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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by First Modern Agro. Tools - Common Initiative Group (FI.MO.AT.C.I.G), a non- governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[16 January 2019]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



Protection of Anglophone linguistic minority in Cameroon

If we think that we can end the crises in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon without addressing the statelessness of the Anglophone linguistic minority then we are deceiving ourselves, the crises would arise again even if we end them because their causes and root causes have not been addressed.

The statelessness of the Anglophone linguistic minority in Cameroon is both a problem and the cause of the crises in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon.

Whereas the root cause of the crises is the irregular referendum of 1961 that led to the federal republic of Cameroon, the unilateral change of a referral decision in 1972 when the country was renamed twice as United Republic of Cameroon and Republic of Cameroon in 1984.

I call this “de facto” statelessness of the Anglophone linguistic minority because people are born in Cameroon and by parents who are Cameroonians but want to form their own state.

I must admit that the Cameroonian government is diversified. But some government ministers are nothing but figure heads. Such as the prime minister who is always an Anglophone person. They are monitored by their subordinates.

Local governments in Cameroon need to be empowered and given more autonomy; too much centralization of power and functions in the hands of a few ministers who sometimes ignore the rule of the law and violet human rights provokes the crises.

With the situation now on the ground, all remote communities with some urban towns like BUEA and KUMBA in the Anglophone regions are deserted, gun exchange between “AMBA fighters” and The Cameroonian military, highway blockages, kidnappings, people flee their homes and leave in the bushes, school functioning is less than 10%. Anglophone youths need to be given a place in government.

AIPCACTION-SANTE-EDUCATION NGO(s) without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.