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SM/97/284  
Correction 1

**CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMATION**

December 29, 1997

To: Members of the Executive Board  
From: The Secretary  
Subject: **Cameroon—Staff Report for the 1997 Article IV Consultation**

The following correction has been made in SM/97/284 (12/11/97):

**Page 53, Social and Demographic Indicators:** Footnote 2 has been renumbered to Footnote 1  
and a new Footnote 2 added.

A corrected page is attached.

Att: (1)

Other Distribution:  
Department Heads



Social and Demographic Indicators

	Unit of measure	1980-85	1988-93	1994/95 1/	1995/96 1/	1996/97 1/
<b>Poverty</b>						
Population below poverty line	Percent	40	...	...	50	...
<b>Education indicators</b>						
Illiteracy rate	Percent of population 11 years and over	54	41	...	...	37
Children in school	Percent of children 6-14 years	70	73	...	...	76
Primary school enrollment rate	Percent of school-age population	102	93	79	82	83
Female	Percent of school-age population	93	82	...	...	76
Secondary school enrollment rate	Percent of school-age population	23	28	29	...	32
Female	Percent of school-age population	17	23	...	...	...
<b>Health indicators</b>						
Life expectancy at birth (total)	Years	51	56	55	...	56
Female advantage	Years	3	3	3	...	3
<b>Population with access to:</b>						
Health care	Percent of population	20	15	...	...	...
Safe water	Percent of population	31	34	...	...	44
Urban	Percent of population	43	47	...	...	75
Rural	Percent of population	24	27	...	...	27
<b>Mortality rates</b>						
Infant	Percent of live births	9	6	...	6	...
Children under 5 years	Percent of live births	...	9	...	9	...
<b>Immunization</b>						
Measles	Percent of under-1 age group	47	41	...	...	41
DPT	Percent of under-1 age group	50	56	...	...	56
Child malnutrition (under 5 years)	Percent of age group	...	14	...	...	14
<b>Social expenditures 2/</b>						
Education	Percent of GDP	...	...	1.9	2.1	1.9
Health	Percent of GDP	...	...	0.5	0.5	0.6
Total of education and health	Percent of total noninterest expenditures	...	...	24.5	27.6	25.0

Sources: Cameroon household survey (1996); PFP; UNDP, *Human Development Report*, 1997; and staff estimates (for social expenditures).

1/ Fiscal year begins in July.

2/ Including capital expenditures.

### **Cameroon: Statistical Issues**

1. The Cameroonian authorities have recently made some progress in improving their statistical data base, particularly on national accounts, the balance of payments, and fiscal operations. Work has also been initiated in the collection of social indicators. However, improvements are needed in data quality (external debt), coverage (public sector), and timeliness (monetary data). In addition, the authorities are not yet current in reporting information for publication in the *International Financial Statistics (IFS)*. In light of the remaining deficiencies of the national economic and social data system, the government will improve or initiate activities to foster the timely production of statistical data.

#### **Real sector**

2. The November 1997 *IFS* reports nominal gross domestic product (GDP) data through 1996. The GDP breakdown by use has not been reported for publication since 1990, although provisional national accounts (both on a production and use basis) through 1996/97 (July-June) are now available to the Fund. The authorities have also provided forecasts of real GDP growth by sector for the period 1998/99. The authorities have also initiated the compilation of social indicators. In addition, monthly consumer price data through end-October 1997 are available to the Fund. However, these data are reported for publication in *IFS* only through February 1997.

#### **Public finance**

3. The latest *IFS* and *Government Finance Statistics (GFS)* Yearbook report annual fiscal data through 1995 and 1993, respectively. Cameroon does not provide monthly *GFS* data for the *IFS* page. Detailed monthly fiscal data for the period through September 1997 have been provided to the Fund, and the authorities have initiated work on a functional classification of government expenditures. In addition, preliminary annual data for the 65 largest public enterprises are available for the period 1990/91-1996/97. However, no information is available on financial transactions of local governments.

#### **Monetary accounts**

4. Monetary statistics for Cameroon, as well as for the other member countries of the regional central bank (BEAC), are reported to the Fund by the BEAC on a monthly basis. Nevertheless, the lag in data reporting is two months, which is too long.

#### **Balance of payments and external debt**

5. The STA mission that visited Cameroon in May-June 1995 made several recommendations for improving the coverage of, and methodology, for compiling balance of payments data. These recommendations are being implemented by the authorities. Balance of payments data are produced on a semiannual basis by the authorities, and the November 1997 *IFS* reports these data through 1995. Provisional external sector data have been provided to the Fund for