

**PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWING THE 24TH SESSION OF THE
NATIONAL ROAD BOARD**

The **Prime Minister, Head of Government, His Excellency Joseph DION NGUTE**, presided over the 24th session of the National Road Board (CONAROUTE) this Tuesday, 19 January 2021 at 10 a.m., under the theme “*the management of provider networks in the face of the impacts of road projects and urban roads*”.

During this session, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, the Minister of Water and Energy, the Minister of Public Works, the Minister of Housing and Urban Development and the Minister of Public Contracts, took turns to discuss the difficulties encountered, the contractual provisions and the solutions envisaged to ensure the management of interventions on roads and various networks.

In his introductory statement, the Prime Minister noted the need for all stakeholders to comply with the provisions of Decree No. 2014/0521/PM of 19 March 2014 to regulate interventions on roads and various networks in urban areas. The objective is to avoid delays observed in the implementation of certain road projects due to constraints related to the relocation of water, electricity or telecommunications networks, and the recurrent deterioration of the networks installed by the various providers.

At the end of the report by the Permanent Secretary of CONAROUTE on the implementation of the instructions of the 23rd session of this body, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications recommended the establishment of a common platform for information sharing and consultation, for better planning of work undertaken by the various project owners, as well as the inclusion of expenses related to the relocation of telecommunications networks in the budgets of the planned projects.

Speaking after her, the Minister of Water and Energy insisted on the need for public administrations in charge of road works and urban roads to transmit their intervention programmes to the providers at the beginning of each fiscal year, in accordance with the provisions of the aforementioned decree of 19 March 2014.

In order to ensure that the various infrastructures on the road are consistent, the Minister of Public Works proposed that there should be permanent consultations between the various stakeholders involved, road platforms be respected, networks

be moved by providers, and that the existing networks be re-aligned and archived. He also indicated that tools have been developed to prevent interference between the existing networks and the works to be carried out, namely the Technical Maturation Guide for Projects and the Technical and Methodological Orientation Guidelines for Road Construction in Cameroon.

The Minister of Housing and Urban Development suggested the elaboration of a multi-sector programme aimed at identifying and mapping all the urban technical networks in the main cities, as well as the construction of reservation ducts along the roads by Regional and Local Authorities, in accordance with their urban planning documents.

The Minister of Public Contracts for his part, specified that the normative mechanism in force allows to control the various interventions on roads and various networks. He recommended, among other things, compliance with existing standards in the implementation of various networks, raising the awareness of the administrations concerned on the design of works taking into account the existing situation and subsequent interventions, as well as the systematic application of fines or criminal penalties against any destroyer of roads and various networks.

At the end of these presentations, the members of the Board followed the complementary contributions of the Directors General of CAMTEL, CAMWATER and ENEO.

At the end of the discussions, the Head of Government instructed all project owners in charge of road projects to systematically budget for services related to the relocation of networks, in liaison with the providers concerned. More specifically, the Prime Minister instructed the Minister in charge of regional development to coordinate the updating of water, electricity and telecommunications network plans, in conjunction with the relevant administrations and providers.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.-

Yaounde, the 19 JAN 2020

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