



PRESS RELEASE OF THE CAMEROON RENAISSANCE MOVEMENT ON THE FLOODS IN CERTAIN LOCALITIES OF THE MAYO DANAY DIVISION, FAR NORTH REGION

For the past few days, the populations of the Mayo-Danay division and in particular those of the localities of Maga, wina, Guirvidig, Guéré, Kaikai and Yagoua have been suffering of climatic variations due to torrential rains causing floods on stretches of rice fields as well as in homes, causing displacement of these affected populations to take up temporary residence in schools and makeshift homes.

This precarious situation exposes them to several dangers threatening their health and which directly impacts the already fragile social balances in this part of our country, officially declared an “economically depressed region”. In addition, it exposes the educational community to dead-end challenges during this back-to-school period. The enormous damage caused and already identified poses serious risks of large-scale hunger to which the populations of these regions are unfortunately so often victims.

The CRM admires the courage and the outpouring of solidarity shown by the populations during these tragic events which, however, provisional measures could have anticipated. The CRM expresses its compassion to the families who would have lost a loved one in this disaster and all its solidarity with all the affected populations.

We remember that in September 2012, this same phenomenon occurred, thus forcing the President of the Republic to make a trip to the distressed areas. Promises were then made, with a lot of communication, to better prevent disasters of this nature in the future. It can be noted, to deplore it, that ten years later none of the measures announced then have been implemented on the field. Those populations remain vulnerable to such natural calamities. The CRM regrets this situation and urges the government to take its responsibilities seriously by implementing urgent measures to relieve our compatriots who are suffering in their flesh and who have lost their means of subsistence, washed away by the waters.

The State must also carry out a complete and exhaustive assessment of the situation in order to provide an appropriate and lasting response to this phenomenon to which Mayo-Danay and beyond, the Far North, are continually exposed.

To deal with similar disasters in the future, the CRM asks, in addition to the immediate application of the measures announced on 20 September 2012 by the power in place:

- The creation of several artificial lakes to contain water flows, accompanied by substantial development of the beds of the Logone and Mayo-Danay. These lakes could later be used for farming activities and watering holes for livestock during the dry season;
- Dredging works of the bed of the Mayo-Danay in critical places of this river. Its excessive silting is partly responsible for the overflows that cause flooding;
- The placing under increased meteorological surveillance of the areas located in the Logone basin in order to warn the populations in time;
- The implementation of all technically useful measures that can allow better anticipation of this type of phenomenon both in the Far North Region and in the rest of the country.

Beyond government measures, the CRM calls for solidarity actions to our compatriots, brothers and sisters, in the affected areas from all Cameroonians in the form and methods of their choice.

Yaoundé, 16 October 2022

National President,

Maurice KAMTO.