

**Anglophone Cameroon Bloggers Network on item IV
9th session of the Forum on Minority Issues - ohchr**

24/25 November 2016

Unites Nations - Geneva

Thank you. Thank you Mr Chair. Thank you Madam Special Rapporteur. I am [...], Minority Rights fellow 26 and member of the Anglophone Cameroon Bloggers Network, a network that shines light on the linguistic minority rights of the English-speaking Cameroonians who are the minority in Cameroon. Madam Special Rapporteur, you have visited Cameroon in 2010 and included in your report the problems of the English-speaking minority. [...] some very disturbing developments in the last few weeks. In the area of education, more than more than 10,000 students and teachers have taken to the streets rejecting the French system in education that is imposed on them. The area of [...] system more than 168 lawyers of [English expression] have boycotted cuts since the 10th September in this approval of the French civil law or by the English common law. In our constitution English-speaking Cameroonians are arrested and detained for just [coming towards] the federal system. The later was on July 2016 when 15 English-speaking Cameroonians were arrested and are still in detention. While [acknowledging] government efforts in promoting bilingualism through the creation of bilingual school and bilingual training centres, we wish to recommend that our country strictly adheres to Article 1 of the constitution that says our country is bi-cultural, bi-lingual and bijural. We recommend our government to implement law number 98/004 that [...] acknowledges two education systems in Cameroon. And finally, we recommend and his is more important for us, our government to implement the ruling of the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights of July 2009, which states Article 201 and I quote: "The Cameroon government enters into constructive dialogue with English-speaking [pressure] groups to resolve constitutional issues as well as grievances which could threaten national unity". End of quote. Thank you Mr Chairman.