

# THE BRITISH SOUTHERN CAMEROONS

## Republic of Ambazonia

Your ref  
Our ref...[RA/UN.4c/93/01]

From the Desk of the Head of State  
Date [26/01/93]

The Chairman

The Fourth Committee  
U.N. General Assembly.

Your Excellency

### RESTITUTION THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION

- 1) Ambazonia is the native name of what used to be referred to as the United Nations Trust Territory of the British Southern Cameroons under the United Kingdom Administration.
- 2) The United Nations passed a Trusteeship Council Resolution 2013 (XXVI) and subsequent decisions to organize a plebiscite on the future of the territory. Although independence is stated in Article 76(b) of the United Nations to mean independence simpliciter, the U.N. was manipulated to define independence as Joining One of the two neighbors of Ambazonia.
- 3) Accordingly, the U.N. set out the constitutional implications of each of the two alternatives in a pamphlet entitled THE TWO ALTERNATIVES. One alternative was TOTAL INTEGRATION INTO NIGERIA, and the other alternative was FORMING A UNION WITH THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROUN.
- 4) According to the power sharing structure, which was published in a plebiscite pamphlet, Ambazonia would have EXCLUSIVE COMPETENCE in every subject, including its currency and monetary unit which matters were described as NON FEDERAL MATTERS. But in federal matters Ambazonia was to exercise POWERS CONCURRENTLY WITH THE FEDERAL STATE, to be formed by the two countries.
- 5) To remove any conflict in this area, it was stipulated that "IN THE EVENT OF THE CONFLICT OF LAWS BETWEEN THE FEDERAL STATE AND THE FEDERATED STATES, THE FEDERAL LAW WILL PREVAIL".

- 6) VALIDATION OF THE INSTRUMENT OF UNION: According to the plebiscite pamphlet, the draft federal Constitution would remain invalid unless it is first submitted to the populations and approved. From the track record of the Ambazonian people's quest for independence it was obvious that they would reject the draft federal constitution so as to ensure unfettered independence.
- 7) IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM: On the 18th of April, 1961 the Fourth Committee of the U.N. General Assembly set out the following mechanism for implementing the results of the plebiscite:
  - a) with respect to the Northern Cameroons, which voted to join Nigeria, the Administering Authority was given the power to unilaterally implement the results simply by transferring the administration of the territory to Nigeria.
  - b) With respect to the British Southern Cameroons (Ambazonia) which voted for joining the Republic of Cameroun, the Fourth Committee appointed a commission of three constitutional and administrative experts to assist with the process of transforming the terms of union as agreed, into a draft federal constitution.
- 8) The Fourth Committee decided that the three experts to serve on the commission would be nominated, one each, by three Member States to be designated by the General Assembly. (This would involve nine [9] Member States in the process.) These experts were to assist the principals parties identified as:
  - (i) the Administration Authority.
  - (ii) the British Southern Cameroons.
  - (iii) the Republic of Cameroun.
- 9) These were "to initiate discussions with a view to finalizing, before 1st October, 1961, the arrangements by which the AGREED and DECIDED policies ...for a union...will be implemented."
- 10) By setting up such an elaborate procedure the U.N. was taking pains to make sure that the U.N. General Assembly itself would be involved in the process of implementing the results of the plebiscite in the Southern Cameroons (Ambazonia). The Fourth Committee thus excluded any UNILATERAL ACTION OUTSIDE THIS FRAMEWORK. By so doing it rendered any such action outside the framework totally invalid and its legal effect absolutely null and void ab initio.
- 11) THE BIG ISSUE:

As it turned out those who were determined to deprive the Ambazonia people of the independence, which they had voted for pulled a fast one, and

Ambazonia found herself under the administration of the Republic of Cameroun. Cameroun lost no time in suppressing the Ambazonian constitution, dividing the territory into provinces and ruling Ambazonia as a slave territory using governors appointed by Cameroons.

- 12) Now that the Fourth Committee is aware that the mechanism it set up for implementing the plebiscite results has been frustrated by the unilateral act of some parties, is it not the responsibility of the Fourth Committee to initiate action to ensure that what the U.N. offered which the people accepted through the plebiscite, i.e., independence, is realized?
- 13) On behalf of the 5.5 million Ambazonians we beg to submit that it is only fair that the secretariat of the Fourth Committee takes appropriate action to restitute the people's right to self-determination for which purpose the concept of International Trusteeship Administration was designed.
- 14) We have no doubt that your office would be most competent to devise a procedure for enabling the U.N. to fulfil its obligation to the Ambazonian people.
- 15) Hereunder is a catalogue of forty years struggle for independence by the people of Ambazonia. We also enclose "THE TWO ALTERNATIVE" and the decision of the Fourth Committee 15th Session of 18th April, 1961 (A/C.4/I.685.)

While thanking you in anticipation of your co-operation, I am;

Yours most respectfully;

Fon Fongum Gorji-Dinka  
Head of State