

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
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UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace - Work - Fatherland
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Circular No. 17/CAB/PR of 14 October 1972

The President of the Republic
to the Ministers of State,
the Ministers,
the Vice-Ministers

Subject : Updating and recasting of legislation

The advent of the United Republic marks the end of the federal system as a State structure, with, as a corollary, the disappearance of the tripartite legislature which embraced, not always harmoniously, the same national territory. The Constitution of 2 June, under article 43, removed the possibility of a legal vacuum being created which might have paralysed the activities of the different Administrations.

Notwithstanding the measure it has already taken to this end, it is of the utmost importance for the Government to undertake forthwith the updating and, where necessary, complete or partial recasting of certain enactments that now appear unsatisfactory. Such enactments are of two kinds: on the one hand, those which the Federated States adopted without seeing to it that they were duly harmonized and, on the other hand, those promulgated by the former trustees Administrations and which these same States preferred to maintain for reasons of convenience. The old federal legislation that is still in force must be similarly modified.

It will therefore be necessary for each Ministry, upon receipt of the present directives, to prepare an inventory of all statutes and administrative regulations applicable to the Administrations placed under its authority and to work out the necessary

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modifications to be made as to their form and substance. For this purpose it may consider recasting or codifying certain enactments, whichever of these procedure appears the more appropriate.

In order to accomplish the task required of you, you will need to work in close collaboration with the Ministry Delegate to the General State Inspectorate whose various controls have served to reveal certain shortcomings in our system of statutory and administrative regulations. Where necessary, you will also contact the public Administrations most directly concerned.

I must remind you that, without waiting upon the completion of this work, you should submit for my approval all draft enactments relating to matters which were formerly dealt with by the Prime Ministers of the Federated States either by order or by decree enacted in Council of Ministers.

As an example, the following draft enactments fall into this category:

- the granting or withdrawal of lumbering licences covering 10,000 hectares or more,
- expropriation in the public interest,
- compensation for persons who have had property expropriated,
- the assignment of plots of public or private land,
- the appointment or termination of appointment of Government Delegates, Mayors of Urban District Councils, etc.

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