

Resolution

Response to the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon

On behalf of supporters, partners, friends and citizens of Cameroon living in the United States of America, the following resolution is submitted to the Congress of the United States of America and the Embassy of the United States of America in Cameroon.

Whereas, there are numerous connections between the United States and Cameroon leading to personal, cultural, educational and business exchanges, and

Whereas, the La Crosse-based Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration and the Cameroonian Tertiary Sisters of St. Francis were founding members of the Franciscan Common Venture(1998) in an effort to mutually enhance their mission and improve health and education conditions in Cameroon, and

Whereas, the La Crosse Friends of Cameroon developed in 2008 as an outgrowth of the efforts by the Franciscan Common Venture, and

Whereas, the City of La Crosse, Wisconsin, USA became a Sister City with Kumbo, Cameroon of the Northwest Province in 2013, and

Whereas, Cameroonian citizens residing in the United States of America have enhanced the development of both countries substantially, and

Whereas, social conditions have worsened in the Northwest and Southwest Provinces of Cameroon as a consequence of deteriorating relations between the Francophone and Anglophone regions, and

Whereas, these deteriorating conditions have resulted in death, torture, injury, and human rights abuse of citizens, and

Whereas, basic services in these areas are compromised or non-existent, including education, communication and healthcare, and

Whereas, the international community and human rights groups¹ who are monitoring this crisis project increasingly dangerous levels of conflict given current trending conditions, and

Whereas, de-escalation of current tensions and a peaceful resolution to current conflicts is in the best interest of the Cameroon people and the highest priority of the international community,

Therefore be it resolved that the undersigned organizations appeal to the United States Embassy in Cameroon and to the Congress of the United States of America to swiftly intervene in order to de-escalate the conflict and initiate efforts to build a lasting peace.

Furthermore , we urge the Cameroonian government to pursue dialogue with the Anglophone leaders to explore avenues of resolution and pave the way toward stability and peace.

Approved this day, July 20, 2018:

Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
La Crosse Friends of Cameroon

¹ European Union, United States, United Kingdom, Equatorial Guinea, Catholic Church, Amnesty International, International Crisis Group, Freedom House and Human Rights Watch