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TRULY INDEPENDENT

Public Service Announcement

THIS IS TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND ALL OUR CLIENTS & READERS THAT THE BUSINESS AND NEWSPAPER OFFICES OF THE NEW DAWN NEWSPAPER HAVE BEEN RELOCATED ON UN DRIVE OPPOSITE THE NATIONAL INVESTMENT COMMISSION (NIC), BEHIND PUBLIC WORKS MINISTRY.

VOL.9 NO. 210

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2019

PRICE LD\$40.00



P11

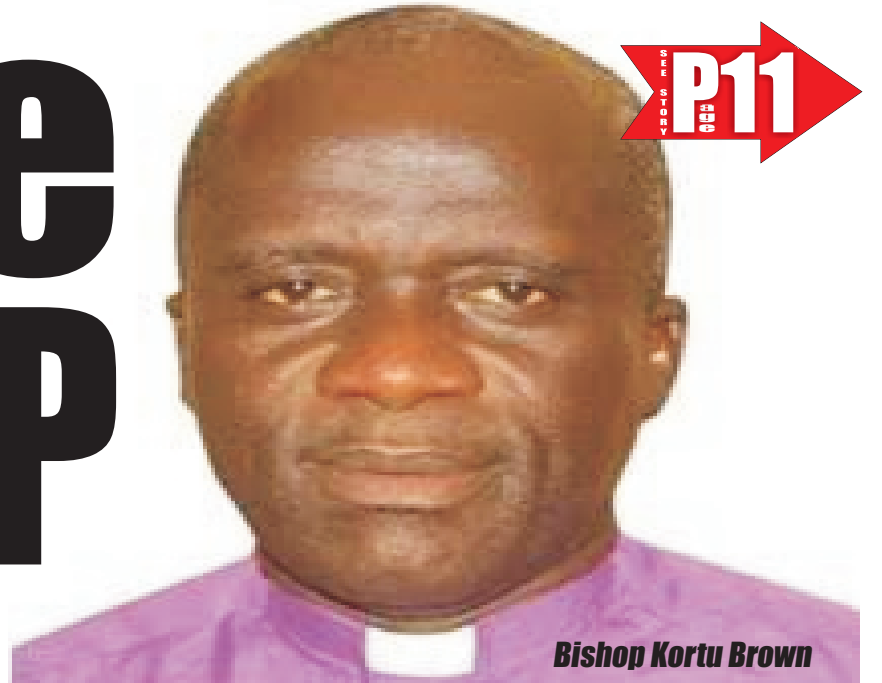
Former LACC Comptroller, J. Bernard Nagbe

Battle for integrity at LACC

-As Ex-official defies board of commissioners

Don't hide behind COP

-Bishop Brown tells politicians, others



P11

Bishop Kortu Brown

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Continental News

Ex-Namibian minister arrested over fish contracts

taken bribes in return for fishing quotas emerged.

The Icelandic firm, Samherji, is also investigating the allegations.

The news comes as Namibians go to the polls to elect a new president and parliament.

Polling stations opened at 07:00 local time
Image caption: Polling stations opened at 07:00 local time

The allegations over the fishing contracts dominated the latter stages of campaigning. BBC

Namibia's former Justice Minister SackyShanghala has been arrested in connection with the awarding of fishing contracts to an Icelandic firm.

He was detained along with the former head of an investment firm, James Hatuikulipi.

The two men have not commented on the arrests.

The head of the country's anti-corruption commission, Paulus Noa, is being quoted by local media as confirming the news but gave no further details.

Another former minister, Bernhard Esau, was also detained at the weekend in connection with the case but was released a day later when a judge said the arrest warrant was invalid, the Reuters news agency reports.

He denies any wrongdoing. Both Mr Esau and MrShanghala resigned as ministers earlier this month when allegations that they had



Photo copyright: AFP
Polling stations opened at 07:00 local time

US and UK protest after Tanzania ruling party's 99.9% win

US and UK diplomats in Tanzania say they are deeply concerned about the handling of the local elections in the country.

Sunday's polls were boycotted by eight major opposition parties alleging manipulation by the government. The governing Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) party won 99.9% of the seats contested.

They include more than 16,000 key positions in the

running of villages, towns and cities across the country.

A statement from the US and UK embassies said election officials "overwhelmingly" disqualified opposition candidates rather than CCM candidates. They also decried the government's refusal to give accreditation to election observers.

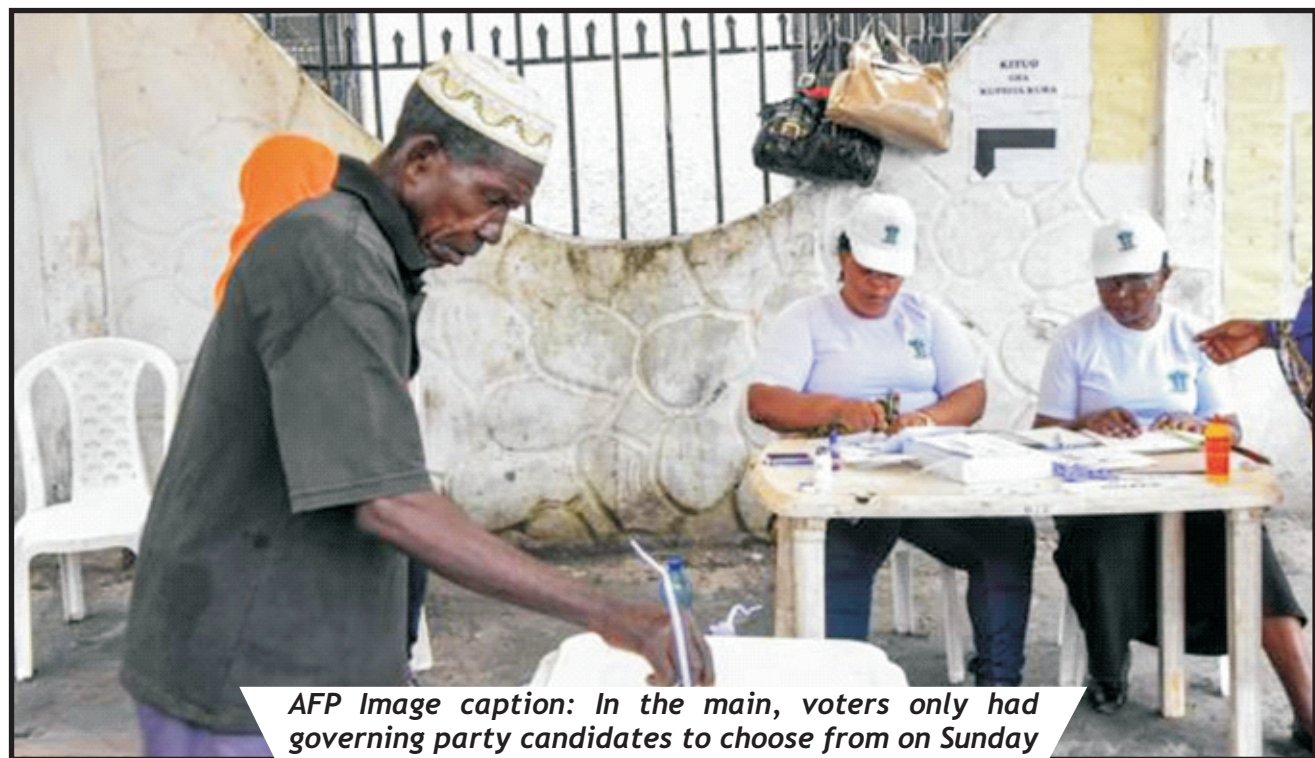
The diplomats said these irregularities cast questions over the credibility of the poll.

The main opposition groups

decided to pull out of the elections after alleging that their candidates were systematically excluded.

More than half of opposition candidates were told they could not stand because of spelling mistakes, blank spaces on forms and other bureaucratic errors.

Local observers worry that this new development sets a bad precedent ahead of general elections next year.



AFP Image caption: In the main, voters only had governing party candidates to choose from on Sunday

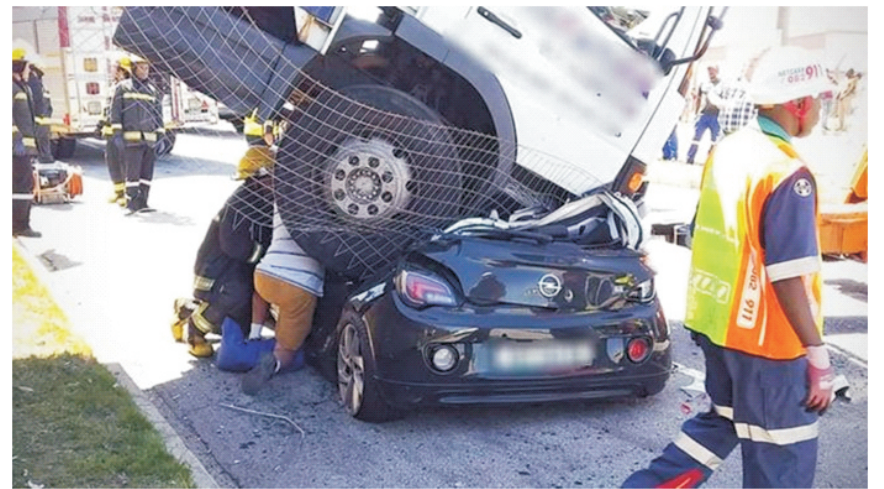
Woman survives as runaway truck flattens her car in South Africa

A 26-year-old woman has suffered serious injuries after a runaway truck landed on her car in the South African city of Port Elizabeth.

The truck driver had parked the vehicle while he picked up his children from the Parsons Hill primary school, police

Paramedics from independent ambulance company Netcare 911 were among those to respond to the accident on Tuesday afternoon.

"The truck was squashing both her and her car. Parts of it had to be cut off in order to free her," Shawn Herbst, a spokesman for Netcare 911,



said. It rolled down the hill, smashing into the car from above.

The woman's Opel Adam was virtually flattened, leaving her trapped inside for nearly 40 minutes.

Emergency services eventually pulled her out, reports said.

The woman survived but was taken to hospital with multiple injuries, including fractures, paramedics said.

told the BBC.

The truck driver, who has not been named, is being investigated for reckless and negligent driving, police said.

"When he returned to his truck, he noticed it was no longer parked where he had left it," police spokeswoman Sandra Janse van Rensburg told local newspaper HeraldLive.

"He then noticed that the truck had rolled forward and collided with an Opel Adam." - BBC

President doesn't make Guinea-Bissau run-off



Copyright: AFP
The first-round vote took place on Sunday

The first-round vote took place on Sunday
Image caption: The first-round vote took place on Sunday

The electoral commission in Guinea-Bissau says two former prime ministers will face each other in a presidential run-off, after winning the most votes in Sunday's first-round poll.

The incumbent, President Jose Mario Vaz, came fourth, with 12% of the vote.

The two front-runners, DomingosSimoes Pereira and Jose Pedro Sambu, both served as premiers under MrVaz.

There was serious political infighting during MrVaz's tenure, as well as problems with corruption.

Guinea-Bissau has had multiple coups since independence in 1974 and is used as a transit point for Latin American drugs bound for Europe.

EDITORIAL

Weah's analogy on football and governance

PRESIDENT GEORGE MANNEH Weah assured foreign investors recently in Dubai that just as he exercised high degree of honesty during his professional soccer career, the business climate in Liberia under his Presidency is guided by honesty. But this is far from the truth.

WHAT MR. WEAH did not tell investors is that his performance on the soccer pitch was governed by football authorities who even decided his contract and how much money he should be paid. His prime duty was to play and score, which he did very excellently that earned him both Africa and the world best footballer title in one year.

SO, HOW COULD he cheated on the pitch while being guided by referees, linesmen, match commissioners and monitored by video cameras? It was difficult to cheat if he wanted to hence, that reference cannot be a yardstick to measure his Presidency.

THE POINT IS Mr. Weah' experience from the football field cannot be compared with the superior presidency he now enjoys in Liberia, where he decides absolutely when and how to declare his assets, who should be awarded a contract from bidding process, outcome of cases in court, including flagrant violations of the Constitution of Liberia, among others.

WE ARE AWARE just as the President himself is in the know of some of his officials being heard on tape soliciting bribes from construction contracts in order to act favorably for said firm. The head of the National Housing Authority was suspended, charged and taken to court but returned innocent and a freeman despite overwhelming evidence.

HOW DARE PRESIDENT Weah to talk about fair-play and honesty in his government when newly printed Liberian banknotes totaling billions brought into the country under his Presidency vanished in thin air, though the authorities say no money is missing.

HOWEVER, THE COUNTRY faces serious shortage of banknotes to the extent that the government is unable to pay salaries, while commercial banks cannot meet customers' demand for money. Yet the President talks about honest business environment under his leadership.

PRESIDENT WEAH SHOULD be told in no uncertain terms that no amount of sugar-coated tongues to foreign investors would change realities in Liberia: a government that is unable to pay its employees and is engulfed by serious moral and integrity issues.

THE WORLD HAS become a big village, where unfolding developments in Liberia, member of this village, is on the global screen, so no amount of window-dressing or public relations void of facts can make up or impress investors.

THE WEAH ADMINISTRATION lacks high moral grounds to talk about honesty and integrity because it is not only corrupt, but inept. High level of financial indiscipline in the government characterized by lack of transparency and accountability cannot attract investors' confidence in the economy. The President should know by now that unless he improves such ugly picture, nothing would work.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

COMMENTARY

By Kenneth Amaeshi

Decolonizing African Scholarship

Although deeper scholarly interest in the continent of Africa is long overdue, the current methodological approach to the continent needs an overhaul. By treating colonial-era borders as accurate representations of coherent societies and cultures, too many researchers are producing findings with little real-world relevance.

EDINBURGH - Commentaries and academic research on individual African countries present a decidedly mixed picture. Yet, whether their conclusions are bright or bleak, they tend to share the same ahistorical approach.

Contemporary Africa is largely a product of colonialism, and whatever one's focus - economics or politics, religion or geography - one will find its imprints. A clear example is the practice of democracy in Africa. For all its promise, democratic governance has struggled to deliver in most African countries.

One reason is that democracy is rooted in principles (freedom, individualism, solidarity, equality) that can mean different things in different contexts. Embedded preferences, values, and beliefs tend to inform the practices and policies through which democracy itself is enacted. Hence, as an embodied set of practices and policies, democracy can be likened to a technology.

All technologies can be - and are - used for vastly different purposes. A pen can be a writing instrument or a weapon. A knife can be used to cut vegetables or to participate in a street fight. But this is not to suggest that technologies are morally neutral. On the contrary, their ethics can be informed by their functions. That is why it is possible to talk about appropriate and inappropriate uses of technologies. No technology is independent of the social world. All came from somewhere.

Likewise, democracy is rooted in a particular place, tradition, and culture. To transfer it from one context to another, one needs to recognize the traditions and cultures of the place to which it is being transferred. Because this did not happen in most African countries, democracy has become a weapon with which elites and strongmen oppress the weak, rather than a system for protecting rights and holding leaders accountable.

The legacy of colonial institutions in Africa tends to suppress indigenous practices. Many African societies have their own ways of doing things, from family governance to the coordination of economic and political life. Most also still operate as ethnic groups whose members base their identities on shared linguistic and cultural markers. Yet following the balkanization of Africa under colonialism, these traditional societies were, in most cases, reconfigured into political units lacking a source of identity. It is little wonder that so many of them are still struggling to become functioning nation states.

Geographic borders that were imposed for economic and political reasons have since become immovable realities. When there are movements for self-determination, they are usually suppressed - sometimes violently - and their leaders are accused of "treasonable felony" (itself a colonial artifact).

Over time, Africa's confected geographic borders have become psychological boundaries, too. People who were "borderized" into different countries after previously sharing an ethnic identity have since started seeing themselves as different people. While South Africa shares some ethnic groups with neighboring Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Namibia, it now sees these

countries' citizens as foreigners and outsiders.

But this dynamic runs in both directions. The Hausa-Fulani across Sahelian Africa have continued to emphasize their common identity irrespective of national boundaries. Yet this coherence itself has become a source of tension, insofar as it fuels suspicion among the other groups living within these artificial countries.

The longstanding emphasis on colonial borders, usually at the expense of traditional ethnic groups, continues to inform policies and international relations to this day. Multilateral institutions such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the United Nations often think and act within the confines of colonial borders. The same is true of economic governance and cross-border coordination: all decisions are based on "national" interests, which themselves are based on colonial legacies and affiliations. Despite their shared ethnic identities, the Anglophones and Francophones of West Africa frequently clash over economic and political matters.

Yet even outside economics and politics, academic studies of Africa tend to adhere to what social scientists Andreas Wimmer and Nina Glick Schiller call "methodological nationalism": "a naturalization of the nation-state and a view that countries are the natural units for comparative studies." This approach, which simply assumes that the nation-state represents a coherent society, has been widely embraced, including by for-profit management consultants. For example, Hofstede Insights, following on the work of Dutch social psychologist Geert Hofstede, has effectively commodified nationalism in advising its clients how to navigate the cultures of specific countries.

One important corollary to the "national culture" literature is the literature on national institutions, and particularly on "varieties of capitalism." The implication is that capitalism, as a practice, differs according to the institutional configurations of nation-states. And yet, again, this entire area of scholarship falls into the trap of methodological nationalism. National coherence is simply assumed, despite the fact that many separate societies can and do exist within a nation-state.

Anyone who surveys the academic literature nowadays will find studies focused on specific organizational practices and economic systems within different African countries. Each is geared toward explaining a country through the lens of "national" culture and institutions, and thus takes for granted the colonial borders. Yet given that those borders were often poorly drawn and based on outside interests and priorities, one must question the reliability of such findings.

After all, African countries are not homogenous. Academics with an interest in the continent need to think more critically about African cultures and institutions, and about the traditional ethnic delineations that predate today's borders and political arrangements. A more carefully crafted approach would likely yield valuable new insights into the difficulties of governance, leadership, and management across the continent. It may not be as easy as the current methodology, but African scholars and scholars of Africa should recognize it as an enterprise worth pursuing.

O-PED

By Werner Hoyer

The Power of Green Public Finance

LUXEMBOURG - Policymakers and pundits have been wringing their hands over the crises afflicting the European Union, arguing that it is falling behind in confronting major threats to its long-term survival. Yet on the issue of climate change, nothing could be further from the truth. In mid-November, EU member states demonstrated that they can unite behind a shared vision of a low-carbon future. And European institutions are already leading the fight against climate change at the global level. Among these, the European Investment Bank will now be playing an even greater role as an instrument for decarbonizing the economy and limiting global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

Climate change is the top political issue of our time. Scientists estimate that if we remain on our current path, we will experience global warming of 3-4°C by the end of the century, at which point large portions of the planet will be uninhabitable. Coupled with demographic growth, the impact on human welfare and migration flows would be catastrophic. Carbon emissions reached a record high in 2018, indicating that we urgently need to step up our response.

The transition to a low-carbon economy will not be possible without massive investment. But scarce public resources will not be nearly enough to fund them. Instead, we need to leverage public money to mobilize private capital. The new European Commission under President Ursula von der Leyen understands this. In pursuing a European Green Deal, von der Leyen has asked the EIB to become the financial engine of the low-carbon transition.

To that end, the EIB will use its financing to mobilize more than \$1 trillion for investments in climate action and environmental sustainability over the next decade, while increasing the share of climate investment in its overall financing portfolio to 50% by 2025. At the end of 2020, its entire financing will be aligned with the goals of the 2015 Paris climate accord, and one year later its financing for projects relying solely on fossil fuels will end. Going forward, the bank will be committed to the most ambitious climate investment strategy of any public financial institution in the world.

Rather than simply following the financial markets, public financial institutions must lead them, by creating investment channels into the green technologies of the future - from floating wind farms and new forms of tidal-energy production to better batteries and more efficient buildings. Public banks must go to where private capital is still reluctant to go, as the EIB has already demonstrated in the offshore-wind sector.

Besides, there is a clear business rationale for prioritizing green finance. Investors and rating agencies are increasingly scrutinizing investment portfolios for potential "stranded assets," such as oil and gas projects that will become obsolete as more renewable-energy technologies become commercially viable. Many existing fossil-fuel projects already have shorter life spans than was previously expected, and financial portfolios that rely heavily on such assets will increasingly be at risk of devaluation.

With some governments abandoning previous commitments to reduce emissions, one might think that the global effort to tackle climate change is losing steam. But we should not underestimate the power of financial pressure to effect change, nor can we ignore the determination of local governments and the private sector to act where national government have not.

Nonetheless, to get and keep all governments on board, the low-carbon transition must be inclusive. While countries with over 90% of the EIB's capital voted in favor of the new energy lending policy, some countries did vote against it. They have legitimate concerns about the economic implications for their constituents. We cannot ignore the position of countries that depend on fossil fuels like coal, and that see increased natural-gas production as a transition fuel. Rather, we must help them accelerate that transition, by ensuring that the process is just and fair. The EIB, for example, has agreed to extend the deadline (until the end of 2021) for its support of gas projects already under appraisal.

As we have seen in recent years, climate policies can be perfectly designed, but if they leave communities behind, they will invite a backlash and likely fail. Right now, at least ten EU member states face specific energy-investment challenges that cannot be ignored.

To help them find a way forward, the EIB will be working closely with the European Commission and the new "Just Transition Fund," including advisory support.

A properly managed green transition will offer more than enough economic opportunities for everyone in the energy sector - from generation to transmission and distribution as well as storage. In addition, the need for low-carbon technologies for the mobility and energy-intensive industrial sectors will create more opportunities for innovative businesses.

New participants are entering the market, consumers are becoming more active, and civil-society organizations are mobilizing. By shaping markets and guiding private investment toward the sectors that will ensure a just and fair transition for everyone, the EIB looks forward to demonstrating how much can be achieved through the leverage of public finance.

OPINION

By Lee Jong-Wha

East Asia's Political Vulnerability

SEOUL - Popular discontent is fueling protest and paralysis across Latin America. If East Asia isn't careful, it could be next.

In Ecuador, protests against anti-austerity measures, including the reduction of fuel subsidies, forced President Lenin Moreno to declare a state of emergency. In Chile, it was a modest increase in Santiago's metro fares that triggered large-scale demonstrations, which soon evolved to take aim at inequality and weaknesses in the education and pension systems.

In Argentina, the people expressed their economic frustrations at the ballot box, electing the Peronist presidential candidate Alberto Fernández. In Bolivia, the electoral route was compromised: President Evo Morales violated the constitution by standing for a fourth term, declared victory despite widespread concerns about fraud, and then resigned after weeks of protests.

While the details vary, there is a common thread in all of these movements: the belief that governments are not working for ordinary people. As Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson have observed, the extractive institutions on which many Latin American economies depend protect the interests of the rich and elites. Across the region, inequality has been skyrocketing, and there is little reason to expect political power structures favoring those same privileged people to address it. After years of economic stagnation and even crisis, the public's patience has worn thin.

To be sure, many Latin American leaders have, in recent decades, risen to power on the promise of leveling the playing field. And their interventions - including income redistribution, fiscal and monetary expansion, protectionism, discriminatory regulation, and capital controls - did bring some short-term benefits, particularly to the poor.

But, such measures were often plagued by populism and, ultimately, did more harm than good. Relying on commodity revenues to fund their social programs, these leaders failed to diversify their economies or improve economic fundamentals. Excessive fiscal and monetary expansion made these economies unstable. Current-account deficits grew, resulting in frequent foreign-exchange crises.

The combination of social polarization, inadequate institutions, and weak economic fundamentals has made it difficult for even reform-minded governments to escape the trap of short-termism and lay the groundwork for long-term development. In this context, "neoliberal" reforms - such as the rapid economic opening and financial liberalization promoted by the International Monetary Fund - made economies even more vulnerable to external shocks.

Venezuela is a case in point. From 1999 to 2013, the populist Hugo Chávez used the country's oil revenues - bolstered by rising global commodity prices - to finance large-scale welfare programs, rather than investment in new industries. His handpicked successor, Nicolás Maduro, attempted to follow in his footsteps. But when global oil prices plummeted in 2014, the fiscal deficit soared. The subsequent monetary expansion fueled hyperinflation, making it impossible for millions of Venezuelans to afford basic goods such as food and medicine. Venezuela is now mired in a humanitarian crisis that has already driven more than four million people to flee the country.

A similar story has unfolded in Argentina, where it was the Peronist President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner who, upon taking office in 2007, used commodity revenues to expand welfare spending and public-sector employment, thereby increasing the economy's vulnerability to external shocks. When Mauricio Macri took over in 2015, the economy was in dire straits, with limited access to international capital markets. Yet voters resisted the needed reforms, owing to their short-term costs. Macri failed to overcome that resistance, and it is far from clear that Fernández - whose vice president is none other than Kirchner - will do any better.

The situation in Hong Kong - which has been roiled by nearly six months of increasingly violent protests - is somewhat different. There, the target of protesters' ire is China's central government, which they argue is violating the "one country, two systems" framework that defines the city's relationship with the mainland. But key sources of popular frustration - such as soaring property prices, which exacerbate inequality - are familiar.

To avoid Latin America-style political crises, East Asian governments must ensure that their economic policies support equitable growth. Their priorities should include boosting productivity, strengthening export competitiveness, encouraging technological progress, nurturing domestic demand and service industries, building robust social safety nets, and implementing redistributive tax-and-transfer policies.

Fiscal sustainability is also crucial. While economic stagnation demands fiscal expansion, governments must spend wisely. That means investing in long-term growth potential by, say, deepening human capital and strengthening social infrastructure, rather than committing to unsustainable hikes in welfare spending.

Finally, East Asia must make sure that it holds its political leaders accountable. To that end, countries should continue to fortify their institutions (including an independent judiciary), protect free and independent media, and nurture a vibrant civil society.

East Asia has a long tradition of forward-thinking policymaking. At a time of growing economic, political, and social challenges, upholding that tradition has never been more important.



Liberia Airport Authority (LAA)
 Roberts International Airport (RIA)
 Lower Margibi County, Liberia

INVITATION FOR BIDS (Repair and Maintenance of Electrical Appliance)

N°:IFB No. RIA/SBA/NCB/006/19/20

1. The Liberia Airport Authority/ Roberts International Airport from its internal generated revenue intend to apply part of its funding to contract the services of a firm to provide Repair and Maintenance service for RIA's electrical Appliance at the new terminal Building, the office complex, staffs houses and all other offices within the airport.
2. The Liberia Airport Authority/Roberts International Airport now invites proposals for the provision of this services: One Year Repair and Maintenance Service of Electrical Appliance and more details on the services are provided in the Terms of Reference.
3. This Request for Proposals (RFP) is addressed to all firms who is Qualify to bid in this National competitive bidding process.
4. A firm will be selected using the **least cost Selection Method** and procedures as described in this RFP, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Procurement and Concessions Act (PPCA).
5. The RFP includes the following documents:
 Section 1 - Letter of Invitation
 Section 2 - Instructions to Consultants (including Data Sheet)
 Section 3 - Technical Proposal - Standard Forms
 Section 4 - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
 Section 5 - Terms of Reference
 Section 6 - Standard Forms of Contract
 Qualifications requirements include the follow:
 - ❖ Current Business Registration Certificate
 - ❖ Current Tax Clearance
 - ❖ Past Performance History With At Least Three (3) References
 - ❖ Audited Financial Statement For The Last Two Years.
 - ❖ Capacity To Do At Least (45) Forty Days Pre-Finance Of Supply.
 - ❖ Must be part of the PPCC Vendors Registry
6. Your offer comprising of **technical proposal and financial proposal (Cost of services and labor rates)**, in separate and sealed envelopes should be delivered into the tender box at the Purchasing office marked with the below address no later than Monday December 9, 2019 no later than 12:00pm local time.
7. A complete set of bidding documents in English and other pertinent information may be obtained from the office of the Manager of Procurement, Roberts International Airport first Floor for a non-refundable fee of Fifty United States Dollars (U.S. \$50.00).

If you request additional information, we would endeavor to provide information expeditiously, but any delay in providing such information on or before the deadline for submission will not be considered a reason for extending the submission date of your proposal.

Yours sincerely,

The address referred to above is:
Attention: Purchasing Manager
 LIBERIA AIRPORT AUTHORITY/ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
 Provision of Repair and maintenance of Electrical Appliance
 IFB No. RIA/SBA/NCB/006/19/20



Liberia Airport Authority (LAA)
 Roberts International Airport (RIA)
 Lower Margibi County, Liberia

IFB No. RIA/NCB/014/19/20
INVITATION FOR BIDS (Lubricants)

1. The Liberia Airport Authority (LAA)/ Roberts International Airport (RIA), from its internal generated revenue intends to apportion funds toward the cost of procuring Lubricants for its Operations under the 2019/2020 budget.
2. The Airport now invites qualified and eligible bidders to submit sealed bids for the Supply and Delivery of Lubricants, which will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concessions Act of 2010.
3. Interested bidders should have the capacity to retain supply and delivery of Lubricants. Must also be able to respond to RIA'S schedule of supply. All bids prices should be quoted in United States Dollars (USD).
4. Qualifications requirements include the follow:
 - ❖ Current Business Registration Certificate
 - ❖ Current Tax Clearance
 - ❖ Past Performance History With At Least Three (3) References
 - ❖ Audited Financial Statement For The Last Two Years.
 - ❖ Availability of Supply at All Times.
 - ❖ Capacity To Do At Least (30) Thirty Days Pre-Finance Of Supply.
 - ❖ Must be part of the PPCC Vendors Registry
 - ❖ Bid Securing Declaration
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English and other pertinent information may be obtained from the office of the Manager of Procurement, Roberts International Airport first Floor for a non-refundable fee of Fifty United States Dollars (U.S. \$50.00).
6. Submissions must be clearly marked, signed and sealed in an envelope, including other requested information as follows:
 CONFIDENTIAL BID, PROVISION FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF LUBRICANTS and addressed to:
 THE MANAGER OF PROCUREMENT
 FIRST FLOOR,
 ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
 MOBILE NUMBER: +231-770-555-106/0776816682
7. Bids must be submitted at the RIA Procurement Unit located at the first Floor of the office complex building on **Monday, December 9, 2019** on or before **2:00 PM**. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Opening will be done after closing at **2:05 PM on Monday, December 9, 2019** in the Conference Room of the Roberts International Airport office complex building.
8. The Roberts International Airport reserves the right to reject or accept any bid submitted and to annul the process at any time without incurring any liability and without assigning any reason thereof; Contract will be issued to qualified bidders in accordance with Public Procurement Procedures.

Signed: _____
 Procurement Manager
 Liberia Airport Authority (LAA)/ Roberts International Airport (RIA)

Cellphone man returns to Liberia

-holds concert Friday, 29 November

One of Liberia's iconic musician, "Friday the Cellphone Man" is back home as guest of Balawala International and other members of the collective society.

While home, Friday, who has been out of Liberia for over six years, will perform live in a reconciliation concert at the John Gbessay Beach in Marshall, Margibi County.

Speaking in an exclusive interview, the Executive Director of Balawala International Mr. Kekura Kamara, alias "MalawalaBalawala," said the Liberian musician will also perform at concerts in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County and other places.

According to Mr. Kamara, the initiative, which is aimed at further cementing peace and reconciliation

explains that organizers have already written the Office of President George Manneh Weah, who is chief patron of art and music, for support, including other members of the public and private sector.

"We have written the Office of the President and even though he has been out of the country, the acting president, Mr. Nathaniel McGill has given us some green light about their own involvement," he asserts.

Kamara notes that apart from the various peace concerts, Friday will also visit a host of orphanage homes in Montserrado County to give back to society.

"His coming here is not basically to make money, he will be going to give



among Liberians, is being planned under the title: "Music fest" and will bring together key stakeholders.

"The reconciliation musical program under the banner music fest, will be launched at the John Gbessay Beach with other concerts in Buchanan and in Monrovia for the road safety campaign. It will bring together stakeholders so that we can talk about peace and reconciliation. As you may be aware, reconciliation is not an instant thing; it's a gradual process and takes the contribution of all Liberians and this is why, we, from the collective society, are organizing this event," Kamara says.

Kamara, himself a famous actor in a television drama during the 80s

back to his root. Funds generated from these concerts will be used to give back to the society; he will visit several orphanage homes and homes of the disabled community."

In a related development, Mr. Kamara announces re-launch of the nation's popular television series "Balawala" on November 28, 2019 with support from the European Union.

"There is a guy from the US who has completely digitized the movie and so with some support from the European Union, the movie will be re-launched in Monrovia. We need to showcase our own cultural identities and Balawala is a good representative of that," he prides himself.



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MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

London Forum to Boost Investment in Liberia

Key private and public sectors actors from the United Kingdom and their Liberian counterparts are expected to meet in London early December, to identify areas and prospects towards expanding the reach of UK businesses in Liberia.

The UK-Liberia High-Level Business Forum - Is a product of sustained efforts at the bilateral and multilateral levels- that seek to advance trade and international development support.

The Forum led by the Government of Liberia- will identify approaches that highlight Liberia's comparative advantages as a profitable investment destination.

Strategic sectors will roll-out the country's investment readiness and important policy shifts under the government Pro Poor Agenda for Development (PAPD), with emphasis on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

Finance and Development Planning Minister Samuel D. Tweah Jr, and the Deputy Minister for Operations at the Ministry of Lands Mines and Energy, Emmanuel O. Sherman, will present the key linkages between Liberia natural resource endowment; along with the urgent need

for job creation while maintaining an investment climate with greater profitability.

Commerce Minister, Prof Wilson K. Tarpeh, is expected to outline Liberia's trade context and the ease of doing business in Liberia. The managing Director of the Forest Development Authority, Mike Doyen- will reflect on the changing dynamics of Liberia vast forest reserves as well as promoting sustainable development.

The Head of the Liberia Chamber of Commerce,

Wendell Addy; and the President of the Liberia Business Association, James Strother, will engage their counterparts in the UK about increasing the stake of Liberian businesses as a key pillar of national development.

Carla Senatore, Senior Business Officer at UK Export Finance , deliver updates about efforts towards cushioning UK investments abroad. The British Ambassador to Liberia, David Belgrove will reflect on the UK government's public and private sector engagement

with Liberia.

Liberia's Ambassador accredited to London, Gurly-Gibson Schwarz , recalled that the Business Forum slated for London- is in continuation of productive partnerships between both countries.

"The gathering will lay the framework for increasing the stake of UK investment profile in Liberia." The Liberian top diplomat asserted.

Other members of the Liberian delegation include:

Deputy Minister of Administration at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Mawine Diggs; Deputy Minister for Public Affairs at the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism, Hon. Eugene L. Fahngon; The Director General of the Liberia Business Registry, Hon. Sampson Dee.

The event dubbed "UK-Liberia High-Level Business Briefing" will take place in London, United Kingdom on 5th December 2019.



AVC warns District #14 Youth against insult

The Representative for Montserrado County Electoral District #14 Abraham Vamuyan Conneh has warned elders, women and youth in the district against profane attacks towards him, threatening court action if he were further insulted.

"Let me send this as a caveat that I am your lawmaker and your father. I have lot of followers, but if you challenge me now, we will go to the Supreme Court. I will not take any mess from any child again in this District. Even if you go under your mother's bed, I will hunt for you," Conneh said recently.

Speaking recently at a reconciliation meeting

the district.

"I challenge Beteah if he wants to contest on the ticket of CDC in the next elections, I will leave the party and contest against him in District #14," Conneh says.

When contacted via mobile phone, Mr. Beteah told newsmen that the party has advised him not to speak to any issue regarding this matter because it is an in-house discussion.

However, the director of press and propaganda at the Veterans' Bureau of Doe Community, Christian Nyanti says the meeting that was held between the youth and the elders was not a reconciliation

Comm. Roberts hails Mary Broh

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The Commissioner of Gardnersville Township, Montserrado County, Rev. David Roberts extols the Director General of the General Services Agency (GSA) Madam Mary Broh, for procuring office furniture and equipment to boost government's Poor-Pro Agenda for Development and Prosperity.

He names materials and

equipment received from the GSA such as desktop computers, printers, photocopy machine, office cabinets and air-conditioners, among others.

Director Broh is a long-time public servant with distinction from the previous administration retained by the Weah government.

Addressing a press conference on Monday, this week, Commissioner Roberts said the intervention by Director

Broh is enhancing the work of the township.

He explained that his office is closely working with several government agencies that have offices in the township administrative building, including the Ministry of Health (MOH), Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), National Identification Registrar (NIR), and the Liberia Drugs Enforcement Agency (LDEA) to implement government development agenda.

Robert outlined some of his achievements since assuming office as Commissioner of Gardnersville, including renovation of town hall, provision of scholarships to 10th and 12th graders and under-privileged students, monthly consultative dialogue with various block officials, provision of electricity, and constitution of the township Task Force and Inspectorate Teams, among others.

In a related development, the local government official challenges youth of the township to desist from drugs and indiscipline behaviors to focus on their studies, as future leaders of the country and forget about those things that cannot make any impact on their lives. -

Editing by Jonathan Browne



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between the Doe Community Youth Association and the Elders Council of the Community, Rep. Conneh complains that some youth in the District are in the constant habit of raining insults against him, with some calling him "notorious criminal."

He alleges that some members of the Veterans' Bureau in Doe Community continue to use invectives towards him, adding that he will not tolerate anyone using profanity against him.

Conneh narrates that since he announced that he would seek a third term in the district, it has created a serious problem for Mr. Myers Beteah and his supporters in

meeting.

He says Rep. Conneh was voted to ensure that the people of District #14 have a proper representation, adding that the Veterans' Bureau has been demanding the lawmaker to provide a concrete report regarding the district's funds.

"Whenever you attempt to engage the lawmaker on national issues, he takes you as his enemy. Our lawmaker will not be our enemy," he says.

Nyanti says they are not against Rep. Conneh, but the lawmaker chose to send a strong statement to the people of District #14 because of their constructive engagement with him.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

ECOWAS ends stakeholders dialogue in Ganta

In compliance with ECOWAS' instructions to Member States, the two National Stakeholders Consultative Workshops on the Development of ECOWAS Post 2020 Vision and its Associated Strategic Framework, Phase one of the scheduled events ended successfully in Ganta City, Nimba County.

The Workshop was conducted under the theme: "Ideas for a Peaceful, Borderless and Prosperous Region" at the Liberia International Christian College (LICC) campus, LPMC Bye-pass.

According to a press release from the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, during the interactive and inclusive event, participants from government, political parties, youth, women, civil society organizations, academics, NGOs, trade unions, the media, defense



and security forces, private sector, religious and traditional organizations were engaged in consultations.

The release adds that upon invitation, the Mayor and other officials from the border City

of Diecke in the Republic of Guinea including Defense and Security personnel were available and participated in the opening ceremony.

The release notes that the workshop was conducted

through a Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) method that deliberated on eight key thematic arrears.

They include (i) Human Capital; (ii) economy; (iii) social structures; (iv) governance; (v) peace and security, (vi) environment; (vii) technological innovations and (viii) cross-border challenges and issues deemed vital to West Africa.

ECOWAS was established in May 1975 through the Treaty of Lagos, the original intent of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), was an economic initiative which would foster economic and political cooperation among member states with the sole objective of improving the living conditions of the people and at the same time ensure economic growth, fast track development and truly integrate West Africa.

According to the release, the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS which is the highest decision making body, adopted the ECOWAS Vision 2020 in June 2007 as the vehicle to transform West Africa into a borderless, peaceful and prosperous region by 2020.

Three years later, in 2010, ECOWAS adopted the five pillar long-term vision for West Africa which is nearing its expiration come 2020.

Over the last ten years, this vision has provided the strategic orientation for the design and implementation of policies, programs, projects and activities of the regional body.

Now on the eve of the 2020 deadline and considering the many persistent challenges including competing priorities that have overwhelmed ECOWAS in the past and are still visible today, the biggest question now is "Was Vision 2020 Really Achievable in the wake of Multiple Conflicts that over-showed and undermined ECOWAS' ability to effectively and efficiently deliver?"

"What should have been done that was not done at all in the face of these serious economic and political hiccups?" the release reveals.

With just about six weeks into the year 2020, concrete efforts aimed at creating "a borderless, peaceful, prosperous and coherent region, built on good governance, where people can access and exploit its enormous resources through the creation of opportunities for sustainable development and environmental preservation" will be key to any new transformation agenda that will be developed for West Africa with the overall objective of positively impacting the lives of its citizens including those residing within its borders.

Cognizant of this, the release says ECOWAS leaders have reached a general consensus that urgent and strategic strategies and programs must be developed and implemented to respond effectively to the needs of West Africans including the development of the region.

Consequently, a doable roadmap has been established for the preparation of the ECOWAS Post 2020 Vision Agenda which has as its flagship activities, the conduct of two National Stakeholders Consultations in all Member States to be implemented by their respective National Offices in collaboration with the Office of the ECOWAS Ambassador and planning experts.

Consultations must ensure that the post 2020 Vision reflects the "needs and aspirations" of the citizenry, the release adds.

To achieve this, it is imperative that the ECOWAS National Offices bring the people together in a "Focus Group Discussions" (FGDs) forum to gather their views, experiences, opinions and share ideas on three fundamental areas.

Jerome Verdier must be 'mad'

-Sen. Morais

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Maryland County Senator Dan Morais has described as 'mad man,' former Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Chairman Cllr. Jerome Verdier in reaction to the latter's call for sanctions to be placed on Liberia and government officials here.

Speaking to this paper via mobile phone recently in Monrovia, Senator Morais who presides over the Liberian Senate's Committee on Foreign Relations claims that Cllr. Verdier does not understand what he's calling for.

The Maryland County

lawmaker warns that the interest of the State cannot be tampered for people's personal interests and personal gains.

Recently, Cllr. Verdier who is a resident of the United States, called on the United Nations and the United States Government to place sanctions on Liberia for the alleged mismanagement of the country's resources by President George Manneh Weah led - administration.

Cllr. Verdier suggests that the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) government does not mean well for the country and its people, claiming that the best way in restricting some of the 'mismanagements' is to

sanction President Weah and his officials and restrict the movement of government officials, among others.

But Mr. Morais, an executive member of the National Patriotic Party (NPP) which forms part of the tripartite arrangement that makes up the ruling establishment indicates that the current administration has done [nothing] that warrants sanctions.

He insists that Cllr. Verdier's call speaks to his selfish interest and greed, narrating that the economic meltdown facing the country was not created by the Weah led - government.

Instead, Senator Morais claims that the economic situation here is a global challenge nurtured with several factors that interplayed nearing the end of former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf's administration.

"George Weah has [done] nothing to merit sanction. Verdier is just another selfish man. We were here when the United Nations placed Liberia under sanctions. We know what we went through, the consequences, the challenges and the aftermath are things that are still fresh in the minds of many Liberians," he says.

Mr. Morais notes that the economic challenge faced by the country must be concluded and wrapped up in order for the government and its people to open a new page which may create a unique style for



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smooth operation of the country and the economy.

Civil servants and officials of government have not taken pay for quite long, some counting four months or more, while some private institutions are heavily indebted to employees for months due to the poor performance of the economy.

Also, commercial banks here are unable to meet

customers' demands for withdrawal of huge sums of money from their respective accounts due low outflow and inflow of Liberian dollars.

The Weah administration has faced series of protests from government employees against pay cuts, poor working conditions, and delay in salaries payment, among others.--Edited by Winston W. Parley

Français

Les propos de General Power condamnés

Un embarras national total pour le gouvernement et le peuple libériens et un acte irresponsable », c'est en ces termes que deux députés de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir ont qualifié les récents propos du colonel Augustine J. Nagbe, alias General Power.

Au cours d'un entretien sur une radio de la place, à Monrovia, Général Power déclarait que les gens de l'ethnie Kru formerait une "force de défense Kru" chargée de protéger le président Weah et son gouvernement jusqu'à l'expiration de son mandat constitutionnel.

Le député J. FonatiKoffa, Représentant de la circonscription électorale n° 2 du comté de Grand Kru et président du comité parlementaire sur les affaires judiciaires, et le député Acarous Moses Gray, représentant du district électoral 8 du comté de Montserrado, ont déclaré que les propos de l'ex-

colonel des Forces armées du Libéria sont dangereux et contre-productifs, d'autant plus qu'ils risquent de porter atteinte à la paix et la stabilité dont jouit le Libéria.

« Je suis dans l'obligation de condamner en termes clairs mon proche parent dont le nom de guerre est General Power. Et je le prie de bien vouloir renoncer à tout propos relatifs au militarisme urbain. De même, je condamne tous

ceux qui se livrent aux rhétoriques incendiaires au nom de la liberté d'expression », a déclaré le représentant Koffa.

Dans une déclaration distincte, le représentant Koffa a indiqué que le Libéria, en tant que pays, s'efforce de promouvoir et de maintenir la paix, d'où la nécessité de condamner et de rejeter tout propos de ce genre, surtout

quand il est tenu par un ancien soldat.

Me Koffa a déclaré que le président George MannehWeah est le président de tout le monde et donc il n'apas besoin d'une milice ethnique officieuse pour le protéger. « Le président Weah n'est pas le président du peuple Kru seulement. Il est le président de l'ensemble de la république et il n'existe aucun groupe paramilitaire qui ait prêté serment pour défendre et protéger des vies et des biens, y compris la présidence ». De même, le représentant Acarous Gray, dans une déclaration rendue publique mardi matin, a affirmé que les propos de General Power sont gênants, car ils visent à faire croire que le président Weah est le président d'un seul groupe ethnique du Libéria.

Selon lui, Weah rassemble tout le monde et permet à tous de travailler

collectivement dans le pays. Il est donc inutile de créer un groupe de miliciens pour protéger le président.

Le député Gray, qui est actuellement président du comité parlementaire sur le pouvoir exécutif, a fait savoir que le président n'a qu'un seul souci, celui de développer le pays et de promouvoir l'unité du peuple libérien. Il n'a donc aucune intention de créer une milice tribale illégale pour assurer sa protection.

D'après lui, le président Weahse sent déjà en sécurité et qu'il n'a pas besoin d'une autre protection, fut-elle assurée par le groupe ethnique Kru auquel il appartient.

La Constitution libérienne stipule à son article 5c que: «La République doit prendre des mesures, en adoptant les lois et décrets appropriés, pour éliminer le régionalisme et le tribalisme, ainsi que tous les abus de pouvoir et le népotisme et toutes autres pratiques de corruption ».



Former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

"La campagne pour la démission du président est une trahison" (Leader de l'opposition)

M. Alexander Benedict Cummings, leader politique de l'ANC (Alternative National Congress), estime que les appels à la démission du Président de la république du Libéria élu

constitutionnellement est une haute trahison.

S'exprimant mardi sur une télévision privée locale Sky fm, au cours de l'émission 50/50, M. Cummings a reconnu que ceux qui appellent à la démission du président libériens ont certes

des inquiétudes légitimes et pertinentes sur lesquelles la Coalition pour le changement démocratique devrait se pencher pour apporter une solution. Mais appeler à la démission d'un président démocratiquement élu est une trahison et ne devrait être accepté.

M. Cummings a déclaré lors de l'émission que la protestation est un droit fondamental et un principe démocratique unique auquel l'on peut faire recours pour attirer l'attention de son gouvernement ou de son leader sur une question donnée, mais pousser un président démocratiquement élu à la démission est inquiétant et antidémocratique.

Le chef de fil de l'opposition a toutefois appelé le gouvernement à payer les arriérés de salaires d'ici la fin du mois de décembre de cette année, sinon, il risque de ternir son image devant la communauté internationale et se rendre

davantage impopulaire auprès du peuple du Libéria.

Il s'insurge contre le retard intempestif qu'accuse le versement des salaires des fonctionnaires en ses temps difficiles, surtout à l'orée de la période festive de fin d'année. Il a appelé l'administration à redoubler d'effort pour soulager les populations, dont notamment les fonctionnaires, afin d'éviter des troubles qui auront un impact négatif sur la stabilité et le développement du pays.

S'exprimant sur la crise économique actuelle, M. Cummings a indiqué que les difficultés auxquelles le peuple est confronté est le fait de l'incompétence du président George Weahet de son gouvernement. "Le président a lui-même dit que quand les personnes compétentes ne sont pas

disponibles, les incompetents prennent la relève. Quel genre de leader dit cela à propos de son propre gouvernement publiquement ? Piller le trésor national de ce pays à des fins personnelles est épouvantable et il y a lieu que les Libériens soient bouleversés. C'est l'argent des contribuables qui est dépensé pour des gains personnels. À tous les égards, l'économie est en train de sombrer. Cela ne fonctionne pas pour le peuple libérien. L'inflation est partout. Les prix montent. Ce gouvernement a échoué. Je n'ai pas à le dire aux Libériens, ils en ressentent les effets et ce qui ne fait qu'aggraver les choses pour moi, il ne semble pas avoir de plan pour y remédier, » a déclaré le chef de fil de l'opposition.



Mr. Henry Costa



Mr. Alexander B. Cummings

Articles traduits

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Français

Un cadre de la Commission anti-corruption rend sa démission pour salaires impayés

Le contrôleur général de la Commission anti-corruption du Libéria (LACC) n'en peut plus. Il n'a eu d'autre choix que de jeter l'éponge. J. Benard Nagbe a démissionné de son poste, tout en affirmant : « je ne peux plus continuer ce sacrifice inutile ».

Dans sa lettre de démission qui date du 25 novembre et adressée au conseil d'administration de la LACC, M. Nagbea indiqué qu'il vaut mieux ne pas avoir d'emploi que d'avoir un emploi sans pouvoir survenir aux besoins de sa famille.

«Je dois presque à tout le monde au Libéria et je ne

ont besoin de leur argent.

Une manifestation a récemment secoué la Compagnie de distribution d'eau du Liberia (Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC)), les employés n'ayant pas perçu leur salaire depuis des mois, tout comme dans d'autres ministères et organismes gouvernementaux.

Le responsable de l'institution anti-corruption, M. Nagbe, s'est dit contraint de présenter sa démission en raison de l'incertitude quant à son salaire et à ses avantages.

«Je ne reçois pas mon salaire à temps alors que les



peux plus supporter cette difficulté », a-t-il dit dans sa lettre de démission.

La démission de M. Nagbe intervient à un temps où le régime du président George Manneh Weah est confronté à des difficultés économiques, tandis que les fonctionnaires n'arrivent plus à toucher leurs salaires légitimes pendant des mois.

Le secteur privé est également frappé par cette calamité économique, les entreprises se débattent comme de beaux diables, mais sans solutions, et les banques commerciales sont à court de liquidité, ce qui ajoute encore à la frustration des usagers au moment où ils

services que je rends au gouvernement et à la population du Libéria ne sont pas gratuits», a-t-il ajouté.

« C'est simple. Je suis responsable de ma vie, de ma carrière et des services que je rends à mon pays, mais finalement, ma famille passe avant tout. Je n'ai jamais eu cette expérience dans ma vie professionnelle et je ne suis pas prêt à supporter cette bêtise », a écrit M. Nagbe.

Il a souligné qu'il ne peut pas travailler sans salaire. « Je suis conscient de la responsabilité cruciale associée à son travail à la Commission, mais mon bien-être et le bien-être de ma famille viennent en premier .

COMMENTAIRE

Par Kenneth Amaeshi

Décolonialiser l'étude des pays africains

ÉDIMBOURG - Les observations et recherches théoriques autour des différents États africains aboutissent à un tableau contrasté. Que les conclusions soient encourageantes ou peu réjouissantes, elles tendent néanmoins à partager la même approche anhistorique.

L'Afrique d'aujourd'hui est en grande partie un produit du colonialisme, et quel que soit l'axe abordé - économie, politique, religion ou géographie - l'empreinte de ce colonialisme s'observe. C'est ce qu'illustre par exemple la pratique de la démocratie en Afrique. Malgré toutes ses promesses, la gouvernance démocratique peine à produire des résultats dans la plupart des pays africains.

Parmi les raisons à cela, la démocratie repose sur des principes (liberté, individualisme, solidarité, égalité) qui peuvent revêtir des significations diverses selon les différents contextes. Les préférences, valeurs et convictions intégrées tendent à façonner les pratiques et politiques via lesquelles la démocratie elle-même est appliquée. Ainsi, en tant qu'ensemble incarné de pratiques et de politiques, la démocratie peut être assimilée à une technologie.

Toutes les technologies peuvent être - et sont - utilisées à des fins multiples. Un crayon peut servir à écrire, mais également faire office d'arme. Un couteau peut être utilisé pour couper des légumes, ou pour participer à une bagarre de rue. Il ne s'agit pas d'affirmer que les technologies seraient moralement neutres. Au contraire, leur éthique peut être façonnée par leurs fonctions. C'est pourquoi il est possible de parler d'utilisation appropriée ou inappropriée d'une technologie. Aucune technologie n'est indépendante du monde social. Toutes proviennent de quelque part.

De même, la démocratie trouve ses racines dans une région, une tradition et une culture particulières. Pour la propager d'un endroit à un autre, il faut considérer les traditions et cultures du territoire de destination. Or, cette réflexion n'ayant pas eu lieu pour la plupart des pays africains, la démocratie est devenue une arme au moyen de laquelle les élites et les puissants oppriment les faibles, plutôt qu'un système qui préserverait les droits et contraindrait ses dirigeants à rendre des comptes.

L'héritage des institutions coloniales en Afrique tend à faire disparaître les pratiques originelles. De nombreuses sociétés africaines ont leur propre manière de faire les choses, que ce soit dans la famille, ou dans la coordination de la vie économique et politique. La plupart fonctionnent également encore comme des groupes ethniques dont les membres fondent leur identité sur des marqueurs linguistiques et culturels communs. Or, après la balkanisation opérée sous l'ère du colonialisme en Afrique, ces sociétés traditionnelles ont été le plus souvent reconfigurées en unités politiques dénuées de source d'identité. Il n'est pas surprenant que tant de pays africains peinent encore aujourd'hui à devenir des États-nations qui fonctionnent.

Les frontières géographiques imposées hier pour des raisons économiques et politiques sont depuis devenues des réalités immuables. Lorsque naissent des mouvements d'auto-détermination, ils sont généralement réprimés - parfois dans la violence - et leurs instigateurs accusés de « trahison » (ici encore une création coloniale).

Au fil du temps, les frontières géographiques mises en place en Afrique sont également devenues des frontières psychologiques. Les populations qui se sont retrouvées « frontiérisées » dans différents États, après avoir partagé une identité ethnique, ont commencé à se considérer comme un peuple différent. Si l'Afrique du Sud partage en effet certains groupes ethniques avec ses voisins le

Zimbabwe, le Mozambique et la Namibie, elle considère aujourd'hui les populations de ces pays comme extérieures et étrangères.

Cette dynamique s'opère d'ailleurs dans les deux sens. Les Hausa-Fulani de l'Afrique sahélienne continuent ainsi de défendre leur identité commune par-delà les frontières nationales. Or, cette cohésion est devenue une source de tensions, puisqu'elle alimente la suspicion parmi les autres groupes qui peuplent l'intérieur de ces frontières artificielles.

L'accent placé de longue date sur les frontières coloniales, généralement au dépens des groupes ethniques traditionnels, continue à ce jour de façonner les politiques et les relations internationales. Les institutions multilatérales telles que la Banque mondiale, le Fonds monétaire international et l'ONU raisonnent et agissent souvent dans le cadre des frontières coloniales. Il en va de même pour la gouvernance économique et la coordination transfrontalière : toutes les décisions sont fondées sur des intérêts « nationaux », eux-mêmes basés sur les affiliations et l'héritage du colonialisme. Ainsi, malgré leur identité ethnique commune, les anglophones et les francophones d'Afrique de l'Ouest s'affrontent souvent autour des questions économiques et politiques.

En dehors même des disciplines économique et politique, les études académiques autour de l'Afrique ont tendance à adhérer à ce que les sociologues Andreas Wimmer et Nina Glick Schiller appellent le « nationalisme méthodologique » : « une naturalisation de l'État-nation, une vision dans laquelle les États constituent les unités naturelles d'études comparatives ». Cette approche, qui considère que l'État-nation représente une société cohérente, se trouve largement adoptée, y compris par les consultants privés en gestion. C'est ainsi que Hofstede Insights, qui suit les travaux du psychosociologue néerlandais Geert Hofstede, marchandise concrètement le nationalisme en conseillant ses clients sur la manière d'aborder la culture de pays spécifiques.

Un important corollaire de la littérature axée sur la « culture nationale » réside dans la littérature autour des institutions nationales, en particulier des « différentes versions du capitalisme ». Selon cette logique, le capitalisme en tant que pratique diffère selon la configuration institutionnelle des États-nations. Or, ici encore, ce domaine entier d'étude académique tombe dans le piège du nationalisme méthodologique. La cohérence nationale est tout simplement présupposée, bien que diverses sociétés puissent exister - et c'est le cas - au sein d'un État-nation.

Quiconque étudie la littérature universitaire actuelle découvrira des travaux axés sur des pratiques organisationnelles et systèmes économiques spécifiques au sein des différents pays africains. Toutes ces études s'intéressent à un pays sous le prisme d'une culture « nationale » et des institutions qui s'y rattachent, considérant ainsi comme acquises les frontières coloniales. Or, ces frontières ayant souvent été tracées inintelligemment, sur la base de priorités et d'intérêts extérieurs, la fiabilité des conclusions peut être contestée.

Les pays d'Afrique ne sont pas homogènes. Les études académiques qui s'intéressent au continent doivent se pencher bien davantage sur les cultures et institutions de l'Afrique, ainsi que sur les délimitations ethniques traditionnelles antérieures aux accords frontaliers et politiques actuels. Une approche plus consciencieuse produirait en effet certainement de nouvelles connaissances précieuses autour des difficultés liées à la gouvernance, au leadership, ainsi qu'à la gestion sur le continent. Elle sera peut-être moins simple que la méthodologie actuelle, mais les universitaires africains et ceux qui étudient l'Afrique doivent comprendre que cette démarche est la meilleure.

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PERSPECTIVES PERSPECTIVES

Public Policy. Economics. Democratic Politics. Political/Economic Decentralization. Public Dishonesty. Dual Citizenship

A Long, Long Life IN THE CULTURE AND INFRASTRURE OF OUR (LIBERIA'S) HEALTHCARE DELIVERY SYSTEM

With Bai M. Gbala, Sr.
November 21, 2019

On June 20, 2019, the sad and very depressing news of the Death of my only living, younger brother, Counselor-at-Law David Deilue Gbala shocked me, almost, to death. For, I am sick and unable to attend the funeral-burial gathering of my family at home in Meabloh, Kaneh Clan, Grand Gedeh County. Now, today the death of one of Liberia's brave and out-spoken political leaders, my "small Brother" Cllr. Charlie Brumskine in the USA, shocked me, also, almost, to death. For, I am still sick and waiting for non-immigrant visa to travel to the USA for medical services not available in Liberia at this time.

I have written tributes to many, how many is not important now, because my own life is only a matter of time. I experienced many deaths, including the deaths of my Father, the legendary tribal leader-fighter, Kwiah Gbala; his Brother the brave Kwiah Kahn; loving Mother Seowah Deh-Gbala; older Sister Gwian Wachen Gbala and youngest brother John Blee Gbala.

Now David is gone and it will be me, sooner or later - that's life and death. But the most depressing and troubling problem of these deaths and thousands of others was and are that they are due to curable diseases for which service treatments are not available in Liberia.

It is not for me to write a tribute to my brother, David Gbala, or to "small Brother" Charlie Brumskine, only to say that these deaths have left a void, an empty space in the respective families and the nation that cannot be filled forever. I told one of my nephews, Mr. Stanley Siah, when he broke the news to me that "I do not know what to say or do for the many, young, growing family members of children - grand and great-grand children who need advice, counsel and support. My God, there are so much to do in this selfish, corrupt, wicked, dangerous and sinful world!!

Only be thankful because I lived a long, resourceful life. For example, one of six daughters said to me, "Daddy, I wish that I could live as long as you have. Young men and women are dying every day around us".

Liberia's (our) Healthcare Delivery System

I have written several articles on this critical and crucial national issue that ignores hundreds of thousands or millions of deaths, annually, due to curable disease in Liberia, but for which there are no service treatment in the country. In other words, hundreds of thousands or millions of Liberian patients die in Liberia of diseases

that can be cured, but for which there are no service treatment in Liberia.

Indeed, it is the fact of Liberian History that all Liberian Hospitals, Clinics and Doctors have been and are, to this day, high-class Pharmacists for foreign drug makers, including faked/medications; they (the hospitals, clinics and doctors) *diagnose only the disease*, but lacked the capacity to treat the disease, because they were not and are not organized to treat the disease, since 1847.

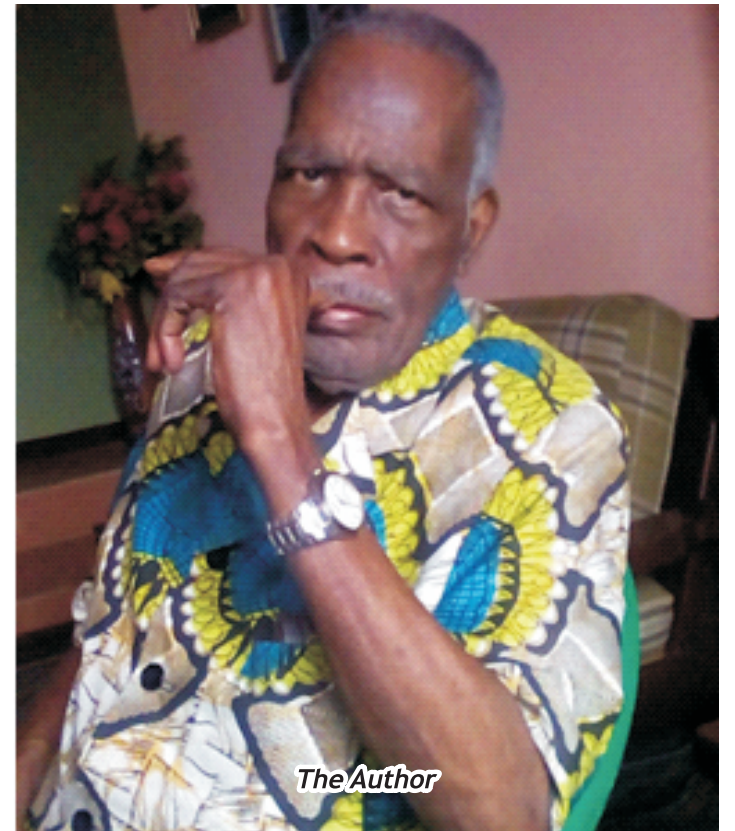
According to Liberian medical history, the late, former President William V. S. Tubman, whose vision and dedicated actions created the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital, died in the foreign, London, UK, Clinic. The JFK Memorial, Liberia's premier Medical Center that replaced the ancient Government Hospital, was described by a visiting group of US Medical Doctors on a fact-finding mission of Liberia's Healthcare Delivery institutions as "a place one goes to die".

Earlier, I wrote that the JFK is corrupt, dilapidated and with drugs prices unaffordable by the average citizen, where and when available, due to massive stealing of public resources - corruption.

Additionally, the new "state-of-the-art" Jackson F. Doe Memorial Hospital built in the City of Tapita, Nimba County is not reachable because of lack of roads and related means of transport infrastructure. The towns and villages in Nimba County cannot get to the Hospital, nor the towns and villages of the surrounding Counties. Recent reports of confusions between the Jackson F. Doe and Monrovia indicated that most of the prime, medical equipment of the Jackson F. Doe hospital is down with no service for replacement expected.

Historically, government officials, the politically-connected and wealthy Liberians have been and are flown out of Liberia for medical services because of lack of medical services-treatment of curable diseases in Liberia. Recent examples of this culture are several Liberian government officials flown out of Liberia to Ghana, South Africa, etc. Some, even, died in those countries. The most recent, celebrated cases are about Cllr. Charles Brumskine flown to and now died in the USA for treatment and Cllr. Varney Sherman who was flown, also, to the USA for brain Tumor, now back home.

Indeed, that Liberian Hospitals, Clinics and Doctors lack the required medical service treatment for such diseases, including *ear (loss of hearing), throat, skin (itches, swelling feet) and others for which Dr. Francis Addai, then of Fidelity Clinic, found, truthfully, and recommended the foreign option as the best to save my*



The Author

life for painless and peaceful Elderly life.

The critical issues raised by my request for Non-Immigrant Visa are (1), the fact that Liberian hospitals and Clinics do not possess the capacity to treat the diseases identified because they (the Liberians hospitals and Clinics) are not organized to treat the diseases and that (2), there is need, therefore, for medical, public policy review and improvement action.

Redeeming Liberia's Healthcare Delivery System

Addressing our nation's Healthcare System lies in placing emphasis on the training of Liberian doctors in all areas of medical practice and providing the Liberian doctors with in-service, continuing education in the new developing medical technology. This training should and must include medical technicians, not breaking grounds for constructions of new hospitals without trained Liberian doctors. What Liberia need are trained and experienced Liberian doctors and medical technicians for the hospitals now in operation, not more "high-class Pharmacists" for foreign drug makers, including faked drugs.

Along, Long Life

June 20, 2019

The sad and very depressing news of the passing of my only living brother, Counselor-at-Law David Deilue Gbala, shocked me, almost, to death. For, I am sick, very sick, cannot walk on my own and not able to attend the funeral gathering of the family at home in Meabloh, Kaneh.

I have written tributes to many, how many is not important now, because my own life is now only a matter of time. I saw the death of our Father, the legendary fighter Kwiah Gbala, the "Weinkuyon" and his Brother, our Uncle, the brave Kwiah Kahn, loving Mother Seowah Deh-Gbala, older Sister Gwian Wachen Gbala, younger brother John Blee Gbala. Now, it is David; it will be me, sooner or later - that's life or death!

It is not for me to write a tribute to my brother, only to say that the death of Cllr. David Gbala has left an eternal empty space in Meabloh, Kaneh, Grand Gedeh County that cannot be filled - forever. Like I told one of my nephews, Stanley Siah, this morning when he broke the news, I do not know what to say or do. There are many, young, growing family members of children, great, and great grandchildren who need advice, counsel and support. My God, there are so much to do in this selfish, jealous, wicked, sinful world!

But thankful because I lived a long life. For example, one of six daughters said to "Daddy, I wish that I could live as long as you have. Young men and women are dying every day around us.



Battle for integrity at LACC

The former Comptroller of the Liberia Anti Corruption Commission (LACC) J. Bernard Nagbe responds to position by the LACC Board of Commissioners, asking him not to leave the country, pending completion of an ongoing audit at the integrity institution, saying that the LACC is not a court to restrict his movement.

Mr. Nagbe tendered in his resignation this week in frustration over unpaid salaries covering three months.

"I am not receiving my remuneration on time and my service to the Government and people of Liberia is not for free", he writes, adding, "That's just in simple term; I owe my life, career and service to my country but ultimately, my family comes first. I have never had this experience in my professional life, and never am I [prepared] to endure this nonsense", he continues in his letter of resignation to the Board of Commissioners.

The former comptroller laments that he is indebted to almost everyone in Liberia and can no longer endure such degree of difficulty of not receiving his monthly salary from the government despite working.

But the commission in a reaction says it "is shocked and astounded by the abrupt and unprofessional nature of the resignation of Mr. J. Bernard Nagbe (former comptroller of the LACC) which occurred at the commencement of a financial and institutional audit being conducted by the General Audit Commission (GAC)."



It says notwithstanding the unprofessional and unethical nature of Mr. Nagbe's actions, the LACC Board of Commissioners (BOC) respects his wishes and hereby accepts the resignation.

"However, the LACC BOC emphasizes that given the critical nature of the role previously occupied by Mr. Nagbe, a role indispensable to the completion of the pending GAC audit, the BOC strongly advises its former Comptroller to remain in-country and to fully cooperate with the GAC for the speedy completion of the ongoing audit."

But Mr. Nagbe in an interview with OK Fm Wednesday disclosed the LACC audit is a routine exercise, and since its start in April this year, he had cooperated all along.

"I have never been accused of anything, and the LACC is not a court to bar me from leaving the country", he argues.

In a press statement issued

by the LACC Executive Director, Atty. Mohammed E. Fahbulleh, the Commission emphatically clarifies that ALL its employees, including former Comptroller (Mr. J. Bernard Nagbe) have consistently received monthly salaries since the institution's inception in 2008 up to September 2019, and are poised to receive their salaries for October, 2019.

"Considering this, the LACC further represents that Mr. Nagbe's action smacks of sabotage, subterfuge and ingratitude to the LACC given that he was one of the first employees of the Commission since December 2008 and has for 11 consecutive years received salaries, benefits and logistics as a senior staff of the Commission in a timely manner to date."

But Mr. Nagbe discloses that it has been a practice at the Commission to pay salary on 25 of every month so, current delay in salary payment is

creating serious untold suffering. "What do you tell your little daughter when food can no longer be put on the table; what do you say when your daughter is asked out of school because of unpaid fees?" He asks in frustration.

Meanwhile, the LACC reminds the public that as a government institution, it is not immune to the effects of an ailing economy and the requisite austerity measures that must be taken to address the malaise and therefore assures the public that the normal work of fighting corruption in Liberia will remain unabated at the Commission.

Public employees here have not received salaries for months due to a serious shortage of cash in the economy, forcing commercial banks to ration payment to depositors.

The government is

considering printing new Liberian dollar banknotes to replace the current banknotes in circulation. Finance Minister Samuel Tweah had announced most of the local banknotes are not with commercial banks, but being kept in homes, posing risk to the economy.

Nagbe's resignation brings to three, the number of high profile officials who have quitted the Weah administration recently amid the prevailing monetary and fiscal challenges.

A recent protest by employees at the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation over the lack of pay subsequently led to the resignation of the Deputy Managing Director of that entity, Dan Saryee. At the Bureau of Concessions, its head, Mr. Gregory Coleman, threw in the towel, citing, among others, personal reasons. -Story by Jonathan Browne

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Don't hide behind COP

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The spiritual head of the New Water in the Desert Assembly Apostolic Pentecostal Church International, Rev. Dr. Kortu Brown cautions Liberian politicians desiring political

power not to hide behind the protest group, Council of Patriots (COP).

He gave the advice during a special thanksgiving and intercessory service in support of the local church's Education Initiatives held in the edifice

in VOA Community, outside Monrovia.

Preaching on the theme, "2019: Year of Praise and Adoration" with texts from Psalm 149 and St. John 20:22, Bishop Brown urged politicians, church leaders, and crooks in the society to turn from their wicked ways and accept Jesus Christ for a better life.

Bishop Brown, who is also President of the Liberia Council of Churches (LCC) outlines jealousy, hysteric, and love for self, as some negative vices impeding the growth and development of Liberia.

The service was graced by former presidential candidate and political leader of the opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC) Mr. Alexander B. Cummings.

Bishop Brown advises Liberians having problem with

the government of President George Manneh Weah to hold their peace and wait for next elections, rather than undermining the peace and security of the State.

According to him, Liberia is being destroyed because of pride noting, "If you don't know something, ask someone who knows it."

He says there are people who do not want others to progress, so they position themselves as mountains and hills in the way of unfolding blessings.

The Liberian prelate notes to make Liberia a better place, crooks should give way and politicians should independently engage the government instead of hiding behind the COP.

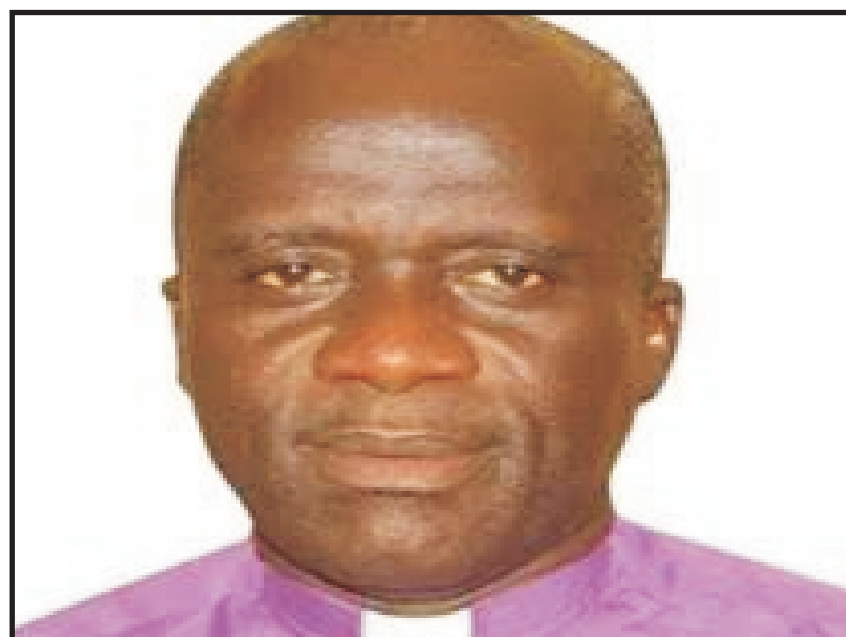
The COP, organizers of the 07 June protest in Monrovia against the government, has announced another round of protest for December 31, dubbed, "Weah must step down" campaign to ask President George Weah to

resign, citing alleged ineptitude, corruption and constitutional violations, among others. Its lead campaigner is talk show host, Henry Costa whose private radio station, Roots Fm was shut down recently by the Weah administration.

"If you have problem with the system, go to elections as anything on the contrary could undermine the ongoing peace and sanity that the people of the country have."

Bishop Brown says corruption is also another factor that is undermining Liberia's progress, which needs to be eradicated, urging political parties to collaborate with one another and desist from threatening the survival of the citizenry.

In a brief response, the ANC leader Alexander Cummings expressed delight in being in the worship of the Lord especially, with the family of the New Water in the Desert Assembly. -Editing by Jonathan Browne



Weah signs 2019/2020 National Budget into law



President George Manneh Weah has signed into law the National Budget for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020.

According to a press release issued by the Executive Mansion on Wednesday, 27 November, the National Budget, which was signed October 28, 2019 totals L\$110,460,000,000.00 or US\$526,000,000.00,

provides for the expenditure or operational cost of the Government of Liberia.

The Legislature, following months of intensive deliberations, forwarded the Budget to the office of the President for signing into law.

Earlier, the Executive Branch of the Government through the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning submitted the National Budget to the Legislature.

The 2019/2020 National Budget accounts for three separate revenue envelopes, including Tax Revenue at US\$378,000,000.00, non-Tax Revenue at US\$87,200,000.00 as well as External Resources at US\$60,800,000.00.

It subsequently becomes law once printed into handbills by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. --Press release

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Atletico Felix beats Sancho to Golden Boy award

Atletico Madrid forward Joao Felix has won the Golden Boy award for the best under-21 player in Europe.

The 20-year-old Portugal international scored 18 goals for Benfica last season before a 126m euros (£113m) move to Atletico in the summer.

He has scored two goals in 10 La Liga appearances

for Atletico this term.

Borussia Dortmund and England winger Jadon Sancho, 19, finished second with Bayer Leverkusen and Germany midfielder Kai Havertz, 20, third.

"I am very proud," said Felix. "It is the second time that a player from Atletico Madrid has won this award and I am happy."

The Golden Boy award was



created by Italian newspaper Tuttosport in 2003 to recognise the best young player in Europe. Nominees must be under the age of 21 and play in a European nation's top tier.

Wayne Rooney (2004) and Raheem Sterling (2014) are previous English winners of the award.

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