Annex

1. Among the many other innovations, the CHRC now has 15 permanent members instead of 30, in the former Commission, of who only 2 were permanent; there are provisions that govern incompatibility and management of conflict of real or seeming interests; power to intervene in the capacity of *amicus curiae* before the courts, including by senior officials who henceforth take an oath of office.

2. It provides… "As for the protection of human rights, authorities commit themselves to : (i) respect all the legal, administrative, political, economic and social guarantees necessary for the effective enjoyment of the rights recognized for citizens including those deprived of their freedom; and (ii) train all citizens in human rights through interactive digital platforms on human rights, targeted explanatory documents on human rights for some classes of the population as well as the generalization of education on human rights curricular".

3. The CHRC also received CFAF12,000,000 (about 18,268.42 Euros) to finance a Workshop to share experience on monitoring of Human Rights in corporate activities and on the involvement of States in negotiations on a draft United Nations treaty on enterprises and Human Rights organised from 5 to 7 October 2022 by *Association francophone des Commissions nationales des Droits de l'Homme*; CFAF8,000,000 (about 12,178.95 Euros) from the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa to finance a Workshop on the functioning of the National Torture Prevention Mechanism; gifts from UNDP as part of the Peace Building Project, comprising 510 books, 10 laptops, 15 blinds, 15 splits air conditioners, 1 brail printer, 7 office tables and 1 column worth some CFAF14,298,500 (about 21,767.59 Euros); a significant documentary collect of 200 works on the prevention and combating of torture offered by the *Association pour la prevention de la torture*.

4. By Circular No. 190256/DV/MINDEF/01 of 18 January 2019 addressed to all defence and security services under his supervision, the Minister in charge of Defence recalled the principle of prohibition in the use of violence. The reminder was followed by firm presctiptions on the opening of inquiry and the initiation of prosecution against authors and accessories of such acts. He further gave specific prescriptions to military officials in the crises Regions in a bid to ensure permanent in-service training on the use of force, to all staff under their supervision, pursuant to the basic United Nations and African Union principles relating thereto. Besides, by Memo No. 153/MRP/GN/244 of 23 January 2019, the Secretary of State to the Minister of Defence in charge of the National Gendarmerie relayed the same instructions to all Gendarmerie services.

5. A course on Human Rights is taught to civilian and military pupil Magistrates at the National School of Administration and Magistracy. The Module entitled "*Prohibition, Prevention and Punishment for Torture*" was taught at the intitial and in-service training of staff of defence forces (soldiers and gendarme officers) from the level of general basic training to that of advanced military training. The Module entitled "*Human Rights and Freedoms*" and other Human Rights modules were taught in Police training schools, and at the National School of Penitentiary Administration respectively. The training programmes contain courses on sanctions on public agents in the event of torture, special treatment of vulnerable asylum seekers, prohibition of deportation of asylum seekers, and detection techniques of victims of torture or other types of violence.

6. In February 2019, the Minister of Justice organised a trainig seminar for Judicial stakeholders (Judicial and Legal Officers, Judicial Police Officers, staff of Penitentiary Administration) in which a module on the Instabul Protocol was developed. Pursuant to the recommendations made during the seminar, international instruments on the prohibition of torture, in particular the Main Directives of "*Robben Island*" and the Instanbul Protocol were specially disseminated in the form of a CD-ROM and posted at police units. In addition, a training of trainers workshop for Gynaechologists, Psychiatrics, Midwives and other health staff involved in the treatment of victims of rape held in Ebolowa from 16 to 22 July 2018.

7. In 2019, for example, 129 soldiers were prosecuted before military tribunals in Bamenda and Buea for different offences. Besides, following allegations of assault occasioning death committed on 18 May 2021 at Koumtchoum checkpoint, prejudicial to J.P., Private First-Class L.B.D. is currently prosecuted before the courts.

8. The General Delegation for National Security (DGSN) has an Inspectorate General in charge of the Special Service Control Division. It is in charge, among others, of combating corruption, execution of administrative and judicial inquiries concerning National Security staff, and enhancement of discipline.

9. The Inspectorate General at the National Gendarmerie controls the effectiveness and efficiency of the Units and Training Service. It ensures, in particular, respect for Human Rights and punishes established violations.

10. Furthermore, with regard to the atrocities committed at Ngarbuh by DSFs, the procedure pending before the Military Tribunal of Yaounde was adjourned to 20 April 2023 for examination of exhibits. In the matter concerning **Tumasang Comfort**, pending before the Buea Military Tribunal , it was adjourned to 20 April 2023 for hearing of witnesses. In the matter concerning **Florence Ayafor** pending before the Yaounde Military Tribunal , it was adjourned **to** 20 April 2023 for extraction of the accused.

11. In the matter *The People vs Lieutenant **F.E.**, Staff Sergeant **B.C.H.** and Private First-Class **D.G.B.**, **T.C.J.B.**, and **N.F.G.I.*** before the Military Tribunal Yaounde, accused of murder of 2 women and 2 children in Zeleved in Far North Region in 2015, the first 4 accused were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for 10 years for breach of military rules. The judgment was upheld by the Court of Appeal of Yaounde.

12. The 4 accused persons were found guilty of terrorism, hostilities against the fatherland, secession, rebellion, murder and illegal carriage of firearms; they were convicted and sentenced to death.

13. By Decision No. 186575/DM/MINDEF/01 of 13 December 2018, the Minister of Defence ordered discontinuance of some proceedings before the Bafoussam, Bamenda, Buea, Douala and Yaounde Military Tribunals. By virtue of the decision, 289 persons arrested were freed. In 2019, by Decision No. 196663/DM/MINDEF/01 of 3 October 2019, the Minister of Defence ordered discontinuance of proceedings before the Bafoussam, Bamenda, Buea, Douala and Yaounde Military Tribunals, resulting to the release of 333 persons.

14. By Judgment of 19 and 20 August 2019 delivered by the Yaounde Military Tribunal , upheld on appeal on 17 September 2020, they were found guilty, convicted and sentenced for accessory to the act of terrorism.

15. Those suspected to be implicated in the death of this journalist were arrested following investigations opened then charged and remanded into custody by the Examining Magistrate of the Yaounde Military Tribunal.

16. As the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture, the CHRC pays regular visits to all places of detention; organises constructive dialogue with the authorities responsible for the administration and management of places of detention or any other authority; and participates in monitoring the implementation of observations made by the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture.

17. The visits made it possible to establish the following: the State made efforts to rehabilitate and equip prisons; however, the inadequate equipment of sickbays persists; regular training of DSFs and prison staff in Human Rights; separate wings for adult men, women and minors in almost all prisons in Cameroon; visits of detainees by their relatives according to the schedules fixed by Superintendents of prison.

    The visits of the CHRC also enabled the release of people arbitrarily detained, about 5 releases in 2021. The visits also enabled the beginning of constructive dialogue with the persons in charge of places of detention, and with the Minister of Justice who received the Chairperson of the CHRC in audience on 30 November 2021.

18. Including the development of road infrastructure, awareness-raising of stakeholders, the functioning of speed cameras, security of transport tickets.

19. They include police cells, prisons, reserved youth centres, maritime, airport and land border transit zones, customs detention zones, psychiatric centres and hospitals, cells or DSFs disciplinary cells, prison vans, police cells at the courts.

20. The duration of the provisional detention fixed by the Examining Magistrate in the warrant cannot exceed 6 months. It can be extended by reasoned order, for a maximum period of 12 months in the event of a crime and six 6 months in the event of a misdemeanor (S. 221 of CPC).

21. The IGAPEN of MINJUSTICE inspected 39 prisons since 2018. The DDHCI visited prisons during the same period. In 2018, as part of its mandate as a national mechanism for the prevention of torture, the CHRC paid 109 visits to places of detention, about 82 police cells and 27 prisons. In 2020, it visited 6 places of detention to verify the implementation of the Decree of the President of the Republic on the commutation and remission of prison sentences; in 2021, it conducted 176 visits, including to psychiatric centres (about 5 in Adamaoua Region, 14 in Centre Region, 23 in Far North Region, 11 in Littoral Region, 22 in North Region, 38 in North West Region, 9 in West Region, 11 in South Region, 30 South West Region and 13 at its Headquarters), 379 visits in 2022 (about 22 in Adamaoua Region, 40 in Centre Region, 25 in Far North Region, 2 in East Region, 37 in Littoral Region, 34 in North Region, 77 in North West Region, 44 in West Region, 28 in South Region and 70 in South West Region). From January to April 2023, 212 visits (22 in Adamaoua Region, 49 in Centre Region, 25 in Far North Region, 5 in Littoral Region, 33 in North Region, 6 in North West Region, 52 in West Region, 17 in South Region, 2 in South West Region and 2 at its Headquarters).

22. In 2021, for example, the IGSJ received and processed 212 applications. It ordered 46 investigations, sent 35 observation letters, queries and 69 requests for observations. In addition, it brought 7 files as against 3 in 2019 and one in 2020 before the disciplinary body. Similarly, following disciplinary proceedings initiated against them, 7 Judicial and Legal Officers were dismissed from the corps of Judicial and Legal Officers by the Head of the State, mainly for dereliction of duty. For the same reason, the Minister of Justice automatically dismissed 43 Court Registrars from the corps of Registrars. In 2022, the IGSJ received 218 complaints, prescribed 129 investigations, sent 27 letters of observations, 51 queries and 132 requests for observations. In addition, it brought 16 matters before the disciplinary body.

23. The overall number of judicial staff increased from 6,748 in 2021 to 6,907 in 2022. The increase was due to the recruitment of non-judicial staff, which increased from 4,942 (i.e. 3,308 civil servants and 1,634 non-civil servants) in 2021 to 5,118 (i.e. 3,494 civil servants and 1,624 non-civil servants). In 2020, there were 6,485 judicial staff.

24. In 2022, just over 800 judicial staff, including 652 Judicial and Legal Officers and 102 Court Registrars, in Cameroon and abroad, received in-service training on different topics. With specific regard to Human Rights, 161 Judicial and Legal Officers as against 125 in 2021, were trained on the following: trafficking in persons, gender-based violence in a crisis context, protection of children in contact with the law, domestic violence, international Human Rights law and international humanitarian law.

25. In the higher education sector, the number of IPES increased from 341 in 2020 to 415 in 2021, the number of students from 323,672 in 2018 to 405,877 in 2021, the number of students admitted for the HND from 5,368 in 2018 to 7,582 in 2021, including 3,893 women; the number of teachers (lecturer, associate professor and professor) from 672 in 2020 to 1,756 in 2021. In 2022, the following were built in state universities: a lecture hall R 1 of 1,200 seats at the UIT of University of Douala, a lecture hall of 1,200 seats at the University of Fine Arts in Nkongsamba, 2 workshops of 300 seats each at the Institute of Fine arts of Foumban, an administrative and teaching block of 500 seats at the School of Geology and Mining of Meiganga, University of Ngaoundere.

26. As an illustration at the preschool level, during the 2020/2021 academic year, 164,219 pupils attended public nurseries (schools), including 81,600 girls and 82,619 boys. In the primary cycle, there were 3,369,903 pupils in public schools, ie 1,562,022 girls and 1,807,881 boys. The transition rate from primary to secondary school increased from 46.71% including 48.89% girls during the 2017/2018 academic year to 43.95% including 47.24% girls during the 2020/2021 academic year. Over the same period, the schooling rate of girls in the secondary cycle increased from 43.09% for an overall rate of 46.26% to 44.55% for an overall rate of 47.54%.

27. Thus, 326,653 candidates registered for the 2021 session of CEP. Of the 319,237 who effectively sat for the examination, 253,503 passed (girls: 119,510; boys: 133,993), representing a percentage pass of 79.36%. As for the FSLC, 112,435 candidates registered. Of the 111,215 who effectively sat for the examination, 104,727 passed (girls: 54,514; boys: 50,213), a percentage pass of 90.42%. With regard to the Common Entrance examination, 98,704 registered. Of the 97,339 who effectively sat for the examination, 88,881 passed (girls: 46,088; boys: 42,793), representing a percentage pass of 86.27%.

28. Thus, Joint Order No. 078/B1/1464/MINEDUB/MINESEC of 25 August 2021, fixing the calendar of the 2021/2022 school year in the Republic of Cameroon organized face-to-face or distance education as well as the management school time.

29. This thrust concerns promotion of equal access for girls and boys, women and men to education, training and information.

30. In Judgment No.179/CRIM of 19 December 2018 of the High Court Benoue, the Court found the accused persons guilty in particular of forced marriage and pronounced against them, heavy prison sentences ranging from 24 months to 10 years. In Judgment No. 150/COR of 4 September 2018, the Court of First Instance Mora found the accused persons guilty of forced marriage and complicity and pronounced sentences against them. By Judgment No. 120/COR of 25 August 2020, the same court found the accused pesrsons guilty of attempted forced marriage, false arrest, kidnapping and complicity in attempted forced marriage. In addition to prison sentences, the convict D.R was stripped of paternal power over his daughter who was the victim, for 5 years.

31. They include: production of textbooks comprising syllabaries and mathematics books integrating the cultural values of the Baka, as well as slates with the Baka alphabet on the other side; award of scholarships and textbooks, training and awareness-raising of members of indigenous communities and members of Parents/Teachers Associations of the said communities on the need to send their children to school, and facilitating access of children to birth certificates.

32. Namely: improving services of health districts, promoting healthcare, preventing diseases, ensuring the health of mothers, children and adolescents, improving the standard of living.

33. Order No. 2039/MINSANTE of 25 May 2021 to lay down the health map of Cameroon for the period 2021-2025 provides for an equitable distribution of health facilities nationwide. In 2022, Cameroon had 197 health districts divided into 1,800 health areas comprising 6,400 health facilities (district hospitals, subdivisional medical centres, integrated health centres, etc.).

34. Illustration: in Grade V, the learning unit of human reproduction focuses on the description of the morphological and physiological changes linked to puberty, as well as the drawing and description of the male reproductive and female reproductive apparatus. In secondary education, and following the competency-based approach, this course is covered in Form I (description of the genitals), Form II (the concept of responsible sexuality), Form III and Form IV (STIs, HIV/AIDS) and in Lower Sixth (the consequences of taking drugs, female genital mutilation and early sexuality).

35. The decision lays down the conditions for access and follow-up of the population to HIV screening and care services in health facilities. Before this Decision, only ARVs were free of charge.

36. As part of the project, on July 30, 2021, MINSANTE received 24 varieties of about 3,000 reproductive health and intensive care kits for the 54 health facilities in Adamaoua Region, North Region, Far North Region and for the Public Health Emergency Operations Coordination Centre, Yaounde from UNFPA. Some 423 input kits for emergency obstetrics care were also received for distribution to 106 health facilities in Adamaoua Region, North Region and Far North Region.

37. In 2021, CFAF18,000,000,000 (About 27,402,635.63 Euros) were transferred to beneficiaries. In 2022, about 188,500 households received direct cash transfers for a total of CFAF23,569,200,000 (About 35,881,011.09 Euros).

38. In 2021, several labour-intensive projects were carried out in partnerships with 52 Councils for the sum of CFAF11,058,000,000,000 (About 16,834,352,487.47 Euros). More than 9,415 jobs were created, 250 internally displaced persons were recruited in labour-intensive projects in Babadjou, Bafoussam, Melong, Makenene and Ngambe-Tikar. 25 low-cost houses were built with sun-dried bricks in Ngambe-Tikar and Yoko.

39. In 2022, the PNDP financed 567 microprojects, thereby facilitating access to basic social services (water, electricity, health, education, transport, etc.) for a global cost of CFAF7,900,000,000, (About 12,026,712.30 Euros).

40. A credit line of CFAF1,333,964,704, (About 2,030,786.04 Euros), was opened by MINEPAT and partners for the financing of agro-pastoral micro-projects in the 10 Regions. Between 2013 and 2022, the resources were used to finance 2,183 organisations comprising 21,326 persons.

41. They include the Flood Emergency Project, the Investment Enhancement and Development Project in the Benoue Valley and the Investment Enhancement and Development Project in the Logone Valley.

42. As part of the Plan, more than 250 enterprises were established and generated some 24,000 direct and indirect jobs.

43. The programme made it possible to identify agro-pastoral, fishery and animal production capacity. It helped produce 200,000 tonnes of fish in 2021.

44. Electricity supply was stepped up in rural areas through the establishment of 2,586 connections distributed in some 149 areas. In urban areas, ENEO recorded an additional 100,000 subscribers.

45. Strategic thrust 3 of the NGP is devoted to enhancing the contribution of women to economic development by their integration into productive channels and equal access to employment opportunities and factors of production.

46. The priority thrusts are as follows: promotion of employment in the macroeconomic framework and public policies, increase in the establishment and promotion of VSEs, SMEs, SMIs, entrepreneurship and peasant organisations, enhancement of the employability of the workforce, improvement of governance on the labour market.

47. One of the training tools for women is the Women's Empowerment Centres. Women are trained in different trades: hairdressing, catering, computer science, sewing, etc. They subsequently receive subsidies for the development of income-generating activities. From 2018 to 2019, about 23,112 girls and women were trained. Some received support in agro-pastoral equipment (839 groups of women); finance for the exercise of income-generating activities (1,337 women and 395 groups of women) or in kind.

48. The National Gender Policy and its multi-sector plan of action were updated in 2022 for the period 2022-2030. A gender-sensitive budgetary document was appended to the finance law of 2022, allowing pilot administrations to examine Mid-Term Expenditure Frameworks under a gender prism. Sensitive gender budgeting was also implemented during the preparation of the finance law of 2023. In addition, the following documents were updated: the National Strategy to Combat Gender-based Violence (2022-2026), the National Plan of Action to combat Female Genital Mutilation (2022-2026) and the Plan of Action to implement the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.

49. In 2022, a gender focal point of the Presidency of the Republic was designated.

50. By way of illustration, in judgment No. 019/civ of 7 March 2019, **Abdoulaye Djibrilla c/o Mohaman Mbono Marie**, the Supreme Court considered that article 1421 of the Civil Code which gives the husband alone the right to administer the common property of the spouses was contrary to Article 16 (h) of the CEDAW which provides for equal rights of spouses with regard to the acquisition and management of property. Therefore, she found that section 1421 was not applicable. The case concerned the sale of joint property by the husband alone.

51. In addition, on 19 February 2021 in Limbe, a capacity development workshop of 40 participants (traditional leaders and their wives, as well as presidents of customary courts) on the negative consequences of discriminatory practices, the eradication of traditional harmful practices and advantages of respecting women's rights, was organised by International Federation of Women Lawyers-Cameroon. In January 2023, the IOM, UNESCO and UN-Women led a capacity development session of internally displaced women from North West Region and South West Region, on the GBV and the introduction of a sustainable culture of peace; the session held in Bafoussam.

52. This was the case during the awareness-raising caravan organised on 5 November 2021 by MINPROFF, in partnership with the Cameroon Youth and Student Forum for Peace, on the theme "Intimate Partner Violence, awareness-raising and prevention of HIV/AIDS and GBV in Baka community in Mayos, East Region".

53. They include: Gender Support Programme, Climate Change and Agriculture; the Security and Integrated Management of Agro-Pastoral Resources Support Programme in North Cameroon; The Youth Agropastoral Entrepreneurship Promotion Programme; the Agricultural Sector Development Support Project; the Agricultural Market Investment and Development Project; the *Avangane* Rice Farm Pilot Project, etc.

54. A digital caravan organised from 4 to 8 March 2021, with the support of African Women in Tech Startups, in Yaounde, Douala, Buea and Ngaoundere, enabled some 500 young female academics to be trained on the challenges of cybersecurity and cybercrime. Similarly, from 2015 to February 2023, the African Institute of Computer Science trained 500,000 women and girls in ICTs, as part of the project *"A million young children and women for emergence by 2035"*

55. In addition to the implementation of a numbering system for children associated with armed groups and forces, the following documents continued to be implemented or developed: Strategic Plan to rehabilitate the Civil Status in Cameroon (2017-2022), National Early Childhood Development Policy; Operational Childhood Development Plan of Action, Child Emergency Care Guide, Vulnerable Orphan and Child Care Guide, Holistic Care Guide of Children associated with Armed Groups and Forces, Guide to support children associated with armed groups, Manual on standard operational procedures for the prevention, reporting and management of child victims of gender violence, even in schools.

    With regard to the legal and institutional framework: the code of conduct of corporate stakeholders for the prevention, reporting and management of child victims of gender violence, even in schools.

56. Four workshops were organised by MINJUSTICE in collaboration with UNICEF, in the 4 Divisions of East Region, mainly in Bertoua from 21 to 24 September 2021, in Abong-Mbang on 23 and 24 September 2021, in Batouri on 4 and 5 November 2021 and in Yokadouma on 7 and 8 November 2021. Judicial and Legal Officers, elements of the DSFs, Penitentiary Administration staff, social workers and members of CSOs attended the workshops. Similarly, as part of the 16 days of activism against violence against women, MINJUSTICE organised a reflection workshop on intra-family child abuse on 6 December 2022 in Yaounde.

57. Thus, by Judgment No. 51/CRIM of 17 March 2019, the High Court of Moungo convicted and sentenced E.S.C. to life imprisonment for assault occasioning death of a child. By Judgment No. 819/COR of 18 October 2019, the CFI of Edea convicted and sentenced M.M. to one month imprisonment and a fine of CFAF50,000 for the acts of violence on children. By Judgment No. 23/Crim of 16 August 2019, the HC of

Ntem valley convicted and sentenced E.A.B.C. and M.A.J. to 2 and 5 years imprisonment respectively, for attempted child trafficking. By Judgment No. 25/CRIM of 11 November 2018, the same court convicted and sentenced O.B.F. and N.L.L. to 10 years and one year imprisonment respectively, for complicity in child trafficking.

58. With Decree No. 2019/145 of 20 March 2019 to reorganise the Cardinal **Paul Emile Leger** National Rehabilitation Centre for Persons with Disabilities; Decree No. 2018-6233/PM of 26 July 2018 to lay down the enabling conditions of Law No. 2010/2 of 13 April 2010 on the protection and promotion of persons with disabilities; Decree No. 2018-6234/PM of 26 July 2018 to reorganise the National Committee for the Rehabilitation and Economic Reintegration of Persons with Disabilities; Circular No. 19/21/LC/MINESEC/IGE/IP-OVS/SVS of 16 November 2021 to recall and supplement some provisions on the consideration of the disability and vulnerability approach in public general secondary education, technical, vocational schools and teacher training colleges in Cameroon; and Joint Decision No. 1/MINSANTE/MINAS of 13 August 2018 to institute the issuance of a special medical certificate to persons with disabilities.

59. The following were thus drawn up, signed, validated or implemented: the Pygmy Development Plan (2018-2022), the National Plan for the Development of Indigenous Peoples (2021-2025), the partnership agreement of 21 September 2021 between MINAS and MINEPIA to enhance the productivity of indigenous peoples in breeding or the code of conduct intended for eco-guards and relating to the enhancement of the standard of living of indigenous peoples living around protected areas. The other measures concerned the organisation of an international symposium on the development of indigenous peoples, the support and supervision of students from indigenous peoples as well as the re-establishment of birth certificates of indigenous people who do not have them.

60. Thus, in 2020, MINAS disseminated the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, on the rights of the elderly, in East Region, Littoral Region and Adamawa Region.

61. The central prisons of Yaounde and Douala were restructured, renovated or rehabilitated; the secondary prisons of Doukoula, Djoum and Mbanga; the main prisons of Tibati, Abong-Mbang, Kumba, Mbouda, Tchollire, Yokadouma, Mbalmayo, Tchollire II, Bangangte, Monatele, Ambam, Batouri.

62. In it capacity as the supreme public finance control institution, CONSUPE enables the sanctioning of mismanagement through the BFDC.

63. Cameroon is committed to mobilizing resources through the bond issue. Thanks to its 6th bond issue issued in 2022, it has collected 235 billion FCFA against 200 sought.