

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN

Paix-Travail-Patrie

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MINISTERE  
DES RELATIONS EXTERIEURES

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CABINET DU MINISTRE



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

Peace-Work-Fatherland

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MINISTRY  
OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS

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THE MINISTER'S CABINET

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*Yaounde, 13 MAI 2019*

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## PRESS RELEASE

The Ministry of External Relations hereby informs the national and international public as follows:

A few weeks ago, some media organs and social networks, widely hyped that the United Nations Security Council was to hold a meeting today, Monday, 13 May 2019, in New York, purportedly to dwell on the situation in Cameroon.

The Ministry of External Relations would like to state clearly that this is far-fetched, for, any such sitting of the Council would certainly feature in advance in this month's official work programme as adopted by the Council, and would equally have been duly and officially published in the Journal of the United Nations of this day, indicating both the time and agenda of the meeting, even if it were merely an unofficial meeting or informal consultation.

The media organs, undoubtedly, made a deliberate or inadvertent confusion between a scheduled meeting and the Arria-Formula sharing of views, that some Council Members initiated to hold this same day, to dwell on the humanitarian situation in Cameroon.

It should be further underscored and clarified, if need be, for the sake of dissipating any ambiguity or confusion, that this informal sharing of views, following the Arria-Formula, should not in any way be construed as a UN Security Council Meeting, but rather a totally free encounter outside the purview of the Council, initiated by some of its Members, wishing to address any specific issue and which, in this case, is the humanitarian situation in Cameroon

Clearly speaking, this Arria-Formula meeting is neither an informal consultation nor an unofficial meeting, both methods being used to hold internal meetings of the Council.

Therefore, the sharing of views through the Arria-Formula and **any possible outcome therefrom is not in any way binding on the Council.**

It goes without saying that during such an informal and free sharing of views, Cameroon, as the Party concerned, shall take the floor to:

- *give the point of view of Cameroon on the issue under discussion, laying particular emphasis on the Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Plan in the North West and South West Regions, coupled with its effective implementation and the results so far achieved as well as future developments;*
- *paint a broad picture of the humanitarian assistance provided by Cameroon as part of its legendary hospitality and well known shelter, provided for the benefit of hundreds of thousands of people coming in from various countries of the Sub-region;*
- *present, as appropriate, all the strong measures already taken by the Government to appease the tensions brought about as a result of the socio-political grievances in our country. The most eloquent testimonies of such measures are the recent statements of **the Head of State** and the field visit made by **the Prime Minister, Head of Government**.*

The Cameroonian Authorities commend the interest of several partner countries in the humanitarian situation in Cameroon. These Authorities are however taken aback by the obsession of some countries and other stakeholders agitating and exaggerating the magnitude of the prevailing humanitarian crisis in Cameroon, in the vain hope of provoking the so-called humanitarian intervention.

The Government has up to now demonstrated a high sense of responsibility and sustained commitment to seek lasting solutions to the problems faced by our country, including the protection of human rights and humanitarian assistance given to victims of terrorism, which is causing a lot of havoc in the affected Regions. On this count, Cameroon refuses any interference in its internal affairs.

Most of all, the Ministry wishes to remind the public of the clear failure of interventions in some areas of tension in Africa under the initiative of other States, and which, far from being guided by the interests of the persons to be protected, were used as a cover to safeguard and defend their own interests and worsen the situation in most of the cases. Cameroon bears in mind those counterproductive steps, and this is why its Government is determined to work more than ever before to seek relevant endogenous solutions that are genuinely Cameroonian and that reflect our own realities.

Accordingly, the Ministry is astonished at the fact that countries that have made the humanitarian situation in Cameroon one of the priorities of their agenda are now intentionally avoiding to face some of the causes of the difficulties to which Cameroon is confronted, such as the **funding** of terrorist activities or armed groups which, undoubtedly, originate from individuals residing in the territory of these very countries, and whose havoc is very well known by these countries.

Logically, Cameroon would have expected that international cooperation in combating terrorism, which some countries put forward when they are victims of terrorist acts, find some sense and relevance in the repression of acts committed on their territories and that are aimed at destabilizing Cameroon. It is only in this way that international solidarity around the fight against terrorism, which has been proclaimed many times, could be translated into concrete actions.

In any case, the State of Cameroon reaffirms its total attachment to the respect of human rights and dignity, and to the principle of unconditional humanitarian assistance to victims. So, Cameroon will not tolerate that anyone hides behind such a problematic situation to infringe on its sovereignty and territorial integrity. Cameroon will not equally fail to pursue its efforts in appeasing the social climate, and thus ensure a definitive return of lasting peace and calm. As it has always been done in the past, Cameroon will still continue to keep the national and international opinion abreast of developments on the situation, and on the appropriate measures that the Government will continue to take, with the aim of achieving permanent peace, under the Very Esteemed Patronage of **THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC./-**



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