

PRESS RELEASE

Protecting Telecommunications Infrastructure: A Call for Everyone to Get Involved

During its last ordinary meeting, held on 20 September 2024 in Yaounde, the Board of Directors of Cameroon Telecommunications (CAMTEL) examined in depth the issue of the deterioration in the quality of electronic communication services, due mainly to three factors: acts of vandalism and sabotage on telecommunications infrastructure, public works operations, and power-supply challenges.

The Board commended the tireless efforts made by CAMTEL's General Manager and her teams to overcome these incidents. These especially include the measures taken to combat acts of vandalism and sabotage, which continue to undermine the integrity of the company's critical facilities, were recognised as essential for the protection of the national network.

The Board encouraged Management to pursue its efforts to repair the deteriorated sections as a matter of urgency, and to take all the necessary steps to resolve these challenges, with emphasis on cooperation with competent authorities, security forces, and local communities. The Board also stressed the importance of strengthening coordination with the public works sector to minimise the impact of the execution of major development projects on telecommunications infrastructure.

With regard to power-supply challenges, such as unscheduled power cuts that disrupt the supply of electronic communications services, the Board urged CAMTEL to enhance its energy self-sufficiency solutions and to work with the relevant authorities in this sector to find lasting solutions to this issue.

The Board took the opportunity to solemnly appeal to all stakeholders—public authorities, businesses, and local communities—to mobilise and protect telecoms infrastructure, which are a vital national asset for Cameroon's digital economy and social development.

In addition, the Board of Directors reminded that the laws in force provide for severe penalties against any person or entity found guilty of damaging telecommunications infrastructure. Protecting this infrastructure is a civic duty that requires the involvement and vigilance of all.

Done in Yaounde, on **27 SEPT 2024**



Chairman of the Board of Directors