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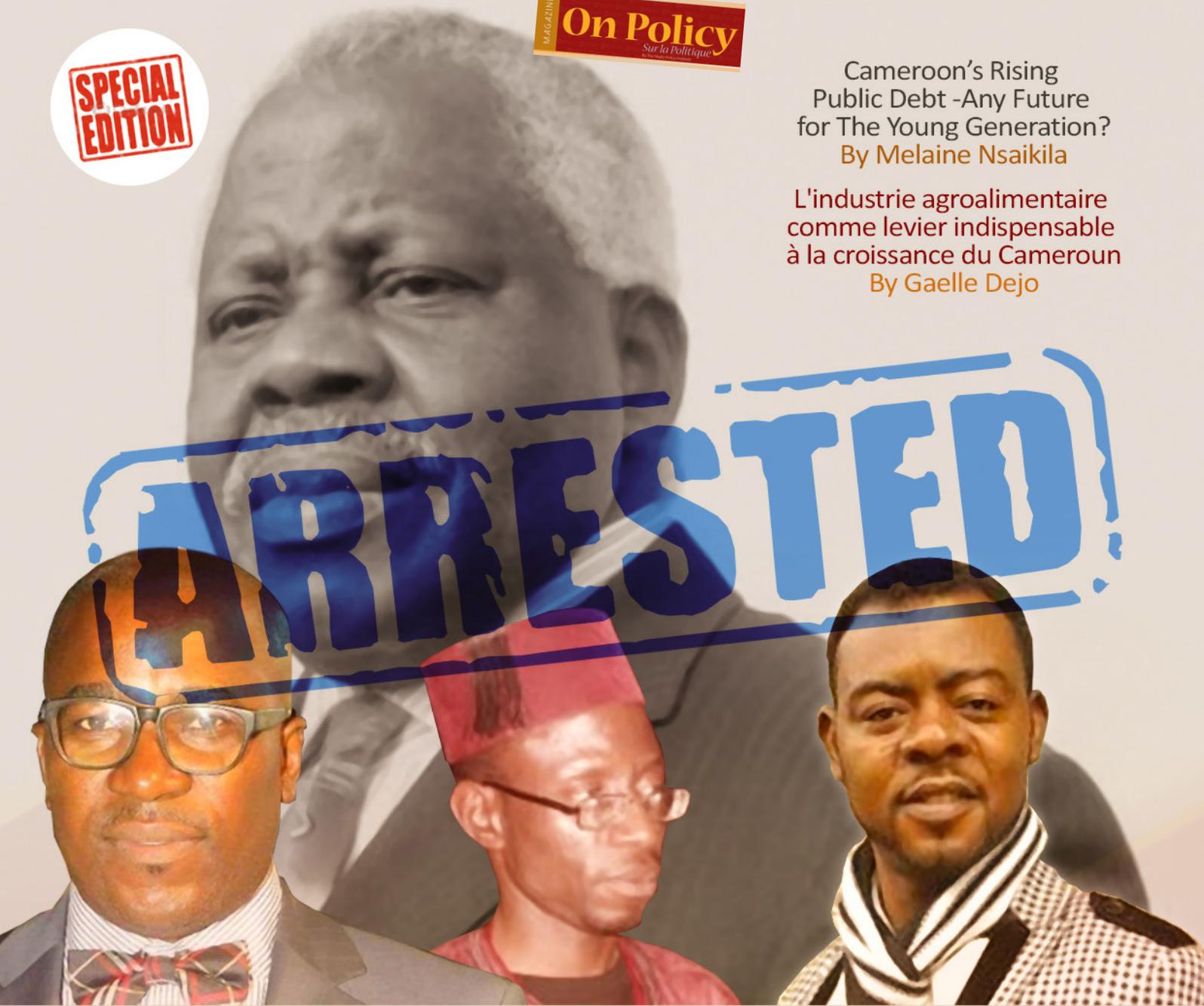
N° 11



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comme levier indispensable
à la croissance du Cameroun
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ARRESTED!



ANGLOPHONE CRISIS

PLACING CAMEROON AT A CROSSROAD
70+ DAYS INTERNET SHUTDOWN IN NW/SW

The Anglophone Crisis: Placing Cameroon at a Crossroad



Cameroon was particularly on the spotlight between November 2016 and February 2017. Maybe a little less now, but its recent events remain topical in almost all national and international settings. Highly esteemed worldwide as a peace haven, Africa in miniature, the land of legendary hospitality and solidarity; the Central African hub was rocked recently by a continuous wave of protests and street demonstrations.

When in November 2016, a peaceful simultaneous demonstration was staged by Common Law Lawyers Associations in Bamenda, Buea, Kumba, Tiko and Limbe; it was just a spark. Their action resulted in a clash with the forces of law and order, leading to brutality and arrests. They were requesting amongst other things the translation of the OHADA law into the English Language, the creation of a Common Law Bar Association, the withdrawal of Civil Law Magistrates in the two Anglophone Regions, to remedy what they termed “the erosion of the Common Law in Cameroon’s judicial system”.

The Cameroon Teachers’ Trade Union (CATTU)

renowned for its criticism of government’s management of the Anglophone subsystem of education, followed sued. An indefinite sit-in strike action was launched in the two Anglophone regions. They tabled a list of grievances pertaining to their profession, to be addressed by government. However, events took a different twist by spurring a sweeping popular response. Following the creation of the Cameroon Anglophone Civil Society Consortium- to canalize the actions of the lawyers and teachers- happenings spiraled to the nooks and crannies of the North West and South West Regions.

Court sessions were grounded, schools shut; operation “ghost towns”, violent street destruction, looting, killing and mass arrests ensued in main towns of both regions.

Carrot and stick approach

In response, government designated and dispatch emissaries to talk with the aggrieved parties. Buea and Bamenda became the centre stage in discussions between the lawyers’ associations and the teachers’ trade

unions, on the one hand; and government representatives, on the other hand. All is a bid to find a “happy ending” to the situation, lest it gets out of hand. Some prompt responses reached at by the state included the creation of an inter-ministerial commission charged to review and propose solutions to the teachers’ grievances; talks held with teachers’ unions and associations in both regions by the Prime Minister, Head of government Philemon Yang; the signing of presidential decrees on the recruitment of 1000 bilingual teachers and the granting of subvention to lay private and denominational schools. As concerns the lawyers, government requested and obtained an English version of the OHADA law which was handed to the Cameroon Bar early January 2017; the redeployment of French magistrate from Anglophone zones, and the appointment of a pioneer Anglophone Magistrate to the Bamenda High Court; the appointment of Garga Haman as state emissary to the Common Law Lawyers Associations, amongst others. The Inter-ministerial ad hoc committee, led by the Chief of Cabinet at the Prime Minister’s Office Paul Goghomu and Garga Haman tabled a series of recommendation to government late January. However, strike action in the North West and South West Regions continued till mid-February, though classes resumed timidly in government schools; amidst rumors of boycotting the 11th February National Youth Day celebration. Buea and Bamenda Universities equally flung their gates open. The resumption of activities in courts is still pending, conditioned by the release of Common Law Lawyers and Magistrate in prison. Daily activities gradually regained normalcy in the two affected Regions, though “ghost towns” continue from time to time.

By Tume Mirabel, Laure NGANLAY

Announcement

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Job Offer

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70+ Days Internet Shutdown in NW/SW



Barrister Felix Nkongho

Dr Fontem Neba

Mancho Bibixy

After the carrot, government resorted to the stick. The Consortium and the Southern Cameroons National Council were proscribed by the Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization. In response, the Consortium went underground and has been acting mostly from without the borders. Widespread panic

grew as a manhunt of all actors or persons related to the demonstrations was launched. Barrister Felix Nkongho and Dr Neba Fontem (Consortium President and Secretary General, respectively) were arrested in Buea. A few days later, Bamenda-based journalist, Mancho Bibixy, accused of secessionist tendencies under the

SCNC was napped by police forces. The trio is on trial at the Yaounde Military Tribunal on charges of eight counts namely hostility towards the Fatherland, secession, civil war, revolution, illegal armed band, propagation of false information, attack on public officials and collective resistance. Common Law Magistrate at the Supreme Court, Ayah Paul Abine, Journalists and several unidentified persons are still detained in Yaounde. They are part of a bigger bulk, about half of which was later released, following clampdowns in leading towns. Media organs accused of propagating false information related to the happenings were issued warnings by the National Communication Council. What many consider today as the last straw on the camel's back is the internet blackout that the North West and South West regions are subject to since the end of December 2016 till date (at press time, April 13, 2017).

By Tume Mirabel, Laure NGANLAY

Cameroon welcomes refugees from Nigeria, CAR



Najat Rochdi, Humanitarian Coordinator for the UN Development Group, in the West African country has called for an increased

humanitarian and development assistance to Cameroon after the country opened its doors to over 350,000 refugees. According to the UN official, the resources allocated to these refugees are limited, thus pushing some of them to leave the camps to Cameroonian towns in order to make ends meet. This has led to a struggle of survival with city dwellers. These are refugees from Nigeria fleeing Boko Haram and also those settled in the East Region who fled from rebels and bandits from the Central African Republic.

The Cameroonian government together with the UN and partner organizations launched a US\$310 million response plan on Wednesday 6th January, to provide life-saving assistance to 1.2 million persons hosted in camps in these parts of the country. This is a clarion call on the international community to match the hospitality and selflessness of Cameroon, as it confronts a political and humanitarian crisis on several fronts.

By Tume Mirabel



On Policy Magazine premier numéro à retrouver sur:

http://www.foretiafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/ON-POLICY_Fevrier-2017-4.pdf

MAGAZINE
On Policy
Sur la Politique
By The Nkafu Policy Institute

LES LIONS

INDOMPTABLE

CHAMPION D'AFRIQUE



La victoire de l'alternance

« Comme pour toutes les générations qui nous ont ramené le trophée, on a osé faire confiance à des nouveaux venus. Cette jeunesse qui a surpris tout le monde nous parle, elle parle à toute la république, et au delà de tout Dieu nous parle.»

Bravooooo les lions...

Foretia Foundation

POLICY ANALYSIS SEMINAR



Open to 20 participants
at the Foretia Foundation Headquarters in Yaounde

Theme: Bridging the Gap between policy and practice in Cameroon and the Role of Policy Analysts.

29th April 2017
8:30 am to 5:00 pm
8 hours training

Participation fees
5000 XAF





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Article

The Anglophone Uprising: Historic Opportunity to Re-assess Current Institutions for an Inclusive Leadership in Cameroon.



« ...L'instant est là, un instant rarement offert par l'Histoire, quand un peuple sort du passé pour entrer dans l'avenir, quand une époque s'achève, quand l'âme d'une nation, longtemps étouffée, retrouve son expression... » (Jawaharlal Nehru au Parlement indien, le 14 août 1947).

Bien plus qu'un problème anglophone, un malaise national

La crise actuelle dans nos régions anglophones du Sud-Ouest et du Nord-Ouest est l'expression de l'âme d'un peuple, qui n'est pas sans rappeler la déclaration ci-dessus du nationaliste indien, devenu Premier ministre, à la veille de l'indépendance de l'Inde il y a 70 ans. En effet, il ne s'agit pas de revendications anglophones, il s'agit aussi de revendications francophones, qui expriment un malaise national pour plusieurs raisons.

Read the full article: <http://www.foretiafoundation.org/portfolio/le-soulevement-anglophone-une-opportunit-historique-pour-reexaminer-nos-institutions-actuelles-pour-un-leadership-inclusif-du-cameroun/>

Par Christian Penda Ekoka
Conseiller Technique, Cabinet Civil du Président de la République

L'industrie agroalimentaire comme levier indispensable à la croissance du Cameroun



Introduction

La théorie des liaisons de Hirschman, selon laquelle la meilleure stratégie de développement consiste à choisir les activités dont le

progrès stimulera d'autres progrès, justifie que l'on attribue un rôle important à l'industrie agroalimentaire dans le développement. Selon cette théorie, toute activité comportant une interaction avec le reste de l'économie peut être un puissant moteur de croissance économique. Ainsi, l'industrie agroalimentaire a été...

Read the full article: <http://www.foretiafoundation.org/lindustrie-agroalimentaire-comme-levier-indispensable-a-la-croissance-du-cameroun/>

Par GaeleDejo

Assistante de Recherche en Politique Economique
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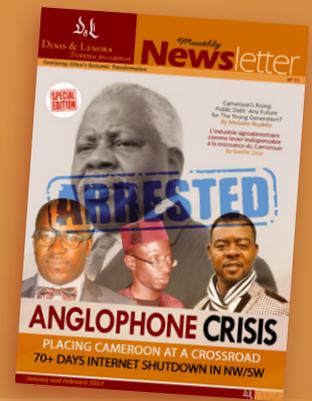
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Article

Cameroon's Rising Public Debt -Any Future for The Young Generation?



Debt is bad. Unsustainable debt is even worse, especially for a nation. Nation-states, like most individuals, usually incur debt for major infrastructural projects. How well a country manages its debt structure usually gives a good indication of how well the country is building for the next generation.

Adam Smith, in noting the value of being debt free, posed the question "what can be added to the happiness of a man or a nation who is in health, out of debt and has a clear conscience?"

Nation-states do not die, people die. In this light, Herbert Hoover couldn't have made it clearer when he said "blessed are the young for they shall inherit the national debt". What African presidents, Cameroon's inclusive, should realize is that as Dave Ramsey once said "Debt is Dumb, and Cash is King".

Going by this logic it is obvious that nation-states should strive to avoid debts or, rather, be prudent when it comes to the acquisition

of debts because, to paraphrase Alexander Hamilton, a national debt is a blessing if, and only if, it is not excessive. African presidents and policymakers, Cameroon included, are yet to develop and put into effect comprehensive mechanisms and teams of experts who would provide counsel based on key variables on whether a country should go for a given loan or not. Such variables include but are not limited to:

- i) Ability to repay the loan
- ii) The tenure or time period of the loan
- iii) The interest to be paid
- iv) A cost-benefit analysis of the project to be executed with the borrowed funds.

This would help determine the economic viability of the projects and give a justification of borrowing or not. Without putting in place such a mechanism, coupled with a high propensity to borrow, the national debt is bound to rapidly increase to unsustainable levels. It becomes even more difficult to repay these debts when the tenure spans the lifetime of the current leaders or generation. Hence, going by projections or forecasts, the impact of debts on future generations should also be assessed before a final commitment.

Cameroon on its part, has a debt history with numerous lessons that should be a guide to its current borrowing and debt management policy...

Read the full article: <http://www.foretiafoundation.org/cameroons-rising-public-debt-any-future-for-the-young-generation/>

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