
Nord-Oeust/littoral

Réseau africain pour la démocratie à la base

SECRETARIAT GENERALREF
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NorthWest&LittoralRegions

African network of grassroots democracy

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PRESS RELEASE N°_43/CA-NW/LT/23

OBJECT: GRUESOME MURDERS OF 4 UNARMED CIVILIANS BY ARMED SEPARATISTS AT PAMOL LOBE ESTATE CAMPS, NDIAN DIVISION, SOUTH WEST REGION-CAMEROON!

WE WISH TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS FOLLOWS:

1. That, it was with consternation and shock that we learned of the brutal murders of 4 UNARMED CIVILIANS, by unidentified armed Separatists, at PAMOL LOBE ESTATE CAMPS 1 & VI, Ekondo Titi, Ndian division, South West region Cameroon;
2. That according to reliable sources, the 4 UNARMED CIVILIANS were brutally killed, at about 10pm on Sunday 17th September 2023. The victims were FOIN ERNEST, a Mechanic and son FOIN MARCEL, TIAH RITA and SAKWE OLGA, wives of Lobe Mill worker and a retired Research employee respectively;
3. That no group has officially claimed responsibility for the heinous crime, and the reason behind the barbaric act remains unknown, but it should be noted they had been systematic attack of workers of Cameroon Development Cooperation (CDC) by armed Separatists since the beginning of the ongoing armed conflict in the Anglophone regions;
4. That the General Manager of PAMOL PLANTATIONS Plc, Mr. MBILE TAPEA SOLOMON on a PRESS RELEASE, signed and dated Monday the 18th of September 2023, confirmed the attack and killings of 4 unarmed civilians on the 17th of September 2023 at the said institution, while praying on the Administration and Forces of Law and Order, to take necessary measures to improve the SECURITY situation within the LOBE ESTATE and environs;
5. That the heinous crime is coming after many others recently



perpetrated by Armed Separatists in the aforementioned regions, with the most recent case being the brutal murders of KUM LOUIS and BOBGA BERNARD, all UNARMED CIVILIANS, on the 15th of September 2023, at Mile 15, a locality in Buea, South West region by Armed Separatists;

6. That the systematic attacks are clear evidence that peace is still ELUSIVE and the armed conflict persists in these regions, despite numerous calls from the National and International community for bilateral cease fire, INCLUSIVE and SINCERE DIALOGUE by concerned stakeholders;

6. That the right to life of persons guaranteed both in times of war, political instability and peace stated on the preamble of the Cameroon 1996 Constitution, 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, African Charter on Human and People's Rights and other related legal instruments are being grossly violated in these regions;

8. That indiscriminate attacks and killing of civilians is prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Conventions, Additional Protocol 1 of 1977 etc;

9. That the Republic of Cameroon is indeed a State-party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and to the Second Additional Protocol to these conventions relating to the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Additional Protocol II), and must respond clearly and obligatorily to all human rights violations;

10. That responsibility for this shameful attack is CLEARLY attributed to separatists armed groups but the State of Cameroon has the obligation to protect civilians and prevent them from non state agents;

11. That it is clearly established without ambiguity that the responsibility for these facts is thus attributed to the State of Cameroon by virtue of International law, under the terms of article 4 and following of resolution 56/83 of the UN General Assembly dated December 12, 2001, on the responsibility of the State for INTERNATIONAL WRONGFUL ACTS ";

IN VIEW OF ALL THE ABOVE, CONSCIENCE AFRICAINE, NORTH WEST AND LITTORAL REGIONS:

1. Condemns in UNEQUIVOCAL TERMS, the brutal killings of 4 UNARMED CIVILIANS at PAMOL LOBE ESTATE CAMPS 1 & VI, NDIAN division, SOUTH WEST REGION by Armed Separatists;



2. Request the opening of an immediate, INDEPENDENT, and IMPARTIAL investigation to identify, arrests and prosecutes perpetrators of such barbaric and inhumane act;
3. Demands, the Cameroon Government an IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT BILATERAL ceasefire through an INCLUSIVE DIALOGUE with the separatists to seek an amicable and durable end to the hostilities in Anglophone Regions;
4. Strongly recommends that the Cameroon Government scrupulously comply with its international commitments for the effective protection of fundamental human rights which are violated on a daily basis with the cult of impunity;
5. Firmly reminds, parties to conflicts (government forces and separatist armed groups) that they are bound by International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and must respond to the abuses/violations on the civilian population;
6. Immediately requests the international community and the friendly countries of Cameroon to act to persuade the Cameroon Government to start a process of resolving the conflict through direct negotiations with the leaders of armed opposition groups.

Done in Douala, this 19th day of September 2023

Signed



Amadu TARNTEH

Executive Director

