

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN  
Paix-Travail-Patrie

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REGION DU NORD OUEST

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ASSEMBLE REGIONALE DU NORD  
OUEST

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CABINET DU PRESIDENT

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REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON  
Peace-Work-Fatherland

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NORTH WEST REGION

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NORTH WEST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Mme Minister, welcome to Bamenda, capital of the scenic North-West, the Alps of Africa! You have longed to visit since the installation of the Regional Ececutive Council in January 2021. This visit comes after a successful working session in your office in Yaounde barely two months ago. During that occasion the concern of the Regional Assembly was to learn on gender based budgetting from your services. The team and expertise you offered went beyond the usual call of duty that day and later you sent literature and documentation on the programs your ministry has for women and the family. The major outcome of that working sessiom was your desire to help distressed women of the North-West region.

In your characteristic diligent and efficient manner you offered to help one hundred most needy women. After working with your collaborators in the region sourcing the most affected in our communities we sent you a list of one hundred twenty names. During that period little did I know that you were looking for more funding since the demand for assistance is indeed almost insumontable. You asked us to increase the number of beneficiaries to two hundred after you had sourced more funds. This time the twenty one strong caucus of female councillors of the Regional House selected another cohort of eighty, the needist of the needy.

Thank you Madame minister for your sensitivity, humanity and humane actions thereof which put hope and smiles on these faces. How could it be otherwise, for those of us who have been fortunate mist I say privilegef to work with you know all too well your contribution in saving children's lives as pediatrician, pediatric oncologist, Professor of pediatrics, Director of the oldest and biggest category two hospital of our nation. You have and continue to improve the lives of our women and families since you have been at the helm of MINPROFF. You are a true icon, a model for our youth and all those in search of peace and debelopment.

You come today to witness the joint session of the Regional Assembly, the people's bicameral institution made up of the 70 member House of Divisional Representatives and the 20 member House of Chiefs, a special status distinction of the North- West and South-West Regions. How happy we are to have our Representative of State and the Minister in charge of the welfare of women and our families in session with us, a never to forget event in the annals of our region.

During this September 2023 session, our twelveth, we revisit the mileage covered so far focusing on making our communities cleaner, safer, more secure and healthier. The multifaceted actions of the women empowerment and family centers are indispensable in training, coaching, mentoring and developing our communities. Oh how happy are women are to develop thrift and loan savings institutions nurtured from these centers!

Whereas more children are going to school this academic year, vigilance to rid schools of violence, drugs and arms is ever so pressing. Notwithstanding, the sporadic horrors and terror like the recent assassinations in Guzang, the voyage to peace is a steady no return journey. Let us rise for a minute of silence in memory of the departed victims of this asymmetric war! May the souls of the departed rest in peace as the living harvest peace and solace!

We laud the increasing collaboration between the citizens and security forces that is yielding tangible results. As this growing partnership, secures our communities, an enabling environment is created for the activities within our Peace and Development Initiative. An update of community driven high intensity labor activities in our sub-divisions is on the menu of this session. The voices of the community are captured in the 5th edition of the North-Westerner magazine. The steady increase in employment, albeit temporary, re-establishment of village markets and local economies are non-negligible outcomes of the PDI. An interesting indicator of the changing tide is the number of beneficiaries especially women who are compensated for community labor region-wide.

