

ROAD MAP TO SOVEREIGNTY OF BRITISH SOUTHERN CAMEROON

**A Step-by-Step Process
for the Complete
Independence of
British Southern
Cameroon**

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This roadmap is a strategic, actionable, and legally-grounded guide. It proceeds on the understanding that our objective is not secession but the **completion of decolonization** through the rectification of the illegal 1961 annexation.

PHASE ZERO: INTERNAL PREPARATION & UNIFICATION (Months 0-6)

Objective: To create a single, legitimate, and accountable political vehicle to engage the international community.

Step 0.1: Convene the Southern Cameroons Congress of the People (SCCP)

- **Action:** Organize a congress in a neutral third country (e.g., South Africa, Switzerland, or the United States) bringing together:
 - All factions of the Interim Government of Ambazonia.
 - Leaders of the frontline diaspora organizations (SCACUF, SCNC, etc.).
 - Representatives of internal civil society (CACSC, teachers' and lawyers' associations, women's groups, traditional rulers, religious leaders).
 - Accredited representatives of major armed groups.
- **Document: The Buea Accord (or named for the host city):** A foundational charter establishing:
 - **The Southern Cameroons Self-Determination Council (SCSDC):** A 50-member executive body, with proportional representation from all above groups, to act as the sole legitimate representative of the people for this process.
 - **A Single Negotiating Mandate:** The mandate is solely to achieve a **UN-supervised act of self-determination leading to sovereign independence**.
 - **A Code of Conduct:** Renouncing violence against civilians, committing to international humanitarian law, and agreeing to unified messaging.

Step 0.2: Establish the SCSDC Secretariat and Functional Committees

- **Action:** The SCSDC appoints a Secretary-General and establishes key committees:

1. **Legal Committee:** Led by international law experts and tasked with drafting all legal submissions.
 2. **Diplomatic & Political Committee:** To manage relations with states and international organizations.
 3. **Documentation & Communications Committee:** To archive evidence of crimes and manage public narrative.
 4. **Finance & Resource Mobilization Committee.**
- **Location:** Establish the primary Secretariat in a strategic diplomatic capital (e.g., Geneva, Washington D.C., or Abuja).
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PHASE ONE: LEGAL PETITION & STATUS CLARIFICATION (Months 4-18)

Objective: To obtain an authoritative international legal ruling that undermines Cameroon's claim and triggers UN responsibility.

Step 1.1: Petition to the UN Special Committee on Decolonization (C-24)

- **Organization:** United Nations, Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization).
- **Contact:** Chairperson of the C-24 (rotates annually). Submit via the UN Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs.
- **Document:** "**Petition for Re-inscription of the UN Trust Territory of the British Southern Cameroons as a Non-Self-Governing Territory (NSGT).**"
- **Content:** A 30-page document with annexes, detailing:
 - The historical illegality of the 1961 process.
 - Evidence that the territory never achieved a full measure of self-government.
 - Proof of ongoing denial of political, economic, social, and cultural rights.
 - Annexes: UNGA Res 1350 & 1608, maps, demographic data, reports of atrocities.
- **Follow-up:** Lobby each of the 29 C-24 member states. Seek a member state (e.g., Cuba, Indonesia, Sierra Leone) to formally table a draft resolution for re-inscription.

Step 1.2: Request for an ICJ Advisory Opinion

- **Organization:** United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), upon recommendation of the Sixth (Legal) Committee.
- **Action:** The SCSDC must lobby a friendly UN member state to sponsor a UNGA resolution.
- **Proposed Sponsor:** A non-aligned state with a strong record on self-determination (e.g., **Vanuatu**, which championed West Papua).
- **Document: Draft UNGA Resolution: "Request for an Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal status of the former British Southern Cameroons."**
- **Proposed Questions to the ICJ:**
 1. "Did the process leading to the union of the former UN Trust Territory of the British Southern Cameroons with the Republic of Cameroon in 1961 fulfil the obligations of the Administering Authority and the United Nations under Chapter XII of the UN Charter regarding the full right to self-determination?"
 2. "What is the current international legal status of the territory known as the Northwest and Southwest Regions of the Republic of Cameroon?"
- **Correspondence:** Formal letters from the SCSDC to the Permanent Missions of all UN member states, accompanied by a legal memorandum.

Step 1.3: Submission to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR)

- **Organization:** African Union, ACHPR in Banjul, The Gambia.
 - **Action:** File a formal Communication (complaint) against the Republic of Cameroon.
 - **Document: Communication 001/2024: Southern Cameroons Self-Determination Council v. Republic of Cameroon.**
 - **Alleged Violations:** Article 20 (Right to Self-Determination), Article 19 (Equality of Peoples), Article 22 (Right to Development), Article 23 (Right to Peace).
 - **Request:** A finding of violation and a referral to the **African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights** for a binding judgment.
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PHASE TWO: DIPLOMATIC ISOLATION & COALITION BUILDING (Months 6-24)

Objective: To build an international coalition that exerts political and economic pressure on Yaoundé and supports the legal process.

Step 2.1: Establish the "Group of Friends of the Southern Cameroons" (GoF)

- **Target Members:** A core group of 8-12 nations: **Nigeria** (regional hegemon), **South Africa** (AU leadership), **United Kingdom** (former Administering Authority, historical duty), **Canada** (Commonwealth, human rights), **Switzerland** (neutral mediator), **Norway** (peace process expertise), **United States** (Security Council influence), **Ghana** (historical pan-Africanism).
- **Action:** The SCSDC Diplomatic Committee arranges high-level briefings for ambassadors and foreign ministry officials in each capital.
- **Document:** "**The Case for Completing Decolonisation: A Briefing for the Government of [Country Name].**" A tailored 10-page policy document.

Step 2.2: Lobby for Targeted Sanctions

- **Organization:** The European Union, United States Congress/State Department, United Kingdom Parliament.
- **Action:** Lobby for the activation of targeted, individual sanctions against key figures in the Biya regime under existing human rights and atrocity prevention frameworks.
- **EU:** The Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime.
- **US:** The Global Magnitsky Act.
- **Document:** "**Dossier for Sanctions: Command Responsibility for Atrocity Crimes in the Southern Cameroons.**" A confidential annex naming specific military commanders (BIR Generals), governors, and security officials with detailed evidence of their roles.

Step 2.3: Engage the Commonwealth

- **Organization:** Commonwealth Secretariat, London. The Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG).
 - **Action:** Cameroon is a member. Petition for its suspension for "serious or persistent violations" of Commonwealth values, notably democracy and human rights.
 - **Document:** Formal petition detailing violations, citing the **Latimer House Principles** on democracy and the rule of law.
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PHASE THREE: THE MEDIATED PROCESS & REFERENDUM MANDATE (Months 18-36)

Objective: To secure a UN Security Council mandate for a transitional administration and referendum.

Step 3.1: Initiate a UN-Mediated "Process on the Final Status"

- **Mediator:** A UN Special Envoy appointed by the Secretary-General. The SCSDC will lobby for an envoy from a neutral, respected country (e.g., Sweden, Ireland, or a senior African diplomat like former President **John Mahama** of Ghana).
- **Participants:** The SCSDC (representing the Southern Cameroons) and the Government of Cameroon.
- **Sole Agenda Item:** **"The terms for a UN-supervised act of self-determination for the people of the Southern Cameroons."** This is not a negotiation on autonomy; it is a negotiation on how the referendum will be conducted.
- **Key Negotiated Points:**
 1. **Ceasefire & Security:** Deployment of a UN or AU observer force.
 2. **Referendum Question:** Must include the option of sovereign independence.
 3. **Electorate:** Definition based on verifiable historical ties.
 4. **Administrator:** Agreement to place the territory under a **UN Transitional Authority (UNTA-SC)** during the referendum period.

Step 3.2: Secure a UN Security Council Resolution

- **Action:** Following a mediated agreement (or a collapse of talks that highlights Cameroonian intransigence), lobby the GoF to table a draft resolution.
 - **Proposed Draft: UNSC Resolution 27XX (2026)**
 - PP1: Recalling the ICJ Advisory Opinion (from Step 1.2).
 - PP2: Recalling the UN's responsibility for the incomplete 1961 process.
 - OP1: Establishes the **UN Transitional Authority for the Southern Cameroons (UNTA-SC)** for 24 months.
 - OP2: Mandates UNTA-SC to conduct a free and fair referendum on independence, with UN electoral support.
 - OP3: Authorizes a Chapter VII peacekeeping force (UNSC Militia) to protect civilians and secure the process.
 - OP4: Demands all armed groups (state and non-state) disarm and participate in a DDR program.
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PHASE FOUR: TRANSITION TO STATEHOOD (Upon Successful Referendum for Independence)

Step 4.1: UNTA-SC Administration

- UNTA-SC assumes sovereign authority, administering the territory, building institutions (drafting constitution, forming police, central bank), and preparing for independence.

Step 4.2: Constitutional Convention & Elections

- An elected Constitutional Assembly drafts and ratifies the constitution of the **Federal Republic of Ambazonia**.

Step 4.3: Declaration of Independence & Recognition

- On "Independence Day," sovereignty is declared.
- The GoF and AU member states extend immediate diplomatic recognition.
- Application for UN membership is submitted within 24 hours.

Step 4.4: Post-Independence Agreements

- An international arbitration tribunal (PCA or ICJ) oversees the equitable division of national assets, debts, and natural resource agreements with the Republic of Cameroon.

CONCLUSION: A PROCESS OF LAW, NOT OF WAR

This roadmap bypasses the military stalemate and reframes the struggle onto the terrain of international law and diplomacy, where our case is strongest. It requires discipline, unity, and strategic patience. The key is to **systematically compel the international community to confront its own historical failure and legal obligations**. Each step is designed to build irreversible momentum toward the final, lawful act of self-determination that was stolen in 1961.