitigation, elimination or compensation measures for human and social risks;
- contribution to the conservation and promotion of cultural heritage;

(3) In terms of climate-related aspects; the studies shall inform on:

- Greenhouse emission capacity;
- project's or programme's ability to avert biodiversity loss through a dedicated management plan;
- resilience of the project's or programme's ecosystem to climate change;
- relevance of the cost-benefit analysis of climate measures of the project or programme;
- sustainability of climate measures.

ARTICLE 20. (1) Studies shall make it possible to have a provisional schedule of implementation, disbursement of funding and commissioning of the asset of the project or programme.

(2) The studies shall include an assessment of the current expenditures required for the implementation of the public investment project or programme, notably for the monitoring and administrative oversight of the works, the acceptance of services, and the contract award process through the bidding and the Tender Documents.

(3) The studies shall also provide the Tender Documents required to ensure effective control of the project's or programme's provisional schedule.

SUB-SECTION II **ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL IMPACTS OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES**

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ARTICLE 21. (1) At the preparation phase, each Project Owner shall prepare an economic and financial impact report that assesses the alignment of the objectives with the needs, challenges, or problems to be addressed, identifies measures to enhance the economic and financial impact of the project or programme, and evaluates its added value and the expected changes resulting from its implementation.

(2) The economic and financial impact report referred to in the preceding paragraph shall include, in particular:

- Verification of the alignment of the project or programme with strategic development and land use planning options, including policies promoting economic patriotism and local content;
- An analysis of the budgetary impact of the project or programme, taking into account recurrent expenditures and, where applicable, counterpart funds;
- The sectoral and cross-sectoral alignment of the project or programme with all other projects and programmes planned, developed, implemented, or completed in its surrounding area;
- Identification of the economic development potential of the territories crossed by the project or programme;
- analysis of the economic and financial profitability of the public investment;
- Indication of technical solutions that may be implemented to promote the preferential use of local materials, national personnel, and local SMEs in the implementation of the project or programme. Or, where applicable, demonstration of the unavailability of local materials and/or national personnel capable of supporting the implementation of the project or programme;
- The relevant socio-economic indicators of the project or programme, including a quantified description of the baseline and final situations of the project or programme;

(3) The local content referred to in paragraph 2 includes local labour, local currency, local services, local materials, and knowledge transfer mechanisms implemented in the execution of a project or programme.

(4) The economic development potentials identified in the territories crossed by the project or programme shall be the subject of summary studies, funded by the project or programme.

(5) At the end of the implementation of each project or programme, an ex-post economic and financial impact analysis shall be carried out to assess

the achievement of the project's or programme's objectives in relation to the economic and financial impact report prepared during the preparation phase.

(6) The Minister in charge of public investments shall be the State Engineer for the conduct of economic and financial studies.

(7) An Order shall be issued by the Minister in charge of public investments to specify the terms and conditions for the conduct of economic and financial studies, as well as the content of the reports referred to in paragraph 1 above.

SUB-SECTION III
THE SPECIFIC CASE OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROGRAMMES AND
PROJECTS ENVISAGED UNDER PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP,
DESIGN-BUILD ARRANGEMENTS, OR EXTERNAL FINANCING

ARTICLE 22. (1.) For projects or programmes envisaged under a Public-Private Partnership, and during the pre-selection phase, the Project Owner shall carry out a summary comparative analysis of the optimal public procurement modalities referred to in Article 9, based in particular on:

- Lessons learned from similar projects or programmes implemented through Public-Private Partnerships, whether nationally or abroad;
- A summary financial analysis, notably indicating the project's or programme's revenue-generating capacity, where applicable;
- Any other study or analysis conducted at the behest of the Project Owner.

(2) Only those projects and programmes that have been pre-selected as such under the conditions set out in Article 10 shall be admitted to the preparation phase under the Public-Private Partnership mode.

(3) At the pre-selection and preparation phases, any project or programme envisaged under a Public-Private Partnership shall be aligned, both at sector and cross-sector levels, with all other projects and programmes that are planned, developed, implemented, or completed within the concerned territories.

(4) At the preparation phase, projects and programmes envisaged under a Public-Private Partnership shall be subject to feasibility studies covering technical, economic, financial, legal, organizational, social, environmental, and climate-related aspects, in accordance with the modalities

and requirements set out in the guidelines developed by the institution specialized in Public-Private Partnerships.

(5) At the preparation phase, the Project Owner of the project or programme envisaged under a Public-Private Partnership shall prepare an economic and financial impact report in accordance with the provisions of this Decree.

(6) The evaluation of the feasibility studies for Public-Private Partnership projects and programmes, as well as the procedure for reviewing such projects and programmes, shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable regulations.

(7) If the Public-Private Partnership procedure is unsuccessful, the Project Owner wishing to proceed with the project under the standard Public Contracting Authority approach shall resubmit it for pre-selection assessment in accordance with Article 10.

ARTICLE 23. (1) Only those projects and programmes that have been pre-selected under the conditions set out in Article 10 shall be admitted to the preparation phase under the Public-Private Partnership mode.

(2) At the preparation phase, projects or programmes envisaged under the design-build mode shall be subject to a design-build approval, in accordance with the regulations in force.

(3) If the design-build procedure is unsuccessful, the Project Owner wishing to proceed with the project or programme under the standard Public Contracting Authority mode shall resubmit it for pre-selection assessment in accordance with Article 10.

ARTICLE 24. (1) The pre-selection process allows for early validation by the authorities of the relevance of implementing a project or programme through external financing, and, where appropriate, enables the preparation phase of the project or programme to be funded by the resources of the partner(s) concerned.

(2) Since the external financing mode is indicated at the pre-selection phase, the preparation of the project may already be adapted to the specific procedures of the concerned donor, particularly with regard to institutional arrangements and environmental, social, and land safeguard requirements.

(3) The preparation of a project or programme financed through external resources shall place particular emphasis on the accurate assessment and programming of the contributions expected from the State for the implementation of the project or programme, as well as on strengthening the capacity of the beneficiary entity to sustainably and independently carry out the project or programme activities.

(4) The granting of the maturity clearance for a project or programme financed through external resources shall also be subject to the accurate assessment and review, by the competent institutions, of the institutional and organizational framework of the externally financed project or programme.

(5) The maturity clearance is a prerequisite for the financial closing of the externally financed project or programme.

(6) The granting of a maturity clearance for a programme financed through external resources shall also be subject to the completion of all formal requirements related to the maturation of the programme's key activities.

ARTICLE 25. The maturation of projects and programmes of Cameroon's diplomatic missions and consular posts abroad shall be subject to adaptive measures set out in the Guide for the Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes.

SUB-SECTION IV **PREPARATION OF LARGE-SCALE AND MEGA PROJECTS**

ARTICLE 26. (1) Large-scale and mega projects shall be implemented through an ecosystem-based approach, in which the scope of the large or mega project includes:

- The main large-scale or mega project;
- The infrastructure required for the functionality and optimal performance of the main project;
- Studies identifying public or private development opportunities that may be leveraged in the territories affected by the main project;
- Infrastructure capable of creating favourable conditions for the implementation of the development opportunities identified in the territories concerned by the main project.

(2) The Project Owner of the large-scale or mega project shall, from the pre-selection phase, carry out an exhaustive identification of the projects to be included in the ecosystem referred to in paragraph 1 above.

ARTICLE 27. Once approved by the maturation bodies designated in this Decree, the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall, in the case of large-scale or mega projects deemed complex, submit the related Concept Note, taking into account the ecosystem referred to in Article 26, to the Prime Minister, Head of Government, for the final pre-selection decision.

ARTICLE 28. (1) The main large-scale or mega project and the projects within its ecosystem, as referred to in Article 26, shall be prepared and implemented under a single Contracting Authority, using a unified preparation process and an overall financing framework, which may be sequenced over time according to the functional phases of the project.

(2) At the pre-selection and preparation phases, the large-scale or mega project shall be aligned, both at sector and cross-sector levels, with all other projects and programmes that are planned, developed, implemented, or completed within the concerned territories.

(3) For the preparation of the main large-scale or mega project and the projects within its ecosystem as referred to in Article 26, the Project Owner shall be assisted by a Project Management Assistant covering legal, technical, and financial aspects.

(4) The preparation and implementation of the large-scale or mega project and the associated ecosystem projects shall be coordinated by an existing or dedicated Project Management Unit established by the Project Owner, in accordance with the regulations in force.

(5) For each large-scale and mega project, the administration in charge of public investments shall carry out a counter-expertise of the maturity elements prepared by the Project Owner.

ARTICLE 29. Once approved by the maturation bodies designated in this Decree, the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall, in the case of large-scale or mega projects deemed complex, submit the related analysis report, taking into account the ecosystem referred to in Article 26, to the Prime Minister, Head of Government, for the final decision on the granting of the maturity clearance.

ARTICLE 30. On a semi-annual basis, the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall submit to the Prime Minister, Head of Government, reports on the state of preparation of large-scale and mega projects or programmes;

(2) The report referred to in paragraph 1 above shall provide, for each large-scale and mega project or programme, an analysis of the physical and financial execution, time consumption, and their impact on the achievement of the objectives assigned to the project or programme.

SUB-SECTION V **ISSUANCE OF THE MATURITY CLEARANCE**

ARTICLE 31.- (1) Upon completion of the preparation of the programme or project, the Contracting Authority shall prepare an analysis report summarizing the maturation process and presenting the main findings of the studies conducted.

(2) Based on the information provided at the end of the preparation phase, the competent bodies designated in this Decree shall assess the maturity documentation of the project or programme.

(3) If the evaluation referred to in paragraph (2) above is favourable, it shall lead to the issuance and notification of the maturity clearance for the project or programme.

(4) The maturity clearance is granted for a period of five (05) years. After this period, if the Contracting Authority wishes to initiate implementation of the project or programme, it must submit the project or programme for pre-selection once again, and update any studies requiring revision.

(5) In the event of a change in the project cost structure exceeding 30%, the maturity clearance becomes null and void.

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CHAPTER III **RELEVANCE OF THE MATURATION PROCESS IN PROGRAMMING**

SECTION I **PORTFOLIO OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES**

ARTICLE 32.- (1) The Investment Plan shall serve to:

- Establish, over the strategic timeframe, a list of well-identified investment projects or programmes—not necessarily matured—that are capable of achieving the strategic targets, and on which all stakeholders can focus their efforts for maturation and implementation;
- Anticipate upcoming projects that are gradually being prepared and incorporated into budget programming;
- Promote the operational planning of public investment initiatives by the administration;
- Provide, upstream of the maturation phase, a list of potential projects and programmes that may be subject to opportunity studies.

(2) The detailed methodology for developing the Investment Plan referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be specified in the Guide for the Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes.

ARTICLE 33.- (1) The management of a portfolio of projects and programmes shall be an internal process within an institution, aimed at:

- Coordinating all projects and programmes of the institution to align them with strategic objectives;
- Optimizing the use of resources in a context where the financing needs to implement all projects as per their initial schedules significantly exceed available funding;
- Optimizing projects and programmes based on risk management;
- Prioritizing the institution's projects and programmes and adjusting priorities according to internal and external developments.

(2) The management of a portfolio of projects and programmes, as referred to in paragraph 1 above, shall be carried out in accordance with the two phases specified in the Guide for the Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes: establishing the current status of a portfolio and rationalizing the portfolio.

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SECTION II

MANAGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROJECT BANK

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ARTICLE 34.- (1) The maturation process, the updating of the Public Investment Project Bank, and the management of the project and programme portfolio shall be continuous processes. They shall be carried out throughout

the year by all public administrations, public institutions, public enterprises, and Regional and Local Authorities.

(2) Each public administration and public institution shall be responsible for managing its own Public Investment Project Bank.

(3) The pre-selection of a public investment project or programme shall be a prerequisite for its inclusion in the Public Investment Project Bank.

(4) The Ministry in charge of Public Investments shall be responsible for centralizing, consolidating, and overseeing the Public Investment Project Banks held by public administrations.

(5) During the maturation phase of a project or programme, the maturity elements produced shall be gradually integrated into the Public Investment Project Bank, in order to update the information related to the said project or programme.

ARTICLE 35.- (1) Once every six months, all Public Administrations and Institutions, Public Establishments, and Regional and Local Authorities shall send to the Minister in charge of Public Investments, in both soft and hard copies, all studies conducted for projects and programmes classified as medium, large-scale, or mega.

(2) Based on the Public Investment Project Bank, an online information platform shall be deployed to inform the public about public investment projects and programmes that are under study or in the implementation phase.

ARTICLE 36.- (1) A Unique Identifier shall be assigned to each public investment project or programme at the time of its registration in the Public Investment Project Bank.

(2) To ensure the consolidation of information related to each project or programme, all activities linked to the said project or programme shall be associated with its Unique Identifier. This includes, in particular, preparatory studies, contracting operations, budgetary and accounting transactions, as well as maintenance and rehabilitation activities.

(3) To enable the consolidation of the total cost of each project or programme, all budgetary operations, whether recurrent or capital expenditure, related to the said project or programme shall be linked to its Unique Identifier.

(4) An Order issued by the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall define the coding of the Unique Identifier.

SECTION III
PROGRAMMING OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROJECTS AND
PROGRAMMES

ARTICLE 37.- (1) Each year, the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall prepare a Priority Investment Programme, which serves as a programming tool for the Government's priority projects and programmes over a three (03)-year period.

(2) Only the projects and programmes that have been pre-selected in accordance with the conditions set out in Article 10 above may be included in the Priority Investment Programme.

(3) Only the projects and programmes that have been granted a maturity clearance in accordance with the provisions of Article 31 above may be included in the first year of the Priority Investment Programme

ARTICLE 38.- (1) Each year, the Ministry in charge of Public Investments shall organize a conference on the maturation of public investment projects and programmes of Public Administrations and Institutions, resulting in the preparation of a comprehensive maturity report and a list of matured projects and programmes.

(2) The report referred to in paragraph 1 above shall also include an assessment of the implementation of the project maturation framework within Public Administrations and Institutions, Public Establishments and Enterprises, and Regional and Local Authorities.

(3) The report referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be submitted to the Prime Minister, Head of Government.

ARTICLE 39.- (1) The budgetary programming of a public investment project or programme in the first year of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and its inclusion in the annual budget shall be subject to the prior issuance of a maturity clearance for the said project or programme.

(2) The Medium-Term Expenditure Frameworks referred to in paragraph 1 and the indication of maturity clearance for each programmed project shall be

reviewed during the Extended Budget Programming and Associated Performance Conferences.

(3) The inclusion of a project or programme bearing a maturity clearance in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework or in annual budgets may be deferred by one to four years due to constraints encountered in the management of the administration's or public institution's portfolio.

(4) During budget execution, public investment projects or programmes that are to receive budget allocations through credit transfers, exceptional delegations, or any other mechanism must first have obtained a maturity clearance.

(5) The budgetary allocations indicated in the Medium-Term Expenditure Frameworks or in the annual budgets must ensure the availability of at least one functional phase of each project.

(6) Admission to the Tender Board shall be subject to the following conditions:

- For feasibility studies of a project or programme: prior notification of the pre-selection of the said public investment project or programme;
- For works related to a project or programme: the issuance of a maturity clearance for the said public investment project or programme.

CHAPTER IV: **STEERING OF THE MATURATION PROCESS FOR A PUBLIC** **INVESTMENT PROJECT OR PROGRAMME**

ARTICLE 40.- (1) The responsibility for conducting the maturation process of a public investment project or programme shall rest on the Project Owner.

(2) The financing of studies, the process of issuing administrative documents, or the payment of compensations shall be borne by the budget of the administration or entity initiating the project, or from any other source of funding provided for under the applicable regulations.

ARTICLE 41.- (1) All actors involved in the maturation chain of a project or programme shall be personally accountable for the actions they undertake.

(2) Technical consulting firms and service providers involved in conducting studies for public investment projects and programmes shall be held responsible for the quality of the studies produced or conducted, and shall

assume liability for any defects, significant shortcomings, or deficiencies identified.

(3) Each expert recruited by a Technical Consulting Firm and involved in the execution of a study related to a public investment project or programme shall be required to specify, within the study report, their level of responsibility regarding the quality and completeness of the study performed.

ARTICLE 42.- (1) The steering of the maturation process for public investment projects and programmes shall enable all levels of public administration to strengthen the role of State Engineering Administrations or specialized bodies in the relevant sectors.

(2) Administrations acting as State Engineers and specialized bodies in the relevant sectors shall be responsible for supporting Project Owners in conducting maturation studies and in obtaining the administrative authorizations required for project maturation.

(3) Project Owners shall be required to seek the opinion of the administrations acting as State Engineers and of the specialized bodies in the relevant sectors regarding:

- the Terms of Reference of the maturation studies;
- the draft versions of the maturation studies, prior to their review by the Technical Monitoring and Acceptance Board.

(4) The opinions referred to in paragraph 3 above shall be issued within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the files. After this period, the Project Owner may proceed with the conduct of the maturation studies.

(5) In addition to upstream support and validation of the studies, the technical opinions of the State Engineering Administrations and the specialized bodies referred to in paragraph 1 above shall also be required downstream, during the review of the maturation file of the projects and programmes.

(6) For infrastructure works, project maturation shall be carried out by the initiating administrations or entities with the support of the Ministry in charge of Public Works, acting as the State Engineer.

ARTICLE 43.- (1) During the preparation phase of a public investment programme, the projects included within the programme are not necessarily required to be identified or prepared with all the detailed levels of information.

(2) The validation of the preparation of public investment programmes shall focus on the analysis of their relevance and intervention framework, including the nature of the projects, the framework for project identification, the spatial distribution of interventions, the coherence of the projects to achieve the programme's overall objective, the duration, as well as the organizational framework of the programme.

(3) Each public investment programme shall specify the Maturation Board responsible for assessing the state of maturation of its projects.

ARTICLE 44.- (1) Each Head of a Government Department, Head of a Public Institution, or Head of the Executive Body of a Regional and Local Authority shall:

- ensure the capacity building and continuous training of staff involved in project management, as well as members of the bodies responsible for assessing the maturity level of the projects and programmes under their authority;
- submit each year, no later than 30 June, to the Minister in charge of Public Investments, a report detailing the status of personnel involved in project management and a training plan for said personnel.

(2) Each year, the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall submit to the Prime Minister, Head of Government, a training plan for personnel involved in the management of projects and programmes, as well as for members of the bodies responsible for assessing the maturity level of projects and programmes within public administrations and institutions.

(3) Capacity building and continuous training for personnel involved in project management within Public Establishments and Public Enterprises shall be ensured annually by the respective governing bodies.

SECTION I
STEERING OF THE MATURATION OF AN INVESTMENT PROJECT AND
PROGRAMME AT THE LEVEL OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL
AUTHORITIES

ARTICLE 45.- (1) The Public Investment Project Bank of each Regional and Local Authority shall be composed of the projects and programmes initiated by the Authority, whether or not they fall within the scope of the powers transferred to said Authority.

(2) The maturity status of projects and programmes initiated by Regional and Local Authorities, which do not fall under transferred powers and which request funding or a guarantee from the central State budget, shall be assessed and validated by the public administrations or institutions responsible for each of the said projects or programmes.

ARTICLE 46.- For the maturation of their projects and programmes, the executives of Regional and Local Authorities shall benefit, where the required competencies are not available internally, from close support provided by the local representatives of the State Engineering Administrations.

ARTICLE 47.- (1) A Local Internal Board for the Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes shall be established within each Regional and Local Authority, as applicable.

(2) Placed under the chairmanship of the Secretary General of the Local Authority and coordinated by the Technical Officer and the officer in charge of financial resources, the Internal Maturation Board referred to in paragraph (1) above shall comprise, in particular:

- Two (2) representatives of the Regional and Local Authority (RLA);
- One (1) representative from the local services of the Ministry in charge of Public Investments;
- One (1) representative from the local services of the Ministry in charge of Public Contracts;
- One (1) representative from the local services of the Ministry in charge of Decentralization.

(3) The local services of State Engineering Administrations and specialized bodies shall be involved, in an advisory capacity, during the sessions of the Board when reviewing project or programme files that fall within their area of expertise. Their invitations shall include the relevant project or programme documentation for review.

(4) A resolution by the deliberative body of the Local Authority shall determine the organization and functioning of the Board referred to in paragraph (1) above.

ARTICLE 48.- (1) Within a Division, an Inter-council Maturation Board may be established to review all maturity assessment files for projects and programmes from multiple councils.

(2) The participation of a council in the Inter-council Maturation Board referred to in paragraph (1) above shall be determined by a resolution of the deliberative body of the concerned Local Authority.

(3) The Inter-council Maturation Board referred to in paragraph (1) above shall operate under an annually rotating chairmanship, held by one of the Secretaries General of the councils involved, who shall forward the minutes of the sessions to the other Secretaries General.

(4) The Inter-council Maturation Board referred to in paragraph (1) above shall include, in particular:

- one (1) representative from each Council;
- one (1) representative from the local services of the Ministry in charge of Public Investments;
- one (1) representative from the local services of the Ministry in charge of Public Contracts;
- one (1) representative from the local services of the Ministry in charge of Decentralisation.

(5) Representatives of the local services of State Engineering Administrations and specialised bodies shall be involved, as invited participants, in the sessions of the Intercouncil Board for the review of project or programme files falling within their respective areas of competence. Their invitations shall include the files of the projects or programmes to be reviewed.

(6) An Order issued by the Senior Divisional Officer shall determine the organisation and functioning of the Intercouncil Board referred to in paragraph (1) above.

ARTICLE 49.- (1) The Internal Board referred to in Article 47 and the Intercouncil Board referred to in Article 48 shall be responsible for:

- Performing the function of a Project or Programme Management Unit for the Regional and Local Authority;
- Registering and regularly updating all projects and programmes initiated by each Local Authority in its Public Investment Project Bank;
- Ensuring the strategic alignment of the project and programme portfolio with the development objectives of the Local Authority, and coordinating the management and performance of said portfolio;
- Providing technical assistance to the operational structures of the Local Authority responsible for implementing projects or programmes;
- Conducting the evaluation of candidate projects and programmes for preselection and recommending to the Head of the Executive Body of the Local Authority those to be admitted to the preparation phase;
- Ensuring the appointment of the project or programme manager as soon as the preselection decision of a public investment project or programme is made;
- Reviewing and validating the maturity elements of all projects and programmes of each Local Authority;
- Ensuring the availability and quality of maturity elements related to all projects and programmes seeking financing from another administration or public institution.

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(2) In a Division, projects and programmes initiated by a Union of Councils shall fall under the jurisdiction of the Intercouncil Board referred to in Article 48. In the absence of an established Intercouncil Board, the projects and programmes initiated by the Union of Councils shall be reviewed by the Internal Maturation Board of one of the beneficiary councils referred to in Article 47.

(3) Projects and programmes initiated by Regional and Local Authorities and seeking funding or guarantees from the central State budget shall, after receiving a favourable opinion from one of the Boards referred to in paragraph (1), be forwarded by the Head of the Executive Body of the Local Authority to the Administration or Public Institution responsible for the said project or

programme, for further processing related to the assessment of its state of maturity.

(4) The meetings of the Internal Board referred to in Article 47 and the Intercouncil Board referred to in Article 48 shall be held on a quarterly basis, and as needed depending on the number and urgency of the projects or programmes to be reviewed.

(5) The deadline for reviewing a project or programme maturity file submitted to the Board referred to in paragraph (1) shall be fifteen (15) days.

(6) Each session of the Internal Board referred to in Article 47 and of the Intercouncil Board referred to in Article 48 shall be concluded with minutes, the validity of which shall be subject to the signatures of the session chairperson and of the local representatives of the ministries in charge of public contracts, public investments, and decentralisation.

ARTICLE 50.- (1) Thresholds for the issuance of maturity clearances shall be established for Councils, City Councils, and Regions.

(2) For Councils, maturity clearances shall be issued as follows, based on the opinions of the internal maturation board or the inter-council maturation board, for projects whose preparation requirements have been completed:

- by the head of the council executive body, for projects or programmes with a cost of less than CFA F 50,000,000 (fifty million);
- by the council deliberative body, for projects or programmes with a cost equal to or greater than CFA F 50,000,000 (fifty million).

(3) For City Councils, maturity clearances shall be issued as follows, based on the opinions of the internal maturation board, for projects whose preparation requirements have been completed:

- by the City Mayor, for projects or programmes with a cost of less than CFA F 100,000,000 (one hundred million);
- by the deliberative body of the City Council, for projects or programmes with a cost equal to or greater than CFA F 100,000,000 (one hundred million).

(4) For Regions, maturity clearances shall be issued as follows, based on the opinions of the internal maturation board, for projects whose preparation requirements have been completed:

- by the Head of the Regional Executive Body, for projects or programmes with a cost of less than CFA F 200,000,000 (two hundred million);
- by the deliberative body of the Regional Council, for projects or programmes with a cost equal to or greater than CFA F 200,000,000 (two hundred million).

SECTION II
STEERING OF THE MATURATION PROCESS OF A PUBLIC
INVESTMENT PROJECT OR PROGRAMME AT THE LEVEL OF
DEVOLVED STATE SERVICES

ARTICLE 51.- At the regional and divisional levels, the projects and programmes of the Devolved State Services shall consist of public investment projects and programmes:

- initiated by Regional and Local Authorities and requesting funding from the Central Government budget;
- initiated by the Devolved State Services and not falling under the powers transferred to the Regional and Local Authorities.

ARTICLE 52.- (1) A Regional Meeting for the Maturation and Programming of Public Investment Projects shall be established in each Region.

(2) The meetings referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be chaired by the Governor of the Region, assisted by the Head of the Regional Executive Body. The following shall participate:

- the competent Senior Divisional Officer;
- the regional heads of public administrations;
- the representative of the Special Council Support Fund for Mutual Assistance (FEICOM).

(3) Each Local Authority shall be invited to participate in the sessions of the Regional Meetings referred to in paragraph 1 above, when projects or programmes initiated by said authority are included on the meeting agenda.

(4) Local services of the State Engineering Administrations and specialized bodies shall be invited as participants during the sessions of the Regional Meeting referred to in paragraph 1, for the review of files that fall within their areas of expertise. Their invitations shall include the project or programme files to be examined.

(5) An Order issued by the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall define the organization and functioning of the Regional Meetings referred to in paragraph 1 above.

ARTICLE 53.- (1) The Regional Meetings referred to in Article 52 above shall be held under the technical supervision of the local officials of the Ministry in charge of Public Investments and the Ministry in charge of Public Contracts.

(2) The Regional Meetings shall notably serve to:

- Align the projects and programmes of the devolved State services;
- Examine the maturity of projects submitted by Regional and Local Authorities and devolved State services;
- Coordinate the support to be provided by State Engineering Administrations and specialized bodies to Regional and Local Authorities in the preparation of their projects and programmes;
- Propose a prioritization of projects carried by devolved State services;
- Guide projects and programmes toward the various funding windows, namely: the Public Investment Budget, the Special Council Support Fund for Mutual Assistance (FEICOM), councils' self-generated resources, external funding, etc.;
- Forward to each Head of Government Department the mature priority projects falling within their area of competence, along with all the relevant maturity documentation.

(3) Projects deemed mature during the Regional Meetings may be directly validated by the relevant Ministers. However, a Minister may request a re-examination by their Internal Maturation Board if deemed necessary.

(4) Each session of the Regional Meeting shall be formalized by a minutes report, the validity of which shall depend on the signatures of the session chairperson and the local representatives of the Ministries in charge of Public Investment and Public Contracts.

SECTION III
STEERING OF THE MATURATION OF A PUBLIC INVESTMENT
PROJECT OR PROGRAMME AT THE LEVEL OF STATE-OWNED
ENTERPRISES AND PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENTS

ARTICLE 54.- (1) The public investment project bank of each state-owned enterprise or public establishment shall consist of projects and programmes initiated by the entity that fall within the scope of its mandate.

(2) State-owned enterprises shall not be required to seek support from State Engineers for the preparation of their projects or programmes that do not request financial contributions or support from the State.

ARTICLE 55.- A resolution of the Board of Directors shall establish, within each state-owned enterprise and public institution, an Internal Project and Programme Maturation Board, and define its organization and functioning.

ARTICLE 56.- (1) The Internal Board referred to in Article 55 above shall operate under the coordination of the General Management.

(2) The Internal Board shall be responsible for:

- performing the role of the project or programme management unit within the structure;
- supporting internal units in the maturation of projects and programmes;
- ensuring the inclusion and regular updating of all projects and programmes of the Public Enterprise or Establishment in its Public Investment Project Bank;
- ensuring the strategic alignment of the project and programme portfolio with the development objectives of the Public Enterprise or Establishment, and coordinating the management and performance of said portfolio;
- providing technical assistance to operational units responsible for projects and programmes within the Public Enterprise or Establishment;
- conducting the assessment of projects and programmes submitted for preselection and proposing to the Head of the entity those projects or programmes to be admitted for preparation;
- ensuring the appointment of the project or programme manager following the decision of preselection of a public investment project or programme;

- reviewing and validating the maturity elements of all the entity's projects and programmes;
- ensuring the availability and quality of the maturity elements attached to all projects and programmes seeking funding from another administration or public institution.

(3) Projects and programmes initiated by public enterprises or establishments that seek funding or a guarantee from the central State budget shall, after receiving a favourable opinion from the Board referred to in paragraph 1, be submitted by the Head of the institution to the relevant technical supervisory authority for the continuation of the procedures related to the evaluation of their maturity status.

ARTICLE 57.- (1) For public establishments, the Internal Project Maturation Board referred to in Article 55 shall include, in particular:

- one (1) representative of the Ministry in charge of Public Investments;
- one (1) representative of the Ministry in charge of Public Contracts;
- one (1) representative from each relevant technical supervisory authority;

(2) In public establishments, State Engineering Administrations and specialized bodies shall be involved, as invited participants, in the sessions of the Board for the review of project or programme files falling within their areas of expertise. Their invitations shall include the project or programme documents to be reviewed.

(3) In public establishments, each session of the Internal Project Maturation Board referred to in Article 55 shall have minutes, the validity of which shall depend on the signatures of the session chairperson and the representatives of the Ministries in charge of Public Contracts, Public Investments, and the relevant technical supervisory authority.

SECTION IV

STEERING OF THE MATURATION OF A PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROJECT AND PROGRAMME AT THE LEVEL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

ARTICLE 58.- (1) The public investment project bank of Public Administrations and Institutions shall be made up of:

- projects and programmes initiated by central services;
- projects and programmes initiated by the devolved State services, deemed mature during the Regional Meetings for Project Maturation and Programming, and requesting financing from the State budget;
- projects and programmes initiated by Regional and Local Authorities, not falling under devolved competences, deemed mature during the Regional Meetings for Project Maturation and Programming, and requesting funding or a guarantee from the central State budget;
- projects and programmes initiated by State-owned Enterprises and Public Establishments under supervision, deemed mature by the Internal Maturation Boards within said entities, and requesting funding or a guarantee from the central State budget;
- projects and programmes submitted by private operators or public enterprises, requesting subsidies, share acquisition, guarantees, or any other financial support from the State;
- projects initiated by Special Appropriation Accounts under the supervision of the Public Administration.

- (2) The promoters of projects initiated by central services shall work throughout the year to prepare the relevant maturity elements, with the support of the officer in charge of studies and the one responsible for financial resources.

ARTICLE 59.- (1) An Internal Investment Project Maturation Board shall be established within each Public Administration and Institution.

(2) Placed under the chairmanship of the Secretary General and the technical coordination of the officer in charge of studies and the one responsible for financial resources, the Internal Public Investment Project and Programme Maturation Board shall comprise:

- Managers of Programmes of said Public Administration;
- The Coordinator of management control;
- Management controllers;
- One representative of the Ministry in charge of public investments;
- One representative of the Ministry in charge of public contracts.

(3) The State Engineering Administrations and specialized bodies shall be involved, as invited participants, in the sessions of the Board for the

review of files falling within their areas of expertise. Their invitations shall include the files of projects to be reviewed.

(4) As part of its advisory support missions, the opinion of the National Investment Corporation shall be required during the evaluation of large-scale and mega projects or programmes submitted by private operators or public enterprises, and requesting subsidies, share acquisition, guarantees, or any other financial support from the State.

(5) As part of its advisory support missions, the opinion of the National Investment Corporation shall be required during the evaluation of medium-scale projects or programmes submitted by private operators or public enterprises, and requesting subsidies, share acquisition, guarantees, or any other financial support from the State.

(6) An Order issued by the Head of the Government Department or a Decision of the Head of the Institution shall establish the organization and functioning of the Board referred to in paragraph 1 above.

ARTICLE 60.- (1) The Internal Board referred to in Article 59 shall have as its main mandate to ensure the quality and completeness of the project maturity elements.

(2) To this end, it shall be responsible for:

- serving as the Project or Programme Management Unit for the administration or institution;
- regularly including and updating all projects and programmes of the administration or public institution in the Public Investment Project Bank;
- ensuring the strategic alignment of the project and programme portfolio with the development objectives assigned to the administration or institution;
- providing technical support to operational units in charge of projects and programmes;
- conducting the evaluation of projects and programmes introduced for preselection and recommending to the Head of the Government Department or the Head of the Institution those to be admitted to the preparation phase;
- ensuring the appointment of a project or programme manager immediately after the preselection decision of a public investment project or programme;

- reviewing and validating the maturity elements of all projects and programmes of the administration or public institution;
- ensuring that all public investment projects and programmes in the portfolio comply with agreed implementation standards and practices;
- managing the portfolio of public investment projects and programmes of the administration or institution;
- monitoring the performance of the portfolio implementation and taking preventive or corrective actions to keep it on track toward its objectives.

(3) Each session of the Internal Maturation Board shall be concluded with minutes, the validity of which shall be subject to the signatures of the chairperson of the session and the representatives of the ministries in charge of public contracts and public investments.

ARTICLE 61.- (1) For smaller-scale projects and programmes, the Internal Board referred to in Article 59 above shall propose to the Head of the Government Department the issuance of maturity clearances for those whose preparation formalities have been completed.

(2) The list of projects and programmes granted a maturity clearance, along with the validated maturity elements for each project or programme, shall be transmitted by the Head of the Government Department or Institution to the Minister in charge of public investments.

ARTICLE 62.- For medium-scale projects, large-scale projects, and mega projects deemed mature by the Internal Board referred to in Article 59 above, the Head of the Government Department or Institution shall forward to the Minister in charge of public investments the list of said projects, accompanied by all relevant maturity elements.

SECTION V

STEERING OF THE MATURATION OF A PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROJECT OR PROGRAMME AT THE LEVEL OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC INVESTMENTS

ARTICLE 63.- The administration in charge of public investments shall be responsible for ensuring the quality of public investment projects included in the State budget.

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ARTICLE 64.- (1) The Minister in charge of Public Investments may resort to a counter-expertise of the maturity elements of the projects or programmes prepared by Project owners.

(2) For the conduct of counter-expertise, the administration in charge of public investments may resort to individual consultants or Technical Consulting Firms.

(3) Specific procedures facilitating the rapid mobilization of private expertise referred to in paragraph 2 above shall be established by the Administration in charge of public contracts, in accordance with the regulations in force.

(4) An Order of the Prime Minister, Head of Government, shall set the ceilings for fees paid to the consultants referred to in paragraph 2 above.

ARTICLE 65.- (1) A National Committee for the Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes, abbreviated as "CNMP", shall be set up within the Ministry in charge of Public Investments.

(2) The Committee referred to in paragraph 1 above shall ensure the quality and completeness of the maturity elements of projects and programmes falling within the medium, large, and mega categories as defined in Articles 4 and 5 of this Decree.

(3) To this end, the Committee shall be specifically responsible for:

- ensuring that all projects under review are included in the Public Investment Project Bank;
- ensuring the relevance and alignment of projects with sectoral strategic frameworks;
- reviewing and issuing technical opinions on the maturity elements of Public Investment Projects submitted by Public Administrations and Institutions;
- conducting evaluations of projects and programmes introduced for preselection, and recommending to the Minister in charge of Public Investments those projects and programmes to be admitted to the preparation phase;
- issuing decisions on the granting of the maturity clearance for evaluated medium-scale projects and programmes;
- providing opinions on the maturity of large and mega projects and programmes;
- conducting counter-expert evaluations of projects and programmes;

- steering the implementation of the project maturation mechanism.

(4) The entities that will participate in the meetings of the Committee referred to in Paragraph 1 above shall include: the administration or public body initiating the project or programme, as well as the State Engineer Administrations and specialized bodies, each within their respective areas of expertise.

(5) The Committee's meetings referred to in Paragraph 1 above shall be held quarterly, and additionally as needed, depending on the number and urgency of the projects and programmes to be reviewed.

(6) The time frame for reviewing a project or programme maturity file submitted to the Committee referred to in Paragraph 1 shall be 90 days.

(7) An Order issued by the Minister in charge of Public Investments shall set the organization and functioning of the Committee referred to in Paragraph 1 above.

ARTICLE 66: (1) Upon completion of the assessment of the maturity status of projects or programmes, for those whose preparation requirements have been fulfilled, the Committee shall issue maturity clearances and inform the initiating administrations of the respective projects.

(2) Upon completion of the assessment of the maturity status of projects for which the preparation requirements have not been fulfilled, the Committee shall return the files of the said projects to the initiating administrations, accompanied by a list of the observations and reservations raised.

CHAPTER V : **MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

ARTICLE 67.- (1) The operating costs of the Regional Meetings and the National Committee established within the Ministry in charge of Public Investments shall be covered by the budget of that ministry.

(2) The operating costs of the Internal Boards for the Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes provided for in this Decree shall be borne by the budget of each of the entity concerned.

(3) An Order issued by the Prime Minister, Head of Government, shall set the ceilings for allowances granted by principal and delegated authorizing officers to the Chairpersons, members, and experts involved in the Regional Meetings, the National Committee established within the Ministry in charge of Public Investments, and the Internal Maturation Boards.

ARTICLE 68.- The project and programme maturation process and the bodies dedicated to it may benefit from the technical and financial contributions of development partners.

ARTICLE 69.- The Minister in charge of Public Investments, the Project Owners, the Administrations acting as State Engineers within their respective areas of competence, the Heads of the Executive Bodies of the Regional and Local Authorities, as well as the Principal and Delegated Authorizing Officers of the Public Investment Budget, shall each be responsible, within their respective mandates, for the implementation of this Decree.

ARTICLE 70.- This Decree gives binding force to the provisions set forth in the Guide for the Maturation of Public Investment Projects and Programmes, which shall be deemed an integral part hereof.

ARTICLE 71.- This Decree which repeals all previous provisions repugnant hereto, in particular Decree No. 4992/2018/PM of 21 June 2018 to establish the rules governing the public investment project maturation process shall be registered, published according to the procedure of urgency and inserted in the Official Gazette in English and French.

Yaounde, 17 JUIN 2025

PRIME MINISTER, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

Joseph DION NGUTE



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