



DYNAMIQUE MONDIALE DES JEUNES (DMJ) WORLD DYNAMICS OF YOUNG PEOPLE (WDYP)

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Mobiliser les jeunes pour la pleine réalisation de leur potentiel pour faire du jeune un acteur du changement

SUGGESTION OF A STRUCTURED DIALOGUE IN CAMEROON

Months listening directly to the Cameroonian people: deepest immersion in the population through a structured dialogue.

The call for a structured dialogue in Cameroon between the population and his leaders is a re-edition of the proposal of the World Dynamics of Young People (WDYP), formulated in 2008 shortly after the hunger riots, when our organization recommended substantial and strict reduction of the number of intermediaries between the Head of State and his people. This time, the WDYP suggests methods of such as dialogue.

I. JUSTIFICATION OF THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE

The wind of psychosis that has gained Cameroon from the East to the Far North through the South West and the North West is a sign to be decrypted with humility and courage if we want to protect the country from the escalation of violence constructed by socio-political protests that have become chronic and violent but obviously motivated by a broad sense of "exclusionary" governance. The so-called Anglophone crisis, whose metastases have long plagued the Cameroonian society, has exposed the discontent of a population that has not been listened by the ruling class, but which for decades, have been called endlessly and without real compensation to human, economic and social sacrifices.

Since the diagnosis of the socio-economic malaise of Cameroon is known for a long time, it is necessary to go to the therapy. The demand for an inclusive dialogue, to which the WDYP adds structured, is presented as the proper path; this is a kind of sociotherapy that can get Cameroon out of the imbroglio. However, there will be a double issue related to the outcome and the success of this dialogue. In fact, what will be the stakeholders in the dialogue? It is known that the ruling class has serious difficulties in responding effectively to social demand. On the other hand, what will be the fate of the expected results of the dialogue, if the implementation of laws, decisions including justice, political consensus is always rarely effective?

It is in the light of this socio-political reality that the World Dynamics of Young People, following on from many actors who have already spoken in favor of the urgency of an inclusive dialogue to solve the crisis situation in Cameroon, is interested in the issue of the

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actors to be staged in the dialogue to be organized. Rather than an inclusive dialogue, the WDYP supports the idea of a direct and structured dialogue. Indeed, the ongoing crisis of confidence between the people and the intermediaries through whom one should logically go to reach the top of the state is such that inclusive dialogue, if not direct, will not produce anything more than strengthening and a hardening in the long term of the anger of the sluggish people. Based on the assumption that the gap between the Head of State and the people is quite large and that upward or downward information is perverted at each level of the intermediary chain, the WDYP recommends a direct, less protocol and less theatrical contact between the President of the Republic and all the main links in the national life which, despite their mastery of the stakes and the worrying challenges, will rarely have the marginal opportunity to contribute by their ideas or their skills to the progress of the whole country because they are relegated to some kind of assault or suffering.

In the WDYP scenario, which allows those categories of actors who are suggested below to exchange directly with him, the head of the State will put in default of failing to bring it to himself all intermediaries who would not have the capacity, the will or the honesty to bring to the knowledge of the President of the Republic, the real problems of the populations and the deep aspirations of the people. It will be for the President to go to the source of the raw information for the classification of data opposable to the proposals and justifications of the public policies which are elaborated, and to the arranging passage of relevant interlocutors and the material to appreciate the effectiveness and impact of existing policies.

In summing up "**Months listening directly to the Cameroonian people: deepest immersion in the population**" WDYP believes that the people of Cameroon in general and the youth in particular need a direct dialogue with his Head of States. This manifestation of direct rapprochement is a reason for hope and even assurance that the President of the Republic is indeed the President of all and is open to all. Considering all the suspicions with regard to the intermediaries who form the hierarchical line between the Head of State and the people, and who act as privileged interlocutors, the WDYP is convinced that this approach of interaction between the President and his people can induce small changes in social relationships and in the way that while working and acting will know his that the president is accessible and can access everyone at any time.

The architecture devised to structure the dialogue should allow the credible representatives of the people, those we called supra sufferers, to meet the President not to talk about their individual and navel like concerns concerning the quest for positioning, or memoranda, but to carry out needs-driven discussions and a mechanism of proximity communication, a good source of grievances that are difficult to find. As an informed citizen, members of the WDYP have echoed the feeling that animates the people: the speeches and the will of the Head of State are torpedoed by those who are convinced that the potential recipients or beneficiaries will never have the opportunity to meet the Head

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of State to check anything that comes to them sometimes in the form of scarecrow. The constant use of the army to suppress public demonstrations in the streets after having forbidden them in the room (intellectual reflections), even though the remedies to transmit and expose its sentences are obstructed, is beneficial to those who dream more the shrinking of civic spaces and the extinction of active citizenship.

The architecture of the structured dialogue proposed suggests that the Head of State dedicates a quarter of the year to the formal and official listening of the people in response to what formerly animated politico electoral news under the concept of " call of the people ". This architecture is constructed in the form of a reversed pyramid and should be surrounded by maximum communication arrangements to avoid any deviance and even unfortunate recovery by the actors in the socio-political scene who use all the powers to evade or eliminate conflicting debates.

II. THE DETERMINANT ACTORS TO BE INVOLVED IN THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE

We therefore imagine that in the last quarter of the year 2017, outside hid diplomatic calendar, the President will receive and discuss with his fellow citizens structured in three (3) major levels and according to the modalities defined below.

Basic level (1): Cameroon has a number of villages headed by notables and leaders classified by degree: Heads of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd degree. 2000 of these Chiefs duly recognized by the administrative authority would be received in audience for 3 hours by the President of the Republic.

- **What are the topics?**
 - Their relationship with the public administration
 - Land issues
 - The opening-up, the electrification and the village hydraulics
- **Composition of the Delegation:** given the number of villages, each Chief will be alone. There will be no more than 34 traditional Chiefs per department, with a maximum of 200 chiefs per region. The Chiefs through their various associations will proceed to the self-nomination of their peers in the respect of the territorial representation and as the communication will relay the content of the exchanges, their constituents would be aware of the exchanges.
- **Conduct of exchanges:** 60 speeches would be authorized at the rate of 6 per region divided into 2 speakers per degree and per Region. No administrative unit will benefit from two interventions at a time. In other words, if a Chief of the 1st Degree

from a Department / District of a Region has intervened, no other Chief of any degree in that Department or District may speak.

Basic level (2): The duly recognized religious communities in Cameroon are registered at the level of the territorial administration. Some are well structured and some are not. A total of 1900 religious leaders of all communities of faith will be received by the Head of State.

- **The topics will include :**
 - Interreligious cohabitation and the need for a national council of religions
 - The teaching of the fundamentals of religions in schools
 - The contribution of religions to the social and economic development of the country
- **Composition of the Delegation:** This will be for the communities of faith which are structured to be represented by a delegation of 5 persons. Including the Chief Executive Officer (President, Secretary, Treasurer / Financial Officer). For the new churches only the leader will be called to take part, when these churches do not have a stable and officially known structure.
- **Conduct of the exchanges:** 50 speeches will be authorized for at most one speech per community of faith. No community of faith shall speak twice and no intervention shall exceed three minutes.

Basic level (3): Cameroon has 360 municipalities and therefore 360 mayors elected by the people. These mayors will be invited to the meeting regardless of the size of their Commune. Government delegates should not be counted among these actors since they do not directly represent the population.

- **What topics would they discuss with the Head of States? What would they tell him about these subjects?**
 - decentralization, relations with sectorial delegations whose competences are transferred
 - financing of the local economy and local taxation
 - relations with government delegates
 - the Civil Registry and the National Civil Registry Office (BUNEC)
- **Composition of the Delegation:** As every municipality has an executive, the first may be associated with the first deputy, the Secretary General, the Municipal Receiver and the Head of Civil Status. A total of 5 persons per commune. This would give the Head of State a $360 * 5 = 1,800$ audience regardless of their political,

linguistic or tribal background. To prevent any manipulation, the communication would amplify on the list of people above expected of each Commune.

- **Conduct of the discussion:** it is clear that not everyone can intervene, but the regulation would allow in 2 hours the Head of State listens and records not speeches but problems and suggestions of solutions according to the perspective of the speakers. One commune per department could intervene, a maximum of 58 people speaking as occurs in the National Assembly during oral questions.

Intermediate level (1): Regional Sector Delegates with skills transferred to the CTDs associated with departmental delegates and district delegates. That's 2996 people.

- **The topics will include:**
 - The challenges of working with the CTDs
 - Major constraints related to their sector of activity
- **Composition of the Delegation:** the regional, departmental and communal delegates of the seven sectorial ministries with skills transferred to the Decentralized Local Authorities will constitute the delegation.
- **Conduct of the discussion:** 70 speeches are authorized. That is 7 per region, corresponding to the seven sectors. No sectorial concerns should be raised twice in a region.

Intermediate level (2): Cameroon has 360 districts. That is 260 assistants' divisional officers and district secretaries, for a total of 720 people to receive.

- **The topics will include :**
 - The challenges of command and administration
 - Management of land issues.
- **Composition of the Delegation:** Each assistant's divisional officer will be accompanied by the district Secretary.
- **Conduct of the discussions:** 60 speeches are authorized for a maximum of one speech per department and a maximum of 6 speeches per region.

Intermediate level (3): Cameroon has 10 regions and 58 departments that are 10 governors and 58 prefects.

- **The topics will include:**
 - The prefectural function in the area decentralization
- **Composition of the Delegation:** The Governors with their Regional Secretary, the Prefects with their departmental delegate for communication. That is a total of 136 personalities.
- **Conduct of the discussions:** 30 speeches are allowed for a maximum of three speakers per region and no more than one per department.

Liberal level (1): the Bar of Cameroon including notaries and clerks.

- **The topics will include**
 - The conditions for the exercise of these liberal professions in Cameroon
- **Composition of the Delegation:** exclusively lawyers registered with the Bar, notaries and usual incumbents.
- **Conduct of the discussions:** 15 speeches are authorized for a maximum of 5 speeches per trade.

Liberal level (2): Businessmen registered with the various recognized employers' groups in Cameroon.

- **Topics will include**
 - Obstacles to the business climate in Cameroon
 - Conditions for the creation of wealth in Cameroon
- **Composition of the Delegation:** exclusively businessmen registered with officially recognized employers' associations and corporations.
- **Conduct of discussion:** 5 speeches are authorized for a maximum of 1 speech of no more than 5 minutes per management group. It would be interesting for each group to agree on the content of their plea.

Liberal level (3): the order of doctors, pharmacists, architects

- Topics will include:**
- the exercise of these professions in Cameroon
 - urbanization and urban development in Cameroon

• **Composition of the Delegation:** exclusively the professionals registered in the different orders concerned.

• **Conduct of the discussions:** 5 speeches are authorized for a maximum of 1 speech of no more than 5 minutes per order. It would be appropriate for members of each order to agree on the content of their plea.

III. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO CREDIBILIZE THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE PROCESS

The names, functions and contact details of all the personalities received by the Head of State will be communicated to the people to ask them for reports, although to prevent manipulation, communication by means of optimal media coverage will amplify the information on the list of people above expected in each category. Also, the communication should relay the content of the exchanges so that the people are aware of the exchanges. It is clear that not all participants at each level will be able to intervene. But the regulation will allow in 3 hours, the Head of State listens and records not speeches, but problems and suggestions of solutions from the perspective of the speakers for each given level.

The National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism will report on the whole structured dialogue process. Their report will be published in English and French in hard copy and on the websites of the President, the first ministry, the territorial administration and the ministries of the different segments and sectors from which the groups received by the Head of the 'State belong. The present contribution of the WDYP to the search for solutions to the socio-political and economic crisis that shakes Cameroon is based on a simple hypothesis. Since all the head of state's collaborators at any level are so quick to invoke his name whenever they are given word, it reveals that these head of state' s collaborators disqualify themselves from being able to imagine and conceive appropriate responses to the problems they encounter in the accomplishment of the missions assigned to them. All things being equal, there would be only the Head of State to appease and reassure the people now that the population has resolutely refused to believe in intermediaries. Trust between the people and the institutions, including those who embody them, will thus be fundamentally re-established when the Head of State has listened attentively to the difficult situations experienced by the populations which are unknown to him.



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