

SOLEMN DECLARATION

We, the students of State Universities, Private Institutions of Higher Education, gathered from the 25th to the 27th of June 2019, within the framework of the tenth edition of the Cameroon Universities Student's Forum (FETUC), hosted by the University of Yaoundé II-SOA. This Students' Forum was organized by the Ministry of Higher Education on the theme **"YOUTHS AND THE SOCIAL MEDIA: HOW TO OPTIMIZE THE CREATIVE POTENTIAL OF STUDENTS OF CAMEROONIAN UNIVERSITIES"**

Declare as follows:

- 1) Considering the historical swearing in Speech of the President of the Republic, on November 06, 2018 which reaffirms the main orientation of his policies towards youths, notably;
 - The consolidation of our achievements as well as the exploration of new avenues permitting us to grab the opportunities provided by a constantly evolving world;
 - The social integration of youths in developing our educational system at all levels while emphasizing professionalization;
 - The necessity to attain emergence which is of core importance to the nation, bringing Cameroonians together in order to make our nation modern and socially advanced;
 - The revival of economic growth, to generate employment, mainly for youths thereby improving their purchasing power;
- 2) Considering the encouragements of H.E. Paul BIYA, the President of the Republic to us **"Not to Loose Hope"** (February 10, 2019);
- 3) Considering the historical mission which he assigned to Cameroonian Youths for the future of our nation, that is, to succeed in meeting up with digital economy (February 10, 2016)
- 4) Considering the solemn call on youths by the Head of State; President Paul BIYA, on February 10, 2018, to neither be passive followers, nor naïve agents of State destruction;
- 5) Considering his powerful declaration and affirmation that **"the Cameroon of tomorrow shall be constructed with the youths"** (February 10, 2019);
- 6) Considering the current orientation of Higher Education focused on the New University Governance Policy, the economy of knowledge and the professionalization of teachings as instructed by the President of the Republic; H.E. Paul BIYA;
- 7) Considering the strong will of the Head of State towards the continuous democratization of the growing need for training at the higher level notably by ensuring that each region has at least one University Institute ;
- 8) Considering the concrete implementation of this policy by the Minister of State, Minister of Higher Education through a proper management of Universities and the Organization of dialogue and constant discussions amongst students;
- 9) Considering the permanent and repeated declaration of the Head of State to the youths, reminding us that we are the future of the country, stating that: **"the future**

of the country lies on its youths, You are the future of Cameroon, you should constantly bear in mind the need to build the Cameroon of tomorrow”(message to the youths February 10, 2007)

“My young compatriots, you are the future of our nation, you bear all our hopes, strive to meet the ambitions we have placed on you” (message of February 10, 2013)

“For it is obvious that if your elders have laid the foundation of a new society, you have the huge responsibility to proceed with the construction of the edifice”(message February 10th, 2017);

- 10) Considering his statement that ***“this fight for emergence-for it is a fight-requires serious preparations”***. In fact, he continued ***“the world in which we live, is a competitive one where only the best succeed”*** (message to the youths February 10, 2012);
- 11) Considering the constant worry of the Government of the Republic to resolve the problem of unemployed graduates of Higher Education;
- 12) Considering the announced recruitment, unique in its kind of 2 000 lecturers for the next three years, thereby paving the way for the employment of graduates;
Considering the effective distribution of 500 000 laptops to university students, from state and private institutions;
- 13) Considering the organization of the 2021 African Cup of Nations in Cameroon despite the shift of date, the greatest continental competition which could have been an opportunity of coming together of African Youths, celebrating our living together and which would have created many employment opportunities;
- 14) Considering the invitation by the Minister of State, Minister of Higher Education for the tenth Forum of Students of Cameroonian Universities on a current theme;
- 15) Considering the meticulous organization of workshops, which has enabled participants to discuss, debate freely, in all conviviality and to consensually arrive at some strong recommendations;
- 16) Considering the warm welcome and support offered to the participants, by the University of Yaoundé II, SOA and regarding the pertinence of the theme, the rich discussions and resolutions arrived at;
 - We thank the Head of State for his great and continuous support towards the Cameroonian youths in general and students in particular;
 - We pledge to support the Head of State in his Emergence and Greater Opportunities Policies embodied in this seven year mandate;
 - Encourage our peers to put forth our dynamism, our strength and our intelligence in the construction of a one, indivisible, prosperous and emergent Cameroon;
 - Reiterate our acknowledgements and support to his policy of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism, bedrock of living together in harmony for the wellbeing of Cameroon;

- Encourage young Cameroonians particularly students to conform to the digital economy, and uphold the historical challenge in a short run for the economic and technological development of our nation;
- Encourage the student community to adapt to the new digital world in order to meet the challenges of employment and professionalization as well as promoting the spirit of living together and to banish all forms of antagonism, rejection and exclusion;
- Take the commitment to be messengers of dialogue, peace and harmony in order to nurture this seed in our campuses and communities through the implementation of recommendations and resolutions arrived at in this Forum.

Done at Soa, on June 27, 2019.