ABOUT THE COALITION FOR DIALOGUE AND NEGOTIATIONS
ABOUT THE COALITION

The Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations (CDN) is a United States based international non-governmental organization (NGO) whose goal is to facilitate dialogue and seek a negotiated resolution and an end to the conflict in the Southern Cameroons. CDN is made of professionals and has developed partnerships with over 20 organizations worldwide advocating for an end to the war in the Southern Cameroons. The Coalition is not a Southern Cameroons or Ambazonian frontline movement. The Coalition is administered by a Steering Committee with a standing Secretariat that runs the day-to-day work, and an Advisory Board that provides guidance and support. The Coalition’s work is guided by three core principles namely:

1. Southern Cameroonians have a right to self-determination;
2. Southern Cameroonians have a right to self-defense, and that
3. Any resolution to the ongoing-armed conflict must address the root causes through negotiations and has been engaging the international community towards achieving this goal.

GOVERNANCE OF THE COALITION

The Coalition is administered by a Steering Committee, with administrative support from a Secretariat managed by an Executive Director and an Advisory Board of eminent personalities across the globe. Associate members are admitted by the Steering Committee to assist and provide expert-based services for the Coalition to achieve its objectives.

10.1 The Steering Committee

Denis Foretia MD MPH MBA FACS
Co-Chair - Steering Committee

Dr. Denis Foretia is Co-Chair of the Denis & Lenora Foretia Foundation and Executive Chairman of the Nkafu Policy Institute, a leading think tank. He is also currently a surgeon at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and the Associate Director of the Global Surgery Institute. Prior to this Dr. Foretia was faculty in the department of surgery at the Johns Hopkins University and staff acute care surgeon at Lifebridge Health in Baltimore. He was also an Associate in the department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Denis is the Founding President of the Association of Cameroonian Physicians in the Americas (ACPA) and was also the Co-Founder and pioneer president of the Cameroon
Professional Society (CPS). He holds a Bachelor’s degree with honors in Biological Sciences from the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), a Doctor of Medicine degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee. Denis holds a Master’s in Public Health (MPH) from Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University and a Master’s in Business Administration (MBA) from the Carey School of Business also at Johns Hopkins University.

Judith Nwana B.Eng(Hon) MBA MSc MCIPS  
Co-Chair - Steering Committee

Judith Nwana leads the delivery, Contracts and Vendor Management of Global Telecoms links at the World Bank. She is Vice Chair of the Staff African Society. Judith is a Steering Committee member of Cameroon Humanitarian Relief Initiative, CHRI, an NGO helping Refugees, IDPs and Political prisoners. She was a strong advocate for #BringBackOurInternet during the internet shutdowns in #Cameroon working with organizations such as access now and Internet Sans Frontieres. Has an MBA from London Business School, MSc in Civil and Structural Engineering from the University of Sheffield and a B.Eng (Hon) in Civil Engineering from Enugu State University, Nigeria.

Valentine Ngwabo Fontama M.Sc., MBA, PhD  
Member of the Steering Committee

Dr. Valentine Ngwabo Fontama is the Head of Contact Center AI Services at Google Professional Services. Before Google he was a principal data scientist manager in Microsoft Azure. As a new technology consultant at Equifax in London, Valentine pioneered the use of Machine Learning in the consumer credit industry. He has published 12 academic papers and co-authored three books on Big Data and Predictive Analytics. Valentine holds a PhD in Artificial Intelligence, an MSc in computing, an MBA in strategic management and marketing from Wharton Business School, and a BSc- (First Class Honors) in Mathematics and Electronic Engineering.
Paul Ndi M.Sc. Architect. MBA  
*Member of the Steering Committee*

Paul is Managing Director of SteadWay, an international Project and Cost Management consultancy based in Berlin, Germany. He has over 21 years of construction and real estate consulting experience. He worked as a Project Architect and Team Leader in Darmstadt, Germany. He was a lecturer at the Technical University Braunschweig, where he headed a major research project - PROsab. In 2010 he joined the international Property Consultancy AOS Studley and in 2012 he became head of the Berlin office in Berlin. Paul also served as vice-chairman of the supervisory board of CaDiDec, a Cameroonian diaspora cooperative based in Frankfurt, Germany. He graduated from the University of Technology in Darmstadt with a degree in Architecture. Paul holds an Executive MBA from the ESCP Europe and a Certificate of Leading Innovation from Red McCombs School of Business, Texas. He originally qualified as an architect at the Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany, and is a member of the German Chamber of Architects.

Mr. Henry Atem MBA MEPA  
*Member of the Steering Committee*

Henry Atem is the Executive Director at the United States International Center for Electoral Support (USICES), an international election assistance organization that provides technical support to countries. He is a career elections expert with over twelve years of professional experience in over 20 countries working and consulting for the African Union, United Nations, UNDP, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, and the Carter Center. He contributes to the Electoral Violence Prediction Market, an initiative of the U.S. State Department’s Bureau for Conflict Stabilization Operations. He holds a Graduate Certificate in Election Administration from the University of Minnesota, a Master’s in Electoral Policy and Administration from the School of Advanced Studies, Pisa, Italy, a Master’s in Democracy and Governance from Georgetown University, and an MBA from Southern New Hampshire University, in the United States of America.
Julius Agbor PhD  
*Member of the Steering Committee*  

Dr. Julius Agbor is an Associate Professor of Economics and Finance at Vanguard University of Southern California. Holder of a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Economics from the University of Cape Town, South Africa, he has published in peer-reviewed journals and contributed several book chapters on international political economy and development issues. Dr. Agbor has had a rich and diverse professional background working for government, academia, think tank and the private sector in developing, emerging as well as advanced economy contexts. During 2011-2013, he was a research fellow at the Africa Growth Program at the Brookings Institution in Washington DC. He has also consulted for many organizations, including The World Bank, The U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the State Department.

Cletus Nde Msc.  
*Member of the Steering Committee*  

Cletus Nde currently works with the radiology department, Navarro Regional Hospital, Corsicana TX. Cletus has worked as a medical imaging technologist for over nine years. Cletus Nde is a former biology instructor at St Paul’s College Nkwen and Sacred Heart College, Mankon Cameroon, as well as a political activist. Founder/owner Abegail Human Services Inc., registered in Texas, USA. He holds a BS in biology/microbiology from the University of Buea, Cameroon, an MS in Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Management from Greenwich University, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Imaging from the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions, Boston USA.
Eban Ebai PhD  
*Member of the Steering Committee*

Dr Eban Ebai is the Executive Director of the African Center for Justice Security and Rights (ACJSR) and of Kinara Health and Home Care Services LLC in Washington DC USA. He was a National Research Foundation (NRF) Chair in the African Security and Justice Programs, with the position of Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre of Criminology, Faculty of Law, and University of Cape Town, South Africa. He has worked with CLEEN Foundation in Nigeria as Deputy Director of Programs. From 2010 to 2013, he led research teams in Haiti, Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Columbia to implement the United Nations Rule of Law Indicators Project and impact assessments and has taught in several universities including University of Limerick, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland and the University of Dschang, Cameroon. Dr Eban holds a PhD from the University of Limerick, Ireland, Master of Laws LLM from Obafemi University Ile Ife, Nigeria and a License en Droit from the University of Yaoundé Cameroon.

Rick Ferreira  
*Executive Director of the Coalition*

Rick Ferreira is the Executive Director of the Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations and manages the Secretariat. He holds an MA in Democracy & Governance from Georgetown University as well as a BA in Political Science from the University of Florida.
10.2 The Advisory Board

His Excellency Amos Sawyer
Former President of Liberia

Professor Amos C. Sawyer has worked tirelessly for peace and the establishment of democratic governance and development in his home country, Liberia, as well in several other African countries. He was Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Commission in Liberia bringing Liberia back to constitutional rule after the 1980 military coup and was Interim President of Liberia from 1990 to 1994 during Liberia’s civil war. He has served as Chairman, Panel of Eminent Persons of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) of The African Union and has led several elections observation and peacebuilding missions on behalf of ECOWAS and the African Union. He is a distinguished scholar with an impressive record of publications and other academic achievements.

Ambassador Herman J. Cohen
Former United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs

Ambassador Cohen is a retired career diplomat and specialist in African and European affairs. Cohen retired from the U.S. Department of State in 1993. His last position was assistant secretary of state for African affairs under President George H.W. Bush (1989-1993). During his 38-year career with the U.S. Foreign Service, he served in five African countries and twice in France. He was the ambassador to Senegal, with dual accreditation to the Gambia, from 1977 to 1980. During assignments in Washington, he also served as special assistant to President Ronald Reagan (1987-1989), principal deputy assistant secretary for intelligence and research, and principal deputy assistant secretary for personnel.

Yaah Maggie Kilo (PhD)
Former Resident Representative Sierra Leone & Liberia - African Development Bank

Yaah Maggie Kilo holds an MA in Sociology of Education from the London University Institute of Education, and a PhD in International Development Education from Stanford University School of Education. She served her country as an educator and a researcher for many years prior to joining the international development community. In 1998, she joined the services of the African Development Bank, where she has held several positions in both Country Operations and...
Policy Review. Between 2006 and 2008 she served as the Bank’s Resident Representative in Sierra Leone and was later appointed to head the newly established Fragile States Unit. In August 2011, she was transferred from Tunis, Tunisia to Monrovia, Liberia as Resident Representative of the African Development Bank in Liberia, a position which she held until her retirement in 2017. H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf awarded her Liberia’s highest non-national civilian medal: Dame Commander in the Most Venerable Order of Knighthood of the Pioneers of the Republic of Liberia.

**Gary and Meredith Krupp**

*Founders of Pave The Way Foundation*

Gary and Meredith Krupp are the Founders of Pave The Way Foundation (PTWF) – a not-for-profit organization founded in 2002 to initiate cultural, educational and technological exchanges between religions, facilitating gestures of goodwill. PTWF identifies non-theological obstacles in the diplomatic and political arena, unraveling and eliminating the barriers of disinformation that serve to stoke distrust between religions. Working quietly behind the scenes, PTWF talks to people who will not talk to each other, consequently, PTWF is the most effective organization in the world “that no one has ever heard of”. Mr. Krupp is the highest-ranking Jewish person in the Catholic Church. Gary Krupp was made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great by Pope John Paul II, only the seventh Jew to be so honored.

**Ambassador Deborah Malac**

*Former U.S. Ambassador to Liberia, Uganda  
Former Director of the Office of East African Affairs at the U.S. State Department*

Ambassador Deborah Malac spent over 38 years as a Career Member of the U.S. Foreign Service, representing the U.S. and advancing U.S. interests abroad. Most recently, Ambassador Malac served as Ambassador to Uganda (2016-2020). Prior to that posting, she was Ambassador to Liberia (2012-2015). Ambassador Malac began her career in Yaounde, Cameroon, and subsequently served overseas in South Africa, Thailand, Senegal and Ethiopia, as well as multiple assignments in the Department of State in Washington, DC, most focused on sub-Saharan Africa. Ambassador Malac retired from the Department of State in January 2020.
Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh
Senior Associate and Regional Director National Democratic Institute (NDI)
Washington, DC

Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh is the Senior Associate and Regional Director for Central and West Africa programs at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. He has organized and advised international election observation missions in various African countries. He has also designed and supervised country specific democracy support programs with civic organizations, political parties and legislative bodies across Africa. He designed and helped launch the African Statesmen Initiative (ASI), a program aimed at facilitating political transitions in Africa by encouraging former democratic heads of state to engage in humanitarian, mediation, election monitoring and other democratic consolidation activities. Dr. Fomunyoh makes frequent guest appearances on major radio and television networks. He has published several articles in academic journals on African politics and democratization. He holds a Licence en Droit from Yaoundé University in Cameroon, a master’s degree (LL.M.) in international law from Harvard Law School; and a Ph.D. in political science from Boston University. He is a former adjunct faculty of African politics and government, at Georgetown University, and at the African Center for Strategic Studies. He is also the founder of a nonprofit organization that supports democracy and humanitarian causes in Cameroon

###