

PRESS RELEASE ON THE PEACEFUL MARCHES OF 22 SEPTEMBER 2020.

The political parties and civil society organisations which met on 17 September 2020 at the headquarters of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement in Yaoundé and expressed themselves through a Final Communiqué adopted on the same day, are delighted with the resounding success of the peaceful, patriotic and republican marches of 22 September 2020. They extend their warm congratulations to the Cameroonian populations who have gone out in large numbers to express their opposition to the continuation of the civil war in the North-West and South-West regions, and to the maintenance of an iniquitous electoral system which makes democratic expression of the Cameroonian people impossible.

Our populations have shown heroic courage in the face of an unprecedented deployment of the regime's repressive machine, worthy of a state of siege, which created a terror-ridden atmosphere all week before the marches, caused innocent victims, in particular many wounded, including by bullets. By their exemplary peaceful behaviour, even in the face of the barbaric and unjustified charge of the repressive forces, these populations have shown their political maturity, their sense of patriotic responsibilities and their civility in the expression of their deep desire for peaceful and respect for the Constitution of our country.

To the victims of the brutalities of the forces of repression, we express our deepest sympathy and our wishes for the speedy recovery of the injured.

To those who were illegally arrested during the marches or kidnapped for some, the day before these marches or at their homes, including Professor Alain FOGUE TEDOM, National Treasurer of the MRC and Mr. Olivier BIBOU NISSACK, Advisor and Spokesperson for the National President of the CRM, we express our total solidarity and encouragement in this new ordeal on the road to the liberation of our country.

Arbitrariness and barbarism will not win out the determination of the Cameroonian populations to free themselves from the tyranny of a dictatorial regime, which has no consideration for the lives of Cameroonians, let alone for their suffering and the distress of the youth. You can be proud to have pushed the power of Yaoundé to show the world its true face.

A powerful force arose on 22nd September 2020. It must continue its course until it reaches the goal it is pursuing:

- the return to peace in the North-West and South-West regions by an immediate ceasefire; followed by an inclusive national dialogue covering, inter alia, the reform of institutions, including the form of the State;
 - the consensual reform of the electoral system before any new election in our country,
- otherwise the peaceful marches will continue, to call for the departure from power of Mr. Paul BIYA and his regime.

We are not to be fooled: a people that have been in chains for so long cannot be freed overnight. The Peaceful Marches of 22nd September 2020 are therefore only a starting point. The people of the resistance must stay awake and more mobilised than ever.

May God bless Cameroon!

Done in Yaoundé, 22 September 2020.

For the political parties and civil society organisations concerned.

Maurice Kamto