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# The New Dawn

**French Version Inside**

TRULY INDEPENDENT

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# Weah issues ultimatum



Finance Minister Samuel Tweah



Works Minister Mobutu Vlah Nyejan



State Minister Nathaniel McGill



City Mayor Jefferson T. Koijee



P6

# Illegal firing condemned

**-Small Arms chief blasts security agencies**





# Continental News

## Bloody rivalry erupts between al-Shabab, IS group in Somalia

A bloody rivalry has emerged between extremist groups in Somalia as the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab hunts upstart fighters allied to the Islamic State group, who have begun demanding protection payments from major businesses, officials tell The Associated Press.

The rivalry supports some observers' suspicions that al-Shabab, now scrambling to defend its monopoly on the mafia-style extortion racket that funds its high-profile attacks, is drifting from its long-declared goal of establishing a strict Islamic state.

The manhunt began in October with the killing of a top leader of the IS-linked group by a suspected al-Shabab death squad in the capital, Mogadishu, according to several Somali intelligence officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

When the body of Mahad Maalin, deputy leader of the IS-affiliated group, was found near

a beach in Mogadishu, it set off a hunt for suspected IS sympathizers within al-Shabab's ranks, officials said. Maalin had been suspected of trying to extend his group's reach into the capital.

Last month, the Islamic State group's Al Naba newsletter noted deadly attacks on its fighters in Somalia and warned that "when the time of response comes from the Islamic State,

with God's will, we will be excused." The IS-affiliated group in Somalia, largely made up of al-Shabab defectors, first announced its presence in 2016 with attacks in the far north, far from Mogadishu and most al-Shabab strongholds. Though estimated at a few hundred fighters at most, their emergence in one of the world's most unstable countries has been alarming enough that the

U.S. military began targeting it with airstrikes a year ago.

While al-Shabab and its thousands of fighters have hunted down suspected IS sympathizers before, they had not taken the young group's expansion seriously until now, observers say. "Al-Shabab miscalculated IS's organizational capability and ambitions to extend its reach beyond the north, having judged it by its handful of fighters there, and thus missed the bigger picture," said Mohamed Sheikh Abdi, a Mogadishu-based political analyst. The revelation by

businessmen that IS-linked operatives had begun making extortion demands took al-Shabab's leadership by surprise, prompting the manhunt that has led to assassinations and the detention of over 50 suspected IS-linked extremists, including foreign fighters, two Somali intelligence officials told AP. One suspected IS-linked fighter from Egypt was shot dead on Nov. 18 in Jilib.

As members of the Islamic State group flee shrinking strongholds in Iraq and Syria, fears have grown that the fighters will find a new and welcome home in parts of Africa. AFP



photo, armed al-Shabab fighters on pickup trucks prepare to travel into the city, just outside Mogadishu, in Somalia.

## 2,000 prisoners seek presidential pardon

The Uganda Prisons Service have listed 2,100 inmates for presidential pardon. The Constitution empowers the President to pardon prisoners on the presidential prerogative of mercy upon advice of the Committee of Clemency and the Attorney General (AG).

The Prisons spokesperson, Mr Frank Baine, said the list

was submitted to the AG in August and they are waiting for a response from the President's Office.

"We submitted the list of names of different categories of prisoners who qualify for the pardon. The names were sent to the authorities for consideration because the names are approved by the President," Mr Baine said yesterday.

He did not disclose the names on the list of prisoners for presidential pardon, but said they include the elderly, expectant and breastfeeding mothers and terminally ill.

In a separate interview, the Commissioner General of Prisons, Mr Johnson Byabashaija, said they routinely submit such lists for presidential pardon. When contacted, the Justice and Constitutional Affairs minister, Maj Gen Kahinda Otafiire, yesterday declined to divulge any details. "You will know when the list is out," Gen Otafiire said by telephone.

Efforts to get a comment from the AG, Mr William Byaruhanga, were futile. He said in a reply phone message that he could not speak.

The last time the President pardoned prisoners was in 2013.

In 2012, President Museveni released Sharma Kooky, who was convicted of murdering his wife, Renu Joshi, and sentenced to death. He had spent 12 years in Luzira.

Others are Brig Ali Fadhul, a former minister for provincial administration in Idi Amin's regime, who was released in 2009 after spending more than 20 years in prison.

## Senegal unveils Museum of Black Civilisations

President Macky Sall has inaugurated Senegal's new Museum of Black Civilisations in the capital, Dakar.

It follows calls from Senegal and other African nations for France to return art it looted during the colonial era.

Among the first temporary exhibitions to be shown is work from artists from Mali and Burkina Faso as well as from Cuba and Haiti.

After decades of inaction, construction was finally made possible after a \$34m (£27m) Chinese investment.

The idea of establishing the museum dates back more than 50 years, to Senegal's late poet-president, Léopold Sédar Senghor.

Along with Martinican writer Aimé Césaire, Senghor was a creative force behind the philosophy of Négritude, which opposed the imposition of French culture on colonies in Africa and the Caribbean.

The museum will not be a commemorative monument, its director says, but rather a creative laboratory to help shape a continent's sense of identity. It is expected to open to the public in the coming weeks.

"This museum is a step forward for us," Amadou Moustapha Dieng, a Senegalese arts journalist, told the BBC.

Former minister for Security in the Obote II government, Mr Chris Rwakasisi, who had been on death row for two decades, was released in the same year.



"I know there are important relics which I'm not able to see unless I go abroad, but now [with] this space, we can get back the relics and Africans can come here now and see this was their history."

The Museum of Black Civilisations has changed the landscape of downtown Dakar.

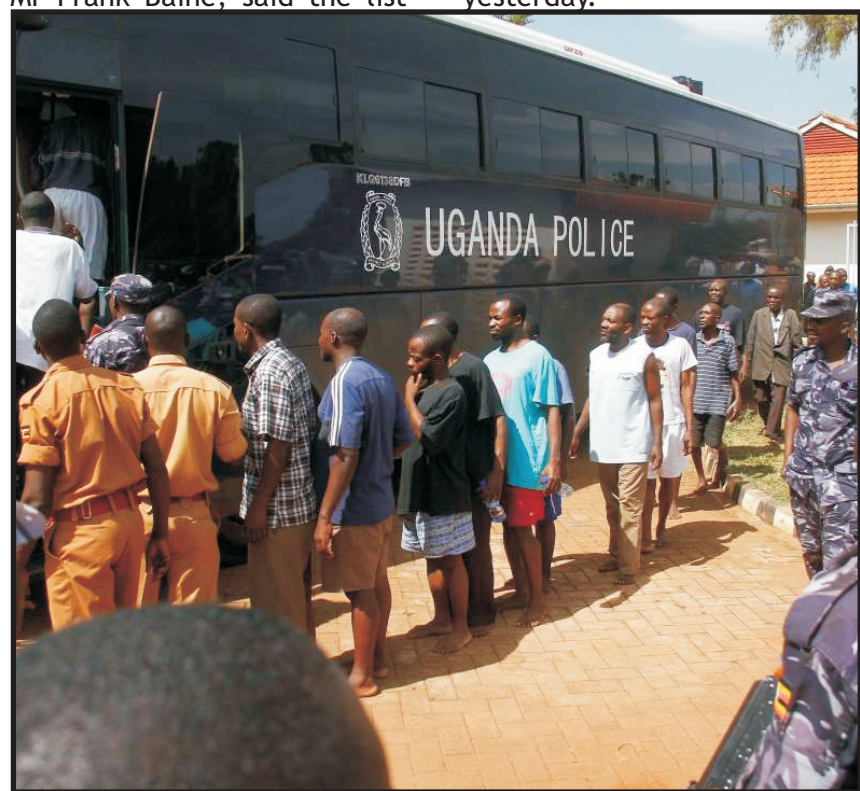
Built in a circular shape, the architecture was inspired by traditional homes typical to southern Senegal.

In November an experts' report, commissioned by France's President Emmanuel Macron, recommended that African treasures taken without permission be returned to their countries of origin.

Senegal's Culture Minister Abdou Latif Coulibaly told the BBC he welcomed the French report as "every piece from Senegal is in France".

The African state with the highest number of art pieces in France is Chad, another former colony. AFP

Another beneficiary of the presidential prerogative of mercy is Mr Abdallah Nasur, former Central Province Governor during Amin's regime (1971-1979). AFP





# EDITORIAL

## Rep. Koung opens a can of worms

**JUST AS LAWMAKERS** on Capitol Hill are desperately fending off accusations of receiving bribes from the Central Bank of Liberia and sharing money at the T-Five Academy in Paynesville, which could indict them in the ongoing investigation for the missing 16 billion Liberian Banknotes, a member of the House has conceded here in fresh claims that indeed, some of his colleagues from Nimba County did receive bribes from the two sources as was previously asserted by Liberian Journalist Philipbert Browne, publisher of the Hot Pepper Newspaper.

**NIMBA COUNTY DISTRICT** One Representative Jeremiah Kpain Koung openly accuses several of his colleague lawmakers from the county of receiving bribe from Central Bank officials prior to the printing of the new Liberia Banknotes of which 16 billion reportedly went mission in the country.

**WHILE APPEARING ON** a community radio station, Radio Kergheamahn [94.5FM] in Ganta, Nimba County, he specifically accuses one of his colleagues from the county, Representative Larry P. Younquoi and others whose names he did not mention of demanding and receiving huge amount of money from the Central Bank prior to giving approval for the printing of the new banknotes, but distances himself from the alleged bribery.

**REPRESENTATIVE YOUNQUOI DISMISSES** claims of bribes taking by Rep. Koung as false though he discloses that he headed the House's budget committee under the leadership of criminally indicted former Speaker Alex Tyler during the 53rd Legislature.

**HE CONFIRMS THEY** wrote the Central Bank of Liberia to print the new banknotes, but those who replaced him on the Ways and Means Committee were the ones who received the alleged bribe without mentioning names.

**MEMBERS OF THE** House had denied involvement in any bribery and cited publisher Browne to substantiate his claims. Browne is currently out of the country, attending an Olympic conference.

**HOWEVER, THE LATEST** claims by Representative Koung clearly indict the House, and seem to corroborate Publisher Browne's assertion of bribery among some members of the august body. It therefore goes without saying that Browne should be vindicated of any contempt charge by the House.

**WE BELIEVE RATHER** than going after Browne along for his assertion, the House should equally call in one of its own, Representative Koung to help in identifying the rest of his colleagues from Nimba, who he says did receive bribes.

**THIS SHOULD START** the real investigation of the role lawmakers played in the printing of the new banknotes and the reported missing 16 billion. Any other action apart from this latest allegation by one of the sitting lawmakers is nothing but attempts to silent patriotic whistleblowers on the missing money issue and the alleged associated bribery.

**REPRESENTATIVE KOUNG HAS** unsealed a can of worms, and we believe the House should do the honorable thing by examining all of the bits and pieces rather than trying to bully well-intentioned voices into silence, as the current campaign on Capitol Hill appears to indicate.

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TRULY INDEPENDENT

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# COMMENTARY

By Howard Davies

## The New Risks in Risk Regulation

*The received wisdom among financial regulators is that they are better off being able to say, "We told you so" if something goes wrong, and that there is little downside in occasionally issuing dark warnings. So should we be genuinely anxious about a spate of recent warnings from central banks and international financial institutions?*

**L**ONDON - When I took over responsibility for banking supervision in the United Kingdom, in 1995, a wise old bird in the Bank of England (BoE) warned me that I would find it a thankless task. No newspaper ever prints a headline reading "All London Banks Safe and Sound this Week." But if a problem occurs, it is almost invariably seen as a case of supervisory failure. Dozy watchdogs asleep at the wheel are a trope that trips quickly into journalists' coverage.

Regulators are caught in a crossfire of conflicting expectations. Banks want to be left alone, unless they need help. Consumers and their political representatives want regulators to be aware of every transaction, ready to intervene in real time if any glitch occurs. In the years running up to the 2008 financial crisis, the pendulum swung toward the non-interventionist end of the spectrum. Today, "intrusive" has a positive connotation in the regulatory lexicon. But the need to strike a sensible balance remains.

The other point my wise old bird made was that the only way to generate a positive story about regulation was to warn of trouble ahead. "Regulators warned today that..." is a good lede for the Financial Times or Wall Street Journal. Editors get a frisson of excitement from worrying their readers.

Financial regulators and the international financial institutions have been following that sage advice a lot recently. As William Coen, the secretary-general of the Basel Committee, put it at a recent conference, citing former US Federal Reserve Chair Ben Bernanke, "for those working to keep our financial system resilient, the enemy is forgetting." Coen went on to argue that, "the likelihood of a future financial crisis occurring only increases with time." I suppose one can see what he means, though I wonder about the logic of that formulation.

The European Central Bank has weighed in with more specific concerns: "Vulnerabilities in financial markets continue to build up amid pockets of high valuations and compressed global risk premia." The ECB is particularly concerned about the feedback loop to the eurozone from trouble in other markets. That concern centers on asset managers: Euro area investment funds are vulnerable to "potential shocks in global financial markets."

The BoE has similar concerns about the price of risk. On its "Bank Underground" blog, which is fast becoming the most interesting of the BoE's publications, you can find analysis of the evolution of risk premia. Using the prices of credit default swaps, it shows that investors are accepting less compensation for bearing given amounts of credit risk: compensation per unit of default risk has fallen by 20% since early 2016. Similarly, the volatility premium, defined as the price of options that insure against falls in the equity index, has fallen considerably. In retrospect, mispricing of risk was a flashing red warning sign that regulators and investors

ignored in the run up to the 2008 crisis.

The International Monetary Fund has gotten in on the act, too. Even though its October World Economic Outlook presents a positive picture of global growth, the IMF, no doubt still conscious of the Panglossian view it offered in 2006, now warns that the world economy is "vulnerable to a sudden tightening of financial conditions" and that "equity valuations appear stretched in some markets." In this context, "some" is IMF code for the United States. The US market's share of global equity valuations is the highest it has ever been - a remarkable statistic given the declining US share of global economic activity.

How should we view all these warnings? Are the regulators genuinely anxious, or just covering their backs? The received wisdom among regulators is that they are better off being able to say, "We told you so" if something goes wrong, and that there is little downside in occasionally issuing dark warnings. Journalists rarely look back to check whether the dire outcomes the authorities pointed to actually came to pass. And even if they do check, regulators can always claim that the worst was avoided precisely because they had warned of the risk.

But the warning quotient has been rising in recent weeks. Should we be genuinely anxious, and begin battening down the hatches to prepare for a coming storm?

It is hard to be sure, of course, but reasons to stay awake at night are multiplying. While each emerging-market trouble spot - Venezuela, Turkey, Brazil, Argentina - has idiosyncratic features, a pattern is starting to emerge. A rising dollar, and an investment flight to the US, is accentuating these countries' self-generated problems. And while the Fed's interest-rate hikes could hardly have been more carefully signaled in advance, there are still concerns that the desired financial tightening in credit markets has scarcely occurred yet, and that, if and when it does, some borrowers could find themselves uncomfortably exposed.

Then there is the risk of a trade war. The World Trade Organization has - at last - warned that an intensified tariff war could result in a sharp decline in trade. That would be a serious blow to the Chinese economy, which is already slowing markedly for other reasons.

So the global economic risks now seem to be weighted on the downside, after a benign period. The one piece of good news is that if a recession (or perhaps more likely a period of below-trend growth) is in the offing, banks are significantly more strongly capitalized than they were the last time. We can, however, be less certain about the shadow banking sector, almost by definition. We may be about to discover whether the new credit creators, some of whom do not have to live under a rigorous regime of capital regulation, have priced risk correctly.





## Lord, really, is this Town Chief really serious?

Dear Father:

Um, you know its kina funny that people will disturb our ears, waste our time in persuading us over and over telling us that it's our civil duties to go stand in line for hours just to put them in power, and after they have succeeded in making us do that then they turn and look into our faces like fools and tell us that anything they do, they are untouchable.

Can you believe this nonsense Father? Is it a game of Monopoly where one obtains a get out of jail free card or a Bond Movie with license to kill? Nonsense!

My son what are you pacing and fuming about again?

Father is it not that chief, that old Rooster man telling people that anything they do as chiefs they are untouchable because they have immunity to do whatever they want and get away with it-nonsense one more time.

Oh, my son, but that the thing you getting vex for and your heart beating faster like this? Take time before you suffer from heart attack oo because life too short for sorrow.

What do you mean Father?

My son, these people don't worth your breath before I say your energy. Have you forgotten the saying-how power corrupts and it corrupts the arrogant ones absolutely?

Father, I cannot agreed with you more on this one because to say that you are untouchable because you are a chief is near insanity. Let him go and bypass his respect like the song writer says and see if he will not bother with his disgrace.

Like seriously Father, let him just be there and think because he is chief representing one Fiefdom in our village so it gives him the power to say or do anything and get away with it.

Why do these people always like to mislead others?

I tell you Father! We know that our village Oracle says that anything they do as chiefs at the Traditional Council in line with their duties are exempted from prosecution that mean people going after them.

And come to think of it Father, one would assume that the main reason the framers of our Oracle put it in there is to secure them from intimidation from the king or queen at the Castle whose interest may be compromised by the statement or comment made by them so that they can do the village people work freely and fairly without what the book people called "prejudice".

Another reason is that if they have issue outside of their work and the other party wants to drag them to the Palaver Hut or something, our Oracle says they cannot be arrested while going to work or coming from work. But that doesn't mean when they do wrong then they are immune.

Go and rape somebody daughter and see if they will not drag your old self before the Oracle. This loose interpretation of our village Oracle to favor these chiefs is the one causing lot of problems for us.

I remembered one other female chief who only spent short time at the Traditional Council during the first term of the Iron Old Lady saying similar nonsense like this to the point that they have the power to drag people before them at the Traditional Council for even pushing them in the market.

Father what she was saying in actual sense that even at a jammed market center where everybody is passing by each other pushing and shuffling-they have the right to cite you for contempt just for that-no wonder she lasted just few years at the Traditional Council.

But the thing is these are the loose interpretations of the Oracle that make some of these chiefs behave the way they do and for someone like this particular chief who knows the Oracle to speak like some of his colleagues who have no idea about the Oracle is not only a shame but a disgrace. And thank God he didn't become out village king.



NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY

FREEPORT OF MONROVIA  
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P.O. BOX 1849  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA



NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY OF LIBERIA

## NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY (NPA)

FREEPORT OF MONROVIA

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (REP)

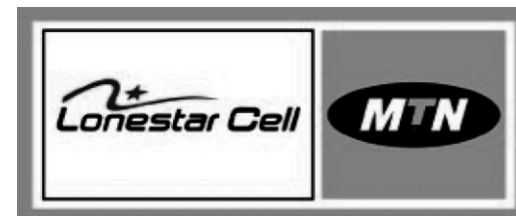
RESTRICTED TO LIBERIANS OWNED BUSINESSES (SBA)

1. The Government of the Republic of Liberia through the National Port Authority intends to apportion part of its revenue for Fiscal Years 2018/2019 towards the hiring of a Land Surveying Firm to survey approximately 500 acres of land located at the port area, Buchanan City, Grand Bassa County, R.L. under the contract Package **IFB NO. NPA/SBA/QBCS/004/ 18/19**.
2. The Authority now invites eligible and registered Land Surveying Firms to submit their Request for Proposals in providing the surveying services. Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services by submitting their detailed information (brochures, past performance records, references of similar assignments executed in recent past). They must also provide description of work experience both general and on similar assignments. More details on the services are provided in the Terms of Reference.
3. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration Form.
4. Qualification requirements include:
  - I. Articles of Incorporation
  - II. Valid Tax Clearance
  - III. Valid Business registration Certificate
  - IV. Must be duly registered with PPCC (Vendor List)
5. Interested consultancy firms may obtain copy of the bidding document from the Procurement Department for a non-refundable fees of **US\$51.50** beginning 19 November 2018 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 P.M, Mondays through Fridays.
6. Sealed Bids must be delivered to the Procurement Department not later than 11:00 A.M. on 11 December 2018. Late bids will be rejected and returned to the bidders unopened. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders who choose to attend or their representatives on 11 December 2018 at 11:30 A.M in the National Port Authority Conference Room.

The address referred is:  
The Procurement Department  
National Port Authority, P. O. Box 1849  
Freeport of Monrovia,  
Bushrod Island

Tel: +231-886 - 523 - 531 – nyanwayman@gmail.com

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
MANAGEMENT



## Lonestar Cell MTN Statement for Release

(Monrovia, December 7, 2018) – Lonestar Cell MTN welcomes the initiative being taken by the Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA) to stabilize the telecommunications market in Liberia and bring more value to consumers in Liberia.

We remain fully engaged with the on-going consultation process launched by the LTA and supportive of all efforts to improve the quality of service for our valuable customers.

Lonestar Cell MTN assures our subscribers that we are consulting closely with the LTA to ensure that services to customers are not disrupted and that customers will continue to enjoy the best value in West Africa for telephone calls and internet data.

Customers are assured that Lonestar Cell MTN is focused on introducing innovative product and service offerings to improve the user experience and add value for our valued customers throughout the country.



# FEATURE ARTICLE

## LTA proposed new GSM tariff

### -What does it mean for consumers?

By Othello B. Garblah

The Liberian Telecommunication Authority or LTA has tabled a proposal which it says in general terms is aimed at intervening in the ongoing price war between the two GSM service providers here, improve services and rejuvenate reinvestment in the sector.

The new proposal which the Liberian telecommunication regulatory body says will take effect in 2019 discourages the current 3days free calls promotion and introduces a new price floor that will prevent operators from charging below USD 0.0156 cents per minute for calls or LRD 2.5 (two dollars fifty cents) and 0.0218 cents for internet data which amounts to LRD 0.34 (thirty-four cents).

Additionally, the LTA says the current promotional scheme (3 days free calls) is more of a disadvantage to consumers rather than a gain simply because it robs consumers of the quality of services they should be getting and consumers are therefore losing value for their money.

Another key point stressed in the LTA's new proposed tariff is that the competition (price war) between the two service providers has not only affected the quality of services they are providing but also limited their ability to reinvest in the sector to provide full coverage around the tiny west African state something which is much needed.

#### Why the intervention?

Authorities at the telecommunication regulatory body fear that such unhealthy competition is exerting more stress on the two providers, which is translating into low returns in government taxes, poor connectivity because of limited funds to reinvest and upgrade existing infrastructures.

The LTA also fears that if this continues, a nonintervention could result in a continued price war that has kicked other providers out of the market and this could result in Liberia only having a single provider.

#### Can the LTA intervene in such situation?

Well, many would argue that the rule of market competition should be allowed here. In simple



economic terms, competition drives innovation, customer satisfaction, price relief, and productivity-which is true in real time.

However, this is not what is unfolding in this case, rather the unhealthy competition is shrinking the bank accounts of these companies evidenced by the number of staffs being laid off (though they may not openly admit that they are hurting), towers in rural parts of the country being pulled down and a gradual decrease in customers' satisfaction across the country.

Investment in infrastructure network coverage



around the country is dropping, data services cannot be accessed in some communities on the outskirts of Monrovia not to mention rural counties.

So to answer the question, yes, the LTA can intervene in such situation, first to salvage the industry and restore sanity by invoking laws within the regulatory framework and ensure consumers satisfaction. Such authority is enshrined in the Telecommunication Law of 2012.

Furthermore, research has shown that a growing number of countries are reexamining their telecommunications policies in search of approaches that better support investment and innovation in advanced communication networks and services.

Therefore, the intervention of LTA is important to attract better investment and innovation within the sector, which would then advance communication network services across the entire country. LTA is

using regulatory instruments, a broad range of fiscal and industrial policy measures to revitalize the industry and can achieve this through a supplemented well-considered political and regulatory interventions.

#### Is the LTA action justified?

Experts within the industry have argued that market uncertainty for broadband services has gone hand in hand with both uncertainty over how to supply those services and a regulatory framework that will facilitate growth in the sector, ensure a competitive market and provide the necessary protections for consumers and the public.

Dr. Colin Blackman, Director of The Camford Group and Editor of Telecommunications Policy once wrote that Development of the information market should be determined primarily by market forces.

However, he added that intervention may be justified but a clear distinction needs to be drawn between regulation in the public interest and regulation to protect against market failure.

In this given situation, the LTA's proposal appears to be doing just that, while its new move is in the public interest it is also intended to protect against market failure.

#### What does this mean for the consumer?

As the debate unfolds, the initial reaction is expected-that the LTA should allow the GSM companies to continue this unhealthy competition because that is a simple market competition which would drive innovation and the rest.

But the reality is that the "price war" is diminishing the quality of services currently being provided by these companies.

Take or leave it, network connection has dropped, certain rural communities are unable to access data or calls, all because of the "unlimited free calls", which are in themselves not free.

This new measure though debatable in all forms, tend to favor the consumers and enable consumers get the value service for their money rather than the repeated interrupted calls and data.





# Illegal firing condemned

By Winston W. Parley

Liberia's small arms commission chief and ex-U.S. military serviceman Mr. Marvin M. Sarkor has spoken strongly against the "unethical behavior" seen within security agencies that are carrying weapons in this country, urging that they be held liable for their actions.

"The culture of impunity, we need to erase that in our society," he said Thursday, 6 December at a stakeholder meeting at Bella Casa under the auspices of Liberia International Humanitarian Law Committee (LIHLC) on the domestications of the Geneva, Kampala Conventions and the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

Mr. Sarkor says he had a discussion with the National Security Advisor and the Justice Minister the other day and he made it clear that those security agencies that are carrying weapons in this country, "we are seeing



negative discharge, we are seeing unethical behavior."

"They got to be held [liable] for their actions," he says, and continues that as chairman on National Small Arms Commission, he will make sure that policies are derived,

working with lawyers, to hold those guys [liable].

Mr. Sarkor's comments at come weeks after a deadly gun violence against a personnel of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) by agents of presidential guard Executive Protection

Service (EPS) that wounded the AFL soldier and several other persons during a sports match on 18 November in Paynesville.

After probe into the incident, two EPS officers were dismissed and four others suspended for one month each by the National Security Council, with a precondition that they will face retraining after this suspension.

Mr. Sarkor cautions that approving an Arms Trade Treaty in Liberia is not meant to just come up with document, but it should protect citizens "and to make sure [that] those who are carrying weapons in this country" are "responsible enough" when it comes to the Arms Trade Treaty.

The small arms chief recalls that in a meeting with some security agency authorities here, he inquired from them if those that are being entrusted with weapons are vetted extensively, their mental health evaluated and they got police clearances before being issued weapons.

"Because carrying weapon comes with responsibility," he says, adding that it is the small arms commission's job to make sure that policy is made that will be used for the smooth operation of these security agencies.

As leaders of this nation, he explains that they want to make sure they do everything humanly possible to save this generation, because now is their time.

According to him, he was nine years old at the beginning of Liberia's civil war and he

never really had the opportunity to live as a child.

"So this law should be used to protect our generation," says, adding that he made a clear in a meeting with some of the heads of some security agencies here that as a military personnel, he knows the significance of the Geneva Convention.

Mr. Sarkor recalls that served the U.S. Military for five years and served in Afghanistan for a year during which he personally saw his friends killed and decapitated by Afghan troop when they were captured by taliban.

"But when they are arrested by the U.S. Army personnel, we have to abide by the Geneva Convention, to the respect [of] the rule of law," Mr. Sarkor notes.

He says he has a history where an Afghan taliban's leg was blown off and he (Sarkor) ensured security for the taliban until he was transported to a medical facility and treated.

"So it's the same thing we need to do here as a country," he adds.

He assures LiNCSA's commitment to the process to domesticate the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and the Geneva and Kampala Conventions because they are very significant to Liberia.

Mr. Sarkor underscores the negative impact small arms have on Liberia, and thinks it is prudent that Liberia doesn't sit back as a nation and fails to implement after crafting, domesticating and legislating the document.

## Liberia urged to implement Geneva Conventions

By Winston W. Parley

Liberia has been urged to implement Geneva Conventions, including the Kampala Convention and the Arms Trade Treaty to build a good image of the country internationally.

During a stakeholder meeting in Monrovia Thursday, 6 December, Deputy Foreign

always good to have these legislations to be part of national legislations for their usages in time of need.

According to Cllr. Gray, having done the stakeholder validation and review of these three instruments, they are being proposed for the Legislature to pass them hopefully in 2019 when

In particular reference to the domestication of the Arms Trade Treaty, the Geneva and Kampala Conventions, Mr. Sarkor says are very significant to Liberia, having underscored the negative impact small arms have on Liberia.

He urges that Liberia implements these instruments and not sit back as a nation after crafting, domesticating (localizing in the context of Liberia) and legislating the documents.

Law Reform Commission Chair and LIHLC Co-chair Cllr. Boakai Fofana notes that the conventions have been signed and ratified by Liberia, but what they are doing now is about domesticating them.

He says they anticipate that when the Legislature resumes work in 2019, the conventions will be tabled before lawmakers for their action.

Earlier giving the overview on compliance of the Kampala Convention, the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) Legal Consultant Atty. Kojo Ross says some

lawmakers return from recess.

Mr. Marvin M. Sarkor, Chairman of the Liberia National Commission on Small Arms (LiNCSA) says applauds the close working relationship of stakeholders aimed at making sure that the Legislature acts on issue of national concern.



Minister for Legal Affairs and Chair of the Liberia International Humanitarian Law Committee (LIHLC) Cllr. Deweh Gray said while the Geneva Conventions are laws of war, one cannot tell when there would be war.

She suggests while the country is in peace now, it is

### #Revoke rock and sand mining licenses from Chinese and Lebanese#

#### SURVEY NOTICE

December 3, 2018

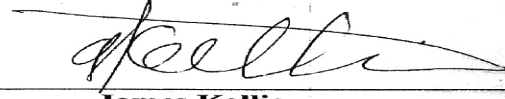
The general public is hereby informed that the undersigned Registered/Licensed Land Surveyor has been authorized by Richard Steward Diggs to resurvey one lot (1) parcel of land situated in Banjor, the Township of Virginia, Montserrado County.

This resurvey will commence on **Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 12:00 PM.**

Therefore, all adjoining property owners and interested person(s) who name is not mentioned in this notice are requested to be present on the day of the resurvey with their deeds, diagrams (maps) or technical representative (surveyors) to substantiate their claims.

This resurvey should claim the immediate attention of the following persons and initial:

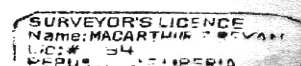
1. Ramatu T. Newland
2. Maima Kanneh
3. R.K.

Signed: 

**James Kollie**  
Authorized Surveyor  
Contact #s: 0886556644/0777110116

Approved: 

**MacArthur Z. Beyan**  
Registered/Licensed Land Surveyor  
Contact #s: 0886301241/0777985788





# MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## “VP Taylor is not expelled”

### -NPP Secretary General claims

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong

The Secretary General of the National Patriotic Party (NPP) Mr. Andrew Peters says Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor remains the Standard Bearer of the NPP, claiming that she was not expelled by anyone as being reported.

A faction of the NPP loyal to embattled chairman James Biney recently held a convention in Montserrado County and issued a resolution in which it announced the expulsion of Madam Taylor and former Vice President John Gray, respectively.

In their decision, the Biney faction of the NPP said a communication should be sent to President George Manneh Weah, telling him to “recall” the two expelled persons, from their governmental posts.

But the NPP Chief Scribe Mr. Peters recently told our Bong County correspondent that those who say they have expelled VP Taylor are not

even members of the Party.

He stresses that a non-partisan does not have the right to any member of the party.

He terms Biney’s action as waste of time and argues that Biney doesn’t hold legitimacy to the party and his plans to

destabilize the most experienced party in the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) will fail.

The NPP is a member of the ruling CDC which comprises President Weah’s Congress for Democratic Change (CDC), Madam Taylor’s NPP and former House Speaker Alex Tyler’s Liberian People

Democratic Party (LPDP).

According to Mr. Peters, if any member of the NPP feels disenchanted about something in the party, they need to firstly pass through the Grievance and Ethics Committee, instead of sitting at the back doors and single handedly writing what expulsion.

“What I am telling you is that Mr. Biney is not even a flow member of the Party and he does not have any right to write communication to anyone about the expulsion of our Standard Bearer,” Mr. Peters adds.

He says the recent decision by Mr. Biney is illegitimate and urges Biney to seek legal redress at the National Elections Commission (NEC) and stop giving T-shirts to non-partisans of NPP to go for convention.

Madam Taylor’s recent

expulsion from the NPP, a party founded by her ex-husband, imprisoned former President Charles Ghankay Taylor, has raised tension in Bong County with majority members of the NPP in the county saying the decision is regrettable.

“This is not fine for us as NPP Partisans, Vice President Jewel Howard remains our Standard Bearer and no one will expel her until the six years finish,” Peter Dolopaye, a member of the party says.

Mr. Dolopaye says he was asked to join the NPP in 1997 by Former President Taylor, angrily noting that those who claim to be members of the party need to be thinking about improving the party.

“If we continue doing things like this, it will clearly tell the world that we [are] not able to maintain the party in the absence of its former leader Charles G. Taylor. We need to put ourselves together for the better,” he says.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor

## ECOWAS pushes for economic, monetary and commercial union

### -As delegates meet in Cotonou

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) experts from the Economic Community of West African States or ECOWAS are meeting on the way forward for the advancement of the region in Cotonou, Republic of Benin.

According to a dispatch, addressing delegates and participants at the formal opening on Wednesday, 5 December, the ECOWAS Commission’s Commissioner for Education, Science and Culture, Professor Leopoldo Amado notes that in making

practical commitment to integration and development, within the purview of its vision 2020, the Commission is in the vanguard for the construction of an economic, monetary and commercial union.

He says through the right steps in STI, the Commission will also strengthen regional security, consolidate peace and democracy, promote sustainable development and engender poverty reduction.

He stresses that in all of these, “Science, Technology and Innovation rank high among the strategic sectors.”

Professor Amado says ECOWAS, considers the development of science and technology, and the promotion of their innovative application in an integrated way with other sectors of socio-economic and environmental development as “essential to reduce poverty and accelerate the level of industrialization of the region.”

The ECOWAS Commissioner emphasizes that science is recognized as a sector that provides a formative function for highly qualified cadres, and that innovation “remains the engine of modern capitalist societies whose developments are subject to new goods, new techniques, new knowledge, and new thoughts.”

The dispatch says theme of the meeting is: Emphasizing on STI for the Structural Transformation of the Economies of ECOWAS Member States by 2023.

Commissioner Amado notes that this theme invites the region not only to make the physical evaluation of the actions that appear in the ECOPOST Action Plan but also positively appeals to all the stakeholders, the ECOWAS Commission, Member States, technical partners, finance with the necessity of deciding

on Priority Actions for the next five years.

He urges participants to take ownership of all documents submitted for adoption by the Ministers.

Declaring the meeting open earlier, the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Republic of Benin, Professor Marie Odile Attanasso, states: “It is no longer a secret that scientific research and innovation play an important role in the take-off and development of our nations”

According to her, what is now needed is the appropriate advocacy to garner more support, giving the growing realization of the need to increase the budgets allocated to this important sector.

She says it is in recognition of this fact that the Government of Benin is very much involved in addressing the various issues and working hard through desirable programmes to offer opportunities for the youth to enable them respond to challenges in order to consolidate the steps taken by the government for the new beginning.

The Minister listed some of the flagship projects in this

regard to include the creation of the International City of Innovation and Knowledge (CIIS) or SEME CITY and the creation of the Beninese Agency for Research and Innovation (ABRI).

In a goodwill message, the Regional Director of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Mr. Yao Ydo, emphasizes that Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) are recognized as key determinants of sustainable development and attainment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

But Ydo, who was represented by Dr. Osuji Otu, maintains that tapping into the benefits of STI can only be achieved by creating robust STI systems and appropriate policy frameworks.

In this regard, he notes that the formulation, monitoring and implementation of relevant STI policies is crucial to addressing major challenges such as poverty eradication, food security, climate change, access to energy, eradication of endemic diseases, management and preservation of the environment.



**#Stop prioritizing foreign businesses over Liberian businesses!#**



# Français

## Téléphonie : de nouveaux tarifs bientôt

Le coût d'une minute d'appel téléphonique est actuellement de 0,0156 USD (LD \$ 2,366) et le coût d'un mégaoctet des données Internet est de 0,0218 USD (3,4008 LD), a fait savoir la Liberia Telecommunication Authority (LTA), selon les calculs qu'elle a effectués en collaboration avec Orange Liberia et Lonestar Cell MTN.

L'Autorité des Télécommunications du Libéria a indiqué que la loi de 2012 sur les télécommunications interdit aux entreprises de télécommunications de vendre ses services à un prix inférieur à leurs prix de revient. Elle souhaite donc appliquer cette loi afin de mettre fin à la guerre des prix [entre Orange et MTN] en faisant savoir aux opérateurs téléphoniques qu'ils sont tenus de ne pas vendre les appels téléphoniques et les données Internet en dessous de leur prix de revient.

La LTA a clairement indiqué qu'Orange et MTN ne pourront ainsi offrir des appels gratuits qu'à certain niveau, de peur

qu'elles ne violent la loi sur les télécommunications.

Le régulateur de la téléphonie tient donc à consulter Orange et MTN, ainsi que beaucoup d'autres parties prenantes, y compris des groupes de consommateurs, pour savoir comment stabiliser le marché en utilisant un prix minimum pour les appels et les données Internet.

Il tient aussi à informer le public que ces prix minimums de 0,0156 USD pour les appels et de 0,0218 USD pour les données Internet permettront aux deux sociétés de fournir des offres téléphoniques et Internet à 1,00 USD.

« Le prix minimum permettra toujours à MTN et à Orange d'offrir des forfaits promotionnels de 3 jours. Les

consommateurs ne connaîtront donc aucun changement majeur lorsque la stabilisation des prix commencera l'année prochaine », a indiqué la LTA.

Cette mesure vise à mettre fin à la guerre des prix entre Orange et MTN qui détruit le secteur des télécommunications, à en croire le régulateur, qui rappelle qu'en 2012, certains opérateurs de télécommunication ont lancé des promotions tarifaires qui ont poussé toutes les autres compagnies de téléphone dans une « guerre des prix ». « Et lorsqu'une entreprise réduit son prix, les autres baissent aussi les leurs et cela a créé un cercle vicieux qui a finalement amené le prix des appels et des données Internet à un niveau bien inférieur au prix de revient », a-t-il indiqué, avant d'ajouter : « Le prix des appels est passé de 0,14 USD par minute en 2014 à moins de 0,01 USD par minute en 2017 et continue de baisser ».

Toujours selon la LTA, les prix sont devenus si bas que les services sont presque gratuits, au point que ce ne sont que les habitants de la région de Monrovia qui en profitent, tandis que les habitants de la plupart des autres régions du pays ont du mal à faire des appels et à se connecter à l'internet. La LTA dit déplorer que les prix aient poussé de petites entreprises telles que Novafone, West Africa Telecom et LiberCell à quitter le marché, ne laissant que MTN et Orange.

Elle a admis qu'au début, elle était heureuse de la compétition car cela permettait aux consommateurs de faire des appels et de se connecter à l'internet à bon marché. Mais cette compétition est devenue si rude qu'on a l'impression que les deux compagnies se détruisent mutuellement, ou que chaque entreprise essaie de chasser l'autre du marché.

« Les deux sociétés vendent des appels et des données internet en dessous de leur prix de revient et perdent de l'argent, mais ni Orange ni MTN ne veut se rendre », a fait observer le LTA, qui prévient que si la guerre des prix se poursuit, soit Orange ou MTN sera forcée de quitter le marché et que le pays reviendra à l'époque du monopole où les cartes SIM étaient vendues à 65 USD et qu'une entreprise pouvait facturer les appels à souhait.

La LTA a en outre indiqué que les télécommunications sont l'un des plus gros contributeurs aux recettes de l'État, ajoutant que lorsque les entreprises de télécommunications perdent de l'argent, elles paient moins d'impôts à l'État qui ne sera plus à même de construire des écoles, des hôpitaux et des routes.

Elle a fait savoir que par exemple le Nigéria et la Sierra Leone ont dû avoir recours à cette même stabilisation des prix pour améliorer la qualité des services. La LTA soutient que le Libéria a les prix les plus bas en Afrique de l'Ouest.



## Putsch manqué au Burkina : Diendéré nie avoir préparé l'arrestation des autorités

Dans le procès du putsch manqué au Burkina, les avocats des parties civiles ont tenté de comprendre les mobiles qui ont poussé les soldats de l'ex-RSP à perpétrer le coup d'État. En vain. Selon le général Gilbert Diendéré, si

le coup de force avait été préparé, les choses en auraient été autrement. Il a expliqué que l'arrestation des autorités de la transition était un mouvement d'humeur.

Face aux avocats des parties civiles, le général Gilbert Diendéré est resté sur

sa position en ce qui concerne la paternité du coup d'État manqué. Il a déclaré n'avoir pas cherché à connaître les exécutants de l'action, mais il s'est vu obligé de l'assumer.

Un « sentiment de fuite de responsabilités »

Maître Prosper Farama, l'un des avocats des parties civiles, estime que c'est une fuite de responsabilité. « Il y a, en ce qui concerne le général, un sentiment de fuite des responsabilités. Une fuite en avant est en manque de cohérence dans ses propos. Il était, lui, le maillon fort du RSP, il n'avait besoin comme il le dit lui-même, le rapport de force étant en leur faveur, de personne pour perpétrer son coup d'État. Et il le dit, il a fait un coup d'État, sauf qu'il refuse aujourd'hui de l'assumer tel quel. »

Refusant de répondre à plusieurs questions et renvoyant les avocats des parties civiles à ses précédentes dépositions, le général Gilbert Diendéré a

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déclaré qu'il n'a jamais préparé un coup de force contre le président Michel Kafando.

Echanges parfois tendus Pour maître Jean Yaovi Degli, l'un de ses avocats, le général Gilbert Diendéré ne s'en tient aux actes qu'il a posés : « Ce que le général a fait, il le dit, il ne le nie pas, il

dit : "le 17, c'est moi qui ai fait le projet de déclaration. C'est moi qui ai fait proclamer qu'on gérait le pouvoir. Et à partir de cet instant, j'en prends la responsabilité. Ce que je n'ai pas fait, je dis "je ne l'ai pas fait". Ce que j'ai fait, je dis dans quelles conditions et comment je l'ai fait." »



# Français

## Éditorial

### Disparition présumée de 16 milliards : le député Koung ouvre une boîte de Pandore

**A** lors que les membres de l'Assemblée législative de Capitol Hill se battent bec et ongle pour désespérément se défendre des accusations selon lesquelles ils auraient reçu des pots-de-vin de la part de la Banque centrale du Libéria pour autoriser cette dernière à imprimer de nouveaux billets de banque, un député vient de faire des révélations accablantes sur l'affaire.

Le représentant du district du comté de Nimba, Jeremiah Kpain Koung, a révélé que certains de ses collègues avaient effectivement reçu des pots-de-vin de la part de la banque centrale du Libéria pour imprimer de nouveaux billets de banque, comme l'avait déjà dit le journaliste libérien Philipbert Browne, rédacteur en chef de Hot Pepper Newspaper, un quotidien local.

Le député Jeremiah Kpain Koung a ouvertement accusé plusieurs de ses collègues législateurs du comté de Nimba d'avoir reçu un pot-de-vin de la part de fonctionnaires de la Banque centrale avant l'impression des nouveaux billets du Libéria, dont 16 milliards seraient portés disparus dans le pays.

Lors de son apparition sur une radio communautaire, notamment la Radio Kergheamahn [94.5FM] à Ganta, dans le comté de Nimba, il a spécifiquement accusé le représentant Larry P. Younquoi et d'autres dont il n'a pas mentionné les noms, comme quoi ces deniers ont exigé et reçu une énorme somme d'argent de la Banque centrale avant d'approuver l'impression des nouveaux billets.

Interrogé, le représentant Younquoi s'est inscrit en faux, niant d'avoir reçu des pots-de-vin. Il a cependant reconnu qu'en tant que président du comité parlementaire sur le budget, les voies et moyens au temps de l'ancien Président de la chambre des représentants Alex Tyler, au cours de la 53ème législature, ils ont écrit à la Banque centrale du Libéria pour l'autoriser à imprimer les nouveaux billets de banque sans rien demander en retour. Selon lui, ce sont ceux qui les ont remplacés à la tête du comité des voies et moyens qui ont reçu les prétendus pots-de-vin. Il n'a pas mentionné de nom.

Pourtant, les membres de la Chambre des représentants ont nié toute implication dans tout acte de corruption et ont convoqué le rédacteur en chef Browne pour étayer ses affirmations. Browne est actuellement en dehors du pays pour assister à une conférence des jeux olympiques.

Toutefois, les dernières affirmations du représentant Koung mettent clairement en accusation la Chambre des représentants et semblent corroborer les propos du journaliste Browne selon lesquels certains locuteurs de l'hémicycle se seraient rendus coupables d'acte de corruption. Il va donc de soi que Browne devra être exonéré de toute accusation d'outrage au parlement.

Nous pensons donc qu'au lieu d'être aux trousseaux du journaliste Browne pour ses propos, les parlementaires devraient faire appel à leur propre collègue, le représentant Koung, pour lui demander de les aider à identifier le reste de ses collègues qui, selon lui, ont reçu des pots-de-vin.

Cela devrait relancer la véritable enquête sur le rôle des législateurs dans l'impression des nouveaux billets de banque et la disparition présumée des 16 milliards de dollars libériens. Toute autre action en dehors de la dernière allégation de l'un des législateurs n'est rien d'autre qu'une tentative visant museler les dénonciateurs patriotes sur la question de l'argent disparu et la corruption à laquelle ils seraient associées.

Le représentant Koung a donc ouvert la boîte de Pandore et nous pensons que la Chambre devrait agir de façon honorable en examinant tous les éléments, plutôt que d'essayer de faire bâillonner la voix des sans voix bien intentionnée, comme le montre la campagne en cours à Capitol Hill.

## COMMENTAIRE

By Howard Davies

### Les nouveaux risques pour la régulation prudentielle

**L**ONDRES - Quand j'ai pris la responsabilité de la supervision bancaire au Royaume-Uni, en 1995, un vieux sage de la Banque d'Angleterre (BoE) m'a averti que je trouverais la tâche ingrate. Aucun journal n'affichera jamais un gros titre du style « Toutes les banques de Londres saines et sauves cette semaine. » Par contre, si un problème se produit, il est presque toujours considéré comme un cas d'échec de surveillance. Un organisme de surveillance qui semble s'être endormi au volant est un trope qui se fraie rapidement un chemin jusqu'aux couvertures des journalistes.

Les régulateurs sont l'objet d'un feu croisé d'attentes contradictoires. Les banques veulent être laissées seules, sauf si elles ont besoin d'aide. Les consommateurs et leurs représentants politiques veulent que les régulateurs soient au courant de chaque transaction et prêts à intervenir en temps réel si un pépin se produit. Dans les années précédant la crise financière de 2008, le pendule a balancé vers l'extrémité non interventionniste du spectre. Aujourd'hui, l'adjectif « intrusif » a une connotation positive dans le lexique réglementaire. Néanmoins, la nécessité de trouver un équilibre raisonnable demeure.

L'autre conseil de mon vieux sage était que la seule façon de générer une histoire positive à propos de la réglementation était d'avertir de difficultés à venir. « Les régulateurs ont averti aujourd'hui que ... » est une bonne accroche pour le Financial Times ou le Wall Street Journal. Les rédacteurs ressentent un frisson d'excitation lorsqu'ils inquiètent leurs lecteurs.

Les régulateurs financiers et les institutions financières internationales ont beaucoup suivi ce sage conseil récemment. Comme William Coen, le secrétaire général du Comité de Bâle, l'a expliqué lors d'une conférence récente, citant l'ancien président de la Réserve fédérale américaine, Ben Bernanke, « pour ceux qui travaillent à assurer la résilience de notre système financier, l'ennemi est l'oubli ». Coen a continué en déclarant que « la probabilité qu'une crise financière future se produise ne fait qu'augmenter avec le temps ». Je suppose que l'on peut comprendre ce qu'il voulait dire, mais je m'interroge sur la logique de cette formulation.

La Banque centrale européenne a ajouté des préoccupations plus spécifiques: « Des vulnérabilités dans les marchés financiers continuent de s'accumuler au sein de poches de valorisations élevées et de primes de risque globales comprimées ». La BCE est particulièrement préoccupée par les effets collatéraux pour la zone euro des difficultés dans d'autres marchés. Cette préoccupation se concentre sur les gestionnaires d'actifs: les fonds d'investissement de la zone euro sont vulnérables aux « chocs potentiels sur les marchés financiers mondiaux ».

La Banque d'Angleterre a des préoccupations similaires au sujet du prix du risque. Sur son blog « Underground Bank », qui est en passe de devenir la plus intéressante des publications de la Banque d'Angleterre, vous pouvez trouver une analyse de l'évolution des primes de risque. En utilisant les prix des swaps sur défaillance de crédit, elle montre que les investisseurs acceptent désormais une compensation moindre pour supporter des quantités données de risque de crédit: la compensation par unité de risque de défaut a diminué de 20% depuis le début de 2016. De même, la prime de volatilité, définie comme étant le prix des options qui assurent contre des chutes de l'indice boursier, a considérablement diminué. Rétrospectivement, la mauvaise évaluation du risque était un voyant rouge

d'avertissement qui clignotait et que les régulateurs et les investisseurs ont ignoré durant les mois précédant la crise de 2008.

Le Fonds monétaire international s'est lui aussi exprimé sur le sujet. Même si son World Economic Outlook d'octobre présente une image positive de la croissance mondiale, le FMI, sans doute encore conscient de l'avis excessivement optimiste formulé en 2006, prévient à présent que l'économie mondiale est « vulnérable à un brusque resserrement des conditions financières » et que « les valorisations des actions semblent tendues sur certains marchés ». Dans ce contexte, « certains » est le code du FMI pour « États-Unis ». La part du marché américain dans les valorisations boursières mondiales est la plus élevée qu'elle n'a jamais été - une statistique remarquable compte tenu de la diminution de la part des États-Unis dans l'activité économique mondiale.

Comment devrions-nous considérer tous ces avertissements? Les régulateurs sont-ils véritablement anxieux, ou tout simplement en train de couvrir leurs arrières? La sagesse d'ordinaire partagée par les régulateurs veut qu'il soit préférable d'être en mesure de dire: « Nous vous l'avions dit » si quelque chose va mal, et qu'il y ait peu d'inconvénients à émettre de temps en temps de sombres avertissements. Les journalistes vérifient rarement a posteriori si les résultats terribles prédits par les autorités se sont effectivement produits. Et même s'ils le font, les régulateurs peuvent toujours prétendre que le pire a été évité précisément parce qu'ils avaient mis en garde contre le risque.

Cependant, le quotient d'avertissement a augmenté au cours des dernières semaines. Faut-il vraiment s'en inquiéter et commencer à fermer les écoutilles pour se préparer à une tempête à venir?

Il est évidemment difficile d'être sûr, mais les raisons de rester éveillé la nuit se multiplient. Bien que chaque point névralgique des marchés émergents - le Venezuela, la Turquie, le Brésil, l'Argentine - ait des caractéristiques idiosyncrasiques, un modèle commence à émerger. La hausse du dollar et une fuite des investissements vers les États-Unis accentuent les problèmes autogénérés de ces pays. De plus, tandis que les hausses de taux d'intérêt de la Fed ne pouvaient guère avoir été plus soigneusement signalées à l'avance, il subsiste une inquiétude concernant le fait que le niveau souhaité de resserrement financier sur les marchés de crédit est encore loin d'être atteint et que, quand ce sera le cas, certains emprunteurs pourraient se trouver très mal exposés.

Ensuite, il y a le risque d'une guerre commerciale. L'Organisation mondiale du commerce a averti - enfin - qu'une intensification des guerres tarifaires pourrait entraîner une forte baisse des échanges. Cela porterait un coup sérieux à l'économie chinoise, qui a déjà accusé un net ralentissement pour d'autres raisons.

Ainsi, les risques économiques mondiaux semblent désormais être sous-évalués, après une période bénigne. La seule bonne nouvelle est que, si une récession (ou peut-être plus probablement une période de croissance inférieure à la tendance) est à l'horizon, les banques sont beaucoup plus fortement capitalisées qu'elles ne l'étaient la dernière fois. Nous ne pouvons cependant pas en être aussi certains pour le secteur bancaire informel, presque par définition. Nous pourrions être sur le point de découvrir si les nouveaux créateurs de crédit, dont certains ne sont pas soumis à un régime rigoureux de la réglementation du capital, ont évalué correctement le risque.



# CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT



## CIC and Kobazza are not beefing



### -CIC clarifies

In the midst of rumors in the Liberian public and in social media that SOG golden boy and Kobazzie are at loggerhead for unknown reasons, award-winning and Lonestar Cell MTN Brand Ambassador has taken to Facebook to clear speculations circulating around that he's jealous of Kobazzie's success.

CIC posts: "Lemme jeh inject this into da your hateful and envious skull cuz the only thing y'all know is to promote division.

I've known Kobassie from the day LXR dropped TIME IS MONEY and he was featured tho I never met him.

Later he came into the limelight with multiple hits and became a household name in Liberia. Got to meet him a few years back and we later grew to becoming friends and

then brothers. I was a fan of this guy before I became a colleague.

I will say this here and now, I ride for a very few artist in this industry, cuz of their free spirit. There are rumors and lies being spread around of late trying to draw a line of demarcation, but my kind advice to the back-biters and colgateless mouths, there will be no time will I ever go against Korte, nor bad mouth him.

I've always prayed for my fellow artist to make a huge break and am so pleased all of us are doing better of late. Korte remains a brother and will always be. I wrote this publicly cuz I feel that things are going too far. Lemme keep my lay pen for my next project."

But since the rumors of the both artists beefing, Kobazzie has not come up publicly to say whether it's true or not.

## Kobazzie to perform in Nigeria

Kobazzie is one of the biggest names in Liberian music industry and he still maintains that position up to date.

The international star has been making hits and headlines in the last three months, after having a successful U.S Tour, performing at the biggest Afro Fest in Philly and dropping his hit single, Bounce.

He returned to Liberia and was

gifted a new car from the President; he later performed at Davido's concert on November 29, which was his birthday.

What left more Liberians in frenzy was the fact that he was brought on stage by Davido (OBO) and when the show ended, we saw OBO and Dj ECool following Kobazzie on Instagram.

Few days later we are seeing the

## 10 influential Liberians

Liberia is one of those countries in West Africa that has a huge variety of talented individuals. This includes musicians, actors, soccer players, DJs, and many more. Below are ten (10) widely known Liberians who are causing storms in Liberia and around the world.

1. **William Jebor (The Victorious Boy)** - It's no secret that the Wydad Casablanca key striker has been consistently performing at a world class level. This talented striker could very easily be Liberia's all-time top goal scorer with 12 goals so far. In addition to that, he is the second Liberian to ever be an African Football Player of the Year nominee.

2. **Van Vicker** - The fact of the matter is that Van vicker is a great fit for just about any role and he meets all qualities that define a "real actor". Van has been featured in numerous movies so far in Ghana, Liberia and many more places. He's has been nominated thirteen (13) times and he's also a recipient of five awards including the "Best Actor in Africa" award.

3. **Wokie Dolo** - Our current Miss Liberia is a young and talented beautiful lady who has created a name for herself in Africa as well as the world. Miss Wokie Dolo represented Liberia at the Miss Africa 2017 Peagent held in Kigali, Rwanda. She was also recently awarded the "African Queen of the Year" at this year's NAESIM African Queen of the Year Award.

4. **F.A** - He has proven himself to be a star. He has released a couple of songs that are causing ripples on the airwaves with his classical videos that keep the fans glued to their screen. F.A has collaborated with two Nigerian female artists. This has helped him on his quest to get his music all around the world. Of late, F.A has started to reserve international nominations as well as nominations within the Liberian community.

5. **Semah Weifur** - A talented gospel musician who didn't let his condition hold him back. He has received a great amount of recognition and acknowledgement in such a short period of time. This year has been very eventful for Semah as we've seen him breaking

boundaries and sharing stages with international artists at the Afrimma Awards Show 2018.

6. **Dj Nelly** - Dj Nelly is a seven (7) time award winning Dj, whose real name is Chuku Nelly. He's a famous and professional Dj who has played on local and international shows. He stands out with a distinctive manner of combining different kinds of music on a play list. Of late, Dj nelly played at the Nigerian embassy on the Independence Day of Nigeria.

7. **Emmanuel Matadi** - A Liberian Olympian specialized in sprinting, philanthropist and entrepreneurship. He has made a name for himself playing for Mankato's Mavericks college team in Minnesota. Emmanuel was the flagbearer of Liberia in the parade of nations and a bronze award winner at the 2016 African Senior Olympics Championships. He also represented Liberia in the 2016 Rio Olympics.

8. **Bucky Raw** - The Trapco guru is another potent lyricist in the industry. He has gained fame for himself through his music and his energetic at age performances always keep the fans glued to his performance. Lately, Bucky Raw made Liberia proud with his first studio album making air wave and hitting the number one spot on several platforms.

9. **Abraham Keita** - An award winning activist, motivational speaker, and humanitarian. He's a defender of non-violence and civil disobedience. Abraham Keita is a recipient of the 2015 Children's Peace Prize for demanding justice for child victims of violence. He continues to fight for the everyday Liberian by using his platform to draw attention to the ills in the country.

10. **Henry P. Costa** - World known political commentator. It is no secret that Henry Costa has come a long way. From just having a show on Hott FM to owning his own radio station, his story is indeed a good one to tell. Henry Costa continues to fight for the voiceless people in Liberia, while giving back as much as he can. He currently holds numerous awards from LYA as well as LEA. He is definitely one radio personality that is taking Liberia to another level.

-Credit- The Liberian Influence

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rest of Davido Music Worldwide (DMW) artists like Mayor Kun, Idowest, BRed and one of the biggest Ethiopian artists following Kobazzie.

In the musical world, to have a certain people following you, it's an

approval and like a co-signed and to cut the long story short, Kobazzie is expected to open up for Mayor Kun in Nigeria on December 13, and we also heard there are lots of major collaborations on the way.



# Weah issues ultimatum

President George Manneh Weah has ordered members of his cabinet who are yet to declare their assets to do so in a week or face punitive action consistent with law.

His call on Thursday, 6 December comes roughly 11 months in office, far beyond the mandate of the National Code of Conduct that says in Section 10.1 that every public official and employee of government involved in making decisions affecting contracting, tendering or procurement, and issuance of licenses of various types shall sign performance or financial bonds and shall in addition declare his or her income, assets and liabilities prior to taking office.

This Section of the National Code of Conduct further says the official shall also declare their assets at the end of every three years; on promotion or progression from one level to another; upon transfer to another public office; and upon retirement or resignation.

According to the Executive Mansion, the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) has reported that only 25% of members of the Executive have filed in their asset



declaration, meaning 75% are flouting the National Code of Conduct on asset declaration.

However, the Executive Mansion indicates that President Weah says asset declaration under his regime will be enforced to the letter and there will be no sacred cows.

"During the campaign, we told the people of Liberia and assured the international community that our government would adopt a zero tolerance posture towards

corruption and graft and would demonstrate utmost transparency and accountability," President Weah is quoted by the Mansion as saying.

"It is therefore important and critical that each of you serving in my government declare your assets to the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission in one week," he continues.

His instruction to his officials came Thursday, 6 December during a special

cabinet meeting held at the C. Cecil Dennis Auditorium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs which temporarily hosts the presidency.

Meanwhile, President Weah commends his cabinet for their laudable efforts in meeting the goals of his government, but warns that he would not tolerate delays and excuses by delinquent members of the Cabinet on the declaration of their assets.

He says his government and the entire country have much to benefit when officials demonstrate probity which comes with transparency and accountability.

"And this is not anything imposed on us as a government," he says, adding: "We promised we would do better, and better we must do."

President Weah says asset declaration adds transparency and accountability value to the government and makes the government responsible to citizens and the international community.

He further recognizes that it will be not an option left at the volition of officials, but a legal obligation that will come with penalties under the law.

In another development, President Weah has also instructed all government ministries, agencies and commissions to submit their procurement plans to the Ministry of Finance and the Public Procurement and Concession Commission (PPCC) in the shortest possible time.

The Executive Mansion says President Weah orders that ministries or agencies failing to submit their procurement plan will be denied their allotments.

"I am ordering the Minister of Finance not to honor or execute any payment to any ministry or agency failing to submit its procurement plan," President Weah says.

"I am sure this will compel delinquent agencies to comply," he continues.

President Weah tells his cabinet that as the first anniversary of his government draws near, it is incumbent on officials of his administration to ensure that critical actions and policies agreed upon at the beginning of the government be implemented or at least substantially implemented.

He makes the call so that the larger Liberian public would be assured that his government means business or that they are not here to joke.

"Keeping our promises is the greatest seasons' gift we can give our people," he stresses.

President Weah further reiterate his calls for members of his cabinet to be tax compliant, sending out the caveat that tax delinquent

officials will be compelled into compliance.

He urges the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, the Liberia Revenue Authority and other line ministries to devise means by which non-compliant officials' salaries will be subjected to monthly deduction.

"The progress we are making and celebrating today is because somebody somewhere paid their taxes," he acknowledges.

"Today, Doe Community, Clara Town and many other communities are celebrating new developments, including new roads because taxes were paid by somebody. We can't sit here and share in that celebration when we are not making contribution to things we claim as our handiworks," he notes.

The President and his cabinet used the meeting to discuss many other important national issues and strategies to make the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development work to achieve its objectives and targeted deliverables.

The Cabinet, among other things, agreed to embark upon a national address system which will capture and locate every building or structure within their specific details within the borders of Liberia.

To this effort, the President has constituted a special committee to develop a framework for the national address system and report subsequently to the Cabinet.

Members of the special committee include the Post and Telecommunications Ministry, Liberia Revenue Authority, the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services, and the Liberia Electricity Corporation.

Other members include PPCC Director Dorbor Jallah and General Services Agency (GSA) Director General Mary Broh.

The Commissioner-General of LRA, Thomas Doe Nah and LACC's James Verdier made separate presentations on the states and implications of government officials' compliance in tax payment and asset declarations respectively.

Both men also provided clarifications and enlightenments on their respective programs and policies.

Youth and Sports Minister Zogar Wilson also used the meeting to rally his colleagues who he said represent various counties to provide moral and other necessary support to the National Sports Meet which opens Sunday, 16 December in Sanniquellie, Nimba County.--  
**Press release**

## Liberia urged to implement

Cont'd from page 6

sticating the law means localizing it in the context of Liberia.

He says the Kampala Convention, which is also known as the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Law of Liberia is a treaty of the African Union that was adopted in October 2009 in Kampala, Uganda, where it got its name "Kampala Convention" from.

According to him, the document addresses the issue of displacement, mainly internal displacement caused by three different aspects.

He cites armed conflict, natural disasters and life skill development projects in Africa as the three factors causing displacement.

Atty. Ross explains that the Convention wants government

and state party to do everything possible to prevent displacement, which requires early warnings and relocation of people from areas affected by disaster.

When disasters occurs, he says the Convention talks about protecting and assisting people that are displaced; and bringing displacement to an end.

Senator Peter Coleman has pledged his commitment to the effort, saying all that is needed to be done now is lobbying with the leadership of the Senate and the House Representatives so that the instruments are passed.

"I think once a country complies with many of these international conventions ... it gives our country additional respect, our image abroad," he says.

Dr. Coleman says he thinks this is something that is very worthy, thanking the ICRC for this level of collaboration.

ICRC head of officer in Liberia Mr. Charles Kpan says by drafting these three laws, it shows that Liberia is part of the international community in adhering to compliance in line with domestication and implementation.

The African Union and ECOWAS have expressed their support, particularly explaining how they have encouraged member states to go through the process of ratifying and domesticating provisions of these instruments.

**#To empower Liberians,  
enforce the exclusive  
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# SWAL releases electoral guidelines



The elections committee of the Sports Writers Association of Liberia or SWAL announces guidelines for positions to be contested for in its forthcoming elections on December 15, 2018.

According to the

committee head by Ernest K. McCray, submission of applications for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary General, Assistant Secretary General, Financial Secretary and Chaplain currently ongoing, ends on tomorrow, Friday, December

7th.

A press release issued by the Association says applications must be submitted at the Press Union of Liberia on Clay Street, in Monrovia to Mr. Henry Page.

Meanwhile, interviewing of candidates starts on Monday, December 10 and will end on Tuesday, December 11 at the headquarters of the Press Union of Liberia.

Campaign officially opens on Wednesday, 12 December and will end on December 14 at 12:00 midnight.

The SWAL Elections Committee will conduct debates for all eligible candidates on Friday, 14 December at the PUL Headquarters, while voting will take place on Saturday, 15 December between 9:00 am to 4:00 pm to be followed immediately by counting of ballots and announcement of results. **-Press Release**

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## Public Service Announcement

The New Dawn will take its usual annual break beginning December 24, 2018 to return on the newsstand immediately January 4, 2019. We thank our many loyal readers and subscribers for standing by us in 2018 despite a rather tough business climate. We look forward to a very peaceful and prosperous New Year. Merry Christmas.

The Management

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