

Meeting between AEFJN and the European Commission

On 26th April **AEFJN** met Mr Yves Lecomte, the EU coordinator of negotiations for the Economic Partnership Agreements with Central Africa. AEFJN was represented by Sr Annie Girard, executive secretary of the Cameroon Antenna and Jose Luis Gutierrez Aranda, a member of the AEFJN secretariat in Brussels.

The purpose of the meeting was to express comments and questions about the current negotiations between the EU and Cameroon, bearing in mind the pressure that Brussels is imposing for the EPAs to be ratified. The subjects raised were: the EU's political will to improve Cameroon's financial income; the consequences for Cameroon's still fragile agriculture and industry; whether or not the EU should be adding to the development concerns of Central African countries issues such as rules of origin, health and phytosanitary health measures, technical obstacles to trade, appropriate financing of adjustment mechanisms. What did the ongoing EPAs have to say about these issues?

The meeting was constructive in the sense that Mr Lecomte paid much attention to the comments and questions AEFJN put forward.