

MAJOR NATIONAL DIALOGUE



GRAND DIALOGUE NATIONAL

**PRESS BRIEFING OF SPOKESPERSON DR GEORGE N.
EWANE ON DAY 2 OF THE MAJOR NATIONAL
DIALOGUE**

Yaounde, 01st October 2019 / Yaoundé, 01^{er} octobre 2019



Distinguished Journalists, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I announced it in my press briefing yesterday, the President of the Major National Dialogue, Chief Doctor Joseph Dion Ngute, chaired the general discussion session, during which some 1000 participants set up the various commissions and their respective bureau. Those working commissions are hands on deck, and have been placed under the coordination of high-profile personalities who were elected by all the participants to yesterday's general discussion session. Let me point out that, six commissions out of eight are chaired by English-speaking personalities.

In addition, Cameroon is represented in all its sociopolitical, cultural, socioeconomic and intellectual profiles. This translates the resolve to ensure a fair representativeness of all opinions and political leanings in our country:

As an illustration, I will name a few of them:

- The Commission on bilingualism, cultural diversity and social cohesion is chaired by Josuah OSIH, Vice-President of SDF.
- Honorable TOMAINO NDAM NJOYA, CDU parliamentarian is Vice-Chair of the Commission on the educational system.
- The Commission on the return of refugees and internally displaced persons is chaired by Christian Cardinal TUMI, and has as Vice-Chair, Cabral LIBII, former candidate for the 2018 presidential election, and Dr Simon MUNZU, whose critical spirit against the incumbent regime is secret to no one.
- The Commission on reconstruction is chaired by Doctor Chris FUMUNYOH whose open positions in favour of secessionism are well known. That said, in the absence of the person concerned, and in order to avoid any delay or blocking, the members of this Commission, elected Prof. Simon MUNZU this morning as Chair.
- The Commission on the role of the diaspora in the crisis and its contribution to the country's development, is chaired by Professor Jean-Louis ATANGANA AMOUGOU, former Director of Cabinet of the former Secretary General of *La Francophonie*, MICHAELLE JEAN. In this commission, we also note the presence in the capacity of Vice-Chairs, of Mrs CALIXTE BEYALA and Mr Eric CHINJE whose spirit of independence needs no further demonstration.

Allow me to indicate that eight topics are on the agenda, in keeping with the directives of the President of the Republic, Paul BIYA:

- 1: Bilingualism, cultural diversity and social cohesion.
- 2: The educational system
- 3: The judicial system
- 4: Assistance with the return of refugees and internally displaced persons.
- 5: Reconstruction and development of the regions affected by the crisis.
- 6: Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants from armed groups.

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7: The role of the diaspora in the crisis and its contribution to the country's development.

8: Decentralization and local development.

With regard to the conduct of commission works, I would like to point out that the mobility of members is possible from one Commission to another. The National Dialogue Office has indeed set up this mechanism to cast a wide net in terms of relevant contributions for the restoration of peace in the North-West and South-West regions, in order to ensure that no constructive ideas have been left out.

Distinguished Journalists, Ladies and gentlemen,

The Major National Dialogue brings together in one setting, public authorities, socio-political, economic and cultural actors, and, most especially, ex-combatants and representatives of victims. The State extends its hand and calls on its children to lay down their arms in order to find together ways and means of ensuring an effective return to normal life and the resumption of economic activities in the North-West and South-West regions of Cameroon. The victims on their part are expecting a sign of remorse, repentance, or at least regret, on the part of the ex-combatants who abducted, killed, maimed, decapitated, raped them or their family members during this crisis.

There are obvious wounds and silent pains to be healed. This mission should be, for all participants to the Major National Dialogue, a milestone from where we shall be able to devise appropriate solutions to the ongoing crisis.

Among Sons and Daughters who caused harm to one another, there is no hero. The Major National Dialogue is calling on every Cameroonian to showcase humility, in order to rebuild the broken chain of unity and social cohesion, which are prerequisites to the development of our beloved country, Cameroon.

Thank you for your kind attention.