

Schools Shall Not Resume in Ambazonia

Washington, DC, Tuesday, 28 August 2018 - The undersigned Ambazonian liberation movements who were party to the Collaborative Conference of the weekend of 17-21 August 2018 in Washington, DC, have learnt, with dismay, and wish hereby to disassociate themselves with all calls, whatever their origin, for the resumption of schools across Ambazonia.

The right to meaningful education remains a priority, but it can never be considered a more pressing priority than the survival of an entire people facing genocidal violence at the hands of the terrorist forces of the expansionist regime in Yaounde.

Since the night of 30th November 2017, when Paul Biya, the tyrant of the annexationist neighboring La Republique du Cameroun declared war on Ambazonia from the tarmac of Nsimalen International Airport, our number one priority became and remains resistance to recolonization and self-defense in the face of an unjustified war. It is now a sacred duty for our people to never ever submit to a colonial educational system, designed for the lone purpose of brainwashing our people into accepting second class citizenship in a foreign land.

We owe a duty to stand by millions of innocent Ambazonians who have been impacted or are internally displaced following the razing of their homes and businesses in the now 109 villages burnt to the ground thus far. Students who live with their parents in the bush or forests, scavenging in order to survive, must never be left behind. In this revolution, we commit anew to leave none behind and firmly believe in an education system in which no child is left behind.

That is why, without giving up on the need to build a more perfect and truly inclusive and collaborative platform, we must publicly advertise our disagreement with the public calls from some within our ranks for schools to resume. It is particularly disturbing that this call was a unilateral decision. Our people must appreciate the grave danger that is entailed in allowing any one liberation movement to speak on behalf of all. Today, the apparent capitulation is about education. What happens tomorrow if such a group, claiming to speak in our name and without consultation, compromises on our goal of achieving total and unconditional independence.

At this hour in our revolution, it is not half as important to provide education to our people as it is to guarantee them “freedom from fear and want”. Of all the inalienable rights of mankind outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is “freedom from fear and want” that is “the highest

aspiration” of all peoples. In order to achieve that ideal, that Declaration recognizes our people’s right “to rebellion against tyranny and oppression”.

The emotional blackmail by the colonial regime in Yaounde, its supporters among the so-called political elite and other collaborators across Ambazonia, shall not work. We would like to remind our fellow Ambazonians that the right to education (Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights) is not considered any more important than the right of all people to nationality and the right to change nationality, laid out in Article 16 of that Declaration.

The Sovereign People of Ambazonia have roundly rejected Camerounese nationality in favor of Ambazonian nationality. Even by Camerounese Law, that very act of accepting or taking another nationality is a de facto renunciation of any nationality linked to Yaounde. As a result of that legal fact but, even more importantly, given the restoration of the independence of Ambazonia, Colonial Cameroun has no more right to organize or supervise education in Ambazonia than it has doing so in Gabon, Chad or Nigeria.

We, hereby, solemnly renew our commitment to continue to work collaboratively across our movements but also to fight to the last man standing until Ambazonia is free of the yoke of colonial domination. Our fight is not only God-ordained and ancestrally blessed, it is grounded in and fully backed by International Law. A litany of United Nations General Assembly Resolutions and traditions by which countries secure independence back our cause. Our right to international sovereignty is based on jurisprudence established before Africa Union- and United Nations-affiliated courts. It is consistent with the founding principles of the United Nations, several articles of its Charter and the basic guidelines of combating colonial domination and expansionism outlined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, formerly the Organization of African Unity.

We urge the Sovereign People of Ambazonia to never waiver until freedom and independence come to Ambazonia; to remain focused on self-defense, survival and in joining campaigns we will be launching in the coming days to mobilize all eight million of our people in the mission of kicking the colonialists out of our Homeland. Our very survival as a people depends on this fight; not on whitewashed education meant to maintain our people in the slavery of second class citizenship.

Signed

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