



Paris, December 24 2010

Dear Christians of Cameroon in our diversity, Christmas gives me the opportunity to join you in our common faith in Jesus who is just born among us.

May this child, born among us teach us every day to build the peace that our world so desperately needs. May the desire of peace that lies deep inside each one of us not remain concealed, hidden and may it not be thwarted by other forces.

Given the challenges facing us today, let us go beyond fine sentences because, they are no longer sufficient to face the need for peace in our society. Let us ourselves to build in us and around us the love and compassion that make us help each other. Let us build our desire to live together around the Nativity of our Lord, our desire to live together. May compassion help us to transcend our differences and oppositions to move together after the God-Child.

Our country is proud of its religious diversity and, during this Silent Night of our «O holy night», allow me to feel these marvelous pulses that carry our country and lead it to its revival. At the bottom of my heart, I feel that this country is capable of a new love that can provoke our encounter, the encounter between us Cameroonians; an encounter between all human beings. This may be why the God-Child is coming to fill our hands but also our hearts. These are the vows I make for each one of you in this "Silent Night of the O Holy night" Yes, for God to continue to knock at our door and ask to be born in us.

Vincent-Sosthène FOU DA-ESSOMBA