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The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

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VP Taylor to face Weah in 2023?



President Weah



Vice President Taylor



Associate Justice Kabineh Ja'neh

Ja'neh faces two branches of gov't -in impeachment allegation



Continental News

Study finds 'huge' fall in FGM rates among African girls

Rates of female genital mutilation (FGM) have fallen dramatically among girls in Africa in the last two decades, according to new research.

The study, published in BMJ Global Health, cited a "huge and significant decline" among under-14s.

The practice involves removing all or part of a girl or woman's external genitalia, including the clitoris.

Some societies treat it as a rite of passage, but human rights groups say it is inhumane and physically dangerous.

In the worst cases, victims can haemorrhage to death after they are cut, or die of infections.

Chronic pain, infertility and menstrual problems can also follow, as well as potentially fatal childbirth complications.

Unicef, the UN children's agency, estimates that 200 million women and girls have undergone FGM worldwide - mostly in parts of Africa and the Middle East.

What did the figures show?

Using data from 29

countries and going back to 1990, the report's authors found that the biggest fall in cutting was in East Africa.

The prevalence rate there dropped from 71% of girls under 14 in 1995, to 8% in 2016, the study said.

Some countries with lower rates - including Kenya and Tanzania, where 3-10% of girls

endure FGM - helped drive down the overall figure.

In North Africa, the rate fell from almost 60% in 1990 to 14% in 2015.

West Africa also saw a significant drop, from 74% of girls in 1996, to 25% in 2017.

However, campaigners have observed that while younger children are most at risk, older

teenagers and young women are also affected by FGM - and the study did not include them.

"We are pleased to see that the numbers are coming down in a lot of countries," said Emma Lightowers, a spokeswoman for the Africa-focused campaign group 28TooMany. "But it doesn't tell the whole story and there are other groups where cutting takes place after the age of 14.

"It takes place in teenagers, or in fact, even in women in preparation for marriage," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

The team behind the report, which includes scientists based in Britain and South Africa, used data gathered for the Demographic Health Survey and Unicef, which covered almost 210,000 children. -BBC



Image copyright BARCROFT MEDIA VIA GETTY IMAGES :An FGM "cutter" in Kenya shows the razorblade she uses to cut girls' genitals

DR Congo Ebola outbreak 'worst' in country's history

The latest outbreak of the Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo is the worst in the country's history, the health ministry says.

Almost 200 people have died since August, officials say, with more than 300 confirmed or probable cases.

A vaccination programme has so far inoculated about 25,000 people.

Congo has suffered long

About half the victims were from Beni, a city of 800,000 in the North Kivu region, the national health authority said.

The current outbreak is the tenth Congo has suffered and the worst since Congo's first epidemic in 1976, so early in the disease's history it had yet to be named.

The outbreak in 1976 of what was then an unknown disease in a remote part of



Image copyright REUTERS: Medical teams are vaccinating people to help stop the spread of the virus

years of instability and efforts to relieve the disease have been hampered by attacks on medical workers.

"At this point, 319 cases and 198 deaths have been registered," health minister Oly Ilunga said.

"In view of these figures, my thoughts and my prayers go to the hundreds of families grieving, to the hundreds of orphans and the families which have been wiped out."

Congo sparked terror, but was brought under control by experts quickly identifying the virus' nature and using quarantines.

Ebola is spread via small amounts of bodily fluid and infection often proves fatal.

Early symptoms are flu-like, followed by vomiting, diarrhoea, a rash and internal and external bleeding. -BBC

Uganda pop star returns to stage after arrest

The Ugandan pop star turned opposition MP Bobi Wine has performed for the first time since being charged and jailed for treason.

There was a heavy police presence for the show, which was only allowed because it

was a non-political event.

Bobi Wine has alleged he was tortured and beaten while in custody in August, something denied by the authorities.

His popularity among Uganda's youth is seen as a

challenge to veteran President Yoweri Museveni.

Many among the thousands attending the concert wore red, the colour associated with Bobi Wine's 'people power' political movement.

"I thank Uganda police for providing us security and not stopping us as they have always done," the performer told the crowd, AFP reported.

The 36-year-old MP, whose real name is Robert Kyagulanyi, stood and won as an independent candidate in a by-election last year in Kyadondo East, central Uganda.

In August he and more than 30 other opposition politicians were charged with treason after the president's convoy was allegedly pelted with stones after a campaign rally.

He left Uganda for treatment in the US for injuries he said he received under detention but returned



Image copyright AFP: Bobi Wine took to the stage wearing his trademark red beret

in September.

Three-quarters of Uganda's population is under the age of 35 and Bobi Wine has become a rallying figure for a youth angry at poor job prospects and stagnant politics, correspondents say.

Bobi Wine was born four

years before Mr Museveni first became president in 1986 and has been calling for him to retire at the next elections, in 2021.

The self-declared "ghetto president" is yet to say whether he wants to run himself. -BBC

EDITORIAL

Real Justice creeps into Liberia

FORMER UNITED STATES Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice, Stephen Rapp, is calling on Liberians, especially war victims to exercise patience as justice creeps its way into Liberia, in the wake of both national and international efforts to establish a war crimes tribunal for the country.

“I THINK IT is very important to prevent crimes, to deter, to protect our children, our grandchildren that we do make the decision for justice,” he says and notes, “Today I see the swelling of interest for justice to be delivered in country.”

AMBASSADOR RAPP AND Country Representative of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights Dr. Uchenna Emelonye, attended a justice conference in Monrovia last Friday at the Monrovia City Hall, and have both called for Liberia to set up a war crimes court to prosecute perpetrators of its civil war. Held on the theme, “Opportunities and Challenges for Truth and Justice in Liberia for Past Crimes”, the conference was the first ever in Liberia since the end of the TRC process, bringing together several local and international advocacy groups.

WE AGREE WITH the former Ambassador when he says the only way to prevent impunity and vicious circle of crimes in Liberia is by holding people accountable through fair processes.

BUT THIS IS the reality key actors and their collaborators are trying to evade by issuing vain threats, because they are rewarded with power, and believe they did nothing wrong at all.

THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Dr. Emelonye says a postwar society that does not promote justice and accountability, does not properly heal without scars, and warns that if the victim of today does not heal and forgive, there is a tendency that he or she will be the violator tomorrow.

THE CONFERENCE HELD in Monrovia should send a clear signal that perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Liberia have no place to hide, as time is running out. They must be made to account for their actions.

LIBERIANS SHOULD SEIZE this opportunity being availed by the international community to help stamp out impunity here. This is no witch-hunting, but an honest attempt to deliver justice to the hundreds of thousands of voiceless victims, many of whom are in their graves or are without graves, as their bodies were dumped by the roadside and feasted on by dogs.

THE GOVERNMENT OF Liberia that professes to champion the cause of the common people should demonstrate its commitment by working with the international community to having this war crimes tribunal set up for Liberia, for it would boost its image. For all good reasons, the rest of world believes President George Manneh Weah is in a suitable position to support the establishment of the tribunal because he is a former UNICEF Ambassador for peace.

REGRETTABLY, THE PRESIDENT appears to be reluctant, because he has many of the famous war crimes perpetrators in his government, who have given him political loyalty. The challenge is on Weah and his government to stand up to truth and justice now or never.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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COMMENTARY

By Kenneth Rogoff

The Global Impact of a Chinese Recession

Most economic forecasts suggest that a recession in China will hurt everyone, but that the pain would be more regionally confined than would be the case for a deep recession in the United States. Unfortunately, that may be wishful thinking.

CAMBRIDGE - When China finally has its inevitable growth recession - which will almost surely be amplified by a financial crisis, given the economy's massive leverage - how will the rest of world be affected? With US President Donald Trump's trade war hitting China just as growth was already slowing, this is no idle question.

Typical estimates, for example those embodied in the International Monetary Fund's assessments of country risk, suggest that an economic slowdown in China will hurt everyone. But the acute pain, according to the IMF, will be more regionally concentrated and confined than would be the case for a deep recession in the United States. Unfortunately, this might be wishful thinking.

First, the effect on international capital markets could be vastly greater than Chinese capital market linkages would suggest. However jittery global investors may be about prospects for profit growth, a hit to Chinese growth would make things a lot worse. Although it is true that the US is still by far the biggest importer of final consumption goods (a large share of Chinese manufacturing imports are intermediate goods that end up being embodied in exports to the US and Europe), foreign firms nonetheless still enjoy huge profits on sales in China.

Investors today are also concerned about rising interest rates, which not only put a damper on consumption and investment, but also reduce the market value of companies (particularly tech firms) whose valuations depend heavily on profit growth far in the future. A Chinese recession could again make the situation worse.

I appreciate the usual Keynesian thinking that if any economy anywhere slows, this lowers world aggregate demand, and therefore puts downward pressure on global interest rates. But modern thinking is more nuanced. High Asian saving rates over the past two decades have been a significant factor in the low overall level of real (inflation-adjusted) interest rates in both the United States and Europe, thanks to the fact that underdeveloped Asian capital markets simply cannot constructively absorb the surplus savings.

Former US Federal Reserve chair Ben Bernanke famously characterized this much-studied phenomenon as a key component of the “global savings glut.” Thus, instead of leading to lower global real interest rates, a Chinese slowdown that spreads across Asia could paradoxically lead to higher interest rates elsewhere - especially if a second Asian financial crisis leads to a sharp draw-down of central bank reserves. Thus, for global capital markets, a Chinese recession could

easily prove to be a double whammy.

As bad as a slowdown in exports to China would be for many countries, a significant rise in global interest rates would be much worse. Eurozone leaders, particularly German Chancellor Angela Merkel, get less credit than they deserve for holding together the politically and economically fragile single currency against steep economic and political odds. But their task would have been well-nigh impossible but for the ultra-low global interest rates that have allowed politically paralyzed eurozone officials to skirt needed debt write-downs and restructurings in the periphery.

When the advanced countries had their financial crisis a decade ago, emerging markets recovered relatively quickly, thanks to low debt levels and strong commodity prices. Today, however, debt levels have risen significantly, and a sharp rise in global real interest rates would almost certainly extend today's brewing crises beyond the handful of countries (including Argentina and Turkey) that have already been hit.

Nor is the US immune. For the moment, the US can finance its trillion-dollar deficits at relatively low cost. But the relatively short-term duration of its borrowing - under four years if one integrates the Treasury and Federal Reserve balance sheets - means that a rise in interest rates would soon cause debt service to crowd out needed expenditures in other areas. At the same time, Trump's trade war also threatens to undermine the US economy's dynamism. Its somewhat arbitrary and politically driven nature makes it at least as harmful to US growth as the regulations Trump has so proudly eliminated. Those who assumed that Trump's stance on trade was mostly campaign bluster should be worried.

The good news is that trade negotiations often seem intractable until the eleventh hour. The US and China could reach an agreement before Trump's punitive tariffs go into effect on January 1. Such an agreement, one hopes, would reflect a maturing of China's attitude toward intellectual property rights - akin to what occurred in the US during the late nineteenth century. (In America's high growth years, US entrepreneurs often thought little of pilfering patented inventions from the United Kingdom.)

A recession in China, amplified by a financial crisis, would constitute the third leg of the debt supercycle that began in the US in 2008 and moved to Europe in 2010. Up to this point, the Chinese authorities have done a remarkable job in postponing the inevitable slowdown. Unfortunately, when the downturn arrives, the world is likely to discover that China's economy matters even more than most people thought.

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O-PED

By Dani Rodrik

Reclaiming Community

CAMBRIDGE - Economics teaches that the measure of an individual's wellbeing is the quantity and variety of goods he or she can consume. Consumption possibilities are in turn maximized by providing firms with the freedom they need to take advantage of new technologies, the division of labor, economies of scale, and mobility. Consumption is the goal; production is the means to it. Markets, rather than communities, are the unit and object of analysis.

No one can deny that this consumer- and market-centric vision of the economy has produced plenty of fruit. The dazzling array of consumer goods available in the megastores or Apple outlets of any major city in the world would have been unimaginable as recently as a generation ago.

But clearly something has gone wrong in the meantime. The economic and social divisions within our societies have provoked a broad backlash in a wide range of settings - from the United States, Italy, and Germany in the developed world to developing countries such as the Philippines and Brazil. This political turmoil suggests that economists' priorities may not have been entirely appropriate.

Two books, one forthcoming from Raghuram Rajan and another published this month by Oren Cass, revisit our economic worldview and argue that we should instead put the health of our local communities front and center. Stable families, good jobs, strong schools, abundant and safe public spaces, and pride in local cultures and history - these are the essential elements of prosperous societies. Neither global markets nor the nation-state can adequately supply them, and sometimes markets and states undermine them.

The authors come from different vantage points. Rajan is an economist at the University of Chicago and a former governor of the Reserve Bank of India. Cass is at the right-of-center Manhattan Institute for Policy Research and was domestic policy director for Republican Mitt Romney's presidential campaign. You would not necessarily expect either a Chicago economist or a moderate Republican to treat markets and hyper-globalization with skepticism. But both are disturbed by what they see as the effects on communities.

Rajan calls community the "third pillar" of prosperity, as important as the other two pillars - the state and market. No less than excessive centralized state power, he writes, unmanaged globalization can tear apart the fabric of local communities. Cass is explicit that US trade and immigration policy should focus on American workers first and foremost. This means ensuring that local labor markets are healthy and that there are plenty of goods jobs at decent wages. Both authors emphasize the gains from trade and reject US President Donald Trump's protectionism. But they agree we may have gone too far into hyper-globalization and paid insufficient attention to the costs for communities.

When a local factory closes because a firm has decided to outsource to a supplier across the border, more is lost than the hundreds (or thousands) of jobs that move abroad. The impact is multiplied through reduced spending on local goods and services, which means workers and employers across the entire local economy feel the hit. The local government's tax revenues fall as well, so there is less money to spend on education and other public amenities. Anomie, family breakdown, opioid addiction, and other social ills often follow.

Economists' usual answer is to call for "greater labor market flexibility": workers should simply leave depressed areas and seek jobs elsewhere. But as Cass reminds us, geographical mobility has to be coupled with "the opportunity to stay." Even during times of significant migration, the bulk of local populations stayed put and needed good jobs and solid communities.

Alternatively, economists might recommend compensating the losers from economic change, through social transfers and other benefits. Leaving aside the feasibility of such transfers, it is doubtful that they are the solution. Joblessness will undermine individual and community wellbeing even if consumption levels are propped up through cash grants.

Ultimately, it is only through the creation and expansion of well-paying jobs that local communities can be made vital. Cass's proposal is to encourage employment through wage subsidies. Rajan emphasizes the role of local leaders who can mobilize community assets, generate social engagement on the part of local residents, and create a new image - all in the context of more supportive state policies and managed globalization.

Other economists have advocated regionally targeted manufacturing extension programs, fostering partnerships between local employers and universities. Yet others recommend local public spending, such as on job training programs for small and medium-sized enterprises.

We do not have a good fix on what works best, and a fair amount of policy experimentation will be needed to make progress. But the urgency of action is heightened by the fact that ongoing technological trends threaten to exacerbate communities' existing problems. New digital technologies tend to exhibit scale economies and network effects, which produce concentration rather than localization of production. Instead of diffusing gains, they create winner-take-all markets. The globalization of production networks magnifies such effects further.

How we balance these forces with the needs of communities will shape not only our economic fortunes, but also our social and political environment. As Cass and Rajan show, it is a problem that economists should no longer ignore.

OPINION

By Barry Eichengreen

Populism's Common Denominator

BUSSELS - Following Emmanuel Macron's election as president of France in May 2017, global elites breathed a sigh of relief. The populist wave, they reassured themselves, had crested. Voters had regained their sanity. Helped along by an electoral system in which the two leading candidates faced off in a second round, the "silent majority" had united behind the centrist candidate in the runoff.

But now we have Brazil's presidential election, in which Jair Bolsonaro, who displays the authoritarian, anti-establishment, and anti-other tendencies of a textbook populist, won decisively in the second round. A two-round electoral system in which the runoff pits a populist outsider against the last mainstream candidate standing is no guarantee, evidently, that the center will hold.

A similar lesson flows from Italy's election earlier this year. The country's electoral rules had been reformed to add a majoritarian element to its proportional representation system, the goal being to encourage pre-election coalition building among mainstream parties. Instead, it brought to power a coalition of the populist left and right. Electoral engineering, it would seem, is not only ineffective in beating back the extremist threat; it can have unintended, counterproductive consequences.

Containing populism, it follows, requires more than fine-tuning the electoral system. It requires addressing the basic grievances responsible for voters' rejection of mainstream politicians and parties in the first place.

Unfortunately, there is little agreement about the nature of those grievances and therefore no consensus on how to respond.

One view, naturally favored by economists, is that economic complaints are at the root of the populist revolt. Italy has experienced stagnant productivity growth for more than two decades, while unemployment - particularly youth unemployment - has risen to devastating levels. Brazil, having only recently become accustomed to the status of a fast-growing economy, experienced a massive recession in 2015-2016, and 2018 is shaping up to be another bleak year.

But the US fits awkwardly into this mold. By the time of the 2016 election that brought President Donald Trump to power, the US economy had been expanding for six consecutive years. This is a reminder that populism is about more than economic growth. It is also about distribution, something that is equally a problem in Italy and Brazil. And it is about economic insecurity: Even those who are benefiting now have doubts about whether they - and their children - will benefit in the future.

Still, the booming US economy should at least give pause to those who favor the narrowly economic interpretation of the current wave of populism.

Alternatively, the current wave of populism has been viewed as a response to the perceived threat, as much political as economic, from so-called outsiders to the dominant cultural group. For Italian populists like Matteo Salvini, this means immigrants, primarily dark-skinned people from Africa who wear their outsider status on their sleeves. For Bolsonaro, it means racial minorities, women, and other groups that challenge the hegemony of the white working class. Trump displays both tendencies, claiming without substantiation that Middle East terrorists are among the migrants and asylum seekers from Central America, while reinforcing the racial, religious, and anti-feminist animus of his base.

Again, however, actual electoral behavior does not fall neatly along predicted lines. Bolsonaro received a surprising degree of support from black voters. Trump gained a strong plurality from women in an election held shortly after the release of the notorious "Access Hollywood" tape, on which Trump was heard boasting about sexual assaults he had committed.

What unites supporters of these upstart politicians, therefore, must be something else. In fact, the main ingredient is revulsion against the corruption of the political process. Voters are attracted to political outsiders - the more authoritarian the better - who promise to "drain the swamp." Herein lies the appeal of Trump and Bolsonaro, who promise to clean up their countries' "mess" by whatever means necessary. The corruption and ineffectiveness of a succession of mainstream coalitions, and the promise of outsiders to do better, whether credible or not, similarly motivates Italian supporters of the right-wing League party and the left-wing Five Star Movement.

Unfortunately, voters have no way of gauging who is truly committed to rooting out corruption. And, by delegating this task to a leader with authoritarian tendencies, they empower him to repopulate the swamp rather than draining it - to simply replace the mainstream's alligators with his own. We have already seen this tendency in the US. We are about to see it in Italy and Brazil.

Voters will learn the hard way that authoritarianism exacerbates rather than mitigates corruption, because it abolishes checks and balances on those pulling the levers of power. Once they learn this lesson, they are likely to give mainstream politicians and the democratic process another chance. Unfortunately, political institutions and civil society can suffer very considerable damage in the interim.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Notification of Extension for the Submission of Bids

4. The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) anticipates funds from the Government of Liberia through budgetary allocations and intends to use portion of it to fund eligible payments under the contract for the procurement of the below listed non-consulting services:

| No | Contract Package | IFB No | First Publication Date | Initial Submission Date | New Submission Date |
|----|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Provision of Catering Services | IFB No. MFDP/SBA/NCB/05/18-19 | October 3, 2018 | October 31, 2018 | November 14, 2018 |
| 2 | Provision of Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance Services | IFB No. MFDP/SBA/NCB/02/18-19 | October 3, 2018 | October 31, 2018 | November 14, 2018 |

5. Submission of Bids have now been extended to the Dates mentioned above and must be delivered to the address below **before or at 2:00 PM.** respectively. Bid validity periods must remain the same as indicated in the Bid Data Sheet.

6. Bids will be opened on the new submission dates as specified above in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend and the public in general, at the address indicated below:

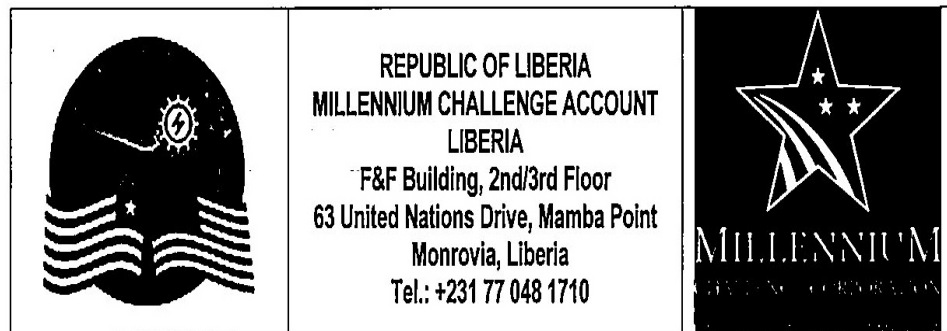
Procurement Unit
3rd Floor, Room 045
Ministry of Finance & Development Planning
P. O. Box 9013
Broad Street & Mechlin Streets
100 Monrovia 10 Liberia
Mobile Number: +231 88 657 9455 / 88 075 3568

Eric B. Arkoi

Director of Procurement

Approved: _____

Hon. Rebecca Younger McGill
Deputy Minister for Administration



CANCELLATION OF INVITATION FOR BIDS

4A430/EP/002

Supply and Delivery of Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunications Lines for Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC)

Background and Context

The Government, acting through Millennium Challenge Account - Liberia (the "MCA Entity"), funded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MCC"), issued an Invitation for Bids for the **Supply and Delivery of Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunications Lines for Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC).**

In view of the receipt of non-responsive bids, MCA-Liberia hereby **cancels bidding process for the Supply and Delivery of Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunications Lines for Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC)** in accordance with ITB 39.1 of the Bidding Document.

MCA-Liberia will re-examine the delivery requirements & technical specifications of the poles and intends to re-launch it at a future date.

Additional information may be obtained at the address below:

MCA-Liberia
Attention: Procurement Agent – MCA Liberia
2nd Floor, F & F Building
63 United Nations Drive
Mamba Point, Coconut Plantation
Monrovia, Liberia
Email: MCALiberiaPA@cardno.com with copy to slewionj@mca.gov.lr

Decomposed body found in Nimba -As hunter mistakenly shoots girl dead

By Thomas Domah/Nimba

The decomposed remains of an unidentified man believes to be in his early 30s have been discovered in a rubber farm in Zuluyee town, Electoral district #2 along the Ganta-Sanniquellie highway in Nimba County.

The body was found about five minutes away from the main road towards the rubber farm.

The New Dawn Nimba County Correspondent, who visited the scene, says ropes were still on the remains, including personal effects of the victim's.



The decomposed body of an unidentified man

Police in Ganta City, Nimba County have invited proprietor of the farm, Augustine Brewer for questioning.

The Town Chief of Garr Zuluyee Sampson Wuo, narrates that prior to the discovery, his 35-year-old son Lanford Wuo, had gone missing about three weeks without trace.

Chief Wuo explains his son was buying rubber for farmer Augustine Brewer from a Guinean national of Naapa inside Guinea.

He laments that since his son went missing some three weeks ago, it was one day to the discovery of the badly decomposed body before Brewer broke news about his disappearance, disclosing to the family that Lanford Wuo absconded with 35,000 Liberian Dollars that was given to him to buy rubber as usual.

According to Chief Wou, after Mr. Augustine Brewer informed them, the next day a body was discovered by some students who had gone in the rubber farm to fetch woods.

A 15-man jury reports the decomposed body was found in the rubber farm with several ropes on skeleton of the victim's, including clothes and other items.

A tapper on the farm Peter George told this paper the victim was never in the employ of the farm neither had he worked there before.

Mr. George discloses that since he started working on the farm, only four tappers have been working there and none of them were missing.

However, Chief Wou alleges that businessman Augustine Brewer informs the family to give him few days to produce the living body of their son Lanford Wuo.

Meanwhile, police in Yekepa, Nimba County have arrested a hunter, who allegedly killed a 15-year-old girl and wounded her mother.

Our Correspondent says the deceased along with her mother Panicle Dolo, and other family members were returning from the farm when hunter Paye Flomo fired at them with his single barrel gun, instantly killing the 15-year-old girl and wounding her mother, who is said to be receiving medication in Guinea.

Hunter Flomo explains that he mistakenly saw the family like animals and opened fire, killing one instantly.

The body of the deceased, Ophelia Babygirl, has been turned over to the family for burial while hunter Paye Flomo is facing police investigation. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

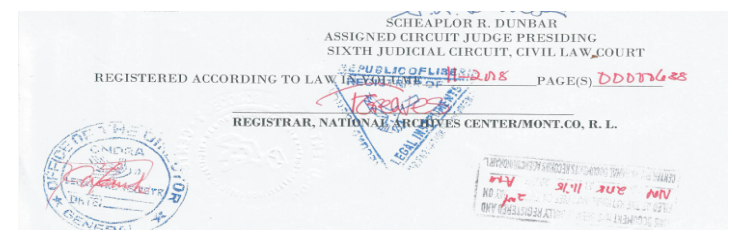
Court's Degree of Change of Name

Whereas, Petitioner herein named in the above entitled cause of action, having file a petition with affidavit attached thereto, requesting an order from this Honorable Court to have the name of Petitioner's name to formally and legally change from "Abigail Amie Kamara" to "Abigail A. Kamara".

Whereas, after the court having thoroughly examined petitioner's petition and this court haven been satisfied of the truthfulness of the allegation set forth.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED, ORDERED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS TO WIT:

That petitioner's petition is hereby ordered granted beginning this 24th day of October A.D. 2018 and the petitioner's name is now formally and legally changed from "Abigail Amie Kamara" to "Abigail A. Kamara".



Ja'neh faces two branches of gov't

By Winston W. Parley

The legal arm of the Executive branch here is fighting on the side of the Legislative branch to impeach Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh, in spite of public outcry against lawmakers' disrespect to the Supreme Court to honor a stay order in the proceedings.

Lack of quorum in previous deliberation among Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor, Sr. and his three Associate Justices necessitated a re-argument of Justice Ja'neh's petition for a writ of prohibition on Friday, 9 November to update newly appointed Ad - Hoc Justice Boima Kontoe to break a tie.

Since their votes are not known except they are expressed through minority dissent against the Court's Opinion, one cannot say for sure what decision either of the justices voted for.

But newly seated Associate Justice Joseph Nagbe could be heard questioning Ja'neh's lawyers if their client had not acted prematurely as he was not under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives at the time he sought prohibition on the basis of hearing that there was a complaint against him.

Throughout the hearing at the Supreme Court, the House of Representatives insists that it cannot honor the Supreme Court's citation to appear and address allegations made by



Justice Ja'neh that lawmakers were proceeding without rules and must therefore be prohibited by the Court.

But the prosecuting arm of the Executive, the Ministry of Justice which the Supreme Court had simply invited to argue on the side of the law, has now presented itself in an amended brief as counsel for the defiant lawmakers.

On Friday Chief Justice Korkpor said he and his three Associate Justices were divided two against two in their room of deliberation [where recused Justice Ja'neh was looking to see if his colleagues could have decided in majority to issue a writ of prohibition to block the

ongoing impeachment against him by the Legislature].

Justice Ja'neh's lawyers have been seeking the Supreme Court's intervention to prohibit the ongoing impeachment on grounds that the House of Representatives was proceeding without rules to have him impeached.

Even if Justice Ja'neh acquires the majority vote on his side for the Supreme Court to issue a writ of prohibition, it remains to be seen if the Legislature would even submit to the Supreme Court's order, given the House's action of documented disrespect to the nation's highest court in the very case.

Arguing on behalf of Justice

Minister Cllr. Frank Musa Dean on the side of the House of Representatives, Solicitor General Cllr. Darku Mulbah admits that at the time Representatives Moses Acarus Gray and Thomas Fallah filed the complaint for impeachment, the House had no rules.

Yet Cllr. Mulbah says the House of Representatives did not proceed by wrong rules, saying Justice Ja'neh filed a premature petition that sought to restrain the House from performing its official duty.

Cllr. Mulbah says the House later mandated an ad - hoc committee to come up with rules within three weeks, informing the Supreme Court that they now have rules but he doesn't have a copy.

But Ja'neh's lawyer, Cllr. Arthur T. Johnson argues that the House proceeded without rules, telling the court the due process right of his client does not begin when he faces the Senate for trial, but from the very day he was accused by the House through the complaint filed by the lawmakers.

According to him, the portion of the Constitution that gives power to each of the Houses to formulate their own rules has to do with their internal workings that do not concern impeachment matters, noting that the Senate's decision was wrong.

Cllr. Johnson prays the Court to grant his client's petition and issue the writ of prohibition, warning that the same Court that the lawmakers disrespected is the very court that they will be asking to preside over the impeachment.

Buttressing Cllr. Johnson, Cllr. Johnny Momo alerts that justice has been attacked by the Legislature when it challenged the Supreme Court

through a letter written by the House's Chief Clerk, referring to the Court's writ issued as a "paper" and ordered the court to vacate the writ to avoid embarrassment.

Cllr. Momo warns that the Court cannot submit itself to the wings and caprices of the legislature, saying as lawyers, they are under oath to protect and defend the Supreme Court.

He asked the Court grant their petition and issue the writ of prohibition, restrain the House from proceeding with the impeachment and order that the matter return to status quo.

On accusations of alleged proved misconduct, abuse of judicial power, among others by ruling party CDC Representatives Moses Acarus Gray and Thomas Fallah, the House of Representatives has drafted, passed and submitted to the Senate, an article of impeachment try and remove Justice Ja'neh from the Supreme Court bench.

Following submission of the article by the House, the Senate amended Rule 63 of its standing rules easing the way for the impeachment trial, ignoring public outcry of alleged Constitutional violation.

Those against the process, including some Senators, are specific about alleged violation of Article 43 that partly says the Legislature shall prescribe rules for impeachment proceedings in conformity with the requirements of the due process of law.

Having heard arguments from both parties, the public now awaits the decision of the Supreme Court that now has four Justices and an Ad - hoc justice to break a tie. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah**

Light International School System donates to the group of 77

The Light International School System in Sinkor on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, donated several bags of rice to the Group of 77 at Newport Street, Monrovia, Liberia.

The Light International School System has been one of the leading international

school systems in Liberia since its establishment in the county in 2006.

Presenting the bags of rice, the Principal of the school Mr. Etem Taniskan said the donation was part of his institution's means of identifying with the disabled.

"The donation is meant to

buttress efforts of the administration of the Group of 77 in providing rations for persons with disabilities in Liberia" Mr. Taniskan added. "The gesture is just one of several donations the Light International School System has made to people with special needs in Liberia."

Mr. Taniskan pointed out that as long as the Light International School System continues to operate in Liberia, it will always implement outreach programs that will bring relief to the underprivileged and less fortunate in the Liberian society.

Receiving the bags of rice on behalf of the Group of 77, the Executive Director Madam Wayfa F. Ciapha thanked The Light International School System for their continuous assistance to the persons with disabilities in Liberia.

"Light International School System has been among our regular and biggest donors over the years," Madam Ciapha said. "I



Heineken Int'l

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has edge over Guinness Stout because it is all natural and full of brewing, adding that it's distinct, and full - bold stout and has 7.5 percent alcohol.

As for Sol which is one of the company's newest brands launched here, Andre adds that it has a global footprint and light taste which was born in Mexico in 1899.

Following the indoor launching program of the brands, the event ended with an half hour night - time draw at the Golden Beach where Josephine Youbouty was the lucky winner of Heineken - Abi Joudi's offer to travel to Paris, France by end of November to witness Champions League.

Paris is chosen since Liberia's President George Manneh Weah, in his soccer career days, had link with Paris Saint - Germain (PSG) so as to motivate young Liberians to aspire to be a star.

The winner who emerged from invitees who had filled out forms distributed to them by their host at Bella Casa, Ms. Youbouty, was overwhelmed and appeared to be out of words when she was announced and told she would travel to Paris.

She expressed gratitude to the company and said she remains grateful. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah**

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

67 suspects charged in Bong

--following looting at mining company facility*By Joseph Titus Yekeryan
in Bong*

Police in Bong County have formally charged 67 persons with multiple offenses and sent them to court for prosecution following serious looting at the MNG Gold Mining Company facilities in Kokoyah District.

Their charge follows preliminary investigations into a violent action against the company on Monday, 5 November by locals in reaction for the death of four victims.

The victims were riding on a motorbike when the company's vehicle collided with the motorbike and killed all occupants, including the bike operator. This led to the looting of MNG Gold facilities.

According to police sources, the suspects include 64 men and 3 women. They have been charged with armed robbery, rioting, arson and burglary.

They also face other charges including criminal conspiracy, criminal mischief and theft.

Police records show that after the accident that led to the deaths of four persons, the

suspects subsequently set ablaze the company's vehicle and later conspired to loot its facilities.

Some of the suspects



admitted being on the scene of both the burning of the company's pickup involved in the accident and looting of the facilities, according to police records.

But they denied playing any role in the acts. The accident occurred when a Toyota Hilux Pickup belonging to a Chinese firm contracted by MNG Gold ran into a commercial motorcycle, killing the rider and all three passengers.

Few minutes later, an angry mob set the vehicle ablaze and later moved onto the Company's facilities close to the accident scene and allegedly carried out massive

looting of the Company's properties.

Several employees of the company reported that the crowd cut off the entire electricity supply in the company's compound for several hours while the looting was taking place.

The situation was brought under control few hours later through the help of Police Support Unit (PSU) officers from the Gbarnga Regional Justice and Security Hub.

The officers had responded to avoid further damage. Police in the early hours of Tuesday, 6 November initially arrested 55 suspects based on footage from the CCTV security Camera, while 12 others were arrested later.

This is the latest in a series of mob violence incidents seen across Liberia.

Bong County Police Detachment Commander, Col. Frederick Nappy, who was in the area with a team of senior police officers from Monrovia, told our Bong County correspondent that the Company's entire facilities were looted.

On Tuesday, Internal Affairs Minister Varney Sirleaf, Bong County Superintendent Esther

Walker and the Chairman of the Bong County Legislative Caucus Senator Henry Yallah as well as Representative Albert Hills, who represents the affected district in the House, visited Sayeweh town and the Company's facilities.

The officials say their visit was part of efforts to get firsthand information about the overall situation in the area.

During a meeting with the citizens in Sayeweh, Minister Sirleaf and other officials assured the locals that all will be done to ensure their relatives that were killed in the motor accident are given a befitting burial.

Before the accident, there had been growing tensions between the people of Sayeweh Town and MNG Gold for several months.

The tension has surrounded allegations that the Company was not living up to the implementation of projects under the mineral development agreement (MDA) and the Memorandum of Understanding it signed with the citizens.

But the company has persistently denied the allegation. **--Edited by Winston W. Parley**

Liberian gov't commends Cuban Chargé d'Affairs

By Ethel A. Tweh

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commends the Chargé d'Affairs of the Republic of Cuba for work and impact made on Liberia and the Liberian people at large.

Speaking at the farewell ceremony of the Chargé d'Affairs Mr. Yordenis Despaigne Vera over the weekend at a local hotel in Monrovia, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Elias Shoniyin notes

that Liberia and Cuba have a strong relationship and thanks the Cuban envoy his services here.

"Farewell occasion is not always the best, it's not easy to say good bye. You were here when Liberia needed you the most; you helped us combat the deadly Ebola Virus." He notes.

He recalls the Chargé d'Affairs took over during the Ebola crisis when people were leaving, yet he and his country stood by Liberia, provided

Doctors, and their embassy was never closed, adding that Cuba supported Liberia in the post-Ebola recovery.

Deputy Minister Shoniyin further recalls that since April 1974, the bilateral relationship between Liberia and Cuba has been strong. "As you depart, Liberia will continue to cooperate with your embassy. On behalf of the President, we say farewell."

Chargé d'Affairs Yordenis Despaigne Vera says he came to Liberia at a most difficult time when people were unable to shake hands, adding that it was a difficult task for him at first, but later he got used to the situation.

He says it was a privilege to have been a witness to Liberia's election last year and the peaceful transition of one government to another, thanking the former and current officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, noting that it was the first door that was always open to them.

He also expresses gratitude to the Liberian press for always standing by the embassy, which enabled staff to express the Cuban reality and bring his country close to the Liberian public. **--Editing by Jonathan Browne**



Light International

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consider the donation from your institution as timely, and I promise that my leadership will use the rice for the intended beneficiaries."

In a happy mood, some of the beneficiaries and their Program Officer, Mr. Isaac T. Kiba, lauded the efforts of the school and call for more assistance to the Group of 77.

The Group of 77 is catering

to more than 10,000 persons with disabilities throughout Liberia.

The group was established by former Liberian President William R. Tolbert, Jr. in 1977 upon his return from the United Kingdom where he got impressed by the way persons with disabilities in the UK were being catered to. **--Press release**

#It's shame that only in Liberia foreigners are siphoning billions thru sand and rock mining.#

Français

Appel à juger les responsables de crimes pendant la guerre civile

Le représentant au Liberia du Haut-Commissariat des Nations unies aux droits de l'Homme (HCDH) et des ONG ont appelé vendredi à Monrovia les autorités à juger les auteurs de crimes commis pendant la guerre civile qui a ravagé ce pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest de 1989 à 2003.

"Comment un pays qui a connu des violations flagrantes des droits de l'homme peut-il se réconcilier avec son passé pour façonner son futur ?", a déclaré à l'ouverture d'une conférence organisée par des ONG libériennes et internationales le représentant du HCDH, Uchenna Emelonye.

"Comment peut-il s'assurer que leurs auteurs rendent des comptes, décourager l'impunité et parvenir à une réconciliation durable ? Tel est le dilemme de tous les pays post-conflit, dont le Liberia", a-t-il souligné.

Quinze ans après la fin de ce conflit particulièrement atroce qui a fait quelque 250.000 morts, un très grand nombre de personnalités



directement impliquées dans la guerre civile occupent toujours des positions importantes dans les sphères du pouvoir politique et économique.

Les recommandations du rapport de la Commission vérité et réconciliation (TRC) publié en 2009 sont restées largement lettre morte,

notamment au nom du maintien de la paix, certains des chefs de guerre incriminés étant considérés comme des "héros" par leurs communautés respectives.

En juillet, le Comité des droits de l'Homme de l'ONU a regretté que "très peu de mesures" de ce rapport aient

été adoptées et l'absence de poursuites à l'encontre des personnes citées, disant craindre "qu'une telle situation ne favorise un climat d'impunité et ne fasse obstacle à la justice transitionnelle".

"La position du Haut-Commissariat aux droits de l'Homme est que tous les acteurs, sous l'impulsion du

gouvernement, doivent faire en sorte que les comptes soient rendus pour les crimes du passé", a ajouté M. Emelonye, insistant sur la nécessité que les Libériens s'approprient ce processus, dans le respect des normes internationales.

La députée Rustonlyn Dennis a exprimé le soutien du Parlement libérien à ce processus, mais souligné les possibles problèmes budgétaires qu'elle pourrait entraîner pour ce pays pauvre. "Nous sommes inquiets par le financement d'un tribunal pour juger les crimes de guerre et la sécurité des habitants", a-t-elle dit, souhaitant que cette conférence "apporte un nouveau visage à la justice au Liberia".

L'un des principaux acteurs du conflit, l'ex-chef de guerre devenu président (1997-2003), Charles Taylor, a été condamné en 2012 pour des crimes contre l'humanité et des crimes de guerre perpétrés en Sierra Leone voisine, mais n'a pas été inquiété pour les atrocités commises dans son propre pays. Africa N° 1

Côte d'Ivoire : les agents de la santé suspendent leur mot d'ordre de grève

La Coordination des centrales syndicales du secteur de la santé de Côte d'Ivoire (Coordisanté) regroupant les syndicats de personnel de la santé du pays, a suspendu samedi à Abidjan, son mot d'ordre de grève pour deux semaines, (soit jusqu'au 24 novembre) en vue de donner une chance au dialogue avec le gouvernement, a

constaté APA sur place. «La Coordisanté suspend pour deux semaines son mot d'ordre de grève en vue de s'inscrire dans l'appel au dialogue du gouvernement. Nous nous retrouverons le samedi 24 novembre pour faire le point de cette trêve», a dit à APA, Boko Kouaho, le porte-parole de cette organisation à l'issue

d'une Assemblée générale bilan des cinq premiers jours de grève de la Coordisanté qui ont eu lieu du 05 au 09 novembre dernier.

Ce consensus entre les syndiqués de la Coordisanté a été acquis à l'issue de houleuses discussions qui ont duré plus de sept heures d'horloge au Centre hospitalier universitaire (CHU) de Yopougon à l'ouest d'Abidjan où s'est tenue l'Assemblée générale. Le point d'achoppement entre la majorité des syndiqués et le directoire de leur organisation était la « reconduction immédiate ou non » de la grève. « Nous mettons à profit ces deux semaines de suspension pour exiger la libération de deux de nos camarades (Kouakou Hyacinthe et Niamkey Séverin) détenus à la préfecture de la police d'Abidjan. Nous accédons à l'appel du gouvernement et à partir de lundi, nous sommes disposés à dialoguer avec les autorités sur nos points de revendications »,

a ajouté M. Kouaho assurant de que le service reprendra dès dimanche dans tous les hôpitaux publics du pays.

« Nous avons discuté lundi dernier avec le ministre de la fonction publique rien que sur la forme de nos griefs. Au terme des discussions, aucun point de nos revendications n'a été discuté et satisfait », a-t-il expliqué auparavant à ses camarades.

Plusieurs points sont inscrits sur la plateforme revendicative de cette faïtière des agents de la santé. Il s'agit entre autres, de la prime d'incitation au secteur de la santé,

les indemnités de logement, l'indemnité de responsabilité et la revalorisation indiciaire (100 points et 150 points d'indice).

Relativement au bilan des cinq premiers jours de grève (du 05 au 09 novembre dernier), le porte-parole de la Coordisanté s'est satisfait du suivi de cet arrêt de travail dans les hôpitaux ivoiriens sur l'ensemble du territoire

national. « Nous sommes satisfaits de la mobilisation que vous avez donné sur le terrain », a dit M. Kouaho. Tour à tour au pupitre, les représentants syndicaux de la Coordisanté à l'intérieur du pays ont, assuré du suivi total des cinq jours de grève dans leurs localités respectives.

Dès l'entame de cette grève lundi dernier, le ministre ivoirien de la santé et de l'hygiène publique, Dr Eugène Aka Aouélé avait plaidé auprès des syndicats du personnel de santé de sursoir à leur mot d'ordre de grève pour lui donner le temps de régler leurs problèmes.

Dans une déclaration faite mercredi dernier, le gouvernement ivoirien s'est étonné à son tour, de ce que les membres de la Coordisanté, bien qu'ayant bénéficié des acquis du protocole d'accord portant trêve sociale dans le pays, notamment le paiement du stock des arriérés, la bonification indiciaire, veuillent remettre en cause ladite trêve sociale.



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Français

Éditorial

Notre humble avis sur la procédure de destitution en cours

Les législateurs de Capitol Hill préparent une procédure de destitution à l'encontre du juge associé Kabineh M. Ja'neh depuis juillet sous l'administration du président George Manneh Weah.

Ils affirment que le juge Ja'neh a commis une inconduite avérée, un abus de pouvoir, un abus de son pouvoir discrétionnaire, des fraudes, un détournement de pouvoir et des actes de corruption. En juillet dernier, deux députés de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) au pouvoir, Moses Acarous Grey et Thomas Fallah, ont présenté à la Chambre basse un projet de loi portant destitution du juge associé Ja'neh.

Cependant, sur la base de la requête du juge Ja'neh qui visait à obtenir une suspension de la procédure au niveau de la Chambre des représentants, la Cour suprême du Libéria a émis une ordonnance de suspension et invité les législateurs à se pencher sur les questions soulevées par l'équipe juridique de M. Ja'neh.

Mais les membres de la Chambre des représentants ont catégoriquement rejeté cette ordonnance. Ils ont plutôt rédigé, adopté et soumis au Sénat libérien le projet de loi sur la destitution, de sorte que le juge Ja'neh puisse désormais être poursuivi en justice dans le cadre des charges portées contre lui.

Notre attention a été attirée par le drame qui se produit à Capitol Hill, en premier lieu à cause du bruit généralisé selon lequel les législateurs procèdent en violation de l'article 43 de la Constitution du Libéria qui stipule que « le législateur prescrira la procédure de destitution qui sera adoptée conformément aux exigences d'une procédure régulière. »

Nous prenons également note du contre-argument de certains des législateurs, en particulier des sénateurs qui estiment qu'il est acceptable de simplement adopter l'instrument soumis par la Chambre des représentants pour juger le juge Ja'neh, car le Sénat libérien a modifié l'article 63 de son statut qui concerne les procédures d'impeachment.

Nous mettons en garde le Sénat, auquel la Constitution donne le pouvoir de juger toutes les procédures de destitution, de suivre les étapes prévues par la loi organique. Il est à craindre que cette affaire historique pourrait amener l'Assemblée législative à créer un mauvais précédent dont d'autres voudront bien se servir demain pour continuer à abuser de la Constitution.

Déjà, il semble y avoir une division au Sénat, un groupe de sénateurs ayant averti que procéder «de manière inconstitutionnelle causerait le chaos », tandis que d'autres sénateurs pensent que cet avertissement n'est rien d'autre qu'une simple tactique alarmiste, soulignant la nécessité de procéder parce qu'ils ont déjà modifié l'article 63 du Règlement permanent du Sénat en matière de destitution.

S'il est avéré que la loi a été ignorée, comme l'ont signalé certains sénateurs, il n'est pas trop tard de faire une lecture minutieuse des textes et de respecter la bonne procédure à la lettre avant même de commencer un procès en destitution. Nous pensons qu'il serait ainsi assez juste.

Nous aimerions rappeler que ceux qui ont rédigé nos lois avant l'élection et la nomination de ceux qui se trouvent au Capitole aujourd'hui n'ont pas eu tort quand ils ont inscrit à l'article 43 de notre Constitution que « L'Assemblée législative prescrira la procédure de destitution qui sera adoptée conformément aux exigences d'une procédure régulière. » Comme certains sénateurs l'ont fait valoir, si le terme « Assemblée législative » désigne à la fois la Chambre des représentants et le Sénat libérien, nous estimons que cette définition devrait être maintenue ainsi.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Kenneth Rogoff

L'impact mondial d'une récession chinoise

CAMBRIDGE - Quand la Chine connaîtra enfin sa récession de croissance inévitable - qui sera presque sûrement amplifiée par une crise financière, compte tenu de l'endettement massif de l'économie - comment sera affecté le reste du monde? Alors que la guerre commerciale du président américain Donald Trump frappe la Chine juste au moment où la croissance était déjà en plein ralentissement, il ne s'agit pas d'une question fictive.

Les estimations typiques, par exemple celles qui figurent dans les évaluations du risque pays du Fonds monétaire international, laissent penser que le ralentissement économique en Chine affectera l'ensemble du monde. Mais la douleur aiguë, selon le FMI, sera plus concentrée au niveau régional et confinée que dans le cas d'une récession profonde aux États-Unis. Malheureusement, cela pourrait être un vœu pieux.

Tout d'abord, l'effet sur les marchés internationaux des capitaux pourrait être considérablement plus grand que ce que ne laissent penser les liens avec le marché des capitaux chinois. Quel que soit le niveau de nervosité des investisseurs mondiaux concernant les perspectives de croissance des bénéfices, un choc de croissance chinoise rendrait les choses bien pires. Bien qu'il soit vrai que les États-Unis sont de loin le plus gros importateur de biens de consommation finale (une part importante des importations de produits manufacturés chinois est composée de biens intermédiaires qui finissent par être incorporés dans les exportations vers les États-Unis et l'Europe), les entreprises étrangères continuent néanmoins à faire d'énormes profits sur les ventes en Chine.

Aujourd'hui, les investisseurs sont également préoccupés par la hausse des taux d'intérêt, qui non seulement amortit la consommation et l'investissement, mais aussi réduit la valeur de marché des entreprises (en particulier les entreprises technologiques) dont les valorisations dépendent fortement de la croissance des bénéfices à long terme. Une récession chinoise pourrait encore aggraver la situation.

J'apprécie la pensée keynésienne habituelle selon laquelle, si toutes les économies ralentissent partout, cela réduit la demande globale mondiale et impose donc une pression à la baisse sur les taux d'intérêt mondiaux. Mais la pensée moderne est plus nuancée. Les taux d'épargne asiatiques élevés au cours des deux dernières décennies ont été un facteur explicatif important du faible niveau global des taux d'intérêt réels (corrigés de l'inflation), tant aux États-Unis qu'en Europe, à cause du fait que les marchés de capitaux asiatiques sous-développés ne peuvent tout simplement pas absorber de manière constructive tout l'excédent d'épargne.

Les travaux célèbres de l'ancien président de la Réserve fédérale américaine, Ben Bernanke, ont caractérisé ce phénomène bien connu en tant qu'élément fondamental de la « surabondance de l'épargne mondiale ». Ainsi, au lieu de conduire à une baisse des taux d'intérêt réels mondiaux, un ralentissement chinois qui se propagerait à travers l'Asie pourrait paradoxalement conduire à une élévation des taux d'intérêt dans les autres régions - surtout si une deuxième crise financière asiatique conduisait à une forte diminution des réserves des banques centrales. Ainsi, pour les

marchés mondiaux de capitaux, une récession chinoise pourrait facilement se révéler être une double peine.

Aussi mauvais que soit un ralentissement des exportations vers la Chine pour de nombreux pays, une hausse significative des taux d'intérêt mondiaux serait bien pire. Les dirigeants de la zone euro, en particulier la chancelière allemande Angela Merkel, reçoivent moins de reconnaissance qu'ils ne méritent pour maintenir l'intégrité de la monnaie unique, qui est fragile politiquement et économiquement face aux risques économiques et politiques importants. Mais leur tâche aurait été presque impossible sans les taux d'intérêt mondiaux ultra bas, qui ont permis aux responsables de la zone euro, paralysés politiquement, d'éviter les dépréciations et restructurations de dette nécessaires dans la périphérie.

Lorsque les pays avancés ont eu leur crise financière il y a dix ans, les marchés émergents ont récupéré assez rapidement, grâce à un faible niveau de dette et à la vigueur des prix des matières premières. Aujourd'hui, cependant, les niveaux d'endettement ont augmenté de manière significative et une forte hausse des taux d'intérêt réels mondiaux étendrait presque certainement les crises qui se préparent aujourd'hui au-delà de la poignée de pays (dont l'Argentine et la Turquie) qui ont déjà été touchés.

Les États-Unis ne sont pas non plus immunisés. Pour le moment, les États-Unis peuvent financer leurs déficits, se chiffrant en billions de dollars, à un coût relativement faible. Mais la maturité relativement courte durée de leurs emprunts - moins de quatre ans si l'on intègre les bilans de la Fed et du Trésor - signifie qu'une hausse des taux d'intérêt aurait pour conséquence que le service de la dette évincerait rapidement les dépenses publiques nécessaires dans d'autres domaines. En même temps, la guerre commerciale de Trump menace également de saper le dynamisme de l'économie américaine. Sa nature quelque peu arbitraire et politiquement motivée la rend au moins aussi nuisible à la croissance des États-Unis que les réglementations que Trump a si fièrement éliminées. Ceux qui ont fait l'hypothèse que les prises de position de Trump sur le commerce étaient pour la plupart des fanfaronnades de campagne devraient être inquiets.

La bonne nouvelle est que les négociations commerciales semblent souvent impossibles jusqu'à la dernière minute. Les États-Unis et la Chine pourraient parvenir à un accord avant que les tarifs punitifs de Trump n'entrent en vigueur le 1er janvier. Un tel accord, on espère, refléterait une arrivée à maturité de l'attitude de la Chine envers les droits de propriété intellectuelle - semblable à ce qui s'est passé aux États-Unis au cours de la fin du 19e siècle. (Dans les années de croissance élevée de l'Amérique, les entrepreneurs américains ne se privaient pas de voler des inventions brevetées au Royaume-Uni.)

Une récession en Chine, amplifiée par une crise financière, constituerait la troisième étape du supercycle de la dette qui a commencé aux États-Unis en 2008 et a atteint l'Europe en 2010. Jusqu'à présent, les autorités chinoises ont fait un travail remarquable pour retarder le ralentissement inévitable. Malheureusement, lorsque la récession arrivera, le monde est susceptible de découvrir que l'économie chinoise est encore plus importante que ce que la plupart des gens ne pensaient.

ARTICLES

US 2018 MIDTERM ELECTION AND LIBERIA



By Dagbayonoh Kiah Nyanfore LI

The US midterm election will be held this Tuesday, November 6, 2018. The question is which of the political party will control Congress? Presently, the Republican Party controls both houses. All 435 representative seats are vacant, but only 35 of the 100 senate seats are open. The Democrats need a net 23 seats to capture the house.

Latest polls show the Democrats will win the house, and the Republicans will retain the Senate chamber. In addition to congressional races, there are state races for governor and city councilor major. But polls are not gospels. In 2016 presidential election, the polls had Hilary ahead and she was to win. The results showed otherwise.

In this midterm congressional election, the real stats tell what is ahead or what could happen. According to the New York Times, 194 seats in the House are likely or solidly Democratic, while 171 are likely or solidly Republican seats. The Democrats need only 218 seats to take over. As said before, there are 100 Senate seats. Only 35 seats are open for this election. Of this number, 26 are Democrat incumbents while 9 are Republicans. In other words, the Democrats have more to lose than gain. They would be happy if they get one or two seats in the Senate.

A midterm election is usually a referendum on the sitting president. So this election will be about Donald Trump. While the US economy is viewed positively under him, his approval rate is unfavorable. He is under 50%. Most past US presidents lost the House at this rate. Losing Congress during midterm does not necessarily mean that the president would lose re-election. Bill Clinton lost both houses in his first midterm but won re-election. He was also impeached by the Republican-controlled Congress. Obama lost the House and yet was re-elected despite the poor economic record. If the Democrats take over the house, it could create problems for Trump. He could be investigated regarding the alleged Russia influence in the 2016 Presidential Election and could be impeached. The Democrats could also make it difficult for him achieving his agendas.

The American people like strong and firmed leader that puts America first and makes difficult decisions. Though Carter was a nice guy and moral, he was considered weak, and he made America appeared weak internationally. He lost for a second term after the American hostage crisis. With conservatism and protectionism are on the rise in the US, Trump could be re-elected regardless of his unfavorable rating.

Secondly, as other analysts have indicated, there is no iconic leader in the Democratic Party so far. Ronald Reagan, a Republican president, easily won re-election because of conservatism and hard-core foreign policies; ie, his stance against communism and the Soviet Union, which he called "the evil empire".

This election should be of interest to Liberians. Wynfred Russell, a Liberian born, is running as a Democratic candidate for the city council of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. If elected, he would be the second elected Liberian born in high-power US politics. The first I think is Wilmot Collin, Mayor for Helena, Montana. Russell has been active in local affairs, including the City Planning Commission.

What does this midterm congressional election mean for Africa in general and Liberia in particular? US foreign policy for Africa will not significantly change. But for Liberia, there could be a big change. Presently, there is a bill in the US Congress calling for the implementation of the TRC Recommendations and for the establishment of a war crime court in Liberia. The TRC (Truth and Reconciliation Commission) was set up to address the factors and perpetrators of the Liberian civil war and to make recommendations which "shall" be implemented. The recommendations, which also call for the punishment for those who caused the war, were not implemented by the Sirleaf government. Sirleaf was accused in the TRC report as a key contributor to the war.

US Congressman Daniel M. Donovan, Jr., a Republican from New York, introduced the bill. It has passed the House Foreign Sub-Committee. If the full House passes the bill and the Senate approves it, it could form a central piece of the US policy for Liberia. He has discussed the Liberian matter with the US Secretary of State and with the Secretary of Defense.

Considering US historical, political, and economic role in Liberia, The Weah government could be forced to abandon his seeming protection of those recommended by the TRC for punishment. If the Weah administration refuses to comply, the US could issue arrest warrants and travel ban on the perpetrators. The US could also put economic pressure on the Weah government, providing an opportunity for anti-Weah forces to undermine the new government, thus intensifying their effort at home and abroad. Past external pressures should be lessons as discussed below.

During the Doe regime, anti-Doe forces in the US influenced Congress to adult a policy against the Doe

administration. Although Doe tried to beg for US reconsideration by sending a delegation headed by Ambassador Winston Tubman to Washington, US officials met demanded Doe's resignation. The result is history.

Historically moreover, during the Charles Taylor government, after mounting external pressures, Bush demanded that Taylor Must Go. Within few months of the Bush announcement, Taylor was almost arrested in Accra, Ghana at a conference had the Ghanaian government not intervened. But Taylor was forced to say at the conference that he would not participate in the coming Liberian presidential election. This prepared an interim government headed by Gyude Bryant. Certainly, Taylor and his power were gone, thanks particularly to the US.

Sirleaf attempted to protect Taylor from persecution after her winning the 2005 election, in which she received support from the Taylor camp. But the US put pressure on her resulting in the capture of Taylor in Nigeria while he was escaping to Cameroon. What I am saying is that US possible policy pressure should not be taken lightly. Weah should not take the call for the establishment of a war crime court jokingly. As stated in an earlier article, some Liberian presidents in the past encountered serious difficulties when they tried to protect perpetrators of crimes and fostered a culture of impunity. Weah should take history as a guide and should not listen to opportunists. He must protect his young government and his legacy. He must do the right thing for justice. He could put the issue in a referendum, as suggested by others.

One might say that Representative Donovan is a Republican and if he loses and the Democrats take over the house, his bill might lose. Not really. Most bills are sponsored by two individuals, sometimes from two separate parties. The sponsors have colleagues and if the bill is for a human and just cause, it has a good chance of passing whether the primary sponsor is absent. Further, there is no known established lobby group against the bill; and there is an organized group of US citizens and Liberian nationals for the bill and hence it could pass. Even if the bill encounters a problem, Trump could initiate a policy putting pressure on the Liberian government to institute a war crime court, considering his dislike of criminals getting away and foreign corrupt officials and those promoting a culture of impunity. He could use the arrests of Liberian warlords in foreign countries as a precedent.

Anyway, the elections should be interesting.

VP Taylor to face Weah in 2023?

By E. J. Nathaniel Daybor

Liberia's Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor is seriously contemplating on contesting for the Presidency in 2023 on the NPP ticket against President George Manneh Weah, according to the embattled chairman of the former ruling party, James Biney.

The current ruling Coalition for Democratic Change is a conglomeration of the Congress for Democratic Change of President George Manneh Weah, jailed former President Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Party presently headed by ex-First Lady of Jewel Howard Taylor, and the Liberian People Democratic Party of criminally indicted former Speaker Alex Tyler's, respectively.

"Mrs. Taylor came at my NPP's office in Congo Town and said to me, we are in the coalition for four or five years but I want to contest the presidency in 2023 and we need people who will join you that will remove us from the coalition and I said, Mrs. Taylor, that will be the saddest mistake you will make. You want to contest the presidency in 2023 with a fracture party? We need to be rebranded and be accepted by our international partners. There



are lots of people who have misgivings about our party; wait for 12 years. Her response to me is, if I don't conform to her thought; I should get out because the NPP belongs to her husband. I refused because I was duly elected. I told her that it will be great an error politically because it will destroy the party."

The tough-spoken Biney is a stalwart of the NPP and former lawmaker for Maryland County. He served under jailed ex-president Charles Taylor up to era of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

This is his first response

since the internal wrangling in the NPP as a result of his reported expulsion from the party characterized by fistfight among partisans during a recent executive committee meeting.

Speaking to this paper on Friday, 09 November along the Roberts International Airport here, Mr. Biney explains the internal crisis that has engulfed the NPP was allegedly masterminded by Vice President Taylor after some senior partisans of the party refused to give in to her presidential ambition.

He narrates the NPP and its

partisans should be grateful to the Congress for Democratic Change for bringing the former ruling party to political life.

He notes that five months prior to the formation of the Coalition, the NPP was dead politically, as its standard bearer Madam Taylor, was associating with former presidential candidate Dr. Mills Jones of the Movement for Economic Empowerment, while Bomi County Senator Sando Johnson was with the All Liberian Party of businessman Benoni Urey, and its secretary general Andrew Peters contested on the ticket of the former ruling Unity Party, and another NPP stalwart Lawrence George, was running mate at a smaller political party during the 2017 Presidential and Representative elections.

Commenting on his reported expulsion from the chairmanship, Mr. Biney says: "I being accused of wanting to merge the party with the Congress for Democratic Change, wait and see because meager is not done in the dark, every aspect leading to meager has to go the National Elections Commission for legal standing and recognition and the public will see the unfolding, but as things are, there is no evidence to establish their claims. The reason for the battle is Madam Taylor is creating what I called divide and rule. One man cannot merge a party with the others secretly; it takes the

executive committee to do such. I can fully understand because they are from the National Patriotic Front of Liberia background where one commander to take over and says your come charge, but political party does not work like that" he says.

Senator Sando Johnson had earlier accused Biney of meeting stalwarts of the CDC for meager talks and that President Weah is also reportedly behind the meager engagement.

"Sando does not understand anything about political party, that's why he's acting and behaving in such manner", he responds.

Biney says it took extra time and energy to encourage people to return to the party and that, his mandate from the NPP convention that elected him as national chairman is to rebrand the party.

He points out that over the period of time he had engaged foreign missions here and abroad to rebrand the NPP. "Under the former and founding Standard Bearer, former President Charles Taylor, the NPP never had a charter [chapter] in the United States but today, under his leadership, the NPP has a charter now in the United States. It took several negotiations before Madam Taylor could be accepted at the State Department," the embattled Biney reveals.

According to him, those claiming he is expelled are not members of the NPP, as they are total strangers and returnees who do lack political grounds to raise such argument.

He further argues the constitution of the NPP is very clear: If any partisan resigned and decided to return, that individual has to pick up a membership form and start all over as 'just partisan'.

He notes for anyone who was partisan and resigned and to think that upon his or her return, that previous position held are still available for them without convention or endorsement, that person might come from different planet. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

NLA warns actors

National Lottery Authority or NLA Deputy Director General for Operations, Mr. Neved P. Kortu cautions actors within the gaming sector to protect the interest of Players in keeping with sessions 7.4 and 7.5 of the NLA statutory rules and regulations.

Mr. Kortu made the assertion last Thursday when he and a team of experts from

the NLA's Department of Monitoring and Evaluation visited JUGS gaming Incorporated Head Offices in central Monrovia in a bid to ensure full compliance with the Authority's rules and regulations.

According to a press release, JUGS gaming Incorporated is a major gambling institution mainly involved with raffle draws and

other games of chances in Liberia.

JUGS is expected to give away a modern house located in Brewerville, Montserrado County with a price tag of US\$25,000.00 through a raffle draw in January 2019.

Deputy Director General for Operations Kortu urges Management to ensure that JUGS acquires all documentations from NLA as required in keeping with its statutory mandate before venturing into the planned raffle draw.

He instructs JUGS GAMING Incorporated to submit to the NLA, names and contact details of those who will purchase tickets for the January 2019 raffle draw and subsequently publish the full listing in local dailies for verification.

Director Kortu says such measures would ensure high trust, protection, transparency and integrity to the process.

JUGS GAMING Chief Executive Officer, Yuvo Govender assures Director Kortu and his team of closely working with them every step of the way to ensure checks and balances. **-Press Release**



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Heineken Int'l, Abi Joudi launch new brands



By Winston W. Parley

Dutch brewing company, Heineken International in partnership with Liberian-based Lebanese owned Abi Joudi business has launched its newest brands in Monrovia, including Sol, the Legend and Star Beer.

At a colorful event Saturday, 10 November at Bella Casa in Sinkor, officials, business representatives and special invitees turned out to

witness the launch.

In a presentation, Heineken International Trade Marketing Manager for Africa, Middle East and Central Asia, Andre Woldt discussed the company's five brands that will now be available on the Liberian market including Heineken, Sol, Legend (Stout), Star Beer and Amstel.

He also shared some plans that Heineken International wants to implement with its partners for another 30

prosperous years, having hit first 30 years of partnership.

"At the end of the day, we will show you what we believe is the most powerful portfolio of beer brands that Liberia has ever seen," says Andre.

Following presentations of slides at Bella Casa, Andre describes Heineken as the undisputed global leader of international premium beer segment.

According to him, Heineken is a truly global icon that is set out from any other beer in the industry.

Also discussing the Legend, the company's brand of stout, Andre says it is for people with appetite to enjoy life whatever comes, and always looking on the bright side.

The new brand of stout launched under the name Legend, will be sold here for \$2,400 Liberian Dollars per crate or \$260.00 per bottle, according to Andre.

In brewing process, Andre says the Legend



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Neymar, Mbappe & PSG's stars face fines for not applauding their fans

Since the broadcast of the report "Special Envoy" on Thursday, Paris Saint-Germain and their players have made headlines.

It is not just for the report by Mediapart of racial profiling among their player recruitment, which came on the back of recently released documents by Football Leaks.

In addition, the journalists of France 2 report of an ethics code in the contracts of the PSG players, which would

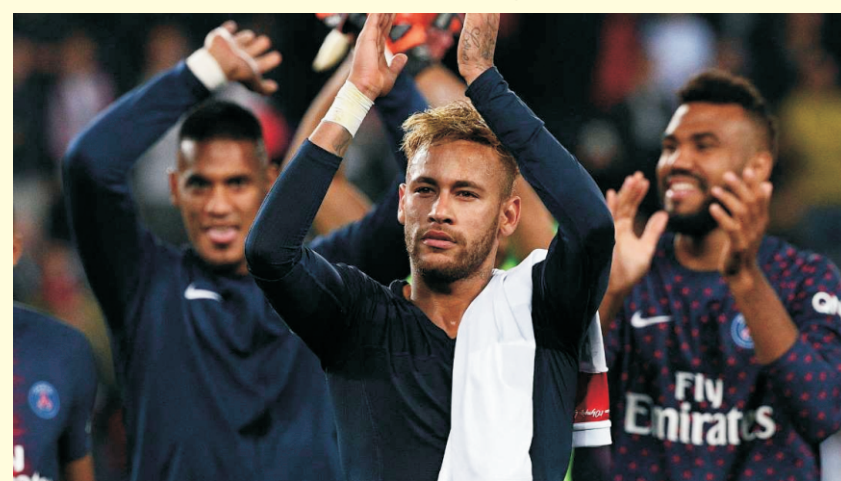
force Neymar and his teammates to applaud the fans at the end of each match.

Neymar and Thiago Silva have denied that is the case, however, so how does this ethics code work?

Unlike in many other countries, clubs in France are not permitted to fine their players, even for breach of club rules. While a player in England might receive a fine for showing up late to training, such an action is illegal in France.

As a result, PSG have inserted an ethics clause in each player's contract which includes a 15-20 point system for their overall behavior, meant to promote respect toward the club.

That system includes behavior toward others involved in the game, which includes sponsors, officials, opponents and others, arriving on-time to training and respecting the club image.



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