

**REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON**

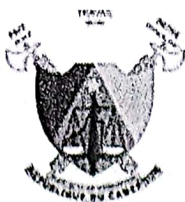
Peace - Work - Fatherland

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

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**SPEAKER'S OFFICE**

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**10<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE PERIOD**  
**2023 Legislative Year**

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**1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session**  
**(March 2023)**



**REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN**

Paix-Travail-Patrie

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**ASSEMBLEE NATIONALE**

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**CABINET DU PRESIDENT**

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**10<sup>ème</sup> LEGISLATURE**  
**Année Législative 2023**

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**1<sup>ère</sup> Session Ordinaire**  
**(Mars 2023)**

**CLOSING SPEECH BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
CAVAYE YEGUIE DJIBRIL, SPEAKER OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CAMEROON**

Yaounde Conference Centre, on 1 April 2023

Your Excellencies,  
Honourable Members of the National Assembly,  
Fellow Members of the National Assembly,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with deep sorrow that we are drawing the curtains today on our proceedings that began on 3 March 2023. Honourable **Jean Bernard NDONGO ESSOMBA**, Member of the National Assembly for the Lekié Constituency, left us to the world beyond on 17 March 2023.

I worked with the man for five terms of office. A discreet man, very humble, gentle, reserved but blessed with extraordinary wisdom. Everything about him epitomised the patriarch that he really was.

For five terms of office, I worked with late Honourable **Jean Bernard NDONGO ESSOMBA**, the parliamentarian, the elected representative of the Nation, the Member of the National Assembly, the Chief Whip of the CPDM Parliamentary Group, and the Head of the France-Cameroon Parliamentary Friendship Group. He was a versatile person in all respects. All such qualities earned him respect and admiration.

He radiated devotion. As a staunch militant, the CPDM was his sacred abode that he defended like a bishop

would defend his cathedral. He was a substantive member of the CPDM Central Committee, a member of the Political Bureau, Head of the Permanent Delegation of the CPDM Party for the Centre Region. He was, indeed, the incarnation of political activism, steadfastness and loyalty.

**Honourable Members of the National Assembly,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I could not hold back the tribute I have just paid to our late Member because he truly deserves it. It is an understatement to say that his death is an irreparable loss to the National Assembly, the CPDM and Cameroon as a whole. The death of **Hon. Jean Bernard NDONGO ESSOMBA** has created a vacuum that is difficult to fill.

**May his soul rest in perfect peace.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Beyond the pain we share for the demise of our fellow Member, the session now drawing to a close was interspersed with landmark events like senatorial elections, the third of their kind, that took place in the country recently. While waiting for the third crop of senators to be completed with the appointment of 30 (thirty) senators by the President of the Republic, I would like to sincerely congratulate the seventy who

were finally declared elected by the Constitutional Council.

Above all, I am pleased to note the calm and serenity that reigned during the electoral process, ostensibly because it increasingly shows the maturity of our political parties. We must also acknowledge the commendable inputs of all the institutions that had a stake in the conduct of the electoral process.

**Fellow Members of the National Assembly,**

At this time when you are about to return to your respective constituencies, I would, once more, like to exhort you to be on the alert while in your respective constituencies. After the phenomenon of highway robbers associated with the northern part of the country in yester years, a new form of armed banditry has emerged on our roads through attacks on large trucks, public transport buses and the vehicles of private individuals.

I am satisfied with the measures already taken by Government to render travelling on such roads safe.

The Nation's representatives would, in particular, like security measures to be stepped up in the Littoral Region because of its economic importance.

Needless to remind you that the city of Douala, the chief town of the Littoral Region, is a major economic hub not only to Cameroon, but also to neighbouring countries and other countries in Africa. Douala is also the gateway, or better still, a business centre for many investors whose activities cannot be accommodated in a precarious security environment.

I know that I can count on the prompt action of administrative authorities on the ground, on the defence and security forces and on the support of the population in order to keep these new breed of miscreants at bay.

While wishing you a safe return to your constituencies, I now declare close proceedings of the first Ordinary Session of the National Assembly for the 2023 Legislative Year.

**Long live the National Assembly!**

**Long live His Excellency Paul BIYA, President of the Republic, Head of State, and long live Cameroon, our beloved and beautiful country!**

**Thank you for your kind attention.**

