



COALITION OF CIVIL SOCIETY-HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS FOR PEACE IN THE ANGLOPHONE REGIONS AND OTHER AFFECTED REGIONS

PRESS RELEASE N° 003/ 2020

ANGLOPHONE CRISIS: AGGRAVATED ACTS OF HORROR AND BARBARISM!

We, the Coalition of Civil Society-Human Rights organizations for Peace in the Anglophone Regions and other affected Regions (The Coalition), created in December 2019 by 30 Cameroonian Human rights CSOs because of the ongoing Anglophone crisis, wish to bring to:

THE ATTENTION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

1. The Coalition watched with great consternation, amazement, dismay and bewilderment several videos and images of incredible violence broadcast over the past few days on social media concerning the current socio-political crises in the North West and South West Regions;
2. **Case 1:** We are dealing with the images of a male person, who can be seen naked, with his head severed and both upper limbs amputated. According to unverified information, the victim is believed to be a municipal police worker with the Ndop Council, named **Peter Njakah Chuisih**;
3. **Case 2:** It is about this video where we can see a pretty young girl with sparkling eyes, wiggling around in a refreshment bar with apparent friends, and a few minutes later is seen murdered in cold blood. The victim can be seen lying in a pool of her own blood with her neck cut off. According to unverified information, this beautiful girl, called **Mbah Treasure**, was allegedly coldly murdered by members of one of the armed groups active in the Northwest;
4. **Case 3:** This is another more recent video, where we can see excruciating images of a woman initially **arrested, tortured, then slaughtered** with machetes by three or four armed males while videotaping. Even an animal to be slaughtered is treated with more consideration than the manner in which this poor lady was murdered. According to the government press release, her name is **Comfort Tumassang**. According to other sources, she is 35 years old and the mother of 04 children. In this video we can see robust men and male voices at the maneuver. Several unverified sources incriminate members of armed separatist groups present in the Southwest;
5. **Case 4 :** These are the images of a military operation going awry and in during which soldiers allegedly fired live ammunition at teenagers (**14 - 17 years**) at Ebanja Quarters-

Tiko. A young girl of about 15 died on the fields, several others are in intensive care in a local hospital;

6. It would be hard not to mention these other murdered people, who died during these two months of **August and July** victims of atrocities related that amount to gross human rights violations and abuses on the North West and South West Regions. These include: **Bassem Enow, Samuel Wazizi, Tanjoh Christopher Fon, Thomas Tangem Nganyu**, etc.
7. Pending the final documentation and report, we express our disapproval and total rejection of such atrocities. The atrocities shown in these images are **unacceptable, inexplicable and utterly inhuman**.
8. The recurrence of these murderous violence should no longer leave Cameroonian actors indifferent and passive.

IN VIEW OF ALL THE ABOVE, THE COALITION:

1- **Condemns**, once again, in unequivocal terms, the inhuman and systematic attacks, rapes, torture and murder of women in the North West and South West Regions;

2- **Firmly recalls** that the protection of civilians is a collective responsibility of all parties to the conflict;

To the Cameroonian Government

4- The Coalition calls for all possible investigations to be carried out (in accordance with the legal rules in force) to find those responsible for such atrocities and to bring them before the judge;

5- The Coalition asks him to reconsider the current pacification policy in the NOSO;

To the separatist armed groups active in the NOSO

6- The Coalition asks them to speak out clearly and unequivocally on the massacre of these women;

7- The Coalition asks them to make women and children the leitmotif of their demands;

8- The Coalition demands, in their struggle, to put an end to human rights abuses, the recurrence of which delegitimizes their actions.

9. The Coalition Firmly reminds the parties to conflicts (government forces and separatist armed groups) that they are bound by International Humanitarian Law (IHL) must respond to the massacres on the civilian population;

10-Finally, The Coalition calls on friendly countries to Cameroon, the African Union, the European Union, the United Nations to ACT (press, support, accompany, etc.) for the resolution of this crisis.

Done in Yaoundé, on the 14th Day of AUGUST 2020

By the Coalition of Civil Society-Human Rights Association for Peace in the Anglophone Regions and other affected Regions

For the Coalition

Have signed:

The National Coalition Coordinator

Mr. NFORMI Willam NGENGE, (Volunteers for the Consolidation of National Unity)

The Permanent Secretary of the Coalition

Ms. Cyrille Rolande BECHON (Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme Cameroun)

