

Crisis linked to the scanning of goods at PAD

Douala, 12th February 2026

On Thursday, 12 February 2026, the **Cameroon Business Organization (GECAM)** brought together representatives of the main players in the Port Authority of Douala for a high-level consultation to examine the situation of coexistence of two container scanning operators (SGS and Transatlantic DSA) since the beginning of 2026 and to propose immediate solutions to the crisis at the Port Authority of Douala (PAD).

Representatives from SCADTC, UCAM, GPAC, CNCC, SYNEFOR, GIMC, CROPLIFE and several importers took part in the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, the business community:

(1) Strongly condemns this unprecedented and totally unacceptable situation, which has a significant impact on businesses and the Cameroonian economy, namely:

- Longer port transit times ;
- Increased transit costs due to the systematic double billing of scanning services and related additional logistics costs (congestion charges, demurrage, etc.);
- Subsequent slowdowns in production and risks of supply shortages for certain products on the markets, with a consequent impact on prices for end consumers and the development of smuggling;
- The decline in the competitiveness of the port Authority of Douala, the lifeblood of our economy;
- The total paralysis of customs clearance and cargo loading operations at the PAD in recent days;
- And finally, the major deterioration of the business environment.

(2) Demands of the Competent Authorities:

1. The immediate normalisation of the situation by establishing a single scanning and payment operation;
2. The establishment of a joint commission (administration-private sector) responsible for assessing the additional costs incurred by companies and proceeding with full reimbursement;
3. A freeze on the tariff increases decided by the PAD until the impact on transit costs and the impact on companies has been assessed.

In the absence of a definitive solution to this crisis, companies will have no alternative but to implement, as a precautionary measure **from Monday 16 February 2026, a temporary suspension of import and export declarations as well as customs declarations.**



Célestin TAWAMBA
President

Done in Douala, 12th February 2026