

Health and Medical Cooperation

Specimen Sharing Agreement Between the Government of the
United States of America and the Government of Cameroon

Signed at Yaounde December 16, 2025.

Entered into Force January 15, 2026.



NOTE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Pursuant to Public Law 89—497, approved July 8, 1966
(80 Stat. 271; 1 U.S.C. 113)—

“ . . .the Treaties and Other International Acts Series issued under the authority of the Secretary of State shall be competent evidence . . . of the treaties, international agreements other than treaties, and proclamations by the President of such treaties and international agreements other than treaties, as the case may be, therein contained, in all the courts of law and equity and of maritime jurisdiction, and in all the tribunals and public offices of the United States, and of the several States, without any further proof or authentication thereof.

**SPECIMEN SHARING AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF CAMEROON**

PREAMBLE

The United States of America (U.S. Government) and The Government of the Republic of Cameroon (Government of Cameroon) (together the "Parties") seek to engage in a bilateral Specimen Sharing Agreement ("Agreement").

Article 1. Purpose and Scope

a. The purpose of this Agreement is to promote global health security through the facilitation of the rapid sharing of specimens, samples, sequencing data, and any other associated data related to novel and emerging infectious diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential ("specimen and related data") between the U.S. Government and the Government of Cameroon for legitimate public health purposes, including responding to outbreaks and the development of diagnostics and medical countermeasures.

Article 2. Specimen Sharing with the U.S. Government

a. Upon a request by the U.S. Government, the Government of Cameroon agrees to initiate sharing specimen(s) and related data with the U.S. Government within five (5) days of the Government of Cameroon receiving such a request from the U.S. Government or on an alternative timeline as mutually agreed to between the U.S. Government and the Government of Cameroon on a case-by-case basis. If requested by the U.S. Government, the Government of Cameroon may provide sequencing data via sharing on a public database instead of or in addition to directly sharing specimens and related data with the U.S. Government.

b. The Government of Cameroon consents to the U.S. Government sharing the specimen and related data for the purpose of developing diagnostics and medical countermeasures with up to ten (10) non-U.S. Government U.S. entities ("U.S. Recipients"), each of whom must have the capability to assist in developing diagnostics and/or medical countermeasures.

c. The United States Government recognizes that there may be exceptionally rare circumstances in which the Government of Cameroon is practically unable to share a specimen related to a health threat of epidemic or pandemic potential in response to a U.S. government request. Such circumstances may excuse sharing only when, based on a verifiable joint assessment by both governments, that the quantity of available aliquots is objectively insufficient for sharing and no additional specimen from the original case can be obtained. An example of such an exceptionally rare circumstances situation is a case where a suspect patient or vector dies and is buried (or destroyed in the case of a vector specimen) before sufficient sample collection is possible. In such exceptionally rare circumstances, the Government of Cameroon will refrain from any sharing of the insufficient specimen with any other external entity or country. If additional specimens later become available from the same case (regardless of the method of retrieval), or if new cases arise that permit collection of additional specimens, the Government of Cameroon agrees to inform the U.S. Government that such specimens are *92*

available and share those specimens with the United States Government immediately upon request, within twenty-four (24) hours and no later than forty eight (48) after availability.

Article 3. Benefits to the Government of Cameroon

a. In the event that a medical countermeasure is developed primarily from specimen and related data shared under this Agreement by the Government of Cameroon, the U.S. Government, subject to the availability of funds and applicable law, shall prioritize any request by the Government of Cameroon for the medical countermeasure immediately behind the U.S. Government's domestic need for such medical countermeasure and make best efforts to make such medical countermeasure available to the Government of Cameroon at prices equal to or below those paid by the U.S. Government.

Article 4. Representations

a. Each Party affirms that its participation in any multilateral agreement or arrangement, including surveillance and laboratory networks, governing access and benefit sharing of human and zoonotic specimens and related data shall not prejudice its compliance with this Agreement.

b. The Government of Cameroon acknowledges that, pursuant to Section 4.7 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Cameroon and the U.S. Government, of December 16th, 2025, so long as the U.S. Government is providing any funding under the MOU, the U.S. Government has a significant and material interest in ensuring that the Government of Cameroon fulfills the commitments for specimen and related data sharing set out in this Agreement and that failure by the Government of Cameroon to fulfill these commitments could result in changes in U.S. Government planned assistance contemplated under the MOU, the discontinuation of the MOU, or the termination of this Agreement by the U.S. Government.

Article 5. Additional Terms


a. **Duration:** This Agreement shall enter into force thirty (30) days after signature by both Parties and shall remain in effect for a period of ten (10) years, renewable every 5 years thereafter upon mutual written agreement of the Parties.

b. **Termination:** In the event the MOU is discontinued prior to December 31, 2030, either Party may terminate this Agreement upon giving one year's written notice to the other Party. If the MOU is no longer in effect, either Party may terminate this Agreement with one year's written notice to the other Party. In the event the Government of Cameroon terminates this agreement, termination shall not affect the use by the U.S. Government of any specimens and related data previously shared under this Agreement or any U.S. benefit sharing obligations under this Agreement arising from such use.

c. **Amendments:** This Agreement may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties.

d. **Notices:** Any notice required under this Agreement is expected to be provided to:

For the U.S. Government

For the Government of Cameroon 



U.S. Embassy

Ministry of Public Health

U.S. Embassy, Ave Rosa Parks

Either Party may, by notice in writing to the other Party, designate additional representatives or substitute other representatives for those designated in this Section. The Parties intend any notice, request or other communication under this Agreement to be in writing and delivered to the address specified in this Agreement or such other address as either Party may provide to the other Party.

e. Procedures for Sharing: The Parties agree that the transfer, use, management and control of specimens and related data shared under this Agreement will be carried out consistent with relevant applicable domestic laws, including protection of human subjects, and internationally recognized standards of specimen handling. A document specifying characteristics of specimens and related data may be completed at the time of specimen transfer between the sending entity in Cameroon and the U.S. Government receiving entity.

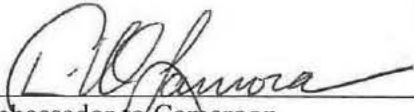
f. Other Sharing Permitted: This Agreement neither precludes new agreements nor negates or replaces existing agreements for sharing specimen and related data between the U.S. Government and the Government of Cameroon.

g. Privileges and Immunities of the Parties: Nothing in or related to this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver, express or implied, of privileges and immunities accorded to either of the Parties, including the sovereign immunity of either of the Parties, under any applicable law or agreement.

h. Resolution of Differences: The Parties agree to resolve any differences between them arising from or in connection with the interpretation or performance of this Agreement through consultations between themselves.

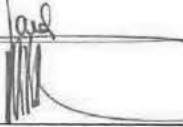
DONE at Yaoundé, Cameroon, on December 10, 2025, in two duplicate, in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:


Ambassador to Cameroon
H.E. Christopher Lamora



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
CAMEROON:


Minister of Public Health
Dr. Manaouda Malachie