

OCTOBER 12 POLL

Judith Yah Sunday harvests potential diaspora votes for Biya

The Head of the CPDM Campaign Delegation for North and South America, Mrs Judith Yah Sunday Achidi has over the last days, galvanised CPDM supporters across the United States of America, Canada and Brazil to vote for their National party Chairman, Paul Biya, in Sunday's election. Flagging off the campaigns in Washington DC, the acclaimed CAMTEL General Manager urged the Cameroonian diaspora to remain ambassadors of progress and stability. She echoed the same message during similar visits to Cameroonian communities in the historic Brazilian cities of São Paulo and Brasília. **P.4**



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SOCIETY

FAR NORTH

Intensification of the fight against cannabis growers

The fight against illegal cannabis cultivation has intensified in Cameroon's Far North region, with security forces stepping up crackdowns on growers and traffickers.

By Saju Linda

A recent large-scale operation by the Mokolo gendarmerie company in the village of Moudji, Bourha District, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, uncovered a vast field of cannabis, leading to multiple arrests and the seizure of a significant quantity of the illicit crop. According to security sources, three suspects believed to be behind the cultivation were taken into custody and are currently being interrogated at the mokolo Gendarmerie headquarters where investigations are ongoing to dismantle possible networks involved in the distribution of cannabis across the region.

Authorities say the operation, described as a "punch action," is part of a wider strategy to combat the cultivation and trafficking of cannabis in border zones where such illegal activities have long thrived. The region's porous frontiers and difficult terrain are believed to facilitate the movement of traffickers, complicating enforcement efforts. Security experts highlight that cannabis production in the Far North is not only a criminal act but also a threat to public health and social stability. Local youths are said to be the most vulnerable, with increasing cases of drug abuse reported in recent years. "It is not just about uprooting plants; it is about saving lives and protecting future generations from addiction," a gendarmerie officer involved in the

operation explained.

The government has repeatedly stressed its zero-tolerance stance on drug-related crimes. Over the past five years, several similar operations have been conducted in the northern regions, with hundreds of kilograms of cannabis seized and dozens of traffickers prosecuted. Authorities also insist that dismantling cannabis fields contributes to the wider fight against cross-border criminality, including smuggling and terrorism financing.

For residents of Bourha District, the recent operation is both a relief and a reminder of the scale of the problem. Local community leaders have expressed support for the crackdown but are also calling for preventive measures, including awareness campaigns and



support for alternative livelihoods for farmers tempted by the lucrative drug trade. As the investigation continues, security forces reaffirm their determination to

maintain pressure on traffickers and growers, ensuring that the Far North region is no longer a safe haven for illegal cannabis cultivation.

FAR NORTH REGION

80 Billion FCFA to link Magada to Yağoua

The Cameroon government has announced an investment exceeding 80 billion FCFA to rehabilitate two crucial road sections connecting Magada to Yağoua in the Far North region.

The project, part of the national effort to modernise road infrastructure, aims to strengthen regional integration and boost socio-economic development.

By Saju Linda

These rehabilitation works cover the Magada-Guidiguis section (68.3 km) and the Guidiguis-Yağoua section (68.7 km), totaling nearly 137 kilometers. According to officials from the Ministry of Public Works (MINTP), these projects are key components of the Territorial Development Plan for the Far North region, co-financed by the Government of Cameroon, the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the European Union (EU).

On the ground, construction companies have already been deployed, and work is gradually progressing despite the region's challenging terrain. The rehabilitation includes the reinforcement of road foundations, the creation of drainage systems, and the installation of durable asphalt surfaces designed to withstand heavy traffic and seasonal flooding. Officials note that the pro-



ject's overarching goal is to stimulate economic activity and facilitate movement within the region, transforming it into a dynamic and sustainable development hub. By improving accessibility, the upgraded road is expected to significantly reduce travel time and transport costs between Magada and Yağoua, while enhancing connectivity with neighboring countries Chad and Nigeria. The re'abilitation of the Magada-Yağoua road is also expected to foster the development of new so-

cio-economic infrastructure, including markets, schools, and health centers, which will improve living conditions for local communities.

In line with Cameroon's broader vision of emergence by 2035, the project represents a tangible step toward regional equity and territorial cohesion. As construction progresses, authorities remain optimistic that this major investment will not only transform the Far North's landscape but also serve as a powerful lever for integration, stability, and shared prosperity.

PRESIDENCY

Tensions rise at ELECAM office

Tensions flared on Thursday 9 October at the Elecam office in Santa Barbara, Douala, as several citizens gathered to collect their voter cards.



By Saju Linda

Frustrated by delays in distribution, they chanted in unison: "We want to vote!" signaling growing impatience just days before the presidential election. On site, some residents reported missing voter cards and unjustified delays, raising concerns about potential obstacles

on Election Day. Despite these challenges, the large turnout contradicts earlier predictions of high voter abstention, showing a strong determination among citizens to participate. Elecam offices across the country have been overcrowded for several days, with long queues forming as early as 5 a.m. in major cities. For many voters, this election represents a decisive opportunity to make their voices heard

and influence the country's political future. Observers note that the intense interest underscores the high stakes of the October 12, 2025, vote, reflecting widespread anticipation and engagement among Cameroonians. Authorities have urged patience and cooperation, assuring the public that all necessary measures are being taken to facilitate a smooth distribution of voter cards before Election Day.

CAMEROON VOTES

PRESIDENTIAL POLL

Issa Tchiroma Mobilizes Far North with Call for Electoral Vigilance

After being welcomed in Gazawa, FSNC presidential candidate Issa Tchiroma Bakary addressed an enthusiastic crowd at Mokolo ceremonial grounds in the Far North region, making citizen mobilization and vote counting vigilance the central themes of his final campaign push ahead of October 12 elections.

By **Brigette BATE**

In a final stretch before October 12, 2025 presidential election, the President of the National Salvation (FSNC) Issa Tchiroma Bakary held a major rally at Mokolo's ceremonial grounds in the Far North region. The event drew massive crowds, reflecting the strategic importance of this region

in the upcoming poll. Following his warm welcome in Gazawa, the FSNC leader delivered a speech focused squarely on complete citizen mobilization. Tchiroma not only urged massive voter turnout but placed special emphasis on the critical phase of vote counting. He repeatedly stressed that electoral transparency depends entirely on citizens vigilance, urging supporters to closely monitor the ballot counting process. Tchiroma told

the enthusiastic crowd the real guarantee of transparent elections lies in your watchful eyes during the vote counting. We must ensure every valid vote is properly counted and recorded. As Tchiroma continues his campaign tour through the strategic Grand North region, he has made electoral security and citizen watchfulness the cornerstone of his final campaign message. His focus on vote monitoring reflects growing concerns about electoral



integrity in the northern , where logistical challenges and security issues have sometimes affected polling operations. The FSNC candidate's message appears to be resonating

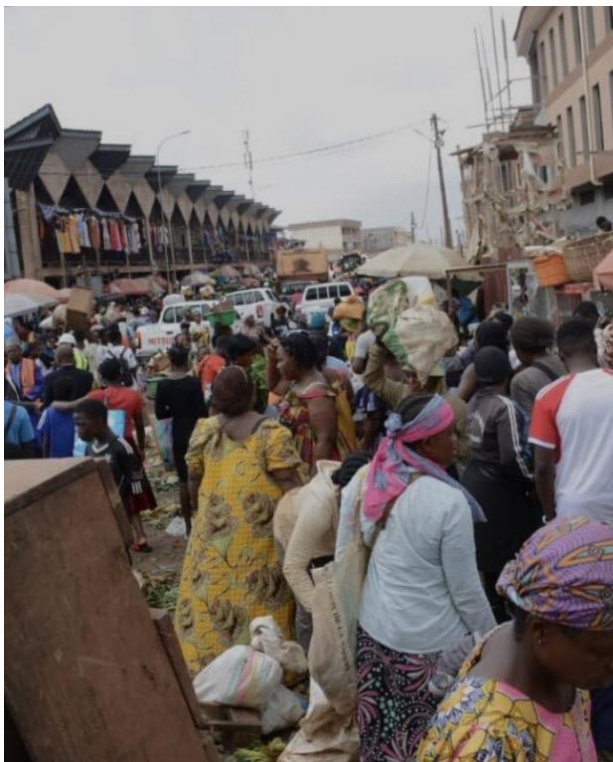
with voters in this key battleground region, where his call for heightened electoral vigilance has become the defining theme as the campaign period draws to a close.

AHEAD OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION Fear as the day draw near

In the days leading up to October 12, a noticeable change came over the local markets, people described it as eve to December buying.

By **Brigette BATE**

Etoudimarket was a perfect example for the shopping. The market was very busy and full of people. Parents were not buying just a little food, they were filling their bags with many things like rice, palm oil and other stuff that could last for many days. The reason behind this was nothing else than the Election Day, it should not come and surprise us like 2018 presidential election where markets, places where shoot down for weeks that is Mavis who says she was buying extra because a person must be ready for anything. she do not know what would happen after the voting. For many parents, the tension surrounding the upcoming presidential election has become a heavy burden, adding to their usual daily worries. This anxiety is not new just a few weeks back in September, as families faced the expensive back-to-school season, the conversation was already filled with concern. Parents complained about the difficult task of planning for their children's school needs while also trying to prepare for what might happen in



this unpredictable election era (lockdown). They found themselves caught between the immediate costs of school fees and uniforms and a growing fear about what the political future might hold for their families, creating a constant sense of uncertainty that has lasted for months. Now, parents have moved from one predicament to another. Just a few weeks ago, their main worry was finding money for school fees and uniforms during that difficult back-to-school season. Today, the local market is full of those same

parents, but their focus has changed completely. They are now busy buying extra bags of rice, canned milk, and beans, not just for regular meals, but to prepare their households. Many are acting with a clear memory, getting ready for the kind of uncertainty and trouble that happened during the 2018 elections. The fear of those past events is now driving their actions, as they work to ensure their families are safe and have enough to eat no matter what follows the election.

KRIBI BIR Secures coastline against maritime threats

The Rapid Intervention Battalion (BIR) has intensified its presence in Kribi to secure Cameroon's southern coastline against piracy, illegal fishing, resource trafficking, and irregular migration.



By **Saju Linda**

The elite unit's operations stretch from Malimba, at the mouth of the Sanaga River, to the Ntem River bordering Equatorial Guinea — a zone that hosts strategic national assets. At the heart of this mission is the protection of critical infrastructure, notably the deep-sea port of Kribi and surrounding industrial zones, which are vital to Cameroon's economic future. Authorities say the deployment is essential

to prevent incursions and preserve state sovereignty along one of the country's most sensitive coastal corridors. The BIR has established a dual operational system combining maritime and land patrols, conducted in coordination with other defense and security forces. Officials report that these patrols have helped deter cross-border threats, reassure local communities, and enhance the visibility of state authority in the area. Local residents and businesses have welcomed the BIR's presence, citing greater confidence in the

safety of fishing activities, port operations, and trade flows. Military officials stress that the sustained action of the unit not only stabilizes the region but also protects vital national resources and investments. Created to respond rapidly to security threats, the BIR is an elite force reporting directly to the Presidency of the Republic. Its role in Kribi reflects both Cameroon's determination to safeguard its maritime domain and the strategic importance of the southern coast to national development.

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By TEMBA Junior SUH

The Head of the CPDM Campaign Delegation for North and South America, Judith Yah Sunday Achidi has softened the grounds to ensure that Cameroonians residing in the United States of America, Canada and Brazil fully vote for the party's national chairman, President Paul Biya in Sunday's 2025 presidential election. The acclaimed General Manager of Cameroon telecommunications powerhouse, CAMTEL has been crisscrossing the three countries to galvanize supporters of the incumbent president to set the tone for his landslide victory across the diaspora region during the October 12 political showdown. After flagging off the campaign in Washington DC in the United States, the selfless CPDM supporter and servant urged the Cameroonian diaspora in the three countries to remain ambassadors of progress and stability. She echoed the same message during similar visits to Cameroonian communities in the historic Brazilian cities of Sao Paulo and Brasilia. The events were notably attended by the ambassador of Cameroon to the United States, Henri Etoundi Essomba and the Section President of CPDM USA, Patience Tamfu.

Groundbreaking showings

Accompanied by another vibrant CPDM force, Dr Kinge Monono, Sunday Yah Judith fully embodied the mission assigned to her by the CPDM as she strongly echoed President Paul Biya's messages of unity and conviction. She described the incumbent Head of State as a full symbol of continuity, stability and progress. "President Paul Biya remains the guarantor of peace, national cohesion and sustainable development. Under his enlightened leadership, Cameroon continues its steady march



towards emergence," Sunday Yah Judith stated amidst thunderous cheers by CPDM supporters and sympathizers. The CPDM envoy also told the diaspora that President Paul Biya's reelection will also mean choosing to maintain Cameroon on the path of sustained structural transformation as highlighted by the multiple development projects that are

efforts that Biya has made in the promotion of the digital economy in the country as some of the groundbreaking projects that President Paul Biya has strongly launched to put the country on the right track. "Despite the challenges, our country are moving forward every month, new factories are inaugurated. The diaspora must see beyond disinformation and

which are all already serving as the proud demonstration of the incumbent leader's vision for a united and resilient Cameroon driven by the strive for sustained development. "On 12 October, our vote will be an act of loyalty, but also a pact with the future," she stated, urging the Cameroonian community to strongly stand behind the slogan of peace, unity

and progress while also notably recalling the historical responsibility of the diaspora in process of the 2025 presidential election. "Some of our compatriots have deviated from the path of dialogue and peace. President Biya has not ignored the problems but has continued working to rebuild and secure affected Regions," she notably explained, encouraging Cameroonians to "come and join President Paul Biya, build our beautiful country!"

Calls for diaspora to promote national unity, living together

The CPDM campaign envoy also echoed the Head of State's message of national unity and living together to the diaspora communities. She transmitted the Head of State urging the Cameroonians living in the diaspora to distance themselves from divisive tendencies like those that are being promoted in the North West and South West regions. She spoke strongly against what she said the Head of State describes as the progressive destruction that is being caused by secessionist violence across the two regions. "Some of our compatriots have deviated from the path of dialogue and peace. President Biya has not ignored the problems but has continued working to rebuild and secure affected Regions," she notably explained, encouraging Cameroonians to "come and join President Paul Biya, build our beautiful country!"



underway in the country, projects she described as demonstration of the exemplary leadership of the incumbent leader. The Central Committee Member of the CPDM cited what she hailed as the modern infrastructure, educational reforms, youth empowerment and

join this effort," the CPDM envoy stated while notably citing projects like the construction of the Babadjou-Bamenda Road and the. Sunday Yah Judith said another mandate for President Biya will be guaranteeing the continuation and completion of the projects

and progress while also notably recalling the historical responsibility of the diaspora in process of the 2025 presidential election.

Cameroonian diaspora very close to President Biya's heart
Sunday Yah Judith told Came-

CAMEROON VOTES

MAROUA

Biya's campaign visit sparks shocking opposition support

The streets of Maroua had been decorated with party banners and security reinforced to welcome the Head of State.

By Saju Linda

President Paul Biya's campaign visit to Maroua on October 6, 2025, was expected to be a moment of political consolidation for the CPDM candidate ahead of the presidential election. Instead, the event unexpectedly turned into a display of popular support for opposition leader Issa Tchiroma Bakary, candidate of the Union for Change 2025 coalition. The streets of Maroua had been decorated with party banners and security reinforced to welcome the Head of State. Schools in the city were instructed to release students early so they could join the rally in large numbers, a common practice



during campaign season. Thousands of young people, dressed in their

uniforms, poured into the streets to give the appearance of strong

a spontaneous demonstration of

mobilization for the CPDM. Yet as the presidential convoy advanced and the rally unfolded, the mood shifted. Instead of cheering for Paul Biya, many students and youths began chanting in favor of Issa Tchiroma Bakary, a native of the Far North and one of the main opposition figures in this year's race. What was meant to be a show of CPDM strength quickly turned into

support for the Union for Change 2025 candidate. Observers noted that the scene highlighted both the weariness of the population toward the ruling party and the growing popularity of Issa Tchiroma Bakary in his home region. The chants and banners raised in his name gave the impression that Maroua, traditionally considered a CPDM stronghold, could become a decisive battleground in the upcoming election. The episode underscored the unpredictability of the campaign. What was supposed to be a carefully orchestrated rally for the incumbent instead revealed cracks in the ruling party's ability to control the narrative, particularly among the youth who make up a large portion of the electorate.

GAROUA

Security measures amplified amid election tension

In an official statement released by the Senior Divisional Officer of the Bénoué Division, Oumarou Haman Wabi last Monday, the security alert level in Garoua was raised following credible reports indicating a presidential candidate's alleged plans to disrupt public order with supporters during the electoral period.

By Brigitte BATE

Authorities in Garoua have elevated the city's alert level following concerning reports about potential disturbances during the ongoing presidential election period. The Senior Divisional Officer of the Bénoué Division Oumarou Haman Wabi made this announcement Monday after receiving multiple consistent reports indicating one presidential candidate might be planning public disorder activities with supporters. The official release specifically warned that these alleged maneuvers appear aimed at destabilizing Garoua during both the electoral and post electoral periods. In response, the prefect's office issued an unambiguous warning that any calls for violence threatening public peace would be strictly forbidden. The statement made clear that no



acts of vandalism or public disorder would be tolerated, adding that those involved in planning or executing such activities would face severe legal consequences. The SDO's announcement come as a reminder to all presidential candidates of their obligation to operate within legal boundaries, including the requirement to coordinate their campaign

programs with local authorities for proper oversight. While urging residents to continue with their normal daily activities, the administration called for increased public vigilance during this sensitive time. The measures according to the chief officer represent an effort to maintain stability as the October 12 presidential election approaches.

OCTOBER POLL

Group condemns candidate's alleged remarks on terrorism

Candidate Issa Tchiroma's visit to the North West has sparked condemnation from human rights organizations over his statements regarding his relationship with separatist fighters in the conflict affected region.

By Brigitte BATE

International non-governmental organization, Action 237-Suisse has issued a formal caution to 2025 presidential election candidate Issa Tchiroma Bakary concerning his recent statements about alleged connections to armed groups, the organization stated in an official release dated 06 October 2025. The organization, which holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, expressed profound concern over the candidate's alleged remarks regarding his relationships with individuals connected to terrorist activities in the Northwest and Southwest regions of Cameroon. The Geneva-based human rights group characterized these statements as deeply troubling and offensive to the memory of victims who have suffered from violence in the ongoing conflict. While acknowledging the importance of freedom of expression in democratic processes, the organization stressed that



this fundamental right must be balanced with considerations of public security and social stability. The statement particularly emphasized that political discourse should not undermine ongoing efforts to restore peace in affected regions. Action 237-Suisse, which has established itself as a prominent voice in the fight against impunity, reminded the public of its consistent track record in pursuing justice through international legal channels. The organization noted it has previously filed numerous complaints with European judicial bodies against individuals believed to be contributing to

the escalation of violence in Cameroon's Anglophone regions. The statement with a clear warning of the organization's intent to pursue legal action through Cameroonian judicial systems as similar statements continues. Specifically, the organization indicated it would seek charges related to the endorsement of terrorist acts, marking a significant escalation in its response to political public surrounding the ongoing crisis. This situation shows that international observers are paying closer attention to political speeches during Cameroon's election period.

CAMEROON VOTES

OCTOBER POLL

Man arrested for desecrating Biya's effigies

A video showing Abdoulaye Abakar tearing up images of President Biya went viral on social media platforms recently, sparking widespread outrage and criticism

By Saju Linda

The Regional Division of the Judicial Police, DRPJ has announced that it has apprehended Abdoulaye Abakar, a man accused of desecrating effigies of the Head of State, Paul Biya. A video showing Abdoulaye Abakar tearing up images of President Biya went viral on social media platforms recently, sparking widespread outrage and criticism. The video shows the suspect deliberately destroying official portraits of the president while holding up a photograph of former member of government and candidate in the forthcoming 2025 presidential election, Issa Tchiroma Bakary.



The incident, which unfolded in the heat of the election campaign, has been described as a deliberate provocation and a direct challenge to presidential authority. Public condemnation was swift, with many emphasizing that the President of the Republic, beyond his candidacy status, represents the continuity and dignity of the State. In a recent outing, the DRPJ said it has apprehended the suspect who is believed to be Tchiroma's supporter. Currently held in police custody, Abdoulaye Abakar is accused of multiple offenses, including incitement to hatred, rebellion, insulting constituted bodies, and hostilities against the homeland. Sources indicate he will be presented before the prosecutor in the coming days to face justice.

HAVE YOUR SAY ?

OCTOBER POLL

Expectation, anxiety as Cameroonians vote again

In less than one week, Cameroonians will head to the polls, where both returning and first-time voters will cast ballots to decide their nation's leadership for the next seven years.

By Brigitte BATE

As Cameroon prepares for Election Day on October 12, the air is filled with a mix of hope and hesitation. For many, this is a routine event, but for thousands of young people across the nation, it marks a significant first, the first time they will cast a ballot. This energy is not universal from social media comments. In quiet corners and online forums, a different story unfolds among other card-carrying citizens. Some express a deep-seated fatigue, a feeling that their vote will not truly change the outcome of this 2025 election. "What difference will my one vote make, I just think it's before I stay like I have always done » that is Essomba Denis who says her vote cannot bring a change. This has been a common question, pointing to a belief that the political landscape is already decided. Others see the election not as a potential



for change, but as a continuation. For these individuals, October 12 will simply mean the start of a new term for an existing regime, as some put it, « an old regime renewed ». Freddy Nkandem. They feel that regardless of the result, the fundamental way the country runs will remain the same, making the effort to vote feel pointless to them. Longla Raphael captured

the nation's mixed feelings, saying his chosen candidate was removed from the list, leaving him with no other choice than thinks his vote was taken away. yet he still believes « we should breathe another regime to feel it ». This reflects the difficult choice many faces between past disappointments and the hope for something new.

REACTIONS

Brice NOUBIAP, *First time voter*

“Let's go make Cameroon what we want it to be”

Like they say one hand cannot tie a plastic alone, that's why I'm voting because we need many hands, many voices, to build the better Cameroon we all want to see. So, if I am to advise others, let's go make Cameroon what we want it to be.



LONGLA RAPHAEL, *First time voter*

“My chosen candidate was removed from the electoral list”

I have never voted before but this year I finally registered because I believed in a candidate, but my hopes were dashed when his chosen candidate was removed from the electoral list. so now, I cannot vote for him. Because voting for someone I don't want is a waist



NEWS

STRENGTHENING ONLINE OUTREACH

State officials trained to counter digital threats

A recent three-day seminar organized by the National Agency for Information and Communication Technology in Kribi has equipped public administration officials with enhanced skills to promote government actions and combat online misinformation.

By Brigitte BATE

Ghana A recent week-long capacity building workshop in Kribi has equipped some 38 communications staff from various ministries with enhanced digital communication skills to strengthen the online presence of public administrations. The training, organized by the National Agency for Information and Communication Technology, ANTIC, focused on practical digital skills for better promoting state actions and countering online misinformation. During the opening ceremony, ANTIC's



Director General Prof Ebot Ebot Enaw acknowledged that though 95% of public services run websites and social media platforms, many are lacking in

content and meaningful digital engagements. The workshop addressed this gap by providing officials with tools to enhance their digital communication

strategies. With internet penetration rates rising from 4.5% in 2010 to over 45.6% in 2025, digital platforms have become essential communication chan-

nels. Social media platforms now serve as major interaction spaces, with Cameroon recording more than 5.5 million active users representing 18.5% penetration. The training seminar implemented practical knowledge for participants to better promote government actions, detect fake news and deepfakes, and develop effective digital communication strategies. These efforts according to officials aim to increase engagement rates on administration communication platforms and foster positive citizen sentiment, following the 2016 directive for implementing a more assertive public communication strategy.

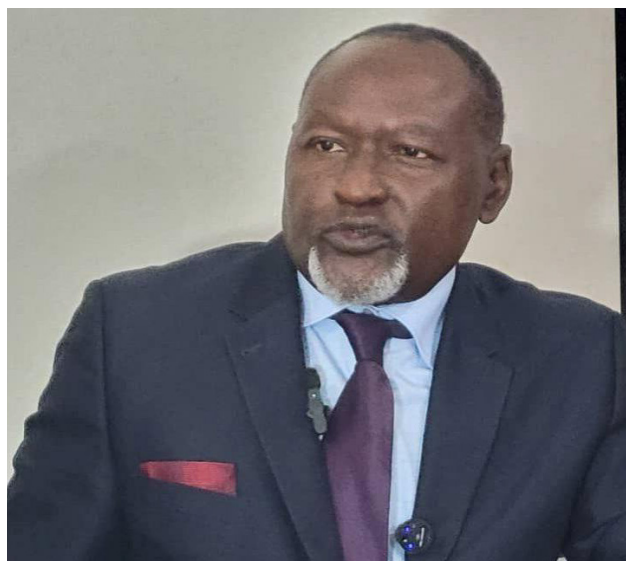
ADAMAWA

Wave of resignations hits APAR

On October 6, 2025, Mouhaman Ndjama, the party's regional president for Adamawa, tendered his resignation in a collective letter addressed to the national president, Célestin Djamen.

By Saju Linda

The Patriotic and Republican Alliance, APAR, is facing fresh turbulence, with a major wave of resignations shaking its ranks in the Adamawa Region. On October 6, 2025, Mouhaman Ndjama, the party's regional president for Adamawa, tendered his resignation in a collective letter addressed to the national president, Célestin Djamen. "I have taken the firm decision to resign as a member of APAR Adamawa, as well as from my duties as regional president," the letter stated. Ndjama added that his departure also entailed the resignation of all members of the regional bureau and the presidents of seven local cells in Ngaoundéré. The disgruntled activists accuse Djamen of arrogance, contempt toward militants, and unilateral decision-making without consultation. Their main grievance stems from Djamen's rallying of APAR to the G20 coalition without prior discussion. "Mr. President, we are not customers of the APAR store," the activists retorted



in their resignation letter. The controversy traces back to August, when Djamen openly declared his support for the G20, a coalition of political parties that have consistently endorsed President Paul Biya's candidacy since the October 7, 2018, presidential election. Djamen, a former member of both the Social Democratic Front, SDF, and the Cameroon Renaissance Movement CRM, justified his stance by declaring Paul Biya as the best candidate for 2025. This alignment has already triggered

significant departures. Brice Momo, APAR's national coordinator, and Mathias Sadje, departmental coordinator in Mongo in the Littoral Region, both resigned following Djamen's decision. Now, with the Adamawa leadership and grassroots structures breaking away, APAR faces mounting internal fractures that raise questions about its stability and its capacity to rally members in the lead-up to the 2025 political season.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Douala University Institute of Technology begins new school year

The University Institute of Technology, IUT of Douala officially launched its academic year at the new Edéa campus on October 6, 2025, in the presence of a host of government and university dignitaries.

By Paul Marcel MBEMBE

This ceremony marks the realization of a strategic partnership between the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Social Economy, and Handicrafts, as part of the implementation of the National Development Strategy 2020-2030, SND30. Presided over by the Minister of State, Minister of Higher Education, Prof. Jacques Fame Ndongo, the ceremony was held at the heart of the National Pilot Business Incubator, an emblematic site of the link between training and entrepreneurship. Also present were Dr. Achille Bassilekin III, Minister of SMEs, the Minister of Transport Jean Ernest Masséna Ngalle Bibéhe, as well as several administrative, traditional, and university authorities. Prof. Jacques Etame, director of the IUT, delivered the inaugural lecture on the theme: «Project-based pedagogy, a strategic lever for youth employability.»



He presented the Douala IUT-Edéa campus as an innovative school, focused on value creation and self-employment. For him, this establishment reflects the desire to bring university training closer to economic realities. In his speech, Minister Achille Bassilekin III praised the structuring impact of this initiative on the local entrepreneurial fabric, stating that this new academic hub will help stimulate innovation and the competitiveness of SMEs in Cameroon. Minister Jacques Fame Ndongo, for his part, encouraged the first enrolled students to invest themselves fully. «You are builders, path-

finders, bearers of light,» he declared, before inviting the youth to make the Edéa IUT a hub of excellence and transformation. One of the highlights of the ceremony was the signing of a partnership agreement between Higher education ministry, the Small and medium size enterprises ministry and the University of Douala. This agreement aims to establish a University-Business dynamic through alternating internships and integrated entrepreneurial support. This is a decisive step towards a better alignment between academic training and the needs of the job market.