



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

Yaounde, 03rd October 2019 / Yaoundé, 03 octobre 2019



Distinguished Journalists, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to thank you for responding to my invitation to this press briefing.

We are today on the fourth day of our meeting here at the Yaounde Conference Centre.

As I indicated last night in my statement, the main highlight of today - and certainly the most awaited of all - is the plenary presided over by the chairperson of the Major National Dialogue, Chief Dr Joseph DION NGUTE.

During this session, the participants of the various committees will present the resolutions and recommendations of their works. This will culminate in the adoption of the Final Report of the Major National Dialogue at the end of the day.

I can assure you that major resolutions were arrived at, some which go beyond our expectations.

As you may have noticed, the enthusiasm which has been prevailing in this Conference Centre since the solemn opening of this landmark event, has kept increasing. This attests to the love all participants have for our beloved Nation.

This is evidenced by the presence of all the kinetic forces of our country, who are currently attending the plenary session.

In this regard, I would like to indicate the presence of former presidential candidates of the October 2018 presidential poll, the leading figures of the national political landscape, the public authorities, the traditional and religious authorities, the civil society, economic and cultural stakeholders, scholars, but more importantly, secessionists and representatives of victims.

As far as secessionists are concerned, I would like to remind you that about 30 of them took part in the official opening ceremony of the Major National Dialogue.

They are already being taken care of by the National Committee for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration.

They were later on joined by five repentant combatants.

Yesterday, five leaders of secessionist armed groups operating in the South-West Region, responded favorably to the offer of peace of the **Head of State, His Excellency Paul BIYA**.

We have all seen and listened to them.

They opened up to us and in tears, called for the effective return of peace in the North-West and South-West Regions.

When other members of armed groups still in the bushes of the North-West Region, watched the reception granted to their brothers by the Chairperson of the Major National Dialogue, they in turn expressed the desire to lay down their arms.

These combatants are here, 9 of them.



Ladies and Gentlemen of the Press,

As you can see, the dialogue is effective and has started to bear the expected fruits.

I would therefore like to reiterate that the Head of State's offer of peace still stands.

Of course, our common mission remains the same: to work for the return of children to school on the one hand, and refugees to their villages on the other; to create conducive conditions for the peaceful resumption of social and economic activities.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Press,

The Chairperson of the Major National Dialogue, through me, reiterates to you his appreciation for the professionalism shown by the media since the opening of the meeting.

In this regard, he expresses his encouragements and again urges you to show a sense of responsibility in your job.

Fellow colleagues,

As the leaders of the various armed groups and their members lay down their arms one after the other, to join the table of the Major National Dialogue, thereby expressing their commitment to working for peace,

At a time when all the kinetic forces of our country, actors from all political leaning and under the impetus of the Head of State, His Excellency Paul BIYA, are relentlessly and selflessly working to find the ways and means to rebuild our country,

It is curious to see that a certain Western media, Radio France Internationale, not to name it, is trying to make the whole world believe that the Major National Dialogue in Cameroon is unsubstantial, because of the alleged absence of secessionists and certain political actors.

This media goes as far as to predict a chaotic outcome in Cameroon through reports that hardly hide their evil intentions.

Would Radio France Internationale be feeding on African blood?

Yet Cameroon, in its irreversible commitment to promote press freedom, has taken all necessary measures to facilitate the broadcasting of this radio station's programmes throughout the country.

The harassment of Cameroon by this media should lead the Government to address this specific case.

Thank you for your attention.