

## FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The 7<sup>th</sup> National Communication Council took place from 20-24 February 2024 at the Head Quarters of the NECC at Mvolye, Yaounde under the theme: **CATHOLIC COMMUNICATORS AND THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL PEACE**. The council presided over by His Lordship, Sosthene Leopold BAYEMI MATJEI, bishop of Obala and President of the Episcopal Commission for Communication, was attended by Directors of Communication, journalists and technicians from different dioceses of Cameroon.

The council gave participants the opportunity to understand the challenge to social peace. During the opening Mass, Bishop Bayemi exhorted the communicators, in his homily, to take advantage of the spirit of Lent, to imitate the Prophet Jonas and become agents of evangelization calling people to conversion.

During the opening ceremony Bishop Bayemi gave the communicators a panoramic view of the challenges of social communication and the media world today. Inspired by the Holy Father's message for the 58<sup>th</sup> World Communication Day, bishop Bayemi reminded the communicators that it is important for them to understand the need for unity and solidarity; and the socio-political, economic and moral challenges of Artificial Intelligence, especially in relation to the dignity of the human person at the heart of scientific and technological advancements. Catholic communicators must be agents of the emerging Church which helps to stifle conflicts.

For 5 days participants shared much on social peace in the light of the possibilities and challenges of the means of communication available in their dioceses. So they learned sound and audiovisual editing which would help them in presentation of events.

Six workshops led by experts in audiovisual helped participants to learn ways of using the audiovisual and journalist means to curb the nefarious risks posed by Artificial Intelligence.

During this council the following resolutions were taken

1. Elaborate the Job Description for the Diocesan Director of Communication .
2. Improve on the marketing strategies of the Catholic Newspaper *L'Effort Camerounais*.
3. Consolidate the network of Catholic Communicators so that catholic media may become a means for promoting social peace.

Participants expressed the desire that dioceses may better valorize their communication services, real means for New Evangelization.

Catholic Communicators in Cameroon expressed their gratitude to formators for the capacity building. They are particularly thankful to SIGNIS, who through the Pontifical Missionary Works, permitted the holding of this workshop. Profound thanks also go to the personnel of *Maison St Pierre* for the quality of their services.

Done in Yaounde this day 24 February 2024

+Sosthene Leopold BAYEMI MATJEI  
Bishop of Obala



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