



*Centre pour la réhabilitation des
victimes de la violence et de la
torture*

*Centre for the Rehabilitation of
Victims of Violence and
Torture*

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**NATIONAL WORKSHOP TO INTRODUCE THE NEW
TACTICS PROJECT IN CAMEROON**

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY

**THE NEW TACTICS PROJECT AND THE TRAUMA CENTRE
CAMEROON**

MAY 11TH – 12TH 2005

MAY 2005

WORKSHOP ON – CREATING AWARENESS ON NEW TACTIC PROJECT

MAIN OBJECTIVES:

The main goal of the project is to contribute to the understanding of new tactical experiences which have been used to bring about a safe environment for Human rights protection, promotion and development.

MAIN OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Provide space for exchange of experiences between different participants on New Tactics project
- 2) Sharing contextual New Tactical ideas and planning processes
- 3) Develop new tactical strategies
- 4) Identifying Local Tactical developments in view of a training seminar
- 5) Distribute New Tactics project material to participants.
- 6) Develop ideas on how we can develop and implant network with each other.
- 7) Draw-up plans of action to disseminate knowledge gained from the workshop.

Workshop Rules

- 1) Respect each others views
- 2) Respect time for each activity
- 3) Keep off unnecessary movements .

INTRODUCTION

The seminar which was held at the Ecumenical Service for Peace from Wednesday 11th to Thursday 12th 2005 started at 4pm with the opening welcome by Peter Kum Che, Director of the Trauma Centre Cameroon. He as the host of the meeting thanked the New Tactics Project of the Center for Victims of Torture in the USA for making available to TC a Micro grant that permitted the hosting of the workshop. He pointed out that New Tactics project is about strategies and experiences of Human rights actors used to enhance and strengthen the work of others else where. They are Tactical strategies that have been adopted in other areas .



Peter Kum Che introducing the NTP at the opening of the workshop

He said the coming together of HRDs in Yaounde will facilitate assimilation of the New Tactical Project ideas and open participants to know more about New Tactics Project and to be able to get into the project Website and tap from the ideas for onward use. He shared the idea of the creation of a national

Network on the use of New Tactics project. He wished that everything being equal, the participants will find the workshop interesting.

Mr Peter Essoka, President of Trauma Centre after greeting the participants excused the absence of Mrs Tilder Nditchia as a result of the loss of her grandmother. Tilder had wished to be there but was not able to. He regretted that following the events that led up to the INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

ON:

OVERCOME DOMESTIC VIOLENCE- ISSUES FOR STRATEGY AND PRACTICE

Bread for the World could no longer participate in the Workshop, and asked participants to bear with the logistics and facilities of the Ecumenical service for Peace. He reminded them of the need to be punctual and conscious.

The programme was then presented and adopted as follows:

Time and date	Activities	Person in charge
May 11 / At 17 pm	Getting acquainted with people and registration	Joel Mamfo
18.00pm	Opening and Welcome	- Peter Kum che (Trauma centre - Peter Essoka representing the National Commission on Human rights and Freedoms
19.30 pm	Distribution of NTP material.	Mr Joel Mamfo, Trauma Centre Cameroon

	Presentation and Sharing on the tactical material	Peter Kum Che
May 12 th 2005 8.30am 11 am	Sharing contextual New Tactical ideas and planning processes. Identifying Local Tactical developments in view of a training seminar	Mrs Kwachu Justine Ngum – Women in Alternative Action
11-11.30 am	Coffee break	
11.30 – 12.30 am	Discussing the way forward in workshops - Institutionalising participation of forces of law and order in coordinated Human Rights Network actions - Developing strategies for the security of Human rights Defenders	Peter Kum che and Peter Essoka
13-14.30 pm	Lunch break	

14.30- 16.00pm	Plenary discussions	
17.00pm	Workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - concerted and consultative regional and topical Network development strategies (New Tactics Network development) - plenary discussions 	Mrs Kenne Rosaline
18.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building the Memorandum of understanding - Adoption of Network on New Tactics project - Closing and departure 	And Peter Kum Che

DAY II

Started at 9am with a review of the previous day programme and discussions.

PRESENTATION OF THE NTP BY PETER KUM CHE

Peter disclosed his participation at the International New Tactics symposium in Ankara- Turkey and gave a run down of the major events.

He capitalised on lessons learnt which to him made more meaning.



A view of the workshop participants in one of the sessions

New Tactics is a resourceful project and as such, learning quite often about the new changes in the tactical approaches and sharing experiences will be very useful. It is therefore:

- Important to keep in touch with each other through e-mail through which we can develop and discuss issues.
- Re think of strategies of HR tactics and share information together.

Take the experiences from others and spread them in Cameroon through seminars and workshops

Tactics that have been used in bringing about change and bringing governments to accepting the recommendations made for Human Rights protection and promotion. The example of Mexico and the social movement was very glaring. Such a movement opened up the country to change in foreign policy and put on the frontline the issue of democracy and HR . I learnt that National Mobilization can bring about two things. -Legitimacy and Peace.

The use of international Legal facilities like taking cases to inter – American Human Rights Commissions is useful in mobilization.

The development of a synergy between National and international organizations and communities can bring about effective results and successes .

The format for sharing New Tactics principles will involve distributing the print outs from the NTP website and discussing on them. Trying to contextualise the tactical principles and also promoting the use and or the

sharing of tactical principles that have been used locally. This will lead to a synchronisation of New Tactics peculiar to our context in Cameroon.

THE ROLE OF PETER

Peter is responsible for :

- setting up both local and regional networks in Cameroon.
- Acts as link for NTP who are interested in working with Cameroon local networks
- Coordinate national and regional networks efforts in Cameroon and act as the inter link with the NTP.
- Lobby for the Cameroon governments to enhance NTP implementation process
- Make sure local NGOs maintain their identities in spite of the network

SHARING CONTEXTUAL NTP IDEAS

From the group discussions the following synthesis were outstanding:

- Networks are not NGOs in some places
- Do not replace individual NGOs
- Facilitate the efforts of different NGOs and help to promote what they can do best

- Peter then reminded participants that if we are creating a network, we will be called to develop strategies of managing the Network. He said already, the Network for Human
- Promotion and Development exists as a sub regional organisation and we could just integrate into it while maintaining our identities. Network members should however avoid individualistic and isolationist tendencies and place the network action plan as separate from the individual NGO activities. Network should handle specific issues and reports should be based on those specific issues.



Participants also reflected on the way forward in their groups

- The need to identify credible NGOs that could become members of the networks.

The first attempt was to use NGOs already working with the NHPD, define the necessary tools of achievement of the networks, and the rules governing the networking programme.

Define more clearly and precisely:

- The intentions and objectives of partnership
- Action plans relating to, and respecting international instruments
- Sensitisation and mobilisation programmes necessary for network members involving seminars, meetings, conferences etc
- lobbying mechanisms at the governmental level
- common protection mechanism
- negotiating safe havens for NGO workers while local networks in those havens are encouraged to assist through protection and upkeep
- the interaction principle and modalities with the Cameroon Commission while addressing a communication to this commission

- a well established alternating leadership at the helm of the network

IDENTIFYING LOCAL STRATEGIES FOR A NATIONAL WORKSHOP

It was concluded that in order to identify local developments, it would be necessary to give an in-depth reflection and so the idea was left in the hands of a committee of five persons made up of Peter, of Trauma Centre, Rev. Tem Emmanuel of NHPD, Kwachu Justine of WAA, Ndetta Quinta of FDD and Atata Clovis, journalist from The Post Newspaper.

HOW DO WE GO ABOUT AN NTP IN CAMEROON : THE WAY FORWARD

Again following group work discussions, the following ideas were outstanding:

- need to prepare preliminary meetings to create the environment for such a forum
- The holding of a national forum
- The setting up of plans to face the new challenges in Cameroon
- The targeting of specific issues for

These were ideas that were expressed in paving the way for a convincing environment for a network of the NTP.

The committee will equally propose topical issues that the NTP network can strategise on. Four persons were equally selected to reflect and draft memorandum of understanding and to propose them to the plenary after the lunch break.

This discussion also concluded the morning presentations and paved the way for a lunch break

When the working session resumed it was to discuss on the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

PREAMBLE

This should develop the premise of why we want to be together.

Considering the wanton abuse of Human Rights and the need to develop new tactical strategies to handle such abuses

Considering that it is urgent to mobilise efforts for the assistance of NGO workers at risk and organise networks for mutual support and resistance at both national and international levels

Recognising the UN declaration other Conventions on Human Rights

We declare our intention to become members of a network for New Tactics Project

MISSION

The mission of the project is to contribute to the understanding of new tactical experiences which have been used to bring about a safe environment for Human rights protection, promotion and development

OBJECTIVES

- 8) To Provide space for exchange of experiences between different participants on New Tactics project
- 9) Sharing contextual New Tactical ideas and planning processes
- 10) Develop new tactical strategies
- 11) Identifying Local Tactical developments in view of a training seminar
- 12) to analyse and expose the realities of repression for HR workers
- 13) combat for principles of universality , indivisibility, legitimacy and engagement for HR workers

COMPOSITION

Shall be composed of NGOs and Associations engaged in H R work who are declared with at least five years of existence or be recommended if less than five years

SECRETARIAT

No fix secretariat shall be made as the seat shall rotate.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This shall comprise of one delegate from member NGO or Association

COORDINATION

There coordination unit shall rotate with a mandate of one year. For the beginning Trauma Centre shall be the founding seat.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

These shall be members of NHPD and Trauma Centre

After this brainstorming on the kind of network to put in place and the terms of reference, it was discovered that the necessary information to propose a budget for the next meeting was not yet available, but however the next meeting was scheduled for April 2003, in Yaounde. TC and members of the NHPD to work out the venue and registration fees of 25.000FCFA per NGO be levied to facilitate organisation and feeding in the next meeting. It was clear that individual NGOs will be responsible for the transports of their representatives.

An evaluation, involving preliminary responses from Peter Kum Che as host, Peter Essoka as President of Trauma Centre and representing the President

of the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms, Rev. Tem Emmanuel Executive Director of NHPD and Ndetta Quinta of FDD ended the session at 6.30pm.



Mr Peter Essoka speaking on some of the challenges at the closing of the workshop.

Participant list

Participant	Organization and Address	Position	E-mail	Tel/ Fax
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2. Kwachu Justine Ngum	Women in Alternative Action PO Box 1467 Yaounde Cameroon	Executive Director	waacameroon@yahoo.com	T. + 237 784 76 67
3. Joel Mamfo	Trauma Centre Cameroon BP 30346 Yaounde	Coordinator of Statistics and evaluation	tc_rehabilitation@yahoo.com	T+ 237 231 35 27
4. Ms. Lillian Ngwang	CBC/ LAP, Life Abundant Programme P.O. Box 9 Kumbo	Secretary	cbclap@aol.com , lap_banso@kastanet.org pamamiltonfon@yahoo.co.uk	F +237 481161 237 9396182
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