Communiqüé on Machine Readable Passports

1. The High commission for the Republic of Cameroon wishes to inform the Cameroonian community in Canada of Government’s decision instituting with immediate effect, Machine Readable Passports.

2. The aim is to comply with the recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organisation requiring all member states to institute machine readable passports by April 2010.

3. Pursuant to this, the Government of Cameroon recently sent abroad representatives of the General Delegation for National Security in Yaounde, to train Consular officials in all Cameroonian diplomatic missions on the processing of the new Machine Readable Passports.

4. For the time being, the passports will be issued solely from Yaounde, Cameroon, but all Cameroonian consular services abroad will be responsible for processing the requisite documentation.

5. For Cameroonians residing in Canada, the application files will be processed at the High Commission in Ottawa for onward transmission to Yaounde for final processing.

6. The High Commission is mindful of the vastness of Canada and of the costful implications of travelling to Ottawa, and will therefore endeavour, as the means permit, to organise ad hoc meetings by consular officials to provide this service to Cameroonians in distant parts of Canada.
7. Nationals requiring the new Machine Readable Passports are strongly encouraged to contact the High Commission at their convenience for prompt action.

8. For details on the procedure, visit the consular section of the High Commission’s web-site at: www.hc-cameroon-ottawa.org

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