

The CEFAM Resolutions Adopted By Fako Chiefs and Notables

Resolutions adopted at a meeting of Fako Chiefs, Notables and Elite at their meeting in CEFAM (Local Government Training Center), Buea on July 28, 2001

Preamble

At a meeting of Fako Chiefs, Notables and Elite, held at CEFAM Buea on Saturday 7th April, 2001, it was agreed to establish a special committee to explore the possibility of setting up a trust which would cater for the rights of owners of CDC lands, under the Land (Perpetual Succession) Ordinance. The committee comprised all members of the Executive of the Fako Chiefs Conference, two representatives of the BLCC, two lawyers, and an educationist. In view of the urgency of the matter, the committee was given two weeks within which to present its report. The resolution further stated that if incorporation of a trust under the above ordinance was not feasible, the BLCC, as currently incorporated, should be acclaimed as the legitimate representatives of the people, in seeking restoration of their ancestral land rights.

After over three months, the special committee has been unable to achieve the objective of creating a trust under the Land (Perpetual Succession) Ordinance. The lawyers were categorical in their advice that until title to land is first obtained, incorporation under the above Ordinance is not possible.

Accordingly, Conference adopted the following resolutions:

Resolutions

At a General Assembly of Fako Chiefs, Notables and Elite, held at CEFAM Buea on Saturday 7th day of July, 2001, under the distinguished Chairmanship of Ikanea F. B. Manga Williams of Limbe, it was resolved:

1. That the Bakweri Lands Claims Committee (BLCC), which has spearheaded the battle for the restoration of Bakweri land rights over a period spanning over half a century, and as presently constituted, be and is hereby declared the legitimate representative of the Bakweri in pursuit of their land claims, and is the only legal body authorized to negotiate with the Government of Cameroon and other parties on all matters pertaining to the lands leased to the Cameroon Development Corporation (CDC).

2. Requests the Government of Cameroon to accelerate the privatization process of the CDC in the overall interest of the people, after taking cognizance to the legitimate claims of the landowners.
3. That this resolution be published in English and French for the information of all parties concerned.

Done at Buea this 28th day of July, in the year two thousand and one.

Signed: Conference chairman,

H.R.H. Ikanea F. Billa Manga Williams

Paramount Ruler, Victoria Coastal District Traditional Authority