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**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
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## Cameroon

### Compilation of information prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

#### I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the outcome of the previous review.<sup>1</sup> It is a compilation of information contained in relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

#### II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) noted that Cameroon was a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol but the country had not yet ratified the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons or the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.<sup>2</sup>

3. UNHCR added that Cameroon was a party to the 1969 Organization of African Unity Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, and that in 2015 Cameroon had ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (the Kampala Convention) but had not domesticated it yet. Cameroon had, however, domesticated the refugee conventions by enacting Act No. 2005/006 of 27 July 2005 concerning the Status of Refugees.<sup>3</sup>

4. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights encouraged Cameroon to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.<sup>4</sup>

5. The same Committee recommended ratifying the International Labour Organization (ILO) Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).<sup>5</sup>



6. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination also encouraged Cameroon to ratify the international human rights treaties that it had not yet ratified, in particular treaties with provisions that had direct relevance to communities that may be subjected to racial discrimination, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), as well as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.<sup>6</sup>

7. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stated that Cameroon should be encouraged to ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education and to consider enshrining the right to education in the Constitution.<sup>7</sup>

### **III. National human rights framework**

#### **Institutional infrastructure and policy measures**

8. In March 2022, Cameroon was urged to fully implement the recommendations of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) published in November 2021, on granting a broad and free civic space, investigating reports of serious human rights violations by the security forces, and providing accountability.<sup>8</sup>

9. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended to Cameroon to allocate sufficient human and financial resources to the National Commission on the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism and provide detailed information on its activities in the next periodic report, and to conduct an assessment of its measures to address inequalities, with a view to strengthening those measures, with the meaningful participation of community representatives, civil society organizations and the Cameroon Human Rights Commission.<sup>9</sup>

### **IV. Promotion and protection of human rights**

#### **A. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law**

##### **1. Equality and non-discrimination**

10. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended decriminalizing consensual homosexual relations and repealing article 347-1 of the Criminal Code, along with all other legal provisions that were discriminatory with regard to sexual orientation or gender identity. It also recommended that Cameroon combat discrimination against and stigmatization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons by, inter alia, conducting awareness-raising campaigns, and ensure that no one was discriminated against in terms of the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, in particular with regard to access to health services, on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.<sup>10</sup>

##### **2. Human rights and counter-terrorism**

11. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that Cameroon ensure accountability and end impunity, by conducting effective, thorough and impartial investigations into reports of violations of human rights perpetrated by security forces in the context of its counter-terrorism measures, as well as human rights abuses perpetrated by non-State armed groups, and that it prosecute those responsible, and punish those convicted adequately.<sup>11</sup>

12. The same Committee also stressed the need to adopt effective measures to ensure that counter-terrorism measures did not discriminate against ethnic, ethnolinguistic and ethno-religious groups and Indigenous Peoples and to guarantee detainees the right to due process and the right to challenge their detention and conviction under Law No. 2014/028.<sup>12</sup>

### **3. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law**

13. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights called upon Cameroon to continue to provide training on a regular basis, in particular to judges, lawyers, law enforcement officers, parliamentarians and other stakeholders, concerning the rights enshrined in the Covenant and their enforceability in the courts, and to provide rights holders with the information they needed to demand that those rights be respected.<sup>13</sup>

14. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that Cameroon conduct training programmes on hate crimes and hate speech for police officers, prosecutors, judges and other law enforcement officials, including on methods for identifying, registering and investigating racist hate crimes and cases of hate speech and prosecuting those responsible.<sup>14</sup>

15. The same Committee took note of the information on the criminalization of hate speech and incitement to violence against individuals and groups on the grounds of “tribe” and “ethnic origin” under section 241 (1) of the Penal Code. Nevertheless, the Committee was concerned that the legislative framework did not contain provisions that expressly criminalized racist hate speech and hate crimes in accordance with article 4 of the Convention. The Committee also regretted the lack of information on efforts made to monitor the spread of hate speech on the Internet and social media, as well as the lack of information, including statistics, on complaints filed, investigations and prosecutions carried out, and sanctions imposed against those responsible. It was also concerned about reports of incitement to racial hatred by public and government officials.<sup>15</sup>

### **4. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life**

16. On 17 January 2023 a well-known radio journalist was kidnapped in Yaoundé and found dead on 22 January, allegedly with signs of severe torture. On 27 January, the President instructed relevant authorities to investigate the case. National and international actors widely condemned the killing, while several high-profile military and civilian figures were arrested and detained.<sup>16</sup>

17. On 2 February 2023, a journalist, radio animator and priest of the Orthodox Church in Cameroon was also found dead in Yaoundé.<sup>17</sup>

18. On 20 April 2023, the Cameroon Human Rights Commission condemned statements stigmatizing certain groups, tribes, ethnicities and regions of Cameroon reportedly made by participants in a television programme broadcast live on 16 April.<sup>18</sup>

19. On 7 May 2023, a Cameroonian journalist was killed in Bamenda, North-West Region, by alleged armed separatists.<sup>19</sup>

20. UNESCO had reported the killing of journalists since systematic reporting by the organization began in 2006. A request for information would be issued by UNESCO regarding the killing, which had taken place in January 2023.<sup>20</sup>

21. UNESCO recommended that Cameroon continue investigating the cases of killed journalists and voluntarily report on the status of judicial follow-up to UNESCO and to the monitoring processes for indicator 16.10.1 of Sustainable Development Goal 16.<sup>21</sup>

22. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cameroon provide effective protection to human rights defenders, including those working to defend economic, social and cultural rights, from any and all forms of harassment, intimidation and reprisal, and that it ensure that perpetrators of acts of that nature were brought to justice.<sup>22</sup>

23. The same Committee urged Cameroon to carry out information and awareness-raising campaigns focusing on the importance of the work of human rights defenders with a view to

engendering a climate of tolerance in which they could fulfil their mission without fear of intimidation, threats or reprisals of any kind.<sup>23</sup>

24. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that Cameroon carry out effective, thorough and impartial investigations into all reported cases of killings, enforced disappearance, intimidation and harassment of, and threats and reprisals against, human rights defenders, journalists and members of civil society organizations. It further recommended that Cameroon take measures, including legislative, to ensure that civil society organizations, human rights defenders and journalists, including those working on the rights of ethnic minorities and Indigenous Peoples, were able to carry out their work effectively and without fear of reprisals.<sup>24</sup>

25. UNESCO encouraged Cameroon to introduce an access to information law that was in accordance with international standards, including with an independent oversight mechanism, and to revise its media and broadcasting legislation in alignment with international freedom of expression standards.<sup>25</sup>

#### **5. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work**

26. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended to Cameroon to redouble its efforts to lower the unemployment and underemployment rates by, inter alia, ensuring the effective implementation of a national employment strategy. It recommended that the strategy be accompanied by an action plan with clear objectives, give priority to groups that had disproportionately high unemployment and underemployment rates, and be allocated the necessary financial and technical resources for its effective implementation and sustainability. The Committee also recommended that Cameroon improve the quality of school programmes and of technical and vocational training programmes, and that it tailor them to the needs of the labour market and to the needs of the most underprivileged and marginalized persons and groups.<sup>26</sup>

#### **6. Right to an adequate standard of living**

27. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that Cameroon adopt measures to ensure the availability of, and accessibility for all ethnic groups and Indigenous Peoples, on an equal footing, to education and health-care services, including by enhancing the infrastructure of existing facilities and increasing the availability of schools and health-care facilities, particularly in areas affected by violence and in remote areas.<sup>27</sup>

#### **7. Right to health**

28. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cameroon review its criminal legislation under which abortion was prohibited with a view to making it compatible with women's rights, including the right to mental and physical health and the right to life, and to expanding the set of circumstances under which abortion was legal while also doing away with the restrictive requirements that limited access to abortion. In that regard, the Committee also recommended ensuring that women who had recourse to this practice were not held to be criminally liable. The Committee called upon the State to ensure the dissemination and availability of appropriate, high-quality sexual and reproductive health information and services, including family planning services, for all women and adolescent girls, especially in remote rural areas.<sup>28</sup>

#### **8. Right to education**

29. UNESCO stated that Cameroon should be encouraged to consider enshrining the right to education in the Constitution and to amend the law to ensure 12 years of free primary and secondary education, at least 9 of which should be compulsory.<sup>29</sup>

#### **9. Cultural rights**

30. As a State party to the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, of 1972, the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, of 2003, and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, of 2005, Cameroon was encouraged to fully implement the relevant provisions

that promoted access to and participation in cultural heritage and creative expressions and, as such, were conducive to implementing the right to take part in cultural life as defined in article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Cameroon was encouraged to give due consideration to the participation of communities, practitioners, cultural actors and civil society organizations, as well as vulnerable groups (minorities, Indigenous Peoples, migrants, refugees, young people and persons with disabilities), and to ensure that equal opportunities were given to women and girls to address gender disparities.<sup>30</sup>

## **10. Development, the environment, and business and human rights**

31. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended adopting measures to mitigate the impact of climate change on the lands, territories and resources of Indigenous Peoples with a view to protecting their customs and traditional ways of life, while preventing intercommunal conflicts.<sup>31</sup>

32. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cameroon draw up clear guidelines and rules for evaluating the impact on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, and the environmental impact of, economic development and natural-resource exploitation projects, including those implemented by private actors, and, in particular, projects involving the territories and natural resources of Indigenous Peoples.<sup>32</sup>

33. The same Committee urged Cameroon to address the root causes of corruption as a matter of priority and to adopt all necessary legislative and administrative measures to ensure transparency in public administration, both in law and in practice. It also recommended ensuring the effective implementation of anti-corruption measures and taking steps to effectively protect victims of corruption and their lawyers, anti-corruption activists, whistle-blowers and witnesses.<sup>33</sup>

## **B. Rights of specific persons or groups**

### **1. Women**

34. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended taking immediate steps to provide effective medical and social support for women and girls who were victims of gender-based violence.<sup>34</sup>

35. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended the effective implementation of the humanitarian assistance plans that had been adopted and of the 2018–2020 national action plan on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and related resolutions on women and peace and security by, inter alia, establishing effective follow-up mechanisms that provided for the participation of the population groups concerned, including women, and by allocating sufficient financial, human and technical resources for their implementation.<sup>35</sup>

36. The same Committee recommended that Cameroon put an end to the persistent inequality between men and women. To that end, it called for measures to combat gender stereotypes and change traditional attitudes that interfered with women's enjoyment of their economic, social and cultural rights, including their access to land.<sup>36</sup>

37. The same Committee also recommended that Cameroon repeal all legal provisions, including in the Civil Code, that discriminated against women or barred women from certain types of jobs, and ensure equality between men and women in the application of customary law, as well as in statutory law, and that it adopt all necessary measures, including temporary special measures, to ensure that women had equal access to all spheres of political and public life.<sup>37</sup>

### **2. Children**

38. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict reported that armed groups, such as Boko Haram-affiliated groups and splinter groups, including Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad and Islamic State

West Africa Province, had continued to target civilians, including children – who had been particularly affected by improvised explosive device and explosive remnants of war incidents.<sup>38</sup>

39. The Office of the Special Representative reported that between 2018 and 2022, abductions, killings and maimings, and targeted attacks on schools, hospitals, teachers and humanitarian personnel, had continued to take place. While the overall number of grave violations against children had decreased, abductions of children and attacks on schools and hospitals had increased since 2018.<sup>39</sup>

40. The Office of the Special Representative acknowledged that the Government of Cameroon had pursued efforts to end and prevent grave violations against children. Following an attack by Cameroonian armed forces in Ngarbuh, North-West Region, on 14 February 2020, resulting in the death of 14 children, the Government had created a commission of inquiry. In June 2020, the Government had announced the arrest of two Cameroon Armed Forces soldiers and of a gendarme, whose trial had begun in December 2020. In 2021, police officers, including in the North-West and South-West Regions, had been trained by the United Nations on child protection in emergencies, with a specific focus on the protection of children in armed conflict and on the handover of children associated with armed groups to civilian child protection actors. The Government had continued the reintegration of children formerly associated with Boko Haram, including with unidentified affiliated or splinter groups, through a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration centre in Meri, Far North Region.<sup>40</sup>

41. The Office of the Special Representative added that 2021 had been marked by clashes between Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad and Islamic State West Africa Province and by security forces' military operations against those groups, which had had a direct impact on the protection of children. The resurgence of attacks by armed groups and military operations in the department of Mayo-Tsanaga had led to the displacement of more than 10,000 civilians, including children, had increased the vulnerability of women and girls, and had drastically reduced the capacity to monitor grave violations against children. Additionally, 2022 had seen territorial expansion by Islamic State West Africa Province result in further population displacement in the department of Mayo-Tsanaga.<sup>41</sup>

42. The Office of the Special Representative reported that the impact of the crisis on the education sector in the North-West and South-West Regions remained a major concern. Armed groups had violently opposed government-administered education since September 2017. Armed groups had also enforced week-long stay-at-home and "lockdowns" in the North-West and South-West Regions, which, in addition to extended bans on road movements, had affected children's access to livelihood, education, and health services. More recently, out of 6,515 schools, 46 per cent were functioning and 54 per cent of students were enrolled for the 2022/23 academic year in the two regions as at the end of 2022. Since the beginning of the 2022/23 school year, except for the lockdown imposed by armed groups which had delayed the start of the year by two weeks, schooling had been proceeding in most relatively safe urban and peri-urban areas in the two regions.<sup>42</sup>

43. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights called upon Cameroon to take steps, as a matter of urgency, to ensure that children in the Far North, North-West and South-West Regions of the country had access to education. It also urged Cameroon to conduct thorough investigations into acts of violence directed at teachers, students and parents, as well as regarding the damage done to educational infrastructure, in order to bring those responsible to justice.<sup>43</sup>

44. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict recommended that Cameroon comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law and continue to pursue efforts to strengthen the protection of conflict-affected children, and that it ensure that all schools being used for purposes other than education were swiftly vacated and that further military use of schools was prevented.<sup>44</sup>

45. The Office of the Special Representative also stressed that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes should consider the specific needs and rights of children formerly associated with armed groups and allow child protection actors access to all disarmament, demobilization and reintegration centres, and that the Government should

use the detention of children only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, and release all detained children.<sup>45</sup>

### **3. Indigenous Peoples and minorities**

46. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that Cameroon collect and provide reliable, updated and comprehensive statistical data on the demographic composition of the population, based on the principle of self-identification, including on ethnic, ethnolinguistic and ethno-religious groups, Indigenous Peoples, internally displaced persons, and non-citizens, including refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons, together with socioeconomic indicators, disaggregated by ethnicity, gender, age, region and languages spoken.<sup>46</sup>

47. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cameroon take effective steps, in consultation with Indigenous Peoples, to combat discrimination against them and their exclusion, and that it protect and guarantee, in law and in practice, their right to freely dispose of their lands, territories and natural resources. The Committee urged Cameroon to consult Indigenous Peoples with a view to obtaining their free, prior and informed consent to any measures that may affect them, including the implementation of projects on their lands and territories.<sup>47</sup>

48. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination urged Cameroon to take measures to ensure access by Indigenous Peoples to effective remedies, and to provide them with just and fair compensation for the lands, territories and resources which they had traditionally owned or used and which had been confiscated, occupied or used without their free, prior and informed consent or had been damaged.<sup>48</sup>

49. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cameroon redouble its efforts to effectively prevent and combat de facto discrimination against and marginalization of ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities, including the English-speaking minority. In that regard, the Committee recommended that Cameroon adopt all necessary measures, including temporary special measures, and launch awareness-raising campaigns to ensure the effective enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights.<sup>49</sup>

### **4. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers**

50. UNHCR called upon the Government of Cameroon to expedite the process of assuming responsibility for the registration of asylum-seekers and for refugee status determination procedures, to invest adequate resources to that end, and to issue identity documents to all refugees, in accordance with relevant national legislation.<sup>50</sup>

51. UNHCR also encouraged Cameroon to take administrative measures to improve the implementation of the Act concerning the Status of Refugees, particularly with regard to access to identity and travel documentation; and, in respect of refugees, to set up a body for coordination and response.<sup>51</sup>

### **5. Internally displaced persons**

52. UNHCR recommended that Cameroon accelerate efforts to domesticate the Kampala Convention in national legislation, establishing a legal framework that was consistent with its international commitments, and that it better coordinate protection measures and mechanisms to respond to the needs of internally displaced persons.<sup>52</sup>

53. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights called upon Cameroon to avoid taking measures that could lead to the forced displacement of the population, and to take appropriate, reasonable measures to prevent such displacement. The Committee recommended that the State party provide effective protection to displaced persons, refugees and asylum-seekers so that they had access to adequate housing, health care, education and social protection, including by seeking support through international cooperation, if necessary. It recommended that Cameroon ensure that internally displaced persons were able to return to their home regions safely and with dignity, or offer them appropriate alternatives.<sup>53</sup>

## 6. Stateless persons

54. UNHCR called upon the Government of Cameroon to accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and to implement information and outreach campaigns for inhabitants of the Bakassi Peninsula to have their nationality confirmed and their identity documentation issued.<sup>54</sup>

55. UNHCR also recommended that Cameroon revise the Nationality Code to ensure that women and men had equal rights to nationality, particularly with regard to the acquisition, transmission and retention of nationality, and remove discriminatory provisions between children born of married parents and children born of unmarried parents, and against persons with disabilities; and that it introduce free mobile courts for the issuance of birth certificates, funded by State and municipal budgets.<sup>55</sup>

56. Moreover, as mentioned by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Nationality Code (Law 1968-LF-3 of 11 June 1968) and the implementing decree (Decree No. 68/LF/478 of 16 June 1968) stipulated different conditions for women and men with regard to the acquisition, transmission and retention of Cameroonian nationality. For example, the above-mentioned legislation provided for the possibility for a foreign woman who married a Cameroonian man to obtain Cameroonian nationality, if she so wished, but was silent on whether a foreign man marrying a Cameroonian woman could exercise the same right.<sup>56</sup>

57. The distinction between children born in and out of wedlock in relation to the acquisition of Cameroonian nationality was also discriminatory. Children born to married parents, where one was a Cameroonian national, automatically acquired Cameroonian nationality. However, a child born out of wedlock with one parent of Cameroon nationality did not benefit from the same automaticity. Furthermore, provisions on naturalization requiring that a person be “healthy in body and mind” in order to be naturalized could constitute discrimination against persons with disabilities.<sup>57</sup>

## C. Specific regions or territories

58. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was deeply concerned about the widespread violence and lack of security in the North-West and South-West Regions, experienced since 2016, due to the attacks and clashes between the security forces and the armed separatist groups, as well as in the Far North Region, where non-State armed groups, including Boko Haram, carried out terrorist attacks against civilians.<sup>58</sup>

59. The same Committee was also concerned about the reports of inter-ethnic violence in Logone-et-Chari.<sup>59</sup>

60. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cameroon take steps, as a matter of urgency, to ensure the enjoyment of Covenant rights by the people living in areas affected by violence and a lack of security, particularly in the Far North, North-West and South-West Regions.<sup>60</sup>

61. The same Committee also urged Cameroon to conduct thorough, independent investigations into reports of violence and the destruction of hospitals, schools and entire villages, particularly in the North-West and South-West Regions, in order to ensure that those responsible were brought to justice and sentenced to penalties commensurate with the gravity of their acts.<sup>61</sup>

62. In the North-West and South-West Regions of Cameroon, allegations continued to be made regarding human rights violations and abuses perpetrated by security and defence forces and armed separatist groups against civilians, including killings and the destruction of property. In addition, forced lockdowns, the use of improvised explosive devices and the kidnapping of civilians by armed groups limited the delivery of much-needed humanitarian assistance.<sup>62</sup>



63. In the Far North Region, the increasing use of improvised explosive devices and mines by Boko Haram-affiliated and splinter groups and raids on civilian communities continued to cause displacement and led to human rights abuses.<sup>63</sup>

64. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that Cameroon adopt measures to achieve a peaceful solution to the crises and the spread of violence, including by prioritizing national reconciliation and transitional justice processes in the North-West, South-West and Far North Regions, to guarantee protection of ethnic, ethnolinguistic and ethno-religious groups and Indigenous groups, with the effective and meaningful participation of representatives of these ethnic groups and Indigenous Peoples, civil society organizations and the Cameroon Human Rights Commission.<sup>64</sup>

### Notes

- 1 [A/HRC/39/15](#), [A/HRC/39/15/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/39/2](#).
- 2 UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Cameroon, p. 1.
- 3 *Ibid.*
- 4 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), paras. 66 and 67.
- 5 *Ibid.*, para. 13 (d).
- 6 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 36.
- 7 UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Cameroon, para. 19 (i) and (ii).
- 8 See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/speeches/2022/03/global-update-bachelet-urges-inclusion-combat-sharply-escalating-misery-and-fear>.
- 9 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), paras. 21 (b) and (c).
- 10 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 24.
- 11 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 23 (b).
- 12 *Ibid.*, para. 23 (d).
- 13 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 7.
- 14 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 15 (c).
- 15 *Ibid.*, para. 14.
- 16 [S/2023/389](#), para. 37.
- 17 *Ibid.*
- 18 *Ibid.*
- 19 *Ibid.*
- 20 UNESCO submission, para. 18.
- 21 *Ibid.*, para. 22.
- 22 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 11.
- 23 *Ibid.*
- 24 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 17.
- 25 UNESCO submission, paras. 20 and 21.
- 26 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 31.
- 27 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 25 (c).
- 28 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 59.
- 29 UNESCO submission, para. 19 (ii) and (iii).
- 30 *Ibid.*, para. 23.
- 31 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 27 (e).
- 32 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 17 (a).
- 33 *Ibid.*, para. 20.
- 34 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 23 (c).
- 35 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 5 (c).
- 36 *Ibid.*, para. 28 (a).
- 37 *Ibid.*, para. 28 (b) and (c).
- 38 Submission of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict for the universal periodic review of Cameroon, p. 1.
- 39 *Ibid.*, p. 1.
- 40 *Ibid.*, pp. 1 and 2.
- 41 *Ibid.*, p. 1.
- 42 *Ibid.*, p. 1.
- 43 [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 61 (f).
- 44 Submission of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, p. 2.
- 45 *Ibid.*
- 46 [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 5.

- <sup>47</sup> [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 13 (a), (b) and (c).  
<sup>48</sup> [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 27 (c).  
<sup>49</sup> [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 26.  
<sup>50</sup> UNHCR submission, p. 5.  
<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5.  
<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4.  
<sup>53</sup> [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 9.  
<sup>54</sup> UNHCR submission, p. 3.  
<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>58</sup> [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 22.  
<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>60</sup> [E/C.12/CMR/CO/4](#), para. 5 (a).  
<sup>61</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5 (b).  
<sup>62</sup> [S/2023/389](#), para. 38.  
<sup>63</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>64</sup> [CERD/C/CMR/CO/22-23](#), para. 23 (a).
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