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CANADA CONCERNED WITH CONDUCT OF RECENT CAMEROON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

At the request of the Cameroon authorities, the Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, met on November 17 with a delegation led by Francis Nkwain, Minister Delegate to the Foreign Minister of Cameroon. The delegation's intent was to explain Cameroon's October 11 presidential elections and their aftermath.

Mrs. Landry expressed her satisfaction that multi-party elections had finally been held in Cameroon, but added, "I am disappointed with the irregularities that have tainted the electoral process in Cameroon."

The Minister emphasized that Canada is anxious to see dialogue resumed between all concerned elements in Cameroon, and she urged all parties to renounce violence.

Mrs. Landry indicated that Canada now expects the Cameroon authorities to take concrete steps toward national reconciliation and to remain on a democratic course. In particular, she stressed the need to lift the state of emergency in the northwest; cease politically motivated detentions and arrests; and suspend the house-arrest measure against an opposition party leader.

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