

CMC NETWORK CHARTER – CAMEROONIAN PARTNERS

Cameroon entered into the third Millennium with some important advantages: peaceful coexistence between religions, the dynamic of informal sector, liberalisation of mass media, the democratic opening, the emergence of the Civil Society, etc. Unfortunately this “social capital” was not enough to eradicate the social, economical and political deficit whose manifestations are observed nowadays, at national as well as at local levels:

- the quantitative analysis of poverty shows that this plague touches 57% of farmers and 40% of unemployed people in urban milieus (DRSP, April 2003, p.x)
- corruption continues to corrupt the social fabric in spite of the setting up, in August 2000, of a National Programme of Good Governance (NPG);
- the electoral legislation lacking in clarity, gives way to many frauds testified by national and international observers during the last elections (double poll of July 2007) and worst of all, the disinterest of voters;
- the social development strategies put to place by the Government remain inoperative in fivefold plan of the social protection and of the national solidarity; of the promotion of equity as well as the gender equity, of social education; of employment and of the satisfaction of essential needs. Consequences: multiple abnormalities are observed for example the children traffic for economic and sexual exploitation; the underprivileged strata of the population are still victims of violence and discriminatory practices;
- The analysis of the agricultural sectors shows clearly that the food sovereignty remains a concern. To cover its needs in cereal, Cameroon imports massively corn, millet and sorghum. Rice supplants more and more starchy foods such as coco yams, cassava, etc., while, with the support of the State, farmers could assure their food sovereignty.

In front of these challenges and at the instigation of *Commissariat Central Missionnaire* CMC, a Dutch Catholic missionary organization,

We,

- 1 - International Circle for the Promotion of Creation (CIPCRE),**
- 2 – National Service Justice and Peace of the National Episcopal Conference of Cameroon (SNJP/CENC),**
- 3 - Council of Protestant Churches of Cameroon (CEPCA) ;**
- 4 – Ecumenical Service for Peace (SeP),**
- 4 – Ecumenical Service for Peace**
- 5 - Higher Islamic Council in Cameroon (CSIC),**

- Considering that peace is the fundament of the coexistence of people and is at the same time constitutes the most important factor of their blooming;
- Considering that justice is the corollary of peace and that it must be permanently promoted between individuals and communities to make them more human and more united;
- Conscious that in the dynamics of construction of justice and peace, efforts must be shared to hope for productive and fertile results;
- Considering that faith communities mobilized around a common objective, are strong and fulfil better their mission;
- Considering that at the time when major themes, such as food sovereignty, children traffic for sexual exploitation, good governance, etc., occupy the front stage both in Cameroon and in the World;
- Given the fact that the Cameroonian Government alone cannot overcome all the plagues that damage our society ;

- Convinced that in the battle for another World, the North and the South have to give themselves a hand with only one objective " to work together for a better World for all as God wanted it from the beginning " (Cf Focus, Document de base de CMC).

Hereby adopt the present Charter for:

- the mutual reinforcement of CMC partners capacities in Cameroon;
- better organize at local level the conditions for the advent of a better life for populations and notably for its most underprivileged strata.

Chapter I: General Dispositions

Article 1: Creation and denomination

It is set up between CIPCRE, SeP, CSIC, SNJP / CENC and CEPCA a network called CMC Network Cameroonian Partners in abbreviated form CMC-PAC Network.

Article 2: Duration

CMC-PAC network and its Cameroonian partners is created for a limitless length.

Chapter II Vision, mission, basic principles and strategies

Article 3: Vision

The members of CMC-PAC Network Cameroonian Partners dream for a society of peace and justice, prerequisite conditions for a better World such as God wanted it.

Article 4: mission

In accordance with this vision, the Cameroonian CMC partners commit themselves to put at the centre of their concerns the promotion of fair, peaceful and lasting living conditions of populations in general and of underprivileged classes in particular.

Article 5: Basic principles

The basic principles which make the raison-d'être of the task of CMC-PAC Network Cameroonian Partners are:

- the political activism (commitment for service and not for disserving);
- Non-violence;
- Independence in relation to any religious, state and political apparatus;
- Preferential option for the underprivileged classes;

Article 6: Intervention strategies

The Strategies implemented to complete successfully the task of CMC-PAC Network are:

- the collective carrying out of engaged actions;
- corporatism in decision taking;
- A transparent information exchange;
- The mobilisation of the Civil Society, the national and international opinion around major national stakes.

Chapter III: Organization and functioning

Article 7: Required conditions

To be member of CMC –PAC Network, it is needed:

- Being a moral person;
- Adhere to the present Charter;
- Prove its legal statute;
- Carry out on the field one or more project(s) in relation to CMC themes.

Article 8: membership formalities

- An organization that wishes to be a member of the Network must send a written application addressed to the Focal Point;
- The Focal point examines the conformity of the organization according to the criteria found in Article 10;
- The Focal Point examines the application in connexion with other Network members and the sponsor;
- A decision is taken unanimously during a coordination meeting;
- The acceptance or refusal decision is notified to that organization by the Focal Point latest six month after receiving the application.

Article 9: Loss of membership quality

Membership quality of the Network can be loos by:

- a) **Resignation:** Any member who wants to resign must address his intention written to Focal Point. The resignation is ratified during the members' meeting according to the date of reception of the resignation, after auditing the CMC account of the organization.
- b) **Exclusion:** The exclusion of a member of the Network can be pronounced by a general agreement of the members of the Network during the meeting of the members for misconducts, notably serious motives undermining the vision and mission of the Network. Any exclusion can be pronounced only if the concerned organization had the possibility to explain in written form or during members' meeting.
- c) **Dissolution** of the member organization

Chapter IV: Rights and obligations of partners

Article 10: The Rights

Each Organization member of the Network has the right:

- to be at the same level of information;
- to the civil protection of the network on the matters for which it is mandated;
- to the support of the Network;
- to participate to decision taking during the coordination meetings;
- to represent the Network when it is dully mandated.

Article 11: The obligations

Each organization member of the Network has as obligation:

- to respect the present Charter and all the decisions of the Network;

- to participate to biannual meetings as well as to sessions for capacities building organized by the Network;
- to work actively on the theme while contributing to the development of other themes;
- to inform periodically CMC and other members of the Network on the state of progress of its activities through activities and financial reports;
- to share its experiences and competences with other members.

Chapter V: Organization and Functioning

Article 12: the organs of the CMC-PAC Network

a) The Organs of the Network consist of:

- Members' meeting;
- The Focal Point;
- Organizations leaders of developed themes with their dismemberments;
- The CMC sponsor;
- The Technical Secretariat.

b) Attributions and Functioning of the Organs:

b1: The members' meeting is the meeting of all the members of the network. It is:

- The information and exchange space as well as for the training of members;
- It is the decision making place as concerning the designation of Focal Point, the choice of themes and leaders, of the admission of new members, etc.

The members' meeting holds one per year. However, given the travelling constraints, the CMC partner will take part to one meeting.

The quorum to valuably deliberate in a members' meeting is the haft of the total number of members.

b.2: The Focal Point is the animation organ of the network. In this title, it:

- calls and animates the members' meetings;
- follows up and monitors the meetings of members;
- carries out the judicial matters of the Network;
- facilitates the training as well as informs the members of the Network;
- administers the Website of the Network;
- Represents the Network on civil matters.

The Focal Point is designated unanimously during members' meeting among the leaders of the network. Its mandate is three (3) years renewable.

b. 3: The Leader organizations of the developed themes are mandated for:

- planning and carrying out their activities in accordance to the retained themes as well as the subscribes engagements;
 - To give a mutual support in the development of their activities (mobilisation of actors, means of information, monitoring, representation, etc);
 - Actively put in common their experience and share their competence with the Network members.

b.4: The CMC Partner has as task:

- To participate through opinions to actions setting;
- to contribute financially for the realization of the activities both at the level of the Focal Point and the one of the leading organizations;
- Introduce to the North and in the rest of the World the experiences of its ongoing partners in Cameroon;
- To participate to the actions of pleading initiated by the network.

b.5: **The Technical Secretariat** has as task to bring support:

- Technical support to the Focal Point in reporting, the circulation of information and preparation of working documents;
- Pedagogical support for the animation of capacities building sessions and members' meetings;
- Logistical support for the organization of aforementioned sessions and the members' meetings ;

The Technical Secretariat is located in the Focal Point structure.

The organization and functioning of the Technical Secretariat are defined by a particular text.

Chapter VI: Resources

The CMC-PAC Network resources are essentially human and financial resources.

Article 13: human Resources

The mobilized human resources in order to conduct activities essentially consist of the personnel of members' organizations and their dismembering, resource persons of each of the organizations as well any good will person engaged as a volunteer in social training.

Article 14: financial resources

For the projects of Network members related to the themes, financial resources come principally from CMC, which makes them available after studying the project submitted to it by any leading organization heading a theme.

The network members should also imperatively look for other funding resources for their projects related to the theme.

For its needs of functioning as well as for the sessions of capacities building of the members, the Focal Point submits to CMC a proposed budget.

In one case or another, the allocated funds are managed according to the rules of art and controlled regularly by a recognised expert accountant.

The leader organizations prepare specific accounting extracts for the projects financed by CMC.

Chapter VII: Final dispositions

Article 15: Members' meeting

The ordinary meetings which held every 6 months are called by the Focal Point of the network at least a month beforehand.

b) Extraordinary meetings can be called by the Focal Point on the request motivated by a member of the network, after consultation of other members.

c) Decisions are taken by general agreement during the members' meetings.

Article 16 : Amendement

The present Charter can be modified only by a regularly called meeting of the members. The quorum of two thirds is required.

Article 17 : Dissolution

The dissolution of the CMC-PAC Network can be decided only by common agreement of all the members and CMC during an extraordinary meeting of the members called for this effect.

Article 18 : Adoption

The present Charter was adopted by consensus during the members' Meeting of the CMC-PAC Network of December 13, 2007 in Yaoundé.

It takes effect as from this date. It would be completed by a Code of functioning.

The signatories:

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| For CIPCRE, | Pastor Jean-Blaise Kenmogne, General Manager |
| For SNJP/CENC, | Prof. Titi Nwel Pierre, National Coordinator |
| For CEPCA, | Rev. Dr. Jean-Emile Ngué, General Secretary |
| For SeP, | Pascal Blaise Touoyem, Director |
| For CSIC, | Dr Souleymane Boubou, General Secretary |
| For CMC, | Mrs Dorine Verbeeck |