

MOUVEMENT POUR
LA RENAISSANCE
DU CAMEROUN



CAMEROON
RENAISSANCE
MOVEMENT

AUTORISATION MINATD N°000221 DU 25 JUILLET 2008/ LETTRE MINATD N°0002249/LMINATD/DAP/SDE/STP DU 02 AOÛT 2012

STATEMENT ON THE PUBLIC CALL TO A COUP LAUNCHED BY THE RULING PARTY, THE CPDM, TO THE NATIONAL ARMY.

As I prepare to make this statement, I have a special thought for all the militants and sympathizers of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM) who have already fallen under the blows of the regime in place, and an infinite sadness following the monstrous assassination of Mrs Suzanne ZAMBOUE, peaceful mother, torn from the affection of her family and ours on the night of Wednesday 6 September at her home in Yaoundé, and whose death we learned with amazement.

It is difficult not to link her torture followed by her cold execution and the police and judicial harassment to which her husband, Mr. Pascal ZAMBOUE and other comrades of our party are subjected to by the authorities. Our hearts are bleeding, but we are standing and will remain so. Cameroon is our only homeland. So, those who sow terror must accept our existence in this painful land of our ancestors or kill us all to the last.

Dear Compatriots,

It is with dismay that we learned of the call for the perpetration of a military coup in our country in the event of victory of the CRM candidate in the next presidential election, call launched by the official representative of the Cameroonian People Democratic Movement (CPDM) during the programme "Droit de Réponse" on the Equinoxe TV, on Sunday 3 September 2023.

Specifically, this call, following questions by the programme host, is formulated through the statement below:

“I will answer these two questions by making a foot-by-foot comparison. Let those who listen to us understand well.

First question: Can there be a situation where the day after a presidential election, for example 2025 or even 2032, the Cameroonian army decides to take power? But of course this hypothesis can happen. And that could happen in the event that CRM wins the elections. Indeed in this

hypothesis, I see very well the army taking power to prevent (a panelist: and if it is the UPC?) Allow me, I have mentioned CRM and not UPC. So if the impossible was to happen that CRM win the elections, I expect the army to strongly oppose it. Why am I saying that? We all know the famous..... tribal militia, humm! And its avatars: Bulu militia, Beti militia and so on. But who can imagine the Cameroonian soldiers so ridiculed, including by the CRM President, accepting to have this gentleman as commander-in-chief. The CRM folks insult the Cameroonian army every day; they call it all kinds of words. But I do not see under what conditions there can be collaboration between a political party which has chosen to have an anti-republican line against the army and this army which is republican.

(A panelist: I would like to understand, you are telling the army that if a citizen other than your champion wins the elections they must make a coup, is that what you are saying?) Allow, allow, allow, and allow me (The same panelist: No, I just want to understand very well because I have difficulty understanding). Mr ... please do not lend me words. I say and I repeat that I do not see under what conditions there can be cohabitation between individuals who treat the army as a militia and that army. Unless we are going to move from one militia to another! Alright what's going to happen? Are we going to dismiss all the Bulu and Beti from the army to put in the nationals of the tribe of the new future President? Except in this hypothesis (The same panelist: But I don't understand you!) You are free not to understand me! I am however very clear! » 2

On 4 September 2023, a day after this serious public statement, another official of the official CPDM communication team, published a similar statement on his Facebook page. He declared that

"in the event that by some miracle CRM were to win a presidential election in this country, there would inevitably be a coup; the army would never agree to have as commander-in-chief a leader from a party that has been calling her names for several years." He wrote again: "Most assuredly, the only condition for a coup in Cameroon is that CRM wins a presidential election !!! The army will never accept to serve under a party which regularly referred to it as "Bulu militia" "militia of the tyrant" "soldiers of Biya".

On 5 September, this same official communicator of the CPDM published the following message on his Facebook page:

"the UPC, the PCRN, the AFP and others have never insulted the army of this country!!! If one of these parties wins the presidential election one day the army will serve under its leader!!! On the other hand, if it is the CRM or a party having nominated the CRM President who wins, there will automatically be a coup."

None of the authors of these statements, individuals obviously dangerous to the Republic, have suffered the slightest condemnation or disapproval, even any sanctions from the CPDM, nor

from the Government.

It is thus logically that the CRM considers this antipatriotic and anti-republican call as that of the CPDM, a political party whose national president, Mr Paul Biya, is also the President of the Republic in office.

In other words, the party which has confiscated power in Cameroon for several decades through wild electoral fraud and indiscriminate police repression is publicly calling on the National Army to carry out a coup, if in the next presidential election Mr Paul Biya or any other CPDM candidate, was once again beaten at the polls by the CRM candidate to whom the Cameroonian people would have sovereignly decided to hand over the leadership of the country.

Calling on the National Army to undermine the Institutions of the Republic and security of the State is extremely serious and unprecedented in our political history. This is a crime against peace and national harmony. Nothing can justify such perdition.

Since the electoral hold-up of which CRM was the victim in 2018, its leaders, members and sympathizers have suffered all kinds of violence and humiliation from certain clearly identified members of the Security and Defence Forces, who in addition openly uttered political remarks and nonsense that patriotic modesty does not allow to be mentioned here.

Some of these leaders, members and supporters of our party are still arbitrarily detained in the country's prisons; others bear indelible sequels and deep trauma resulting from this cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

However, despite the legitimate resentment that these acts and behaviours can arouse in us against the authors of these crimes against humanity, the CRM has never considered that the excesses of some hateful elements of the security and defence forces could justify that it discredits the entire Institution.

During the darkest hours when the CPDM regime did not hide to distil in public opinion, including even in the ranks of the security and defence forces, the idea, absurd, that the CRM, its leaders, militants and sympathizers were internal enemies of the Republic, and that it was an act of bravery to torture them or even neutralize them, some among us only survived thanks to the large republican qualities of many compatriots who serve under the flag.

Despite the open intention of the CPDM to turn the National Army into a partisan instrument to terrorize the opposition which refuses to compromise with it against the people so that they can keep power forever, the Cameroonian army remains republican.

Those who shamelessly call on the national army to deny their republican oath by sinking into the dishonour of the gloomy universe of the coup ignore that it is not a band of grunts and roughneck soldiers, but an institution led by a well -trained elite, having a fine knowledge of the country and its human resources.

Less than two years after its creation, the CRM has shown its loyalty, esteem and support for the National Army by organizing nationwide blood donations for the benefit of this Army committed to the fight against the terrorist Boko-Haram sect.

More personally, already admiring the reputation of our army acquired in its promptness to build up a stronghold in the face of threats to some of our borders while I was still young, I had the rare privilege of working with members of the army High Command for more than 17 years on issues relating to the defence of our country's borders. This means that the Cameroonian security and Defence Forces know me individually in particular my patriotic commitment and my immense respect for their sacrifice and their professionalism.

In addition, the National Defence and Security Forces heard the message of exaltation, congratulations and encouragement that I sent to them by video in May 2021. There was then no political deadline on the horizon. It was simply the testimony of gratitude of a compatriot who knows their sacrifices on various theaters of operation. Let those who believe they can instrumentalize the Cameroonian security and defence forces against the CRM and its main leader therefore seek something else.

This is an opportunity for our party and for me to salute the attachment to the republican values of women and men who, despite a political atmosphere made detestable by the CPDM, serve the nation with a high sense of patriotism and with the permanent concern to protect all Cameroonian citizens without any distinction or discrimination. 4

More than everyone, these valiant compatriots of the security and defence forces, who are at the forefront of the protection of our populations and the defence of the fatherland, have an interest in denouncing those who amongst them act rather as militiamen at the service of an individual, a group of individuals or special interests, and not in the interest and for the happiness of our people. It is before these people and them alone, today and tomorrow, that they must honour their oath. These people will survive us, and they will survive the current and following regimes. In the CRM, despite unspecifiable injustices and unspeakable tortures that the CPDM regime inflicts us, we have faith in the Republic. Yes, I do have faith in the Republic, And I have every reason to have it.

Indeed since 2018, on our way to the cross, I have been able to appreciate, by myself and through the stories of my comrades, the acute republican sense of many members of our security and defence forces. They on whom unhealthy and anti-republican political pressures are constantly exercised by the CPDM regime to force them to break us forever. I salute their ability to abstain, without challenging their hierarchy, to serve as a shield for a group of Cameroonians against others in political disputes.

If we can rejoice in the fact that the CPDM is so convinced of the CRM victory in the next

presidential election that it desperately implores, in anticipation, an intervention from our brave Army, we fully trust that this Army which has the asserted republican culture will not respond to this call for a crime against its People.

I urge the authorities in charge of protecting the morale of the army and the judicial authorities to take up this public call to the coup launched to the national army by the CPDM.

I ask the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the African Union, the UN, friends of the Cameroonian people and the international community in general to take note of the coup in preparation that the regime has announced in the event of a defeat of Mr Paul Biya or any other CPDM candidate or promoted by this party, against the CRM candidate for the next presidential election. No one may claim that he was not informed of what is prepared against our party and our people.

To the Cameroonians inland and in the diaspora, I would like to say that this criminal call of the CPDM for a coup, which is nothing other than a public call for the infringement on the Institutions of the Republic and the security of the State, is proof that now the people scare those who have long scared them. This appeal to coup, in fact to the disrespect of the Constitution and the laws of the Republic, which comes from the regime itself is proof that in the ranks of those who have spent decades tormenting Cameroonians and to make fun of their suffering, the usual arrogance is giving way to panic.

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They are panicking because of the refusal of our people to give in to their provocations, this people who are confident that they will take their destiny in hand by the ballot box and in peace. I invite Cameroonians to remain mobilized and absolutely vigilant, now that they are informed of the disastrous fate that the CPDM is preparing for them if it were to lose power at the end of the upcoming electoral process.

I trust that you, Cameroonians, will give the Forces of Change the means of sanctioning democratically and irrevocably, this putschist party, the CPDM, for all the evil that its regime has done to our dear country for so many years. Also, I invite you to stay focused on what matters, namely the massive registration on the electoral lists as soon as registration reopens next January, the preparation for the meticulous control of the conduct of the poll and the protection of your vote, so that the political alternation of which our People have been dreaming of for several decades is finally achieved.

Let Justice take care of this call to the coup against the winner of an election, that's to say a crime against the will of the people. On its diligence and objectivity in the conduct of the legal proceedings imposed by this felony depends the preservation of a peaceful change in our country, in particular at this crucial moment of its history.

Those who dream of eternal power must wake up, for such power does not exist on a human

scale. No matter how long it lasts, human power eventually ends.

I shall never betray you.

May God protect our country!

Yaoundé on 8 September 08, 2023

Maurice KAMTO

CRM National President