

## OCTOBER 12 POLL

# Dozens arrested over alleged electoral fraud protests

Over a dozen people were arrested after protesters hit the streets and courtyards across Douala, Bafoussam, Garoua and other parts of the country challenging ELECAM to respect the people's choice and distance themselves from all forms of foul play that may tamper with the results that were registered during last Sunday's 2025 presidential election. Sources say the protests were provoked by diverse alarms over possible result manipulation. **P.4**



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## FAR NORTH REGION

## Bogo–Maroua road project reaches 55% completion

The contractor, CGCOC Group, responsible for Lot 1 of the project, has been urged to increase manpower on site to speed up work and address technical challenges that could cause further delays.



By Saju Linda

The construction of the Bogo–Maroua road is steadily progressing, with an overall completion rate now standing at 55.89%, according to the Ministry of Public Works. The contractor, CGCOC Group, responsible for Lot 1 of the project, has been urged to increase manpower on site to speed up work and address technical challenges that could cause further delays. Authorities have called on the company to reinforce internal quality control and maintain high construction standards to avoid penalties for slow progress. Lot 1 of the project covers the Bogo–Guirvidig junction (32.86 km), as well as the urban roads of Bogo (5 km) and

Maroua (6.2 km). The project is jointly financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Government of Cameroon, with STUDI International overseeing supervision. Despite existing constraints, several key components have already been completed, including preparatory works, earthworks, roadbed construction, hydraulic structures, and riverbank protection all at 100% completion. Once fully completed, the Bogo–Maroua road will significantly improve traffic flow, boost economic exchanges, and enhance the living conditions of residents in Cameroon's Far North Region. The project represents a major step toward strengthening regional integration and ensuring better access to markets and social services for local communities.

## MAYO-DANAY

## Over 1,000 students receive school kits

The students received complete school kits provided by the Ministry of Secondary Education, through its Secretary of State, Boniface Bayaola.

By Elena ANGOULA

Over a thousand secondary school students have been handed school kits in the Mayo-Danay Division of the Far North Region. The kits were handed during separate events held across the division last Thursday October 9 and Friday 10. The students received complete school kits provided by the Ministry of Secondary Education, through its Secretary of State, Boniface Bayaola. The initiative reached about thirty high schools and colleges in the four districts of the Grand Kar-Hay commune, namely Kalfou, Doukoula-Kar-Hay, Datchéka, and Tchatabali. These are rural areas often faced with numerous material and social challenges. The beneficiaries, selected from among the top learners in the upper secondary cycle, received notebooks, pens, pencils, and textbooks. During the distribution tour, Boniface Bayaola commended the



determination of the students and the commitment of the teaching staff. He urged them to demonstrate discipline, rigor, and perseverance, reminding them that «hard work remains the key to academic success and personal achievement.» This action is part of a series of initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Secondary Education to raise student achievement levels and reduce inequalities in access to education

in remote areas. It follows a remedial program organized during the school holidays, aimed at better preparing learners for year-end exams. In a context where the cost of school supplies remains a barrier for many families, this distribution provides relief to parents while encouraging academic excellence. A strong gesture demonstrates the government's commitment to leaving no student behind on the path to success.

## INCLUSIVE GUIDANCE

## Building a Future for Every Learner

On the occasion of the 23rd National Day of School Guidance, the Alfred Saker College in Douala hosted the official launch of activities, under the banner of inclusive education.

By Elena ANGOULA

The kick off for the National School Guidance Days (JNOS) was given on Friday, October 10, 2025, at the Alfred Saker College in Douala by Thamar Eboa, Regional Delegate of the Ministry of Secondary Education for the Littoral region. This edition, held under the theme «School guidance, a contribution to the promotion of quality inclusive education at

the secondary level,» highlights a major challenge: offering every student, regardless of their abilities, the same chances of success. The opening ceremony, punctuated by a mini-exhibition, allowed students to discover various educational paths and professions. Between practical demonstrations, booth presentations, and exchanges, the objective was clear: to help young people better understand the importance of guidance in building their future. «Inclusive education

is about welcoming every student as they are, without stigma or exclusion,» explained Dorcas Njoh Eteki, head of the college's guidance service. For her, the mission of the guidance counselor is not limited to guiding academic choices but extends to valuing the potential of every learner. Participants were also made aware of the need to rethink support methods to better include children with specific needs. Beyond the speeches, this 23rd edition highlighted a often



discreet but essential link in the educational system: the guidance counselor, a true compass in the students' journey. From 6th grade

to the Final year (upper sixth), they help make informed choices and prepare for a successful transition into working life.

## NEWS | CAMEROON VOTES

## MINES, CUSTOMS

## Cameroon tightens the screw on iron and bauxite exports

The government of is reinforcing control over the export of its mineral resources, particularly iron ore and bauxite, as part of efforts to boost state revenue and promote local value addition

By Saju Linda

The government of is reinforcing control over the export of its mineral resources, particularly iron ore and bauxite, as part of efforts to boost state revenue and promote local value addition. On Tuesday, October 14, 2025, the Director General of Customs, Fongod Edwin Nuvaga, chaired a high-level consultation meeting with key actors from the mining sector at the General Directorate of Customs

in Yaoundé. Representatives from the Ministry of Mines, Industry and Technological Development (MINMIDT), SONAMINES, and various customs divisions (DGD3, DGD7, DGD9) took part in the session. For two hours, discussions focused on strengthening cooperation between institutions to ensure better predictability, traceability, and tax collection in the export of extractive substances. Participants also presented proposals on new export tax rates for the state's share of iron ore, bauxite, and crude oil. The goal: to maximize revenue and

align the fiscal framework with the 2026 state budget. The meeting ended with a joint resolution to consolidate the synergy between Customs, MINMIDT, and SONAMINES, ensuring tighter control and improved monitoring of mining exports. According to officials, this partnership will help Cameroon capture more value from its mineral wealth while fostering local processing rather than raw material exports. Cameroon is home to some of Central Africa's most promising mining deposits. Major iron ore projects include Mbalam-Nabebe,

Kribi-Lobé, and Bipindi-Grand Zambi. The Mbalam-Nabebe site, straddling the border with Congo, is expected to become one of the largest iron ore producers in the world. The Kribi-Lobé deposit alone holds an estimated 630 million tonnes, while Bipindi-Grand Zambi inaugurated in September 2025 through a partnership with Chinese group Sinosteel adds significantly to national production capacity. Altogether, these sites are estimated to contain over 3 billion tonnes of iron ore. In the bauxite sector, Cameroon's reserves exceed

99 million tonnes of exploitable ore over 20 years, including over 100 million tonnes of high-grade bauxite with an alumina content of 51%. Ordinary bauxite reserves are estimated at 600 million tonnes. The Minim-Martap site, linked to an ongoing railway construction project toward the Port of Douala, will play a key role in future exports. By tightening export oversight and emphasizing local transformation, Cameroon aims to ensure that its mining boom translates into sustainable development, job creation, and higher domestic revenue.



## PRESIDENTIAL POLL

## Prominent CPDM Boyo member resigns over electoral fraud

Maurice Tiibam Kube is the CPDM member who has left the ruling party, calling declared vote counts mathematically impossible and morally unacceptable in Boyo I, Njinikom in the Northwest region.

By Brigitte BATE

His decision to resign, he says, was a necessary stand for truth after official vote counts from Njinikom showed what he calls a "mathematical miracle". The senior member of CPDM publicly left the party, denouncing the official presidential election results from his constituency as a massive fraud. Maurice Tiibam Kube, a prominent figure in the CPDM in Boyo I, Njinikom, announced his immediate resignation in a strongly worded letter. His decision to resign, says, was also driven by the official results from the October 12 presidential election in Njinikom, which he labels a national embarrassment and a direct assault on truth and decency. The core of his protest targets the official figure that claims President Paul Biya received 2,241 votes in Njinikom. Kube states this number is impossible. The claim that 2,241 people voted for Paul Biya in Njinikom is a shameless fabrication, he wrote. He provided an eyewitness account from election day, contradicting the official tally by stating



that not up to 130 citizens showed up at the Njinikom Community Hall, where ELECAM had converged all polling stations of the municipality, describing the official results as a "mathematical miracle of fraud." He argued that this outcome has brought shame and ridicule upon the proud sons and daughters of Njinikom people who stand for honesty, dignity, and self-respect." He expressed disbelief that an area known for boycott activities could produce such numbers, calling it a mockery of reason and an insult to the collective intelligence of our community. In his letter, he also delivered a sharp critique of the party he once belonged to. He accused the CPDM of fundamentally changing its character. "The

CPDM, which once claimed to be a Democratic Movement, has now become a Demolition Machine," he stated, "demolishing truth, demolishing conscience, and demolishing the trust of the Cameroonian people." He declared that his personal integrity left him no other choice. "For the sake of my conscience, my image, and my honor, I refuse to remain part of this theatre of deceit," he explained. He confirmed his membership withdrawal is effective immediately, ending his letter with a firm moral declaration "I would rather stand alone with the truth than march with a crowd of impostors." His bold stance has been widely praised by many who see it as a courageous act of integrity.

## OCTOBER 12 POLL

## Tchiroma claims victory, urges Biya to concede

The president of the FSNC, Issa Tchiroma, has in a video declared himself the winner of the 2025 October 12 presidential election, claiming an overwhelming victory from the people and urging for a peaceful transfer of power.

By Brigitte BATE

After his massive votes on October 12, Issa Tchiroma Bakary, former minister and opposition leader, has thrown Cameroon presidential election into a new phase of uncertainty by declaring himself the winner, just few day after polls closed. Issa Tchiroma Bakary, leader of the Cameroon National Salvation Front (FSNC), in a video released October 15, confidently announced an overwhelming victory in the October 12 presidential election. Speaking to the nation in a tense political moment, the former minister praised his supporters for their courage and determination. He said he had seen citizens braving threats and intimidation to defend the truth of the vote, an act he promised would be forever engraved in our nation memory. This bold claim comes at a time when ELECAM, has not released any official results. The election was marked by allegations of irregularities in several regions. Despite the lack of official data, Tchiroma insisted the outcome was clear and irreversible, calling the election a plebiscite in favour of change. He promised to soon publish a detailed report of vote counts from polling stations, using his right under the electoral code. He then placed the responsibility on the current regime, warning of two paths. "Either it shows its greatness by accepting the truth of the vote, or it plunges the country into turmoil that will leave an inde-



libe scar" he stated. In a significant move, Tchiroma appealed directly to the country defence and security forces. He urged them to remain on the side of the Republic and the people, not of power, and to stay true to their mission of protecting citizens, not a regime. He also claimed that other



opposition candidates had already congratulated him, suggesting the beginning of a new era of unity. Striking a patriotic tone, Tchiroma framed the moment as a national turning point.

This victory is not that of a man or a party. It is the victory of a people. It is the victory of Cameroon, he declared. He concluded by calling for calm and reconciliation, asking the current authorities to make a gesture of political maturity by acknowledging his victory. « The world is watching. History is watching, » he said. According to Cameroon electoral laws, the Constitutional Council has until October 26 to announce the final, official results. The nation now waits to see if Tchiroma's declared victory will be confirmed or contested.

## MINAT Responds to Issa Tchiroma's Declaration

The Minister of Territorial Administration has issued a strong response to opposition candidate Issa Tchiroma's self-declaration of victory in the October 12 presidential election. The ministry condemned what it called an « imposture » and violation of electoral laws, asserting that Tchiroma's action was part of a premeditated plan to disrupt the electoral process. The government emphasized that the electoral process will continue according to legal provisions, with the Constitutional Council remaining the sole authority to proclaim final results. The ministry cited reports from over 5,000 accredited observers indicating the election proceeded without major incidents, while warning that Tchiroma's irresponsible attitude would be dealt with firmly in due course. Public order would be maintained across the national territory to ensure the process reaches its proper conclusion.

## NEWS | CAMEROON VOTES

## PRESIDENTIAL POLL

## Communications council warns public against fake results online

In response to Cameroonians instantly sharing presumed election results after casting their ballots, the National Communication Council (CNC) has issued a stern warning against the circulation of these unofficial and unverified results.

By **Brigette BATE**

The National Communication Council (CNC) has issued a sharp warning to media outlets and social media users, expressing deep concern over the rapid spread of unofficial and unapproved election results, a practice he says threatens to undermine the entire presidential election process. The National Communication Council is sounding the alarm. It states with vivid preoccupation that, there is a widespread and growing trend of hasty, unauthorized publications of data being presented



as the official results of the presidential election. This situation, spread through both traditional media and social networks, is seen as a direct threat to the

integrity and sincerity of the electoral process. The Council describes this as a dangerous drift that misleads the public. In its statement, the CNC draws

a critical legal distinction. It reminds everyone that the electoral law makes a fundamental difference between partial results from polling stations and the definitive Final Election Result. The numbers currently being circulated are described as partial, sector specific, and temporary. These figures are still subject to challenges and corrections by intermediate bodies before any final announcement is made. The Council argues that this premature dissemination of results, which it calls often selective and unverified, aims to mislead public opinion and compromise the election's integrity. The CNC's core message is a clear reminder

of the law, the Constitutional Council is the only institution legally empowered to proclaim the definitive winner of the presidential election. Any other announcement or publication that claims this power is committing a serious breach that damages the credibility of the entire process. As a consequence, the CNC is making a strong appeal. It exhorts media professionals and social media users to act with civism, restraint, and responsibility by strictly following the legal framework for elections. The statement ends with a firm warning, noting that the Council reserves the right to implement appropriate regulatory measures if its appeal is ignored.

## ALLEGED ELECTORAL FRAUD

## Anxiety as several arrested after protests

Over a dozen people were arrested after protesters hit the streets and courtyards across Douala, Bafoussam, Garoua and other parts of the country challenging ELECAM to respect the people's choice and distance themselves from all forms of foul play that may tamper with the results that were registered during last Sunday's 2025 presidential election. Sources say the protests were provoked by diverse alarms on possible result manipulation.

By **TEMBA Junior SUH**

Dozens of persons have been arrested following protests in several parts of the country in the last 48 hours against alleged electoral fraud on last Sunday's 2025 presidential election. A great section of the individuals was picked up in Douala in the Littoral Region where protesters hit the streets in two separate locations challenging elections management body, ELECAM to respect the people's choice and distance itself from all forms of foul play that may tamper with the results that were registered during the presidential poll. Sources say the protests which were also staged in Kousseri and Garoua in the norther part of the country and Bafoussam and Dschang in the West Region, were provoked by the multiple alarms that were raised alleging that results were being manipulated to disfavor the candidate of the Cameroon National Salvation Front, FSNC party, Issa Tchiroma Bakary to the favor of the candidate of the ruling Cameroon People's Democratic Movement, CPDM party.

## Fierce Douala protests

According to sources, at least 12 persons were arrested in Douala after protests erupted at the Douala 5 Branch ELECAM office located in Bonamoussadi. Media sources reported that dozens of protesters gathered at the branch office to demonstrate over what they described as a well-coordinated attempted electoral fraud led by branch officials in charge of the compilation of results. The sources said the protesters challenged the officials to maintain full transparency in the electoral process and facilitate the timely publication of the authentic results that were obtained from polling station under the branch during last Sunday's election. Similar protests also re-

portedly happened in Makepe in Douala in the Littoral Region where demonstrators equally urged ELECAM to respect the choice of the people by validating the genuine result that was obtained across polling stations under the zone during Sunday's poll.

The multiple protest was met with a strong reaction from defense and security forces. The forces used water tanks to disperse the crowd. A section of them resulted to using teargas to overpower the angry protesters who notably barricaded roads in the course of the demonstrations.

## Protests in West region

Protests in the West Region took place in Bafoussam in the Mifi Division and Dschang in the Menoua Division. Across the two cities, demonstrators headed to the courts protesting what they termed the attempted falsification of results to disfavor Issa Tchiroma of the FSNC party to the advantage of the CPDM party. Meanwhile in Bafoussam, one person was reportedly arrested where a group of protesters challenged EECAM and other officials on the ground at a court in the West regional chief town where the tallying of the result was expected to be completed, authenticated and forwarded.

## Enter Kousseri

Up north in Kousseri, it was reported that dozens of FSNC supporters created a tense atmosphere in bids to block ELECAM officials from tampering with polling reports to disfavor the FSNC party and its candidate. It is reported that the crowd forced its way to the office of the president of the Kousseri court accusing an ELECAM official of transporting falsified polling reports that contradicted the result that was held by the polling agents who were representing candidate Issa Tchiroma of the FSNC party.

They said the protest over the alleged attempted manipulation of results intended to fa-

vor the CPDM party and incumbent Head of State, Paul Biya, led to the courthouse getting placed under a total blockade by defense and security forces.

## Tchiroma insists won Sunday's poll, urges Cameroonians to protect votes

Tchiroma in a video recording last Monday night, announced that he is the winner of the 2025 presidential election. In another outing yesterday amidst the alleged falsification of results, the FSNC leader reiterated the claim. The FSNC leader said he and the party have over the last days been left shocked and disappointed by what have been presented as official results from polling stations for last Sunday's election. "Since the polling stations closed, matching information, coming from our deployed teams, national and international observers, and many voters confirms what we already knew: the Cameroonian people have expressed themselves massively. The minutes signed and published in hundreds of offices testify to a clear and irrefutable will," Issa Tchiroma stated in the statement yesterday. "Now, in a few hours, a mechanism for falsifying results was set up. Authentic minutes, established and signed at the exit of the ballot boxes, are today contradictory with copies presented by ELECAM services at the divisional level. How can I explain that Return Sheets handed over to party representatives and displayed at the polling station differ from those circulating later in the administrative offices?" the candidate questioned, further stating that "This situation is unacceptable and casts a deep disturbance to the legitimacy of the vote."

## You have a historical responsibility

Issa Tchiroma in yesterday's outing, further challenged Cameroonian authorities and institutions to distance themselves from engaging in any manipulations that could harm the result and the credibility of the entire process

of the 2025 presidential election. He urged institutions like ELECAM and the Constitutional Council to be exemplary in their delivery, describing the two bodies as institutions that have a historic opportunity to deliver change by standing with the truth while handling the result of Sunday's election. "You have a historical responsibility. The people's confidence is based on your impartiality. If there is doubt about the integrity of a centralized Return Sheet, it is your professional and civic duty to immediately instruct the verification and, if necessary, suspend any proclamations based on fraudulent documents," the candidate stated. "To our judges and magistrates present in divisional commissions: your role is not to protect opaque procedures, but to ensure the safety of the sovereign voice of the people," the candidate added, challenging judges to confront ELECAM representatives and other officials squarely if official Return Sheets from officers differ from the document transmitted by an authority. "You are obliged to demand the confrontation of the pieces, the hearing of the witnesses, and the implementation of any evidence rather than turning a blind eye to the convenient formula: 'Only the central Return Sheet of ELECAM is legitimate,' the former member of government further urged.

## Tchiroma alarms international community over forgery

Issa Tchiroma in his outing, also sent an appeal to the international community and observation missions, urging them to "not stay silent in the face of the obvious signs of forgery." "Your presence and impartial findings are indispensable today to prevent escalation and ensure that the will of the people is respected," he added. "I call on all the living forces of the Nation, political parties, civil society, churches, unions, independent media to join this call to demand transparency and loyalty in the counting and proclamation of results. The



future of Cameroon is at stake today: that the will of the people be respected, that law and justice prevail," the candidate further stated. **CPDM argues lone candidate with trustworthy information**

The multiple outtings by the candidate of the FSNC leader and his supporters have been met with fierce reaction from CPDM bigwigs and barons. The outings have provoked reactions from the likes of the Secretary General of the CPDM, Jean Nkuete, the party's Communications Secretary, Prof Jacques Fame Ndongo, Deputy Secretary General of the CPDM Central Committee, Gregoire Owona and the Minister of Territorial Administration, Paul Atanga Nji. Former Prime Minister Jean Nkuete urged Cameroonians to ignore candidates who have been hurrying to declare themselves winners of Sunday's election. He described the candidates as irresponsible individuals who are intentionally out to cause confusion among Cameroonians. The CPDM baron also boasted that the CPDM party is the lone political party in Cameroon which has what it takes to provide reliable and trustworthy information on the conduct of Sunday's election. He said despite its robust capacity, the CPDM chose not to make declarations on the outcome of the October 12 election. The CPDM National Campaign Coordinator argued that the party settled on the decision in demonstration of its status as a political structure that fully respects institutions and works in compliance with laws. "As for the CPDM, it is the only political party able to have representatives in all polling stations in Cameroon and abroad. This means that it is the only political party that can provide reliable and trustworthy information about how the election has been conducted everywhere," Jean Nkuete said in a press release last Tuesday.

## CAMEROON VOTES

## OCTOBER 12 POLL

## AU, ECCAS observation missions laud peaceful election, urge continuous transparency

The institutions have described the election as largely peaceful and commended the nation for the calm and orderly conduct of the vote.

By Brigette BATE

The joint African Union and Economic Community of Central African States, ECCAS observation mission delivered its final assessment of the 2025 presidential election last Tuesday, describing the election as calm and satisfactory. The head of the AU mission, Bernard Makuza, stated that the voting took place in an atmos-

phere of serenity and calm. He specifically addressed the restive Anglophone regions, reporting that even there, voting was hitch free like in the rest of the country, despite a recent lockdown. Echoing this view, the head of the ECCAS mission, Professor Isidore Ndaywel è Nziem, commended the political maturity of the Cameroonian people. He affirmed that the vote was conducted in a safe and secure manner and that the secrecy

of the ballot was guaranteed. While applauding the process, the missions also offered recommendations. They urged electoral authorities to maintain transparency and called on all political parties to deploy representatives to all polling stations. They also encouraged candidates to prioritize dialogue should they contest the results, emphasizing a peaceful path forward.



## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

## Wouri SDO bans street protest until swearing-in

According to the prefectural order, the measure aims to prevent possible public disorder as the nation awaits the official proclamation of the October 12 presidential election results.

By Saju Linda

The senior divisional officer of Wouri in the Littoral Region, Mvogo Sylvac Marie has banned all protests in the division until the swearing-in of the next Head of State. The decision is contained in a prefectural order signed and made public last Tuesday October 14. According to the prefectural order, the measure aims to prevent possible public disorder as the nation awaits the official proclamation of the October 12 presidential election results. "All street demonstrations are hereby prohibited until the inauguration of the new President of the Republic, due to clear and manifest risks of disturbing public order," reads Article 1 of



the decree. The second article further clarifies that the ban applies to "any gathering, march, protest, or public demonstration not duly declared," specifying that such activities will not be tolerated throughout the Wouri Division during this period. The senior divisional officer also warned that anyone found violating this directive would

face the penalties provided by existing laws and regulations. The order comes amid heightened political tension across the country following Sunday's presidential election, as authorities call for calm and restraint while the electoral process continues under the supervision of Elections Cameroon, ELECAM and security forces.

## OCTOBER 12 POLL

## Candidate Joshua Osih of SDF urges peace, respect for voters' choice

Acknowledging the fact that his party did not win, opposition leader Joshua Osih stated the people's verdict is clear and should be respected.

By Brigette BATE

The In a statement following the presidential election, opposition leader Joshua Osih has accepted the emerging results, placing national peace and the clear will of the people above all. While thanking his supporters for their hard work over three years, the leader stated that based on their own internal data, the trends from the October 12 vote are clear. The people have spoken, and the verdict of the ballot box is clear, he said, adding that they accept this outcome with total respect for the sovereign will of the Cameroonian people. He confirmed that noted irregularities will



be brought before the Constitutional Council, trusting the institution to examine the facts with rigor. However, he made a firm promise, if any appeal should go against the clearly expressed will of the Cameroonian people, we will refrain from pursuing it, because the stability of our nation and the preservation of peace must always come first. The leader also revealed his

intention to call the winner to offer congratulations once the process is complete. His greatest wish, he shared, is for the victory to serve the ordinary Cameroonian man and woman who simply wish to live with dignity and believe in their country again. Beyond parties and candidates, he concluded, it is Cameroon that must emerge victorious from this election.

## SOCIETY

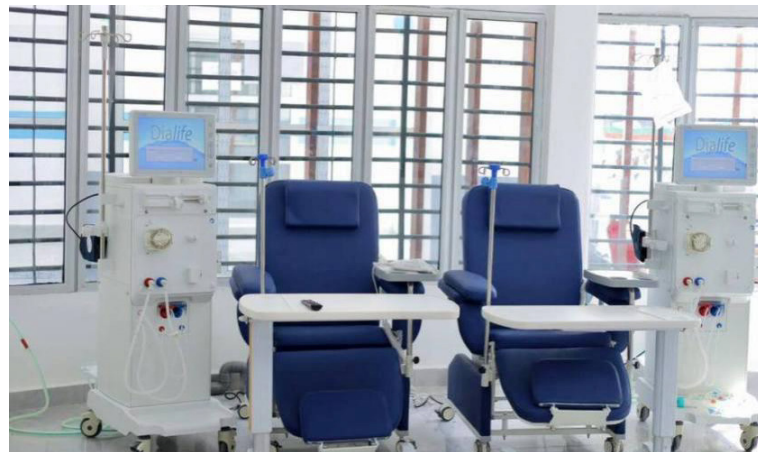
## FAR NORTH

## Minister inaugurates dialysis center, high-tech pharmacy in Mokolo

Built with the proven expertise of the Douala General Hospital, which has supported the creation of similar centers in Bertoua, Ngaoundéré, and Bafoussam, officials say the new center brings renewed hope to hundreds of patients suffering from chronic kidney failure in the Mayo-Tsanaga Division.

By Saju Linda

The people of Mokolo, in the Far North region, now have access to a modern dialysis center and a high-tech pharmacy, officially inaugurated by the Ministry of Public Health. Built with the proven expertise of the Douala General Hospital, which has supported the creation of similar centers in Bertoua, Ngaoundéré, and Bafoussam in the East, Adamawa and West regions respectively, officials say the new center brings renewed hope to hundreds of patients suffering from chronic kidney failure in the Mayo-Tsanaga Division. The facility has been designed to provide quality treatment in a clean, safe,



and efficient environment. Outside, it features a spacious parking lot, landscaped green areas, and solar-powered lighting to ensure comfort and sustainability. Inside, patients and staff

benefit from a modern setup including a reception room, a main dialysis hall equipped with ten new Dianova-brand generators, two individual VIP rooms, and a series of technical

units that support the smooth operation of the center. To ensure uninterrupted service, the center enjoys total autonomy thanks to a 70-meter-deep borehole for constant water supply and a 125 KVA generator that guarantees a stable power source. Speaking at the ceremony, Prof. Halle Marie Patrice, Project Coordinator and Head of the Nephrology-Hemodialysis Department at the Douala General Hospital, emphasized that the facility goes beyond treatment. "This center is not limited to dialysis; it also aims to prevent kidney disease. A comprehensive program including early screening campaigns and training for local medical staff is already being developed," he said. Located adjacent to the dialysis unit, the newly inaugurated modern pharmacy completes

Mokolo's new healthcare ecosystem. It is equipped with advanced storage and digital management systems that ensure the continuous availability of essential medicines and specialized medical consumables, particularly for dialysis patients. This development spares residents the need to travel long distances to obtain treatment or medication. The double inauguration was presided over by senior officials from the Ministry of Public Health, who described the gathering as a landmark event. In his address, the Minister of Public Health praised the initiative as a tangible realization of the Head of State's vision to decentralize healthcare and bring specialized services closer to the people.

## INFLUENZA

## Health ministry urges precautions over potential flu cases

The Minister of Public Health has in a notice informed the public of a seasonal increase in influenza cases across multiple regions, while confirming that COVID-19 remains under control with minimal transmission.

By Brigitte BATE

The minister says the current rise in flu cases, a respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that spreads from person to person, has been clearly identified. Tests confirm that common seasonal viruses, including A(H1N1) and A(H3N2), are behind the widespread illnesses being reported across several regions. This identified surge is concentrated in the Centre, Littoral, West, and Northwest parts of the country, which are currently experiencing the highest transmission rates. Despite this sustained wave of infections, the national health surveillance system is actively tracking the outbreak, and officials confirm that the situation remains manageable. In a key reassurance to the public, no deaths have been reported among the confirmed cases to date. The statement says the flu activity stands in sharp contrast to the current status of COVID-19. During the same surveillance period, coronavirus transmission has been minimal. Only a very small number of cases have been confirmed, with no associated deaths, major hospitalizations, or detection of new variants that would raise concern. Health authorities emphasize that COVID-19 circu-



lation remains well below the national alert point. In response to the active flu season, the Minister of Public Health is calling for renewed public vigilance. Citizens are strongly advised to adopt protective measures to curb the spread of respiratory viruses. These include consistently wearing masks in enclosed public spaces, practicing regular handwashing with soap or using sanitizer, and covering the mouth and nose with the elbow when coughing or sneezing. The public is also reminded to seek medical advice promptly if they experience symptoms such as fever, cough, or difficulty breathing. The national surveillance network remains fully operational to monitor the situation according to the minister.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

## PINK OCTOBER

## Cameroonians tackle breast cancer in awareness month

While Pink October turns the world's attention to breast cancer, the conversation about prevention, detection, and care is vital all year round.

By Brigitte BATE

True awareness starts with clear, simple knowledge that empowers everyone to take charge of their health" Tsamo Ornella a nurse and expert says. Breast cancer is a disease where cells in the breast tissue grow abnormally and out of control. It is one of the most common cancers in women, though men can also be affected. While the exact causes are complex, we know that risk increases with age, family history, and certain genetic mutations. Being aware of your body is the first step. "Look for changes like a new lump in the breast or armpit, a change in the breast's

size or shape, skin dimpling, or unusual nipple discharge," advises Nurse Ornella. "If you notice anything unusual, see a doctor promptly." The good news is that many risk factors are within our control. A healthy lifestyle is a powerful shield. This includes regular physical activity, a balanced diet rich in fruits and vegetables, maintaining a healthy weight, limiting alcohol, and for new mothers, breastfeeding is recommended. Prevention also involves regular screening. "This includes monthly self-examinations, annual clinical exams by a healthcare professional, and following national guidelines for mammograms. Early detection through these methods saves lives," Explains Tsamo. If diagnosed,



treatment is tailored to the individual. Options include surgery to remove the tumor known as lumpectomy or the breast known as mastectomy, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, hormone therapy, and targeted therapies. The choice depends on the cancer's stage and type, and the patient's overall health. She concludes with a call to action « Remember, the pink ribbon is more than a symbol, it's a call to action. By understanding the facts, adopting a healthy lifestyle, and participating in recommended screenings, we move from fear to empowerment in the fight against breast cancer ».

## REACTION

SAMO ORNELLA, Nurse

## "Consult a healthcare provider in case of breasts change"

What is crucial for people to understand is that while we cannot control all risk factors like age or genetics, the lifestyle prevention strategies highlighted are incredibly powerful tools that everyone should take seriously. The section on symptoms is particularly important. Many women feel anxious about checking their breasts, but knowing what to look for transforms fear into proactive awareness. That moment of self-examination could literally save your life. I must emphasize that while managing stress and maintaining a healthy lifestyle are vital for overall well-being, they are complementary measures. They are not a substitute for the proven, life-saving role of regular clinical screenings and mammograms as recommended by national guidelines. If you notice any changes in your breasts, the single most important step is to consult a healthcare provider without delay. Finally, the range of modern treatments listed should offer hope. A breast cancer diagnosis is not a single journey, and treatment is highly personalized. Understanding these options helps patients have more informed and empowered discussions.



## NORTH WEST REGION

## Bamenda comes back to life after 35 days of silence

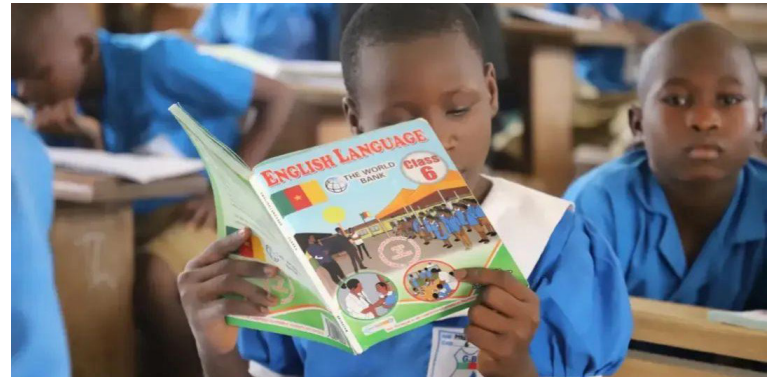
The long-awaited return of classroom activity brings a glimmer of hope to a city that has endured weeks of tension and fear.

By Saju Linda

The streets of Bamenda, the capital of Cameroon's North West region, are once again alive with the voices of pupils and students heading to school. The long-awaited return of classroom activity brings a glimmer of hope to a city that has endured weeks of tension and

fear. Yet, beneath this apparent normalcy lies a deeper story one of lost rights, fear, and a generation caught in a conflict not of their making. The separatist-imposed lockdown, which began on September 8, the official date for school resumption in Cameroon, crippled daily life across the North West and South West regions. Schools remained shut, markets deserted, and families struggled

to survive. The prolonged shutdown underscores one of the most troubling consequences of the Anglophone crisis: the systematic denial of children's right to education. While lessons may have resumed, the scars of fear and uncertainty remain visible, raising urgent questions about how long the region's youngest will continue to bear the weight of a conflict beyond their control.



## FAR NORTH REGION

## 80 billion FCFA budgeted to link Magada to Yagoua

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

By Saju Linda

The government has announced an investment exceeding 80 billion FCFA to rehabilitate two crucial road sections connecting Magada to Yagoua in the Far North region. The project which is part of the national effort to modernise road infrastructure, aims to strengthen regional integration and boost socio-economic development. The rehabilitation works cover the Magada-Guidiguis section (68.3 km) and the Guidiguis-Yagoua 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 project'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 Yagoua, while enhancing connectivity with neighboring countries Chad and Nigeria. The rehabilitation

of the Magada-Yagoua road is also expected to foster the development of new socio-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.

## WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

## Lions to battle Nigeria, Gabon, DRC in African playoff

The four-team tournament will be staged in Morocco from October 13 to 16 with one qualification ticket up for grabs for Africa's lone representative at next March's intercontinental playoff series.



By Saju Linda

Cameroon will face Nigeria, Gabon and the Democratic Republic of Congo in the African zonal playoff series of the qualifiers to the 2026 FIFA World Cup. The four-team tournament will be staged in Morocco from October 13 to 16 with one qualification ticket up for grabs for Africa's lone representative at next March's intercontinental playoff series. Nigeria, Gabon and DR Congo confirmed their spots in the competition last Tuesday after finishing second in their respective pools at the end of the group stages of the African zonal qualifiers to next year's showpiece scheduled for the United States of America, Canada and

Mexico. The sides joined the Indomitable Lions who had earlier on Monday, also missed out on a chance to win Group D and claim one of Africa's nine automatic qualification tickets to the 2026 global showpiece. Cameroon missed out on the chance after the team was held to a goalless draw by Angola on Monday evening at the Ahmadou Ahidjo Stadium in Yaounde, in the final round of the African qualifiers. Highly anticipated, the Indomitable Lions of coach Marc Brys struggled to break through a solid Angolan defense. Despite dominating much of the second half and creating several clear scoring opportunities, Cameroon failed to find the back of the net. With the result, Cameroon finished second in its group with 19 points, four

points behind Cape Verde. Cabo Verde which has a population of just over 500 thousand persons, topped the standings and qualified for the 2026 and became the second smallest nation to ever reach the final phase of the World Cup. Cameroon is chasing a ninth appearance in the final phase of the FIFA World Cup. The team will begin its campaign in the African playoff against Gabon before rounding it up against the winner of the match between Gabon and Nigeria. Per the format of the tournament, the event will be held in a knockout format featuring two semifinals and a final match. The winner of the match will join five other nations in competing for two available tickets at the intercontinental playoff in March next year.