Cameroon National Day Special

Advancing undeterred toward prosperity, growth

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AMBASSADOR OF CAMEROON



On May 20, Cameroon celebrates the 49th anniversary of its national day under the theme "Army and Nation: Together let's overcome health security challenges and preserve the

peace, stability and prosperity of Cameroon." On this auspicious occasion, and on behalf of the government and people of Cameroon, I wish to convey my warmest compliments to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, as well as to the government and people of Japan.

This celebration falls at a time when Cameroon, Japan and almost all countries around the world are still facing challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is worth stressing, with great appreciation, that in its ongoing battle against this global threat, my country has been able to count on Japan's support through its economic and social program, which definitely has contributed to and strengthened our capability to respond to the pandemic.

Despite the crisis the world has been going through since early 2020, Cameroon has consolidated its determined march toward building a modern and inclusive society, while creating conditions for investment and industrialization in key sectors.

Under the leadership of H.E. President Paul Biya, we have continued to work tirelessly at maintaining security and peace throughout our national territory, strengthening our democratic process, and pursuing our economic, social, and cultural development program.

Although our economic projections have been negatively impacted by the global economic downturn, we strived to

maintain our targeted macroeconomic indicators by taking fiscal consolidation and economic support measures. Cameroon's economy has preserved a certain capacity to rebound, which nurtures our hopes for a rapid recovery that should allow us to move forward with our 25-year development plan.

In following our growth and development strategies, my government recently launched the National Development Strategy, which replaces the previous Growth and Employment Strategy that was implemented from 2010 till 2020.

As explained by our president during his 2021 New Year's address to the nation, our National Development Strategy defines the main thrusts of our planning to 2030. The document draws lessons from past experiences and sets new goals for the next decade, notably the structural transformation of our economy and inclusive development, which provides room for Japanese private investment.

In a nutshell, to consolidate our path toward emergence by 2035 as planned, our strategy for the next decade will consist of stepping up the fight against poverty, unemployment, and the lingering so-called informal sector. It will also target an 8% annual economic growth rate by deepening the structural transformation of our economy and enhancing the effectiveness of public spending.

Simultaneously, my country continues to implement its social development policy with a particular focus on youth employment, education, health, and family well-being.

As we head toward the Olympic and Paralympic games, I will end this message by hailing our multidimensional collaboration with Oita Prefecture. Despite the critical time we are all going through, I am convinced that Cameroon's Olympic team will spend a safe and joyful stay at the city of Hita, and I warmly thank the governor of Oita and the mayor of Hita for their support.



President of the Republic of Cameroon, H.E. Paul Biya EMBASSY OF CAMEROON

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compiled in collaboration with the
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Congratulations

to the People of the Republic of Cameroon on the Anniversary of their National Day

