



CIRCULAR No. 005 /RDPC/CC/SG OF 27 OCT 2020
ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS
EXCELLENCY PAUL BIYA'S ACCESSION TO THE SUPREME
MAGISTRACY

*****o*****

The Secretary General of the Central Committee

TO ALL

- Members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee;
- Madam President of the National Bureau of the WCPDM;
- Mr Vice President of the National Bureau of the YCPDM;
- Heads of the Permanent Regional and Divisional Delegations of the Central Committee;
- Presidents of the CPDM, WCPDM and YCPDM Bureaus of the Basic Organs;

Theme: *"Let us all mobilise behind President Paul BIYA, for the advent of decentralisation guaranteeing local development in strengthened peace and national unity and the integrity of the territory safeguarded".*

On this 6 November 2020, the militants, allies, friends and sympathisers of the Cameroon People's Democratic Movement shall join together with all our compatriots of good will, throughout the national territory and abroad, to celebrate the 38th Anniversary of his Excellency Paul Biya's accession to the supreme magistracy.

The event shall take place in a health context still dominated, unfortunately, by the Covid-19 crisis, exactly one month before the first election of the Regional Councillors in the history of our country, to be held on 6 December 2020. The upcoming election of Regional Councillors is a special moment in Cameroon's march

towards its accomplishment, as it marks the crowning of the Decentralisation process initiated since its inscription in the Constitution of January 1996, at the initiative of President Paul Biya, according to a consensual approach.



Decentralisation is recognized as one of the major institutional transformations in Cameroon since independence, because it bears the promise of an accelerated and efficient local development, understood as a cultural, economic and social movement that aims at enhancing the resources of a territory and increasing the well-being of the populations it shelters.

Moreover, through the debates it generates, local development is the ideal framework for strengthening local democracy. It is also, because of the negotiation it implies, a powerful catalyst for social cohesion. Ultimately, local development is a cultural, economic and social dynamic driven by the people who want to become actors, responsible and masters of their own destiny in their living environment and in their local areas.

Therefore, Decentralisation cannot be considered only from the point of view of a simple institutional alternative, it is also and above all the privileged instrument for the achievement of local development. This means that decentralisation and local development are intimately linked. They form a pair composed of powerful assets and enjoy strong prerogatives to curb poverty and facilitate concrete and indispensable transformations of the local environment, likely to ensure the effective and daily promotion of individual and collective well-being.



One can better understand the approach of President Paul BIYA **who is personally committed** in the completion of the

Decentralisation process. This is how he has been patiently, progressively and methodically leading the process for more than twenty years, given that it is one of the main changes that our country must imperatively make in order to be irreversibly on the path to sustainable development.

For the Man of 6 November 1982, Decentralisation is not a political device. It is an issue of the future for Cameroon. It arrives today at its time, after a well thought out preparation, in the hope that it carries the promise of flowers.

On the occasion of the 38th Anniversary of the New Deal, we invite all the militants, allies, friends and sympathisers of the Cameroonian People's Democratic Movement, as well as all our compatriots of good will, to make a strong commitment to give their full support to President Paul BIYA in the long march towards Decentralisation. Hence the theme proposed for joint reflection for the occasion: ***"Let us all mobilise behind President Paul BIYA for the advent of decentralisation guaranteeing local development in strengthened peace and national unity and the integrity of the territory safeguarded"***.



Unfortunately, on this 6 November 2020, **the sanitary conditions do not allow popular gatherings and meetings, as it is the tradition.** However, we will not remain idle and we will mark the event in a different way.

Thus, the Heads of the Permanent Regional and Divisional Delegations of the Central Committee, the Presidents of the CPDM, WCPDM and YCPDM sections are hereby invited to widely disseminate this Circular for the good information of militants and populations on the stakes of Decentralisation.

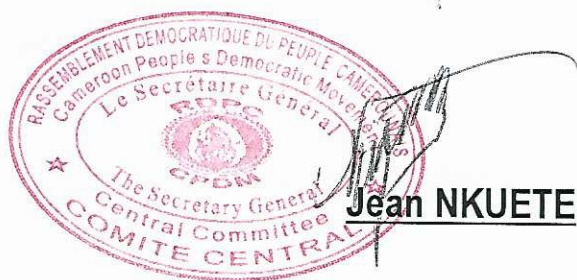
They will specially watch upon to raising the awareness of Municipal Councillors and traditional authorities, who must be well aware of the importance of the vote they are called upon to cast on 6 December 2020, since they constitute the electoral colleges for the 6 December 2020 election.

A vote of responsibility is expected from them in order to promote and facilitate the implementation of a controlled decentralisation, that is to say, a Decentralisation that leads to the effective development of local authorities and leads to the happiness of the people wherever they may be, in peace and national unity, within a decentralised unitary State and inviolable territorial integrity, according to the dearest wish of the overwhelming majority of the Cameroonian people.

Indeed, it is important that the entire electorate be well enlightened on the need to build a model of Decentralisation that is fundamentally Cameroonian, based on a diversity at the service of a national community gathered around the immutable values of peace, unity, social justice, democracy and prosperity, which remain at the heart of the social project carried by His Excellency Paul BIYA since 6 November 1982.

Bonne fête to all.

The Secretary General of the Central Committee



Jean NKUETE