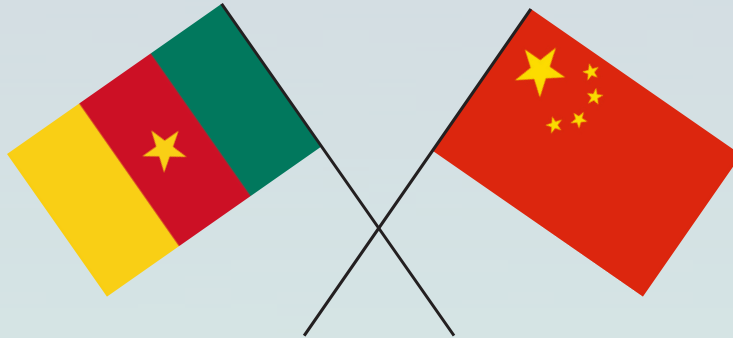


**REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN**  
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**REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**  
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**State visit of the President of  
the Republic of Cameroon  
H. E. Paul BIYA to China  
22 - 23 March 2018**

**[PRESS KIT]**



## **Context of President Paul BIYA's visit to the People's Republic of China**

The President of the Republic of Cameroon travels to China in a very favourable context. Indeed, the visit takes place five months after the 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which unanimously renewed its trust to the General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, His Excellency XI JINPING.

The visit also takes place at the beginning of the Chinese New Year, the Year of the Dog, which promises to be favourable to Sino-Cameroon relations. Indeed, several qualities of the Dog such as sincerity, valour, vitality, loyalty, pragmatism and responsibility are values that form the basis of the relationship between Cameroon and China.

The visit thus testifies to the high and reciprocal esteem, even the admiration and friendship, which bind both countries.

The Chinese authorities attach great importance to this official visit by the Head of State to China.

This visit is all the more important because it serves as the first top-level meeting between President Paul BIYA and his Chinese counterpart, President XI JINPING.

China regards Cameroon as “a brotherly and friendly country”, which has always contributed significantly to the consolidation of the cordial and very fruitful relationship between Africa and China.

The President of the Republic, H.E. Paul BIYA will be the first foreign Head of State and the first African Head of State to be received in China after the joint sessions of the National People's Congress (NPC) and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) to renew President XI JINPING's mandate for a second term in office.

In view of the many requests for official visits recorded by China, this programme reflects a special attention and esteem for the Head of State and for Cameroon.

The visit of the Cameroonian Head of

State to China is expected to deepen and strengthen the longstanding practical cooperation into a higher echelon.

President Paul BIYA will have the opportunity to review all aspects of bilateral cooperation (political and diplomatic, economic and technical, parliamentary and military) since he is expected to meet with top Chinese leaders such as: the President of the People's Republic of China, H.E. XI

JINPING, H.E. Premier LI KEQIANG, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Assembly... etc.

Talks will vary on international issues of common interest like: international and sub-regional peace and security, the fight against terrorism, the protection of territorial sovereignty and integrity, global governance, international economy, global growth, "*new silk routes*", China-Africa relations... etc.).



## **Presentation of China**

### **A. General data**

#### **Presentation of the country**

Official name: People's Republic of China

Form of government: Republic

Head of State: President XI Jinping

Head of Government: Prime Minister LI Keqiang

#### **Geographic data**

Area: 9,562,911 km<sup>2</sup> (ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> worldwide after Russia and Canada)

Capital: Beijing

Main cities: Shanghai, Guangzhou, Tianjin, Chongqing, Wuhan, Chengdu, Shenyang

Official language: Standard Chinese (Mandarin)

Common languages: Chinese, Cantonese, many local dialects

Currency: Renminbi (1 Euro = 7.7 RMB - July 2017 exchange rate)

National Day: 1 October (Proclamation of the founding of the People's Republic of China).

#### **Demographic data**

Population (2016): 1.379 billion people (World Bank, WB)

Density (2016): 144 inhabitants. /km<sup>2</sup> (WB)

Population growth (2015): 0.5%

Life expectancy (2015): 76.0 years (WB)

Literacy rate: 96%

Religions: Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Protestantism, and Catholicism

Human Development Index (2015): 0.738 (90<sup>th</sup> in the world) (UN)

### **Economic data**

GDP (2016): \$11.8 trillion (International Monetary Fund, IMF)

GDP per capita (2016): \$8,480 (IMF)

Growth (2016): 6.7%

Unemployment (2016): 5.1% (IMF)

Inflation (2016): 2% (IMF)

Budget balance (2016): -3.7% of GDP (IMF)

Trade balance (2016): \$594.5 billion

Main clients: United States, European Union, Hong Kong, Japan.

Main suppliers: European Union, South Korea, Taiwan, Japan.

Share of business sectors in GDP (2016): agriculture: 9%; industry: 40%; services: 51% (WB).

### **Cameroonian presence**

*Consulates:*

*Cameroonian Community:* Today, about 1,700 Cameroonians are studying in China. They are among the highest number of African students in China.

## **B. Current affairs**

### **Domestic policy**

The 19<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Communist Party of China (18-24 October 2017) set the political guidelines for the next five years and proceeded to the renewal of a large part of the management team. With the exception of the President of the Republic, XI Jinping and Prime Minister LI Keqiang, all members of the Standing Committee, the highest governing body, have been renewed.

### **Economic situation**

China has, with its openness, experienced an exceptional economic growth (per capita income has risen from \$700 to \$13,000 in purchasing power parity) allowing it to lift 700 million people out of poverty since the 1980s (Bank World). **China became the world's second largest economy in 2010, the world's leading exporter in 2011 and the world's largest foreign exchange holder.** China's growth has slowed but remains solid: it went from 10.3% in 2010 to 6.7% in 2016. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecast growth of 6.5% in 2017, supported by monetary policies and accommodating fiscal policies to avoid a sharp shock to the Chinese economy.

The Chinese economy is indeed facing significant challenges (rising debt, reform of state-owned enterprises, aging of the population) and the authorities have begun a rebalancing of the economic model, confirmed by the 13<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan (2016-2020) towards a more balanced growth model; based on domestic demand and upscaling, and concerned about environmental and social balances.

## Diplomacy

The priorities of China's diplomacy remain the consolidation of regional stability and support for the country's economic growth, with an opening to globalisation.

At the regional level, North Korea's pursuit of its nuclear and ballistic programme is a source of concern for China. Several territorial disputes are also opposing China to its neighbours in the South and East China Seas. The relationship with the United States, for which China promotes the concept of "*new relations between great powers*", is dense and complex and remains dominated by strategic issues (North Korea, China seas) and economic issues. China places at the heart of its diplomacy the initiative of the "*new silk roads*", launched in 2013. It aims in particular to develop the links between China, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Europe (infrastructure projects, trade, and political coordination).

As a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, China has, in recent years, strengthened its presence within the organisation and increased its participation in UN peacekeeping operations. She is now the 12<sup>th</sup> troop contributor and the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest contributor to the United Nations peacekeeping budget. More than 2,600 Chinese peacekeepers are currently deployed in 10 of these operations, mainly on the African continent (South Sudan, Mali, DRC, and Sudan - *Darfur*).



## **POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND CAMEROON**

### **Presentation**

#### **A. Diplomatic framework**

**The Republic of Cameroon and the People's Republic of China have maintained diplomatic relations since 26 March 1971.** H.E. WEI WENHUA is the current Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of China to Cameroon. He presented his Letters of Credence to the Head of State on 6 January 2015. While H.E. MPANA Martin assumes the same functions in China since 1 August 2008.

The two countries celebrated on 26 March 2016, the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their diplomatic relations. Presidents Paul BIYA and XI JINPING exchanged congratulatory messages on that occasion.

#### **B. Legal framework**

**The Sino-Cameroon cooperation is based on a legal framework consisting of several agreements** already signed including loan agreements, economic and technical cooperation, cultural, medical cooperation, trade, tourism. There are Protocols for: military training; promotion and mutual protection of investments (*signed since 1997 and ratified by Cameroon in 2014*); political consultations between the two parties signed in June 2000; and the reciprocal exemption from the visa requirement for holders of diplomatic or service passports signed on 7 July 2016 in Yaounde. Finally, the signature on 13 January 2017 of the 2017-2020 Protocol on Cultural Cooperation.

#### **❖ China-Cameroon Mixed Commission**

**The great China-Cameroon Mixed Commission was established by an agreement signed on 26 September 1986.** The 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Joint Commission was held on 17-21 August 2015 in Beijing, China. The Cameroonian delegation was led by H.E. Pierre MOUKOKO MBONJO, then Minister of External Relations. On this occasion, the Head of the Cameroonian delegation handed over to the Chinese

authorities a list of priority projects which included, in particular, the second phase of the Douala-Yaounde motorway, the construction of the Yaounde and Douala football stadia and the exploitation of iron in Mbalam.

### **C. Multilateral framework**

**The People's Republic of China and the Republic of Cameroon are members of the following international organisations and groups:** the UN, the Non-Aligned Group, the Group of 77 and the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

**The two countries have a convergence of views on major international issues** including, international defence and security, disarmament, conflict resolution through peaceful means and dialogue and the search for a new international economic order.

Cameroon is actively participating in the ministerial meetings and summits of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). The 6<sup>th</sup> China-Africa Summit was held from 4 to 5 December 2015 in Johannesburg, South Africa (theme of this Summit: *"China-Africa Progressing Together: Win-Win Cooperation for Common Development"*). On this occasion, China published its second roadmap for Africa. A document that includes in five parts and ten programmes the main orientations of its African policy for the next ten years (2015-2025). Moreover, China, through President XI JINGING, has decided to give a total of \$60 billion in financial aid including \$5 billion in zero-interest loans and \$35 billion in preferential loans to African countries. This sum is three times greater than the aid promised at the previous summit organised on 18-20 July 2012 in Beijing, China.





## **EXCHANGE OF VISITS**

**The Sino-Cameroon partnership is nourished by an intense flow of visits at all levels:** Heads of State, members of government, high personalities, military generals or superior officers, parliamentarians, political party leaders, etc.

We note in particular:

- **On the Cameroonian side**

**The President of the Republic, H.E. Paul BIYA has** visited China five times: in March 1987 (*met with DENG XIAOPING*), October 1993, September 2003, November 2006, and July 2011 (*met with HU JINTAO*).

Many cooperation agreements were signed during the July 2011 visit, including a Memorandum of Understanding for the facilitation of Chinese group tourists' trips to Cameroon; a preferential loan agreement of 433 million yuan (approximately FCFA 27.651 billion) for the e-post project; an interest-free loan of 100 million yuan (approximately FCFA 6.386 billion); an unrequited donation of 50 million yuan (approximately FCFA 3,193 billion); and the 2011-2014 protocol on cultural cooperation.

**The President of the National Assembly, the Right Honourable CAVAYE YEGUIE Djibril,** travelled to China on 10-16 December 2009. The Cameroonian Parliament, on this occasion, received a donation of equipment worth FCFA 70 million.

**Prime Minister Philemon YANG,** paid an official visit to China on 17-18 June 2015 at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, Premier LI KEQIANG. During this visit, three agreements were signed. The first concerned an unrequited donation worth FCFA one billion for feasibility studies on the project to build a new headquarters of the National Assembly and for the rehabilitation of hospitals in Guider and Mbalmayo. The second is related to the financing of the establishment of a computer network for higher education, amounting to FCFA 93.5 billion. The third deals with the cooperation between Afriland First Bank and China Development Bank worth FCFA 26.2 billion.

**Members of Government** regularly take part in ministerial meetings organised in China between the two countries. The Foreign Ministers participated in the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (in October 2000 and November 2006) and the China-Cameroon Joint Commission held in China.

The Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Louis Paul Motaze, participated from 26 to 29 July 2016 in China, at the first Coordinators' Meeting of China-Africa Cooperation. On this occasion, he signed three financing agreements on: the construction of the Bini Warak hydroelectric dam of in the region of Adamaoua, the second phase of the Kribi deep-sea port, and the construction of a new edifice of the National Assembly.

### **From the Chinese side**

President HU JINTAO paid an official visit to Cameroon from 30 January - 1 February 2007. He met with President Paul BIYA. The following results are linked to this visit:

- 1) A grant under an Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement: *FCFA 2,560,000,000*;
- 2) An interest-free loan in the framework of an Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement: *FCFA 1.920.000.000*;
- 3) A preferential loan in the form of a Framework Agreement: *FCFA 22,400,000,000*;
- 4) A Memorandum of Understanding Cancelling Cameroon's debts to China as of 31 December 2005: *FCFA 15,360,000,000*;
- 5) Provision of expertise on studies for the construction of the Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital of Douala: *FCFA 44,800,000*;
- 6) Construction of two rural schools;
- 7) Donation of equipment to the Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital of Yaounde: *FCFA 64,000,000*;
- 8) Framework agreement and preferential loan for the financing of the CDMA-HUAWEI-CAMTEL project: *FCFA 22.600.000.000*.

Prime Minister LI PENG (April 1988-March 1998) paid an official visit to Cameroon from 10-11 May 1997. Prime Minister ZHU RONGJI (March 1998-March 2003) visited Cameroon from 29-31 August 2002.

The Vice-President of the National People's Assembly, led a delegation of Chinese parliamentarians to Cameroon on 6-11 November 2003.

The Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (4<sup>th</sup> Chinese personality), Mr. JIA QINGLIN, was at the head of a delegation of 150 members, including the Deputy Ministers of Foreign Affairs

and Trade that paid a visit to Cameroon from 23-25 March 2010. Several economic and technical cooperation agreements were signed on this occasion, including the \$14 million preferential loan agreement for the rehabilitation of MATGENIE and the Memorandum of Understanding for the global cooperation with China Eximbank to finance projects.

Major General JIA XIAOMING was received in audience by the Head of State on 17 December 2010.

The Deputy Prime Minister of the Council of State Affairs of the People's Republic of China, HUI LIANGYU, paid a visit to Cameroon from 10-12 January 2011. Loan agreements were signed for the construction of the Kribi deep-sea port (*FCFA 207 billion*), and the construction of 1,500 social housing units (*FCFA 33.5 billion*).

The Vice-President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Mr. FENG ZUOKO was in Cameroon on 16-18 June 2011. He was accompanied by a 13-man delegation. On this occasion, he proceeded to the delivery of school supplies to the Chantal BIYA Foundation.

China's State Adviser, and Vice Prime Minister LIU YANDONG led a delegation of 31 people including six members of Government to Cameroon on 04-05 December 2011. Several cooperation agreements were signed on this occasion, among which were the:

- MOU to grant 300 scholarships for university studies (*2012-2016*), i.e. 75 scholarships each year;
- Accord towards the construction, in the form of a gift, of a technical school on agriculture;
- MOU for a Demonstration and Training Centre for the New Technology in Inter-Capsule Diagnosis, Endoscopy and Communal Health Projects in Modularized Containers;

Other top personalities who paid a visit to Cameroon include: the Minister of Health, Mr. CHEN ZHU (*12-15 January 2013*); the Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. WANG YI (*12-14 January 2015*); the Vice-Minister of Culture, H.E. DING WEI (*11-14 January 2017*); and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. ZHANG MING (*26-28 June 2017*). H.E. ZHANG MING was received in audience by the President of the Republic and the Minister of External Relations.



## IV. Economic, Commercial and Technical Relations

Since the establishment of Sino-Cameroon diplomatic relations 47 years ago, relations of friendship and cooperation between both countries are developing with sure steps and many achievements. Thus, in addition to the numerous donations of equipment or subsidies and the numerous interest-free loans (*or at preferential rates*), there are significant Chinese achievements that guarantee this cooperation a certain visibility:

- **Yaounde Conference Centre:** inaugurated on 12 May 1982, after seven years of work, as part of what was known as the China-Cameroon project, this building will become the Conference Centre thanks to a Presidential decree on 6 December 1982, just one month after the accession of H.E. Paul BIYA at the helm of affairs. This public institution – a VIP edifice in Cameroon’s contemporary history, was recently renovated (*completely*) following a donation of FCFA 11 billion from Chinese cooperation.
- **Lagdo hydroelectric dam:** inaugurated on 29 November 1986 by President Paul BIYA. The first of its kind in Cameroon. It supplies electricity to the northern part of the country and allows the irrigation of crops downstream.
- **Yaounde Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital:** inaugurated on 28 March 2002 by the Head of State, H.E. Paul BIYA.
- **The Public School in Mvomeka’a:** worth approximately FCFA 480 million, was inaugurated in October 2007. Two schools were also built in Nanga Ebo-ko and Guider.
- **Yaounde Multipurpose Sports Complex:** inaugurated on 19 June 2009 by President Paul BIYA. It cost approximately FCFA 17 billion.
- **Douala Gynaeco-Obstetrics and Paediatric Hospital:** inaugurated on 17 November 2015 by the Prime Minister, Head of Government, Philemon YANG.

**China is currently Cameroon's largest trading partner and Cameroon is the second largest African recipient of Chinese funding.** In 2015, for example, the volume of bilateral trade reached 2.6 billion US dollars, just over FCFA 1,510.15 billion.

According to UNCTAD, between 2000 and 2014, Cameroon benefitted from FCFA 2,750 billion of foreign direct investment (FDI), including FCFA 1,850 billion from China. This represents about 67% of FDI in Cameroon, **making China the first investor in Cameroon** (*according to the Department of Cooperation at Cameroon's Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development*). Other FDI came from countries such as France, the United States, and Nigeria.

China is gaining strength in the mining sector in Cameroon, where it has been present for some years through the Sinosteel Group, which is developing the Kribi iron ore project in the South region. This is after she secured the coordination of major infrastructure projects in the country, including the construction of the Kribi deep-sea port; the Lom Pangar, Memve'ele and Mekin dams; the Yaounde-Douala and Yaounde-Nsimalen motorways; and the connection of the fibre optics. On 13 July 2015, the Prime Minister of Cameroon signed an order on the *"establishment, organisation and functioning of the Special ad hoc Commission for the Selection of a Chinese Company to construct the Mbalam Railway, the Mineral Terminal of the Mbalam Project, and the implementation of the Dja mining development plan"*.

Imports from China consist mainly of electronic devices, optical products, textile and leather products.

## **Main projects recently completed (or in progress)**

### **Agriculture**

- **The agro-industrial project of Nanga Eboko:** it was launched in April 2006 with specialties on: training and research; the cultivation and processing of products such as rice, maize and cassava; and ostrich farming. To date, about 10,000 Cameroonians have been employed part-time and several rice varieties have been successfully experimented. The project intends to extend to several other regions, including Mbandjock, Santchou and Njore.
- **The Nanga-Eboko Agricultural Application and Technologies Centre (CATAC):** a pilot project for bilateral cooperation between China and Cameroon in the agricultural sector (*one of the ten centres of its kind in Africa*). It was received by the Government of Cameroon on 17 July 2013. The total cost of FCFA 27 billion, was fully financed by the Chinese Government. This is an extensive infrastructure covering 100 hectares with administrative houses and educational buildings. It is made up of mostly developed land used to experiment irrigated rice cultivation. The transfer of advanced agricultural technologies through this structure will promote better rice production in Cameroon.

- **Yabassi Agricultural Technical High School:** it was built as a Chinese gift to Cameroon.

## Telecommunications:

- **The “CTPhone” project:** realised by CAMTEL in partnership with the Chinese company HUAWEI – the world leader in telecommunications. This service has recorded some successes.
- **ZTE Cameroun Sarl:** the Chinese telecom equipment manufacturer ZTE, created in April 2016, its Cameroonian subsidiary called ZTE Cameroon Sarl, with a share capital of FCFA 480 million. It specialises in a broad spectrum of the telecommunications sector. In 2015, ZTE Cameroon Sarl signed a \$50,000,000 contract with the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MINPOSTEL) for an *e.Post project* for the modernisation of this sector.
- **The optical fibre:** in May 2013, MINPOSTEL received a transmission network of 3,200 km of optical fibre in Maroua. 85% of the project was financed by China Eximbank out of a total cost of 61.23 million dollars (approximately FCFA 30.6 billion). It was launched in December 2009 at Kye-Ossi – a locality in the south of Cameroon bordering Equatorial Guinea – and was completed in July 2012 thanks to the work done by the Chinese company HUAWEI. This network connects the regional capitals, some divisions and subdivisions of Cameroon.

## Water supply

- **Potable Water Supply Project in the city of Yaounde and its environs from the Sanaga River (PAEPYS):** China Eximbank and Sinomach are the main partners of Cameroon in the implementation of this important project. Designed to produce 300,000m<sup>3</sup> of water per day, expandable to 400,000m<sup>3</sup> per day, its implementation will solve the problem of insufficient potable water supply in the capital of Cameroon. Agglomeration being estimated at 250,000m<sup>3</sup> per day. Its cost is estimated at FCFA 399 billion, co-financed by the People’s Republic of China (85%) and the Republic of Cameroon (15%). On 30 April 2014, the Head of State signed a decree authorising MINEPAT to sign with China Eximbank, a loan agreement in the amount of US \$678.3 million (approximately FCFA 339 billion), for the partial financing of this project. Its realisation, by Sinomach, is in progress since January 2017. The first equipment, in particular the pipes, were received in October 2017 and forwarded to the storage sites of the project in Nkometou. The contractual deadlines for this vast project are 36 months (3 years).
- **Other projects:** On 25 September 2017, the Government of Cameroon, through MINEPAT, signed economic and technical cooperation agreements

with the People's Republic of China totalling 594 million yuan (FCFA 49.4 billion), intended to finance phase two of the **potable water supply project in Cameroon**: Dschang (Western Region), Yabassi (Littoral), Maroua (Far North), Garoua (North) and Garoua-Boulai (East). The first phase of this project, launched in September 2014 and completed in August 2017, covered the cities of Bafoussam (West), Bamenda (North West), Kribi and Sangmelima (South). It had also been financed to the tune of FCFA 85 billion by China. In 2007, the Government of Cameroon received a preferential loan of FCFA 11 billion from China for the **pipe borne water project in the city of Douala**. At the end of this project in 2014, the supply of water in this city increased from 160,000 to 260,000 m<sup>3</sup> / day.

- **The development of 145 human-powered potable water boreholes**: currently completed in the Centre and South regions, the result of a donation worth FCFA two billion. The company that made the drilling remains at the disposal of the beneficiary villages for maintenance.

## Sports

- **The Limbe Omnisports Stadium**: with a capacity of 20,000 places, was built by the China National Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (CMEC), and received in January 2016. It hosted matches of the 2016 Women's Africa Nations Cup (AFCON). The Government of Cameroon has awarded Chinese company Tianyuan Construction Group a four-pronged contract for a total amount of FCFA 4.4 billion for the rehabilitation of training stadia in the city of Limbe as part of the 2019 AFCON.
- **The Bafoussam Omnisports Stadium**: its construction, also by CMEC, is almost complete. The 20,000-capacity stadium is supported by a preferential loan amounting to 190 million Chinese Yuan (approximately FCFA 9.1 billion).

These stadia will host matches of the 2019 AFCON to be organised by Cameroon in 2019.

## Hydroelectricity

- **The Memve'ele dam**: the loan agreement related to it amounting to FCFA 243 billion was signed on 3 May 2011 in Yaounde between MINEPAT and the Chinese Ambassador to Cameroon. The construction contract for this project was signed on 12 April 2012, between the Ministry of Water and Energy and SINOHYDRO CORPORATION LIMITED. On 15 June 2012, President Paul BIYA presided over the ceremony to lay the foundation stone of this infrastructure. The construction of this dam has been completed since August 2016. The dam will have a capacity of 211 megawatts and will produce 1,140 gigawatts annually. Its first technical flooding was done a little over a year ago. It has been announced that the dam will go into production no later than

October 2018. Cameroon could then become an exporter of electricity.

- **The Mekin hydroelectric dam:** on 12 November 2009, the Head of State signed a decree authorising MINEPAT to sign a loan agreement of 337 million yuan (approximately FCFA 22 billion) China Eximbank, for the financing of the Mekin Hydropower Plant Construction Project. The Mekin Dam was built by China National Electric Engineering Corporation (CNEEC). This energy infrastructure is mainly intended to supply electricity to the eight districts of the Dja and Lobo Division, South region, thanks to power plant with a production capacity of 15 megawatts and a transport line over 33km.

## Infrastructures

- **The Kribi deep-sea port:** a loan agreement of more than FCFA 200 billion was signed during the visit to Cameroon, in January 2011, of Chinese Deputy Prime Minister HUI LIANGYU. The Head of State presided over the foundation stone ceremony of this important project on 8 October 2011. The construction works of the first phase of the project (a protective dyke, an access channel for ships, a wharf of 350 meters wide and 15 meters deep, and a multipurpose terminal with a capacity of 1,500,000 tonnes) were built by China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC). The technical reception took place in April 2015. Some commercial boats docked at this port as a test. China Eximbank will lend FCFA 390 billion to Cameroon for the second phase of the project. On 29 June 2016, the President of the Republic signed two decrees reorganising the Autonomous Port of Kribi.
- **Yaounde-Douala highway:** China First Highway Engineering Co. Ltd. (CFHEC) was awarded the contract for the construction of the first 60 kilometres of this highway infrastructure that will link the two cities. This first phase, whose cost is estimated at FCFA 316 billion, is financed thanks to a preferential loan from China EximBank, up to 85% and Cameroon (15%). Tar has already been laid over the first 20 km of phase, five years after the start of the project.
- **The Kribi-Lobabe highway:** On 8 April 2014, the Head of State signed a decree authorising MINEPAT to sign with Eximbank China a loan agreement amounting to FCFA 192.91 billion, to finance the partial construction project of the Kribi-Lolabe highway; first section of the Edea-Kribi highway. It is progressing at a satisfactory pace. The teams taking turns on the site are concentrated on the connecting roads and the automatic toll management station, the highway itself, 38.5 km long is almost complete. June 2018 is the expected date for the delivery of this route, which is mainly dedicated to facilitating access to the Kribi deep-sea port.
- **Construction of 1,500 social housing units in Yaounde:** an agreement of FCFA 33.5 billion was signed on the occasion of the visit to Cameroon (January 2011) of the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister HUI LIANGYU.



## Transport network

- **The MA 60 aircrafts:** the Chinese Government offered a new MA 60 aircraft to Cameroon. The aircraft's reception ceremony took place on 8 November 2012. It was made available to Cameroon's Air Force. In April 2015, Cameroon purchased two new MA 60 aircrafts to strengthen Camair-Co's fleet.
- It should be noted that there is significant military cooperation between Cameroon and China – which covers in particular the training component (*EIFORCES train in China*) and technical assistance at the naval level.

## Cultural, scientific and technical cooperation

- Artistic and cultural exchanges are constantly expanding. In March 2016, the Chinese Song and Dance Troupe of Liaoning Province performed in Cameroon to mark the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sino-Cameroon diplomatic relations.
- In June 2016, Chinese experts led the “Light Action” campaign that successfully conducted 627 free surgery operations to Cameroonians suffering from cataracts.
- *Cameroonians increasingly train in China:* In 2016, more than 300 Cameroonians went to China to take part in the various training programmes, while 77 students of the Confucius Institute (*International Relations Institute in Cameroon IRIC*) who won Chinese Government scholarships travelled to China to continue their studies. Today, the number of students enrolled at the Confucius Institute has exceeded 10,000, and about 1,700 Cameroonians continue their studies in China.

### Infographic: Cameroon and China

**REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN**

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**REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

Peace - Work - Fatherland

**PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC**

**CIVIL CABINET**

COMMUNICATION UNIT

## **Biography of Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China and Chairman of the Central Military Commission**

Xi Jinping, born in June 1953, is a male ethnic Han from Fuping, Shaanxi Province. He entered the workforce in January 1969 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in January 1974. He graduated from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Tsinghua University with a major in Marxist theory and ideological and political education, has an in-service postgraduate education and holds the degree of Doctor of Laws.

He is currently general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission, president of the People's Republic of China (PRC), chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission.

1969-1975 Educated youth and Party Branch secretary, Liangjiahe Brigade, Wen'anyi Commune, Yanchuan County, Shaanxi Province

1975-1979 Student of basic organic synthesis, Department of Chemical Engineering, Tsinghua University

1979-1982 Secretary, General Office, State Council and Central Military Commission (AD)

1982-1983 Deputy secretary, CPC Zhengding County Committee, Hebei Province

1983-1985 Secretary, CPC Zhengding County Committee, Hebei Province; concurrently first commissar and Party Committee first secretary, Zhengding County Military Affairs Department

1985-1988 Member, Standing Committee, CPC Xiamen Municipal Committee, Fujian Province; and vice mayor, Xiamen

1988-1990 Secretary, CPC Ningde Prefectural Committee, Fujian Province; and

concurrently first secretary, Party Committee, Ningde Military Sub-region

1990-1993 Secretary, CPC Fuzhou Municipal Committee, Fujian Province; chairman, Standing Committee, Fuzhou Municipal People's Congress; and concurrently first secretary, Party Committee, Fuzhou Military Sub-region

1993-1995 Member, Standing Committee, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; secretary, CPC Fuzhou Municipal Committee; chairman, Standing Committee, Fuzhou Municipal People's Congress; first secretary, Party Committee, Fuzhou Military Sub-region

1995-1996 Deputy secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; secretary, CPC Fuzhou Municipal Committee; chairman, Standing Committee, Fuzhou Municipal People's Congress; first secretary, Party Committee, Fuzhou Military Sub-region

1996-1999 Deputy secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; first commissar, Fujian Provincial Antiaircraft Artillery Reserve Division

1999-2000 Deputy secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; acting governor, Fujian Province; deputy director, National Defence Mobilisation Committee, Nanjing Military Area Command; director, Fujian Provincial National Defence Mobilization Committee; first commissar, Fujian Provincial Antiaircraft Artillery Reserve Division

2000-2002 Deputy secretary, CPC Fujian Provincial Committee; governor, Fujian Province; deputy director, National Defence Mobilization Committee, Nanjing Military Area Command; director, Fujian Provincial National Defence Mobilization Committee; first commissar, Fujian Provincial Antiaircraft Artillery Reserve Division (1998-2002: studied Marxist theory and ideological and political education in the In-service Postgraduate Class at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Tsinghua University, and awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws)

2002-2002 Deputy secretary, CPC Zhejiang Provincial Committee; acting governor, Zhejiang Province; deputy director, National Defence Mobilization Committee, Nanjing Military Area Command; director, Zhejiang Provincial National Defence Mobilization Committee

2002-2003 Secretary, CPC Zhejiang Provincial Committee; acting governor, Zhejiang Province; first secretary, Party Committee, Zhejiang Provincial Military Region; deputy director, National Defence Mobilization Committee, Nanjing Military Area Command; director, Zhejiang Provincial National Defence Mobilization Committee

2003-2007 Secretary, CPC Zhejiang Provincial Committee; chairman, Standing Committee, Zhejiang Provincial People's Congress; first secretary, Party Committee, Zhejiang Provincial Military Region

2007-2007 Secretary, CPC Shanghai Municipal Committee; first secretary, Party Committee, Shanghai Garrison Command

2007-2008 Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau; and member, Secretariat; of the CPC Central Committee; president, Central Party School

2008-2010 Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau; and member, Secretariat; of the CPC Central Committee; vice president, PRC; president, Central Party School

2010-2012 Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau; and member, Secretariat; of the CPC Central Committee; vice president, PRC; vice chairman, CPC and PRC Central Military Commission; president, Central Party School

**2012-2013 General secretary, CPC Central Committee; chairman, CPC Central Military Commission; vice president, PRC; vice chairman, PRC Central Military Commission**

**2013- General Secretary, CPC Central Committee; chairman, CPC Central Military Commission; president, PRC; chairman, PRC Central Military Commission**

Alternate member, Fifteenth CPC Central Committee; member, Sixteenth through Eighteenth CPC Central Committees; member, Political Bureau and its Standing Committee, and Secretariat, Seventeenth CPC Central Committee; member, Political Bureau and its Standing Committee, and general secretary, Eighteenth CPC Central Committee; elected as vice president of the PRC at the First Session of the Eleventh National People's Congress (NPC); appointed as a vice chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission at the Fifth Plenary Session of the Seventeenth CPC Central Committee; appointed as a vice chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission at the Seventeenth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Eleventh NPC; appointed as chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission at the First Plenary Session of the Eighteenth CPC Central Committee; elected president of the PRC and chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission at the First Session of the Twelfth NPC.

**(Last update: March 2013)**



## **Brief biography of Li Keqiang - Prime Minister of the State Council of China**

Li Keqiang, born in July 1955, is a male ethnic Han from Dingyuan, Anhui Province. He entered the workforce in March 1974 and joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in May 1976. He graduated from the School of Economics at Peking University with a major in economics, has an in-service postgraduate education and holds the degree of Doctor of Economics.

He is currently a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, premier of the State Council and secretary of its Leading Party Members' Group.

1974-1976 Educated youth, Dongling Brigade, Damiao Commune, Fengyang County, Anhui Province

1976-1978 Secretary, Party Branch, Damiao Brigade, Damiao Commune, Fengyang County, Anhui Province

1978-1982 Student, Department of Law; and leader, Students' Union of Peking University

1982-1983 Secretary, Committee of the Communist Youth League (CYL), Peking University; member, Standing Committee, CYL Central Committee

1983-1983 Director, School Department, CYL Central Committee; secretary-general, All-China Students' Federation

1983-1985 alternate member, Secretariat, CYL Central Committee

1985-1993 Member, Secretariat, CYL Central Committee; vice chairman, All-China Youth Federation (09/1991-11/1991: student of a further studies course for provincial and ministerial level officials at Central Party School)

1993-1998 First member, Secretariat, CYL Central Committee; president, China Youth University for Political Sciences (1988-1994: studied economics in an in-service postgraduate program at the School of Economics at Peking University, and awarded the degrees of Master of Economics and Doctor of Economics)

1998-1999 Deputy secretary, CPC Henan Provincial Committee; acting governor, Henan Province; and concurrently director, Yellow River Flood Control Headquarters

1999-2002 Deputy secretary, CPC Henan Provincial Committee; governor, Henan Province; and concurrently director, Yellow River Flood Control Headquarters

2002-2003 Secretary, CPC Henan Provincial Committee; governor, Henan Province; and concurrently director, Yellow River Flood Control Headquarters

2003-2004 Secretary, CPC Henan Provincial Committee; chairman, Standing Committee, Henan Provincial People's Congress

2004-2005 Secretary, CPC Liaoning Provincial Committee

2005-2007 Secretary, CPC Liaoning Provincial Committee; chairman, Standing Committee, Liaoning Provincial People's Congress

2007-2008 Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau, CPC Central Committee

2008-2013 Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau, CPC Central Committee; vice premier of the State Council and deputy secretary of its Leading Party Members' Group; director of Three Gorges Project Construction Committee and of South-to-North Water Diversion Construction Project Committee; head of the office of the leading group of deepening the reform of medical and health care system, State Council

2013- Member, Standing Committee, Political Bureau, CPC Central Committee; premier of the State Council and secretary of its Leading Party Members' Group; director of Three Gorges Project Construction Committee and of South-to-North Water Diversion Construction Project Committee; head of the Leading Group of Deepening the Reform of Medical and Health Care System, State Council

Member, Fifteenth through Eighteenth CPC Central Committees; member, Political Bureau and its Standing Committee, Seventeenth and Eighteenth CPC Central Committees; member, Standing Committee, Eighth NPC.

**(Last update: March 2013)**



## **Biography of President Paul BIYA**

His Excellency Paul BIYA was born on 13 February 1933 at Mvomeka'a, Meyomessala Subdivision, Dja-et-Lobo Division, South Region. He is the son of Etienne MVONDO ASSAM and Anastasie EYENGA ELLE.

H.E. Paul BIYA is Cameroon's second Head of State. He came to power on 6 November 1982 following the resignation of President Ahmadou AHIDJO on 4 November.

### **Education:**

#### **Primary and Secondary Education:**

- June 1948: C.E.P.E: Catholic School Nden;
- 1948-1950: St. Tharcissius Pre-seminary, Edea;
- 1950-1954: Minor Seminary, Akono ;
- June 1953: B.E.P.C;
- 1954-1956: Lycée Général Leclerc;
- June 1955: Baccalauréat 1<sup>ère</sup> partie;
- June 1956: Baccalauréat 2<sup>ème</sup> partie (philosophy).

#### **Higher Education:**

- Lycée Louis Le Grand, Paris;
- Université Paris Sorbonne (Faculty of Law);
- Institut d'Études Politiques, Paris;
- Institut des Hautes Études d'Outre Mer.

From which he obtained the following

#### **Academic Qualifications:**

1960: Licence en Droit Public;

1961: Diplôme de l'Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris;

1962: Diplôme de l'Institut des Hautes Études d'Outre Mer (IHEOM);

1963: Diplôme d'Études Supérieures en Droit Public.

### **Decorations:**

- Grand Master of National Orders;
- Commander of National Order, exceptional class (Federal Republic of Germany);
- Commander of National Order (Tunisia);
- Grand Cross of the Senegalese National Order of Merit;
- Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour (France);
- Great Commander of the Medal of St-George (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- Grand Collar of the Ouissam Mohammadi Order (Kingdom of Morocco);
- Grand Commander of the Order of Nigeria (Federal Republic of Nigeria);
- Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Maryland (USA);
- Honorary Professor of the University of Beijing (People's Republic of China);
- Holder of several decorations from various other countries.

### **Career:**

- October 1962

Mr. Paul BIYA was appointed Chargé de Mission at the Presidency of the Republic upon his return from Paris.

- January 1964

Director of Cabinet of the Minister of National Education, Youth Affairs and Culture;

- July 1965

Secretary-General of the Ministry of National Education, Youth Affairs and Culture;

- December 1967

Director of the Civil Cabinet of the President of the Republic;

- January 1968

While still serving as Director of the Civil Cabinet, Mr. BIYA was appointed Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic.

- August 1968

Minister, Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic

- June 1970

Minister of State, Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic



- June 1975

Prime Minister of the United Republic of Cameroon

- June 1979

By virtue of Law No.79/2 of 29 June 1979, the Prime Minister became the Constitutional successor to the President of the Republic.

- 6 November 1982

Mr. Paul BIYA was sworn in as President of the United Republic of Cameroon, the second President in the history of the country. The ceremony took place at the National Assembly building, before of the people's elected representatives, following the resignation of President Ahmadou AHIDJO on 4 November 1982.

At the time of his accession to power, Mr. Paul BIYA was 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the Central Committee of the Cameroon National Union (CNU) and Member of the Political Bureau of the Party.

- Elected President of the Republic on 14 January 1984, re-elected on 24 April 1988, 11 October 1992 (first presidential election in Cameroon by direct universal suffrage with multiple candidates), 11 October 1997, 10 October 2004 and 9 October 2011;
- Elected President of the Cameroon National Union on 14 September 1984;
- Elected President of the Cameroon People's Democratic Movement following the transformation of the CNU into CPDM on 24 March 1985 in Bamenda.

By enacting the law on associations and political parties on 19 December 1990, Mr. Paul BIYA restored multiparty politics in Cameroon (since 1 September 1966, the country had been going through an era of de facto one-party politics).

To date, more than 200 political parties have been legalised. The CPDM obtained absolute majority in the March 1997, June 2002, July 2007 and September 2013 legislative elections. Despite these victories, the President of the Republic has always chosen to form inclusive governments.

Four parties are represented in Government: the CPDM, NUDP, NADP and FNSC. Seven parties are represented at the National Assembly: CPDM, SDF, NUDP, CDU, UPC, MDR and CRM. Seven parties are represented in the Senate: CPDM, SDF, NUDP, CDU, MDR, FNSC and NADP.

## Publications

Mr. Paul BIYA is author of a political essay, **Communal Liberalism**, published by Editions Marcel Fabre, Lausanne 1987.

The book has been translated into English, German and Hebrew.

In the book, the Head of State announced the advent of the multiparty system (which became effective in 1990) after the interim period of the one-party system. He explained his option for economic liberalism and private initiative while advocating national solidarity, equitable sharing of the fruits of economic growth, social justice, the emergence of a culture based on creativity and the peaceful coexistence of values specific to the various communities that make up the Nation.

Lastly, he reaffirmed the need to modernize the State and maintain cooperation ties with other countries of the world.

## Marital Life:

His Excellency Paul BIYA is married to Chantal Pulchérie BIYA.

He is father of three children: Frank BIYA, Paul BIYA Junior and Anastasie Brenda BIYA EYENGA.

Source : [www.prc.cm](http://www.prc.cm)

**REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN**

Paix - Travail - Patrie

**PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE**

**CABINET CIVIL**

CELLULE DE COMMUNICATION



**REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

Peace - Work - Fatherland

**PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC**

**CIVIL CABINET**

COMMUNICATION UNIT

## **ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AT THE ENLARGED WORKING SESSION**

**(Beijing, 20 July 2011)**

- The President of the People's Republic of China,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very pleased and also privileged to be here once again in your country that continues to marvel the world.

But, first and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude for the warm welcome and solicitude accorded me and my delegation since our arrival in your prestigious capital.

My present visit to China is taking place in the wake of the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of our diplomatic relations. In fact, it was on 26 March 1971 that the Republic of Cameroon and the Peoples' Republic of China decided to establish relations between our two States.

Since then, our relations have continued to grow from strength to strength and to diversify into close ties of friendship and cooperation. This is evidenced by the frequency and quality of high-level visits that attest to the mutual trust and understanding existing between our two counties.

- Mr. President,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

China, which was already one of the major powers on the international scene, is today the world's second largest economy.

Thanks to reforms undertaken over the past decades and the wisdom demonstrated by its leaders in shaping the destinies of the great and friendly Chinese people, your country has been able to reach an unprecedented level of economic development. China is henceforth one of the key actors of the global economy and, through its dynamism, contributes to global growth.

Permit me to take this opportunity to reiterate to you my very sincere and warm congratulations. Cameroon feels honoured to be counted among the friends and partners of your great Nation.

Cameroon, for its part, after experiencing, like many developing countries, various periods of crisis and being subjected to the rigorous discipline of Structural

Adjustment Plans, has for a decade now been set on the path to economic recovery and revival.

Once our major balances were restored, we embarked on an extensive socio-economic programme commonly referred to as the “policy of greater achievements”, geared towards implementing major development projects nationwide. This programme is the translation of a ten-year growth and employment strategy and a long-term vision aimed at making Cameroon an emerging country by 2035.

- Mr. President,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

To realize this great national plan, of course, we are counting on our own human and natural resources, but also on our cooperation with our external partners. And I am pleased to affirm that China counts among our most reliable and most faithful external partners.

In fact, cooperation between Cameroon and China is marked by outstanding achievements in various domains including agriculture, health, education, infrastructure, telecommunications, culture and sports. These achievements that have a direct impact on the improvement of socio-economic living conditions of our population are highly appreciated by the vast majority of the Cameroonian people.

I dare say that cooperation between our two countries is exemplary and I see it as a model at the level of our continent.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to express the gratitude of the Government and people of Cameroon to the Government and people of China for such support which is crucial for the modernization of my country.

Also, at the international level, Cameroon and China have a large convergence of views. Our two Governments attach great importance to principles and values such as peaceful conflict resolution, non-interference in the domestic affairs of States and respect for their territorial integrity. Besides, it is by virtue of these principles that Cameroon supports the “One-China Policy”.

Regarding the UN reform, Cameroon highly appreciates the support of the People’s Republic of China to Africa’s common position concerning the representation of our continent in the Security Council.

I also wish to seize this opportunity to underscore the outstanding character of the work accomplished within the framework of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum and express our gratitude to the Chinese authorities for their efforts at the service of Africa’s development.

- The President of the People’s Republic of China,

Before I conclude, permit me, lastly, to express the wish to see the excellent ties of friendship and cooperation existing between China and Cameroon grow from strength to strength in the mutual interest of our two countries.

I would like to thank you for your kind words in welcoming me to your great and beautiful country.

We are happy to be your guests.

Long Live friendship and cooperation between China and Cameroon!