

**DECLARATION DU CAMEROUN DANS LE CADRE DU DIALOGUE
INTERACTIF AVEC LE RAPPORTEUR SPECIAL SUR LES DROITS DES
PEUPLES AUTOCHTONES,**

**45^{ème} CONSEIL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME, GENEVE, LE 24 SEPTEMBRE
2020**

Thank you Madam Chair,

The Preamble of the Constitution states that *“the State shall ensure the protection of minorities and shall preserve the rights of indigenous populations in accordance with the law.”* For the time being, those who are considered indigenous peoples in Cameroon are the 04 Bs (Baka, Bakola, Bagyeli and Bedzang) and the Mbororos. However, there is an ongoing study to officially identify indigenous peoples in Cameroon.

The Government guarantees the rights of indigenous peoples to the management of public affairs, development, health, education among others.

Following the legislative and municipal elections of 09 February 2020, in Cameroon, indigenous peoples were elected. A total of 45 Mbororos in the North West Region and 12 indigenes of the 04Bs were elected as councilors and one as Alternate Member of Parliament in the East Region.

As regard access to education for indigenous children, the Government with the assistance of Japan in 2020 handed over a library worth CFA F42 million to improve conditions for study to the 120 pupils of the *Foyer de Ngoyang* in the South Region.

Concerning the development of indigenous peoples, in prelude to the celebration of the 26th Edition of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on 09 August 2020, Government organised a 02 day national seminar to consolidate a Draft National Plan of Action for the Development of Indigenous Peoples. Government Departments, development partners, civil society organizations and Indigenous Peoples' Associations took part in the seminar.

In order to ensure the right to health of indigenous peoples during this COVID-19 period, Government organised activities to raise the awareness of this vulnerable group on the pandemic as part of activities to mark the celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

I thank you.