



Cameroon

Joint Stakeholder Report for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review

Submitted by **The Advocates for Human Rights**,
a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

and

The National Observatory for the Rights of LGBT Persons and Their Defenders,
under the coordination of **CAMFAIDS**

for the 30th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
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Reporting Organizations

The Advocates for Human Rights (The Advocates) is a volunteer-based nongovernmental organization committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights standards and the rule of law. Established in 1983, The Advocates promotes human rights in the United States and around the world, including monitoring and fact finding, direct legal representation, education and training, and publications. The Advocates collaborates with partner organizations to conduct a range of programs to protect the human rights of LGBT persons around the world. In the United States, The Advocates also provides legal representation to LGBT persons seeking asylum on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The National Observatory for the Rights of LGBT Persons and Their Defenders is a tool of the UNITY platform created in 2016 by 20 human rights groups in Cameroon and coordinated by CAMFAIDS. Its mission is to gather information on human rights abuses based on actual or presumed sexual orientation and gender identity, to help victims of human rights abuses resolve their claims with the goal of improving the judicial and social environment for LGBT people, and to lead awareness campaigns for the acceptance, tolerance, and respect for human rights for LGBT people and their defenders throughout Cameroon. The group is coordinated by CAMFAIDS and is represented by each of the 20 members organizations of the UNITY platform, who observe the judicial situation in Cameroon and collect information. The member organizations include CERLUDHUS, Lady's Corporation, Trésor Progrès, Affirmative Action, ADEPEV, Enfants d'Afrique, AL CONDOM, ADEFHO, Amis du Cœur, COLIBRI, Avenir Jeune de l'Ouest, Action Contre le SIDA, Jeunes Solidaires de Garoua, ELLES, CAMEF, AAH, COFENHO, SID'ADO, and ACODEVO.

The Cameroonian Foundation For AIDS (CAMFAIDS), headquartered in Yaoundé, Cameroon, is an apolitical, non-sectarian, non-profit association based on volunteerism. It is open to any individual without discrimination on account of sexual orientation, race, creed, ethnic origin, gender, HIV status, political opinion, or disability. The vision of CAMFAIDS is to form a dynamic Cameroonian society based on freedom, democracy, tolerance, and respect for individual rights, including social and economic rights. CAMFAIDS seeks to ensure the implementation of participation strategies taking into account social status and gender. Its mission is: to promote respect for human rights for LGBT people and their defenders, including the right to information and education for victims and other people who are most at risk of human rights violations; to encourage civil, social, economic, educational, cultural, and sport activities for the benefit of those people; to collect information on issues concerning those people and make that information available to the public; to gather all people of good will, without distinction, to search for solutions to problems facing LGBT people and their defenders; to help people who are excluded to restore their emotional environment and thereby contribute to their social reintegration.