



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON: Judicial harassment against Barrister AWASUM Mispas Fri, lawyer at the Cameroon Bar, president of the women of the Movement for the Renaissance of Cameroon (MRC) by the military court of Yaoundé

URGENT CALL

Yaoundé, December 3rd 2021: The Human Rights Defenders Network in Central Africa (REDHAC) remains deeply concerned about the restrictions on civic space in the sub-region in general and in Cameroon in particular. To this effect, it denounces and strongly condemns the summons of Me AWASUM Mispas Fri, lawyer at the Cameroon bar, president of the women of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM) by the military court of Yaoundé. This other summons would appear to be an act of harassment.



The facts :

On November 29, 2021, Barrister AWASUM Mispas Fri, a lawyer at the Cameroon bar, president of the women of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM), was summoned to the Yaoundé military court, according to the roll of the ordinary hearing of the Yaoundé military court No. 673 of November 25, 2021 concerning old cases.

She is accused of: « acts of co-action of revolution and complicity in the same acts ». In this procedure, the president of the CRM women is prosecuted with five other CRM militants: TCHABO Ndjekwe Hugues; TCHEUTCHOUA Jaurel Muriel; TSI Cha Napoleon; NOUNEMO Gerver Hermann; NGAHANE Ntoukam Duhamel Vidal who are in provisional detention at the central prison of Kondengui.

For REDHAC:

- This new summons is a judicial persecution against Barrister AWASUM Mispas Fri, lawyer at the bar of Cameroon, president of the women of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM),

As a reminder:

On November 23, 2020, Barrister AWASUM Mispas Fri, a lawyer at the bar of Cameroon, the president of the women of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM), was placed in pre-trial detention at the Central Prison of Kondengui. The notification and her provisional detention was 6 months. She was released four days later, on November 27, 2020.

The only crime of Barrister AWASUM Mispas Fri, lawyer at the Cameroon Bar, the president of the women of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM), is to have organized a



peaceful demonstration to demand the lifting of the siege of Maurice Kamto, president of the Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM).

From all of the above,

The Human Rights Defenders Network in Central Africa (REDHAC) :

- denounces the use of military courts to judge civilians;
- calls for the immediate and unconditional release and cessation of legal proceedings against Barrister AWASUM Mispa Fri; Tchabo Ndjeukwe Hugues; Tcheutchoua Jaurel Muriel; Tsi Cha Napoleon; Nounemo Gerver Hermann; Ngahane Ntougam Duhamel Vidal and all other MRC activists incarcerated in Cameroonian prisons;
- calls for compliance with the ACHPR guidelines and its relevant recommendations on freedom of association and demonstration.

Also, REDHAC:

- calls on the United Nations and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to take all measures to put an end to this judicial harassment of AWASUM Mispa Fri, a lawyer at the Cameroonian Bar, and the President of the Women's Cameroon Renaissance Movement (CRM);
- calls on the administrative authorities to ensure the protection and physical, psychological and moral security of Me AWASUM Mispa Fri, and her relatives ;
- urges that all forms of intimidation, threats and reprisals against human rights defenders and democracy activists who are only doing their job of promoting, protecting and defending human rights should cease.

Useful address

- M. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon, Presidency of the Republic, Palace of Unity, Yaoundé, Cameroon, Fax +237 222 08 70 ;
- Chief Dr. Joseph Dion Ngute, Prime Minister, Head of Government, Office of the Prime Minister, Yaoundé, Cameroon, Fax: +237 22 23 57 35 and e-mail: spm@spm.gov.cm;
- M. Laurant Ezzo, Minister of Justice, Keeper of the Seals, Ministry of Justice, Yaoundé-Cameroon, Fax: +237 223 00 05;
- M. Joseph Beti Assomo, Minister, Delegate to the Presidency in charge of Defense, Yaoundé-Cameroon, Fax: +237 223 59 71;



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- M. James Mouangue Kabila, President of the Cameroon Human Rights Commission (CNDHC), Tel: +237 222 61 17, Fax: +237 222 60 82, E-mail: cndhl@iccnet.cm;
- Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cameroon to the United Nations Office in Geneva, Nant Street 6, 1207 Geneva, Switzerland, Fax: +41 22 736 21 65, E-mail: mission.cameroun@bluewin.ch;
- United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa in Yaoundé: E-mail: atraore@ohchr.org; Tel +237 222 21 24 75/222 21 24 77.

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