



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR
PEACE & FREEDOM
CAMEROON

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Message from WILPF Cameroon on the International Peace Day 2015 September 21, 2015

The International Day of Peace is celebrated on September 21 each year to promote peace. On this occasion, WILPF Cameroon invites all Cameroonians to reaffirm their will to live in peace and joins the UN General Secretary to invite people all over the world to reaffirm their commitment to live in harmony within the human family.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Partnerships for Peace : Dignity for all" is timely, as it comes to lay emphasis on the need to combine efforts to silence the weapons.

All segments of the society have their role to play in building a lasting peace. Yet women are key actors in the quest for sustainable peace, are generally excluded from the peace process.

We seize the opportunity of this celebration to invite the State of Cameroon to accelerate the drafting and implementation processes of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which is a serious alternative that will allow women to engage themselves in management of crisis and conflict prevention.

This is also the occasion for us to encourage Cameroon to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty, an international arms control instrument which Cameroon is a signatory. This treaty is important for Cameroon because it will help fight against the proliferation and illicit circulation of weapons in the country and beyond the borders, in order to reduce human suffering. It is important to note that the proliferation and illicit circulation of arms not only fuels conflicts, but also accentuates gender-based violence.

This celebration finally offers us the opportunity to reaffirm our solidarity with the families of the victims and all those affected by the current attacks in Cameroon and millions of people around the world affected by the devastating effects of violence and armed conflict.

It is of utmost importance to take actions in favor of peace, and, as the UN General Secretary, rightly stated, Together as « Partners for *peace* » we can achieve a world of peace, prosperity and dignity for all."

On behalf of WILPF Cameroon
Sylvie Jacqueline Ndongmo
President