
DECREE No. 2021/747 OF 28 DEC 2021
to lay down conditions governing the exercise of some
environmental protection powers devolved upon regions by
the State

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC,

- Mindful** of the Constitution;
- Mindful** of Law No. 94/1 of 20 January 1994 to lay down forestry, wildlife and fisheries regulations;
- Mindful** of Framework Law No. 96/12 of 5 August 1996 relating to environmental management;
- Mindful** of Law No. 2011/8 of 6 May 2011 on guidelines for planning and sustainable regional development in Cameroon;
- Mindful** of Law No. 2018/11 of 11 July 2018 to lay down the Cameroon Code of Transparency and Good Governance in Public Finance Management;
- Mindful** of Law No. 2018/12 of 11 July 2018 relating to the financial regime of the State and other public entities;
- Mindful** of Law No. 2019/24 of 24 December 2019 to institute the General Code of Regional and Local Authorities;
- Mindful** of Decree No.2008/64 of 4 February 2008 to lay down conditions for the management of the National Environment and Sustainable Development Fund;
- Mindful** of Decree No. 2011/408 of 9 December 2011 to organize the Government, as amended and supplemented by Decree No. 2018/190 of 2 March 2018,

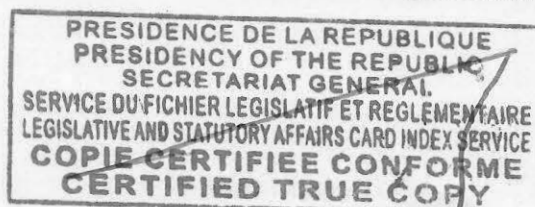
HEREBY DECREES AS FOLLOWS:CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1: This Decree lays down conditions governing the exercise of some environmental protection powers devolved upon regions by the State.

ARTICLE 2: Environmental protection powers devolved upon regions by the State shall concern the following:

- preserving and implementing other local measures to protect nature;
- creating firewalls and early firing as part of the fight against bush fires;
- formulating, implementing and monitoring regional environmental action plans.

ARTICLE 3: The environmental protection powers devolved upon regions by the State shall be exercised in compliance with the regulations in force.



ARTICLE 4: Regions shall exercise the powers devolved upon them in the matters referred to in Article 2 above, without prejudice to the following prerogatives and responsibilities of the State:

- formulating and implementing the national environment and sustainable development policy;
- stating the technical terms and conditions for managing the matters referred to in Article 2 above;
- specifying and controlling the standards applicable to the management of the matters referred to in Article 2 above.

CHAPTER II
PRESERVING AND IMPLEMENTING OTHER LOCAL
NATURE PROTECTION MEASURES

ARTICLE 5: (1) The region shall be responsible for preserving and implementing other local measures to protect nature.

(2) In this regard, it shall:

- identify, delimit and characterize within its geographical sphere of competence, the ecological zones of regional interest;
- identify and promote the best local practices on the protection of nature.

ARTICLE 6: The region shall propose to the State, in consultation with councils, measures for the classification of ecologically fragile areas.

ARTICLE 7: (1) The region shall draw up intervention plans in ecologically fragile areas and implement same in conjunction with councils within its geographical jurisdiction.

(2) The intervention plans referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be subject to prior approval by the representative of the State.

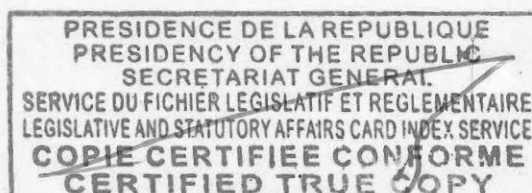
(3) The head of the regional executive shall prepare an annual report on the implementation of the intervention plans. The said report shall be submitted to the representative of the State.

ARTICLE 8: The region shall ensure that local knowledge and know-how are taken into account in the management of areas of regional ecological interest.

CHAPTER III
BUILDING OF FIREWALLS AND EARLY FIRING AS PART OF BUSH FIRE
CONTROL

ARTICLE 9: (1) The region shall be responsible for creating firewalls and early firing as part of the fight against bush fires.

(2) As such, it shall formulate a regional master plan for the fight against bush fires and ensure the implementation thereof.



ARTICLE 10: The regional master plan for the fight against bush fires shall specify the implementation conditions and provide directives on firewall openings, acquisition of logistics, capacity building, awareness-raising and information, communication and monitoring and evaluation.

ARTICLE 11: The region shall lay down and disseminate the conditions and dates of firing. To this end, it shall prepare a communication plan.

CHAPTER IV
FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLANS

ARTICLE 12: The region shall formulate, implement and monitor regional environmental action plans.

ARTICLE 13: (1) The regional environmental action plan shall be subject to prior approval by the representative of the State.

(2) The regional environmental action plan shall be based on an inventory of the state of the environment at regional level. It shall specify the measures to be adopted and projects to be implemented to preserve the environment and promote sustainable development.

CHAPTER V
TRANSFER OF RESOURCES

ARTICLE 14: The devolution of environmental protection powers by the State shall be accompanied by the concurrent transfer of the resources required for the normal exercise of such powers, in accordance with the regulations in force.

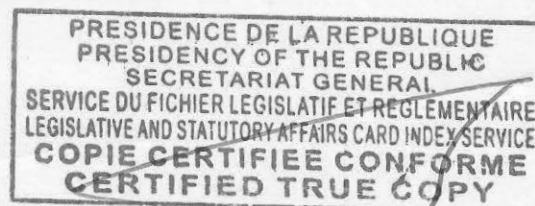
ARTICLE 15: Each year, the Finance Law shall provide for the financial resources required for the exercise of environmental protection powers devolved upon regions.

ARTICLE 16: In addition to the resources transferred by the State, the region may receive support from various partners in the exercise of powers devolved in matters relating to environmental protection.

ARTICLE 17: (1) The financial resources transferred by the State shall be included in the region's budget.

(2) The management of the said resources shall comply with the fiscal and accounting principles in force, subject to special provisions applicable to support from partners.

ARTICLE 18: The human and material resources earmarked for the exercise of the powers devolved upon regions by the State shall be transferred to the latter in accordance with the regulations in force.



CHAPTER VI
MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 19: The regions shall carry out the activities involved in the exercise of the powers referred to in Article 2 of this Decree with the support of the relevant deconcentrated government services, under the conditions laid down by the regulations in force.

ARTICLE 20: The terms and conditions for the exercise of environmental protection powers devolved upon regions by the State, as well as the use of the related resources, shall be laid down in specifications adopted by order of the minister in charge of the environment.

ARTICLE 21: (1) The State shall ensure monitoring, control and evaluation of the exercise of environmental protection powers devolved upon regions.

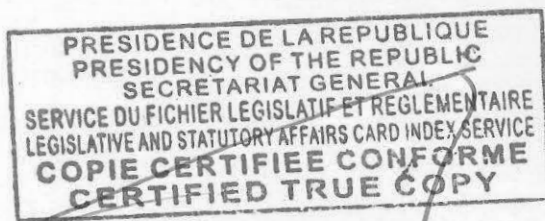
(2) The exercise of the environmental protection powers devolved on regions shall be subject to the control of legality by the representative of the State in the Region, in accordance with the provisions of the General Code of Regional and Local Authorities.

ARTICLE 22: (1) The head of the regional executive shall prepare a six-monthly report on the status of implementation of the devolved environmental protection powers.

(2) The report referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be submitted to the representative of the State within 30 (thirty) days of the end of the semester under review.

(3) Upon receipt of the said report, the representative of the State shall forward same to the minister in charge of regional and local authorities and the minister in charge of the environment, within 15 (fifteen) days.

ARTICLE 23: This Decree shall be registered, published according to the procedure of urgency and inserted in the Official Gazette in English and in French.



Yaounde, 28 DEC 2021



PAUL BIYA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC