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# The New Dawn

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Mr. Charles Sirleaf

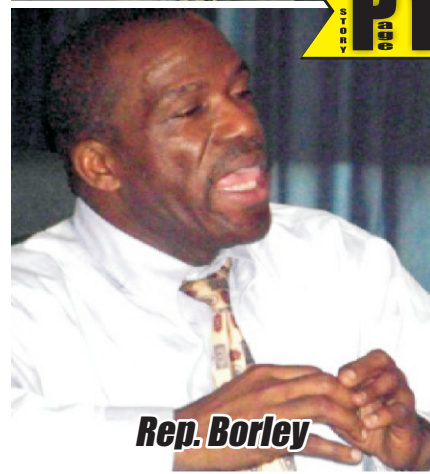


Mr. Cyrus Badio

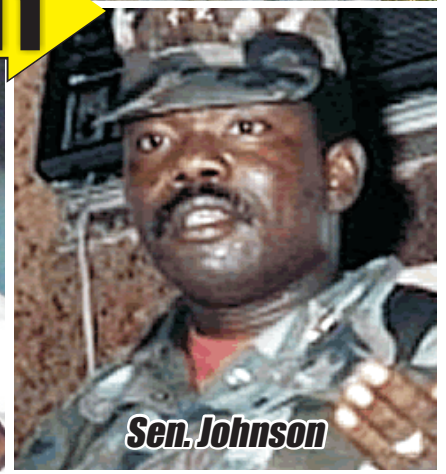
# Charles Sirleaf, others dropped

## -from travel ban

# LCC opposes War Crimes Court



Rep. Borley



Sen. Johnson



# Continental News

## SA finance minister quits over scandal

South Africa's finance minister Nhlamhla Nene has quit after admitting meeting members of the Gupta family, who have been accused of corruption.

President Cyril Ramaphosa said he accepted the resignation "in the interests of good governance".

The Guptas have been accused of working with former President Jacob Zuma to secure government contracts and determine cabinet appointments.

Both the Guptas and Mr Zuma deny the allegations.

Last week, Mr Nene told a judge-led inquiry into the alleged influence of the Guptas, known as the Zondo commission, about meetings that he had previously denied.

There is no suggestion that he had done anything illegal in meeting the businessmen during his stint as deputy finance minister and finance minister in Mr Zuma's government, but he has been under intense political pressure to step down since making the admission.

Mr Zuma sacked him as finance minister in 2015, but he was reappointed by the current president in February.

Rumours of his intended resignation on Monday led to a fall in the value of South Africa's currency, the rand, but it has since recovered its value.

Mr Nene has been replaced by former central bank chief

Tito Mboweni. This is the fifth change of finance minister since 2014.

What was so controversial about the meetings?

Mr Nene met the Guptas at their businesses and home at least six times between 2009 and 2014.

On the face of it a finance minister talking to top business people may seem normal, but

the Guptas have been accused of using meetings, in their residence in a posh suburb of Johannesburg, to influence political decisions.

Former Deputy Finance Minister Mcebisi Jonas has told the Zondo commission that in 2015 he had been offered 600m rand (\$41m; £32m) if he accepted the post of finance minister at a meeting at the Johannesburg mansion. The Guptas denied the allegation.

After revealing the details of his own meetings, Mr Nene issued a public apology saying: "I am human too, I do make mistakes, including those of poor judgement."

Is this a blow to Mr Ramaphosa?

Mr Ramaphosa, who

became president in February, brought Mr Nene back into the cabinet in order to restore confidence in the reputation of the country's economic management.

It had received a battering under Mr Zuma's presidency.

In his speech accepting the resignation, Mr Ramaphosa said that Mr Nene had "defended the cause of proper financial management and clean governance".

But he had accepted the resignation because Mr Nene feared his testimony "detracted from the important task of serving the people of South Africa as we work to re-establish public trust in government", Mr Ramaphosa said.-BBC



Image copyrightGETTY IMAGES: Nhlamhla Nene became finance minister for the second time in February

## Top Kenyan news anchor to be charged with murder

Kenya's public prosecutor has confirmed that TV journalist Jacque Maribe and her fiancé will be charged with the murder of a woman in Nairobi.

Jackie Maribe, a news anchor with Citizen Television, is expected to plead on Monday after a mental assessment is done.

Ms Maribe and her fiancé Joseph Kuria Irungu were in court together for the first

time after appearing separately in previous hearings.

The court heard that both will be charged with the murder of businesswoman Monica Kimani, whose body was discovered in a bathtub last month with her hands tied behind her back and her throat slit.

But the prosecution want to confirm Jackie's state of mind through a medical assessment before formally charging her.

A police affidavit presented previously in court said Mr Kuria was positively identified to have been at the home of the deceased on the night of the murder, and that he drove Ms Maribe's car to the deceased's residence.

Police are convinced that they were together on the night Ms Kimani was murdered. Police also say they recovered crucial evidence from the detained couple's shared apartment.-BBC



## Mozambique arrests Chinese rhino horn trafficker

Mozambican police have arrested a Chinese citizen at Maputo International Airport as he attempted to smuggle nine rhinoceros horns out of the country.

The 49-year-old Chinese citizen, whose name was not revealed, had wrapped the horns in aluminium foil and hid them among foodstuffs in

and there were other members of the gang who brought the rhino horns to him, police said.

The police are trying to find the others, who may tell them where the rhinos were killed.

Since both species of African rhinoceros, the black and the white, are believed to be extinct in southern



his suitcase, according to the spokesperson for the Maputo City Police Command, Orlando Mudumane.

Mr Mudumane says the horns were discovered when the suspected trafficker attempted to check in his suitcase.

The police suspect that the arrested man was part of a criminal network. He was living in the capital, Maputo,

Mozambique, it is likely that the horns came from rhinos poached in neighbouring countries such as South Africa.

The final destination of the Chinese citizen was Vietnam, where there is a thriving rhino horn market.

This is the fourth seizure of rhino horns in Maputo this year.-BBC

# EDITORIAL

## The media is above the fray

**POLITICIANS IN AFRICA** or in every part of the globe usually take pleasure in bashing the media as a soft target for criticism even for selfish reasons. Whether in ruling establishment or from the opposition bloc, they always ascribe to themselves the qualification to set standards for journalists - standards that suit their own interpretation of issues.

**THE MEDIA IN Liberia** found itself in the firing line recently at a forum organized by the Association of Liberian Journalists in the Americas or ALJA. Held in the U.S. State of Minnesota, the forum brought opposition leader Alexander B. Cummings and Government Information Minister Lenn Eugene Nagbe together face-to-face to discuss the reported missing 16 billion Liberian banknotes.

**BOTH SIDES USED** the media as a whipping boy to put forth their respective arguments, beginning with the former corporate executive-turned politician Cummings, taking the stage.

**"WE WILL DEPEND** on you, journalists, to follow up this story so that the government provides answers to questions that demand answers: who ordered the printing of the missing money? How much exactly was printed? Where was it printed? Who took charge of the money once it entered the country? Did it go through the proper channels and processes at the Central Bank before being injected into the official money supply?" he unleashed the barrage of questions.

**HE NOTED THAT** a strong and independent media that monitors those in power and provides accurate information helps voters to hold corrupt politicians to account.

**BUT INFORMATION MINISTER** Nagbe, who officially put the moneys in question at 16 billion Liberian dollars, thinks the media is being influenced by opposition politicians not to follow the rules but to remain instruments to advance selfish and pecuniary political gains and interest.

**"THE NEW THREATS** to freedom of speech", he says, "includes the concerted efforts by some political actors, particularly those in the opposition interfering with policies of media entities, thereby transforming them not to follow the rules but to remain instruments to advance selfish and pecuniary political gains and political interest."

**NAGBE FURTHER CHARGES** that shirking the responsibility of being independent and selling out to politicians is by itself a threat to free media in Liberia, and roars, "Media controlled by political forces whose interest may be averse to the national interest is a creeping menace that must be stopped."

**WE LIKE TO** remind here that the independent media, usually referred to as the Fourth Estate, does not hold allegiance to any particular group - whether government or opposition politicians. Rather, we bark in the interest of the common good. In short, our loyalty is to the state, the common patrimony.

**WE ARE FULLY** cognizant that in our objective to put the state first above selfish political interest that are camouflaged as so-called government policy or self-styled political struggle for redemption, either side would brand us as adversary agents and may attempt to crucify the media as in this case. But we can bold say without stupor that the media in Liberia is above the fray.

# COMMENTARY

By Monica Araya &  
Carlos Manuel Rodriguez

## The Latest Climate Science Must Mobilize Us, not Paralyze Us

*The long-awaited new report by the United Nations' climate panel makes for grim reading: To avoid severe economic and social shocks and protect essential ecosystems, we urgently need to limit the increase in global temperature to within 1.5° Celsius of the pre-industrial level. But how?*

**SAN JOSÉ** - The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the United Nations body tasked with providing scientific evidence and consensus on climate change and its implications for decision-makers and the public, has just issued its latest, long-awaited report.

To avoid severe economic and social shocks and protect essential ecosystems, we urgently need to limit the increase in global temperature to within 1.5° Celsius of the pre-industrial level. Achieving the required reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will require boldness, creativity, and some hard choices. But Costa Rica's experience shows that, in the long run, what is gained far outweighs the sacrifices for all.

Climate change is not the first daunting challenge our country - among the world's most biodiverse countries per square meter - has had to overcome to preserve its natural beauty. Deforestation for cattle grazing nearly halved the land covered by forest over the four decades prior to 1986. Government investment in protecting these natural assets was essential, which meant eliminating subsidies for the cattle industry and perverse incentives for agrarian reform.

With subsidies and negative incentives gone, Costa Rica's cattle population dropped by a third, taking pressure off grazing lands. In the decades since, forests have recovered and now cover more than half the country. And while forest cover doubled, Costa Rica's per capita income tripled. From this foundation, the economy has grown sustainably and the country has become a world leader in ecotourism.

Now, as this latest IPCC report makes clear, rising temperature is the new threat to both biodiversity and our economy. We all must combat it.

Costa Rica, for its part, has set what President Carlos Alvarado has called the "titanic and beautiful task" of decarbonizing the economy. One of the goals of the national decarbonization plan, which will be launched in December, is to ensure that the market properly accounts for the costs of climate change.

This policy has the effect of rendering fossil fuels economically uncompetitive - and creating incentives to use Costa Rica's nearly 100% renewable power in the transportation sector to cut our dependence on oil. A moratorium on oil and gas exploitation, respected by five different governments, reinforces these incentives. Making the energy sector work properly - an objective that unites both environmentalists and economists -

means recognizing that a short-term economic boost cannot justify the long-term costs of fossil fuels.

As a minister and a climate activist, we both agree that government has an important role to play in achieving decarbonization. But the work of non-state actors such as local businesses and communities will also be essential. For this reason, government policy has focused on boosting community-based low-impact tourism initiatives that value local knowledge. The Costa Rican experience shows that environmental stewardship is a job done best by alliances between local people and national leaders, united by the common cause of conservation.

At its heart, Costa Rica's approach to climate change is about people, not industry and markets. Our commitment to tackling climate change is based on an understanding of the enormous health risks and costs that arise from inaction. Costa Rica devotes significant resources to tackling problems like dengue fever and malaria because our people remain our most important asset. And staying below the 1.5°C limit will mean 3.3 million fewer cases of dengue fever annually in Latin America and the Caribbean, fewer people at risk of malaria, and less food instability and poor nutrition caused by higher temperatures and unstable weather patterns.

Costa Rica is proud to be leading the world by putting this approach into practice. As a result, we are one of the few countries ready to exceed our commitments under the Paris climate agreement. Not all of the changes will be easy, and getting them right will require perseverance and a commitment to adaptability. Other countries that agreed as part of the Paris agreement to boost the ambition of their national climate plans by 2020 can learn from our experience in aiming for decarbonization, investing in natural assets, and recognizing the importance of the climate for a healthy population.

One of the most obvious lessons is the interdependence of these policies. Climate change is a collective problem, no single policy is enough, and no country can solve it alone. But this interdependence cannot be an excuse for paralysis. Limiting warming to 1.5° Celsius is a goal around which we can all unite in diverse ways.

Next month's Climate Vulnerable Forum will bring together leaders from the countries that are most vulnerable to climate change for the first entirely virtual summit of heads of state. Together with the next key intergovernmental meeting, COP24 in Poland this December, political leaders have an opportunity to prove they understand the science underpinning the IPCC report, and are ready to take ambitious steps to achieve the 1.5° target.

**The New Dawn**  
FULLY INDEPENDENT

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O-PED

By Michael Bröning

## Germany's Socialism of Fools

**B**ERLIN - If opinion polls counted as elections, large parts of Germany would already be governed by the far right. In several eastern German states, the Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) has established itself as the strongest political force. Almost everywhere else in the country, the party currently ranks second - on par or just ahead of the struggling Social Democrats (SPD) and behind only Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU).

In coming weeks, matters could get even worse. In regional elections in Bavaria on October 14 and in Hesse two weeks later, the AfD is poised to enter the two last remaining regional parliaments without far-right representation.

Concerns about immigration continue to fuel this surge. In the eastern city of Chemnitz, recent anti-foreigner riots and pro-tolerance rallies provided a stark reminder of how divided the German public remains on migration.

But it would be a dangerous miscalculation to regard the AfD as a xenophobic, single-issue party. The AfD has always been a political chameleon, cleverly exploiting mismanaged issues. This arc of anger began during the euro crisis, proceeded to migration after the summer of 2015, and most recently discovered integration and Islam as wedge issues to boost support. With each turn, the party widened its appeal. Now, it seems to have another target in its sights: liberal economics and a vulgar ethno-socialism.

This turn to "social justice" issues is counterintuitive. The AfD was born in 2013 as a euro-critical "party of professors," many of them economic liberals, and neoliberalism remains part of their offspring's DNA. To this day, the party's official statements promote free trade, increased competition, a lower tax rate, and austerity in southern Europe.

But what worked for the one-time professors' party is unlikely to pave the AfD's path to power. For many blue-collar voters, particularly in eastern Germany, neoliberalism is a non-starter. Recognizing this, the AfD leadership has recently started to shed the pro-business baptism gown that the party has long outgrown. The goal is to establish the AfD as a new mass party, or Volkspartei, which could prove a mortal threat to what is left of the SPD, as well as to Germany's wider political system.

In Bavaria and Hesse, the AfD's campaign already reflects this change. Calling for higher pensions and improved medical services in rural areas, and criticizing high rents, the party aims to "be social without turning red," as one campaign slogan puts it. And the AfD leader in Brandenburg, Andreas Kalbitz, recently announced that the party plans to focus on "social justice" in upcoming elections in three eastern German states next year.

The driving forces behind a more "socialist" AfD can be found in Germany's east, where firebrand party leaders like Björn Höcke of Thuringia have long called for "a party of patriotism and solidarity." For many, that is a thinly veiled bow to National Socialism. Höcke and Jürgen Pohl, an AfD Bundestag member, recently put forward some of the program's key ingredients, which include higher pensions and inclusion of the self-employed in the state-run pension funds - policies that would focus on ethnic Germans.

The AfD will hold a special party convention early next year to formalize programmatic changes and establish a unified position on social issues. The explicit aim, according to Höcke, is to combine "identity and solidarity" in order to reject "neoliberalism and its history of failure." While a heated internal debate can be expected, the Höcke wing currently seems to have the wind at its back.

At the federal level, an AfD majority is highly unlikely as long as the German economy is booming. But a much stronger far right is a near-certainty. Combining anti-establishment rhetoric on cultural and economic issues has worked remarkably well for right-wing populist parties elsewhere, and the question for many German observers is not whether this formula will work in Germany, but how well.

The polls are not reassuring. A study presented last week by the Bertelsmann Foundation, an independent think tank, stresses that issues such as income distribution or affordable housing can effectively act as "bridges" between the extreme right and voters at the political center. Up to 13% of German voters who identify themselves as political centrists are open to AfD positions, according to the study.

In view of this potential, much will depend on how Germany's center responds. One idea is that a division of labor between the CDU and the SPD could diffuse the current challenge. The CDU could recapture AfD voters by strengthening its conservative positions on cultural and identity questions. The SPD, by contrast, would move to the left on social and economic issues, stressing equality, solidarity, and justice, and thus closing the ideological gap that is empowering the AfD.

But this will be difficult to do for the CDU and the SPD. Locked in an unpopular grand coalition, such an ideological realignment would make finding common ground in the government increasingly challenging and could well result in an early federal election. And such an outcome would only further strengthen the AfD.

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## FROM WHERE I SEE PRESIDENT WEAH'S GOVERNMENT

By: Jones Octavious Mallay, Esq.  
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### Who Is President Weah's Public Works Minister "M.V. Nyenpan, Sr"?

**G**reat men are unmistakably great within their amplitude of human characteristic when they leave an indestructible positive print in the lives of their neighbors, friends, relatives, countrymen/women, workmates, acquaintances, church members, students, a passerby, and even strangers, especially when their earned greatness and hard work reverberate or echo within the darkest pit of the Liberian society.

The unleashing of great men's unconditional private generosity, coupled with their countless and outpouring of overwhelming goodwill and extraordinary kindness to people whom they do not know even by an iota of change, many times speaks volumes of those great men's unique character in the Liberian society.

The memories of great men lived endlessly in the judgment of the multitude of their benefactors because of those great men's indelible positive undertakings in the lives of friends, comrades and loved ones, and even the needy and the depressed ones in the Liberian society would serve as a testimonial to these truths.

The generosity of great men can sometimes assist in the fertilization of enormous social economic, and in some instances, yield a tangible and a very strong political salvation or rudiment in the lives of their comrades and loved ones. This is precisely the unquestionable sequence of unique events that clearly defined and summarizes Liberia's Public Work Minister, Honorable Mobutu Vlah Nyenpan, Sr. from a substantive and a candid perspective.

The appointment of Honorable Mobutu Vlah Nyenpan, Sr. to serve as Liberia's first Public Work Minister under President Weah's signifies one of the numerous political ordinations out of thousands of many equally qualified Liberians. The appointment of Hon. Nyenpan was one of the biggest and most appropriate choices ever made by President Weah for countless rationales, first, Hon. Nyenpan is not one of Liberia's most charismatic politicians, he is one of the many people's centered iconic personalities who believe in the philosophy of "teaching Liberians how to fish, rather than giving them fish for their sustainability." Leaders with such concept are developmental oriented and purposeful. Hon. Vlah has always endeavored to contextualize the value of development and dignifies the meaning of life especially in these difficult times in the history of Liberia.

Thought leaders are always needed for thought job, this is where the "Nyenpanism" fits within the political equation of the nation-building process not only in President Weah's government but as far back as facing some of the Herculean challenges within the territorial limits of the then Budubugram Refugee Camp, located in the Central Region of Ghana in the early 90s. when Hon Mobutu was spotted playing a transformational role as the biblical Moses who led the children of Israel from captivity into a promised land, so was Honorable Vlah during those dark pages and complex moments in the lives of weary Liberians who were a victim of unthinkable wars and had to proceed to exile. Hon. Nyenpan has always been impregnated with passions and compassion for his compatriots even in contemporary Liberia.

Leaders shouldn't be defined by their academic pedigree or earned influential credentials. They should be defined by their outputs, accomplishments and their enormous impact on the lives of others, so is Hon Nyenpan. Many Liberians from the Buduburam Refugee Camp are living testimonial to Hon. Nyenpan's transformational impacts and great rewarding generosity in our lives. Hon. Nyenpan judges Liberians not by their tribal connections or political affluence, but by their ability to achieve and make the difference in the lives of other Liberians at home and abroad.

The working population at LPRC, where Hon. Nyenpan once served as deputy managing director for administration will blatantly refuse to take him to the political crucifixion cross because of his impacts in changing the entire lives of LPRC's workforce at the time. He will continue to be a vivid reflective instrument in the compound of that great entity, LPRC. Hon. Nyenpan's Senate compatriots including those whom he once worked with, their lives had not been the same under Hon. Nyenpan's iconic and spirited goodwill and positive political affection and generosity.

The very fine people of Sineo, do not envisage Hon. Nyenpan as their friend, they qualified him as their developmental hero, who is known for lifting the spirit of the people of Sineo at its zenith as well as preserving their faith and advocating for their overall well-being as a people in the vineyard of his fiercest critics like the systemic controversial..... but even at that, Hon. Nyenpan didn't betray his pledge to make Sineo great, calmed and a wonderful place to be in Liberia.

Hon. Nyenpan is one of the very few honest and trustworthy Liberian politicians known within Liberia's political circle. President Weah has got a trusted Minister of Public Work, who has come to this portfolio with the requisite engineering credential. This is one man whom I believe will do all in his powers to transform the population and the workforce of the Public Work employees and ensures that the objective of the Ministry of Public Work is achieved in the fullness of time, but with one big condition, that is with the unconditional support of President Weah including all his principled deputies and the sincere and committed task-oriented workforce. This doesn't in any way suggest that everything will be bread and butter during the Ministry's huge dispensation road projects which come with a familiar price tag.



# Liberia Airport Authority (LAA)



Republic of Liberia  
Request for Bids (IFB)

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR THE  
(Rental of Roberts International Airport Terminal Stores/Outlets)

**IFB No. RIA/ICB/002/16/17**

- The Liberia Airport Authority acting intends to LEASE out stores and outlets in the new Robert International Airport Terminal once the terminal comes on line in the next 3(three months) as of the tender date. To this end, the LAA-RIA is requesting bids from interested and qualified firms with vast experience in operating the below listed airport facilities:

Item No.	Lot No.	Description
1.	1	Business Class Lounge
2.	2	High End Restaurant
3.	3	Duty Free Shop/Outlet
4.	4	Shops

- The LAA-RIA now invites bids for the rental and operation of the aforementioned facilities within the new RIA's terminal building from firms eligible and qualified firms.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (ICB) as specified in the Amended and Restated Public Procurement & Concessions Act Published and Approved September 11, 2018 and is opened to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the guidelines.
- Interested firms must demonstrate a strong commercial vision, expertise, outstanding shops and customer service program, and provide a passenger experience at RIA that is competitive with the world's leading international terminals.
- Eligibility and Qualification Requirements

Item No.	Lot	Description	Minimum Qualification Requirements
1.	1	Business Class Lounge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valid Business Registration Certificate</li> <li>Valid Tax Clearance</li> <li>Article of Incorporation</li> <li>At least five years' experience in Airport Lounge Management or other private lounges</li> <li>Must have a minimum average annual turnover of US\$250,000.00 for the last three (3) years</li> <li>Must provide audited financial statement for the past three (3) years</li> </ul>
2.	2	Duty Free Store	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valid Business Registration Certificate</li> <li>Valid Tax Clearance</li> <li>Article of Incorporation</li> <li>At least five years' experience in operating an Airport Duty Free Store/Shop or related store/shop.</li> <li>Must have a minimum average annual turnover of US\$500,000.00 for the last three (3) years</li> <li>Must provide audited financial statement for the past three (3) years</li> </ul>

3.	3	High End Restaurant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valid Business Registration</li> <li>Valid Tax Clearance</li> <li>Sanitary Health Permit</li> <li>At least five (5) years' experience in operating high end restaurants</li> <li>Must have a minimum average annual turnover of US\$150,000.00 for the last three (3) years</li> <li>Must provide audited financial statement for the past three (3) years</li> <li>Must have at least one nutritionist and dietician</li> </ul>
4.	4	Shops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valid Business Registration</li> <li>Valid Tax Clearance</li> <li>At least five (5) years' experience in operating shops in airports or related stores/shops</li> <li>Must have a minimum average annual turnover of US\$75,000.00</li> <li>Must provide audited financial statement for the past three (3) years</li> </ul>

- A complete set of Bidding Documents and attached copy of historical passenger information from 2013 to 2017 in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of One Hundred United States Dollars (**US\$100.00**). Interested Bidder can make payment for the bidding documents at the Roberts International Airport Procurement Section, Margibi County.
- There will a walk through of the facility for the benefit of participants conducted on Thursday, October 18, 2018.
- All bids should be delivered to the address below on or before **Tuesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 at 12:00 Noon** Liberian Time. Electronic bid will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened on the same day in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below on **October 25, 2018 at 12:00 Noon Local/Liberian Time**.

Attention:

**Procurement Department  
Roberts International Airport**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Weah reinstates Wolokollie**

**-As Press Secretary resurfaces**

President George Manneh Weah has reinstated Madam Jemima Wolokollie to her position as Deputy Minister of Commerce for Small Business with immediate effect, the Executive Mansion says.

Madam Wolokollie's reinstatement was announced in a press release on Tuesday, 9 October, roughly over five

President Weah had taken the decision due to "acts of insubordination and unprofessionalism."

President Weah, according to the Mansion, made emphasis on the need for all Deputies to accord the highest respect and courtesy to their leaders; and refrain from taking internal disputes and/or disagreements to the

Wilson Tarpeh to open the market for Liberians to be able to do rice, petroleum, and bring in onions.

According to reports, Madam Wolokollie complained that Minister Tarpeh refused, thus alarming over the alleged "very disturbing" situation.

She was claimed to have accused her boss of giving her problem.

But President Weah seemed to have been provoked to suspend Madam Wolokollie on grounds that he had received her complaint already, and he did not want her talking while he looked into the matter.

And in a related development, an Executive Mansion press release has for the first time been issued under the authorization of Presidential Press Secretary Sam Mannah in at least about a month since he disappeared from playing his role.

There were speculations all over the place in early August that Mr. Mannah was indefinitely suspended, but there was no official confirmation or denial to the claim.

During the period of his apparent inactive service as Press Secretary, Executive Mansion press releases were issued without notation as usual that he had authorized them.

But it became clear Tuesday, 9 October that he has resurfaced when a press release announcing the reinstatement of suspended Deputy Commerce Minister Jemima Wolokollie was issued with the authorization of Mr. Mannah.

public space for redress.

While suspending Madam Wolokollie, President demanded all subordinate officials to practice utmost professionalism in conducting their duties and the need to follow the proper channel in addressing disputes with their leaders.

Madam Wolokollie faced suspension after complaining that she wanted her boss



Madam Jemima Wolokollie

months after she was indefinitely suspended by the president in May.

Her suspension came in May this year in the wake of reports that she was discussing her disagreement with her boss, Commerce Minister Wilson Tarpeh in the media.

When the Executive Mansion announced her suspension on Saturday, 19 May, it indicated that

**AAMIN launches Zero Stigma Campaign**

A zero media campaign aimed at reducing social stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV and other sexual majority groups in Liberia is launched here with calls for joint effort in resisting these societal problems.

Stigma and discrimination are societal barriers that undermine improved public health interventions because they prevent people from seeking healthcare and disclosing their health status.

According to news release, the initiative, which is being undertaken by Anti-AIDS Media Network or AAMIN, seeks to improve collaboration between media and civil society organizations in ensuring that key populations, sexual minority groups and marginalized people have access to healthcare services without stigmatization.

According to the release,

that by 2020, 90 percent of people living with HIV are tested, 90 percent of those tested are put on treatment and 90 percent of those on treatment have a suppressed viral load in their bodies.

"We have to reach 90-90-90 for Liberia; we will not do it without addressing issues related to stigma and discrimination - so this is why I think this campaign is really important," Dr. Chipimo says.

Dr. Chipimo wants Liberians pass stigma and discrimination and embrace acceptance adding, "That is why other countries are making greater progress because they have less stigma and less discrimination related to HIV and AIDS, they are supporting family members living with HIV."

She underscores that stigma emanates from fear, and that it is important for people living with HIV to be supported



**3 charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault**

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The Bushrod Island Magisterial Court jails three defendants on charges of Criminal Attempt to Commit Murder and Aggravated Assault after they failed to secure a valid criminal appearance bond.

The defendants, who are currently behind bar at the Monrovia Central Prison has been identified as William Dixon Joe, Matthew Jackson and Alfred Tony.

Court records reveal the defendants on 29 September attacked complainant Patrick Karbo in Sayon Town and stabbed him in his upper chest, neck and face with knives, thereby causing him to bleed

profusely upon arrival at Mawa Clinic in Vai Town, Bushrod Island.

The court further details defendants Joe, Jackson, and Tony during police preliminary investigation admitted to the crime.

The record says as a direct result of wounds sustained in the hands of his attackers, Karbo received 34 stitches to stabilize his health condition.

Defendants are to remain

prison, pending a valid criminal appearance bond from a licensed insurance company as security for their reappearance in court whenever they are needed.

Meanwhile, the case which is pending before Stipendiary Magistrate Winston Gee, is expected to reassume upon observation of the complainant's health condition. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

the initiative is under the auspices of the American Jewish World Service (AJWS). The campaign will also strengthen discussions among stakeholders to support Liberia's HIV scale-up programs, using Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) awareness as a driving force.

The launch coincides with the training of 20 journalists and Civil Society workers who are considered Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) champions in Liberia.

Dr. Miriam Chipimo, Country Director of the Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) Office in Liberia says if the Liberia must achieve the global target '90-90-90 by 2020', reducing stigma and discrimination is the best way forward.

Liberia and the rest of the world had promised to ensure

otherwise more people will get infected every day in the country.

According to her, if stigma and discrimination are not taken seriously, "people will not go for test, they will not get treatment so the virus will multiply and they will die; whereas when you actually get treatment you are fine and you will live a normal healthy life- and you do not pass on the virus."

The Country Consultant for AJWS in Liberia, Dayugar Johnson, says stigma and discrimination are major barriers limiting a number of rights issues in the country including key populations' access to health.

Mr. Johnson continues that to address these issues, the media and civil society organizations are best suited in changing people's perception and attitudes.

"There are few institutions

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**MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

# National Union of Disables gets modern office

By Emmanuel Mondaye

**G**barpolu County Project Management Committee (PMC) through the County Development Budget (CDB) has constructed a modern headquarters for persons living with disabilities in the county.

An executive of the National Union of Disables or NUOD in Gbarpolu Sunday Wenney says the building, which is located around the Superintendent Compound has offices, restrooms, and conference hall, among others.

Mr. Wenney, who did not disclose cost of the structure, says NUOD is working with the newly appointed county leadership in acquiring furniture and other materials needed in the building before formal dedication.

He discloses since the county was established, the building is the first to be erected to provide a conjunctive working environs for the physically challenged.

He lauds the county PMC and Superintendent office for recognizing the importance of

the existence of person with disabilities, who are determined to contribute to the social and economic development agenda of the George Weah-led government.

He notes the organization has in the past been housed in makeshift structure, adding "We are thankful to God and to our County PMC and Superintendent for the good

work done." According to him, the organization has a membership of 75, including physically and visually challenged people who are living in various parts of the county.

Liberia has various organizations of people living with disabilities, including the Group of 77, which is the national body supervised by the Office of the Vice President of Liberia. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



NUOD Gbarpolu County New Office

# VP Taylor acted

Starts from backpage

in at the LMA, called on the aggrieved marketers, the leadership and met with them on different occasions.

According to Mr. Ware, prior to Madam Taylor's intervention, aggrieved marketers had gone to the house of President Weah, Madam Taylor's house and at the Capitol Building to protest their disenchantment.

He claims that it was based on aggrieved marketers' protests that the Vice President thought to move in and to bring some civilities to the LMA.

"Following all those interventions - calling the aggrieved party, calling the LMA leadership to meeting, all of them agreed in one accord that yes there was a need for audit," he explains.

"But how then can the audit be conducted? You cannot conduct an audit when the leadership still sits. So they all agreed in the meeting that the current leadership should step aside," Mr. Ware narrates further.

He continues that Vice President Taylor did not reach the decision all by herself to

suspend LMA's leadership, arguing that it was a decision reached following lot of consultation with government authorities and the marketers.

He says LMA officials were suspended, an interim leadership was instituted, and auditors from the General Auditing Commission were asked to come in and conduct an audit.

According to him, the LMA's three - member Interim Leadership Team include Francis Siryon, Dan Sherman Secretary-general, and Madam Lusu Sloan, Chairlady.

It can be recalled that a group of marketers presented a petition to Vice President Taylor on 27 August, over the manner and form in which leaders of the organization were proceeding.

The petitioners most of whom were market women topped their petition on perennial allegations of corruption, financial mismanagement, misappropriation of resources and other acts inimical to the existence of the Association.--

**Edited by Winston W. Parley**

# Gender weigh in on MOFDP's hair restrictions

**T**he Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, (MoGCSP), says it is deeply concerned over reports of female employees of the Ministry of Finance, and Development Planning, (MoFDP), being restricted from entering the building for wearing colored or unnatural hair.

Authorities at the MOFDP recently restricted its female employees to wearing only black colored-natural hair.

The Gender Ministry in its release issued Tuesday October 9, says it has engaged authorities at the Ministry of

Finance and Development Planning to firstly ascertain the veracity of the story and, if true - to constructively engage them on revisiting said policy.

Authorities at the MoFDP say the policy on hair color and styles were a part of their Employee Handbook published in 2014; Section 7.4 of the Employee Handbook discourages the use of unnatural colored hair (such as Green, Pink, etc) and extreme hairstyles.

However, the Gender Ministry says it has encouraged MoFDP authorities to revisit such policy and ensure that an amended version is in

conformity with the present government's own agenda for the protection of women's rights given the fact that both President Dr. George M. Weah and Min. Samuel D. Tweah, Jr., are avowed He4Shes and women's rights champions.

Gender officials say their intervention is expected to yield positive results as soon as possible, saying that MoFDP has been very responsive during their engagement.

However, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection say though it welcomes the setting up of internal workplace regulations, it seriously frowns on any kind of policy that discriminates against women.

The Decent Work Law of Liberia clearly defines discrimination as the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex.

The ministry adds that all public and private institutions should harmonize their policies in line with the National Code of Conduct and Decent Work Bill, and make necessary amendments, to avoid the violation of women's rights. **-Press release**



Williametta Piso Saydee Tarr

# Burglary at Lone Star

Starts from backpage

constrained Lone Star Cell MTN subscribers in the Kesselly Boulevard community and adjacent areas to travel far away distances for business transaction.

One resident, Mary Sherman, who claims to be a regular customer of Lone Star Cell, laments the company failed to notify its customers before shutting down the customer's service center Barnesville Intersection which had catered to hundreds of customers from various communities along the Somalia Drive, including Supermarket, Barnesville, Shoes Factory, Chicken Soup Factory, and Stephen Tolbert Estate, and other adjacent communities.

Madam Sherman appeals to the Management of Lone Star Cell MTN to reopen the center because its location is very convenient for subscribers.

Meanwhile, when this paper

visited the company's head offices in Congo Town on Tuesday, 9th October Counselor Emmanuel Reeves, legal consultant, confirmed the closure of the branch at Barnesville Intersection, but directs the SMS department should be contacted for detail information.

However, Madam M. Sophia Thorpe, who Counselor Reeves says has been assisting the company's communications department in its work, promised to contact the SMS department and later get back to the New Dawn.

In a related development, an insider at Lone Star Cell MTN says due to the persistent burglary, the customer's service center has been transferred from Barnesville Intersection to New Georgia Estate Junction along the same Somalia Drive. **-**

**Editing by Jonathan Browne**

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# Français

## La Cour suprême rejette la création d'un comité parlementaire de surveillance judiciaire

Le juge en chef du Libéria, Francis S. Korkpor, estime que la proposition qui vise à créer un "comité de surveillance judiciaire" au sein du parlement porte atteinte non seulement à l'indépendance du pouvoir judiciaire, mais aussi à la doctrine de la séparation des pouvoirs inscrite dans la Constitution.

« Ce qui me surprend, c'est que l'appel provient d'une source improbable », a-t-il déclaré lundi à l'occasion de la rentrée judiciaire pour le mois d'octobre 2018.

Le juge en chef Korkpor s'exprimait en présence de plusieurs dignitaires du régime actuel, dont le président George Manneh Weah, la vice-présidente Jewel Howard Taylor, le président de la chambre des Représentants, Bhofal Chambers, le président



temporaire du Sénat, Albert Chie, ainsi que d'autres hauts fonctionnaires et des juristes.

Le juge en chef faisait peut-être allusion à une proposition faite en mai dernier par le sénateur du

comté de Grand Cape Mount, Me Varney G. Sherman, qui appelle à la création d'une commission de surveillance judiciaire directement responsable devant l'Assemblée législative.

Le sénateur Sherman, a-t-

on rapporté, a suggéré que cela aiderait l'Assemblée législative à examiner le fonctionnement et la conduite des juges de la Cour suprême, de tous les juges et magistrats et à en rendre compte régulièrement à l'Assemblée législative pour que celle-ci prenne les mesures qui s'imposent.

Au juge en chef Korkpor d'insister : « nous avons travaillé et continuerons de travailler afin que la Cour suprême reste un pouvoir de l'Etat neutre, non aligné et apolitique, un sanctuaire dans lequel les personnes blessées et en détresse, sans distinction de couleur, de croyance et la religion ou de conviction politique, peuvent demander justice ».

« Nous continuerons à prôner la liberté pour tous. Que cela soit clair dès maintenant, à en juger par nos nombreuses positions et opinions, que ce tribunal ne favorise aucune personne ni institution en particulier, ni même le gouvernement », a-t-il déclaré.

Depuis qu'il a pris la barre du pouvoir judiciaire, des progrès considérables ont été accomplis que personne ne peut nier, a-t-il vanté. Il a cité de nombreuses réformes, des activités de formations et de renforcement des capacités du personnel de l'appareil judiciaire.

Il regrette cependant le manque d'appui budgétaire adéquat, qui, selon lui, entrave sérieusement le désir du pouvoir judiciaire

d'entreprendre de nouveaux programmes de réforme. Il a fait savoir que bien avant la guerre civile et à présent, le budget de la justice est resté extrêmement bas par rapport à ceux des deux autres pouvoirs de l'Etat. « Au moment où je vous parle, nous avons un besoin urgent de fonds pour l'achat des véhicules pour nos juges de circonscription, nos juges de tribunaux spécialisés et nos avocats publics », a-t-il ajouté.

Entre-temps, la rentrée judiciaire de la Cour suprême lundi a coïncidé avec la nomination du nouveau juge associé Joseph Nagbe, en remplacement du juge adjoint à la retraite Phillip A. Z. Banks, III.

Il a également signalé la mort de 24 personnes appartenant à l'appareil judiciaire, notamment des juges, des magistrats, des huissiers de justice et d'autres membres du personnel judiciaire.

Répondant aux accusations du juge en chef Korkpor, le ministre de la Justice et doyen du barreau de la Cour suprême, Frank Musa Dean, a déclaré : "La confiance de l'homme ordinaire dans notre système judiciaire est très fragile. C'est le moins qu'on puisse dire". Il a ajouté que si la proposition de créer un comité de surveillance judiciaire au sein du pouvoir législatif risque de saper la doctrine de la séparation des pouvoirs, il incombe au pouvoir judiciaire de s'auto-examiner et sanctifier ses rangs. « Nous devons travailler assidûment à l'autodiscipline et à l'auto-nettoyage afin de rétablir le respect, la foi et la confiance du peuple dans notre système judiciaire et la primauté du droit », a dit le ministre Dean. Il a ajouté que les jugements et les actions des tribunaux doivent être fondés sur la loi et avoir l'appui de la loi, et doivent être considérés comme équitables, judicieux et impartiaux. Le ministre Dean a conclu que les jugements des tribunaux doivent avoir l'autorité morale requise pour exiger que l'on se conforme à la loi.

## Zone CFA : augmenter les recettes fiscales pour mieux financer le développement

La seconde réunion semestrielle des ministres des Finances des pays de la zone franc s'est tenue à Paris. La croissance dans cet ensemble qui regroupe quinze pays d'Afrique Centrale, d'Afrique occidentale et les îles Comores, ne peut pas encore permettre un véritable décollage économique, selon un rapport de la Banque de France. La réunion d'hier a identifié l'augmentation des recettes fiscales, comme étant nécessaire afin que les pays concernés puissent mieux financer leur développement.

Pour financer leur croissance et réduire l'endettement, les pays de la zone franc ont besoin de mobiliser plus de recettes fiscales.

20% du PIB d'ici deux ans, au lieu de 15% aujourd'hui, c'est l'objectif que se sont fixé les huit pays de l'Union économique et monétaire ouest-africaine (UEMOA).

« Nous avons établi un plan d'action qui a plusieurs volets. Il y a un volet d'harmonisation des pratiques fiscales pour que les entreprises ne profitent pas des divergences de politique fiscale

pour ne payer nulle part finalement ; il y a également tous les chantiers que nous avons sur la modernisation de l'administration fiscale et aussi de la gestion des exonérations qui sont généralement données aux groupes internationaux qui viennent investir dans la région », explique Romuald Wadagni, ministre béninois de l'Economie et des finances.

Le contraste entre les deux parties composant la zone CFA reste. Avec une croissance de 6,7% l'année dernière pour l'UEMOA contre une contraction de 0,1% dans la Communauté économique et monétaire d'Afrique centrale (Cémac).

Mais dans cette région, il y a eu pourtant quelques avancées en matière de recettes fiscales, selon Abbas Mahamat Tolli, gouverneur de la Banque centrale de cette zone : « Nous constatons qu'en moyenne sur cinq ans, le taux de pression fiscale dépassait de 9 à 12% en 2018. Sur cette période, le cas qui illustre bien cette progression, c'est celui d'un pays qui est passé de 4 à 9% ».

Concernant les exonérations fiscales accordées aux entreprises, les pays de la Cémac sont en train de supprimer celles qui sont considérées comme ayant été accordées de manière illégale.





# Français

## Le gouvernement signe un accord de partenariat d'assistance et de formation sanitaire avec Mercy Ships

Dans le cadre du programme de santé du président Weah destiné à soulager les populations les plus vulnérables, le gouvernement du Libéria a conclu avec l'organisation humanitaire internationale Mercy Ships à Monrovia un accord de partenariat de 5 ans pour développer la chirurgie, accroître la formation et l'assistance du personnel évoluant dans le secteur de la santé du pays.

D'après le Ceo de Mercy Ships Donovan R. Palmer, ce partenariat vise à développer l'accès aux opérations chirurgicales et les capacités du personnel de santé. Mercy Ships fournira une assistance technique pour intégrer la chirurgie, l'obstétrique et l'anesthésie dans les stratégies du plan de la santé du Libéria avec l'appui du bureau local de l'Oms qui joue le rôle de conseil et de partenaire technique du Libéria. En effet, il s'agit de souligner, vingt fois moins d'opérations sont réalisées en Afrique que strictement nécessaire, selon une étude publiée récemment par la revue médicale « The Lancet ». De plus, les patients ont deux fois plus de probabilité de succomber aux suites d'une intervention en Afrique qu'ailleurs. C'est en vue d'améliorer le plateau technique et le tissu sanitaire du Libéria que le gouvernement Libérien par le truchement du ministre de la santé Dr Wilhelmina Jllah, n'a ménagé aucun effort pour parvenir à la conclusion de cet accord salubre qui soulagera les milliers des patients libériens qui ne disposent presque pas de moyens pour se soigner convenablement.

Cet accord d'assistance sanitaire et de renforcement de capacités selon le Dr Mpélé, coordonnateur du bureau Afrique de Mercy Ships basé à Cotonou intervient dans le cadre d'une opération post-période ébola. Mercy Ships se fixe comme objectif d'apporter l'espoir et la guérison aux plus démunis du Libéria qui n'ont pas accès aux soins de santé de qualité. Le gouvernement Libérien et Mercy Ships se sont réjouis de l'accord. La solution à ce problème redoutable et complexe demandera beaucoup de travail et la collaboration de toutes les parties prenantes, car du côté de Mercy Ships, les responsables restent confiants que la collaboration formelle avec le gouvernement libérien sera un de ces piliers renforçant l'accès aux soins chirurgicaux des populations libériennes.

Ce partenariat avec le Libéria, permettra à Mercy Ships de fournir des services vitaux à ceux qui en ont désespérément besoin, ainsi que de renforcer les capacités

et la réhabilitation de certaines infrastructures sanitaires de base du pays.

L'ONG évangélique, fondée en 1978 sous l'égide de Jeunesse en mission, offre des soins médicaux et chirurgicaux gratuits grâce à ses navires flottants, baptisés « L'Africa Mercy ». C'est le plus grand navire-hôpital non gouvernemental du monde. Depuis leur lancement 89000 opérations ont été réalisées grâce aux Mercy Ships, et 40000 personnels médicaux ont été formés. Mercy Ships est entre autres, une organisation humanitaire internationale qui fournit des soins sanitaires qualitatifs aux plus démunis. Mercy Ships navigue vers les pays africains à bord des plus grands navires-hôpitaux pour effectuer des interventions chirurgicales, dispenser des formations et des traitements gratuits. À bord, plus de 400 bénévoles qui financent eux-mêmes leur voyage et leur séjour : médecins, personnel infirmier, ingénieurs, agriculteurs, travailleurs dans la construction, etc.

De par le monde, Mercy Ships mobilise des donateurs ou des personnes disposées à récolter des fonds et à œuvrer de manière bénévole pour apporter aux plus démunis des soins de santé qualitatifs, espoir et guérison. Grâce à cet accord conclu avec le Libéria, des milliers de personnes auront accès, à une assistance médicale, à un traitement professionnel ou à une opération chirurgicale de qualité. Outre les opérations gratuites, Mercy Ships dispensera également des formations aux médecins locaux et au personnel local. Ainsi, Mercy Ships contribuera à une transition durable dans les pays. Une approche qui cadre avec la vision globale de la politique de développement durable du chef de l'état libérien Georges Weah qui à saluer initiative hautement humanitaire de l'ONG Mercy Ships.

Le Libéria accueillera pour la deuxième fois le navire-hôpital de Mercy Ships en 2020, ce qui constituera un véritable saut qualitatif dans la vision de la santé du président Weah.

Mercy ships lors de ses rencontres avec les plus hautes autorités du pays à saluer l'implication de la Vice-présidente Jewel Taylor dans ses efforts de lutte contre les violences sexuelles.

Au terme de l'accord de partenariat qui lie L'État libérien à Mécy Ships, les premières équipes de mercy procéderont durant une année à un travail d'évaluation et de préparation du programme qui sera exécuté au Libéria. Le bateau hôpital accostera au port de Monrovia en 2020 ; mais déjà dès le mois de février 2019, Mercy Ships dépêchera.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Monica Araya & Carlos Manuel Rodriguez

### Réchauffement climatique: la science doit nous mobiliser, pas nous paralyser

SAN JOSÉ - Le Groupe d'experts intergouvernemental d'études sur le climat, le GIEC (l'organe des Nations unies chargé de fournir les preuves scientifiques du réchauffement climatique et ses conséquences pour les responsables politique et les populations) vient de publier son dernier rapport. Il était très attendu. Or il présente un défi de taille pour nous tous.

Pour éviter de graves chocs économiques et sociaux et protéger les écosystèmes essentiels, nous devons limiter de toute urgence la hausse moyenne de la température de la planète à 1,5°C par rapport à son niveau de l'ère préindustrielle. Cela suppose de réduire à un niveau acceptable les émissions de gaz à effet de serre - ce qui exigera de l'audace, de la créativité et quelques choix difficiles. C'est ici qu'intervient l'expérience du Costa Rica. Elle montre qu'à long terme les bénéfices dépasseront largement les sacrifices consentis par tous.

Notre pays - l'un de ceux qui recèle la plus grande biodiversité que l'on puisse trouver sur la planète - a déjà surmonté d'autres défis de taille pour préserver ses beautés naturelles. Entre 1946 et 1986, le recours à la déforestation pour permettre au bétail de brouter a réduit presque de moitié la surface couverte par les forêts. L'investissement de l'Etat pour les protéger a joué un rôle essentiel. Pour ce faire, il a arrêté de subventionner le secteur bovin et les incitations perverses en faveur d'une réforme agraire.

Une fois débarrassé des subventions et des incitations inappropriées, le cheptel du Costa Rica a baissé d'un tiers, ce qui a permis de relâcher la pression qui s'exerçait sur les pâturages. Dans les décennies qui ont suivi, la couverture forestière du pays a augmenté, jusqu'à recouvrir aujourd'hui plus de la moitié de sa surface. Durant le même temps, le revenu par habitant a triplé. Sur cette base, l'économie a pu croître de manière durable et le Costa Rica est devenu l'une des premières destinations mondiales de l'écotourisme.

Et maintenant, comme le souligne le dernier rapport du GIEC, la hausse des températures menace à la fois la diversité et l'économie. C'est ensemble que nous devons la combattre.

Pour sa part, sous l'impulsion de son président, Carlos Alvarado, le Costa Rica s'est fixé la tâche "belle et titanesque" de décarboner son économie. Le plan national de décarbonisation qui va être lancé en décembre vise notamment à ce que le marché prenne en compte le coût du réchauffement climatique.

Cette politique fait perdre toute sa compétitivité aux énergies fossiles et incite à utiliser les énergies 100% renouvelables du Costa Rica dans les transports de manière à ne plus être dépendant du pétrole. Respecté déjà par cinq gouvernements, un moratoire sur l'exploitation du pétrole et du gaz renforce encore ces incitations. Rendre propre et efficace le secteur de l'énergie - un objectif qui rassemble les environnementalistes et les économistes - suppose de reconnaître qu'un avantage économique à court terme ne justifie pas le coût à long terme du recours aux énergies fossiles.

En tant que ministre pour l'un, et militant en faveur du climat pour l'autre, nous savons que l'Etat à un rôle important à jouer pour parvenir à la décarbonisation. Mais le rôle des acteurs non gouvernementaux (les entreprises locales et les habitants eux-mêmes) sera aussi essentiel. C'est pour cela que le gouvernement favorise le tourisme à faible impact sur l'environnement qui met en valeur le savoir de la population locale, et avec sa participation. Le Costa Rica est la preuve que la nature est mieux protégée si la population et les dirigeants nationaux unissent leurs efforts en faveur de cette cause commune.

La stratégie de lutte du Costa Rica contre le réchauffement climatique repose avant tout sur la population, et non sur les industries ou sur les marchés. Notre engagement en ce sens est basé sur la compréhension des énormes risques que fait peser l'inaction en matière de santé et de coût. Le pays consacre des ressources significatives pour combattre la dengue et le paludisme, parce que la population est notre premier atout. Si l'on parvient à limiter la hausse des températures à 1,5°C cela aura des effets très positifs en terme de santé publique. Le nombre de cas de dengue baissera de 3,3 millions en Amérique latine et dans les Caraïbes, le paludisme fera moins de victimes, les récoltes seront moins irrégulières et de ce fait il y aura moins de cas de dénutrition ou de malnutrition liés à la hausse des températures et à l'instabilité climatique.

Le Costa Rica est fier de jouer un rôle moteur dans la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique. Nous sommes l'un des rares pays qui pourrait aller au-delà des engagements qu'il a pris dans le cadre des accords de Paris sur le climat. Toutes les actions à mener ne seront pas faciles, il y faudra de la persévérance et de la flexibilité. Dans le cadre de ces accords, d'autres pays qui ont accepté d'adopter un plan climat plus ambitieux d'ici 2020 peuvent s'inspirer de notre expérience en matière de décarbonisation, d'investissement dans les biens naturels et de reconnaissance de l'importance du climat pour la santé de la population.

L'interdépendance de toutes ces mesures saute aux yeux. Le réchauffement climatique est un problème collectif, une seule mesure ou un pays à lui tout seul ne peut le résoudre. Mais cette interdépendance ne doit pas être une excuse pour ne rien faire. La limitation du réchauffement à 1,5°C est un objectif qui doit nous unir dans notre diversité d'approches.

Le mois prochain, le "Climate vulnerable forum" rassemblera les dirigeants d'une quarantaine de pays particulièrement vulnérables au réchauffement climatique pour un premier sommet entièrement virtuel. Ce sera une première pour une réunion entre chefs d'Etat. Et la prochaine réunion intergouvernementale sur le climat, la COP24, une réunion cruciale, se tiendra en décembre en Pologne. Ces deux rencontres seront l'occasion pour les dirigeants politiques de démontrer qu'ils ont compris que le rapport du GIEC repose sur des données scientifiques et qu'ils sont résolus à prendre des mesures ambitieuses pour parvenir à l'objectif de 1,5°C.

# ARTICLES

## The "Missing" Sixteen-Billion Liberian Dollar: What Does It Portrays for Liberia's Image Internationally?

By: Josephus M. Gray

Liberian embassies and diplomatic missions and diplomats in the USA, China and Euro Zone need to be very visible and proactive and not react to push President Weah's pro poor agenda since it is impossible for President Weah to be present at every international forum or gathering while these diplomatic missions and diplomats financially should be support to facilitate their responsibility.

Meritoriously, the Sino-Liberia and U.S. Liberia ties rapprochement will definite helped to create the unique conditions that led to the limited apprehensions but contributed and move the exiting relations to another levels of exceptionality. Liberia's balance ties with America and China perhaps most important, will be a great help strengthening the Weah's regime domestic sources of national control in several vital areas especially human capital development, quality education, job creation, recognized health delivery system, pave roads, efficiency political system, research and development.

President Weah administration need to effectively exercise what I described as "diplomatic equilibrium" in its dealings with the two rival world blocs to avoid being seemed as weighting heavily towards one bloc. In this case, the government should move faster and put its diplomats to work, define China and USA interests and use the country's bilateral ties to the advantage of the government.

The Weah's regime should solemnly understand the new level of diplomatic maneuvering across the globe as relative Beijing and Washington. China views development and foreign aid as practical policy instruments to promote political friendship and economic cooperation, and only tied aid to one China policy while the U.S. attaches clearly stated goals, stringent conditions, and strict criteria including democracy, respect for rule of law, human rights, and good governance, to its development programs

But Beijing's amazing aggregation of national power over the past 40 years has been a basis of wonderment among major state actors and non-state actors in the international system, as political experts are at a loss to expound the persistence of Communist Party rule despite its more open market order while economists have been astonished by China's steadily high rate of progress while historians have describe China's spectacular rise as unprecedented.

Nevertheless, there are other concerns especially the one coming from the United States of America regarding China's emerging influence in the world especially its dealing with third world African states. But to the U.S. national security community, China's rapid ascent up the global power ladder has been a source less of amazement than of cumulative unease.

During his January's inauguration, President Weah made known his administration foreign policy and domestic agenda constructively as he reached out to friendly countries and Liberia's international partners especially to Washington, Beijing, European Union, ECOWAS, African Union, United Nations, World Bank International Monetary Fund and Arab League countries, among others. President Weah need to keep to his commitment regarding Liberia-America bilateral ties as he stated in his esteemed speech which touched the relations between Liberia and the United States of America on one hand and Liberia-China productive and mutually rewarding relations.

In order to cement Liberia's bilateral ties further higher with the current powers in Washington and Beijing, the Weah's administration should attempted to build close cooperative relations with the two countries using diplomatic, thus keeping a vigorous communication channel with the two economics



THE AUTHOR

powers and the rest of the free world to the advantage of the CDC-led government pro-poor agenda, the interest of Liberia above other interests.

However, the diplomatic equilibrium can only be achieved if the rightful individuals assigned at Liberia's embassies and diplomatic missions abroad are demanded to perform a national duties since the president or the foreign minister cannot be presence every were at once to project the nation's images. Those currently in the field requires a strong background of a multidisciplinary perspective since diplomacy today is an appropriate instrument to attract investments and businesses back home, and, simultaneously, prove to be politically and economically profitable to Liberia.

The current administration primarily need to focus on economic diplomacy in the formulation of the CDC-led government foreign policy and the practice of international relations with Washington and Beijing on one hand and the West on the other hand especially Europe and Africa.

Those who are given the responsibility to project Liberia's images in the international system especially countries accredited at the various embassies and diplomatic missions abroad must be sharp, cognizant of global prevailing dynamics political and diplomatic issues to drive the desire results back home, and not just sit and wait to be tele-guided (push and start).

They need to understand that diplomacy goes far beyond sparkling red and white wines, champagne, ceremonial dinner and soliciting financial and other hand-outs for personal enrichment. The noble profession which goes with greater demands is not an end but a means; not a purpose but a method. It seeks, by the use of reason, conciliation and the exchange of interests to prevent major conflicts arising between sovereign states and other civil organizations.

But nowadays diplomacy and international relations are wrapped up with domestic policy-making and political demands about governance across an extended spectrum of pressing national issues such as President George M. Weah's administration pro-poor agenda and jobs creation for the greater population.

For the purpose of efficiency and productivity, the Weah's administration should institute decisive measures that the serious issue of diplomats negotiating which missions to be assigned should be halted; they should be posted to counties by those with the appointing powers, the president and the foreign minister.

This was one of the major weaknesses of the former Sirleaf's regime. It was common for these so-

called influential diplomats to lobby for posting to "prestigious" diplomatic missions in Europe, Asia, America and multilateral organizations, as greater numbers were not willing to be posted to African missions, especially the underdeveloped ones, while the stayed of a diplomat at one mission in most instances rendered the diplomat or Foreign Service officer inefficient.

Can this administration regularly rotate diplomats every four years, just as hundreds of states continue managed well. For example, nowadays most of the countries from Africa to America and Asia to Europe and South America to Meddle East regularly rotate diplomats; after four years at one diplomatic mission, the individual is brought home to render service at the foreign ministry while his successor move to replace the person; this strategic is intended to ensure effectiveness and not complacency.

While another concern is the existence of too many diplomatic missions abroad, which place a heavy financial burden on the scarce resources of this poor country Liberia, decisively, maintaining more contacts with non-African states. Studies have shown that Washington, Paris, London or Beijing wouldn't post diplomats to countries of their choice or where diplomats do not have command over the language of the host state or uninformed diplomats to countries of strategic importance in a particular region or continent.

Considering Liberia's current economic burden and scarce resources, President Weah need to establish a core group of financial, legal, foreign policy and diplomatic experts and political connoisseurs to review the past regime action to maintain existence of too many embassies and diplomatic missions in one region while the country has no embassy or diplomatic mission in other region or continents. For instance, the existed several missions in the Middle East countries including Qatar, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, while Liberia has no diplomatic missions or embassy in South America, Central America, Australia, Scandinavia and Oceania regions.

But considering Liberia's present poor economic situation, economic diplomacy should be given greater priority in our international relations with powerful states and government since economic diplomacy is now key factor in the development of contemporary international politics. It is clear that economic and commercial interests, particularly those related to investment, trade, exports, protection and assistance could be essential aspects of the diplomatic activities of a considerable number of countries.

In the modern world, the issues of economic interests, trade, protection of nationals, and security have become much more difficult, with major challenges affecting the practices of diplomacy being influenced by major actors and powerful states, and some time the continued experiment of global, continental and regional groupings. Other factors such as bad political decisions in domestic politics, economic growth, and technological development

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# Charles Sirleaf, others dropped from travel ban

By Winston W. Parley

Information reaching this paper says Deputy Central Bank Governor Charles Sirleaf, the son of former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf and several others including Bank spokesman Cyrus Badio have been removed from travel ban.

News of their removal from the list of travel ban on Tuesday, 9 October comes exactly a week after the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) requested a special investigative team set up by President Weah to probe an alleged missing L\$16 billion to remove its staff from travel ban.

They were placed on travel ban amid ongoing investigation surrounding alleged missing L\$16 billion that was printed, brought into the Country but allegedly vanished just in the time it was allegedly being escorted by armed national securities to



Mr. Charles Sirleaf



Mr. Cyrus Badio

the CBL from the Freeport of Monrovia.

But in the Bank's request made on 2 October, CBL Executive Governor Nathaniel Patray urged government to vacate its writ and remove the travel restriction placed on CBL staff "so as not to interrupt the smooth operations of the CBL."

The Bank claimed that there is no L\$16 billion Liberian Dollars missing, ahead of findings from the investigative team.

"The Central Bank of Liberia wants to clarify to the general public and our partners in progress that there is no 16 billion Liberian Dollars missing as has been

erroneously reported in the media," the CBL said Tuesday, 2 October.

In spite of the Bank's statement denying reports of missing money, the investigative team says it needs not less than six weeks to conduct the investigation.

According to the CBL, its records show that the total

money that was printed and placed in its reserve vaults was L\$15.5 billion for the period 2016 to 2018.

The Bank says this amount was verified from the CBL own internal documents and documents received from the Crane Currency of Sweden, the contracted printer of the money in question.

It continues that it has concluded its internal assessment on monies printed and brought in Liberia between 2016 and 2018.

The Bank says it has no records showing that monies printed under its authority have not yet been delivered into its reserve vaults.

But others have questioned the credibility and timing of the Bank's statement, especially when it sat there for roughly a month when current and past officials trade blames over who is responsible for the alleged missing money and allowing President Weah to set up an investigative team.

## LCC opposes War Crimes Court

By Ethel A. Tweh

The Secretary General of the Liberia Council of Churches (LCC) Musa Bamba says there is no need for the establishment of a "so-called" War Crimes Court here.

Speaking at the program marking the 144th World Post Day, 9 October, the LCC Chief Scribe says Liberians need reconciliation and not a War Crimes Court.

His comment comes at a time the US House Committee on Foreign Affairs has passed a resolution for the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court in Liberia.

The US House Committee's action comes in the wake of longstanding calls among many Liberians from home and abroad for the establishment of the court to have war and economic criminals account for their actions.

While some Liberians hold fears that perpetrators could incite violence if a War and Economic Crimes Court is established here, many other Liberians believe however that the prosecution of suspects would deter further atrocious acts here, even during times of crisis.

Liberia's decade - long civil conflict witnessed mass atrocities and looting, with an estimated 250,000 casualty and destruction of properties worth millions of dollars.

But Mr. Bamba insists that the LCC is not encouraging a witch - hunt of anyone, saying Liberians should reflect on

their history and be reminded on the humiliation that followed when the war started.

He wants Liberians to reflect on what motivated the Gio and Mano tribes to join the war, suggesting that those who were targeted during the war had to run away, prepare themselves and return for a revenge as the situation got more complex.

Further providing reason for opposing the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court here, Mr. Bamba says people were forced to fight in Liberia.

Besides, he notes that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Act speaks of reconciliation, and therefore Liberians need to reconcile.

According to him, Liberians have a lot of issues that he thinks are more important to the development of the nation than to spend money on a War Crimes Court.

He urges government not to divert from its priority and think on something that will cause hatred among Liberians.

In reaction to alleged missing L\$16 billion, Mr. Bamba wonders why would President Weah set up a committee if no money got missing from the Country.

In response to government's call for religious leaders to be a part of the investigation, the LCC official says they told the government that religious leaders are not investigators, but peacemakers.


According to him, those that are saying that there is no money missing should wait for the investigative team to come up with their findings.

On the other hand, Mr. Bamba wants the investigators to invite those that say money got missing so that they can explain how it got missing.

"The allegation is too great and it undermines the security of the country. It incites the population against this regime which is very bad. We as Liberians need to change our attitude, we need to change our behavior of governance" he warns.

The LCC Secretary General says Liberians need to respect their leaders, because the Bible and the Quran have called for respect for leaders.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

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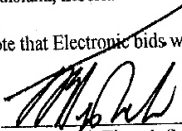


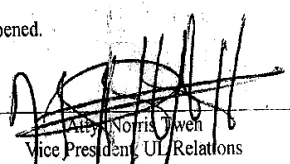
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**Section I. INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS  
(Printing and Delivery of Souvenir Items)  
IFB No.: UL/NCB/017/18/19

1. 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 99<sup>th</sup> Commencement Convocation in Louisiana, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia.
2. The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the printing and delivery of the souvenir items.
3. 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.
4. Specifications and quantity:
 

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit of Measure
1.	Printing and Delivery of Souvenir Items	Assorted	pieces
5. Eligibility and Qualification requirements include:
  - i. Valid Government of Liberia Business Registration
  - ii. Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
  - iii. Must be registered with the PPCC Vendor Registrar
  - iv. Past performance records in the last 4 years for similar job including the names and contact details of at-least three (3) clients
  - v. Bids must be duly signed by the bidder or person authorized on behalf of the bidder.
6. 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 and inspect sample of the souvenir items.
7. 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.
8. 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 envelope, 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
9. Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed:   
Fatou Rath Tipoteh (Mrs.)  
DIRECTOR  
Procurement Department, UL

Approved:   
Vice President, UL Relations

# VP Taylor acted on Weah's order

## --Says Vice President's Office



By Ben P. Wesee

Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor's Press Secretary Solomon Ware says Madam Taylor suspended elected officials from the Liberia Marketing Association (LMA) under straight order of President George Manneh Weah.

"The Vice President is acting based on precedent, and is acting on behalf of the president of the republic of

Liberia," Mr. Ware told local broadcaster Truth Fm Tuesday, 9 October outside Monrovia.

Mr. Ware made the claim Tuesday following marketers' peaceful protest outside President Weah's office on Monday, 8 October, requesting the reinstatement of suspended Liberia Marketing Association (LMA) president Alice Yeebahn.

Aggrieved marketers loyal to Alice are accusing Vice

President Taylor of allegedly using armed officers to force their elected officials from office over claims of corruption at the LMA.

But Mr. Ware claims that in recent times, President Weah asked Vice President Taylor to intervene into crises within the LMA.

He says upon receiving the mandate from President Weah, VP Taylor than moved



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# Burglary at Lone Star Cell MTN

## -items valued millions stolen

By Emmanuel Mondaye

Liberia's telecommunication giant Lone Star Cell MTN shut down its customer service center at the intersection of Barnesville and Kesselly Boulevard outside Monrovia due to persistent burglary, resulting to loss of several assets.

Criminals allegedly broke into the branch office and made away with scratch cards and other valuables estimated at millions of United States dollars.

The theft reportedly occurred recently when two private security guards hired by the company to protect its premises were offered alcohol

mixed with drugs by criminals, which they drank and subsequently dosed to sleep.

Criminals involved in the alleged burglary drove to the center in a vehicle in which they packed stolen properties of the company and absconded the crime scene.

This paper also gathers no arrest was made after the burglary, which has



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