REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN Paix – Travail – Patrie

COMMISSION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME DU CAMEROUN

SOUS-COMMISSION EN CHARGE DE LA PROTECTION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

Secrétariat Permanent

Division de la Protection et de la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme

B.P./P.O. Box 20317, Yaoundé Fax: (237) 222-22-60-82 Numéro Vert.- 1523



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON Peace – Work – Fatherland

CAMEROON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

SUB-COMMISSION IN CHARGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION

Permanent Secretariat

Human Rights Protection and Promotion Division

Tel.: (237) 222-22-61-17 / 691 12 86 70 e-mail :<u>chrc.cdhc2019@gmail.cm</u> Web :<u>www.cdhc.cm</u>

Toll-Free Number.-1523

PRESS RELEASE ON THE GRUESOME ASSASSINATION OF TWO CIVILIANS NAMED ABURO CLETUS NJOHGO AND MBANYAMSIG HANSEL NDI BY SECESSIONIST TERRORISTS

Yaounde, the 7 October 2023

The Cameroon Human Rights Commission (hereinafter "the Commission") has learned with horror and disgust of the savage and brutal killing of two civilians, Aburo Cletus Njohgo and Mbanyamsig Hansel Ndi, in front of a crowd at a market square in Guzang, Batibo in Momo Division in the North West Region, at about 5 p.m. on 4 October 2023 by secessionist terrorists.

Following preliminary investigation conducted by the Commission regarding these killings, according to provisions of Law N° 2019/014 of 19 July 2019 relating to the establishment, organisation and functioning of the Cameroon Human Rights Institution, it appears that Aburo Cletus Njohgo, a trader with a business centre at the Guzang market and Mbanyamsig Hansel Ndi, all resident at Guzang in Batibo Sub-Division in Momo Division in the North West Region, were abducted from their homes on 4 October 2023 at about 5 p.m. and dragged to the market square in Guzang where they were publicly accused of spying for the Defence and Security Forces and cooperating with the administration. They were therefore, labelled as betrayers (Blacklegs) and were finally executed through a burst of guns on 4 October 2023 by secessionist terrorists, sowing terror among the populations of that village who fled.



The Commission shares the dismay of the families of Aburo Cletus Njohgo and Mbanyamsig Hansel Ndi, victims of this criminal act, and extends to them its heartfelt condolences.

The Commission condemns in the strongest terms such inhuman practices which under no circumstances should be justified;

The Commission strongly condemns this umpteenth atrocity of secessionist terrorists which seriously undermines the fundamental right to life, to physical and moral integrity, the freedom of thought, the freedom to speech and the right to security as guaranteed by the Preamble to the Constitution of 18 January 1996, by African and universal legal instruments for the promotion and protection of human rights duly ratified by Cameroon or otherwise adhered to or supported by it;

The Commission encourages the competent authorities to continue investigations on this attack so that the suspects should be arrested and tried before competent courts according to the law;

The Commission recalls resolution 1566 (2004) of the United Nations (UN) Security council of October 8, 2004, that "[c]ondemns with the greatest energy, all acts of terrorism [...] whatever the motives, wherever they are committed, and whoever the perpetrators maybe";

The Commission once again invites armed secessionist groups to put an end to the suffering they inflict on the populations they claim to defend, to lay down their arms and seize the outstretched hand of the Head of State, His Excellency Paul Biya, to integrate the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Centres, for peace and development in the North West and South West Regions;

The Commission invites foreign powers who still have doubts about the terrorist nature of non-state actors who traumatize populations, defy the values, principles and rules of humanity, cause deaths and desolation; who torture, decapitate, amputate, devitalize, raid public and private property as much as possible and attack the emblems and institutions of the State to review their position with regards to this new bloody and barbaric assassination that only terrorists can commit;

The Commission reiterates its constant call for national, sub-regional, regional, and international actors and partners of Cameroon, both bilateral and multilateral, to redouble their ardor to help arrest and bring to justice the perpetrators, accomplices and sponsors of these terrorist acts and all those who support them or are advocates for them,

in accordance with national, regional, and international instruments relating to the fight against terrorism, including relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions;

The Commission reiterates the fact that terrorism violate all human rights, in particular: the right to life, the right to physical and moral integrity, the right to education, the right to health, the right to food, the right to housing, freedom of movement, freedom to undertake commercial activities, the right to property, the right to a fair trial, the right to peace, the right to development as well as the rights of vulnerable groups.

