



THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES THE EXTENSION AND REDESIGNATION OF TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR CAMEROON

A life saving humanitarian protection that will shield 7,900 from deportation and deteriorating country conditions

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CONTACT: Ramya Reddy, ramya@masadc.com

WASHINGTON, DC—The Temporary Protected Status Deferred Enforced Departure Administrative Advocacy Coalition ([TPS-DED AAC](#)), [Haitian Bridge Alliance](#), and [Cameroon Advocacy Network](#) applaud the Biden administration for its decision to extend and redesignate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Cameroon. As the conditions in Cameroon continue to decline, the Biden administration’s decision is an essential life-saving protection for Cameroonians in the United States. The decision is a result of months of advocacy led by Cameroon Advocacy Network and a coalition of nearly 100 organizations that [urged](#) the Biden administration to extend and redesignate TPS for Cameroon.

Cameroon faces an ongoing armed conflict, and a humanitarian crisis that has placed nearly 4.7 million civilians in dire need of humanitarian assistance and forcibly displaced over 2 million people. Cameroonians in the United States are at particular risk of facing violent assaults, indiscriminate targeting, and violation of human rights, as the country has seen an increase in arbitrary detention, extrajudicial killings, torture by government and non-state armed groups. The decision to extend and redesignate TPS for Cameroon is an essential protection that will safeguard estimated 9,990 individuals living in the U.S. The 18-month extension and redesignation will go into effect on December 8, 2023, and will protect individuals who can show continuous presence in the United States since October 5, 2023. Temporary Protected Status provides protection from deportation, and work authorization for individuals eligible under a designation.

Gurline M. Jozef, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Haitian Bridge Alliance and Founding Member of Cameroon Advocacy Network

“We are grateful for the redesignation and extension of TPS for Cameroon. Humanitarian response in the form of TPS for countries facing crises is essential to safeguard civilians in dire need of protection. While we commend this decision by the administration we hope that this announcement will be followed by swift implementation of TPS. The continued deportations to Cameroon administered by the administration is deeply concerning and we demand the immediate cessation of removal of Cameroonians from the country to ensure fair protection in line with humanitarian law. We also pray that such measures be proactively taken to combat anti Black sentiments within the immigration movement.”

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The [TPS-DED AAC](#) is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations

directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.

[Haitian Bridge Alliance \(HBA\)](#), also known as “the Bridge”, is a grassroots community organization that advocates for fair and humane immigration policies and provides migrants and immigrants with humanitarian, legal, and social services, with a particular focus on Black migrants, the Haitian community, women and girls, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and survivors of torture and other human rights abuses. HBA also seeks to elevate the issues unique to Black migrants and builds solidarity and collective movement toward policy change. Anpil men, chay pa lou (“Many hands lighten the load”)

[The Cameroon Advocacy Network](#) was launched in 2021 by Haitian Bridge Alliance in collaboration with Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, UndocuBlack Network, CASA of Maryland, and Alliance in Defense of Black Migrants. The space hopes to bring together everyone in unity to work for the dignity and rights of all Cameroonians – whether in Cameroon, in the United States, or anywhere else in the world.