

C.F.M. REPORT PRESENTED BY THE DELEGATION FROM CAMEROON
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 10TH WORLD ASSEMBLY OF FAMILIES IN
FATIMA, PORTUGAL FROM WEDNESDAY 25TH TO SUNDAY 29TH 2007.

Introduction:

Indeed, how great is the Lord, worthy of praise; tell all the nations "GOD IS KING"; spread the news of his love (ps.95). Shall we sing, the refrain: Priestly people, Kingly people, Holy people, God's chosen people, sing praise to the Lord.

1. We sing to you O Christ beloved Son of the Father. We give you praise, O wisdom everlasting and word of God. Ref.
2. We sing to you, O Son, born of Mary the virgin. We give you praise our brother born to heal us, our saving Lord. Ref.

Dearest brethren in your various hierarchy, we, Magdalene and George Zembeh from Buea Diocese Cameroon, are overwhelmed with joy and happiness in sincerely thanking the ICCFM authority for inviting us and having totally sponsored our couple to its Tenth World Assembly of Families here in Fatima, the beautiful and holy land of our Holy Mother Mary, "THE LADY OF THE ROSARY". We have no other way to express our feelings than to say THANK YOU and thanks indeed for your great love and concern for our couple and family, may God bless you all abundantly.

Presentation:

Cameroon is a bilingual country made up of five ecclesiastical provinces, one for the English and four for the French provinces. The Christian Family movement is well founded mainly in the ecclesiastical province of Bamenda made up of Buea, Kumbo and Mamfe dioceses and Bamenda Arch Diocese, presently headed by Arch Bishop Cornelius Esua. While our present Bishop of Buea Diocese is his Lordship Emmanuel Bushu.

The Christian Family Movement of Cameroon was affiliated to the ICCFM body in 1974 during the first ever organized ICCFM World Assembly of Families in Tanzania, East Africa during which Cameroon participated and represented by couple Philip Doh and Rev. Fr. Louis Naomi, now of blessed memory.

The movement is organized and run from branch, parish, zonal/divisional, diocesan, provincial and national levels. So far in Cameroon, it is the provincial EXCO body that serves and represents the country at national level. The provincial executive formed since 1996 in Bamenda has been headed by couple Aloysius and Winifred Ateh, with Berinyuy Sebastian as their vice president couple; and our humble couple here present as assistant provincial secretaries. It is with sympathy that we announce the death of the provincial/national co-president, Brother Aloysius Ateh and his vice, Brother Sebastian Berinyuy, which occurred last year 2006.

In the main time, following the death of the provincial and assistant presidents as stated above, couple Denis Lafon, Buea Diocesan CFM president couple, serves as the interim provincial president until a new provincial executive body is elected before the close of this year 2007.

Country Report as per ICCFM format:

- National President: Mr/Mrs. Denis Lafon - Tel:(237) 77911032
- National Chaplain: Rev. Fr. Etienne Khumba- Tel: (237) 77605015
- Bishop's House Buea c/o Rev. Fr. Andrew Nkea- Tel: (237) 33322241

1. (a) *Names of CFM. Groups in Cameroon:* We have fifty parishes with 65 active branches and a total membership of 1,300 couples and their families.

(b) *Types of members:* 1,225 active couples and their families.
50 active widows and their families.
25 active widowers and their families.

(c) *Frequency of meetings:*

- Newly formed branches- every week.
- Older branches- every 2 weeks.
- Parish meetings- quarterly- every 3 months.
- Zonal/divisional meetings- every 6 months.
- Diocesan meetings-twice yearly.
- Provincial meetings- once yearly.

(d) *Top three family evangelization or family ministry services:*

- Branch meetings using the Observe, Judge and Act system.
- We promote members living the sacramental life; Regular at the Eucharist, Rosary prayers and devotions, seminars ~~and~~ Retreat and novenas.
- Marriage enrichment and encounters through organized courses.

ii) *List of actions on the 2004 world assembly resolutions:*

Although Cameroon never participated, nevertheless,

- Members of our parish carry out at least one-hour of family confraternity rosary prayer every day as from midnight. Members are contacted on the exercise through their cell- phones It is done with scriptural reflections from the Bible. Some of our members are in the parish Justice and Peace commission.

- Couples are encouraged to have at least one family meal each week as the family desires, with special prayers for the meal led each time by a member of the family. Some of our couples help in carrying out pre-marriage doctrine courses.

ii) *The present and the future:*

a. *Achievements in 2004-2007:*

-Members actively participate in the church program in the activities that ended with the celebration of the international year of the family from December 2003 to December 2004 inclusive on the feast of the Holy Family through out the ecclesiastical province of Bamenda.

- Since then many CFM branches have continued to be formed through out the province. Members carry out Corporal and Spiritual works of mercy. Organise *Sick day one in this year*

b. *One concrete "2007-2010 Plan of action" for the survival and for the expansion of the C.F.M. evangelization mission.*

- We pray that from here, Fatima, ^{if} we are equipped with the necessary information, guardians and materials, we shall embark on the formation of this Assembly's much-desired CFM youth groups, and open up more CFM. Branches through out the province and beyond, by the mighty grace of God. *More to offer during the youth forum.*

Many thanks for your kind attention.

Magdalene and George Zembeh
Assistant Provincial Secretary Couple