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BossChick	Cjay	Board Shaking	KillerBeatz

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# The New Dawn

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TRULY INDEPENDENT

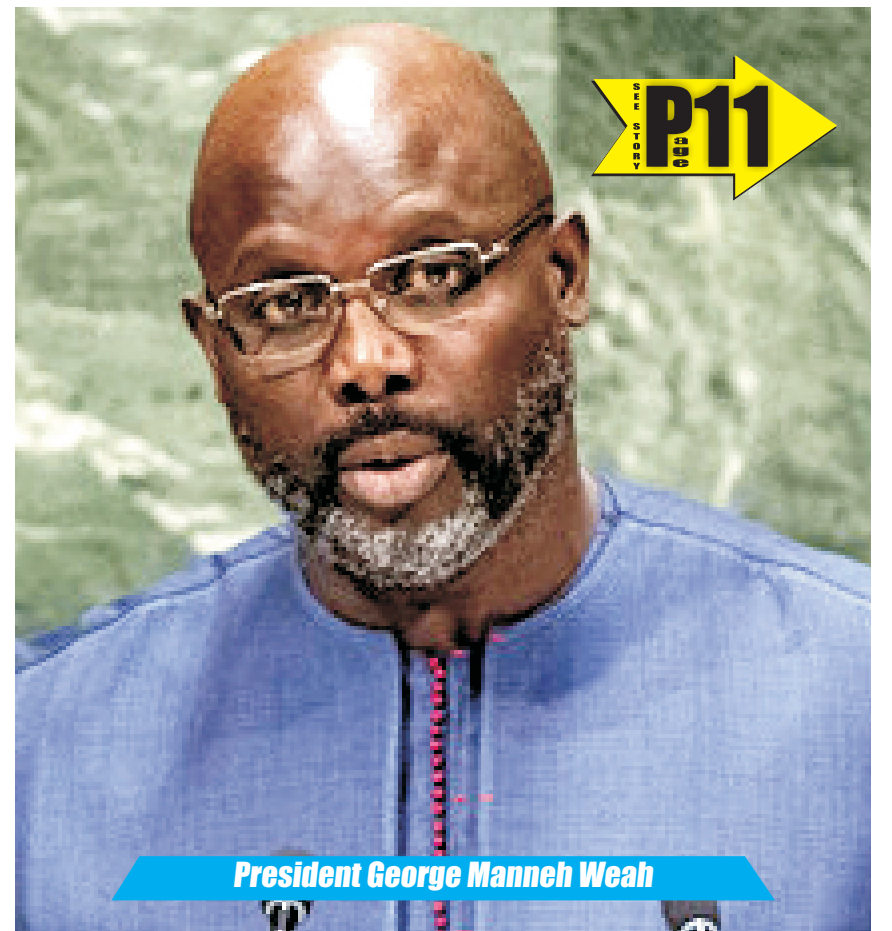
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VOL. 8 NO. 171

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

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# Liberia's peace still fragile



President George Manneh Weah

## **-Weah tells UN**



# I regret my role

## **-Ex-rebel commander Saah Gbolie**



# Continental News

## South Africa anger after girl 'raped' in restaurant

South Africans have expressed outrage following the alleged rape of a seven-year-old girl in a restaurant toilet.

A 20-year-old man allegedly followed her into the women's restroom before snatching her and raping her in the men's section, police said.

The suspect was arrested at the scene and charged with rape and possessing drugs. He has been remanded in custody and has not yet been asked to plead.

South Africa has one of the highest incidences of rape in the world.

The police recorded 40,035 rapes in the 12 months leading to 31 March, an average of 110 each day, the fact-checking organisation Africa Check says.

This is a slight increase on the previous year, which saw 39,828 recorded rapes.

'Fake doctor rapes new



Image copyright AFP: South Africa is battling to curb high levels of sexual abuse

mother'

The girl's alleged rape is one of two cases of sexual abuse currently making headlines in South Africa.

In the second incident, a fake doctor allegedly raped a 17-year-old girl at a hospital in Eastern Cape province hours after giving birth,

police spokesman Captain Dineo Koena said.

"On Tuesday, a man came posing as a doctor. He asked her how she was doing following the birthing experience," he added.

"She complained of heavy bleeding and he said he would check up on her. He then ordered her to undress and then he raped her," Capt Koena said. -BBC

## 'Huge death toll' from South Sudan war

There's no doubt that South Sudan's civil war, which began in December 2013, has caused massive destruction.

Several reports have detailed horrific accounts of killings and sexual violence,

but it has been hard to get an estimate of the numbers who have died.

In 2016, the UN said that 50,000 people had been killed, but now after detailed statistical work, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical

Medicine estimates that 380,000 people have died as a result of the war.

That figure is made up of nearly 190,000 who died directly as a result of violence and a similar number of people whose deaths can be attributed to the humanitarian crisis that the war has caused.

The report's authors say it highlights the need for humanitarian workers to be given unhindered access throughout the country.

Earlier this month, President Salva Kiir and his former deputy, Riek Machar, signed a peace agreement but both their rival forces have accused each other of fresh attacks, reports the BBC's Tomi Oladipo.

Previous peace deals between both sides have broken down and despite considerable international pressure, there is some skepticism as to whether this latest agreement will hold. -BBC



There's hope that a recent peace deal can end the conflict

## Expired food aid given to Ghana flood victims

Ghana's disaster management organisation (Nadmo) has admitted that Vice-President Mahamudu Bawumia handed out expired cooking oil to the victims of recent floods in the north of the country.

The oil, which had expired last month, was part of a

They are currently in the region to retrieve the expired oil. Meanwhile, there are reports of people having stomach upsets after consuming the oil.

Nadmo spokesman George Ayisi told the BBC that they are yet to confirm whether their condition is directly linked to consumption of the cooking



The floods have caused widespread destruction

package of relief items presented by the vice-president. Nadmo officials say the oil had been isolated in a warehouse and was supposed to have been disposed of, but it was mistakenly added to the relief items when they were being loaded onto a vehicle for distribution.

oil. Members of Ghana's main opposition party have called for an investigation into how the mistake was made.

The recent floods in northern Ghana have killed more than 30 people and displaced thousands of others. -BBC

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# EDITORIAL

## U.S. Embassy's response is welcoming

**CONFIRMATION BY THE** United States Embassy near Monrovia that it has received a request from the Government of Liberia to assist with ongoing investigation on the whereabouts of 16 billion Liberian bank notes that allegedly went missing from the Freeport of Monrovia and the Roberts International Airport, respectively is welcoming news.

**THE GOVERNMENT OF** Liberia and Liberians generally are confused how containers and bags of moneys printed abroad and brought into the country allegedly disappeared in thin air without trace. The authorities here have been providing conflicting information about the actual figure in question with the Minister of Information Lenn Eugene Nagbe revealing 16 billion LRD, while the Minister of Finance and Development Planning Samuel Tweah says it is far less, putting the amount at 1.5 billion.

**ON THE OTHER** hand, the former executive governor of the Central Bank of Liberia Milton Weeks and members of the 53rd Liberian Legislature many of whom are in the 54th Legislature seem to be in words of war over how much money was authorized to be printed. Ex-governor Weeks claims he was mandated to print 10 Billion Liberian bank notes, but the 53rd Legislature says it authorized the printing of 5 Billion LRD.

**THE FINGERS-POINTING AND** contradicting accounts about the missing moneys have made the entire situation messy, leaving the public confused and apprehensive whether the ongoing investigation would produce any tangible result.

**BUT THE U.S. EMBASSY** in Monrovia says, "This request for assistance was transmitted to the relevant U.S. Government agencies in Washington for further review."

**THE GOVERNMENT OF** Liberia is seeking assistance from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. State Department, among others, to get to the bottom of the worst financial crime ever in the country's history.

**WE WELCOME THE** acknowledgement from the U.S. Embassy here and the ongoing effort to accordingly respond to the Government of Liberia. We believe strongly if the U.S. Government is involved with the current investigation the truth or facts about the cartel would be exposed, and those responsible brought to justice.

**MANY LIBERIANS ARE** doubtful whether the ongoing investigation by the Liberian government on the money saga is being done with sincerity, especially giving the way the Police are going after suspects, leaving out the board of governors at the CBL, even officers within the LNP itself who reportedly escorted the 20-foot containers from the Freeport of Monrovia are not being called in for questioning.

**THE ONLY HOPE** in getting the facts lies with the involvement of America, Liberia's historical and traditional friend. We need the FBI and U.S. State Department to assist with the investigation to take us to a reliable lead to the perpetrators or else, the blame-game will continue.

**AS UNFOLDING DEVELOPMENT** seems to indicate, no one, not even the current government of President George Weah or ex-president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is willing to accept responsibility for the missing moneys. Someone must account within the confines of professional investigation and we need the Americans to help.

**New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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# COMMENTARY

By Elizabeth Drew

## Trump's Darkest Days

*Donald Trump's presidency is beset by crises, with the discrediting of his Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, just the latest in a long string of disasters. Now, the likelihood that the Republicans will lose control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate is growing by the day.*

**W**ASHINGTON, DC - This isn't a good time to be Donald J. Trump. Granted, it's been a while since it was, but this is the grimmest period of his presidency thus far.

And Trump is showing it. Aides have been struggling to muzzle him - not physically, but everything short of that. And, as could have been predicted, they have not been fully effective. Responsible journalists report that Trump White House aides (who are notoriously sieve-like) say the US president feels alone and cornered.

Feeling lonely should not be surprising, as Trump is not one for close friendships. He has proven time and again that for him, loyalty is a one-way street. Virtually no one who works for him can feel secure. Probably no one but his daughter Ivanka is safe from the terminal wrath that eventually pushes so many associates out the door.

Trump's normal self-pity has intensified lately. He continues to moan about Attorney General Jeff Sessions having recused himself from the investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election. But Trump has worse problems. His former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, has not only been convicted on eight counts of fraud and tax evasion, but, fulfilling Trump's worst fear, he has also decided to cooperate with Robert Mueller, the special counsel leading the Russia probe and investigating Trump's effort to block the inquiry into whether his campaign (and even administration) conspired with the Kremlin. It's clear that the relentless Mueller pressured Manafort into cooperating to avoid a second costly trial.

Trump had dropped hints that he would pardon Manafort, but he was advised - and for once, he listened - that to do so before November's midterm congressional elections would be catastrophic for the Republicans and therefore him. Manafort apparently calculated that he could neither bet on a pardon later - what if Trump himself was in serious legal danger by then? - nor afford another trial. His plea deal with Mueller strips him of most of his properties and tens of millions of dollars, but he was willing to accept huge financial losses to avoid the possibility of spending the rest of his life in prison.

Aside from having his potential prison sentence reduced (to an unknown amount), Manafort also wanted an arrangement that would keep his family safe. After all, he would be giving Mueller's prosecutors the goods on some Russian oligarchs close to President Vladimir Putin - folks who are not particularly gentle toward people who betray them.

Making matters worse, Trump's longtime attorney, Michael Cohen, has also agreed to cooperate with prosecutors. Cohen knows a great deal about Trump's previous business practices and has revealed that he arranged to pay women with whom Trump had sex (though he hasn't admitted it) for their silence before the presidential election. This, too, has put Trump in legal jeopardy.

And now the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh, Trump's selection to replace retiring Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, is hanging by the slimmest of threads and could be withdrawn at any moment. Kavanaugh was a risky choice all along. Drawn from a list of other highly conservative possible nominees provided to the president by the right-wing Federalist Society, Kavanaugh stood apart for his extraordinary views about presidential power. Kavanaugh has written that he believed that a president cannot be investigated or prosecuted while he is in office.

This view that a president is above the law is unique (so far as is known) among serious legal scholars. Its appeal to Trump is obvious. Moreover, Kavanaugh's views are far to the right on other issues as well, and in his confirmation hearings he expressed them with no doubt. On other matters, including abortion rights, he was slippery in his responses, and there is credible evidence that he lied to the Senate Judiciary Committee on other matters.

But almost all of the Republicans on the committee were prepared to push his nomination through quickly: though he was an unpopular choice, he had the support of the Republican base, including much of the Christian right. This core support remained firm even after Christine Blasey Ford, a professor in California, came forward and alleged that a drunken Kavanaugh had sexually assaulted her when they were in high school. Republican leaders were desperate to get Kavanaugh confirmed before the midterms, lest their voters stay home out of disappointment and even anger if he wasn't confirmed - in which case their worst nightmare, a Democratic takeover of the Senate as well as the House of Representatives, could come true. That was the situation when reports emerged about another woman alleging sexual misbehavior on Kavanaugh's part, though her story was less well grounded, at least at first.

Adding to the turmoil was the publication of Bob Woodward's latest book, Fear, which (like previous books on Trump, but to a greater extent and with more depth) offers a devastating portrait of a dysfunctional White House. In particular, the book - together with an anonymous New York Times op-ed by a senior administration official - showed how far aides would go to keep an incurious, ignorant, and paranoid president from impulsively doing something disastrous.

A Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll issued on Sunday, September 23, found Democrats leading Republicans for election to the House by 12 percentage points, an extraordinary differential. And it was looking increasingly possible that the Democrats could also retake control of the Senate. Trump had hoped not to be an issue in these races, but that outcome was inescapable. The Republicans had little else to run on.

Even if the Democrats take only the House, life for Trump will become far more complicated, owing to the raft of investigations that the new majority would be certain to launch, and possible impeachment proceedings. Were the Democrats also to take the Senate, Trump could be in terminal trouble. But then he may be anyway.

## O-PED

By Gordon Brown

## Education's Moonshot Moment

**N**EW YORK - Starting in the late 1940s, an exceptional group of visionaries responded to the devastation of World War II by coming together to build new institutions for a new world. Looking back two decades later, former US Secretary of State Dean Acheson said it was like being "present at the creation." He was not wrong. The international community had come to a new understanding that prosperity is indivisible and must be shared if it is to be sustained.

Something similar occurred earlier this century, when 191 United Nations member states agreed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), secured more than \$100 billion in debt relief for developing countries, and established the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, as well as the International Finance Facility for Immunization. The IFFIm, for its part, is an innovative loan facility that has already raised more than \$5 billion, helped to immunize 640 million children, and saved more than nine million lives.

Even more recently, the international community agreed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030, and came together to address the most fundamental global threat by adopting the 2015 Paris climate agreement.

Yet in a world undergoing rapid and far-reaching technological change, it is past time for education to have its own "moonshot moment." In addition to ensuring that 260 million out-of-school children receive an education, we also need to start preparing for the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the social and economic impact of new technologies on the world's poorest countries.

To be sure, the world has made progress toward ensuring quality universal education under SDG 4. Bilateral aid for education has increased for the first time in several years. Countries made unprecedented commitments to mobilize more domestic resources for education aid at the Global Partnership for Education Financing Conference earlier this year. The Education Cannot Wait initiative is rolling out more programs to address educational needs in crisis and emergency scenarios. And, all told, the share of humanitarian aid allotted for education is growing.

But, if anything, the challenge of delivering a quality education for all is greater today than it was when SDG 4 was adopted. There are now 75 million children caught up in conflict and humanitarian crises who need educational support, and the majority of them will continue to experience educational disruptions. Only one in four of the world's child refugees will receive a secondary education, and just 1% will go on to higher education.

Moreover, current projections show that around 400 million children are not on track to complete their primary education, and that more than 800 million - half the world's schoolchildren - will enter adulthood without any recognizable qualifications for the modern workforce.

The task of closing these gaps cannot fall on poor countries alone. Globally, \$12 billion in education aid is paid out each year. But even if all low- and lower-middle-income countries doubled their spending on education and raised their performance to that of top-quartile countries, there would still be a multi-billion-dollar financing hole.

Hence, a major effort is now underway to reinforce and expand existing aid programs. The International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity - along with the World Bank and other multilateral lenders, an array of United Nations agencies, the Global Partnership for Education, and Education Cannot Wait - has proposed a plan to fill the external financing gap. The goal is to provide, by 2030, classroom seats to the 200 million children who need them.

The plan operates through a new finance facility, which will attract \$2 billion in guarantees from donor countries and secure an additional \$8 billion in loans from the multilateral development banks. This financing will be complemented by a \$2 billion "buy down" fund, which will use the new grants from donors to offer financing on terms that developing countries can afford. For every dollar of additional aid money that is mobilized, the facility will unlock around four dollars in new resources for education.

There is already momentum behind this plan, given the support of the World Bank, the UN, and all the major regional development banks. The next stage is for donor countries to show a willingness to provide the aid guarantees that will underpin the finance facility.

This generation has an opportunity to realize the promise of a quality education for all, but we must marshal the funds needed to provide a classroom seat to every child. To that end, young people and charities have come together to mobilize support for a petition asking world leaders to take action.

We should no longer tolerate a world where only some young people are afforded the chance to realize their full potential. All people have a right to develop their talents, and their political leaders have a duty to ensure that nothing is standing in their way.

## OPINION

By Jorge G. Castañeda

## Justice or Democracy in Brazil?

**M**EXICO CITY - Brazil's upcoming presidential election - its ninth since the restoration of democracy in 1985 - will take place against a bleak background, and not just because the National Museum in Rio de Janeiro was recently destroyed in a fire, or even because the economic recovery is faltering. With myriad judicial and corruption scandals distorting the electoral process, there is now a growing disconnect between justice and democracy.

The question of which will prevail has already received a partial response. In the wake of the Operation Car Wash (Operação Lava Jato) corruption scandal - which, since breaking in 2014, has rocked Brazil's political class, business sector, and judicial system - former Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva was convicted of corruption. With his case still under appeal, he now languishes in a prison cell serving a 12-year sentence.

Nonetheless, Lula, who remains Brazil's most popular politician, wants to run for president. Earlier this month, electoral authorities decided that he could not, because of Brazil's "clean slate" law - signed by Lula himself during his second term - which prohibits anyone with an upheld conviction for corruption from seeking public office. A large segment of the Brazilian public supported the decision to keep Lula out of the race.

Yet there are still plenty of Brazilians - and foreign observers, including me - who harbor serious doubts, for two key reasons. First, Lula is in prison for a relatively trivial offense (at least for now), and he was convicted by a lower court. Striking the frontrunner from the ballot for relatively minor misdeeds relating to a highly politicized case is an excessive and dubious maneuver that is likely to disappoint and even enrage the millions of Brazilians who still venerate Lula.

Second, as a practical matter, keeping Lula off the ballot increases the odds that Jair Bolsonaro - a former paratrooper known for his homophobic, sexist, racist, and quasi-fascist stances - will prevail.

To be sure, while Bolsonaro was the front-runner before the final decision on Lula's eligibility, subsequent polls indicated that, in the expected run-off vote, Bolsonaro would be defeated easily by most other candidates. But everything changed on September 6, when Bolsonaro was the victim of a failed assassination attempt that forced him to suspend his campaign for several weeks. He underwent several operations, barely survived, and benefited from a surge of sympathy. Today, some polls have him securing over 30% of the vote in the first round, more than twice that of other candidates.

As for Lula, he now has little choice but to throw his support behind his running mate, Fernando Haddad, who has served as mayor of São Paulo and education minister. But while Lula's support has boosted Haddad's standing - he is now roughly tied with most of the other contenders - he remains well behind Bolsonaro in the polls.

Of course, it is possible that the situation will change drastically in the second-round run-off. In France in 2002 and 2017, the right-wing candidates - Jean-Marie Le Pen and Marine Le Pen, respectively - were soundly defeated when voters rallied behind their second-round opponents. Indeed, Jacques Chirac in 2002 and Emmanuel Macron in 2017 each received the support of practically everyone on the initial ballot, across the political spectrum, because none was willing to allow a xenophobic candidate to win the presidency.

But there is no guarantee that Brazilians will rally around Bolsonaro's opponent in the same way, or that his advantage in the first round will not be too great to be overcome in the run-off. In either scenario, Brazil would end up with an extremist president who has praised the military dictatorship of the 1960s and 1970s, because the only candidate who could have beaten him was struck from the ballot. Brazilian democracy could be destroyed because justice was upheld.

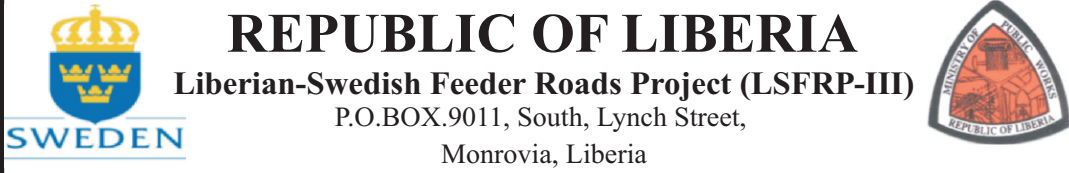
In an ideal world, justice and democracy always go hand in hand. But in the real world, we have to make tough calls, considering what we are willing to sacrifice for the greater good. For Brazil today, that means asking whether enforcing a strict interpretation of the law and punishing anyone who engages in corrupt practices is worth inviting a potential threat to democracy.

Many distinguished Brazilians with impeccable democratic credentials, such as Lula's predecessor, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, argue that the law must be respected at all costs. This is not an easy argument to dismiss, especially given the possibility that Bolsonaro could still lose the election - a win-win outcome.

But the risks created by adhering to this approach cannot be dismissed, either. From Hungary and Poland to Italy and Germany, not to mention the United States, extreme right-wing, authoritarian, populist, and anti-establishment political forces have gained power - or at least increased their influence over the government - by participating in democratic elections. Once in power, they subvert democratic institutions. In Hungary, for example, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has taken advantage of his party's parliamentary majority to stack the courts with loyalists, seize control of public media, and amend the constitution to weaken his opponents.

Against this background, we must ask ourselves a question that has no easy answer: To what extent should democrats - progressives and conservatives alike - bend the rules in order to protect democracy and the rule of law from those who seek to subvert it?

If it were up to me, I would have permitted Lula to participate in the upcoming election, thereby ensuring that Brazil's democracy is safe from Bolsonaro. Plenty of people who are just as committed to democracy as I am might disagree. In any case, we can now only hope that Brazil's newfound commitment to upholding the rule of law will not end up subverting it - and taking democracy down with it.



**REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**  
**Liberian-Swedish Feeder Roads Project (LSFRP-III)**  
 P.O.BOX.9011, South, Lynch Street,  
 Monrovia, Liberia


Date: 27 September 2018

**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)**  
**Invitation for Bids (IFB)**

Invitation for Bids (IFB) for PROCUREMENT OF WORKS FOR: Rehabilitation of feeder roads in Nimba County, Grand Gedeh County, River Gee County, Maryland County and Grand Kru County for the following selected roads:

IFB No	Contract ID	Contract Title	Road Length
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-GG-RR-02	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-GG-RR-02	Rehabilitation of Zwedru-Ziah Road Section-2 of 26.40 Km (Sta. 00+000 to Sta. 26+400) in Konobo District, Grand Gedeh County	26.40km
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-GG-RR-03	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-GG-RR-03	Rehabilitation of Garbueh- Voogbadee Road of 28.50 Km (Sta. 00+000 to Sta. 28+500) in Tchien & Seekon District, Grand Gedeh County	28.5km
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-RG-RR-01	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-RG-RR-01	PART A: Rehabilitation of Fish Town - Juwelhpo Road of 18.20 Km (Sta. 00+000 to Sta. 18+200) in Potupo District, River Gee County	18.20km
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-RG-RR-02	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-RG-RR-02;	PART B: Rehabilitation of Fish Town - Juwelhpo Road of 13.25 Km (Sta. 18+200 to Sta. 31+450) in Potupo District, River Gee County	13.25km
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-GK-RR-01	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-GK-RR-01	PART A: Rehabilitation of Big Suehn -Grand Cess Road of 15.35 Km (Sta. 00+000 to Sta. 15+350) in Grand Cess District, Grand Kru County PART B: Rehabilitation of Big Suehn to Filorken Road of 5.50 Km (Sta. 00+000 to Sta. 5+500) in Barclayville District, Grand Kru County	20.85km
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-ML-RR-01	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-ML-RR-01;	Rehabilitation of Sodoken Old Town-Watchoken Road of 14.137 Km (Sta. 00+000 to Sta. 14+137) in Pleebo District, Maryland County	14.137km
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-NM-RR-16	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-NM-RR-16	PART A: Rehabilitation of Diallah - Behwalay Road of 26.00 Km (Sta. 00+000 to Sta. 26+000) in Kpablee District, Nimba County	26.00km
IFB No: MPW/LSFRP-NM-RR-17	CONTRACT ID: LSFRP-NM-RR-17	PART B: Rehabilitation of Diallah - Behwalay Road of 20.175 Km (Sta. 26+000 to Sta. 46+175) in Kpablee District, Nimba County	20.175km

- This Invitation for Bids follows the invitation for Contractors Pre-Qualification carried in Vol. 25 No. 140 Page 7 Thursday, August 16, 2018 edition of the DEMOCRAT Newspaper & Vol. 8 No. 142 Page 11 Thursday, August 16, 2018 edition of the NEW DAWN Newspaper.
- The Procuring Entity Ministry of Public Works "has received" a grant from the Government of Sweden toward the cost of Liberian Swedish Feeder Roads Project (Phase-III), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this grant to payments under the Contract for the Rehabilitation of feeder roads in Nimba County, Grand Gedeh County, River Gee County, Maryland County and Grand Kru County.
- The Procuring Entity now invites sealed bids from only selected prequalified contractors in category A-1 under the Ministry of Public Works Contractor Classified System who may have participated in the prequalification exercise in fiscal year 2018-2019 are eligible to bid for all the Contracts mentioned above but Maximum of two "Works Contract" shall be considered for award to one single Contractor. The Employer reserves the right based on most economical practice to the employer in order to decide the combination of Contracts to award for one contractor. The rehabilitation works include earthwork construction, gravel wearing course, construction of pipe culverts, construction of box culvert and bridges along the road. The duration of Construction The construction period is 365 Days.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures approved by the Public Procurement & Concessions Commission.
- All prequalified contractors may obtain further information from Ministry of Public Works - Liberian Swedish Feeder Roads Project (Phase-III) Office and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below:
- Qualifications requirements include: All items listed as per ITB 13.1 including ITB 5.5 (a-to e) on the Bid Data Sheet.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested prequalified Contractors on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US\$ 100.00 (One Hundred US Dollar) per bid/each document. The method of payment will be by cash. The Bidding Documents will be sent by electronic means on the provision of a reliable electronic email address.
- The bidders or their authorized representatives are invited to attend a pre-bid meeting. Pre-bid meeting will be held on 11 October 2018. The time shall be at 10:00 AM and held at Ministry of Public Works, LSFRP's Office, Lynch Street, Monrovia, Liberia to clarify issues and to answer any matter that may be raised at that stage.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 1:00pm local time on 25 October 2018. Electronic bidding "shall not" be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 1:00pm Local time on 25 October 2018.
- All bids "shall" be accompanied by a "Bid Security" "as appropriate and if required of 2% in a freely convertible currency, or a minimum percentage of bid price in case of a Bid Security.
- The address referred to above is:  
 Torgbayeedah Oliver Zomonway  
 Project Director  
 Liberian Swedish Feeder Roads Project (Phase-III) Office  
 Ministry of Public works  
 P.O. Box 9011  
 South Lynch Street  
 Monrovia, Liberia  
 Email: tozomonway@gmail.com or oliverengineer78@yahoo.com



**DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT**  
**UNIVERSITY OF LIBERIA**  
 MONROVIA, LIBERIA  
 WEST AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Atty. Norris Tweah  
 Vice President for University Relations, UL

From: Fatu Ruth-Tipoteh (Mrs.)  
 Director

Through: Weade Kobbah-Boley  
 Vice President for Administration, UL

Cc: Mr. P. Garswa Jackson  
 Vice President for Fiscal Affairs & Finance, UL

Dr. William E. Allen  
 Vice President for Academic Affairs, UL

Files

September 19, 2018

RE: **Publication of Information for Bid (IFB)**

Please see information for Bid for Printing and Delivery of Souvenir Items for the University of Liberia.

We request that you publish the attached information from September 17 - October 10, 2018 in at least three (3) widely circulated local newspapers, UL Website, official UL Facebook page and any other means necessary.

University of Liberia  
 Republic of Liberia  
 Fendall Campus  
 Louisiana, Liberia

Kind regards,

**Section I INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS**  
**(Printing and Delivery of Souvenir Items)**  
**IFB No.: UL/NCB/017/18/12**

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its internally generated revenue for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 and intends to apply it towards the printing and delivery of souvenir items for its 99th Commencement Convocation in Louisiana, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the printing and delivery of the souvenir items.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Public Procurement & Concessions Act (PPCA), 2010 and approved by the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC), and is open to all eligible bidders in the Country.
- Specifications and quantity:

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit of Measure
1.	Printing and Delivery of Souvenir Items	Assorted	pieces

- Eligibility and Qualification requirements include:
  - Valid Government of Liberia Business Registration
  - Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
  - Must be registered with the PPCC Vendor Registrar
  - Past performance records in the last 4 years for similar job including the names and contact details of at least three (3) clients
  - Bids must be duly signed by the bidder or person authorized on behalf of the bidder.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain copy of the bidding document from the Procurement Department, Administrative Complex Building, Fendall Campus, AC1-09, University of Liberia for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) beginning September 17 - October 10, 2018, between the hours 10:00 a.m. to 4:00p.m. Mondays to Fridays and inspect sample of the souvenir items.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security valid for 90 days in the form of a bank guarantee in the amount of US\$2,000.00 (Two Thousand United States Dollars) from a reputable commercial bank operating under the laws of Liberia.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 p.m., October 10, 2018, and bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or representatives who choose to attend on October 10, 2018, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room, Room #: AC1-01, Administrative Complex Building, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:  
 In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:  
 "SEALED BID FOR THE PRINTING AND DELIVERY OF SOUVENIR ITEMS"  
 REF: IFB No.: UL/NCB/017/18/19
- Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address
- In the middle of the envelope, print the address below:  
 Procurement Department  
 Administrative Complex Building  
 Fendall Campus  
 Louisiana, Liberia
- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: Fatu Ruth-Tipoteh (Mrs.)  
 DIRECTOR  
 Procurement Department, UL

Approved: [Signature]  
 Vice President, UL Relations

# U.S.-based clergyman to raise funds for PAWLWAC

The Director of the International Mission Department of Ohio, the United States of America, Pastor Carlos Morris is visiting Liberia as guest of the Haywood Mission Institute and the Pentecostal Assembly of World Liberia West African Council or PAWLWAC.

Speaking during a welcome ceremony at the Haywood Mission Institute School campus, Old Road Monrovia, Pastor Morris, who heads the Greater Bethel Apostolic Church in Canton, Ohio USA, says he is in the country as a result of the expansion of the Pentecostal Assembly of World Liberia West African Council.

He explains his visit is geared toward accessing facilities of the PAWLWAC including, schools and to interact with the church's membership and leadership.

He says after his observation, he will return to the United States to set up a team to raise funds and assist in the reconditioning of facilities of the PAWLWAC and schools in Liberia.

He lauds authorities of the Haywood Mission Institute and the PAWLWAC for their dedicated services to God and the reception accorded him. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

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**Court upholds Parker's indictment**

By Winston W. Parley

The Criminal Court "C" in Monrovia has declined to dismiss an indictment drawn against former National Port Authority (NPA) Managing Director Ms. Matilda Parker and her former comptroller Mrs. Christiana Kpabar - Pailey for economic

dredging of the Greenville Port, Sinoe County.

The Court could not grant Ms. Parker's request to dismiss the indictment Wednesday morning, 26 September because it finds that she has already been arraigned and she entered a plea of not guilty, thus joining issues with

announced that he will take advantage of the statutes controlling.

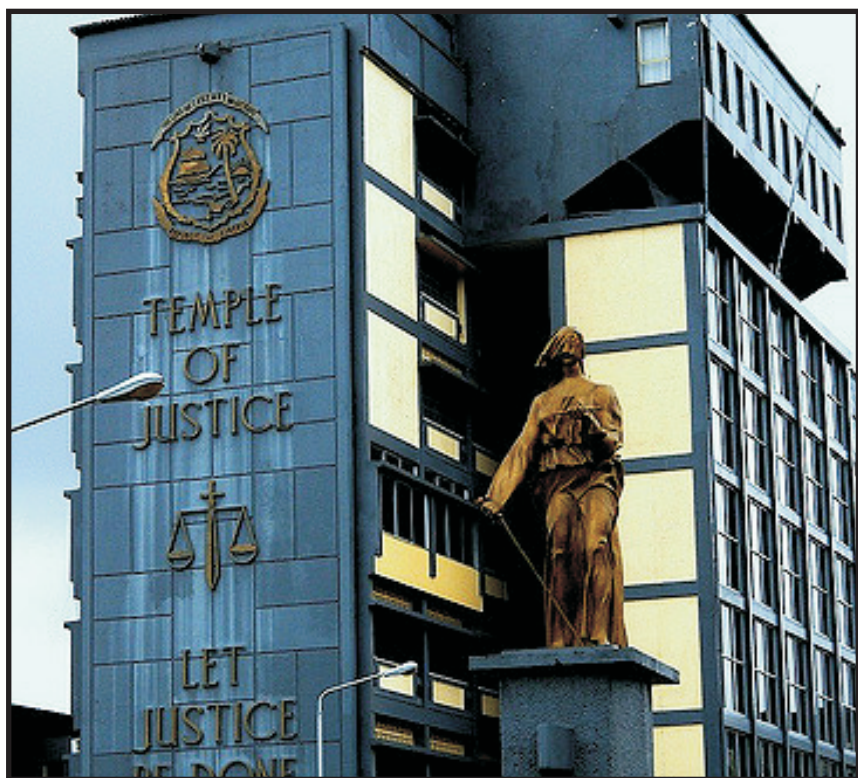
The former NPA Managing Director and her former comptroller were indicted on multiple charges of theft of property, economic sabotage and criminal conspiracy for allegedly defrauding government of US\$837,950.00 between July 2011 and December 2012.

The first trial of this case began in January 2016, but it was disrupted by prosecution's claims of jury tampering nearing the conclusion of the trial.

The entire jury panel was dissolved and a retrial was ordered by the Supreme Court this year following which the accused have waived trial by jury.

The prosecution does not share the defense's view that Ms. Parker is covered by executive immunity in this case, contending that the principal Mrs. Sirleaf who should have shielded Mrs. Parker "took away said immunity."

The State maintains that the fact that Mrs. Parker was subjected to criminal investigation and subsequent prosecution, President Sirleaf knew that the defendants' acts were contrary to her request for the ports to be dredged and security enhanced at the ports.



sabotage. Ms. Parker had argued in a 25 - count motion to dismiss the indictment that she deserves to be covered under executive immunity because she operated as agent of former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf for the removal of wrecks and

the State.

The case has been reassigned for hearing Thursday, 27 September with the State expected to begin production of witnesses.

But her lawyer Cllr. Arthur T. Johnson has taken exception to the court's decision and

**ECOWAS Parliament embarks on tours**

A 35 - member delegation from the ECOWAS Parliament is expected to visit the Liberian-Sierra Leonean (Bo-Waterside) and the Liberian-Guinean (Ganta) Borders, in Grand Cape Mount and Nimba Counties, respectively from September 28-30, 2018.

According to a press release, the Head of Delegation of Liberia to the ECOWAS Parliament, Bomi County District # 1 Representative Edwin Melvin Snowe, discloses the visit is intended to afford members of the Parliament an opportunity to assess conditions associated with the movement of the peoples of the community transiting from one country to the other.

Rep. Snow says the visit will help to strengthen trade and commerce across the region.

The visit is part of the Delocalized meeting of the Sub-Regional Parliament spearheaded by the Committee on Information, Technology and Broadcasting.

Members of the delegation will interact with locals, commuters and security personnel along the borderlines and also tour local media institutions across Liberia.

The Parliamentarians will also assess the movement of ECOWAS' citizens in Liberia

and how they are treated by Liberian security apparatus at the various areas of residence.

According to the release, the delegation will this Friday, September 28, depart Monrovia for the Liberian-Sierra Leonean (Bo-Waterside) Border in Grand Cape Mount County and leave for Ganta-Guinea Border in Nimba County on Saturday, September 29.

In May 1979, ECOWAS member States adopted their first protocol relating to the Free Movement of Persons, Residence and Establishment. It stipulated the right of ECOWAS citizens to enter, reside and establish economic activities in the territory of member states and offers a three-step roadmap of five years each to achieve freedom of movement of persons after fifteen years.

The first phase regards the right of visa-free entry, phase two dealt with the right of residency, and phase three concerns the right of establishment in another member State. The first phase has been fully implemented. The second phase, the right of residency, has also been implemented, given that citizens had obtained an ECOWAS residence card or permit in member States. The third phase, the right of establishment, is still under implementation in most member States. - Press Release

**LERC Commissioners meet with partners, donors**

The new Commissioners of the Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC) have held meetings with donors and partners in the energy sector to understand the various aspects of support to the regulator and ensure effective coordination.

LERC Chair, J. Aloysius Tarlue, Jr., together with Commissioners Thomas Q. Harris and Attorney Toga Nimely met with representatives of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), European Union (EU), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Rural Renewable Energy Agency (RREA), CLSG, National Authorizing Office, Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) as well as officials from the Ministry of Mines and Energy and State for Presidential Affairs, respectively.

The commissioners earlier met with the Management of

the Millennium Challenge Account Liberia (MCA-L) and the former Acting Commissioners of the LERC.

The Millennium Challenge Account-Liberia, with compact funding from the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) supports

the standing up of the LERC, including paying for all the administrative cost, various studies and the setting up of an information Management system that provides current data that the commission will use as a regulator. MCA-L support to the LERC runs until



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the end of the compact on January 19, 2021 when it is expected that the commission will become sustainable.

According to a press release, the European Union provides technical assistance to the LERC by seconding consultants to help the commission draft regulations.

As part of its functions, the LERC will set tariff for electricity, and issue licenses to electricity suppliers, making sure suppliers meet all requirements of quality services.

'Bringing in the Private sector into the electricity sector will create competition, improve access, guarantee quality and reduce

the cost of electricity,' says MCA-L Chief Executive Officer, Monie Captan.

LERC Chair Tarlue notes the commissioners were ready to continue to consult with all donors and partners to understand the reality in the sector as they begin work on the urgently needed regulatory framework.

Commissioner Harris underscores the Commission together with partners needs to work to improve poor standards in the electricity sector, while Commissioner Atty. Nimely thanks the partners for their support to the country's energy sector. - Press Release

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# Marketers clash outside court

By Winston W. Parley

Violence nearly erupted outside the Civil Liberia Court in Monrovia when two opposing groups standing for and against Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor's use of force to remove Liberia Marketing Association (LMA) officials from office held protests with clashing messages.

Markers loyal to Madam Taylor protested Wednesday, 26 September in demand of an audit against the administration of suspended LMA president Alice Yeebahn; while Alice's supporters staged a counter protest for her reinstatement before the audit is conducted.

This paper saw two men among the protesters in some physical encounters harsh verbal exchanges, but they were swiftly prevented from further attacking each other by some of the protesters on the scene.

A lady held a placard that read: "Alice must leave the L.M.A to save the institution." And man also held a placard reading: "We will not rest until Alice be Audited! Audited! Audited!"

One of those supporting Madam Taylor's decision, Cecelia Blamo says they do not want Alice, and demands that the suspended LMA official be audited.

She claims that Alice did not make use of money that they paid to the association, complaining that they lack restrooms and sweepers at their market places, and other things. She argues that Alice

cannot be in office while being audited.

But a supporter of Alice Mr. Monueh Dennis, a marketer from Redemption Day Market along the Somalia Drive accuses Vice President Taylor of allegedly removing Alice from office "unlawfully."

He alleges that Vice President Taylor "carried gunmen" to pull Alice out of office.

Dennis says they are not against audit, but they are against the manner in which Vice President Taylor moved in by allegedly using the very people that complained Alice to sit over the matter.

"We say no, you can't be a player, and be a referee," Dennis continues, saying it is better for different people to go and preside over the audit at LMA.

Madam Taylor suspended LMA president Madam Yeebahn; LMA vice president Abraham Barchue; and LMA Assistant Secretary General Madam Lawuo Hiami.

Madam Taylor's office says she suspended the officials due to alleged perennial allegations of corruption, financial mismanagement, misappropriation of resources and other acts inimical to the existence of the Association.

She set up an interim leadership at the LMA, including Mr. Jerry V. Geedeh and Madam Henrietta Zorpoe, representing the LMA Board; Madam Antoinette N. Mulbah, representing the Executive Committee of the LMA; Madam Cecelia G. Wuduwelh, representing the aggrieved party; and Mr. David Weah, representing LMA County Superintendents.

Some officers at the Civil Law Court have told this paper that the Court was due to make a decision Wednesday morning, 26 September following a complaint said to be filed by the suspended LMA officials.

But they indicated that the ruling was not made Wednesday morning due to some matter unrelated to the case at bar.



# Sa Leonean dupes Liberian partner of US\$10,000

By Emmanuel Mondaye

A fish sale partnership between a Sierra Leonean identified as Mustapha Layee and his Liberian female partner, Patricia Wilfred King turned soar Wednesday, 25th September when the former allegedly absconded to Freetown with US\$10, 000 business money.

The amount was intended to procure dried fish in the provincial city of Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County, near the Liberian-Sierra Leonean border.

Madam King made the disclosure to this paper at Klay Checkpoint in Bomi County, Western Liberia.

Patricia narrates that she and Mustapha Layee have been involved in buying dried fish and shipping them to the United States for the past three years, and the partnership has been favorable.

According to her, she had entrusted Layee with more than US\$10,000 to purchase dried fish of different species for export to their business partner in New Jersey, United States of America.

Patricia continues that after making contact via mobile phone with a local businesswoman Theresa Minor, who usually supplies them with dried fish from Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County, to ascertain whether Layee was in the county, Theresa informed her that she did not see the Sierra Leonean in the county.

She adds that based on the response from Madam Minor, she decided to go to the county herself to search for partner Mustapha Layee, but he was nowhere to be found.

Patricia narrates that she then extended her search to the Liberian-Sierra Leonean border at Bo Waterside in Grand Cape Mount, and while there she came across a female friend Lucy Thompson, traveling from Sierra Leone to Liberia who notified her that she saw Mustapha Layee in Freetown, Sierra Leone on the day she departed that country.

Patricia discloses that she immediately alerted both Liberian and Sierra Leonean border security officers about the situation, requesting their assistance in apprehending suspect Layee.

Meanwhile, Madam King discloses she is contemplating traveling to Freetown this weekend in further search for her business partner, whom she claims only owns 15 percent or an equivalent of US\$1,500 of the US\$10,000 in question.

She adds that the alleged criminal behavior of suspect Layee has caused a serious setback for her business especially, at a time when Liberia is experiencing financial crisis that is affecting businesses in the country.

In a related development, a Guinean national Baba Keita, 35, has reportedly fled Liberia with at least US\$7,000 entrusted in his care by his Liberian fiancée Tonia Duncan, a resident of Quiah Street, in Logan Town, Bushrod Island.

Tonia laments she credited the money from a local commercial bank in Monrovia to enable them improve their lives, but since her boyfriend Keita, who is a driver, went to buy a vehicle in Guinea in February 2018, he is yet to return to Liberia with either the car or the money. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

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# Protests mar Weah's

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country will continue to put pressure on the international community to make sure our moneys don't go free. How will you end corruption when just nine months in office your government can't account for our country's money? Y'all bring back our money," a female protester angrily demands.

Another protester also notes that he is not afraid of showing his face to the camera, pointing out that even upon his return to Liberia he will still push the same point he's pushing in front of the United Nations headquarters in New York.

He warns that they are

going to start another campaign in demand of President Weah's resignation if he fails to sign for the establishment of a War Crimes Court to bring people like Senator Prince Johnson to account for the so many lives that were taken away during the civil war.

Meanwhile, members of the pro-Weah group sang praises as they welcomed President Weah after his address before the U.N. General Assembly.

The pro - Weah protesters expressed thanks to the Liberian leader for the level of work he has done in less than one year. **--Edited by Winston W. Parley**

# Français

## Assemblée Générale de l'Onu : Weah exhorte le monde à la paix et à la réconciliation

Le président George Manneh Weah a appelé les dirigeants et les peuples du monde à s'inspirer de la vie immaculée et de l'héritage de l'ancienne icône de la paix et ancien président sud-africain, Nelson Mandela, pour promouvoir la paix mondiale.

Le Chef d'Etat Libérien s'est dit convaincu que sans la paix et la réconciliation le monde ne sera jamais stable, selon une dépêche en provenance de New York.

Le président Weah a prononcé un discours à la 73e Assemblée générale de l'Organisation des Nations Unies à New York, aux États-Unis, le lundi 24 septembre.

Le président Weah a déclaré que le feu président Mandela a fait preuve de grand altruisme, de tolérance et d'engagement envers la paix en Afrique du Sud et dans le monde après sa



libération de prison et son élection à la présidence de l'Afrique du Sud.

"C'est un honneur pour moi de vous présenter le plus grand héros de l'Afrique, Nelson Mandela, à l'occasion du centenaire de sa naissance", a déclaré le

Président Weah.

Selon lui, la dernière icône sud-africaine s'est battue pour libérer son peuple des chaînes de l'apartheid, pour éclairer l'esprit des Sud-Africains et leur a donné courage et espoir pour s'opposer à la discrimination

raciale.

"Il était un homme que des ennemis avaient privé de liberté pendant des décennies mais sans réussir à briser son esprit", a déclaré le président Weah, avant d'ajouter : "Quand il a été libéré de prison et est accédé au pouvoir, il a uni toutes les races". Pour le président Weah, l'ancien président de l'Afrique du Sud et lauréat du prix Nobel de la paix était un modèle et un héros pour beaucoup et a servi de réservoir de courage. C'est aussi une source d'inspiration quand l'on est face à de nombreuses diversités.

« Son exemple a été imité par beaucoup, y compris moi-même. J'ai suivi sa philosophie et accepté le rôle d'ambassadeur de la paix de l'UNICEF pour aider l'humanité. Cela m'a aidé à faire le tour du monde dans la quête de la paix et d'une

véritable réconciliation », a poursuivi le président Weah.

Il a déclaré que le regretté Mandela l'a beaucoup inspiré, c'est pourquoi il a travaillé sans relâche pour désarmer les enfants soldats qui ont pris part à la guerre civile libérienne et ramener la paix et la quiétude dans son pays.

Le président Weah a rappelé aux chefs d'Etats du monde la citation préférée de Mandela : « Les gens courageux ne craignent pas de pardonner pour la paix », appelant à la paix et à la réconciliation dans le monde entier.

Selon la dépêche publiée lundi, l'Afrique du Sud a fait don d'une statue aux Nations Unies en commémoration du centenaire de Mandela.

S'exprimant lors de la cérémonie à laquelle ont pris part tous les chefs d'Etat du monde, dont le président sud-africain Cyril Ramaphosa, le secrétaire général des Nations Unies, Antonio Guterres, a déclaré que la statue servirait de mémoire aux valeurs de Mandela.

En tant que révolutionnaire anti-apartheid sud-africain, leader politique et philanthrope, Mandela a été le premier chef d'Etat noir et président de l'Afrique du Sud de 1994 à 1999, ainsi que le premier dirigeant élu lors d'une élection démocratique pleinement représentative.

Nelson Mandela est né le 18 juillet 1918 à Mvezo, en Afrique du Sud, et est décédé le 5 décembre 2013.

## Abidjan : Alassane Ouattara annonce des discussions pour la réforme de la CEI.

Le président ivoirien Alassane Ouattara a annoncé mardi un "remaniement ministériel après les élections locales" d'octobre, à un forum économique du secteur privé à Abidjan.

"Bien évidemment, après les élections locales, il y aura un remaniement ministériel", a affirmé M.

Ouattara, à l'ouverture du forum économique "CGECI Academy", une plateforme d'échanges des entrepreneurs, initiée par le patronat ivoirien.

Une dizaine de membres du gouvernement sont candidats aux élections municipales et régionales prévues le 13 Octobre.

En janvier 2017, les

ministres qui n'ont pas été élus lors des législatives de décembre 2016, n'avaient pas été reconduits dans le gouvernement.

Face au secteur privé, Alassane Ouattara a assuré que la présidentielle de 2020, un sujet au centre des débats, se passera "dans d'excellentes conditions", promettant d'"y veiller personnellement".

Des "consultations avec la classe politique" sont prévues après les élections locales, pour la réforme de la Commission électorale indépendante (CEI), chargée d'organiser les élections en Côte d'Ivoire.

L'opposition ivoirienne, rejoint par le Parti démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire PDCI, (ex-allié au pouvoir), réclament une réforme de la composition de la CEI qui compte actuellement 17 membres dont quatre représentants des institutions, trois de la société civile, quatre représentants du parti au pouvoir et quatre de l'opposition.



Articles traduits

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Le 12 septembre, le porte-parole du gouvernement, Sidi Touré, avait affirmé que La campagne pour les élections locales en Côte d'Ivoire prévues le 13 octobre aura lieu du 28 septembre au 11 octobre, après un conseil des ministres.

"La durée de la campagne (des élections locales) est de 14 jours, du 28 septembre au 11 octobre", a indiqué M.

Sidi, ajoutant que 20.219 bureaux seront répartis dans 10.464 lieux de vote.

Cette élection concerne 6.498.295 électeurs inscrits sur la liste électorale, a-t-il rappelé.

Pour ces élections locales, la Commission électorale indépendante (CEI) a retenu 684 candidatures pour les élections municipales et 88 pour les régionales.



# Français

## Éditorial

### La réponse de l'ambassade américaine est rassurante

L'ambassade des Etats-Unis près de Monrovia a confirmé qu'elle a reçu une demande de la part du Gouvernement libérien pour l'aider à mener des investigations afin de faire la lumière sur la disparition présumée des 16 milliards de dollars libériens du port de Monrovia et de l'aéroport international. Cette confirmation est une bonne nouvelle.

Le gouvernement du Libéria et les Libériens sont perplexes quant à la façon dont les conteneurs et les sacs de l'argent imprimé à l'étranger et amené dans le pays ont pu disparaître dans la nature sans laisser de traces.

Les autorités ont fourni des informations contradictoires sur le chiffre en question. Le ministre de l'Information, Lenn Eugene Nagbe, a fait état de 16 milliards de dollars libériens, tandis que le ministre des Finances et de la Planification du développement, Samuel Tweah, a indiqué que le montant est inférieur à 1,5 milliard.

D'autre part, l'ancien gouverneur exécutif de la Banque centrale du Libéria, Milton Weeks, et les membres de la 53e législature libérienne, dont beaucoup font partie de la 54e législature, semblent être en désaccord sur le montant d'argent que les législateurs ont autorisé d'imprimer. L'ancien gouverneur Weeks affirme avoir été mandaté pour imprimer 10 milliards de dollars libériens supplémentaires, mais la 53ème législature dit n'avoir autorisé que 5 milliards de dollars.

Les récits contradictoires sur les fonds manquants ont créé une atmosphère de confusion générale au point que le public a du mal à croire que l'enquête en cours aboutira à des résultats tangibles.

Mais la confirmation de l'ambassade américaine à Monrovia d'avoir accusé réception d'une requête du gouvernement libérien est un ouf de soulagement. L'ambassade a déclaré : « Cette demande d'assistance a été transmise aux agences gouvernementales américaines concernées à Washington pour un examen plus approfondi ».

Le Gouvernement libérien sollicite l'aide du Federal Bureau of Investigation et du Département d'État américain, entre autres, pour faire la lumière sur le plus grand crime financier jamais commis dans l'histoire du pays.

Nous nous félicitons de la confirmation faite par l'ambassade des Etats-Unis ici et des efforts constants déployés pour répondre en conséquence au Gouvernement libérien. Nous croyons fermement que si le gouvernement américain est impliqué dans l'enquête en cours, la vérité jaillira et le cartel sera exposé et les responsables traduits en justice.

Bon nombre de Libériens doutaient déjà de la sincérité de l'enquête menée par le gouvernement libérien. Ils s'indignaient lorsque la police laissait de côté les membres du conseil des gouverneurs de la banque centrale et certains cadres de la police nationale du Libéria pour ne concentrer l'enquête que sur des personnes de petit calibre. Les agents des forces de l'ordre qui ont escorté les conteneurs de 20 pieds du port de Monrovia n'ont pas été interrogés.

Leur seul espoir de connaître la vérité réside uniquement dans la participation de l'Amérique, l'amie historique et traditionnelle du Libéria, à l'enquête. Nous avons besoin du FBI et du Département d'État des Etats-Unis pour nous aider à mener une enquête fiable dans ce qui semble un véritable casse-tête chinois, sinon le jeu des reproches mutuelles se poursuivra à jamais.

Comme les circonstances actuelles semblent indiquer que personne ne veut accepter la responsabilité de l'argent qui manque à l'appel, pas même l'actuel gouvernement, encore moins celui de Mme Sirleaf, il y a donc lieu qu'une enquête robuste soit menée pour situer les responsabilités, d'où la nature indispensable de la participation des Américains à cette enquête.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Elizabeth Drew

### Les jours les plus sombres de Trump

WASHINGTON, DC - Il ne fait pas bon être Donald J. Trump ces derniers temps. Certes, c'est le cas depuis déjà un moment, mais la période actuelle se révèle à ce jour la plus difficile pour le président américain.

C'est d'ailleurs visible chez Trump. Ses collaborateurs peinent à le museler - par tous les moyens autres que physiques. Et comme l'on pouvait s'y attendre, ils n'y parviennent pas totalement. Plusieurs journalistes fiables rapportent que les assistants de Trump à la Maison-Blanche (qui bien souvent ne savent tenir leur langue) décrivent un président américain esseulé et acculé.

Le sentiment de solitude du président n'est pas surprenant, Trump entretenant peu d'amitiés proches. Il ne cesse de prouver que chez lui, la loyauté est à sens unique. Quasiment aucun de ceux qui travaille pour lui ne peut se sentir à l'abri. À l'exception sans doute de sa fille Ivanka, aucun n'est certain d'échapper à cette colère qui finit par chasser des lieux de si nombreux collaborateurs.

L'habituel apitoiement de Trump sur son propre sort s'est intensifié ces derniers temps. Il continue de se lamenter que le procureur général Jeff Sessions se soit récusé lui-même dans l'enquête sur l'ingérence russe au cours de l'élection de 2016. Mais le président Américain a de plus gros problèmes encore. Son ancien directeur de campagne Paul Manafort a non seulement été jugé coupable de huit chefs d'accusation de fraude et d'évasion fiscale, mais il a également décidé, faisant craindre le pire à Trump, de coopérer avec Robert Mueller, conseiller spécial chargé d'enquêter sur l'affaire russe et sur les efforts déployés par le président américain pour faire obstacle à l'investigation autour de la question de savoir si sa campagne (voire son administration) aurait conspiré avec le Kremlin. Il apparaît clair que l'insatiable Mueller a fait pression sur Manafort pour que celui-ci coopère afin d'éviter un deuxième procès coûteux.

Trump a laissé entendre qu'il pourrait gracier Manafort, mais il a été conseillé au président - qui pour une fois a prêté une oreille attentive - qu'accorder cette grâce avant les élections de mi-mandat au Congrès en novembre se révélerait catastrophique pour les Républicains, et par conséquent pour lui-même. Manafort semble avoir considéré qu'il ne pourrait ni bénéficier d'une grâce plus tard - Trump étant d'ici là susceptible de faire face à une sérieuse menace judiciaire - ni se permettre un autre procès. Son plaider coupable négocié avec Mueller lui retire la plupart de ses biens immobiliers ainsi que plusieurs dizaines de millions de dollars, mais Manafort a préféré essayer d'importantes pertes financières que s'exposer au risque de passer le reste de sa vie derrière les barreaux.

En plus de voir réduite sa possible condamnation à de la prison ferme (dans une mesure inconnue), Manafort a également souhaité bénéficier d'un arrangement qui assure la protection de sa famille. Il est en effet question pour lui de livrer des informations sur plusieurs oligarques russes proches du président Vladimir Poutine - des individus connus pour ne pas se montrer particulièrement tendres avec ceux qui les trahissent.

Difficulté supplémentaire, l'avocat de longue date de Trump, Michael Cohen, a lui aussi accepté de coopérer avec les procureurs. Cohen sait beaucoup de choses sur les pratiques d'affaires précédentes de Trump, et a déjà révélé qu'il avait organisé le versement d'argent à plusieurs femmes avec lesquelles Trump avait eu des relations sexuelles (ce que le président nie toutefois) pour acheter leur silence avant l'élection présidentielle. Cette situation expose également Trump à un risque judiciaire.

Et voici désormais que la nomination de Brett Kavanaugh, choisi par Trump pour remplacer le juge à la Cour suprême Anthony Kennedy parti en retraite, ne tient plus qu'à un fil et pourrait être annulée à tout moment. Kavanaugh était un choix risqué dès le départ. Sélectionné sur une liste réunissant d'autres candidats conservateurs potentiels, fournie au président par la Federalist Society de droite, Kavanaugh s'est démarqué par sa conception dissonante concernant le pouvoir présidentiel. Il a en effet écrit qu'il considérait que le président ne saurait faire l'objet d'enquêtes ou de poursuites dans l'exercice de sa fonction.

Cette conception selon laquelle le président serait au-dessus des lois est unique (de ce que nous savons à ce jour) parmi les universitaires compétents en matière de droit. Sa référence à Trump est évidente. Par ailleurs, les opinions de Kavanaugh se situent très à droite sur d'autres questions, et il les a exprimées sans détour lors de ses audiences de confirmation. Sur d'autres sujets, tels que le droit à l'avortement, il s'est montré plus évasif dans ses réponses, et certaines preuves crédibles indiquent qu'il aurait menti à la Commission judiciaire du Sénat sur d'autres sujets encore.

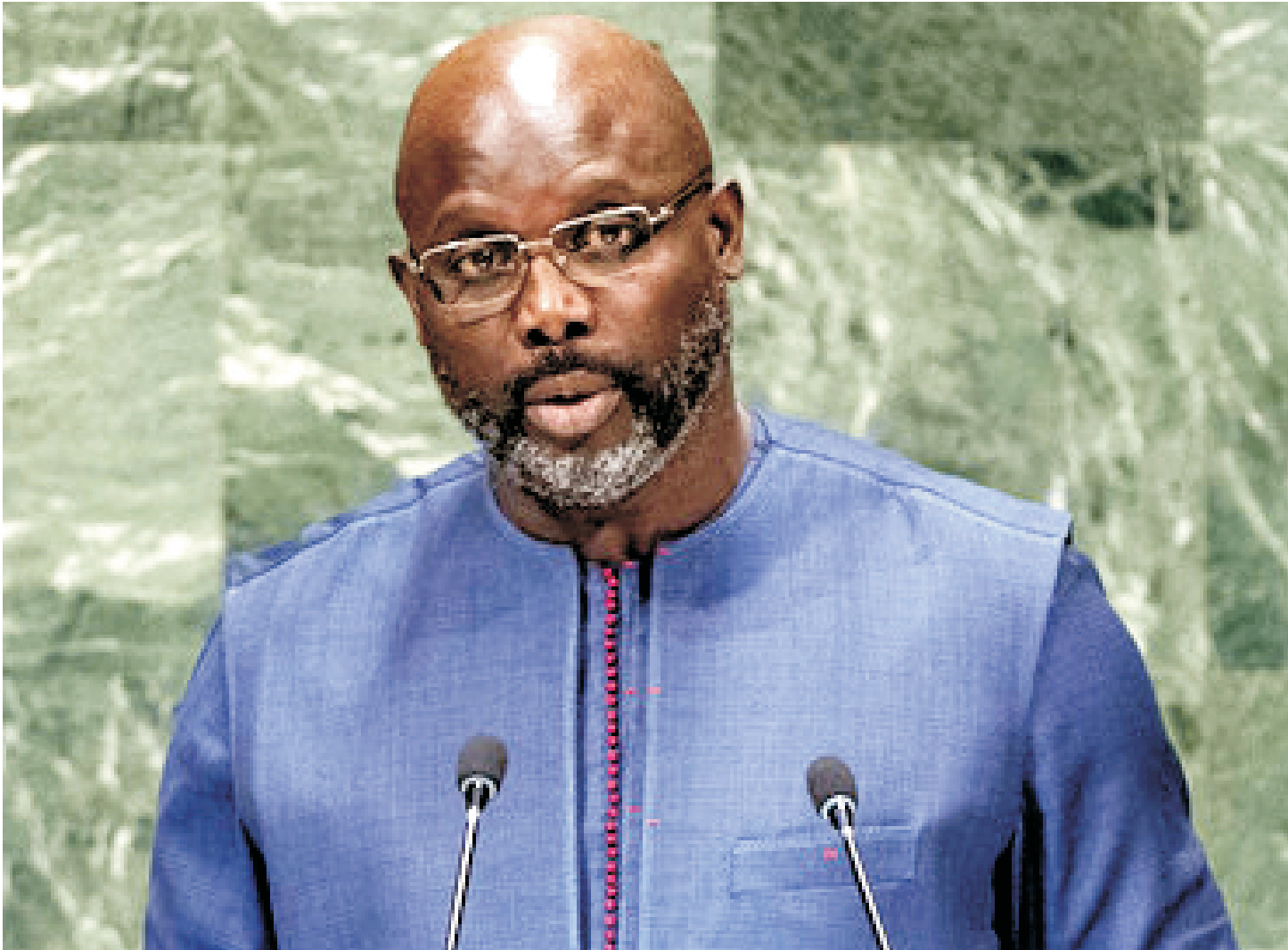
Pour autant, la quasi-totalité des Républicains de la commission étaient prêts à acter rapidement sa nomination : même s'il s'agissait d'un choix impopulaire, Kavanaugh bénéficiait du soutien de la base républicaine, y compris d'une majeure partie de la droite chrétienne. Cet important appui est resté solide même après que Christine Blasey Ford, professeur en Californie, soit sortie de l'anonymat en accusant Kavanaugh de l'avoir agressée sexuellement, sous l'emprise de l'alcool, lorsqu'ils étaient au lycée. Les responsables républicains désespéraient de voir Kavanaugh confirmé avant les élections de mi-mandat, craignant que leurs électeurs restent chez eux par déception voire colère qu'il ne soit pas confirmé - auquel cas leur pire cauchemar, une prise de contrôle démocrate au Sénat et à la Chambre des représentants, risquait de devenir réalité. Telle était la situation lorsque les médias ont révélé qu'une autre femme accusait également Kavanaugh de comportements sexuellement abusifs, ces accusations s'étant toutefois révélées moins fondées, du moins dans un premier temps.

Est venue s'ajouter à cette agitation la publication du dernier livre de Bob Woodward, intitulé Fear, qui (à l'instar de précédents ouvrages sur Trump, mais dans une plus grande mesure et avec davantage de profondeur) livre le portrait dévastateur d'une Maison-Blanche dysfonctionnelle. L'ouvrage - de même qu'une tribune libre rédigée anonymement par un haut responsable de l'administration dans le New York Times - explique jusqu'où doivent aller les collaborateurs de Trump pour empêcher un président indifférent, ignorant et paranoïaque de commettre impulsivement l'irréparable.

Un sondage du Wall Street Journal/NBC News publié le dimanche 23 septembre annonce les Démocrates devant les Républicains pour l'élection de la Chambre, à hauteur de 12 points de pourcentage, soit une marge considérable. Et il semble de plus en plus plausible que les Démocrates reprennent également le contrôle du Sénat. Trump avait espéré ne pas représenter un problème dans ces courses électorales, mais c'est inéluctable. Les Républicains ne disposent pas véritablement d'un autre pilier.

Même si les Démocrates s'emparent seulement de la Chambre, l'existence va devenir beaucoup plus compliquée pour Trump, compte tenu de la vague d'investigations que la nouvelle majorité lancerait alors certainement, et de possibles procédures d'impeachment. Et si les Démocrates venaient à reprendre également le Sénat, Trump pourrait se retrouver en phase terminale. C'est d'ailleurs peut-être déjà le cas.

## Full Text: President George Manneh Weah addresses the general debate of the 73rd Session of the General Assembly of the UN (New York, September 25 – October 01, 2018).



*President George Manneh Weah*

I am honored to address this 73rd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on behalf of the government and people of Liberia. Allow me, first of all, to congratulate you, Madam President, and the government and people of Ecuador, for your election as president of the 73rd session of this august assembly. With our eyes on history, Liberia takes special note, and hails your selection, as the fourth woman President of the General Assembly.

Let me also express appreciation to Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, whose dynamism and farsighted leadership continues to strengthen the United Nations in the face of perennial global challenges.

Madame President, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen: Just two weeks ago, we joined millions in Ghana and around the world to bid a final farewell to former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who devoted his life to peacemaking and conflict resolution, a calling at which he was renowned and successful. With his passing, Africa has lost one of its most illustrious sons, and the world has lost one of the most outstanding diplomats of our time. May his soul rest in perfect peace.

**Madam President, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:**

Late last year, Liberians participated in presidential and legislative elections, the results of which represented a major shift in the underlying fundamentals of the Liberian political dynamic. In an orderly, lawful, and a peaceful manner, Liberians voted in overwhelming numbers for a Change for Hope. This was the first time in 73 years that Liberians enjoyed a peaceful transfer of power from one democratically-elected government to another.

At the end of the long campaign, when the results were announced after the run-off, it became clear that the pendulum swung in the direction of youthful leadership, and the paradigm had shifted in favor of change and transformation.

The United Nations and its various bodies, as well as regional organizations and many of our bilateral partners and friends, were direct witnesses to the maturity of the Liberian electorate, our respect for law and order, and the successful democratic processes.

As standard bearer of the winning Coalition for Democratic Change, the mantle and responsibility of leading this transformation, therefore, devolved upon me when I was inaugurated as the 24th president of Liberia on January 22, 2018. The challenges of leadership are enormous, but in each and every one of these challenges, I see opportunities to make things better, and

to bring permanent improvement to the lives of all Liberians, as we devise policies and programs that will have a lasting and positive impact on the lives of our citizens.

**Madam President:**

The umbrella program under which we intend to pursue prosperity is the Pro-Poor Agenda for Development and Prosperity, our national development plan for the next five years. This is not an agenda only for the poor; it is for the benefit of all Liberians. But it is a policy framework that gives priority to the alleviation of poverty, and its core objective and focus is to reduce the marginalization of the most vulnerable, whilst at the same time creating a conducive atmosphere for the middle- and upper-income Liberian to grow and prosper.

We want to build a harmonious society, based on the goal of economic empowerment, especially for the underprivileged. Our Pro-Poor Agenda is therefore designed to give power to the people, promote economic diversification, protect sustainable peace and encourage good governance. We appeal to our friends, bilateral partners, and private investors to support this agenda.

**Madame President:**

As we focus on action plans to implement our development agenda, we are acutely aware of the vulnerability of our youthful population, who are clearly disadvantaged as a result of high unemployment and a lack of access to quality education opportunities. Our plan is to reverse their unfortunate situation and make them productive citizens through the provision of adequate educational facilities at the high school and college levels for those who still have interest in pursuing academic programs.

For those youths left behind due to the disastrous civil crisis and who have outgrown their school years, my government is investing in technical vocational education and training programs to build their entrepreneurial and marketable skillsets.

Being conscious of the importance and impact of infrastructure on social and economic development, my government has identified investment in roads, energy, and ports as our key priority, and is therefore soliciting funding and other technical expertise to undertake these projects in pursuit of our goal to connect our cities and towns, and strengthen our economy.

**Madame President:**

Agriculture is Liberia's comparative advantage and has also been identified as one of our major poverty-alleviation instruments because it will lead us to self-sufficiency in food production and self-employment, as

well as open doors for industrialization. With the implementation of a new Special Economic Zone, we intend to attract labor-intensive light manufacturing.

**Madame President:**

Drawing from the experience of the 2014 Ebola Epidemic that took the lives of thousands of Liberians and health workers, we intend to efficiently and properly organize our healthcare delivery system, to ensure that the health and wellbeing of our people is improved.

Finally, we are placing emphasis on national security in order to enable our people [to] move and live freely without fear. With the recent withdrawal of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Liberia, we are now in charge of our own security. We thank you for the sacrifices that you have made in securing and maintaining the peace in Liberia after our prolonged civil conflict.

In this regard, we would like to express our personal appreciation to Mr. Farid Zarif of Afghanistan who, as special representative for Liberia and the last head of the United Nations Mission in Liberia from 2015 to 2018, supervised an orderly withdrawal of troops, while simultaneously securing the peaceful environment that allowed a very robust political campaign to take place without incident.

**Madam President:**

My country has finally turned the corner, with more years of peace than preceding years of war, guided by our peace agreement signed in Accra 15 years ago. We thank the members and the Security Council of the United Nations for the UNMIL Peacekeeping Mission which brought stability and helped us rebuild our institutions and communities. We are a peacekeeping success story, and we are grateful for the support given.

But a nation which has experienced civil war must never take peace for granted and forget the long shadow that years of conflict still cast over people's lives. We must realize and appreciate that ours is still a fragile peace. Our people across the country still bear the scars of conflict. We, therefore, intend to initiate a series of national peace dialogues throughout Liberia. We must restart those difficult conversations at the local level, and include our youth, so that they - and we - do not repeat the costly mistakes of the past. It is clear to me that these frank exchanges are an essential step in bringing lasting healing, reconciliation, and unity to our people. Our agenda is not one of division, but rather, it is an agenda that intends to provide an enabling environment for a united and reconciled people to be able to benefit and prosper from the economic dividends of peace.

**Madam President:**

I recall with humility that I was once selected to serve as UNICEF peace ambassador, a mission which I undertook with passion, conviction, and commitment to support and inform the world of the principles [for] which this organization stands. I was also privileged to be appointed as peace ambassador for Liberia, a mandate to apply these principles, preserving and maintaining the peace which your peacekeeping mission had so successfully restored. I deeply and personally cherished these principles.

And so today, in closing, I want to reaffirm the support of my government for the work of the United Nations in striving to achieve global peace, counterterrorism, UN reform, security, good governance, and the advancement of the principle of universal human rights.

We further reiterate our commitment to the rule of law, the alleviation of poverty, gender equality, the elimination of gender-based violence, and the empowerment of women, girls, and young people.

I also believe that the overwhelming mandate I received from the Liberian people is a mandate to end corruption in public service and I remain fully committed to this task.

**Madam President:**

With your generous assistance and strong support, as well as that of other international institutions and member states, and with God's blessing, we will fulfill our agenda to lift our people from poverty to prosperity. I thank you.

# Liberia's peace still fragile

By Winston W. Parley

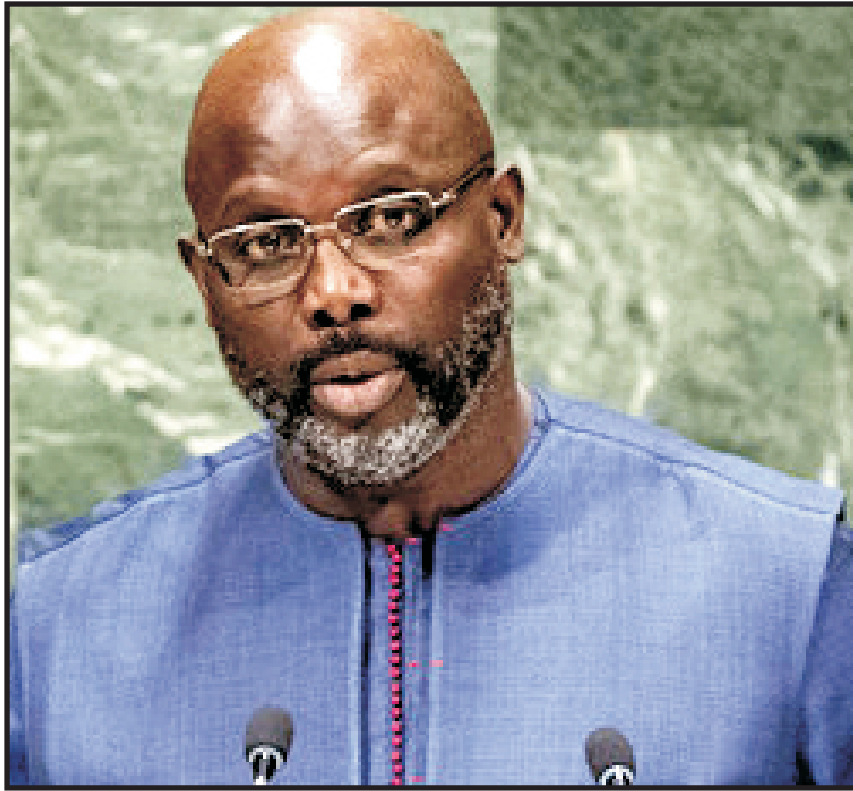
President George Manneh Weah has told the United Nations General Assembly that Liberia's peace is still a fragile, stressing that a nation which has experienced civil war must never take peace for granted and forget the long shadow that years of conflict still casts over people's lives.

He however expresses appreciation to the UN for sacrifices made here in its peacekeeping mission, which brought stability and helped build Liberia's institutions and communities.

"We must realize that ours is still a fragile peace," he says, Mr. Weah continues that his government is placing emphasis on national security to enable Liberians to move about freely without fear.

"We further reiterate our commitment to the rule of law, the alleviation of poverty, gender equality, elimination of gender based violence and the empowerment of women, girls and young people," he continues.

He adds that he wants to build a harmonious society here based on the goals of economic empowerment in his



first address before the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the United States.

"We want to build a harmonious society based on the goals and economic empowerment especially for the underprivileged," Mr. Weah said Wednesday, 26 September.

Mr. Weah assures the UN General Assembly that he remains fully committed to a task given him overwhelming

by Liberians to end corruption in public service.

He appeals to Liberia's friends, bilateral partners and private investors to support his government's agenda, informing them of how he is fully aware of the vulnerability of the nation's youthful population.

According to him, Liberia is clearly disadvantaged as a result of high unemployment and lack of access to quality

educational opportunity.

"Our plan is to revive the unfortunate situation and make them productive citizens through the provision of adequate educational facility at the high school and college level," he says.

Mr. Weah says he sees opportunities to make things better to bring permanent improvement to the lives of all Liberians.

According to him, his government is devising policies and programs that will have lasting positive impact on the lives of citizens.

For those interested in pursuing academic programs and those left behind due to the civil crisis, Mr. Weah assures that his government is investing in technical and vocational programs to build their entrepreneurial and marketable skills.

He adds that his government's pro - poor agenda is designed to give power to the people, promote economic diversification, and protect sustainable peace.

Mr. Weah discloses that government's pro - poor agenda is a policy framework

that gives priority to the alleviation of poverty, with a core objective and focus to reduce the marginalization of the most vulnerable [while] at the same time creating conducive atmosphere for the middle and upper income Liberians to grow and prosper."

Further President Weah stresses that agriculture is Liberia's comparative advantage, and it has also been identified as one of his government's major poverty alleviation instruments.

Being conscious of the importance and impact of infrastructure and economic development, he says his government has identified investment in roads, energy and ports as its key priorities.

He adds that government is soliciting funding and technical expertise to undertake these projects.

Drawing lessons from the impact of Ebola here, Mr. Weah says government is trying to efficiently and properly organize the health system to ensure the health and wellbeing of the people are improved.

## I regret my role

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Former Military Police commander of the defunct rebels National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) in Gbarnga, Bong County, Richard Saah Gbolie says he regrets his role in the 14 years of civil war in Liberia, his first expression of remorse since the brutal civil war ended here more than two decades ago.

The disbanded NPFL was commanded by jailed ex-president Charles Taylor, who is serving a 50-year sentence in Britain for aiding and abetting former RUF rebels in Sierra Leone.

Mr. Gbolie, a former

lawmaker of Margibi County, also regrets war came to a country that was once peaceful and enjoyed coexistence among its citizens.

His comments are in direct response to allegation levied against him by Montserrado County Electoral District#4 Representative Roustonlyn Dennis, that Gbolie, during his days in Gbarnga, Bong County many innocent people died in cells under his control.

Gbolie commanded the defunct NPFL Military Police in Gbarnga, Bong County, where Mr. Taylor had his main base.

Addressing a news conference Wednesday, 26

September at his residence in the commercial district of Paynesville outside Monrovia, the ex-rebel commander claims at no time soldiers confined in his custody died, threatening to take legal action against Representative Dennis to substantiate her allegation.

Gbolie, rather infuriated, says he's going to court to claim defamation of character, stressing that his action could well commence a War Crimes Court in Liberia, as being requested by many Liberians, particularly victims of atrocities.

Representative Dennis had phoned on a local talk show, ordering Mr. Gbolie to shut up on grounds that he does not have moral grounds to comment on Monday's peaceful protest by groups of Liberians leading the campaign, "Bring Back Our Money."

The protesters, who petitioned the United Nations, the African Union, ECOWAS, the European Union and the United States Embassy in Monrovia, are calling on the International Community to prevail on the Liberian authorities to produce containers and bags of newly printed Liberian bank notes, totaling about 16 Billion that alleged went missing from the Freeport of Monrovia and the Roberts International Airport,

respectively.

Rep. Dennis insisted that Gbolie keeps quiet because of his alleged 'deadly role' in the civil wars especially, in Bong County where he (Gbolie) was in charge of prison compound and inmates died on a daily basis.

The ex-rebel commander, who had turned to farming since, laments "Enough is enough! She will prove allegations against me. She has to prove before the court to show case where I killed people and detained people and they died in prison. This is grave accusation that should be proven and I think the establishment of the War Crimes Court will start with us. My action will put to an end the widespread lies and ramous about me."

Gbolie claims he and all Liberians have regretted the war era on grounds that the bloody hostilities did not change anything; instead, it was used to put brothers at each other, and family against family.

Commenting on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report and mounting calls for the establishment of War Crimes Court, he says the TRC report is a trash that only belongs to the dustbin.

According to him, the process of the TRC was more

political than reconciliatory because the commission did more harm than good, noting the TRC process failed to reconcile Liberians.

He argues if anyone or ex-warlord should be carried before a War Crimes Court, an independent commission should be established to gather evidence.

The first Liberian civil war was an internal conflict from 1989 until 1997. The conflict killed about 250,000 people and eventually led to intervention by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and subsequently the United Nations. The peace did not last long, and in 1999 the Second Liberian Civil War broke out, ended in September 2003 with a truce brokered in Accra, Ghana, among key warring parties and civil society groups.

Ex-warlords and former fighters in Liberia are totally against calls for the establishment of war and economic crimes court for the country to bring perpetrators of heinous crimes and crimes against humanity to book.

They continue to issue threats of a return to conflict if such court were established, comments many say are mere scare tactics to escape justice.

-Editing by Jonathan Browne



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# Protests mar Weah's speech at UN



By Ben P. Wesee

U.S. - based Liberians held protests for and against President George Manneh Weah and his delegates outside the United Nations Headquarters in New York following his address Wednesday, 26 September.

In a live video on Facebook, two opposing groups of

Liberians were seen standing on the sidewalk in New York outside the United Nations headquarters with flyers and posters.

Anti - Weah protesters were calling for the establishment of War and Economic Crimes Court in Liberia, a subject Mr. Weah's address to the UN General Assembly did not

touch.

It has been one of the longstanding demands by some Liberians both home and abroad to prosecute those that committed or sponsored the commission of war crimes during Liberia's brutal civil wars here.

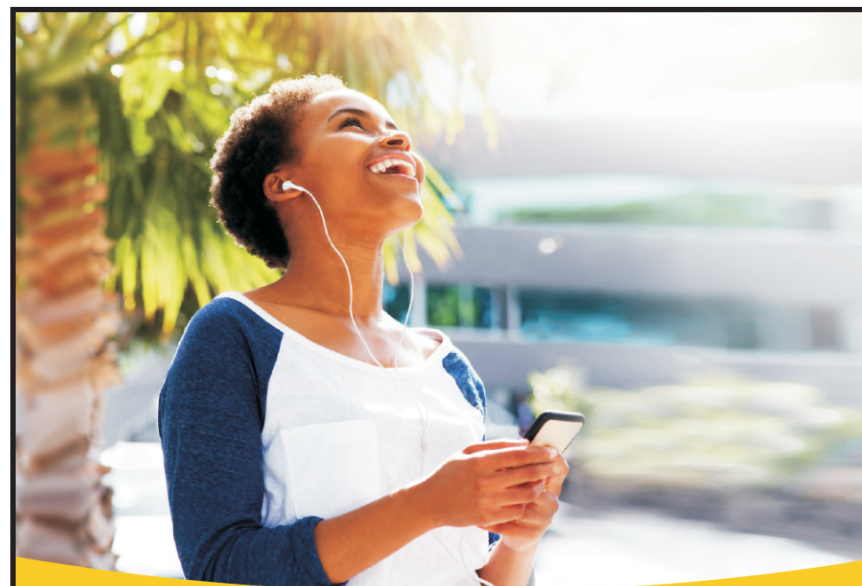
One of the protesters seen on a live Facebook video laments that his parents were killed during the war.

He vows not to rest until rebel leaders are made to face justice. He complains that some of those that committed crimes are now working in government.

Another protester was seen shouting: "Bring back our money," and differed with President Weah's message to world leaders committing to end corruption in public service under his watch.

The protester argues that under Mr. Weah's watch, an alleged LD\$16 billion disappeared in thin air.

"We outside the



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# Humiliated Los Blancos blow huge chance to surpass Barcelona

Game is over and the final score is Sevilla 3-0 Real Madrid. Here is the match report, Los Blancos miss the chance to go top as Marcelo forced off with injury.

Sarabia steals the ball from Casemiro in midfield after a sloppy pass from Marcelo and he immediately looks up and sends an incisive pass into the channel for Navas who gets into the penalty area and

squares it for Silva!

A Madrid corner-kick is cleared by Sevilla who get it immediately to Navas on the right who busts a gut to get into the penalty area. The captain fires a shot at Courtois who parries it right into the centre of the penalty area for Silva who arrived in the area slightly after Navas.

Unbelievable scenes at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan as Sevilla find the net yet again! A

short corner-kick routine allows Banega to deliver the ball into the box from a different angle. Varane meets the cross with a clearing header but only finds Vazquez just outside the penalty area. The midfielder volleys a pass forward and finds Ben Yedder onside!

Modric does well to break into the penalty area and chip the ball over Vaclik, but the newly crowned best player in the world is unable to keep



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