

DECREE No. 2024/555 OF 14 NOV 2024

to lay down rules applicable to the recruitment and discipline of Military Justice personnel

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC,

Mindful of the Constitution;

Mindful of Law No. 2001/188 of 25 July 2001 to lay down the special rules and regulations governing the corps of Active Officers of the Defence Forces;

Mindful of Law No. 2017/012 of 12 July 2017 to lay down the Code of Military Justice;

Mindful of Decree No. 2007/199 of 7 July 2007 to lay down the General Disciplinary Regulations of the Defence Forces;

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

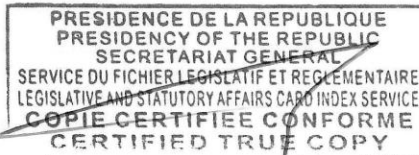
GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1: This decree lays down rules applicable to the recruitment and discipline of Military Justice personnel.

ARTICLE 2: Military Justice personnel shall comprise:

- civilian and military judicial and legal officers;
- civilian and military registrars;

- assessors;
- military penitentiary staff;
- non-specialized staff.



ARTICLE 3: (1) The careers of civilian and non-specialized staff shall be governed by the rules and regulations of their corps of origin.

(2) However, in the discharge of their duties, they shall be bound by the rules laid down in this decree.

CHAPTER II

RECRUITMENT OF MILITARY JUSTICE PERSONNEL

I - JUDGE ADVOCATES

ARTICLE 4: (1) Judge advocates shall be officers of the Defence Forces graduate from the national school in charge of training judicial and legal officers.

(2) Judge advocates shall be bound by the provisions of this decree and the special rules and regulations governing active officers of the Defence Forces.

ARTICLE 5: (1) Active officers of the Defence Forces who meet the requirements for admission into the national school in charge of training judicial and legal officers shall seat for the competitive examination, with authorization from the minister in charge of defence.

(2) However, active officers of the Defence Forces who have attained incremental position 2 of the rank of Captain may not be eligible to apply.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of (1) above, the minister in charge of defence may authorize aspirants and cadet officers rounding off their training to seat

for the competitive entrance examination into the national school in charge of training judicial and legal officers.

ARTICLE 6: (1) After their training at the school referred to in Article 4 above, legal trainees with the required certificate shall be placed at the disposal of the minister in charge of military justice.

(2) Legal trainees who did not obtain the required certificate shall be placed at the disposal of their institution or service of origin.

ARTICLE 7: (1) Before taking up office, judge advocates shall take an oath before the Supreme Court, at the request of the minister in charge of military justice.

(2) The oath shall be formulated as follows: "*I, ...(rank and name), swear before God and Man, to dutifully serve the people of the Republic of Cameroon in my capacity as judge advocate, to impartially administer justice to all persons, in accordance with the laws, regulations and customs of the Cameroonian people, without any fear, favour or hard feelings; to keep all deliberations secret and conduct myself, in everything and all circumstances, as a worthy and loyal judge advocate.*"

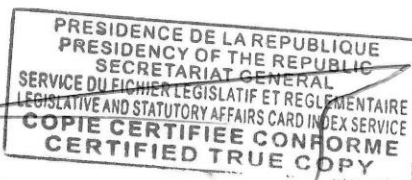
(3) The oath referred to in (2) above shall be non-renewable.

II - COURT REGISTRARS

ARTICLE 8: (1) Military court registrars shall be recruited in compliance with the following conditions:

- (a) have at least the rank of junior non-commissioned officer for entry into the national school in charge of training court registrars;
- (b) be a non-commissioned officer for admission into the specialized school of the ministry in charge of defence.

(2) Before taking up office, court registrars from the national school in charge of training court registrars shall take an oath before the court of appeal with jurisdiction over the court to which they are assigned, at the request of the State Prosecutor of the said court.



(3) The registrar from the specialized school of the ministry in charge of defence shall take an oath before the court to which they are assigned, sitting as a bench.

(4) The oath shall be formulated as follows: *"I swear to faithfully and loyally perform my duties as court registrar and, in all circumstances, do so with the honour, probity and dignity required of me"*.

(5) The oath referred to in (4) above shall be non-renewable.

III - ASSESSORS



ARTICLE 9: (1) Appointed by decree of the President of the Republic, assessors in military tribunals shall be active officers of the Defence Forces, civilian or military judicial and legal officers, who assist the presiding judicial and legal officer during hearings.

(2) Assessors shall take part in deliberations with a right to vote.

(3) All judges of a military tribunal shall automatically be assessors in the said tribunal.

(4) Except for those of military chambers of courts of appeal, assessors must serve in the judicial district of the court where they are assigned.

ARTICLE 10: (1) Before taking office, assessors who are not judicial and legal officers shall take an oath before the appointing court, sitting as a bench.

(2) The oath referred to in (1) above shall be formulated as follows: *"I, (rank and name), swear and promise to dutifully and faithfully perform my duties as assessor, to religiously keep all deliberations secret and always conduct myself with dignity"*.

(3) The oath referred to in (2) above shall be non-renewable.

IV - STAFF OF THE MILITARY PENITENTIARY ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 11: Staff of the military penitentiary administration shall be military personnel or State employees with a certificate in the domain obtained from the national school