PRESS RELEASE

The Governor of the North West Region, President of the Regional COVID-19 Pandemic Response Committee, announces to the General Public that the North West Region recorded its first confirmed case of COVID-19 on the 20th of April 2020. The said case is a Cameroonian resident in Douala who originates from the North West Region. He arrived Bamenda on the 15th of April 2020 in his Private car, after going through the Medical Screening at Matazem/Santa, where he voluntarily expressed the wish to have a confirmatory test of COVID-19 conducted on him. He was immediately referred to the Bamenda Regional Hospital where he presented himself on the 16th of April 2020 for sample collection. After investigation, his sample was collected and sent to "Centre Pasteur de Yaounde" for analysis. He was also advised on the need to be confined pending his results and he opted for self-confinement at home. On the 20th of April 2020, his results came out POSITIVE and he is presently being managed by the health authorities of the Region.

While all the other contacts of this case are being investigated by the Rapid Intervention and Investigation Team, the Governor of the North West Region calls on the entire Population to remain calm while respecting the following hygienic measures to prevent the spread of the disease.

- Hand Washing with clean running water and soap or use an alcohol based solution
- Covering the nose and Mouth with a disposable tissue when coughing, sneezing or use a flexed elbow
- Avoiding close contact with anyone presenting with flu symptoms
- Maintaining a distance of at least 1.5 metres between two or more persons

He also calls on the population to remain vigilant and report any suspected case of COVID – 19 by dialling any of the following numbers: 233361503, 233361506, 233361507, 233361508, 677564650, 677032723, and avoid stigmatizing as much as possible COVID-19 victims as well as those involved in the Pandemic response.