

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE LA
PROTECTION DE LA NATURE ET DU
DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

CABINET

CONSEILLER TECHNIQUE N°.1

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, PROTECTION
OF NATURE AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

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TECHNICAL ADVISER N°.1

**CELEBRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
2014**

UNDER THE THEME ‘ISLAND BIODIVERSITY’

PROGRAMME

Date	Activity	Responsible
9-13 th May 2014	Media Programmes	CBD Focal Point Office Communication Unit
14 th May 2014	Exhibition	Esplanade Ministerial Building No. 2
	Reading of Speech of the Executive Secretary of the CBD	Focal Point Convention on Biological Diversity
10.00 am	Official Opening Address	Minister of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development
	Official Visit of Stands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MINEPDED• Government Departments• Partner Organisations
	Cocktail	
	Public Visit of Stands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MINEPDED• Government Departments• Partner Organisations
	Public Talks on Relevant thematic issues	Stand Facilitators
15h	End of Exhibition	

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Cameroon as a member of the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity will be joining the global community to celebrate International Day for Biological Diversity 2014 under the theme ‘Island Biodiversity’.

Islands constitute a unique ecosystem with plant and animal species that are endemic and most importantly contribute to the livelihoods of island communities who make up 1/10th of the world’s population and the economies of countries that depend on their resources.

Cameroon’s coastal and marine environment is a harbour to very unique islands located in the Douala and Bakassi creek areas. This ecosystem has been identified within Cameroons National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan II as a highly biologically diverse areas that is under severe threats and degradation from human interventions. Major drivers of ecosystem degradation and fragmentation in this ecosystem include pollution from mainland activities, mangrove destruction and fragmentation and coastal erosion. This constitutes a major threat to the aquatic species, weakens the resilience of this unique ecosystem and threatens the survival of the island communities.

The Celebration of the 2014 International Day for Biological Diversity in Cameroon will therefore provide an opportunity for the following:

- To create national awareness on the importance of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystem in general and Island biodiversity in particular;
- To highlight major threats to this ecosystem;
- To highlight Intervention actions taken by Government, its Partners and Civil Society Actors to redress this situation.

Major activities to characterize this celebration will include a wide media sensitization programme and an Exhibition programmed for Wednesday the 14th of May 2014.

Key Government Departments, Partner Organisations, NGOs and the general public will be invited to participate in the Exhibition that will take place in the esplanade of the Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development.