



**CAMEROON RENAISSANCE MOVEMENT (C.R.M.)**

**MOUVEMENT POUR LA RENAISSANCE DU CAMEROUN (M.R.C.)**

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# **VISIONS OF SOCIETY OF THE CAMEROON RENAISSANCE MOVEMENT (CRM)**

# **« CRM**

**A VISION, A  
COMMITMENT:  
TO MODERNIZE  
CAMEROON IN  
A NEW REPUBLIC »**

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*Autorisation MINAT N°000221 du 25 Juillet 2008*

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## **I. The ideological question**

One of the major questions for a political party is that of its ideological positioning. Although it does not constitute an essential concern for the base of the party, it is about a crucial question which is of nature has to create divisions within the party or to constitute an obstacle with the regrouping and has the fusion of the political forces so much desired by our people. It is advisable to approach it without prejudice no, and in the light of the history of the ideas and realities of the world of today.

It is so convenient nowadays to say that one is of left or right-hand side. These concepts have a major significance dependent on the own history of the countries or they were born. They do not return to historical realities and do not cover the same contents in France, in Germany, in the United Kingdom, in Russia or in the United States, not to vote that some important countries having use tradition of cleavage Left-Right-hand side. Which tradition do we have to adopt if as well is as it is necessary to fall under these traditions of ideological cleavage? And why should we assert the historical and ideological heritage of such or such people whereas we do not have the same history? The question is moreover more complicated in the case of the Cameroon who has a double colonial history, the British' and the French'. However, neither the line, nor the lefts British and Frenchwoman are the product of the same history, just as these concepts do not have the same ideological contents exactly.

From the ideological point of view precisely, the left right opposition was born from philosophical designs politico conflict and extremes of the social reports dominated by the class struggle. But it was noted that the French left remained marked by its communist origins, less better prepared, to adapt in a world dominated by the economic liberalism and marks in corner by the failure of Communism, however that the British left who however has also a strong tradition of social struggle or the German left wing which cannot be unaware of the Marxist thought is shown more suited has to adapt in this world. The lefts of the countries of Northern Europe have for their part invents social the democracy. As for the United States, the left is represented there by the Democratic Party which corresponds ideologically so that one calls in Europe the Centrists and not even not

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with the socio-democrats, the left in its traditional continental design being represented by those which one calls over there the “Liberals”.

The CRM cannot be satisfied with a loan to be thought ideological. It cannot be satisfied on the matter, as in good of others, one to copy to stick, of a simple transposition. It must reflect, discuss, adapt and fall under modernity since its ambition is to modernize Cameroon.

In this respect, one notes more any party known as of right-hand side does not lead traditional right-wing policies, and more no left party carries out left-wing policies according to the ideology of the traditional left. The line is characterized traditionally by certain values such as the family, the fatherland, work, the individual responsibility. The Left for its part, by values such as freedom, equal opportunity, justice, solidarity, the societal responsibility. Both are for a long time attached has the Republic and its cardinal values which are freedom, the equality before the law, justice, the citizenship and secularity. Moreover, the traditionally attached line has a liberalism without mark by the reign of strongest from now on opened has a compassionate capitalism marked by the concern of equity and attentive with the more fable. The left for its part has understood and integrated that fact that work is the source of the production of these wealth without which there cannot have solidarity, sharing and thus of policy of social justice. It has also understood that liberalism releases the energy and the creative genius of the man, primary sources of creation of wealth and jobs and principal levers of the fight against unemployment; that the constraints of globalization have scrambled the left and right cleavage, the Left being constrained and forced to adapt to the market economy and to manage the national economies under the constraint of International finance. From now on, the Left makes just a little more of social one than the Right. And indeed, it is very unease to say in developing country where or almost everything still has to be done, what the Left-Right policies are all about.

In the case of Cameroon, one can note, without it being needed to pass by a survey or a more thorough public opinion poll, that the great majority of the population is attached to the following values: family, work, property, patriotism, justice, equality before the law, solidarity, religious tolerance which is another name of secularity, political freedom and of association and human dignity. It is seen well

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that the traditional values of the Left and the Right are here all mixed up. However, it is a society based on the whole of these values which CRM wants to build, because it wants to construct a society for Cameroonian and not a society based on intellectual satisfaction to pursue an ideological ideal. Our party wants to promote a society in which freedom opens wide the way to individual initiative and allows wealth creation, source of job creation and means for effective and durable fight against unemployment, on the one hand, and condition of possibility of justice and a significant national solidarity, on the other hand. It is about a liberalism liberator whose ultimate purpose is the man as a social being. It is a liberalism which appeals all working citizens, to work harder, so that the whole of the society gets better. All in all, the CRM is a party of ideological synthesis which puts the man in the middle of the political action. If it were absolutely necessary to give a name to such doctrines, we would call it:

It is the condition of the modernization of our country. This modernization passes via the five following agenda:

- Political and institutional modernization;
- Economic modernization, the installation of the national territory and sustainable development;
- Modernization of education, the social system and the statute of the woman, the place of the young people and the question of employment;
- Cultural modernization, tourism and the sporting development;
- Modernization of the foreign politics and the diplomacy, and places it of the diaspora.

## **I1- Political and institutional modernization**

The CRM intends to put politic at the service of a united Cameroon in its diversity, reconciles with its democratic history and mobilized as a nation and tended towards a future sharing.

### ***1. To organize the living together***

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*1.1.* To organize the “living together” in a nation divided by intellectual paucity, political blindness and the selfishness of an elite which agitates the socio and historical cultural differences, and this to claim an administrative position or, to exist politically. Ethnic is devaluated in an absolute reference, an ultimate, unstoppable, undeniable argumentation. When one claims to speak in the name of ethnos group, one said it all, because nobody has the right to dispute the being of an ethnos group. It is much easier to assert a position of power which ever it is in the name of an ethnic group especially when one cannot show his personal merits. Elites always position themselves as the trustees of the votes of their ethnos group. They speak on its behalf, in the name of a mandate which one is unaware of how they have earned it. One is no longer an Assemblyman of the whole nation, but the elected official of an ethnos group. It is on this basis that one asserts loudly the sharing of the national cake. But when finally get something, it is only for themselves and theirs. Forget the ethnos group. After all they are not accountable to anybody since they never were elects by anyone.

How long still the good Cameroonian people will let himself being misused by such trickery. They set the ethnos groups ones against others, for unknown aims. And they claim high and laud with clear conscience that the policy in Cameroon can be conducted only on an ethnic basis.

The CRM is neither blind nor naive. It does not deny ethnic reality in our country. It is not unaware of that this reality today weights considerably in the national political life. But our party strongly upholds that just as we have transformed a nonspecific socio-cultural reality in Cameroon or Africa into determinant factor of our political and social life, we can also bring it back to should have never ceased to be, that is to say the framework of expression of the rich diversity of our cultures. The CRM thinks that it is not because evil does exist that it should be accepted, because it is not because stealing is a reality that we should necessary put up with it. Tribalism, whatever its appearance and nature is an intellectual or mental infirmity that we can treat by education in the citizenship, the knowledge of the country in the diversity of its population, the wealth of its cultures and the extraordinary potential of fecundation which the various communities are carrying, if they are put in confidence one another.

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To build the “living together” policy passes initially by the mutual recognition of the various communities like as many essential components of the Cameroonian nation, which would not be itself if suddenly one was happen to be missing.

## 1.2. The Anglophone question

A special attention must be granted to the typical problem of the Anglophone community as a specific reality non to be mixed with the problem of the ethnos groups. It is about a historical and cultural reality linked in our history by our colonial heritage which has, as historical and cultural reality, it's complain against the Francophone community. Our country in its geographical configuration as well as in its cultural heritage of today is the product of this double heritage which we will gain to preserve. The CRM assessment is that it is urgent to seriously concentrate on this problem and to examine with the Anglophone community the ways and means the most adapted to give the adequate answers to this matter. It will be necessary to imagine in this respect the forms of the dialogues politically most significant implying all the actors concerned without exclusive and likely to lead to a new unity of the nation has.

This political agreement will then be integrated into the national politic Pact which will have to constitute the true foundations of a free and independent Cameroonian Nation, which is invents itself and ceases being a mutilated colonial powers legacy.

## 1.3. National Assizes of citizenship and fraternity.

That passes by the holding of national assizes for citizenship and fraternity, place of invention of the new Cameroonian citizenship, whose results will be sealed in this political Pact.

From this point of view, it will be necessary to identify and rehabilitate the national heroes. In this respect, it will be advisable to set up a Committee of historians and personalities charged to proceed to the objective identification of the aforesaid heroes on the basis criteria has to define, then to proceed to the creation and the

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construction of a dedicated monument which could for example be named the Cupola of the Souvenir, or the Cupola of Gratefulness, or the Domes of Gratitude.

## 2- To modernize the Institutions of the Republic

### 2.1. The Constitution

The modernization of the public institutions passes by the reforms of the Constitution. It is about a priority reform that it will be necessary to engage without delay; on the one hand, to give a constitutional translation to the new republican political Pact, on the other hand to raise the level of the democratic governance to the height of the observable modern standards in comparable countries of level has that of Cameroon.

Concretely, it will be a question of reforming the Constitution in particular to seek a balance of power, to regulate the aspects of the electoral questions of constitutional nature such as the setting of: a two rounds presidential election, a voting age at 18 years old, and to devote those results of the national assizes of fraternity that they be registered in the Constitution.

The political and institutional reform will moreover weigh down on the sectors of Justice, of safety and defense, the linguistic policy, the land policy.

### 2.2. The Rule of law and justice

Any performing justice answering the expectations of ordinary Cameroonian and, respectful of the people in the name of which it is rendered, lies in respect of the Rule of law. The law must be just, and largely spread and applied to all without discrimination i.e., State and citizens who ever they are. The absolute respect of the equality before the law is a condition of the acceptance of it as well as its legal security. Any Cameroonian citizen, any national or foreign investor must have the assurance that the same law will be applied to all, and that its wealth will not be despoiled by a justice with variable geometry.

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In the sector of Justice more particularly, it will be a question of completing the judiciary system in particular by settling the question of traditional jurisdictions, independence of the judiciary in particular through the system of nomination of the magistrates, creation and installation of the missing jurisdictions.

### 2.3. Public governance and fight against corruption.

#### 2.3.1. Public governance

The effectiveness of the public governance depends, under one hand, on the organization of the State, and under the other hand, on the performances of the public administration.

The type of the State is one of the conditions of the realization of a modern, participative democracy, beside sociological, economic and cultural realities of the country. The option of the Constituent of 1996 for a decentralized State undoubtedly aims at answering this concern. Independently of the slowness observed in the implementation of the regionalization, the CRM estimates that the structuring of the State in our country calls a thorough reflection and a political debate implying all the components of the nation.

The public administration is the base of any modern State, one of the factors of its permanence as well as effectiveness of its action. To rationalize the public administration then becomes a requirement for State conscious of being the principal lever of the development of the country and anxious to take part in an advantageous way in the economic competition in a globalized world. The MRC intends, for that matter, to make reform of the public administration one of its priority preoccupations.

The main axes of this reform will be:

- the definition of a policy of access to the civil service;
- control of manpower;
- The definition of the objective criteria of management of the careers.

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In any case, transparency will be in the heart of the public administration management.

### 2.3.2. The fight against corruption

The CRM is convinced that the effectiveness of the fight against corruption requires a strategy oriented from top to bottom. The exemplariness of the persons in charge at the higher level is the condition of their authority with respect to their collaborators. It is moreover on the level of the higher strata of the administrations and other public structures that it is possible to achieve the goal of zero tolerance. The CRM will thus have to make sure that the position of role model starts in its own ranks.

The effectiveness of the fight against corruption also goes by a reorganization of the institutions created for this purpose. It will be necessary to decrease its number within the framework of an institutional recasting, to better define their missions and to rationalize their operations.

### 2.4. Security and Defense

In the area of Security and Defense, it will be a question of renewing the conception of the defense forces and security to better adapting them to the challenges of the current world and the one to come.

As per internal security forces, it will be necessary to redefine their doctrines as well as their mission so that it definitely stops inspiring fear even within the peaceful and law abiding citizens, but rather make the populations feel safe near them and become their allies in particular in the fight against criminality. It will be necessary to leave the repressive culture inherited the years 1960 to one of protection and assistance to the citizens. The suitable component of these security forces will have in addition to be at the forefront of the economic intelligence which is a determinant factor in the battlefield of the globalized economy.

With regard to the defense forces, it is a question of redefining a national defense doctrine, choosing the option of a professional army and the concept of popular

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defense. It is important to restore the national army in its historical and republican mission of defense of the nation against the external enemies, and to restrain itself from using it in the law and order operations, except in the event of an insurrectionary situation. A substantial effort must be made so that gradually the Dashboards of Manpower and Equipment (DME) are respected within our armed forces in order to guarantee their operational effectiveness (Table of organization and equipment (toe)).

Human resources of the defense forces, whose everyone knows the quality and who are given a credit of patriotism, must be put at the service of the national development, in particular toward industry of maintenance of their equipment of the aforesaid forces, health, the civil engineer. For that, they must have sufficient means. In peace time, the effectiveness of our army must be measured with the level of its participation in the development of the nation.

Our army must be the window of the good governance and the exemplary functioning of our institutions. While remaining under the control of the executive, it must be actually placed under the supervision of the legislative power. The army must be the crucible of the national, unity and a model of discipline, rigor in the financial resources, the equipment, and most of all, the career management. Women and men who are lucky to serve this central institution must be, at any time and any place, the model of our society.

## 2.5. The linguistic policy

In regard to the linguistic policy, it is time that, apart from the two official languages which enables us to communicate with the world and between us and largely facilitates our insertion in globalization, Cameroon endows itself with a national tongue. It will be about a political decision of crucial importance for our future as a nation. For the CRM, it is not a question of giving up the various existing local tongues, which would be an impoverishment. But it not suited to continue the current policy of juxtaposition of these local tongues, all taught at the same time without one not knowing for what purpose. It is a question of creating a

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Cameroonian national tongue: the “Cameroonian”, not from anything, but from the existing local tongues.

It will be up to the linguists to determine, if it is not already done, the one of our tongues which the grammatical structure allows an easy learning. The vocabulary will be able to come from the various local languages, in particular when it is about name things, animals or specific beings at the geographical area where these tongue is spoken. The words of modern technologies could be borrowed from the tongues of invention of technology in question or that of its popularization. That is what one observes in the “Indonesian” for example where the majority of technical words come from Dutch. It is incomprehensible that young Cameroonians are ready with all the sacrifices to study foreign tongues spoken in small country and these countries only, country where the population often much fewer than that of Cameroon, and that one continues to make them believe that they cannot have a national tongue or that such a tongue will be useless or of too. It is a question of political will, and the CRM has that political will.

## 2.6. To redefine the statute and the role of the traditional authorities

The traditional authorities have, in our country, varied historical origins, a social status and a perception in the population which vary according to the cultural areas. They should be respected in their specific identities, because in respecting them thus, it is to respect the wealth of the cultural diversity of our country.

These traditional authorities play a major cultural and social role. Devoted Guardians of the traditions and the cultures of our soils, they contribute to their preservation, and to the stability and the social peaces in our country.

This role is not recognized with its true value. That is why a reflection must be engaged, in close dialogue with them, for the reform of their statute within the State. The concept of auxiliary of the administration which currently summarizes their statute appears reducing and should be exceeded. It is about a heritage of the colonization which does not completely determine the role of these authorities of which everyone agrees on the fact that they belong to the pillars of the society.

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In order to enable them to fully play their part to unify within their respective communities, the administrative authorities must take care not to lower them, not to humiliate them, and not to weakening them by multiplying traditional chiefdoms without historical roots, or by setting up some distinguish persons as traditional chiefs of such or such level. While keeping the primacy to the republican institutions, the CRM recommends that it is recognized to the traditional authorities of the country a specific place to be determined in the light of their role. One will however avoid abusive standardization of the statute of institutions whose origins, profound nature and social function vary according to the various cultural areas of the country. In this matter, it is better to leave to the traditions what concerns the traditions.

### **III- THE MODERNIZATION OF THE ECONOMY, THE COUNTRY PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: CAMEROON A HAVEN OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY.**

#### **1- Prerequisites and tools**

##### ***1.1. Intellectual tools: a strategist and inventive State; a strategic planning.***

The economic take-off obeys to a thought strategy, relying on a sequential but long-term vision. It should not be the result of not articulated and not coordinated spontaneous actions. This is why it needs a framework of action defining the pursued goals and structuring its intellectual coherence, and in addition allowing its evaluation.

The CRM WILL organize the strategy of the economic take-off of Cameroon within the framework of a National Planning for Growth and Development (NPGD)

It will be about a national strategic planning accompanied by the operational plans or programs, with provisional budgets.

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## *1.2. Technical tools: a development by technology; a tool of strategic financing.*

### **a). Development by technology**

Cameroon can accelerate its development by taking advantage of available technologies which did not exist in main cases at the time when most industrialized country have engaged with their development. In this regard, it has at its disposal, a very high pool of scientific knowledge in which it can dip into. Being with almost all the other African States among the last to come on the market of technology, it does not have to remake research that others have already made. It can only help itself according to its strategic options, like the newly industrialized or developed countries have done before it. It will only be necessary for it to orientate the formation of its youth towards the mastering of the use of these technologies.

Almost all the main countries today known as emergent have started to use technology massively only from the years 1980. They have used available technologies borrowed from countries more advanced by creating the conditions and a favorable environment to their use, mainly by supporting the massive training of engineers.

### **b) Resolve our energy deficit**

The energy situation of insufficiency that our country has known for several decades constitutes a major hurdle to its industrialization and, in a general term, to the improvement of the index of human development. The beginning of the valorization of the exceptional hydroelectric potential, although extremely late, goes toward the right track. But, it is noted that the current policy in this domain is limited to few big construction works and especially is limited mainly to the exploitation of the hydroelectricity and incidentally to gas, thus creating an energy mono-dependence to energy source which increases the costs of transport of the energy from the places of production to the places of consumption.

The CRM intends to promote a polycentrism energy policy allowing the valorization of all main sources of energy, being today the object of a technological as well as manufacturing costs control, with the aim of putting it at

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the service of the country socio-economic rise. The hydroelectricity will remain privileged because of extraordinary potentialities of the country in this domain. In this respect the CRM will implement a policy of construction of small dams in each zone where hydrographic will allow it, in order to closer satisfy local energy needs. The emphasis will be also placed on other renewable energies such as the bio-energies, the wind and the solar energy which could be very adapted in particular to the northern part of the country. Although they raise environmental issues of which contours will have to be well determined, nuclear energy and coal cannot be put aside in its principle.

In regard to the whole of the national energy potential, the CRM intends to make Cameroon, an energy hub with straddle between Central and Western Africa in becoming an important energy supplier in various neighboring countries of the two regions. Energy must become a source of export earnings in the trade balance of our country.

### **c). Create sovereign Fund**

How, on the one hand, to benefit from these natural resources certainly considerable but nonrenewable whose our country abounds in, and in the other hand, to impel investment in strategic sectors in which the private sector cannot invest or find an immediate interest to invest on today?

The relevant and tested answer in the developed countries as well as in most emerging countries is the constitution of Funds sovereign.

They are reserves set aside in view, not only to provide themselves against uncertainties of the future, but also and especially to guarantee a more radiant future to the future generations.

The idea to constitute this kind of funds finds its source in the need for developing strategies making it possible to gain the maximum profit from the mining revenue. Indeed, the exporting countries of natural resources became aware of the character primarily exhaustible of these resources and of the role which falls on them to give

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the possibility to the future generations of also enjoying the repercussions of this manna.

The strategy in this domain consists in preserving in the financial form what one has gained from the physical resources of the Nation. The Funds thus made up will be put at the service of the investment and will make it possible at the same time to protect the national enterprise against external attacks, to give it means for defending and developing itself, and finally to taking part actively in the globalized economy, while ensuring an optimum profitability.

The Sovereign Funds thus constitutes a master piece in a long term strategy, because it ensures a clearer base for growth.

Besides the revenues drawn from the exploitation of its natural resources, our country could levy a consumption tax to abound its sovereign Funds. It is a question of organizing the conditions of the collective participation in this important effort of economic war, vital for our generation and these to come. The relevance, the viability and the acceptance of this Fund by our people will naturally depend on the rigor in its management.

### ***1.3. Psychological prerequisites***

- To put the investors, nationals and foreigners, in confidence in showing them that the country needs them.
- To make them allies of the State in its development strategy instead of putting them permanently at the index, to perceive and to present them a unscrupulous profiteers on the back of the State and of the population.

### ***1.4. Organization, work the discipline***

Cameroon is not competitive enough in regard to the labor costs which are one of the factors determining of the direct foreign investment and the choice of the sites for the delocalization.

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The amateurism and insufficient organization of the administration, its non-profitability and its consequent inefficiency do not offer an attractive institutional environment for the investor.

In addition, the Cameroonian worker, of the public sector like private sector, does not have the reputation of investing himself in his job. Moreover he lacks motivation and discipline.

The CRM believes that the resolution of these problems linked to human resources is one of the keys for the competitiveness of the national economy and consequently of a sustained growth. It is advisable to work on this matter, in close collaboration with trade-unions, by setting up a national sensitizing training program.

In the same way will it be necessary to work with the aforementioned trade organizations on the question of the flexibility of the labor law, including weekly duration of the working time. The weeks 40 hours minimum legal working time can be raised up to 50 hours according to the branches and the period of the activities in the base of negotiation between the various actors of the job market. It is about one of the conditions of the attractiveness of our country for the direct foreign investments and of the competitiveness of our companies.

### ***1.5. Infrastructures and the equipment***

(See Country planning)

### ***1.6. A new land policy.***

In regard of the land policy, the CRM considers that an appropriate land statute taking into account the cultural realities of our soils but guaranteeing the State with the land resource necessary for the realization of the collective projects and offering necessary security on the market of the land transactions is a pre-condition of the development and modernization of our country. Pre-condition of the modernization of the agriculture, of the country planning, of the realization of infrastructures and the industrial development will depend on the adhesion of all to

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the new land policy and to the clarification of the statute of various land spaces. The land security desired by all, national and foreign investors passes by the realization of a national land cadastre and the registration of all the lands of private individuals in urban as well as in rural areas and that of all the parcels of land incorporated in the private domain of the State or concerning territorial collectivities. All the rest of not registered lands would come under the national domain. No one can believe that the few 475,000 km<sup>2</sup> of the national territory belong to communities to the point that everywhere the State wants to carry out a collective infrastructure for the benefit of local populations or of the entire nation, it is obliged to pass by a procedure of expropriation due to public utility. It is a manner of unjustified enrichment even of embezzlement of the public funds which impoverishes the nation and prevents the building of the nation. The civil servants and other elites are the principal persons responsible for that situation, because they are informed before other citizens of the projects in progress and of the places of their realization, they anticipate and register the lands in the zones concerned of which they are not even, sometimes, nationals: it is the offence of inside trading. That must cease. One of the means of fighting this true plague could be to conduct a campaign of free registration of the rural grounds by community or family on a basis to be determined. The CRM estimates that the holding of the land General States will be necessary for the definition of this new policy land.

The major text projects coming from the Reform of the Constitution, the national Assizes of the citizenship and Fraternity, the debates on the creation of a national tongue and the Land's General States could be subjected to the referendum.

## **2- A policy of sustained high growth: “Cameroon, the economic Lion of Africa” (ELA).**

Current growth rates of our country which vary between 2,5°/° and 5°/° since more than a decade ago, are still very insufficient to provoke the economic take-off even in the two decades horizon, because its effects on the economic growth are mitigated by a fast population growth and a high level of poverty which tends to destroy the effect of threshold.

This is why the CRM intends intends to leave no stone unturned in order to lunch a

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process of growth which will range between 8 and 12% during the next decade, thanks to the collective effort of the girls and sons of the country and the possible foreign contributions.

### ***2.1. Transformation of agriculture.***

The agricultural policy of the CRM has two objectives: to ensure food safety in the country while procuring incomes to the producers; to transform country into a net exporter of the agricultural products.

The realization of the first of these objectives passes by a better organization and the increase in the effectiveness of the family exploitations which remain most numerous in the agrarian structure of our country and which contribute to the durable and diversified construction of ecosystem.

The realization of the second objective requires the development of a modern agriculture of large plantations of productions of the traditional products of revenue as well as of the food products intended for the international market. Cameroon cannot allow itself to be absent in this market all the more carrying and promising because the world population grows at sustained rate, that there will consequently always be more mouths to nourish in the world and that our country has in this area of true assets and thus favorable comparative advantages.

From this point of view, it will be necessary:

° On the agricultural aspect *stricto sensu*:

- to carry out the mechanization of the large farms but also of smaller one in order to decreasing the harshness of the work of the farmers and increasing the outputs;

to facilitate the access to the factors of production conducive to the improvement of the productivity, in particular through an secure access to land properties, the installation of a national seed-bearer as well as productions structures and/or the supply of manures and plant health products at reasonable prices.

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° On the financial aspect, to create adapted finance mechanisms, by distinguishing the structures of financings of large farms from those from financing family exploitations. These last one will be able to find the necessary financings beside rural microphone-banks supported if necessary by the financial supports of the State.

° On the agro-industrial aspect, the policy of the CRM will consist of the setting up of specialized agropoles according to the production fields. It will be a question of setting up complete agro-industrial sectors, going from energy of the production of primary agricultural produces, to their industrial transformations by production units articulated with the production fields.

Lastly, it will be necessary to modernize the breeding and to reduce the dependence with respect to the imported halieutic products.

## ***2.2. A strategic industrialization.***

The framework of the national industry abused by a quarter century of internal stammering resulting from an obvious absence of industrial policy, a calamitous infrastructural environment and a not inciting fiscal policy, on the one hand, and separated direct foreign investments, on the other hand, is in the course of disintegration. The industrial fabric is diversified and not articulated due to the lack of structuring industry unable to generate activity for the “PME/PMI”. The activity of this sector is characterized by a severe lifelessness and many “PMI” operate in the informal sector vis-a-vis a tax practice of spoliation and ultimately repressive.

The industrial policy of the CRM will rely on a choice and a policy of the strategic sectors made according to the trumps of Cameroon as well in term of the natural resources, human resources as well as the markets available or to come, and the ambitions of the country. The industrialization of the 21st century cannot be done under the conditions of that of the 20th century. In a globalized world, the policy of the industrial sectors imposes itself as much because of the need for coherence of the production structures as well as of the requirement of a competitive positioning

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in the world market. It requires an identification of the objectives and a programming of the results.

No country can produce everything nor be competitive in all the sectors. Any efficient industrial policy must rest on the need for satisfying the internal needs of the manufactured goods as much as developing exports.

In this order of ideas, the CRM will develop the following sectors:

- agro-industry;
- the mining (iron ore, bauxite, cobalt/nickel, diamond, gold) with a policy of first even of second local transformation (foundries, steel-works, etc) of part of a exploited resources;
- timber industries;
- hydrocarbons and petrochemicals;
- mechanical engineering, electric and electronic industries;
- pharmaceutical industries;
- chemical industries;
- building materials;
- biotechnology;
- communication and information technologies (TIC);
- art craft and tourism.

### ***2.3. Modernization of the economic governance.***

The development of the intervention of the State in the productive sector of the economy as of the years 1960 corresponded to a will to compensate the deficiency of national entrepreneurship shortly after independence. This official interventionism was primarily provisional, the assets of the portfolio of the State having to be gradually yielded to the private economic operators with measurement of the emergence of a class of experienced national entrepreneurs. Such was in particular the policy which underlay the creation of the National Investment Company (SNI) and other public large corporations, such as the SONEL, the

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SNEC, SIC, the MAETUR, the MAGZI, the CIMENCAM, the CDC, the SOCAPALM, HEVECAM, the CAMAIR, etc.

The management of these companies was not happier. The State launched two decades ago the privatization of some of these companies, under generally obscure conditions, and not always those which would have been. It has created some new, or proceeded to acquire holding within subsidiaries of transnational corporations having to do business in the country, under conditions not more transparent.

The definition of new economic governance thus proves necessary. It invites in particular to:

- reorganize the SNI in order to redefine its missions taking into consideration context of globalization and role of the State strategist;
- reconsider the role and the appropriateness of keeping alive the two structures which are the MAETUR and the MAGZI;
- revise the policy of participation of the State;
- re-evaluate the portfolio of public and para-statal enterprises;
- reconfigure the missions of certain public entities such as the SIC;
- reconsider the role of the agencies of regulation such ART, ARSEL;
- revise the law on the Public Corporations reconsidering in particular the mode of designation of the GM and the CEO of the corporations with public capital;
- develop a realistic strategy for the progressive “formalization” of the informal sector.

### **3- Country planning: the forgotten question**

The policies carried out up to now led to a weak integration of certain regions in the nation. That results in particular in a weak participation in the national life, a feeling to be exploited by the others, an underrepresentation in the elites of the country. It resulted from them a strong rise from ethno-regional cleavages and feelings of frustration which did nothing but be exacerbated in the course of time, supplied with a resignation of the State of its responsibilities during the long

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economic crisis that the country crossed, but also by unsuited answers when the administration tried to attack the problem.

Each one can measure contrast more and more striking enters, on the one hand, the urban areas that rural and, on the other hand, the districts of our cities or what holds place of it; but also the increasingly important variation enters the forsaken populations and the urban elites more or less connected to globalization.

It is that, as well the famous five-year plans of development which existed until the middle of years 1980 as well as the “Documents of strategy” and the “Vision” known as “2035” elaborated recently, avoid the crucial question of the country planning. They rather go from the sectors by sectors approaches with an insufficient transversal dimension. An adequate answer to the dramatic situation in this field, as well as to others, requires a true policy of country planning at the national level, i.e. a consistency of the public action with data from the terrain.

In this respect, it will be necessary to draw up the complete picture of the problems of the country and to propose the main trends to cope with them. The result will be an overall vision of the territory and, in a hierarchical way, the major elements, but also the risks and opportunities.

The major questions for which it will be necessary to answer are the following ones: how to manage the passage of the majority of the population on the side of urban while making up for lost time in the forsaken rural areas? How to satisfy the unceasingly increasing needs in the zones strongly populated without leaving side those which are it less? How to reconcile economic competitiveness and job creation while facing the constraints of the lifting of the tariff barriers and with the requirements of environmental protection?

The answers to these questions will be used then of indications and basic orientations for the sectoral policies, including with regard to a challenge as that of the territoriality which is at the crossing of the problems of the development and the democratization.

The CRM makes a point of declaring that no area or no town in the country must be regarded as enemies of the public authorities. There will thus be no question “of

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punishing” one or the other for policy options in a country which wants to be democratic.

The fundamental options as regards regional planning will turn around concepts like sustainable development, economic efficiency and social equity. In a context of opening of the borders and globalization, it will be essential to mobilize all the economic and social actors, to gear down the initiatives and to generalize the entrepreneurship on all the levels, the State having to create the basic conditions, to impel and coordinate. One will thus aim at developing the local potentials, to emphasize them, to benefit from the regional potentialities, to put an end to harmful and inauspicious competition between the regions of the country or Yaounde and Douala, or Douala, Kribi and Limbe with regard to the port activities. To in no case it will not be a question, as some let it believe, to take from the ones and give to the others. The supreme challenge remains the national unit, not in terms of territorial integrity, but of cohesion of the social body of the whole nation and at all the levels.

The country planning consists into policy choice options; it cannot thus be abandoned to the technicians whose task is to implement these policy options. The approach will have to be concerted, negotiated, and iterative, to decline the paradigm of the national unity with a particular accent on the current or potential points of tension, while adhering to the prospect for sustainable development. Before the technicians intervene to elaborate a National Project of Country Planning (NPCP) which will be declined thereafter in Country Planning, a great national debate will be organized on the question, leading itself to a national Charter of the Country planning.

### ***3.1. An imaginative and ambitious urban policy***

The cities appear as the revealers of the present acute crisis that has been going across the country for several decades: absence of vision, absence of anticipation, absence in short of a policy. Thus, the successive versions of the documents supposed to lay down the policies and national strategies remained very weak on this point.

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On the ground, the result is insignificant: some rare infrastructures realized here and there, without coherence. The key element of the official strategy is from now on the “fight against the urban disorder”, translation par excellence of the failure or the absence of the urban policy, with all that comprises like losses for the urban economy.

The CRM considers the urban growth, not like a plague, but like an unavoidable objective data of the Cameroon of today, carrying potentialities for an acceleration of the development of our country. Our urban policy will have as a central pillar the orientation of the urban growth towards the secondary cities, so as to jugulate the growth of Douala and Yaounde. At the same time, it will be a question of getting out the current administrative vision of the city to put this one in the middle of the creation of wealth and jobs.

If human concentration is interesting from the economies of scale which it generates, it appears with the observation of the urban fact that, in most towns of sub-Saharan Africa, beyond a certain threshold (1 million inhabitants or a little more), the situation becomes inextricable. Consequently it appears essential to give to the secondary cities means of absorbing the considerable urban growth that which the country copes with, under better conditions that what one observes for the two national metropolises, Douala and Yaounde. It will be a question of creating and of maintaining in these secondary cities of with more harmonious living conditions, but also economic incentives allowing the creation of wealth and jobs.

***These cities can, for this purpose, being gathered in two large categories:***

***Metropolises of balance:*** it is about, beyond the administrative definition, to build true regional capitals, while in relying on the formidable opportunity which offer the urban armature of the country today, which overall appears distributed rather well on the whole of the territory. It will be a question of transforming these cities into true points of application of the policy of decentralization of the administration, but also of sectors like the universities or the industries and the services. In this direction, independently of their size, it will have to be given them well defined dominant functions. For example, such cities would become tourist

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poles and hubs of transport which can radiate not only on their regions but also on the adjoining countries; such others could affirm their cultural side more; such others would become university poles of international reference; such others still of the technological poles; or of the industrial poles and trade of international dimension etc.

***Small towns:*** beside the two national metropolises and metropolises of balance, they will play a crucial role in the absorption of the urban growth, but especially as the interface with the rural world. The challenge here is thus to equip them with means able to enable them to radiate on the rural areas around, while being true trade points.

The CRM intends moreover to set up a Special program of installation of the frontier cities (PSAVF).

***Remain the case of Douala and Yaounde.***

Stressing in particular on the averages and small towns do not refrain from continuing to deal with the two larger ones, which alone gather almost half of the urban population.

It is absolutely necessary to leave this kind of unjustified and in any case harmful competition to which the current authorities seem to confine the two cities. To have two metropolises of this level is an opportunity which it is necessary to know to exploit as well as possible to the development of these two cities and the entire country. The policy of the CRM will consist in giving to both them an international positioning:

- Douala, besides its strategic position at the bottom of the Gulf of Guinea, has good assets to be developed so that it holds the rank of sub-regional economic and financial pole, as the image of Abidjan in West Africa, Casablanca in the Maghreb or Nairobi in East Africa. In this respect, it will have urgently to be equipped with a true business center making it possible to accommodate high level tertiary sector.

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- Yaounde has more vocation to position itself with regard to the political, administrative, cultural and diplomatic plan, in competition with cities like Abuja or Addis-Ababa. But it will not be enough just to produce equipment to accommodate great international conferences. It will be essential to abandon the current diplomatic positioning of our country which has considerably be detrimental to the country for more that two decades.

Anticipation will be capital in our urban and urbanite policy in order to avoid running after the installation of urban anarchy.

### ***3.2. Improvement living conditions in the cities***

Our cities will not be able to assume their duties in terms of generation of productive investment, dynamization of the rural world or assurance of the quality of life as long as they will not possess the basic infrastructures and an effective management of those. The basic public services and the question of housing and intra-urban transportation occupy in this respect a central position.

It will be necessary to put among the priorities the compensation for the considerable delay taken to equip the two national metropolises, Douala and Yaounde, of an effective system of public transportation, so true it is that transportation constitutes the “nervous system” of a town. That will require actions at the same time on the infrastructure, the equipment and the regulation, on top the incentives which will have to be created to attract the private sector.

It will be essential in the same time, and at level of all the towns, to act on the other services having a direct impact on quality of life (drinking water, cleansing etc) as well as on those aiming at economic efficiency (electricity, telecommunications, etc). On all these sectors, the concern first will be the research of equity and the satisfaction of the greatest number. Clear objectives, objectively measurable for the search of equity, will also be set. The ambition is to put each inhabitant of our cities at a maximum of 5mn of walk (500 m) from a tarred road.

With regard to the quarters known as of spontaneous habitat, it will be necessary to privilege a human approach of their urbanization. The objective is not to prohibit

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the abandonment of the illegal occupants, because it would mean to give a bonus to antisocial behavior and urban anarchy, but to associate the concerned populations, in particular when they are long time occupants, in search of solutions and to offer reasonable alternatives to them.

In particular, to modernize big metropolises one will not avoid a certain level of abandonment in particular in certain quarters which are today in the middle of these cities; one will restructure some of other without necessarily making leave the inhabitants. It is moreover urgent to work with the control of the growth of the size of the big cities and in particular of the two metropolises; a city which extends ad infinitum in a horizontal way is difficult and very expensive to arrange; it would thus be necessary to slow down this horizontal growth to the profit of a vertical growth.

### ***3.3. A new housing policy based on the access to property***

In same time, it will be advisable to act on the housing, which is the other field where the absence of a coherent policy is manifest. This sector requires an in-depth reform. The public agencies of the sector are languishing: SIC, moribund since many years and collapsing under the weight of an enormous debt, are nothing any more but one banal shareholder, whilst the MAETUR, after a few hours of glory in the years 1980, hardly makes better than a small land developer.

Our policy will consist in giving the whole of the institutional and lawful device flat, including the professions of the sector (geometricians, town planners, property developers etc). The procedures will have in particular to be simplified, to create the gravitational incentives for the private sector, to set up of the devices of accompaniment of the populations and to reposition the whole of the public actors. The State will cease being a property developer, since his action led up to now, essentially, to create distortions on the market, with for only recipients some speculators. One will thus create the conditions of a healthy competition between the various actors. In this direction, SIC and the MAETUR will be restructured to be able to face the competition of private, the Building and loan association also to adapt to the news gives.

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The habitat known as social will be redefined so as to be actually directed towards those which do not have the means of building themselves.

An intervention on a large scale will make it possible to limit the effects of the land speculation.

### ***3.4. To reform urban management – effective Decentralization***

The actions of modernization of the town could be carried out effectively only if the current framework of the decentralization is re-examined in the direction of a reinforcement of the local authorities, at least in the big cities. With the technical plan, it is on the level of the city where the current equipment must be designed and realized, the State intervening in a direct way only for all that makes it possible to create incentives in favor of the productive sector. That supposes, in particular a reform of the financial system to allocate directly more financial means to the cities. In this way, one will leave the current and completely antiquated system of the transfers, be it through the annual procurements or that of the payment of the additional collected taxes by the States on behalf of the cities. The tax on land will be reformed consequently.

However, in regard to the specific ambitions for the two national metropolises, their modernization for their strategic positioning could be carried out directly by the State or at the very least under its narrow monitoring.

### ***3.5. Transportation***

The importance of transportation in the life of a country is not any more to be demonstrated, the mobility being one of the essential factors of economic competitiveness. Transportation has, an effect, a “contagious” action, beneficiate on all the other sectors of the life of a country. In the end they govern about all the aspects of economic and social progress.

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A quick assessment of the actions conducted during last decades shows that the situation is far from being satisfactory, in spite as of important sums spent (up to 1/3 of the public investment expenditure), in particular for the roads. With the social plan, too many areas of the country still suffer from seasonal or permanent isolation, facts that limit as much their development. With regard to the economic plan, Cameroon records one of the highest transportation fares in the world. The reasons for this relative failure are of several orders:

- an inadequate investment policy: the infrastructure remained leaned to the roads inherited from the colonial period, primarily directed towards the export of the raw materials and agricultural products revenues, via the port of Douala;
- a relative underinvestment, the public expenditure for the roads for example hardly accounting for 1% of the GDP, which led to an enormous delay;
- an ineffective policy of road maintenance which makes that despite the importance of the invested sums (more than 500 billion FCFA over the last 15 years), the total state of the network hardly improved;
- the absence of clear objectives: the documents of strategy (and in particular the DSCE) are confined to enumerate activities, without reference to the level of service to be offered to the users; moreover their application is not rigorous, left to the moods of the persons in charge, thus reinforcing imbalances;
- a bad governance of the sector, which results in a broad corruption and various insufficiencies as well as on the level of work as on the circulation of the people and goods.

The new policy conceived by the CRM will be based on the central idea that transportation is not a sector like the others, but one of the determinants of the economic and social policy of the nation. In this direction, the emphasis will be placed on the economic or social utility drawn from the activities and the final objective will be to fight against poverty, and especially to reduce imbalances. It will thus be a question of improving connectivity starting from the four general objectives hereafter:

- To connect the country to the rest of Africa by a good quality road on the national sections of the agreed international roads;

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- To connect the metropolises of balance and the regional capitals by a good quality road of;
- To reach 100%, the proportion of the rural population living to no more than 2km from a practicable road at any season;
- To locate the urban population at a maximum of 500m from a road supporting a public transportation other than the mototaxis.

### ***The key elements of this new policy are the following:***

In regards to rural transportation, reduce isolation and “make breathe” the Regions:

- Via the road. The pursued goal, in the long term, is to put each inhabitant of the rural areas at no more than 2 km (that is to say 20 mn of walk on foot) of a way suitable for motor vehicles. As illustration, today the average distance is of approximately 4 km by the national scale and about 6km in the East and the South Regions and of 5 km in the West and the North-West, without forgetting that in the northern Regions, villages remain cut off from the rest of the country for long months in wintering period. The choices for the zones of intervention will thus not be more based on the “complaints” of the populations nor on the moods of the persons in charge, but on a national cartography of enclavement (non-existent today – the MINTP did not even identify yet all the rural roads) which will make it possible to determine the priorities;
- Via the rivers and streams. It will firstly be a question of improving the river transportation, today neglected, whereas it financially constitutes an alternative within reach of populations and more viable on the environmental point of view. It will be a question of identifying and of reinforcing the already existing sectors on certain waterways, in particular in the southern part of the country (Nkam, Kadey, Mounjo, Dibamba, Sanaga etc).

In taking into account the agricultural policy: The extension of the rural network will be also leaned on the agricultural policy, so as to facilitate the collection of the products. The priority will thus be granted to the connection with the urban, large or small centers, which constitute the outlets for the agricultural products.

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***In regards to road maintenance: total covering and the decentralization;***

- Get out of the “priority network”. The current policy of maintenance since about fifteen years and based on the concentration of means on a network known as “priority”, which concerns less than 60% of the network known as listed. The consequence of this choice is that more than 40% of the listed as main roads “non-priority”, and receiving from this fact, residual and sporadic financings, are in the abandonment and some of them disappear. As one can imagine it, that limits accessibility to many rural areas, thus reinforcing poverty. The new policy will consist in intervening on the whole of the highway network, but by differentiating the levels from intervention, taking into consideration financial constraint, the minimum level being to avoid a long term isolation of the populations;
- Reform the management of road maintenance. It will be a question of taking this activity from the hands of MINTP to entrust it to an agency of road maintenance having a decisional autonomy. It is obvious that the current assembling is not very effective, the operations of maintenance, which are a permanent and specific task being limed in the administrative yoke. This activity, essential for the maintenance of the funded capital, is even almost on abandonment since the middle of the years 2000, in spite of a substantial increase in financial means which exceed 50 billion FCFA a year. In this context, the ministry will only intervene to plan the activities, to place at the disposal financial means and to fix the objectively verifiable results on which will engage the leaders recruited on a competitive basis and with a mandate limited in time;
- Decentralize the maintenance of the rural roads. Taking into consideration their distance of the national decision-making centers, the rural tracks will be the object of a management room, by the Regions and especially the cities. The action will not be limited to a transfer of resources; it will take also the shape of the contract-plans undersigned with the State and containing precise objectives in terms of service rendered to the populations.

In regards to the development of the road network: the country planning and the opening on Africa. The principal road network will be extended, no more in one

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logic of economic revenue, but according to two essential pillars: on the one hand (I) the regional planning, i.e. opening-up in order to allow a development of the potential of the territories and to reinforce national integration, while connecting between them the principal urban centers; and in addition (II) to reinforce the integration of the country to the African economy. Consequently, the regional programs (the trans-african highway: “Lagos-Mombasa” and the Central Africa network) will be continued and reinforced. The transversal connections at the country scale, and those making it possible to open up with the rest country vast spaces having an unquestionable potential (Division of Nkam, region of Yoko etc) will be developed. It will also be a question of establishing strong connections between the principal urban centers (national metropolises but also metropolises of balance) in order to instigate the mutually beneficial exchanges between them. One of the axes of this policy will be to start to equip the country with a highway network. More particularly, with an aim of reinforcing the territorial unity of the country, the construction of a dorsal, in the shape of a three way highway between Yaoundé and Kousseri, as well as road network in the North-West and South-West Regions will be priority actions. For the rest, the priorities will be defined through a true road master plan taking into account the orientations of the national plan of country planning which will have been adopted beforehand.

With regards to railroad transport: economic interest at first. This mode of transport will be developed firstly in an economic logic, i.e. for the transportation the goods, and in particular of the ores. It is by no means about a capitulation vis-a-vis the requirements of the market economy, but to face the reality of today world: all the studies show that volumes and the purchasing power are too low in most African countries to guarantee the viability of the railroad transportation only for the people. That is to say that for the service road of the populations, one will bet mainly on the road. Accordingly, the railway information system strategic plan, recently prepared by the government and which appears to be only one long list of wishes, will be reconsidered to stick more to the economic reality of the country which orders to aim in this field mainly the transportation of goods. One will bet in this respect mainly on public-private partnerships for the construction and especially the exploitation of the railway infrastructures.

With regards to ports: to set up a community of harbors. It will be a question of

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abandonning the current logic, which seems to consist in putting in competition between them our various ports existing (rather small) or announced. In this direction, the harbor information system strategic plan will be revised and implemented in logic of complementarity between the various ports. That will make it possible to avoid the harmful effects of the competition announced between various commercial ports (Kribi and Limbe besides Douala) and to make it possible the future deep water port to play indeed a sub-regional hub. The objectives will be clearly re-examined upwards with regard to the port of Kribi, which will have to be equipped with installations (for example to increase the draught) and with methods of management which enable him to face the wild competitiveness which prevails in the maritime harbor sector.

With regards to air transport, the situation is less alarming, at least with regard to the infrastructure. Efforts require however to be made, with regards to economic outlooks, to modernize the air terminal of Douala so as to bring it to the level as of international standards in terms of reception for a sub-regional hub. Garoua could also become a turntable, with the development of a major tourist pole. It will remain the question of the national air transport company which resembles a financial bottomless abyss. In the absence of having all the necessary data on the viability of this company, CRM reserve itself to come to its own conclusion about the measures to be taken.

With regards to urban transport, it will be a question of abandoning in particular the cacophony which prevails today, in the two metropolises of the country. That will be done by way of the setting-up of innovating modes of transport near most households: buses with specialized corridors and of the light networks of urban tramways. All that will be preceded by work of widening of the urban roadway system and will be accompanied by actions on the regulation of circulation and the activities.

With regards to the facilitation of transport: The improvement of the infrastructures will not be enough to obtain the expected profits from the economic operators. All the other hurdles (customs controls, police etc) will be identified and treated, the objective being to approach the international standards in terms of cost and

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duration of the displacements of the goods, which are one of the key factors of economic competitiveness.

Other transversal questions are crucial because of their incidence on the transport policy: on the one hand, effectiveness of the control of the tender adjudication system, being given the relatively important volume of the contracts signed in the transport sector; in addition, regulation of the activities of transport, on all the levels, including the activity of the carriers by mototaxis with which it will be necessary to find a solution concerted and final with their harmonious insertion in the new urban landscape. All in all, it will be necessary to abandon the urban and interurban transport craft industry to make the actors evolve to more professionalism.

### ***3.6. Rural development***

***The policy of rural development of the CRM is built around three axes:***

- the structuring of the rural areas by a concordant domanical policy with local realities and a voluntarist organization of the living zones allowing to bring the basic equipment and other conveniences (school and medical infrastructures, drinking water, electricity) to the populations of the rural areas. (See also the developments on the agricultural policy and the land reform);
- the empowerment of the rural populations: it is a question of giving the capacity to these populations of which majority still lives below poverty line, without access to no basic convenience and managing even more to survive of an agricultural activity whose techniques did not evolve since the centuries. The CRM intends to make pass these populations, which are among the most hard working of the country but of which the vulnerability is accentuated by the epidemics and the natural disasters with repetition, from their situation of auto-survival producers and largely dependent on the public assistance, to that of net creators of wealth. Our policy will stress particularly on the transformation or the improvement of the habitat and the way of life in rural environment, the equipment of the populations living in

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these zones of initial resources for starting or the development of generating activities of returned.

It is a question of a policy likely to reverse the curve of the rural migration because of the attractiveness of a rural world reconsidered and modernized as well within its framework of life as in its modes of production.

### ***3.7. To promote entrepreneurship***

To promotion the entrepreneurship and the entrepreneur of average span.

The PME/PMI are the principal contributors to the policy of transformation of the products of the primary sector, the principal consumers of the basic technology innovations, the major contributors to the production of the national wealth, the largest providers of labor. This is why they must be the object of a special attention. Our objective of full employment imposes to concentrate a maximum of efforts in the promotion of these entities in all activities sectors: agriculture, industry, tourism, and services, craft industry, etc. To reach that point, the CRM intends to promote a policy of reduction of all the formalities and services to PME.

### ***3.8. To offer a minimum digital base***

The situation of communication and information Technologies (TIC) in our country is characterized by three factors:

- out datedness and insufficiency of the infrastructures and the equipment;
- unsuited institutional and lawful framework;
- insufficient resources.

Vis-a-vis this situation, the CRM intends to act mainly on two levels:

- reform the legislation: it is a question of urging the reforms necessary to allow the development of the infrastructures of audio and video broadcasting telecommunications;

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- liberalize the access to the TIC: it is a question of democratizing the access to the TIC, in particular while putting at the disposal of each community of a geographical zone socially less supported, remote services (telephone, faxes, Internet, telex).

The major targets of our policy in this strategic sector are: on the one hand, to make available high-speed, initially in the principal development poles of the country in order to facilitate the activity of the companies, the access to the Internet high-speed being one of the criteria of the improvement of the environment of the business and consequently of the attractiveness of a country; in addition, to make TIC one of the driving sectors of the innovation and creation of the value in our country.

#### **4. Environment and economic development: to promote a sustainable development**

It has been established for several decades now that it exists a close link between the environmental protection and the development. The constraints of the development in a context where poverty imposes an accelerated exploitation of the natural resources create a risk that the satisfaction of the needs is made in a vision of short-term and compromises consequently as well as its durability as the future of the next generations. The risk is all the more great as our needs increase fast, worthy of a spurt in population. It is however no question of compromising the survival of the populations by actions of environmental protection which block the economic development of Cameroon and vice versa. The policy of the CRM in this field will be guided by the search for the compromises between the two apparently contradictory or irreconcilable requirements: economic development in a healthy environment. The possibilities of such a compromise exist fortunately. It is all in all a question of promoting a sustainable development.

##### ***4.1. To take account of the specificity of Cameroon from her agro-ecological diversity***

The geographical position of Cameroon, junction point of Western, northern and Central geographical areas, confers such a diversity to him that it all alone

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represents with it all specificities of African ecological diversity (there is only the desert which is quasi absent in its ecological landscape, even if the risks are very large to fear it). It results from it a phyto-geography which puts forward the close relation between the vegetation and the climate.

The ecological agro diversity of Cameroon can be perceived as an asset, from the potential of diversification of the agricultural speculations. It however imposes an adequate approach in its management, in order to attenuate the constraints related to the diversity of the environmental problems to solve, to take into account the rather narrow climatic requirements of certain cultures.

The implication of this situation is the diversity of the way of managing the various zones, the diversity of the environmental problems whose consequence is the complexity of the solutions which must be adapted to each context.

The knowledge of the ecological agro zones is so to speak an essential precondition to any development action, including the development of strategies of adaptation to the climate changes. This makes it possible to take into account, the specificity of each one of these zones whose bioclimatic diversity is not without effect on the mode of exploitation of natural resources, husbandries and of development in general.

***It is in this context which the strategy is registered that the CRM intends to implement.***

#### ***4.2. To take into account in the development policies the relevant environmental sets of themes***

The relevant sets of themes can be identified as being: the management of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources, of environment and poverty, of environment and land mode, waste and pollution, biodiversity and resources forest, water, climate changes and desertification, degradation of the wetlands, development of the urban centers, health and environment, degradation of the mountain ecosystems.

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*A particular stress will be laid:*

- on the policies of conservation and protection of the species in order to benefit from the advantages which Cameroon has in this field compared to other countries enjoying a great biological diversity, with, in the case of our country of many endemic species as well in the fields faunal and floristic as in the ornithological field. The CRM will reinforce the existing national parks and will create new ones;
- On the promotion of the eco-labels and eco-tourism: the promotion of the eco-labels will relate in particular to certain products of the soil with export strong potential, whether it is certain agricultural products or spices and other forest non-woody products; as for eco-tourism, Cameroon has in this field many comparative advantages from diversity of its ecosystems, its populations, its cultures.

One notes in this respect, for an example that tourism of the mountain gorillas does not earn our country as much as in certain States of central Africa having the same species; that ornithological tourism is non-existent whereas it has a strong potential.

In this order of ideas, by combining country planning policy and eco-tourism policy, it will be made of the Bakassi peninsula which has a fragile ecology, an ecological development special zone.

### ***4.3 Strategies of action***

Enforced by what precedes, the CRM, in its obstinate search to ensure the wellbeing of the populations of Cameroon, is committed putting in coherence a viable economy underlain by the maintenance of the balance of the ecosystems (base of the development), to resort more effectively to the instruments able to favorably influence the current mode of exploitation of natural resources of the Country.

It results from, this the pressing need to:

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- take into account the environmental aspects in the installation of the sectoral strategies;
- develop technical and institutional capacities likely to lead to good port the environmental policy to be set up;
- intensify the fight against ambient impoverishment in rural environment;
- mobilize all the engaged parties by making good use environmental education;
- set up a rational system of exploitation of the systemic eco-services available in Cameroon, with a particular reference to eco-tourism;
- strengthen the regional and international cooperation in the management of the global challenges (desertification, climate changes, degradation of the biodiversity...)

#### **IV. THE MODERNIZATION OF THE EDUCATION AND OF SOCIAL SYSTEM, THE STATUTE OF THE WOMAN, THE PLACE OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE QUESTION OF EMPLOYMENT**

The knowledge and know-how are the main source of wealth in the world of today. They make it possible to transform ideas, immaterial by nature, into tangible property.

##### **I. Education and research: the priority option for the scientific and technical training and the innovation.**

A developing country cannot afford itself the luxury of the formation for the formation or to train his active citizens for the only pleasure of knowledge. Any formation in Cameroon will have to be directed towards concrete results in term of direct impact for the development of the country. The technical training cost is very high, one knows it. But it is a question of making a strategic choice for the development and the modernization of Cameroon.

About twenty-five years ago Cameroon had one of the education systems, in particular a university system among the most performing in Africa and largely respected in the world. Today no Cameroonian university appears among the first

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100 African universities. The multiplication of the universities of State, although necessary, was done for reasons and political bases, in total unpreparedness and without identifiable objectives. The liberalization of higher education, instead of creating the conditions of an offer of competitive formation and quality, seemed an act of resignation of the State of its essential mission in this sector and opened up the way for any kind of drifts in the manifest indifference of the public authorities. The multiplication of the small medical schools, in a country where even State universities do no longer offer any more formation of the UNESCO standards, is the revealing of worrying and more afflicting. Most private institutions offering of engineering trainings do not do any better as it is permissible to check it near the industrialists and other employers operating in Cameroon. It is from now on a lure to believe that the country has human resources of great quality. We must yield to the facts, that era has gone. Today our best are still trained in foreign countries. It is thus imperious to rethink our education system on all the levels, so that, on the one hand, raising its level, increasing its performances and, to lead it towards an education entirely directed towards development objectives on the other hand. The objective is to reach a rate of schooling of 100% at a 10 years horizon at the level of basic education. With the CRM, no child shall ever be again exempted from getting school education.

In this field in particular, the role of the diaspora will be important in the design of the sectors, in particular with regards to the secondary and higher levels, the transmission of the knowledge and the know-how, and also in the setting-up of centers and research laboratories.

***a). To reform the education system***

The CRM intends to completely reform our education system in this direction and this as of the stage of basic education. The young Cameroonian schoolboys will be exposed very early to the scientific reasoning to the awakening of their interest for the material objects created by the human spirit and the innovation by the improvement or the transformation of what already exists. From the secondary stage they will have to take to a technological project of their level, carried out under the supervision of their teacher, and whose relevance and quality will enter for much in their annual success.

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With regard to higher education, the disorder, the inconsistency and the dramatic fall of standard which prevail there are the afflicting revealing of the absence of a national policy in this sector so crucial. There is nothing to be surprised of: the Council of the higher education which lays down the directions of higher education in our country has not met since 1982, i.e. for 30 years. It is thus urgent to lay down the policy of higher education and scientific research of a modern Cameroon, ambitious for its development and determined to position itself as a major pole on the market of the centers transmission of knowledge and the know-how. The higher education is not only an essential lever of the development and of the prosperity of the nation; it has also become a profitable and exportable economic product. One can only see the rush of the young people of the various countries towards the countries where higher education is most performing and commercial export in the form of franchise from the names of the universities and specialized colleges universities among the most prestigious in the world.

The creation of universities will not more than any other field, constitute a political gift. It will answer to the pressing need to raise the level of education and training as a whole countrywide. For this purpose, each regional capital of the country will be equipped with a university or at least with an initially higher education college.

In the university stage, the sectors of general education in social sciences will be reduced to the benefit of technical sectors which will be selected and renewed as needs will come, according to the ambitions of development of the country.

The new wave of development bound technologies consists into green fundamental technologies in particularly for the modernization and the expansion of agriculture and new industries. It is in particular the biotechnology and the nanotechnology. If is added to it the telecommunications sectors and more largely those of electronics combined with computer science.

### ***b). To re-orientate research***

Research will be organized around specialized poles of excellence equipped with laboratories of international standard. On the institutional level it will be

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coordinated by a National Agency of Research and Innovation (ANRI). It is about a research directed towards specific objectives of development. Apart from the agricultural research of which the performance will have to be increased, it will be necessary to develop research with supports public health issues specific to Cameroon, or bearing on diseases having a strong prevalence in the country, and also a research of innovation to the support of national industry.

## ***2. To reconsider the health care system***

Cameroon devotes today only 6 % of the national budget to the sector of health, i.e. less than half of the 15 % which are the objective set by the African Union in Abuja.

The development of our health care system must have two main goals: on the one hand, to make free the basic health care, accessible to all and to eradicate the great endemic diseases; in addition; on the other hand, to make of Cameroon a pole of excellence in health care at least in certain disciplines, so that it becomes a destination for what one would call tourism of health.

Within this framework, training in biomedical sciences will be the object of a very detailed attention, by not leaving any place to the not controlled initiatives presenting future risks for the profession as well as for the populations. The various professional orders in this respect will be involved in the structures of watch and vigilance which will be put in place.

The relative questions with the medical infrastructures and their management will be dealt with in a redefinition, taking into account the respective roles of the State, the Region and the private sector. Yaoundé and Douala will be equipped with hospital of reference of international standard which can accommodate Cameroonian complex cases needing more pointed specialists, or multidisciplinary interventions, or medical evacuees from other countries.

A hospital of reference, equipped with the main specialized services and adequate equipment, will be built in each regional capital.

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In all the cases, the General States of Health will be organized to prepare the bases of the elaboration of a project of law-program relative to the organization of the health care system and the formalization of the main axes here defined.

The promotion of hygiene and healthiness will be among the first actions of public health, because Cameroon should be made clean.

### ***3 - To go on its two feet: to make fully play the woman her part in our country (Women empowerment)***

Women represent around 50% of the Cameroonian population. Its representation within the institutions of the State and its participation in the decisions making on the governing of the Republic are not worthy of its demographic weight nor of its real contribution to the development of the Nation. It is necessary to remedy all the more quickly this un-wedging that the specific qualities of the woman, in particular the sense of patriotic commitment underlain by a major rooting in the soil, a high degree of probity, coolness, the sense of the conciliation and well of others still, in fact invaluable agents of the transformations and the new governance which our society is calling for.

CRM intends to make women one of the principal levers of the change by involving them more amply in the management of the State and by consolidating their role of human base of stabilization of our society.

In our country, poverty strikes the women more particularly: 3 poor out of 4 are women. The rate of elimination of illiteracy of the female population is always by far lower than that of the global population.

The CRM intends to carry out a vigorous policy of schooling of the young Cameroonians women of all the regions of the country, cultural identities not being at all able to constitute an acceptable obstacle with this policy. Our party also intends to implement a policy of promotion of the activities of the woman consisting in creating, in the most remote rural areas, microphone-banks for rural development structures.

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In the same way, it is necessary to impel the development of the micro projects to especially allow the acceleration of a more equitable distribution in poor areas. It is about a virtuous circle: the mobilization of the savings in the microphone-banks will make it possible to finance the micro projects; and the micro projects, in their turn, will make viable the microphone-banks by paying interest rates on the savings converted into credit of which they profited to finance their top of balance sheet.

#### **4. Youth, a chance for Cameroon**

The CRM intends to mobilize the main part of the efforts of the nation, to give again to our youth the hope of a better future in a country, part of the closed club of the prosperous nations, giving to each one of its citizens a chance to change his life for the best. That is by a relentless and determined fight against the mass unemployment from which this youth suffers.

##### ***The Weak employability of the modern sector***

The repetitive social crises which Cameroon experiences, like other African countries, since at least two decades have been due partly to the low capacity of the national economies to provide employment for the people in age to work. The last general Census of the population and habitat (RGPH) revealed that our country counts 10,000,000 active people.

In addition, the general Census of companies (RGE) carried out in 2009 by the National Institute of the Statistics reveals the existence of 93,969 companies and establishments in business which offered 386,263 regular employments at that time.

By estimating at 3% the annual rate of growth of creation of companies between 2009 and 2011, there would be at the present time approximately 100,000 companies and small businesses for the whole of the private sector employing approximately 400,000 active people permanently, which is an average of 4

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workers per company. That is weak, taking into account the number of companies and of the working population.

It is to be noticed that the Civil service employs 196,056 agents, which represents half of the employment generated by the private sector. It should be noted that in the developed countries, this ratio is on average of a public servant for ten employments in the private sector.

The CRM positively states that it is possible to double the number of employment in the private sector and this in three years only, by putting at contribution all the actors of the economic world: employers, the State and the civil society.

### ***Sectors with great potential of employment for the young people***

The State cannot alone reabsorb unemployment. In this respect, massive recruitments in the Civil services are a bad answer to a true problem. On the other hand, the State can play the part of facilitator and allow the private sector to effectively be unfurled in job creation, in an economy which rests on the private property of the means of production.

The Cameroonian economy remaining dominated by the primary and the tertiary sector, these sectors are those where it is possible to quickly maximize the number of jobs created, with a constant incentive of the State.

To combat unemployment thus amounts of acting on the sector and the companies which offer the best potentialities of employment, namely the VSSB, the SSC, tourism, agriculture.

Agriculture remains the economic main activity of Cameroon. It represents more than 45% of the GDP and employs 70% of the population. However, the general Census of the companies of 2009 made it possible to see that the modern agricultural sector is still little developed. The CRM intends to valorize certain experiments in progress which showed their capacity to generate stable and remunerative jobs.

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*The investigation of 2009 establishes the structure of the Cameroonian companies as follows:*

- very small size businesses (VSSB) alone constitute 75% of the 93,969 units listed in 2009,
- the Small size companies (SSC) account for 19% of them,
- the Medium size businesses (MSB) 5%,
- the Large size companies (LSC) 1%.

It will be a question of improving the level of performance and productivity of the VSSB and the SSC by the organization of vocational trainings targeted in kind to lead each one of it to create at least one to two new jobs within a period of two to five years.

For all these sectors, an adapted fiscal policy creative of suitable incentives will constitute one of our levers of action.

On the legal level, it will concretely be a question of adopting a legislation for a better protection of the private property.

**5. To pay a special attention to the vulnerable people: people living with a handicap, elderly people, orphans without any support, abandoned children or children in delicacy with the law.**

*a) The people living with a handicap are full citizens.*

The handicapped people did not choose the handicap. They could not thus be looked at and even treated as second-class citizens. They are entitled to creation of the conditions which support their full and whole insertion in the company. It acts, on the one hand, of the material conditions such as the suitable adjustment of the access to the buildings public, the places reserved in public transport or of the public conditions of use of the toilets; in addition, of the psychological conditions in particular by their equitable treatment in the access to employment, as well it is true as the level of unemployment already alarming in the whole of the company reaches exceptional levels in this category of the population. However, the people

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living with a handicap do not need pity; they ask that one respect their human dignity. For that they should not be the object of discrimination, except when this one aims at taking positively into account their handicap.

The CRM will work with the various regroupings of the people concerned to determine with them in particular the professional sectors where their insertion is suitable and will set up specific mechanisms of support to their entrepreneurial initiatives.

***b) The elderly people become increasingly numerous in Cameroon, in particular because of the increase in the life expectancy.***

These people are among the categories of the poorest populations, most of them being peasants who, as it is known, do not have a retired pension. As for the civil and public retired agents, they have all the utmost difficulties which one knows in drawing their thin retirement pension. The situation will go worsening, because the Cameroonian social security system does not have enough financial reserves to meet its obligations in regard to the increase of pensioners. To this situation, is added the de-structuring of the social structures and the loss of the Cameroonian and African values of solidarity, in particular the sacred duty for the children to take care of their parents during their old days

The CRM thinks in this respect that the appearance of the phenomenon of the houses for elderly people in Cameroon – be it so praiseworthy and perhaps inevitable – is a failure of the public policies in this field, failure which results in an absence of social policy.

The CRM intends to work in the search of solutions supporting the keeping of the elderly people in their habitual area of life, within their family, except if they do not have any more.

***c) The orphans without support, the abandoned children or children in delicacy with the law constitute a growing phenomenon in our society.***

The causes of this phenomenon are variable and sometimes complexes. It is not a

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question of encouraging such a practice which also reveals very often the social irresponsibility of certain parents. But the Cameroonian society cannot be allowed to divert its eyes from this phenomenon whose main cause remains poverty.

The CRM is convinced that the non effective treatment of this phenomenon today will lead to the aggravation of the social problems tomorrow, with citizens who will have the feeling to be marginalized or excluded and who will seek an outlet in social violence. Our party thinks that it is important to work on three levels to solve this problem: **a)** to act on the main cause which is poverty (our country planning policy will contribute to it); **b)** to work on the parental and more largely family responsibility; **c)** to work on the training and the social integration of the concerned children.

## **V. THE MODERNIZATION OF THE CULTURE, TOURISM AND THE SPORTING DEVELOPMENT.**

### ***5.1. To develop the cultural sector and to make of it an instrument of national radiation and production of the wealth.***

The valorization of the Cameroonian culture is not worthy of its wealth and of its diversity. Our regional cultures remained with the state of folklore and the country did not know yet to forge a national culture. One attends a juxtaposition of the cultures of the various soils to the image of the juxtaposition of the various ethnos groups of the country. However the culture is not only one crucial factor of the identity of a nation, it is nowadays an important source of creation of the wealth, constituting in certain countries a major product of the foreign trade.

The cultural policy of the CRM rests on three pillars:

- a pillar of knowledge of the material and immaterial cultural heritage of the country by means of an exhaustive inventory;
- a pillar of the formation to cultural, traditional, modern and contemporary arts and techniques by means of the creation of suitable infrastructures for this purpose;

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- a pillar of promotion by the exposure and/or the export of the cultural products realized within international standards.

For this purpose the CRM will create:

- at the national level: **a)** an National Music Academy (or School) (NMA) for the formation and the presentation of the musical performances of the best musicians or orchestras, **b)** a Cameroonian National Academy of Sciences, Arts and Culture (CNASAC) which will be a top place of distinctions of Cameroonians who will have been particularly distinguished in one or the other of these fields, **c)** a Library of the Black Worlds (LBW) which will be a single place where one will be able to find the maximum of the bottom of works, archives, documents, photographs, music and bands of films in the black worlds of all the continents. It is a question of making of Cameroon the point of international reference on the matter and of contributing in the kind to position it in the world cultural chart. In the same order of ideas, it will be set up a National museum of international standard, authentic window of the rich traditional, contemporary and artistic Cameroonian production.
- at the regional level, it carried out the creation of regional Houses of culture and a regional Museum (for valorization of regional arts and the artists of the Region, thanks to an association of the State and territorial collectivities; and in addition, an craft Center. This great work will not be exclusive of the programs of cultural equipment of proximity which will be carried out with the participation of private sector and of the partners to the development.

In addition, it will be put in place a true policy of development of industries of the culture; the promotion of a Cameroonian art of the table with the international standards, and of a Cameroonian cinema of international standard in particular through the training of actors and the construction of a movie studio; the creation of the high standard literary and artistic prizes. The ambition is to make of Yaounde the African capital of arts and culture. In this respect, a meticulous study will be made to determine the type of cultural event the capital of our country will be able to promote durably to ensure its international cultural radiation.

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The whole of this policy is based on the valorization of the artist, the artistic creator without whom there is not art, by taking all the necessary legislative, lawful and practical measures in order to make sure that he lives with the fruit of its creation.

***5.2. To develop the sports and the sporting practice for public health, the radiation and the sporting competitiveness of the country and wealth creation.***

The sport is not only one factor of good health whose practice contributes to a good policy of public health, but a high level of control of the principal sporting disciplines make of them generating activities of wealth both for the individuals a nation.

The deficit infrastructural of Cameroon in this field is at the same time alarming and humiliating for a country whose sportsmen succeeded in since independence achieving exceptional performances on the international plan, competing with brilliance with the greatest sporting nations. It is urgent to make up for lost time of our country in this field, if one wants to hoist the Cameroonian sport with height of his legitimate ambitions in this field. The investment in the sporting field is profitable from any point of view: economically, socially, but also politically, because the sport is also a discharge system for youth. All in all the sport will be promoted like a significant factor for the formation of youth, for the improvement of public health as well as social advancement.

The MRC will promote the construction of the sporting infrastructures at the national, regional and communal level.

- On the level, they will be infrastructures of world level, of limited number but covering the principal sporting fields in which Cameroon posts performances of world level or has the abilities to carry out such performances in the future. These infrastructures will be able to make it possible the country not only to accommodate high level competitions, but also to be a hub regional sportsman;

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- At the regional level, it will be a question of equipping each chief town with area with a high level multidisciplinary sports complex able to accommodate inter-African sporting events;
- On the level, room to gradually equip each commune with the Cameroon of a minimal sporting platform including a covered gymnasium and a usable airfield for the sports of outdoor.

## **VI. THE MODERNIZATION OF THE FOREIGN POLICY AND THE DIPLOMACY, PLACE OF THE DIASPORA.**

### ***6.1. A foreign policy of positioning and a diplomatic radiation.***

#### ***a. A foreign policy of positioning.***

The foreign policy of the CRM rests on a choice of assertion of Cameroon on the regional, continental and world scene, by a strategic positioning on the large international cases and the establishment of alliances representing a good comprehension of the international challenges and interests of the country in the short, medium and long term. While marking its strong attachment with regional and continental African solidarity, it will be guided by pragmatism.

#### ***b. To put the foreign policy at the service of the economy***

The classical diplomacy, which is primarily of political type gradually yields the step to a diplomacy directed towards the promotion and the safeguarding of the economic interests of the various actors. Cameroon cannot allow himself to remain any longer in margin of this tendency.

The pillar of the economic policy of the CRM being the promotion of the economic growth, through a substantial increase in the gross national product and, by domino effect, the taxability and the receipts which make it possible to the public power to effectively ensure its kingly missions, the diplomatic action will be mobilized in order to achieve that goal. It will be all in all to make our foreign politics a true agent of economic development of the country.

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## ***6.2. To make the Cameroonian diaspora a principal actor of the national development***

Our Government knows little about the national diaspora and this one seems generally considered as being made up of antipatriotic “opponents”. It’s doubtful that it has the exact statistics on the number of its members. That translate at the same time the little of case of which it is made of these expatriated compatriots for various reasons, including saving their lives, and the ignorance of the driving role of the diaspora in the history of the development of the nations, in particular what the Cameroonian diaspora, whose top quality intellectual, scientific, technical and artistic is unanimously recognized, can bring to our country.

The CRM intends to make of the Cameroonian diaspora one of the levers of the national development. In this spirit, it has striven to know it. In just limiting oneself to some principal countries, home residence of the Cameroonian diaspora out of the African continent, one notes that:

- in France, according to the National institute of the Statistics and Economic studies (INSEE), 55,639 people of Cameroonian origin lived in this country in 2007;
- in Germany, according to the German Office of the Statistics, the statistics of the refugees and the Exchange Registry of Foreigners over the period 1980-2006, 14,414 people of Cameroonian origin resided in this country and one estimates them today at more than 20,000. They constitute strongest immigration coming from sub-Saharan Africa. Most of them are doctors, scientists, teachers, researchers and engineers in the most varied fields, but also of business owners;
- in the United States of America, according to the U.S. Census Office, the Cameroonian community in this country counted 11,765 people in 2000 and an actualization made in 2007 by the Total one Migrating Origin Database gives the figure of 12,835 people. According to these same sources, 58.7 °/° of these Cameroonians have an under graduated degree or a higher university degree; more than 75 °/° of them were inserted in the work world, including 36 °/° in the field of health and the social services, 13 °/° in the

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field of science, the management of the administration and waste management, 10 % in the retail trade and 7 % in the field of finance, the insurance, the real estate, the hiring and leasing;

- in the United Kingdom, according to Overview, some 20,000 Cameroonians would live in this country, the majority being in fields which require a high level of education, such as doctors, teachers on all levels, researchers, engineers, bankers, architects, consultants, nurses, laboratory technicians, and business owners.

The contribution of a diaspora of such importance and such intellectual and technical quality, exposed to the most advanced knowledge and know-how, cannot be limited to the transfers of the financial resources, although this one is important. The high level of instruction and training of the Cameroonians of the diaspora is a chance that the CRM intends to exploit to the maximum, for the benefit of an accelerated development of our country, as have done before it all the countries known today as emerging countries, without exception.

***a) To create an environment favorable to the “return of the brains”***

Under the CRM, the State will create suitable conditions for this purpose, because the experiment of country having become aware of the crucial role of their diaspora for a fast success of their development policies, showed for example that the inversion of the escape of brains – so prejudicial for Cameroon – is not a spontaneous phenomenon, but the result of a thought policy and organized efforts of the governments of these countries. These policies understand the creation of a favorable environment (strategy of research financed by the government, installation or reinforcement of the adapted institutions, legal reforms necessary) and the setting in capacity of those who return back to the country.

***b) To make the reforms necessary to implicate Cameroonians from abroad in the national political life.***

It is a fact that all the Cameroonians of the diaspora will not return to settle in the country. It is not even desirable that they do so, because their presence abroad, often in the politically, economically and technologically dominant super powers,

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is a major asset for our country. Number of them took a foreign nationality, often for professional reasons, but they all remain very much attached to Cameroon, this “cradle of their ancestors”. They want to fully take part and in all aspects of the life of the nation.

The current legislation allows them a very partial participation in the political life: they can vote only for the presidential election.

The CRM intends to promote a political reform allowing the Cameroonians from abroad on the one hand, to be entitled to vote in all the national elections (presidential election and legislative), on the other hand, to be represented at the Parliament by electing their parliamentarians at the National Assembly and having senators nominated among the Cameroonians of the diaspora.

This is possible only if all the Cameroonians are put in legal capacity to take part in the various elections. However, actually, most of them cannot do it because the acquisition of a foreign nationality automatically deprives them of Cameroonian nationality. This is why the CRM intends to quickly give an adequate answer to the question of the dual nationality.

***c) To channel the exceptional potential of the Cameroonian diaspora in order to put it at the service of the national development***

The use of the diaspora as a non-governmental partner being able to act as a lever or as a leaven of the development of the country has now been tested. The Cameroonian diaspora can be useful as a facilitator and a catalyst of research and innovation, an invaluable vehicle for the technology transfer, an engine for the attraction of the outside investment and a fish pond of competences for the management of the development.

The CRM intends to promote the implication of the diaspora in various forms such as the networks of scientists and technologists, the virtual or partial return of Cameroonians from abroad in the forms of their implication in teaching, the setting-up and the animation of the research laboratories and the structures of technology innovation.

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***d) To create structures of framing and coordination of the relations with the diaspora***

The effectiveness of the implication of the Cameroonian diaspora in the life and the functioning of the nation requires a serious and articulated organization of the diaspora itself and by itself, as it is the case in certain countries of strong immigration. The public authorities can only bring its assistance only at the request of the organization or the organizations representing the diaspora.

On its side, the State will have to translate its policy of volunteerism and its patriotic opening to the diaspora, in facts, while endowing itself with structures of framing and the relations with the diaspora. In this respect, the CRM will act on two levels: on the one hand, at the diplomatic level, while creating near the Cameroon embassies in the countries sheltering a strong community of people of Cameroonian origin, of a service in charge of the diaspora; in addition, by creating a National Agency of the Cameroonians from Abroad (NACA), or an Office of Cameroonian from abroad (or of outside if one prefers) (OCE).

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