

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Yaoundé, 16 August 2017

PRESS RELEASE

The Minister of Public Health informs the general public that upon invitation of the **HEAD OF STATE H.E. Paul BIYA**, that the international NGO *Mercy Ships* will carry out a Care Mission in Cameroon from 17 August 2017 to June 2018. This Humanitarian Mission is placed under the very High Patronage of the First Lady, **H.E. Mrs. Chantal BIYA**, and the **high coordination of the Prime Minister, Head of Government**.

The hospital Ship, *Africa Mercy*, will provide medical and surgical care in the surgical specialties below to about 4,500 mainly poor patients, who were selected between April and May 2017 in the 10 regions of Cameroon:

- General and orthopaedic surgery: deformities related to neglected trauma, correction of club foot, congenital malformations;
- Maxillofacial surgery: non-cancerous deforming tumors, cleft palate, cleft lip, and goiter;
- Reconstructive plastic surgery: congenital abnormalities, contracture from burns, chronic ulcers, tumors and obstetric fistulas.
- Ophthalmic surgery and dental care.

Moreover, taking advantage of the high-level of medical expertise that will be mobilized by this mission, Cameroonian health professionals (medical doctors, nurses, biomedical staff and others) will benefit from several continuing education and mentoring sessions in the medico-surgery fields offered by *Mercy Ships*.

Patient selection is ongoing for some pathologies such as obstetric fistula, cataract surgery and dental care, and more accurate information about their programming will be provided in the coming weeks.

Mr. André Mama Fouda, Minister of Health reiterates that, on Very High Instructions of the **HEAD OF STATE, ALL CARE IS FREE OF CHARGE**.

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