

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland



CNJC/CNYC

RÉPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

CAMEROON NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL (CNYC)

ELECTORAL CODE





CHAPTER I : GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.- In accordance with the provisions of the statutes and Internal Rules and Regulations of the Cameroon National Youth Council (CNYC), this Electoral Code defines the conditions and election modalities of members of the governing bodies, delegates and Auditors of the CNYC.

Article 2.- Each term of office within the CNYC shall be three (03) years renewable.

Article 3.-

- (1)** Elections shall take place during the Elective General Assembly organised at the end of a mandate.
- (2)** Exceptionally, an election may be held during an Ordinary General Assembly to appoint officials to vacant posts. In such a case, the election must first be included on the agenda accompanying its convocation.

Article 4.- Elections shall comply with democratic principles.

Article 5.- The CNYC recognises its Supervisory authority as the institution in charge of organising, supervising, regulating and managing any electoral litigation within it.

CHAPTER II : CONDITIONS AND ELECTION MODALITIES

Section I : Electoral capacity

Article 6.-

- (1)** Any representative of a youth organisation who is a CNYC member and up to date in his contributions may be an elector.
- (2)** This organisation may be:
 - a. a youth association or movement;
 - b. a youth Co-operative or a Common Initiative Group;
 - c. a Non-Governmental youth organisation;
 - d. a Cameroonian youth organisation of the diaspora.



Article 7.- Representatives appointed by youth organisations must be aged between fifteen (15) and thirty-five (35) years old.

Article 8.-

(1) Any candidate who fulfil the following conditions may be eligible:

- be mandated by a youth organisation that is a member of the CNYC and duly registered in the CNYC national youth organisation's file;
- must be between 15 and not older than 32 years at the date of the election.
- to be registered on the electoral lists ;
- to master at least one of the two official languages;
- have a moral guarantee from an administrative, religious, political or traditional authority in the candidate's place of residence, or have undergone training as a volunteer or Conscript of the National Civic Service Agency for Participation in Development, as a Junior Parliamentarian, or as a Municipal or Regional Youth Counselor, the Red Cross or Scout.

(2) Application files shall include the following documents:

- an application form duly filled and signed by the candidate ;
- a certified true copy of the legal document acknowledging the association;
- a certified true copy of the candidate's original National Identity Card issued within the last three months;
- bulletin No. 3 of the applicant's certificate of non-conviction issued within the last three (03) months;
- an attestation of the candidate's commissioning by his organisation;
- a payment receipt of a non-refundable electoral deposit paid at an approved financial institution approved and designated by the supervisory authority;
- a copy of receipt of payment of membership fees to the CNYC from the commissioning organisation;



- a copy of receipts of payment of contribution fees from the Commissioning organisation;
 - a certificate of residence of the candidate;
 - a moral guarantee from a personality (administrative, political, religious, traditional), or a certified true copy of the certificate of a Conscript of the National Civic Service Agency for Participation in Development, an attestation of the end of voluntary service, or an attestation of participation as a Junior Parliamentarian/Municipal Youth Counselor/Regional Youth Counselor, the Red cross and scouts.
- (3)** Candidates seeking the positions of members of the Executive Bureaus and of Statutory Auditors must live in Cameroon.
- (4)** The residence requirement referred to in paragraph 3 above shall not apply to the Vice-President in charge of Cameroonian youth associations, organisations and movements based in the Diaspora.

Article 9.- The amounts of electoral deposits, non-refundable shall be as follows:

a) at the national level:

- President, Treasurer and Secretary-General of the Executive Bureau: CFA one hundred thousand (100,000) francs;
- other members of the Executive Bureau and Statutory Auditors: CFA fifty thousand (50,000) francs.

b) at the regional level:

- President, Treasurer and Secretary-General of the Executive Bureau: CFA fifty thousand (50 000) francs ;
- Delegates : CFA 50,000 francs;
- other members of the Executive Bureau and Statutory Auditors: CFA 30,000 Francs.



c) at the divisional level:

- President, Treasurer and Secretary-General of the Executive Bureau: CFA 30,000 francs;
- Delegates: CFA 30,000 francs;
 - other members of the Executive
 - Bureau and Statutory Auditors: CFA 15,000 Francs.

d) at the municipal level:

- President, Treasurer and Secretary General of the Executive Bureau: CFA 20,000 francs ;
- Delegates: CFA 20,000 francs;
- other members of the Bureau and Statutory Auditors : CFA 10,000 Francs.

e) at the Network level

- Coordinator and Treasurer : CFA 5 000 francs;
- Secretary and public relations officer: CFA 2,500 Francs.

Section II : ELECTORAL INCAPACITY

Article 10.- may not feature on the electoral lists:

- a. Representatives of youth organisations without legal recognition;
- b. representatives of youth organisations who are not members of the CNYC;
- c. representatives of youth organisations who are not up to date with their contributions;
- d. representatives of dissolved youth organisations;
- e. representatives disqualified as defined in article 30 of the Cameroon penal code;
- f. representatives prosecuted for crime or sexual assault and sentenced to an imprisonment term of more than 6 (six) months or suffering from a proven mental disability;
- g. Representatives permanently restricted or who have resigned from the CNYC.



Article 11.- Representatives from Private limited companies (Ltd), Public limited companies (plc) and any profit-making structure listed in the trade register shall be ineligible.

Section III : Election procedures

Article 12.-

- (1) The CNYC shall have two (02) election procedures:
- the closed list poll for the election of the members of the Executive Bureau and members of Coordinating network;
 - the unilateral election for the Statutory Auditors and the Delegates.
- (2) Blocked lists shall be lists where the positions responsibilities are previously defined.
- (3) The composition of each candidate list shall take into account the different sociological components of the country, the locality as well as gender.
- (4) The elections shall be made in secret ballot to the one round majority system
- (5) The list which obtains the majority of votes shall be declared elected.

CHAPTER III: ELECTORAL COMMISSIONS

Article 13.-

- (1) Commissions in charge of organising and supervising electoral operations shall be set up within administrative units by local administrative authorities and at the national level by the Minister in charge of Youth Affairs.
- (2) Therefore the set-up commission shall:
- examine the application files and submit them to the validation of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and civic education or to the competent local authorities;
 - set up and publish the electoral list;
 - prepare the premises and materials for election ;
 - coordinate the voting process;
 - count the votes cast;



- publish results;
- receive petitions related to votes counting;
- be the first and the last to know litigations stemming from electoral process.

Article 14.- The National Electoral Commission shall be presided over by the Minister of Youth Affairs who shall determine its composition.

Article 15.-

- (1) the local electoral commission shall comprise:
 - the territorially competent administrative authority;
 - the Delegate of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Civic Education;
 - the territorially competent head of Multipurpose Youth Empowerment Centre;
 - the local representative of the National Civic Service Agency for Participation in Development;
 - the local representative of the Ministry of Youth Affairs in charge of community life;
 - one (01) representative of a youth organisation not participating in the election.
- (2) The local electoral commission shall be chaired by the territorially competent administrative authority.
- (3) The chairman shall convene and chair sessions of the commission. The secretaries shall perform secretariat duties and preserve documents.

Article 16.-

- (1) the duties of members of Commission shall be free of charge.
- (2) However, these members may receive working facilities while performing their duties.
- (3) The budget of CNYC shall support the organisation of the election.



Article 17. - Electoral commissions shall draw up the electoral lists based on the national data base of CNYC youth organisations and candidates files.

CHAPTER IV : PRE-ELECTION PROCCES

Section I: Convening of voters and the declaration of candidates

Article 18.- The electoral body shall be convened by a decision of the Minister in charge of youth affairs in accordance with the provisions of the statutes of association and the internal rules and regulations.

Article 19.-

- (1) Each candidature, be it individual or collective, shall be declared and shall bear the legalised signature of the legal representative of the candidate organisation.
- (2) Following the convocation of the electoral body, candidate declaration and files shall be deposited with receipts deliverance and registered at the Ministry in charge of youth affairs for the election of both National Executive Bureau members and National Statutory Auditors, while the election of members of deconcentrated structures of the CNYC shall be held in deconcentrated services of MINJEC at least, five (05) days prior to the ballot date.
- (3) Files of registered candidates shall be forwarded to their respective relevant electoral commission.
- (4) A youth organisation may not present more than one candidate.
- (5) Despite the provisions of paragraph 4 above, the outgoing Presidents of the National, Regional, Divisional and Sub divisional Executive Bureaus, meeting the age requirement, are automatically members of the Elective General Assembly at their respective levels of responsibility, without prejudice to the designation of a second member by his or her association of origin.



(6) Any member of an Elective General Assembly, with the exception of the members of the Executive Bureau at the lower levels, may be a candidate for election, provided that he/she fulfils the conditions of eligibility.

Article 20.-

- (1) The Electoral Commission is empowered to declare unacceptable incomplete candidate file.
- (2) In this case the candidate or the individual heading the list shall be informed.
- (3) Rejection decisions may be appealed to the Minister in charge of youth affairs or the competent local authority as the case may be 24 (twenty-four) hours following the publication of electoral lists.
- (4) In case of referral, the Minister in charge of youth Affairs or the competent local authority shall decide before the election is held.

Article 21.- The Minister in charge of Youth Affairs or the competent local authorities shall adopt and publish the electoral lists ten (10) days prior to the date of the elective General Assembly.

Article 22.-

- (1) No modification shall be allowed on the files of candidate after they have been submitted.
- (2) However, in the event of the death of a candidate after the submission of the nomination papers, he or she may exceptionally be replaced by another candidate on the initiative of the members of his or her ballot lists. The substituted candidate must be a member of the Elective General Assembly concerned.

Article 23.- The candidate for the post of President of the Executive Bureau is considered as head of the list.



Section II : Electoral campaign

Article 24.-

- (1) Electoral campaign shall be opened from the fifth (5th) day preceding the Elective Assembly. It shall end at the beginning of the vote.
- (2) The election shall take place within the electoral constituency concerned.

Article 25.-

- (1) During the campaign period, candidates intending to organize public meetings shall be required to respect the regulation in force.
- (2) A copy of the meetings schedule shall be deposited at the competent central or deconcentrated services of the Ministry in charge of Youth Affairs depending on the case.
- (3) It is forbidden for any candidate to jeopardize republican Values or tarnish the honour or reputation of other citizens.

CHAPTER V : ELECTIONS PROCESS

Article 26.-

- (1) The elections shall be held in a hall provided by the competent authorities.
- (2) The chosen venue should have accessible conditions favourable to all participants.

Article 27.- Every representative of a youth organisation registered on the voters list and whose membership dues and fees are up-to-date shall have the right to vote.

Article 28.- Before the voting, each candidate or list leader shall have 5 (five) minutes to close his/her campaign.



Article 29. - The electoral bodies shall be made up of:

- **at the national level:** Four (04) Delegates per region notably: the President, the Secretary-General of the Regional Executive Bureau, two (02) Regional Delegates elected at the same time as the members of the Regional Executive Bureau, as well as two (02) Delegates from the Diaspora;
- **at the regional level:**
 - A)** For Regions with less than five (05) Divisions, the electorate shall be made up of eight (08) delegates per Division, notably: the President, the Secretary General of the Divisional Executive Bureau and the six (06) delegates elected at the same time as the members of the Divisional Executive Bureau;
 - B)** For Regions with at least six (6) Divisions, the Electoral Corps shall be made up of six (06) delegates per Division notably: the President, Secretary-General of the newly elected Divisional Executive Bureau and four (04) delegates elected together with the members of the Executive Divisional bureau;
- **at the divisional level:**
 - a) For Divisions with more than five (05) Subdivisions, its shall have six (06) delegates per Subdivision notably: the President, Secretary-General, and the four (04) delegates elected together with the members of the Sub divisional Executive Bureau;
 - b) For Divisions with four to five (4 to 5) sub divisions, the Electoral Corps shall be made up of Eight (08) delegates per municipality notably : the President, Secretary-General of the newly elected Municipal Executive Bureau and six (06) delegates elected together with the members of the Municipal Executive bureau;
 - c) For Divisions with less than four (04) Sub divisions, the Electoral Corps shall have eleven (11) delegates per Sub division notably: the President, Secretary-General of the newly elected Municipal Executive Board and nine (09) delegates elected together with the members of the Local Executive bureau.



• **at the communal level**: it shall be made up of one (01) representative per youth organisation;

- **at the thematic Network level:** It shall be made up of one (01) representative per youth organisation affiliated to the Network.

Article 30.-

- (1) Each member of the Elective General Assembly shall have one vote.
- (2) A delegated voting shall be allowed. However, no elector can be a holder of more than one vote.
- (3) The delegated vote must be duly signed and legalised at the place of residence of its signatory and accompanied by the photocopy of his/her National Identity Card.

Article 31.- Before voting, each voter shall be identified by his/her National Identity Card. After the vote, he/she shall sign and put his/her fingerprints on the voters list.

Article 32.-

- (1) The candidate or the list that obtains the simple majority of validly casted votes shall be declared the winner of the election.
- (2) In the event of a tie between two lists, the list with the higher average age is declared the winner however, a second round of elections shall be organised according to the decision of the supervisory body or territorially competent administrative authority.
- (3) In the event of a tie between two lists, the list with the higher average age is declared the winner failing which a second round of elections shall be organised according to the decision of the supervisory body or territorially competent administrative authority.

Article 33.-

- (1) The counting of votes shall be done in the following manner:



- one of the tellers shall extract the ballot from each envelope and give it to the second teller who shall read, the name marked on the ballot paper aloud;
- the results shall be recorded by at least two (02) tellers, simultaneously on paper and on a board.

(2) The following ballot papers shall be considered null:

- all other ballots outside those officially counted;
- ballots carrying writings or signatures of any kind;
- ballot papers contained in envelopes other than those that were provided to voters;
- multiple ballot papers found in the same envelope;
- ballot papers found in the ballot box without envelopes;
- blank ballot papers (with no name);
- Empty envelopes.

(3) Invalid ballots and counting sheets shall be attached to the election report. Remarks shall be made in the minutes.

(4) The ballot papers of the votes validly casted shall be kept by the electoral committee.

Article 34.-

- (1)** immediately after the counting, the acquired result shall be made public by the electoral Commission, subject to its validation by the competent administrative authority or the Minister in charge of Youth Affairs.
- (2)** The minutes of the elections shall be signed by the members of the Electoral Committee and the tellers.

Article 35.- The minutes of the elections are drawn up by the electoral commissions and transmitted to the Minister in charge of youth affairs, at the request of the competent local authorities.

Article 36.-

- (1)** Post-electoral petitions shall be filed within forty eight (48) hours after the end of the election to the electoral Commissions which shall rule in the first and last resort.

(2) The decisions of the electoral commissions shall, be made public by the competent local authorities or the Minister of Youth Affairs, as the case may be.

Article 37.- The Minister of Youth Affairs may order the complete or partial reorganisation of the elections.

CHAPTER VI : MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 38.- The present Electoral Code may be amended by the General Assembly of the CNYC.

Article 39.- The present Electoral Code shall be published wherever necessary in English and French.

Done and adopted in Yaoundé, the 13 DEC 2021

On behalf of the General Assembly,

THE PRESIDENT,

