

"The project for the reform of the customs service (PADMOD) will be financed to the tune of 6.5 billion francs CFA," revealed Alexandre Tana, Director of the project last Friday in Douala. It was during the piloting committee meeting of PADMOD at the conference hall of the former directorate general of customs. To span over four years, the project is behind schedule by 13 months. Lateness is blamed on the heavy procedure, inexperience, and incompetence of the team. EU will finance the project to end in 2015 due to an additional 12 months. But, the Director General of Customs, Minette Libom Li Likeng asked the team, "to work hard and not to be discouraged." Personals have been dropped from the project. "There have been a lot of changes at the head of the team for the project; some employees were sacked and others recruited," Tana said. To him, "these changes helped the project to catch-up". Despite the lateness, according to Minette Libom Li Likeng, "all the stakeholders are convinced the project will be carried out".