



UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL

ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
RESTRICTED

A/CN.2/R.146/Add.1  
31 October 1960  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS  
Nineteenth session, 17 October 1960  
New York

ASSESSMENT OF THE NEW MEMBERS  
(Report of the Secretary-General)

1. The following letter addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions from the Permanent Delegation of Cameroun has been received:

New York  
28 October 1960

The Delegation of Cameroun to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions of the United Nations and has the honour, on instructions from its Government and in reply to his inquiry, to inform him as follows:

The gross domestic product of Cameroun is not measured regularly once a year because our country lacks both a sufficient number of trained staff and the facilities for statistical and economic research. An estimate was, however, made for the year 1956 in connexion with the preparation of the Camerounian twenty-year plan.

I think this estimate might provide an approximation of gross domestic product for 1959, with a slight upward adjustment to reflect economic development since 1956.

The gross domestic product amounted to 75,200 million francs CFA in 1956. As transfers abroad by foreign agents working in Cameroun are estimated at 5,800 million francs CFA, the gross national product is thus reduced to 69,400 million francs CFA. Since amortization is very patchy and can be applied

systematically only in undertakings which keep proper accounts, it is impossible to calculate the net national product by deducting amortization from the gross national product. The net national product may, however, be roughly estimated at 69,000 million francs CFA, giving a final national income of approximating closely to 69,000 million francs CFA, or a final per capita income of 22,400 francs CFA, or 44,800 French francs, or \$89.60 a year.

There are two further sets of data which I think likely to interest the Committee on Contributions: those of the foreign trade and the budget of Cameroun. These can be stated very exactly for 1959.

(a) FOREIGN TRADE: imports - 20,153 million francs CFA;  
exports - 26,749 million francs CFA.

(b) BUDGET: 12,500 million francs CFA.

(N.B. This figure has been increased considerably for the financial year 1960-1961 through the assumption by the Camerounian State of responsibility for all public expenditure.)

The Delegation of Cameroun to the United Nations has the honour to be, etc.

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