

country profile	
government structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive: The president is the chief of state, and the prime minister is the head of government. The president is directly elected by simple majority popular vote for a five-year term with no term limits. The prime minister is appointed by the president. Cabinet is appointed by the prime minister in consultation with the president. • Legislative: Gabon has a bicameral Parliament. • Judicial: The highest court is the Supreme Court (which consists of four permanent specialised supreme courts, the Administrative Supreme Court, Accounting Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, and the non-permanent Court of State Security, initiated only for cases of high treason by the president and criminal activity by executive branch officials). The subordinate courts are the courts of appeal, county courts and military courts. • Next presidential elections: August 2025.
economic data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominal GDP (USD billions): 20.70 • GDP per capita (USD): 9 354.22 • Inflation rate (% change): 2.50 • Government revenue (% of GDP): 17.86 • Government gross debt (% of GDP): 54.77 <p><i>*Source: IMF (May 2024 estimates)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gabon promotes foreign investment across a range of sectors, particularly in oil and gas, infrastructure, timber, ecotourism, and mining. • The main industries include petroleum extraction and refining, manganese, gold, chemicals, ship repair, food and beverages, textiles, lumbering and plywood, and cement. • Gabon's main export partners are China and Singapore. The main export commodities include crude petroleum, manganese, lumber, veneer sheeting, and refined petroleum. • Gabon's main import partners are France, China, Belgium, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates. The main import commodities include poultry meats, excavation machinery, packaged medicines, cars, and rice.
risk ratings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S&P Global Overall Country Risk (Q2 2024): 137/211 • Corruption Perceptions Index (2023): 136/180

international treaties and memberships	
international and regional organisations and customs unions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement • African Development Bank Group • African Union • Bank of Central African States (<i>Banque des États de l'Afrique Centrale</i> ("BEAC")) • Central African Economic and Monetary Community (<i>Communauté Économique et Monétaire de l'Afrique Centrale</i> ("CEMAC")) • Commonwealth • Development Bank of Central African States (<i>Banque de Développement des États de l'Afrique Centrale</i>) • Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS) • Group of 24 • Group of 77 • Gulf of Guinea Commission • International Monetary Fund • International Organization of the French-speaking World (<i>Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie</i>) • Islamic Development Bank • Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States ("OACPS") • Organisation of Islamic Cooperation • Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa ("OHADA") • Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries • United Nations • World Bank Group • World Customs Organization • Gabon receives preferential treatment under the agreements listed here: http://ptadb.wto.org/Country.aspx?code=266
bilateral investment treaties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gabon has bilateral investment treaties in force with the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union, China, Germany, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, and Spain. • Treaties have been signed with Egypt, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritius, South Africa, Türkiye, and the United Arab Emirates, but these have not yet entered into force.
investment-related agreements / institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samoa Agreement (it succeeds the Cotonou Agreement and its provisional application commenced on 1 January 2024. The Agreement will enter into force upon consent by the European Parliament and ratification by all European Union member states and at least two thirds of the OACPS members) • Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency • World Trade Organization

dispute resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York Convention) Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States (ICSID Convention) OHADA United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)
intellectual property (“IP”) treaties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive list of IP-related treaties signed by Gabon is available at: https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/legislation/members/profile/GA?collection=treaties See the trade marks section below for further detail.
legal regime	
applicable legal regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gabon’s legal system is based on French civil law and customary law.
dispute resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regular courts handle commercial disputes in compliance with the OHADA Treaty, which provides an arbitration procedure. However, most disputes are resolved without recourse to outside arbitration.
land acquisition, planning and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreigners may not own land in Gabon and the sale of land to foreigners is prohibited.
competition	
<i>merger control</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relevant national competition legislation is Law No. 014/1998 of 23 July 1998 on the Establishment of the Competition Regime of Gabon (“Competition Law”) and Regulation No. 06/19_UEAC-639-CM of 7 April 2019 on Competition. The national competition regime is enforced by the Directorate General for Competition, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Prevention (the “DGCCRF”). There is some uncertainty as to whether the merger control regime in Gabon is currently operational. A concentration is defined as any act that may result in the transfer of ownership or the right to use, all or part of the assets, rights or obligations of an undertaking or any act that may confer the possibility of exercising decisive influence over one or more undertakings. Any concentration likely to harm competition, in particular by creating or strengthening a dominant position which will occur where the merging parties’ combined share of the market exceeds 25% or a significant part thereof, must be notified to the DGCCRF. Filing is mandatory in Gabon. A failure to notify a merger is considered an infringement of the merger Regulation and is subject to any or all the following penalties: (i) a fine ranging from F.CFA50 000 to F.CFA300-million; (ii) imprisonment ranging from three months to two years; and (iii) an individual fine ranging from F.CFA100 000 to F.CFA500-million.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gabon is a member of two regional competition bodies, CEMAC and OHADA. OHADA does not yet have an operational regulator and it is understood that its merger control regime is not yet functional. CEMAC does, however, have operational merger control regime in place and merger activities in Gabon should therefore be conducted with CEMAC in mind. In particular, in terms of CEMAC regulations, where the parties to a concentration hold a combined market share of more than 30% in the CEMAC common market, or where the parties together achieve a turnover of at least F.CFA10-billion in the CEMAC common market, the transaction will have to be notified at CEMAC level.
<i>prohibited practices</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Competition Law prohibits collective anti-competitive practices and agreements, concerted actions or express or tacit coalitions which as their object or effect: (i) limit access to the market and free competition; (ii) distort the allocation of markets, distribution channels and sources of supply; (iii) artificially contribute to increasing or reducing prices; or (iv) impede production, investment or technical progress. The Competition Law also prohibits the practice of minimum resale price maintenance; and abuses of dominance and economic dependence. Certain forms of unilateral conduct are also prohibited including sales below cost; refusal to sell; subordinated sales; discriminatory terms and conditions of sale or purchase; the imposition of resale prices; dumping practices; and door step selling. Horizontal agreements, abuses of a dominant position, and abuses of economic dependence appear to be subject to a fine ranging from F.CFA50 000 to F.CFA300-million and to criminal sanctions: imprisonment ranging from three months to two years and a fine ranging from F.CFA100 000 to F.CFA500-million. Unilateral conduct appears to be subject to a fine ranging from F.CFA30 000 to F.CFA30-million and to criminal sanctions: imprisonment ranging from one month to one year and a fine ranging from F.CFA50 000 to F.CFA50-million. OHADA does not regulate prohibited practices. CEMAC regulates anticompetitive agreements and abuse of dominance in the Common Market. Activities in Gabon should be conducted with CEMAC in mind.
employment	
<i>immigration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recruitment of foreigners is subject to a work permit being issued by the labour department. The employer is responsible for facilitating the application and related processes with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources.
<i>local employment vs secondment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An employee may be seconded to Gabon. However, the expatriated employee must be understudied by local employees.

<i>fixed-term contracts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixed-term contracts of two years are permitted and may be renewed once. It is best practice to have a written employment contract in French in place which records the terms of the employee's compensation, benefits, and termination requirements.
<i>payment in local currency</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remuneration must be paid in local currency.
<i>restraint of trade agreements</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restraint of trade agreements are permissible in Gabon only in the following circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when the employee resigns; when the contract of employment is terminated due to the employee's misconduct; and the restriction is reasonably limited within a 50-kilometre radius.
foreign investment regime	
investment regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gabonese Investment Charter, 1998 and the CEMAC Charter of Investment govern investments in Gabon. The Gabon National Investment Promotion Agency (<i>Agence Nationale de Promotions des Investissements au Gabon</i> ("ANPI-Gabon")) has been established to promote foreign investment in Gabon and serve as a one-stop shop for business registration.
registration / licensing requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companies must be registered with ANPI-Gabon, which also registers the company with the tax authority.
non-industry specific registrations/licences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following general non-industry specific registration/licences may also be required:
<i>General Directorate of Taxes (Direction Générale des Impôts ("DGI"))</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A company must obtain a Tax Identification Number (<i>Numéro d'Identification Fiscale</i>, NIF) from the DGI following its registration.
<i>social security authorities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every employer and its employees must register with the <i>Caisse Nationale de Sécurité Sociale</i> ("CNSS") and <i>Caisse Nationale d'Assurance Maladie et de Garantie Sociale</i> ("CNAMGS").
<i>Labour Inspectorate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A declaration of employment is to be submitted to the Labour Inspectorate.

industry-specific licences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry specific licences may be required.
incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a two-year exemption from minimum tax for newly registered companies; tax exemptions, a reduced tax base and accelerated depreciation for newly acquired assets granted to companies operating in the mining, industrial, agriculture, or forestry and artisanal fishing sectors, provided that certain conditions are met; incentives granted to small and medium-sized enterprises with an annual turnover not exceeding F.CFA2-billion and at least 51% owned by Gabonese individuals or entities; a special incentive regime for operations in special economic zones in respect of tax, customs, commercial and social security regulations; incentives granted on moveable capital and other financial instruments listed on the <i>Bourse Régionale des Valeurs Mobilières d'Afrique Centrale</i> ("BVMAC"); exemption from corporate income tax, VAT and business licence duty for companies involved in low-rent housing projects; tax exemptions for companies reinvesting part or all of their profits in supporting not-for-profit activities; and tax incentives for companies operating in the wood and cement industries.
exchange control regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gabon is a member of CEMAC and subject to the CEMAC Currency Exchange Regulation No. 02/18/CEMAC/UMAC/CM of 21 December 2018. In terms of the CEMAC Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the foreign exchange Regulations do not apply to transactions between member states of the CEMAC; nor do they apply to the franc zone, except for measures relating to gold, some loans, direct investments, and transactions in foreign securities; all other payments can be made freely, subject to a statement for statistical purposes and presentation of the intermediary's approved supporting documents for amounts that exceed F.CFA1-million per month and per entity; and the transfer of funds abroad exceeding F.CFA100-million requires declaration to the BEAC and to the relevant finance ministry at least 30 days before completion.

types of entities available for foreign investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The forms of doing business available in Gabon are mainly the following provided for by the OHADA Uniform Act on Commercial Companies and Economic Interest Groupings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> public limited company (<i>société anonyme</i> ("SA")); simplified public limited company (<i>société par actions simplifiée</i> ("SAS")); private limited liability company (<i>société à responsabilité limitée</i> ("SARL")); general partnership (<i>société en nom collectif</i>, SNC); limited partnership (<i>société en commandite simple</i>, SCS); joint venture (<i>société en participation</i>); de facto company (<i>société de fait</i>); economic interest grouping (<i>groupement d'intérêt économique</i>, GIE); registered branch of a foreign company; and representation or liaison office.
private limited liability company	
minimum number of shareholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARL SA SAS: A minimum of one shareholder is required. In principle, local shareholders are not required, but may be required in certain specified sectors such as mining, oil and gas.
minimum share capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following minimum share capital requirements apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARL: There is no minimum required share capital. However, the share capital must be divided into equal shares whose face value may not be less than F.CFA5 000; SA: F.CFA10-million, divided into shares of a face value of not less than F.CFA10 000; and SAS: no minimum required share capital.
directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARL: must have at least one managing director (<i>gérant</i>). It is recommended that someone who is either based in or regularly travels to Gabon be appointed as managing director, as it is required for such a person to hold a long-term visa. There is no requirement to appoint directors / managers in addition to the managing director. SA: must appoint a chairperson of the board who can also act as general manager of the company (<i>directeur général</i>). A board of directors with three to 12 members, including a chairperson, is to be appointed. SAS: free to determine its management structure, which should, as a minimum, consist of one chairperson. There is no requirement to appoint a board of directors.
company secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no requirement to appoint a company secretary in Gabon.
auditor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARL and SAS: must appoint a statutory auditor when two of the following three conditions are met at the end of the financial year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> its total balance sheet exceeds F.CFA125-million;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the annual turnover exceeds F.CFA250-million; or the permanent staff exceeds 50 employees. SA: appointment of an auditor is mandatory. SAS: appointment of an auditor is mandatory where an SAS effectively controls one or more companies, or where an SAS is effectively controlled by one or more companies. 		
registered address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every company must have a registered office in Gabon which must be indicated in the Articles of Association. The address of the company's accountants or lawyers may be used as registered address for an interim period. 		
shelf companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no shelf companies available in Gabon. 		
registration process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companies are registered at the ANPI-Gabon, and it takes approximately one week to complete registration once all required documents have been submitted. 		
tax			
tax system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gabon has a source-based taxation system in terms of which both residents and non-residents are subject to tax on income from a source in Gabon. 		
corporate residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A company is resident in Gabon if it is incorporated there. 		
corporate tax rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident companies and permanent establishments of foreign companies are subject to corporate income tax at the rate of 30%. Mining and oil companies are subject to corporate income tax a rate of 35%. Companies holding intellectual property rights, companies licensed to operate in land development and construction of low-rent housing, public undertakings, non-profit associations, and certain tourism businesses are taxed at the rate of 25%. A minimum tax (<i>impôt minimum forfaitaire</i>), at the rate of 1% of a defined tax base, with a minimum of F.CFA500 000, applies. 		
capital gains tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital gains are included in ordinary income and subject to corporate income tax at the standard rate. Capital gains on the transfer of assets between group member companies are liable to corporate income tax at a final rate of 20%. 		
withholding tax ("WHT") rates	WHT rate		
	payment to	residents	non-residents*
	branch profits	N/A	20% 10% (head office in DTA country)

	dividends	20% 10% (cement production companies, companies listed on the Central African Stock Exchange (BVMAC), private equity companies, companies under the parent company and subsidiary regime and dividend payments by holding companies under the group companies regime) 0% (group companies under the group companies regime)	20% 10% (cement production companies; companies listed on the BVMAC; dividend payments by holding companies under the group companies regime) 0% (group companies under the group companies regime)
	interest	20% 10% (private equity companies, holding companies under the group companies regime, BVMAC bonds with a maturity of less than five years) 5% (BVMAC bonds with a maturity of at least five years) 0% (group companies under the group companies regime)	25% 10% (holding companies under the group companies regime, payments by cement industry companies, BVMAC bonds with maturity of less than five years) 5% (BVMAC bonds with a maturity of at least five years) 0% (group companies under the group companies regime)
	royalties	N/A	25% 0% (group companies under the group companies regime)
	management, consulting, and technical service fees	N/A	25% 0% (group companies under the group companies regime)
*The withholding tax rate may be reduced in terms of a relevant double tax agreement.			

double tax agreements ("DTAs")	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DTAs are in force with Belgium, Canada, France, Republic of Korea, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and CEMAC member states (including Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of the Congo, and Equatorial Guinea).
losses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Losses may be carried forward for a period of five years. This does not apply to companies exempt from corporate income tax with effect from 1 January 2024. In case of partial exemption from taxation, only the losses related to the non-exempt activities can be carried forward.
transfer pricing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of Gabon's transfer pricing rules, transactions between related parties must be entered into on an arm's length basis. Two companies are deemed to be related if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one of them holds directly or indirectly the majority share capital of the other company or if it is de facto a decision-making authority; or both companies are under the aforesaid conditions related to a third company.
limitation on interest deductibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest paid on loans by shareholders or related companies exceeding their capital participation is deductible up to an amount computed with reference to the central bank rate (BEAC) plus two percentage points, provided that the company's share capital is fully paid up. Interest paid to shareholders who are actively involved in the management of the company is non-deductible to the extent it is charged on shareholder loans that exceed half of the company's free authorised share capital. Interest on loans from related companies is only partially deductible if the borrowing company is deemed to be thinly capitalised, i.e. if it exceeds the following three limits in a tax year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the product of (i) the amount of interest on related-party loans multiplied by (ii) the ratio of 1.5 times the amount of equity, and the average balance of related party loans in a given year; the amount of interest received from related companies in the tax year; and 25% of the profit before tax, interest paid, depreciation, and leasing rents. The fraction of the interest on related-party loans exceeding the highest of these limits is not deductible.

<p>employee taxes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income tax is determined based on a progressive scale and interaction with a set of coefficients ("P") ranging between 1 and 3.5, determined with reference to the family circumstances of a taxpayer. Chargeable income ("Q") is determined as the gross taxable income divided by the relevant coefficient ("P"). The income tax rates applicable to resident individuals are: <table border="1" data-bbox="349 475 1028 780"> <thead> <tr> <th>chargeable income (F.CFA) ("Q")</th> <th>tax rate</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>up to 1 500 000</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 500 001 – 1 920 000</td> <td>5% x Q – 75 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 920 001 – 2 700 000</td> <td>10% x Q – 171 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 700 001 – 3 600 000</td> <td>15% x Q – 306 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 600 001 – 5 160 000</td> <td>20% x Q – 486 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 160 001 – 7 500 000</td> <td>25% x Q – 744 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 500 001 – 11 000 000</td> <td>30% x Q – 1 119 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>over 11 000 000</td> <td>35% x Q – 1 169 000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Total tax payable is determined by multiplying the tax calculated with the relevant coefficient ("P"). 	chargeable income (F.CFA) ("Q")	tax rate	up to 1 500 000	0%	1 500 001 – 1 920 000	5% x Q – 75 000	1 920 001 – 2 700 000	10% x Q – 171 000	2 700 001 – 3 600 000	15% x Q – 306 000	3 600 001 – 5 160 000	20% x Q – 486 000	5 160 001 – 7 500 000	25% x Q – 744 000	7 500 001 – 11 000 000	30% x Q – 1 119 000	over 11 000 000	35% x Q – 1 169 000
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<p>social security contributions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both employees and employers must make monthly social security contributions to the CNSS and national health insurance contributions to the CNAMGS. The employer social security contribution rates are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> family allowances: 8%; retirement pensions: 5%; and work injuries (industrial accidents): 3%. The employer national health insurance contribution rates are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> medication: 2%; hospitalisation: 1.5%; and ancillary medical services: 0.6%. The employee social security contribution rate is 2.5% of total monthly remuneration and the national health insurance contribution rate is 2%. The income base for the contributions is the employee's gross salary with a monthly ceiling of F.CFA1.5-million for the social security contributions and F.CFA2.5-million for the national health insurance and social guarantee contributions. All employers registered with the CNSS are mandated to contribute to the National Fund for Housing (<i>cotisation au Fonds National pour l'Habitat</i>) at a rate of 2% of the aggregate gross salaries, wages, and benefits in kind. 																		

<p>payroll tax</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A professional training contribution (<i>contribution à la formation professionnelle</i>) is due by entities subject to corporate income tax at the rate of 0.5% of annual gross salaries.
<p>stamp duty</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stamp duty is levied on a number of instruments at amounts varying from F.CFA200 to F.CFA600 depending on the size of the document. Registration duty at the rate of 3% is payable on the transfer of shares. The transfer of assets (including shares) between group member companies is subject to a 1% duty. Registration duty on the transfer of immovable property is generally levied at a rate of 13%, but a rate of 15% applies in Libreville, Akanda, Owendo and Port-Gentil.
<p>value added tax ("VAT")</p>	
<p><i>taxable supplies</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VAT is levied on the supply of goods and services in Gabon and on the importation of goods and services.
<p><i>VAT rate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18% 10% (manufacturing and sale of fishing equipment, outboard motors, automobile spare parts, building tiles, spikes, raincoats, imported meat and poultry, imported edible oils, sugar, and imported peanuts) 5% (manufacturing and sale of cement)
<p><i>registration threshold</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any person who habitually or occasionally carries out taxable transactions in Gabon and has an annual taxable turnover of more than F.CFA60-million must register for VAT purposes. Persons carrying out transactions in the forestry sector are subject to VAT if their annual revenue exceeds of F.CFA500-million.
<p><i>reverse VAT on imported services</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident companies are required to account for output VAT in respect of imported services rendered by non-registered foreign companies. The Gabonese recipient of the service may deduct such VAT as in input credit in the subsequent month if the service is used in the making of taxable supplies, except if the services provided by the foreign supplier are available in the Gabonese territory.
<p><i>special solidarity tax</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A special solidarity tax (<i>la contribution spéciale de solidarité</i>) is levied at a rate of 1% on the sale of goods and the provision of services rendered or used in Gabon by taxpayers with an annual taxable turnover of at least F.CFA30-million, based on similar principles as VAT.

trade marks	
international conventions, treaties, and arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Madrid Protocol Nice Agreement Paris Convention Trade Mark Law Treaty World Intellectual Property Organization Convention World Trade Organization / Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) (all <i>Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle</i> ("OAPI") countries are members except Comoros and Equatorial Guinea) <p><i>*Note</i></p> <p>Gabon is a member of OAPI. OAPI has a central registry in Cameroon which facilitates the central filing of IP rights, including trade marks. An OAPI application automatically covers all member countries, as the member states had to renounce their national IP laws to become members. It is therefore not possible to file individual national applications in any of the OAPI member states.</p> <p>OAPI member states include: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Republic of the Congo, Senegal, and Togo.</p>
classification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Classification of Goods and Services (Nice Classification) applies. A single application may cover any number of classes.
categories of trade marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision is made for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> collective trade marks; ordinary trade marks (goods and service trade marks); and geographical indications.
filing requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full particulars of the applicant; Power of Attorney, in French or English, simply signed (per application); electronic representation of the trade mark; and a certified copy of the priority document (if applicable), with a verified French or English translation.

procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An application is filed at the OAPI office in Cameroon. Applications are examined for formal compliance with formal requirements only. If the office finds that the conditions for registration have been met, the trade mark registers, and the registration is published.
oppositions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opposition may be lodged within six months following the date of advertisement of the registration. No extensions are allowed.
duration and renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A trade mark registration is effective for an initial period of 10 years and, thereafter, renewable for further periods of 10 years.

ENS is a full-service law firm with significant experience and specialist expertise that spans all commercial areas of law, tax, forensics, and IP across Africa. For more information or assistance please contact:

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