



## L'explication

# « Nous sommes pour une couverture progressive »

■ **André Mama Fouda,**  
ministre de la Santé  
publique.

**M. le ministre, comment s'effectuera le financement de la couverture de santé universelle ?**

L'assurance maladie universelle et la couverture santé universelle (CSU) sont deux concepts totalement différents. La couverture santé universelle permet à tout un chacun d'avoir accès aux soins sans difficulté financière aucune. Celle-ci s'organise sur deux principales thématiques. D'abord l'organisation et le financement de l'offre de soins de santé, ensuite l'organisation et le financement de la demande des soins qui est le champ de l'assurance maladie. Nous sommes pour une couverture progressive de toute la population, y compris les plus pauvres et les plus vulnérables. Les coûts ne sont pas seulement à la charge des malades, mais sont supportés par l'ensemble de la population et de l'État du Cameroun. Ceci par le biais du prépaiement et de la mise en commun des risques.

**Où en sont les réflexions du comité intersectoriel ?**

L'état des lieux des principaux dispositifs est connu. Il s'agit dans un premier temps, du consensus sur la mise en place d'une structure nationale unique de gestion technique et financière. Ensuite, le consensus sur un régime de base de la couverture en santé, obligatoire pour l'ensemble de la population et offrant un paquet de



André Mama Fouda : « Il s'agit de permettre à tout un chacun d'avoir un accès aux soins sans difficulté financière »

soins et services de santé essentiels communs. Enfin, nous avons tenu, du 2 au 6 mai dernier, un atelier de concertation sur le paquet de soins et services de santé essentiels communs, dont la validation par l'ensemble du Comité s'effectuera d'ici la mi-juin 2017. Parallèlement, des sous-groupes réfléchissent sur l'opérationnalisation de la couverture santé universelle.

**Quels sont les différents axes de cette opérationnalisation ?**

Il s'agit, entre autres, de l'affiliation par un système d'immatriculation biométrique avec l'assistance des communes, du recouvrement des contributions des travailleurs et retraités du secteur formel (public,

privé). Il est question de s'appuyer également sur le recouvrement des contributions des populations actives de l'économie informelle et du secteur agricole qui est le secteur le plus important avec près de 80% des travailleurs. Les rôles possibles des organisations non gouvernementales, des coopératives et associations professionnelles dans les relations avec le secteur informel seront passés en revue. L'identification, la cartographie et la gestion des populations indigentes, incapables de payer une quelconque contribution, la gouvernance du système, notamment le cadre législatif ne seront pas en reste.

Propos recueillis par S.G à B

## La parole aux acteurs

### "It Is A Good Initiative"

■ **Helene Parop, House Wife.**

"The initiative is good. It is a very good thing to have universal health coverage in our country. This is gaining medical aid without spending much money. But in this country, what is said is not always what is practised on the field. For example, they say malaria treatment for children below five years is free but I have never witnessed such being done for free. When I took my child who was sick of malaria to the hospital, I paid for the treatment they gave him. Nevertheless, it is a good initiative and I hope this will be effectively put in place."



### "More Sensitisation Should Be Done"

■ **Oboda Jean-Claude, Communication Officer.**

"Universal health coverage programme is a great one concerning global health. The campaign should be done everywhere in the country. It should not only be limited to the urban areas. I think the rural areas need this more because the people in rural areas are dying every day because they lack finances to go for treatments. Some even lack hospitals and even health centres. I think this programme has come to sustain the livelihood of the Cameroonian population. People now have the opportunity to save money due to this free health treatment, especially in villages. More sensitization should be done."



### "It Will Save More Lives"

■ **Richard Foki Kamme, Telecommunication Engineer.**

"We are in a country where the population finds it difficult to handle health care. This is a great initiative the Government of Cameroon has come up with. I think the Government needs to ensure that these resources are used efficiently and fairly, in order to scale up the supply of quality health services for every Cameroonian in need. I think this is going to save more lives because so many Cameroonians are facing difficulties concerning their health. Some do not even have the means to go to the hospitals, and thanks to this programme, more lives will be saved."



### "There Should Be Equality"

■ **Julienne Moudja, Artist Yaounde.**

"It is a good initiative, but I pray there should be equality for everyone to have access to these health services especially in the grassroots areas where people really need such services. They should get them, not only those who can pay for their treatments but everyone. The quality of health services should be good enough to improve the health of those receiving such services, and people should be protected against financial risk, ensuring that the cost of using services does not put people at risk of financial harm."

Glory GOREH (Intern)



## Le Regard de la Rédaction

### Health is Wealth!

Godlove BAINKONG

If wishes were horses, then Cameroonians could in no distant future benefit an extensive health coverage from government irrespective of their social standing and where they find themselves in the national triangle. In fact, the Universal Health Coverage Programme that government is working on putting in place, stakeholders say, will curb current inequalities in healthcare coverage, ensure its viability and improved quality as well as minimise cost of health services as much as possible. Innovative indeed looking at the current state of affairs!

Even as experts are working on coming up with the implementation document by November 2017, the population is already fast expressing their views on what should or should not be done to ascertain its efficacy as well as their desires to have it operational as fast as possible. The aspirations are but obvious given the hurdles they go through to get treated and the discrimination many are subjected to simply because they find themselves in certain places or alongside people whose social status often gives them excessive attention from medical personnel, often to the detriment of sometimes ailing but not socially-strong compatriots.

Writing these wrongs and ensuring that everyone who needs health services get them at optimum, not only those who can pay for them, will be a welcome relief. Ensuring that the quality of health services is good enough to improve the health of those receiving them as well as ascertaining that the cost of using health services does not put people at risk of financial harm shouldn't be the least of issues to be excellently handled.

Health doesn't need any emphasis as a healthy mind in a healthy body is an asset for any community or country, Cameroon inclusive. Health is therefore wealth and the country cannot afford to play with it especially at a time all and sundry are expected to jointly put their human and other resources at the service of the nation to attain already set development goals.

Working tooth and nail to guarantee excellent and cost-effective preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services to the population as the programme entails, is therefore an irreversible initiative. Getting on board all that is needed for its fruition, notably a comprehensive health insurance, state-of-the-art health structures, equipment and qualified manpower motivated to rise even beyond basic requirements, is thus imperative.