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# The New Dawn

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**P11**

Superintendent Esther Yamah Walker

# Bong citizens want Supt. dismissed

# Weah orders Military



**P11**



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# Continental News

## Thousands bid farewell to Kenya's veteran leader Moi

**N**AIROBI (Reuters) - African leaders in Kenya for the state funeral of Daniel Arap Moi, the country's longest ruling president who died last week at 95, hailed his role as a peacemaker who tried to mediate conflicts including in Uganda and Ethiopia.

Despite his longevity, Moi was a divisive personality who won admirers for keeping Kenya on an even keel but was hated by others for a legacy of corruption that still haunts the East African nation today.

Tens of thousands of people turned out in the capital Nairobi to watch Moi's coffin, draped in the Kenyan flag, travel on a gun carriage from the State House, the official presidential seat, to an open air stadium 3 miles (5 km) away.

Personnel from the army, air force and navy accompanied the coffin into the stadium, where choirs sang gospel songs as they awaited the cortege.

"As an avid peacemaker,

statesman, Pan Africanist and champion for a more united and just world, Moi spearheaded a number of initiatives that brought peace within our region and beyond," Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta told mourners.

Tuesday was declared a public holiday, allowing people

to mourn Moi's passing.

"Moi was a humble man. Anybody who knew him, they know he was a humble man. President Moi never bragged in any success ... instead he attributed it to God," said long-time friend Silas Yego, a retired bishop of the Africa Inland Church where Moi had

worshipped.

Moi came to power in 1978 when he was serving as vice-president, after the nation's first leader President Jomo Kenyatta died.

Makau Mutua, who as a young law student at the University of Nairobi was detained by the Moi regime in 1981 and then exiled for the next 10 years, cautioned against forgetting Moi's excesses.

"We can't forget, or forgive. If we do, we will continue to repeat our horrible history," he wrote in his weekly column in the local Sunday Nation newspaper.

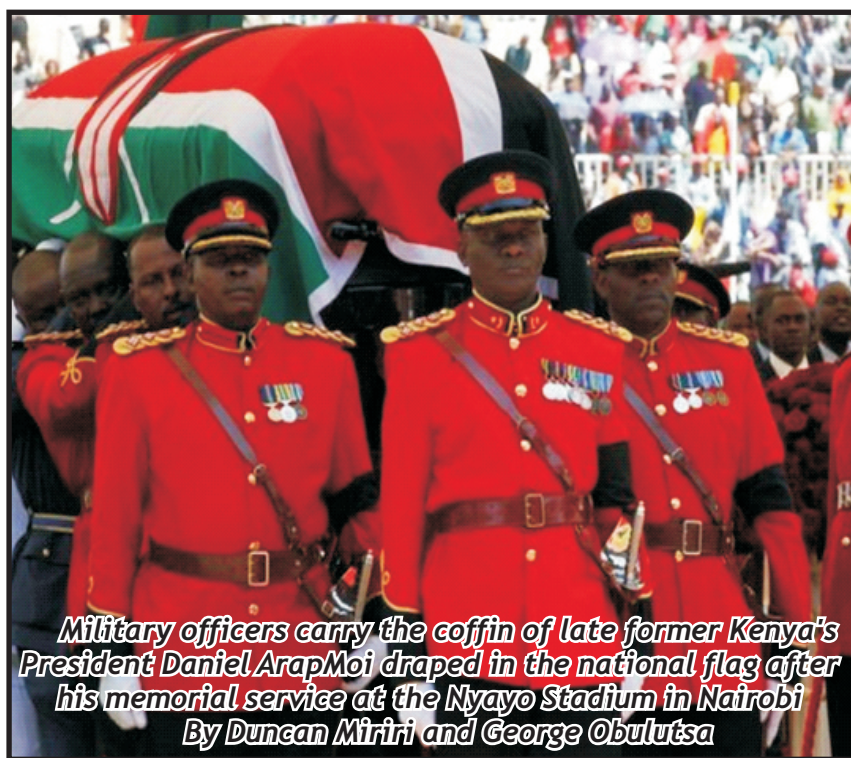
During Moi's rule, thousands of activists, students and academics were held without

charge in underground cells. Prisoners say they were sometimes denied food and water.

Poverty also deepened on his watch and corruption flourished. A 2004 report by corporate investigations firm group Kroll accused Moi and his inner circle of stealing \$2 billion of state funds, an accusation the government at the time dismissed.

Moi won elections in 1992 and 1997, defeating a divided opposition. But he was booed and heckled into retirement when term limits forced him to step down in 2002 and he lived quietly on his sprawling estate in the Rift Valley.

He will be buried there on Wednesday. -Reuters



Military officers carry the coffin of late former Kenya's President Daniel Arap Moi draped in the national flag after his memorial service at the Nyayo Stadium in Nairobi  
By Duncan Miriri and George Obulutsa

## Sudan agrees ex-president Bashir should appear before ICC over Darfur

**S**udan's government and rebel groups in Darfur agreed on Tuesday that all those wanted by the International Criminal Court should appear before the tribunal, a list that includes ousted president Omar al-Bashir.

Bashir, who has been jailed in Khartoum since he was toppled after mass protests last year, is wanted by the ICC for alleged war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity in Darfur.

Information Minister Faisal Saleh did not specifically name him when announcing the move, but said the decision applied to all five Sudanese suspects wanted by the ICC over Darfur.

Bashir is one of the five suspects.

The government and the rebel groups reached an agreement during a meeting in South Sudan's capital Juba that included "the appearance of those who face arrest warrants before the International

Criminal Court", said Mohamed al-Hassan al-Taishi, a member of Sudan's sovereign council.

Taishi also said that the two sides agreed to create a Darfur special court to investigate and hear cases including those investigated by the ICC.

That court would try Darfur suspects not indicted by the ICC, said Nimri Mohamed Abd, chief negotiator of the Darfur people in Juba. He said Darfur groups and Sudan's government had agreed to "fully cooperate with the International Criminal Court", and that the timing of the handover would be decided in final negotiations.

Bashir's lawyer said the ex-president refused to have any dealings with the ICC because it was a "political court".

Bashir has said the allegations made by the ICC, the world's first permanent court for prosecuting war crimes, are part of a Western conspiracy.

A spokesman for the ICC declined to comment. The Hague-based court issued its first arrest warrant for Bashir in 2009 - its first for a sitting head of state - and a year later issued a second one. -Reuters

## Father chose executioners for Somali child rapists



Image copyright SBC: Ilyas Aden says he checked the bodies of the men after the execution to check they were dead

**T**he father of a 12-year-old Somali girl has said her family appointed the executioners to carry out the killing of the two men convicted of raping and killing her.

Abdifatah Abdirahman Warsame and Abdishakur Mohamed Dige were shot dead at a public square in Bossaso town in Puntland state on Tuesday morning.

Ilyas Aden told a BBC reporter by phone that he had spoken to the men before the execution when they admitted to the rape and murder of his daughter and asked for forgiveness.

He said the regional authorities had asked him if he wanted to choose members of the execution squad or leave it to the local forces.

Mr Aden said that he had opted for his representatives to do the shooting.

Afterwards, he told local media that he had inspected the corpses to check the men were dead.

Aisha Ilyas Aden was abducted, gang raped and killed near her home in Galkayo a year ago.

The case caused outrage and prompted demonstrations across the country.



FILE PHOTO: Sudan's former president Omar Hassan al-Bashir sits inside a cage at the courthouse where he is facing corruption charges, in Khartoum  
By Khalid Abdelaziz and Denis Dumo

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# EDITORIAL

## The gasoline blame-game

**AUTHORITIES AT THE** Liberia Petroleum Refining Company say Liberians and the general public have 10 more days to bear the psychologically excreting pain associated with the current gasoline scarcity in the country that has led to long queues and hours at filling stations.

**THIS IS NOT** just highly regrettable, but a serious disservice to drivers, commuters, students, public workers and the entire economy.

**THE AUTHORITIES' HANDLING** of the gasoline shortage that is running into nearly one month now, is found wanting. It raises question of leadership by officials of specific government institutions that are responsible for such fluid commodity that drives the economy of any nation around the world.

**AS A RESULT** of the current situation, the once bursting and congested streets of Monrovia are virtually deserted because drivers cannot find gasoline to put their cars in the streets. They spend hours, if not days at various TOTAL filling stations, the only provider presently here, waiting to get served.

**THE MINISTER OF** Commerce and Industry, Professor Wilson Tarpeh has persistently assured the public of adequate gasoline being in the country, but the next day, he comes with excuses and blames why the shortage continues.

**EVEN MEMBERS OF** the Liberian Senate are not mincing their words about the authorities' handling of the situation with Senator J. Milton Teahjay of Sinoe County pointing to 'gross incompetence' by the managements of the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC), and the National Port Authority (NPA) respectively.

**SPEAKING DURING PUBLIC** hearing by the Senate last week when the managements of both institutions and the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Professor Wilson Tarpeh appeared before that body to provide information about the status of the shortage, Senator Teahjay noted it is a disgrace for group of educated people to preside over such crucial sector of the economy and allow shortage of petroleum.

**HE DESCRIBES THE** prevailing nightmare as a national security threat that has the propensity to put thousands of people in the streets to protest.

**LIBERIA'S MINISTER OF** Information Lenn Eugene Nagbe attributes the problem to lack of adequate information from the agencies concern or responsible to addressing such matter.

**MEANWHILE, AS THE** blame-game continues, the economy is highly affected by the less movement of goods and services, characterized by strangulation of commuters and call from the LPRC for the public to wait additional 10 days to have enough gas to meet public demands.

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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan  
K. Browne www.thenewdawnliberia.com; Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

# COMMENTARY

By George Soros

## Europe Must Recognize China for What It Is

*Chinese President Xi Jinping will meet the heads of state and government of the 27 EU member states at the EU-China summit in Leipzig in September. Europeans need to understand that they will hand him a much-needed political victory unless he is held accountable for his failure to uphold human rights, particularly in Tibet, Xinjiang, and Hong Kong.*

**M**UNICH - Neither the European public nor European political and business leaders fully understand the threat presented by Xi Jinping's China. Although Xi is a dictator who is using cutting-edge technology in an effort to impose total control on Chinese society, Europeans regard China primarily as an important business partner. They fail to appreciate that since Xi became president and General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC), he has established a regime whose guiding principles are diametrically opposed to the values on which the European Union was founded.

The rush to embrace Xi is greater in Britain, which is in the process of separating itself from the EU, than in the EU itself. Prime Minister Boris Johnson wants to distance the United Kingdom from the EU as much as possible and to build a free-market economy that is unconstrained by EU regulations. He is unlikely to succeed, because the EU is prepared to take countermeasures against the type of deregulation that Johnson's government seems to have in mind. But in the meantime, Britain is eyeing China as a potential partner, in the hope of reestablishing the partnership that former Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne was building between 2010 and 2016.

The Trump administration, as distinct from US President Donald Trump personally, has done much better in managing its ties with China. It developed a bipartisan policy that declared China to be a strategic rival and put tech giant Huawei and several other Chinese companies on the so-called Entity List, which forbids US companies to trade with them without government permission.

Only one person can violate this rule with impunity: Trump himself. Unfortunately, he appears to be doing just that by putting Huawei on the bargaining table with Xi. Since May 2019, when the United States placed it on the Entity List, the Department of Commerce has granted Huawei several three-month exemptions in order to prevent undue hardship for the company's US components suppliers.

Huawei is a very unusual - and in some ways unique - company. Its founder, Ren Zhengfei, received his technical education in part as a member of the People's Liberation Army engineering corps, and the PLA became one of his first major customers. At the time of Huawei's founding in 1987, all of China's technology was imported from abroad, and Ren's goal was to reverse engineer foreign technologies with local researchers. He has succeeded beyond his wildest dreams.

By 1993, Huawei launched the most

powerful telephone switch available in China. Subsequently, it received a key contract from the PLA to build the first national telecommunications network. It then benefited from the government's policy, adopted in 1996, for nurturing domestic telecommunications manufacturers, which also meant keeping foreign competitors out. By 2005 Huawei's exports exceeded its domestic sales. In 2010, Huawei was included in Fortune magazine's global list of the 500 largest companies.

After Xi came to power, Huawei lost whatever autonomy it may have enjoyed. Like every other Chinese company, it must follow the CPC's orders. Until 2017, this remained an implicit understanding; with the adoption of the National Intelligence Law that year, it became a formal obligation.

Soon after that, a Huawei employee was involved in a spying scandal in Poland, and the company has also been accused of other cases of espionage. But spying is not the greatest danger for Europe. Making Europe's most critical infrastructure dependent on Chinese technology means opening the door to blackmail and sabotage.

It is clear to me that under Xi, China poses a threat to the values on which the EU was founded. Apparently, this is not clear to the leaders of EU member states, nor to the leaders of industry, particularly in Germany.

The EU faces a tremendous challenge: the silent pro-European majority has spoken, saying that their primary concern is climate change, but the member states are fighting with one another over the budget and are more focused on appeasing Xi than with maintaining the transatlantic relationship.

Instead of fighting a losing battle against Huawei's dominance in the 5G market, the US and the EU, or the EU alone, ought to cooperate in building up Ericsson and Nokia as viable competitors.

Xi will meet the heads of state and government of the 27 EU member states at the EU-China summit in Leipzig in September. Europeans need to understand that this will hand him a much-needed political victory unless he is held accountable for, and questioned about, his failure to uphold human rights, particularly in Tibet, Xinjiang, and Hong Kong.

Only the Chinese political leadership can decide Xi's future. The harm caused by his mishandling of the coronavirus outbreak has become so visible that the Chinese public, and even the Politburo, must recognize it. The EU should not knowingly facilitate his political survival.

## O-PED

By Barry Eichengreen

**America's Isolationist Default**

*There is much truth to the view that President Donald Trump's "America First" policies are an abdication of global leadership, sounding the death knell of the post-World War II multilateral order that the United States shaped and sustained. At the same time, this troubling turn represents a reversion to long-standing US values.*

**B**ERKELEY - Donald Trump's "America First" policies are widely regarded as an abdication of global leadership, sounding the death knell of the post-World War II multilateral order that the United States shaped and sustained. There is much truth to this view. At the same time, this troubling turn represents a reversion to long-standing US values. Acknowledging that the second half of the twentieth century was an anomaly, rather than the norm, raises troubling questions about the nature of US leadership and about the fate of multilateralism after Trump.

As a resource-rich continental economy separated from Europe and Asia by vast Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the US has always been tempted by isolationism. Thomas Jefferson famously spoke of no entangling alliances. The Monroe Doctrine, dating from 1823, was not just an assertion of US dominance in the Western Hemisphere, but also an effort to keep America out of European wars. In the twentieth century, the US entered World Wars I and II years late, long after the stakes were clear, and only after being directly provoked by German U-boat attacks and the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor.

Moreover, the US long sought to advance its interests abroad unilaterally rather than through multilateral engagement. The Monroe Doctrine is a case in point. America's refusal following World War I to join the League of Nations is another.

Equally important, domestic business has long held inordinate sway over US economic and foreign policies. This historical pattern reflects the fact that the US was the first country of continental scope to industrialize. Its immense internal market supported the efforts of US entrepreneurs to pioneer the large multidivisional corporation in the second half of the nineteenth century.

This was the age of the robber barons, who held sway over not just the US economy but also its politics. For example, the "Big Four" California railway tycoons (Leland Stanford, Collis Huntington, Mark Hopkins, and Charles Crocker) controlled not just freight rates but also the state legislature. Viewed from this perspective, the Trump administration's willingness to cater to domestic corporations' every regulatory whim is firmly in step with US history.

Americans' deep, abiding, and historically rooted distrust of government also reinforces isolationism. The view that government only creates problems is not just a product of Fox News. America's founders were profoundly suspicious of overweening government, from which they suffered under British colonialism.

Following independence from Britain, the fact and then the legacy of slavery created deep-seated opposition to federal interference with local social arrangements and states' rights. Rallies of gun-rights advocates at state capitols and the occupation of federal land by Western ranchers are peculiarly American aberrations, but they are also modern-day manifestations of the long-held view that government can't be trusted and that the best government is one that governs least. Trump and his policies stand squarely in this tradition.

The existential threat of WWII was enough to shock the US out of its isolationist, anti-government tendencies, at least temporarily. Possessing the single strongest economy, along with politicians, including presidents, with personal experience of war, the postwar US was able to provide the leadership needed to construct an open, multilateral order.

But it was naive to think that this was "the end of history" - that the US would continue to exercise this kind of international leadership indefinitely. In the event, growing economic insecurity, together with the rise of identity politics (reflecting the inability of the once-dominant white majority to adjust to the reality of greater socioeconomic diversity), was enough to cause the American body politic to revert to its unilateral, isolationist mindset.

The next US president - whoever she or he may be - is unlikely to be as committed to free trade, alliance building, and multilateral institutions and rules as the presidents of the second half of the twentieth century. But it is still possible to imagine multilateralism without the US. Climate change illustrates the point: Trump's withdrawal from the 2015 Paris climate agreement has not weakened the commitment of other countries to its targets, nor should it.

Another example is how the European Union, China and 15 other countries reacted to Trump's efforts to paralyze the World Trade Organization by leaving its appellate body inquorate with too few judges. In response, they set up their own ad hoc, shadow appellate body to maintain WTO standards and procedures.

As this last case demonstrates, the successor to US global leadership must be collective global leadership, with the two largest economies, the EU and China, at its fore. Unlike the US, the EU is making every effort to work with China. Given the inevitable geopolitical tensions, cooperation won't be easy. But, as America once understood, it is the only way.

## OPINION

By Bill Emmott

**Ireland's Electoral Earthquake**

*Sinn Féin's shocking success in Ireland's general election reflects several factors, from years of austerity to Brexit, which unlocked the Pandora's box of Irish reunification. If the long-shunned nationalists finds their way into government, a referendum on reunification with Northern Ireland will be only a matter of time.*

**L**ONDON - Sinn Féin's success in Ireland's February 8 general election, where it headed the poll, has come as a shock, owing to the party's historic ties to the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and that organization's association with violence. The cause of its success was domestic discontent, not nationalist fervor. Nevertheless, Sinn Féin's victory will put Irish unity - and thus the future of Northern Ireland's inclusion in the United Kingdom - firmly on the agenda.

No one is more surprised by the result than Sinn Féin itself. Last May, the party, under its new leader, Mary Lou McDonald, captured just 9.5% of the vote in local elections, and 11.7% in the European Parliament election. These results left party leaders so discouraged that they didn't even bother to run a full slate of candidates in this month's general election. Yet it has suddenly surged to 24.5%, ahead of both of Ireland's traditional mainstream parties, Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael.

To be sure, Sinn Féin won only 37 seats in the 160-seat Dáil (parliament). Ireland's complex system of proportional representation and multi-seat constituencies tends to allocate most seats according to voters' second and lower preferences, thereby favoring parties with more candidates overall. Nonetheless, the party will now move from the margins to the center of Irish politics.

The immediate implication of the election is that Fianna Fáil, which won 38 seats, and Fine Gael, which has governed since 2011, face a tricky dilemma. They could try to form a coalition government with each other, or with smaller parties such as the Greens and Labour, leaving Sinn Féin out in the cold. But that would risk consolidating the pariah's role as Ireland's main opposition party. Alternatively, Fianna Fáil could negotiate with Sinn Féin to bring it into government, thereby forcing it to take responsibility rather than simply making promises and sniping from the sidelines.

In recent years, populist earthquakes have tended to happen in countries where economic underperformance and persistent unemployment have fueled discontent over immigration and mainstream policies. On the surface, Ireland does not fit the bill. Its economy has grown by 4-8% annually for the past four years, unemployment is at a record low, and, though one-fifth of the population is foreign born, immigration barely featured in this election campaign.

Scratch beneath the surface, though, and you will find that Sinn Féin's success is not so surprising. Following the collapse of Irish property and the banking sector in 2008-10, the Fine Gael government felt obliged to cut public debt from its peak of 120% of GDP in 2012 to just 63% now. That long period of austerity has produced a blend of "private opulence and public squalor," to borrow a phrase popularized by American economist John Kenneth Galbraith in the 1950s.

Ireland's health services and housing have failed to keep up with growing demand, and its public transportation has also come under strain. Moreover, since an inconclusive general election in 2016, Fine Gael has governed with Fianna Fáil under a so-called confidence-and-supply agreement, all but ensuring that both would share the blame for the sense of "public squalor."

As a result, Ireland's two "establishment" parties have become vulnerable to opposition groups presenting themselves as more progressive alternatives. In the past, Labour would have filled this role, but that party has been tainted by its participation in a coalition with Fine Gael in 2011-16. The choice therefore lay between Sinn Féin and the Greens, which ended up taking just 7.4% of the vote.

It will now take several weeks for a government to be formed. Fine Gael's leader, Leo Varadkar, the incumbent Taoiseach (prime minister), has ruled out talks with Sinn Féin so vehemently that it will be hard for him or his party to change their tune now. But Fianna Fáil and its leader, Micheál Martin, have more room to maneuver. The main issues on the table will be health, housing, transportation, and the economy. Sinn Féin will almost certainly demand - and be offered - some of the ministries responsible for public services. The issue of Irish unity will scarcely be mentioned, yet it will be on everybody's mind.

After all, Sinn Féin will now hold equally strong positions in both Ireland and Northern Ireland. The UK general election in December, and the country's formal withdrawal from the EU on January 31, have shaken things loose. In January, Sinn Féin in Northern Ireland joined a new power-sharing arrangement after three years in which the province was effectively without an executive.

One key difference, of course, is that in Northern Ireland, Sinn Féin's links to the former IRA are openly recognized, whereas in the Republic of Ireland, they are played down. Under the 1998 Good Friday Agreement between Britain, Ireland, and Northern Ireland's unionist and nationalist parties, the British Secretary of State for Northern Ireland holds the power to call a referendum on Irish reunification. But that does not mean that parties in either country cannot press for one.

If Sinn Féin joins the Irish government, its ministers will likely pursue preparations for a referendum and press for negotiations with the UK about when one can be held. Sinn Féin knows that it would be a strategic mistake to rush a referendum, given the risk of renewed violence in Northern Ireland. But it also knows that it cannot risk becoming labeled a traitor to Irish nationalism.

In any case, by saddling Northern Ireland with the uncertainty of remaining in both the UK and the EU customs union, Brexit had already unlocked the Pandora's box of Irish reunification. The Irish general election has now thrown the lid wide open. It is anyone's guess what will emerge.

# PERSPECTIVES PERSPECTIVES

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

## LIBERIAN LAWYERS ARE POLITICALLY-CONNECTED, ENGAGE IN CONFLICTS OF INTEREST “MINISTER OF POSTAL AFFAIR ENGAGES IN PRIVATE PRACTICE AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST”

### Introduction

This Article is a reprint, in popular demand, of our recent article entitled “*Lawyers, Liberian Lawyers*” (Analyst Liberia April 29, 2017). In that article, we asked who are “politically-connected Lawyers” and held that:

- “Lawyers, historically, are academics and intellectuals - scholars, men and women of letters of classical knowledge and the law. Lawyers and lawyer-judges of Supreme or Constitutional courts interpret the bodies of law - rules, regulations of Constitutions that guide, direct, regulate, protect and secure human activities and vital interest of society”; and
- “Indeed, Law is an honorable vocation, a profession treated with high degree of respect and honor. European and old world countries regarded/designated, still regard/designate and refer to Lawyers as “doctors”, because law is post-graduate study with degree of LLM (master of Law) and terminal degree of JD (jurist doctor)”.

“Law was, and is, classical education of the social sciences - Law, Literature, Ethics, Logic, Greek, Latin, Politics, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, etc., the major courses of study which comprise the curricula of the ancient and modern colleges and universities of the old and some new worlds - Heidelberg, Oxford, Cambridge, Glasgow, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Japan, India, Egypt, etc.” and that Law Schools of some Universities require undergraduate degree with major in *Political Science* for admission. Therefore, it may be said that some Lawyers are *Politicians*; in fact, in the democratic process, *Lawyering* is an integral part that plays important role”.

Who and what, then, is the Politically-connected Lawyer or “Lawyering”?

The answer to this crucial question of Law-Practice by some Lawyers is the following:

- It is the Law practice by some Lawyers who, by virtue of their relationship - school or classmate, ethnicity, secret society membership such as the Masonic Craft; close relations with and/or confidant to the nation's President, Vice President, Leaders of the National Legislature; and Leaders of major Political Parties, etc. and the use such relationship as the fulcrum to advance their private lawyering activities; and
- The Lawyers who seek, diligently, and accept permanent employment as attorneys in Government, while, simultaneously, they practice Law as legal counsels to major corporations doing business with and regulated by Government, an act which, often, constitutes “conflict of interest”.

Law Practices as indicated in item (a) above are found in many western, developed countries, apparently, as an effort to achieve superiority in an intensively-competitive profession at no cost to anyone or violation of public policy and/or Law, but may be questioned, only, on moral grounds.

Whereas, Law as indicated in the sum of items (a) + (b) are Liberia's celebrated, historical “politically-connected Lawyers”, they are the major source of the nation's moral and legal problems, including Conflict of Interest, corruption and many others with negative impact on the nation's socio-economic and political under-development.

### Law Practice

In Liberia, Law Practice has been reduced to the sum of (a) + (b) with tricks, lies, deceit, double-cross, conflicts of interest and get-rich-quick schemes of rampant dishonesty and corrupt practices by some Lawyers, since the nation's founding in 1847. Some Lawyers of this tradition polluted, continue to pollute the democratic, political and economic processes and are the major source of some of Liberia's decadent, moral behavior. But there had been and are, also, some honest, prominent, notable and reliable lawyers who served only as government attorneys.

Today 2017, more than a century and half, a majority of Liberian lawyers promote and continue the Liberian tradition of legal practice of *politically-connected lawyers* who “sell political connectedness and influence”, not legal knowledge and counsel.

Cases in point, today, are the block-busting, on-going historic trial of prominent officials of government for allegedly demanding and accepting millions of US dollars in bribes to

amend/repeal, illegally, Liberian law that is in force and effect, in favor of a Sable Mining Company, a bribery-prone, multi-national, foreign-owned corporation. This scheme was exposed by Global Witness, an international watchdog organization.

Most of the indicted defendants were and are, of course, “politically-connected lawyers”. The central figure who, allegedly, dished out the bribes as Legal Counsel to the foreign-owned Company was the major member of the then ruling Political Party and confidant to the nation's President who, also, was Flag Bearer of the same political party. It was alleged that this Lawyer-member secured a political contribution of US \$200,000 to the ruling Political Party from his foreign client, an illegal act by a lawyer who is, now, Liberian senator.

### The Ministry of Justice (MOJ)

This Agency of Government created for the administration of prosecutorial justice as the Attorney-General of the Nation is now dominated by “politically-connected lawyers” who are on record as government prosecutors, and, simultaneously, as defense attorneys in the very same cases - with massive doses of “conflict of interest”. There have been many withdrawals - non-prosecution of proven cases without legal explanation.

### Politically-Connected Lawyers & Lawyering

As indicated earlier, this practice is not new in Liberia; for, the practice characterized the entire history of Liberia. Liberia's Past, Recent Past and present Records show that all, almost, of the Concession Contracts/Agreements were crafted by Politically-connected Lawyers, wholly in the interest of the Concessions.

Moreover, Politically-Connected Lawyers included the veteran “Political War Horse”, Counselor-at-Law, Richard Abrom Henries, the lifetime Speaker of the Liberian House of Representatives while a private, practicing Attorney and owner of the prestigious *Henries' Law Firm*, on Benson Street, Monrovia, until his unfortunate death in 1980.

Cllr. Cooper Krua, Minister of Post & Telecommunications, R. L., the telecommunication regulatory agency, is also now, Managing Partner of the *Henries Law Firm*.

Such Law Practices included the Tubmans & Coopers of Maryland County; the late Witherspoons & Mitchells of Sinoe County; the late Joseph Findleys & late legal heavyweight, Cllr. Charles Brumskine of Grand Bassa County; the present Shermans & Joneses of Grand Cape Mount County; and the present Member of the Nation's Legislature, Cllr. J. Fornatti Koffa, newly-elected representative for Grand Kru County. The US-convicted-disbarred Lawyer for Embezzlement of a client's funds and, apparently, booted out of the USA, is now the Managing Partner of a Liberian Law Firm, the *Liberia Law Group*.

### Opposition to the Decision by the Liberian Senate.

Recently, the Liberian Senate summoned the guts, as required by Law, tried and impeached (convicted for removal) a prominent Associate Justice of the Nation's highest court, the Supreme Court of Liberia. But the Liberian Lawyers of the powerful, politically potent Liberia National Bar Association has announced opposition to the Decision by the Liberian Senate.

Firstly, what are the facts and the issues which gave rise to the Senate trial, conviction and impeachment/removal of the Associate Justice of the Honorable Court?

### The Impeachment - trial & Evidence

Impeachment Prosecutors of the Liberian Senate presented their case against Cllr. Kabinah Ja'Neh, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court on charges of “official misconduct and misuse of public office, consisting mainly, of the abuse of judicial power in acquisition of Madam Annie Constance Land, the Road Fund Case with illegal Prohibition issued by the Associate Justice, then in chambers”, among many others of eight charges brought against the Associate Justice.

The Prosecution argued that the Road Fund issue was based upon contractual agreement by and between the Liberian Government and the following Petroleum importers - *Srimex of Musa Bility, Connvex of Adallah Sheriff, Aminata & Sons of Siaka Toure, Kailondo Petroleum of George Kailondo, MOTC, Nexium Petroleum, West Oil Investment, NP Liberia, Mayoubah & Sons, Inc., and Petro Trade* - who collected from the public US \$0.25 per gallon of gasoline sold to be paid to the Liberian Government as national Road Fund for



Courtesy of Hotpepper Liberia

roads/highways construction/maintenance, but failed and refused to do so. Of the US \$31 million raised during the budget year of FY2017-2018 that should have been paid to the government, US \$11 million is owned by Srimex of Musa Bility and Connvex of Abdallah Sheriff.

The Prosecuting Lawyers showed and proved beyond all reasonable doubt that rather than (1) pay the money already collected from the public to the Liberian Government, the Petroleum Importers (2) ran to their business partner, his Honor Kabinah Ja'Neh, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, then-in Chambers, who advised them to file a writ to the Supreme Court requesting a Stay Order to stop them from paying the Government's due and payable Road funds; and (3) that the Petroleum Importers did file for the Writ and that the Associate Justice Ja'Neh, in-chambers issued the requested, illegal Prohibition approved by all five of the Supreme Court Justices and stopped the Liberian Government's demand for lawful payment; and That (4) the Associate Justice Ja'Neh received kick-backs from the Petroleum Importing businessmen, continues to receive kickbacks and related payments, while the businessmen, also, continue to collect and keep the government Road funds, illegally, up to the present; all for which the Prosecution has presented evidence and proved beyond all reasonable doubt.

### In His Defense

On the witness stand and upon cross examination, the leaned Counselor-at-law and Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Cllr. Kabinah Ja'Neh, was unable to answer/explain or dislodge deeply-penetrating questions regarding the Writ of Prohibition that he allegedly issued as Chamber Justice in favor of his alleged business partners; the Road Funds withheld illegally from the government of Liberia and continue to be withheld by the business partners; the alleged kickbacks and related illegal payments that he (the Associate Justice) received and continues to receive, all regarding the national Road Fund Case.

Hemuddled through about other issues with claims that “I committed no impeachable act”, disregarding the Road Fund issues. His performance caused legal analysts and observers to conclude that the Associate Justice is highly likely to be “booked” on this one - the Road Fund issue. Accordingly, the Senate voted impeachment of the Associate Justice, although the nation's Lawyers, members of the powerful socio-political entity, the Liberia National Bar Association expressed scathing opposition to the Senate's impeachment Decision.

### We pen this Article

Because I come from a family of Lawyers as Patriarch of the GBALA CLAN. Younger Brother, the late David Gbala was Counselor-at-Law of the Supreme Court; Son Kanio Bai Gbala and Daughter-in-Law, Lucia Sonii-Gbala, both hold LLM, graduate Degrees in Law.

It is, therefore, very important that Liberian People, in general, are informed that despite the presence of a minority of “Politically-Connected Lawyers”, there is the great majority of dedicated, law-abiding, loyal and patriotic Lawyers with unquestionable commitment to socio-economic and political development of our country.

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Teacher nabbed for WAEC fraud**

A teacher within Montserrado District # 12 has been arrested and subsequently incarcerated by officers of the Liberia National Police for examination fraud.

The teacher, Mr. Abraham T. Kendima 30, of the G. Edwin Bryant School System located at Barnersville Junction in Gardnerville

Math and Science was arrested after six of his students in the presence of police and staffs of WAEC, admitted that they extracted sheets from the Math and Science question booklets and sneaked them out of the exam hall to him (Kendima), while the exam was being administered. The students were interrogated by staffs of WAEC who discovered that

contravenes Part II Section 3.1 (a), (b), (c)-Examinations Offences and Penalties (Illegal Possession, Knowledge or use of Examinations papers) of the revised Convention of the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) of 2005.

The section states that “Any person who, before or during an examination conducted by the Council, without lawful authority, has in his possession any examination paper, is found to have fore-knowledge of the content of any examination paper, or who makes use of any examination paper or the contents of it in any manner whatsoever, commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction.

Following his arrest, Mr. Kendima, in the presence of the students, journalists and law enforcement officers admitted to the charges levied against him and pleaded for pardon. He said he regrets ever indulging in such an unwholesome and unwarranted act and promised never to repeat same.

Kendima who is a resident of the Dry Rice Market Community in Barnersville also extended apology to the administration of the school, the students, and his family for the embarrassment he has caused them and noted that if WAEC is unwilling to render him pardon, he was prepared to undergo the requisite punitive measure that will compensate for his action.

In response to the **▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7**



Township criminally took away live examination papers from the St. Peters High School Examination Center in Barnersville where his school was assigned during the conduct of the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) Liberia Primary School Certificate Examination (LPSCE) Trial Test, 2020.

Mr. Kendima, who teaches

sheets were removed from their booklets.

The students informed the police that their teacher, Abraham T. Kendima mandated them, days to the exam to rip sheets off the question booklets and sneak them out of the testing center to him so that he could provide them with answers surreptitiously.

The action by Kendima

**BCTC to transfer agriculture department**

The Administration of the Bong County Technical College has announced plan to relocate the Agricultural Department of the college in July of this year.

Speaking recently during the Inaugural Program of the Student Leadership of the institution, BCTC's President Dr. Roland Massaquoi said the administration decision was triggered by the lack of practical site for students studying agriculture at the school.

knowledge in their various field of studies.

The BCTC's President further disclosed that plans are in pipeline to transfer the Nursing and Health Science Programs of the college to the Lofa Road in Gbarnga.

“We want to have conducive learning for our students especially those of whom studies are more pritical so that's why we have concluded plans to transfer the agriculture department of the



Dr. Massaquoi averred that the school's administration has embarked on the purchasing of a land space behind Kplalimue in Electoral District Two for the repositioning of the college if it's students are to obtain technical knowledge in their study.

He said BCTC being a Technical College, it was important that those students who will graduate from the institution acquire both theoretical and practical

College to Bong County electoral District 2. He adds.

In a related development, Dr. Roland Massaquoi said he has commenced a vigorous monitoring process of the credentials and practical skills of various lecturers of the college aimed at eliminating those unqualified professors in the school. *By: Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County*

**“He is not the Party Secretary”**

The People's Unification Party's Acting National Vice chair for operations, Joshua Better has warned Steve Kennedy, a member of the party against his recent self-proclamations, as Acting National Secretary General of the party.

Steve Kennedy has in recent time branded himself as PUP's Acting National secretary General, a declaration that has been debunked strongly by some senior members of the party.

Speaking recently to NewDawn Bong County Correspondent, Mr. Joshua Better said Steve Kennedy's actions have the penchant to bring the party to public ill repute.

Better further described the alleged impersonation carried out by Steve Kennedy as a dangerous undertaking that might leave the party with no other alternative but



to seek legal actions against him.

For his part, the embattled Secretary General thrashed Mr. Better's assertions and termed it as politically motivated.

Steve Kennedy said he

remains the party's legitimate Acting National Secretary General, and anyone thinking of removing him should rethink.

But when contacted, PUP's National Secretary General

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and Acting Chairman Moses Quehai described Steve Kennedy as an impersonator and further warned him from making public statements for the party.

Mr. Quehai asserted that the People's Unification is a duly registered political institution by the Republic and any attempt by would-be political infiltrators to deface the party will face the full weight of the law.

Our Bong County Correspondent says Mr. Better is the Chief of Office Staff in

the offices of Deputy Speaker Prince Kermue Moyer while Mr. Kennedy is a strong supporter of Bong County Senator Henry Willie Yallah.

From all indications, Hon. Moyer might likely contest against sitting Senator Henry Willie Yallah in this year's election.

The supporters of the two Lawmakers are trying to gain some level of relevance from some local members of the party ahead of the elections.

*By: Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County*

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Govt. commences payroll cleanup**

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

The Internal Audit Agency (IAA) with support from the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning commences a vigorous payroll verification and cleanup exercise shortly.

IAA Director-General Emmanuel B. Nyeswa, says the exercise is in fulfillment of one of the Agency's top priorities for the fiscal period relating to payroll verification aimed at heightening fiscal probity in public governance.

Mr. Nyeswa explains that the goal of this exercise is to present a rigorous analysis of the Internal Audit Agency's operations, while vouching for its systems of internal controls in order to assuage any doubt of irregularities moving forward.

"In these ensuing days, we shall proceed, in keeping with public procurement procedures, with the publication of Expressions of (EOIs) in the local dailies [and] official websites, requesting qualified independent public accounting institutions to participate in this professional

Ministries of Health, Education, Internal Affairs, and security sectors, among others.

"The referenced audits, some of which are still ongoing, have greatly helped the Government of Liberia in saving millions in United States Dollars from ghost paddling on the government's payroll for years, which we believe will be redeployed to other productive sectors."

He says these significant efforts are ongoing with the goal of strengthening accountability in the expenditure of public resources.

"We are of the considered opinion that opening the financial books of the IAA to an independent public account scrutiny will serve the greater good of toughening our resolve to improve the overall internal control environment as well as the operational performances of the Government of Liberia," he maintains.

He calls for the fullest support and cooperation of all concerned in the performance of this worthwhile exercise to enable the institution continuously execute its mandate of providing assurances that financial and operational activities of government are in compliance with applicable laws, policies, standards and procedures.

Meanwhile, Director Nyeswa discloses that the Liberian government will, in the next few weeks, announce the constitution of a national payroll cleanup task force, including its terms of reference and composition before deployment.

He notes the audit of the Internal Audit Agency's activities should be completed within 60 days, covering procurement, and publication of said reports.

**Teacher nabbed**

Starts from page 6

unfortunate incident of examination malpractice involving a classroom teacher on the WAEC Liberia Primary School Certificate Examinations (LPSCE) Trial Test, 2020, WAEC Liberia Head of National Office (HNO) Dale G. Gbotoe decried the action of Mr. Kendima, terming it as unacceptable and embarrassing and as such, people of his kind should not be in the classroom.

The WAEC boss then indicated that there is a need for the government through the Ministry of Education should begin licensing teachers before they are allowed to enter the classroom in order to curtail some of these unwarranted and unacceptable behavior on the part of some unscrupulous individuals who are bent on creating more problem for the educational sector than good.

He said if that is done, it will ensure that those who will be caught carrying out fraudulent acts in the classroom will not only bear the full brunt of the law but

will also not be permitted to repeat it by revoking their licenses.

Mr. Gbotoe used the occasion to reaffirm the institution's preparedness and commitment to drastically deal with anyone who will attempt to carry out any form of examination malpractices before, during and after the conduct of any of its exams in consonance with the laws of land and the Council's policy.

He indicated that the office will forward a formal communication to authorities of the G. Edwin Bryant School System, informing them of the Council's decision to institute punitive measure against the schools for the behavior of the students during the conduct of the exam and will also forward copy of the communication to the Ministry of Education.

WAEC Liberia Office in keeping with the Council's policy administers Trial Test to selected schools in the country for the purpose of preparing them for future exams. Trial Test is the beginning of test



"We are pleased to announce today that the IAA has concluded resource mobilization with the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning for the contracting of a certified public accounting firm to audit books of the Internal Audit Agency of Liberia to include its payroll for the period under our stewardship," he told a press conference here on Monday.

According to him, this is required under IAA Act of 2013, Section 8.2 'Books of Accounts' and its attending regulation.

exercise," he adds.

The IAA boss continues the move further justifies the Agency's unfettered commitment and determined will, as an anti-graft institution, to ensure good governance in the public sector by instituting systems and control as a way of guaranteeing fiscal probity in the expenditure of public resources.

He reflects that as a matter of fact, the Internal Audit Agency for the period under review embarked on a nationwide payroll cleaning exercise, involving the

**CARI OIC Promises Accountability**

The Acting Officer in Charge of the Central Agriculture Research Institute says, under her Administration donor Funding coming to CARI will be accounted for at the institution.

Madam Paulette Finley said, CARI has benefited several donor Funding, but Institution and local farmers have not benefited much from those funding in the county.

Madam Finley said under her administration as OIC, donor Funding coming to the

institution will be proper manage and contract awarded to the needed people.

Speaking Tuesday following a strategic meeting with Staffers of CARI and donor partners of project title; Improving Agriculture Resilience to salinity through development and promotion of pro-poor technology and Strategic in Gbarnga.

The Four years RESADE project was launched in Liberia since July 2019 and CARI is one of its implementing partners including seven other African Countries.

Madam Finley than assured the donor partners that under her watch as OIC of CARI, beneficiary of the Project will get the needed benefit of the program.

She said, gone are the day's where beneficiaries of donor Funded Project coming to CARI, did not received the needed benefits at their various project locations.

Giving an overview of the project during the meeting, the Head of the RESADE Project at CARI and a senior Research Officer James Dolo said, the project is to help buttress the

**Orator recommends**

Starts from page 6

government's Pro-Poor Agenda with regards to women empowerment.

He adds that female representation in both public and private sectors of the country is very low and the AFL is no exception.

"Indeed, this is reflective of the global situation, where women representation in government and the private sector is also low, with but a very few exceptions," he continues.

However President Weah says his government is set on an irreversible path to break the glass ceiling, noting that he has made appointments of women in leadership in government than ever before, including the appointment of the first female Deputy Chief of Staff of the AFL with a promise to do more in coming years.

For his part, Deputy

Defense Minister for Administration Mr. Olandrus Dixon says as they enter their third year of leadership, it is hoped that with the necessary budgetary allocation, they can begin recruiting, vetting and expanding training activities to include the modules that focus on [preparation] of personnel of the AFL for future tasks.

Through continuous engagement, he says they continue to build the readiness of the military, and strengthen bilateral relations with partners to ensure that the welfare of the AFL remains a priority.

Minister Dixon reports that joint border patrol operation continues with sisterly nations in the Mano River basin, an effort he says has further improved regional ties and bilateral relations with Liberia's neighbors.

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Government Pro-poor agenda for Development through agriculture.

Dolo said the project also seeks to elevate local farmers from poverty especially women and help improve their standard of living at the various locations in the

country.

The CARI Senior Research Officer during his deliberations said, new crops varieties are to be introduce to farmers during the four years period.

By: Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County

# Français

## Le Procureur Général du Libéria poursuivi pour diffamations ?

Le procureur général du Libéria, Me Sayma Cyrenius Cephus, pourrait faire face à des poursuites judiciaires pour diffamations de plusieurs personnes qui, selon lui, feraient l'objet d'interdiction de voyager dans le cadre de la lutte contre la corruption.

Plusieurs responsables du régime précédent seraient dans le viseur de la justice dans le cadre d'un vaste programme de recouvrement des avoirs lancé par ce régime et dirigé par le procureur général.

Mais ce qui est si drôle, c'est que ce procureur général et les membres de son équipe furent des avocats de la défense des personnes qui sont maintenant soupçonnées, ce qui veut dire que dans le cas où ces derniers seront formellement inculpés, ils auront assez d'informations sur eux, et ce qui serait contraire à l'éthique et la déontologie de la fonction d'avocat.

Le procureur Cephus et l'avocat Edward K. Martins furent des conseils de la Banque Libérienne de Développement et de

l'Investissement (LBDI) avant d'être renvoyés par la suite sous le dernier régime dans la même affaire, tandis que son homme de main, Me Arthur Johnson fut également l'avocat de plusieurs autres clients dans la même affaire.

La semaine dernière, le procureur de la république avait adressé un courrier à la Commission Anti-Corruption du Libéria (LACC), demandant la ré-inculpation de l'ancienne directrice générale de

l'Autorité aéroportuaire du Libéria (LAA), Mme Ellen Corkrum, quelques jours après qu'un non-lieu a été prononcé en sa faveur. Il avait aussi déclaré dans un entretien que le ministère de la Justice allait saisir le tribunal pénal "A" afin que Mme Corkrum et 28 autres, dont ses anciens clients - la direction de LBDI - soient interdits de quitter le pays dans le cadre des enquêtes.

Fidèle à ses dires, Me

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Sénatoriales spéciales 2020 : la Commission Électorale invitée à comparaître devant le Sénat

La Commission Electorale Nationale (NEC) est invitée à comparaître devant le Sénat Libérien le jeudi 13 février en vue de donner des détails sur l'organisation des élections sénatoriales spéciales d'octobre 2020.

Le sénat a unanimement voté le jeudi 06 février en faveur de la convocation de la NEC, suite à une communication écrite par la sénatrice Nyonblee Karnga

Lawrence, sénatrice du comté de Grand Bassa.

Dans sa communication, la sénatrice Lawrence a dit vouloir savoir où en est la Commission électorale nationale en ce qui concerne les préparatifs de l'organisation des élections sénatoriales spéciales prévues pour octobre cette année. « Notre refus d'agir afin que la Commission électorale nationale puisse assumer dans

les conditions optimales sa responsabilité constitutionnelle fera de nous des complices des conséquences négatives qui pourraient en découler », a-t-elle prévenu.

Au leader politique du Parti de la liberté (LP, opposition) d'ajouter que les circonstances liées au déroulement des récentes élections partielles dans le pays leur imposent, en tant que dirigeants, le devoir de veiller à ce que la NEC se conforme à l'injonction de la Cour suprême dans le cadre du contentieux électoral qui a opposé le Parti de la Liberté et le Parti de l'Unité à la Commission électorale nationale à la suite de la publication des résultats du premier tour de l'élection présidentielle de 2017.

La cour suprême avait donné des instructions à la Commission électorale nationale de se conformer aux normes afin d'assurer prochainement des élections libres, justes et transparentes.

« Les injonctions de la Cour suprême comprennent entre

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

## Le Libéria et l'UE ont conclu leur 8e dialogue politique

Le gouvernement du Libéria et l'Union Européenne sont arrivés au terme de leur dialogue politique régulier vendredi, ayant échangé sur l'état de l'économie, le climat des affaires et des investissements pour le développement du secteur privé, la croissance économique généralisée et la création d'emplois.

Les parties ont également eu des entretiens sur plusieurs questions dont la bonne gouvernance, la responsabilité et la transparence, les droits humains, la lutte contre la pêche illégale, non déclarée et non réglementée, la réforme électorale, les Recommandations de la Commission Vérité et Réconciliation, les négociations en vue d'un nouvel accord pour remplacer le partenariat de Cotonou et la future coopération de l'UE au Libéria ainsi que le Brexit ou encore le coronavirus.

Les détails de ces discussions n'ont pas été communiqués à la presse. Cependant, il s'agissait de la huitième édition du dialogue politique UE-Libéria.

La rencontre était conforme à l'article 8 de l'accord de partenariat de Cotonou entre l'Union européenne et les États d'Afrique, des Caraïbes et du Pacifique pour la période 2000-2020, qui appelle à la création d'une plate-forme pour un dialogue politique régulier et complet.

Le 8e dialogue politique UE-Libéria a été coprésidé par le ministre des Affaires étrangères par intérim, Henry B. Fahnbulleh, et le chef de la délégation de l'UE au Libéria, l'ambassadrice Hélène Cavé.

Les membres de la délégation libérienne comprenaient le ministre des Finances et de la Planification du développement, Samuel D. Tweah, le ministre du Commerce et de l'Industrie, le professeur Wilson Tarpeh, le Ministre de la Justice, Me Frank Musa Dean, le Ministre du Genre, de l'Enfance et de la Protection sociale, Williametta Pison Saydee Tarr, le Ministre de la Santé, Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah; et les chefs et représentants de la Commission anti-corruption du Libéria, de la Commission de la gouvernance, de la Commission générale d'audit, de la National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority, de la National Investment Commission et de la National Election Commission.

Quant à l'Union Européenne, elle était représentée par l'ambassadeur de la France, Terence Wills, l'Ambassadeur d'Allemagne, Hubert Josef Jaeger, l'Ambassadeur d'Irlande, Lesley Ni Bhriain, l'Ambassadeur d'Espagne, Ricardo López-Aranda Jagu, l'ambassadrice de Suède, Ingrid Wetterqvist, la chef de mission adjointe du Danemark, Birgit la Cour Madsen et le premier secrétaire de l'ambassade des Pays-Bas, Gijs Bakker.

Le ministre des Finances et de la Planification du développement, M. Samuel D. Tweah et le chef de la délégation de l'UE au Libéria, l'ambassadrice Hélène Cavé, ont signé un accord de financement pour un mécanisme de coopération technique de l'UE / soutien à l'officier de l'autorisation nationale (NAO) et unité de gestion et de coordination de l'aide (AMCU) au ministère des finances et de la planification du développement (MFDP), chargé d'assister la coopération au développement actuelle et future entre l'UE et le Libéria et de renforcer le système de coordination de l'aide, pour un montant de 3,5 millions d'euros.

Deux autres programmes financés par l'UE seront signés très prochainement, sur l'électrification rurale, privilégiant le Sud-Est (42 millions d'euros), et sur l'enseignement et la formation techniques et professionnels (EFTP) pour les jeunes au Libéria (12 millions d'euros).

À l'issue du dialogue, les deux parties ont réaffirmé leur soutien à un échange de vues régulier et au suivi des conclusions dégagées au cours de ces dialogues politiques réguliers. Les parties ont réaffirmé leur engagement à renforcer davantage leurs relations et ont exprimé le souhait que le 9e dialogue politique UE-Libéria ait lieu dans la seconde moitié de juin 2020.





# Français

## Sénatoriales spéciales 2020 :

autres le nettoyage complet de la liste électorale afin de supprimer les doublures, la publication à temps de la liste électorale. »

Le sénat a chargé le secrétaire NanbolorSingbeh

d'inviter le conseil des commissaires de la Commission électorale nationale à comparaître devant le sénat afin de répondre aux questions sur les recommandations de la Cour suprême.

## Le Procureur Général

Cephus est passé à l'acte le jeudi 6 février, déposant un dossier de Ne exeat republica auprès du tribunal pénal « A » contre Mme Corkrum et 28 hommes d'affaires, dont Musa Bility, le président de la LBDI, John Davies, entre autres.

Mais ce quotidien a appris dimanche le président de la LBDI, John Davies, envisageait de déposer une plainte auprès du comité des griefs et de l'éthique. Une menace similaire a été lancée le jeudi 6 février par l'ancienne procureure générale, Betty LaminBlamo, qui menace d'aller plus loin en intentant une action en diffamation contre Me Céphus.

Alors qu'est-ce que tous ces gens ont en commun ?

En 2013, Ellen Corkrum, alors directrice générale de l'Autorité Aéroportuaire du Liberia, avait été inculpée avec l'homme d'affaires Musa Bility, alors président du conseil d'administration de la même agence, par le grand jury du comté de Montserrado, pour sabotage économique, facilitation criminelle, complot en vue de frauder le gouvernement, et effectuer des transferts de fonds non autorisés à partir de comptes publics.

Les autres inculpés étaient Monrovia Diaspora Consulting, LLC, par l'intermédiaire de Momar Dieng, citoyen américain, la LBDI et la First International Bank.

La First International Bank a été mise en examen pour avoir prétendument comploté avec les codéfendeurs Corkrum, Melvin Johnson & Associates, pour effectuer un transfert non autorisé de fonds d'un montant de 56 750 \$ US du compte de Liberia Airport Authority lorsque Corkrum était directrice générale.

Mme Corkrum avait également été accusée d'avoir transféré 269 000 \$ US à une entreprise fictive, Diaspora Consulting, LLC et à son PDG, Momar Dieng, par l'intermédiaire desquels elle

aurait fréquenté la Kennedy Business School de l'Université Harvard.

En 2015, des efforts ont été faits pour garantir l'extradition de Corkrum vers le Libéria. La procureure générale de l'époque, Me Betty L. Blamo, loua le service d'un frimeur légal aux États-Unis pour obtenir l'extradition de Mme Corkrum vers le Libéria, mais en vain.

Voici un extraits de la lettre de Me Betty LaminBlamo qu'il a adressée à Me Cephus :

«... Vos nombreuses allégations contre moi sont totalement sans fondement et vous êtes conscient de leur fausseté. Faire une fausse déclaration contre un autre constitue une diffamation en droit lorsqu'elle endommage l'autre. Il ne fait aucun doute que vos allégations sont diffamatoires en droit

Je suis donc surprise par vos affirmations manifestement fausses et trompeuses, je les nie catégoriquement et je vous demande par la présente de vous rétracter.

Il n'y a aucun fondement aux fausses déclarations que vous avez faites parce que le Bureau du solliciteur général du ministère de la Justice est le dépositaire des dossiers dans cette affaire. Ces efforts visent clairement à échapper à votre propre responsabilité et détourner l'attention du public de la responsabilité de la décision qui vient d'être prise d'abandonner les accusations contre Mme Cockrum, même si en tant que solliciteur général,

, vous étiez responsable de ces questions. Vous avez plutôt choisi intentionnellement de nuire injustement à ma réputation.

Au vu de ce qui précède, je vous demande de faire l'honorable chose pour retirer les allégations. Je vous demande de bien vouloir le faire à la réception de cette lettre, sinon je serai contrainte de prendre les mesures et les mesures nécessaires, y compris le dépôt d'une plainte déontologique contre vous, pour protéger ma réputation durement gagnée.»

## COMMENTAIRE

Par George Soros

## L'Europe doit reconnaître la Chine comme ce qu'elle est

MUNICH - Ni l'opinion publique européenne, ni les responsables politiques et dirigeants d'affaires européens ne semblent pleinement comprendre la menace que représente la Chine de Xi Jinping. Le président chinois est un dictateur, qui utilise les technologies de pointe pour imposer un contrôle total sur la société chinoise. Or, les Européens considèrent principalement la Chine comme un partenaire commercial majeur. Ils ne saisissent pas que depuis l'accession de Xi aux fonctions de président et de secrétaire général du Parti communiste chinois (PCC), celui-ci a établi un régime dont les principes directeurs sont diamétralement opposés aux valeurs fondatrices de l'Union européenne.

Cette plongée dans les bras de Xi est plus prononcée de la part du Royaume-Uni que de l'UE elle-même, le pays étant en phase de séparation par rapport au bloc. Le Premier ministre Boris Johnson entend éloigner au maximum le Royaume-Uni de l'UE, et bâtir une économie de marché libérée des réglementations de l'UE. Il lui sera difficile d'y parvenir, dans la mesure où l'UE est prête à prendre des mesures contre cette forme de dérégulation que le gouvernement Johnson semble envisager. Seulement voilà, dans le même temps, le Royaume-Uni considère la Chine comme un partenaire potentiel, avec pour espoir de rétablir le partenariat bâti par l'ancien chancelier de l'Échiquier George Osborne entre 2010 et 2016.

L'administration Trump, distincte du président américain Donald Trump lui-même, gère beaucoup mieux ses relations avec la Chine. Les États-Unis sont parvenus à élaborer une politique bipartisane qui considère la Chine comme un rival stratégique, et ont inscrit le géant technologique Huawei ainsi que d'autres sociétés chinoises sur la fameuse « Entity List », qui interdit aux entreprises américaines de commercer avec ces entités sans l'autorisation du gouvernement.

Une seule personne est capable d'enfreindre cette règle en toute impunité : Trump lui-même. Et il semble malheureusement le faire, en plaçant Huawei sur la table des négociations avec Xi. Depuis le mois de mai 2019, lorsque les États-Unis ont placé l'entreprise chinoise sur l'Entity List, le Département du Commerce a octroyé à Huawei plusieurs exemptions de trois mois, afin d'empêcher certaines difficultés excessives pour les fournisseurs de composants électroniques américains auprès de l'entreprise chinoise.

Huawei est une entreprise très inhabituelle, unique à certains égards. Son fondateur Ren Zhengfei a suivi une formation technique en tant que membre du corps des ingénieurs de l'Armée populaire de libération, laquelle est devenue l'un de ses premiers grands clients. À l'époque de la création de Huawei, en 1987, toutes les technologies chinoises étaient importées depuis l'étranger, et l'objectif de Ren consistait à rétroconcevoir les technologies grâce aux chercheurs locaux. Il y est parvenu au-delà de ses rêves les plus fous.

commutateur téléphonique disponible en Chine. Par la suite, l'entreprise obtenait un contrat majeur auprès de l'APL, pour la construction du premier réseau national de télécommunications. Huawei a ensuite bénéficié des politiques du gouvernement adoptées en 1996 et consistant à alimenter les fabricants nationaux de télécommunications, qui signifiaient également refuser l'entrée aux concurrents étrangers. En 2005, les exportations de Huawei dépassaient ses ventes intérieures. En 2010, l'entreprise figurait sur la liste du magazine Fortune incluant les 500 plus grandes sociétés au niveau mondial.

Après l'arrivée de Xi au pouvoir, Huawei a perdu le peu d'autonomie dont elle avait pu disposer auparavant. Comme toutes les autres entreprises chinoises, elle a dû se plier aux ordres du PCC. Jusqu'en 2017, cette obligation demeurait informelle ; après l'adoption de la loi chinoise sur le renseignement national, elle est devenue officielle.

Peu de temps après, un employé de Huawei a été impliqué dans un scandale d'espionnage en Pologne, et la société également accusée d'autres faits d'espionnage. Mais ce n'est pas l'espionnage qui constitue la plus grande menace pour l'Europe. Le fait de rendre les infrastructures les plus critiques de l'Europe dépendantes des technologies chinoises ouvre en effet la porte aux chantages et sabotages.

Il est pour moi évident que la Chine de Xi représente une menace pour les valeurs sur la base desquelles l'UE a été fondée. Cela ne semble pas le cas dans l'esprit des dirigeants des États membres de l'UE, ainsi que des chefs d'industrie, notamment en Allemagne.

L'UE est confrontée à un défi immense : la majorité silencieuse pro-européenne a parlé, disant considérer le changement climatique comme la priorité majeure, pendant que les États membres se querellent autour du budget, et s'efforcent davantage d'apaiser Xi que de maintenir la relation transatlantique.

Plutôt que de livrer une bataille perdue d'avance contre la position dominante de Huawei sur le marché de la 5G, les États-Unis et l'UE, ou l'UE seule, doivent coopérer pour faire d'Ericsson et de Nokia des concurrents viables.

Xi rencontrera au mois de septembre les chefs d'État et de gouvernement des 27 pays membres de l'UE, lors du sommet UE-Chine de Leipzig. Les Européens doivent comprendre qu'il en repartira avec une victoire politique fort nécessaire pour lui, si personne ne lui demande de rendre des comptes, ou l'interroge, sur ses manquements dans le respect des droits de l'homme, notamment au Tibet, dans le Xinjiang, ainsi qu'à Hong Kong.

Seuls les hauts dirigeants politiques chinois peuvent décider de l'avenir de Xi. Le mal engendré par sa mauvaise gestion de l'épidémie de coronavirus devient si visible que l'opinion chinoise, voire le Politburo, doivent le reconnaître. Quant à l'UE, elle ne doit pas faciliter sciemment sa survie politique.

En 1993, Huawei lançait le plus puissant

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## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# Weah's Monstrous Complex Vs. The Tiny 14<sup>th</sup> Military Hospital – 10 Reasons why we cannot clap even for a minute



By Martin K. N. Kollie  
Activist and Columnist, [martinkerkula1989@yahoo.com](mailto:martinkerkula1989@yahoo.com)

As men and women in arms observe the 63<sup>rd</sup> Armed Forces Day, President George M. Weah has for the third time toured the 14<sup>th</sup> Military Hospital even though it is yet to be fully completed and equipped with medical facilities and the requisite manpower. The hospital which sits on 5 of 75 acres was inspected again by the Commander-in-Chief on Monday, February 10, 2020. This project appears to be the biggest achievement of the CDC-led government after 2 years in power.

But pro-CDC fanatics and pro-Weah publicists are getting this wrong altogether. The biggest achievement of this government in my opinion is Weah's monstrous complex on the RIA Highway. The "military hospital" is far less in terms of worth than president Weah's private complex of over 40 exotic duplexes. These are 10 reasons why we cannot clap even for a minute in recognition of this tiny "military hospital":

- 1) The cost of this 14<sup>th</sup> Military Hospital that is being built under President GMW with financial assistance from the Indian Government is just US\$3 million;
- 2) The cost of President George M. Weah's Private Complex of over 40 exotic duplexes with a mini stadium, a church, and a theatre is over US\$10 million. The complex is located opposite the Baptist Seminary Junction, RIA Highway.
- 3) The President is also constructing his private skyscraper on 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sinkor which extends in the Atlantic Ocean. It is alleged that this condominium has an underground channel running straight into the Sea.
- 4) The President has also built a mega lounge for him and his family which was named after the Country of his wife. It is called the Jamaica Lounge on RIA Highway.

- 5) President George M. Weah used public money to give his Rehab Residence a first-class facelift or a classic form of refurbishment. He now lives like a King in a modern Palace. The President has asphalt pavements leading to almost all his private properties.
- 6) The wife of President George M. Weah, First Lady Clar M. Weah, is constructing a complex on 15 acres of land in Marshall, Margibi County. It is called "The City of Hope Project" which is under her private foundation "The Clar Hope Foundation". She too has said it is her private investment or property even though she has received over US\$2 million of our taxes through annual budgetary appropriations in just 24 months.
- 7) The two largest referral hospitals in Liberia (JFK and JFD) are lacking financial support. They risk closure, like most health facilities, due to funding constraints. Just 2 months ago, public health workers across Liberia were on strike in demand of salaries and better incentives. There is no money for personnel and operational costs at most facilities. Subsidies to private health facilities were cut off since 2018/2019 Fiscal Year. Some health facilities have to even rally resources from local residents and/or increase medical charges in order to survive. Our health sector is underfunded and understaffed.
- 8) A few questions to ponder over:
  - a. Why build a new hospital when existing ones are even struggling to survive?
  - b. How do you operate and maintain this new facility when there is no money to run existing health facilities?
  - c. Do you have the requisite manpower to manage this new hospital and are you willing/ready to meet up with their financial demand(s)?

9) Why did ex-Soccer Star George Weah even name this military hospital after his retired jersey (#14) when he didn't spend a dime of his own money to build it? Isn't this a form of mockery? Former Chelsea Striker Didier Drogba built an advanced hospital with US\$4.5 million of his own money (from Pepsi Deal) for his people in Ivory Coast but he didn't name this hospital after his name or his jersey's number. Why didn't Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf name Tappita Hospital after her own name especially when Tappita Hospital is far more advanced than this tiny Military Hospital?

10) The government cannot be bragging about an L-shaped military hospital that is the least in this region in terms of infrastructure, artistic design, and standard. Can you even compare this hospital with the Tapitta Hospital that was built by EJS? This L-shaped military hospital looks like a chicken poultry in my opinion.

What did President GMW say he is building? A Military Hospital or a Military Clinic? The latter would suffice as a reality considering what a military looks like in Ghana, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Ivory Country, Nigeria, and other nations in Africa.

Is this even a military hospital or a military clinic? No military hospital looks like this. Though commendable but we cannot continue to clap all day when President George Weah along with his confidants has built and is building more private properties that are far more valuable than this tiny "military hospital".

It would be unjust to our collective conscience if we even clap for 1 minute. So, I've chosen not to be a victim of such collective guilt. That's why I think we cannot and must not clap for even a minute.

We are sorry, Mr. President. Please spare us this gimmick. Yes, I said, please spare us this gimmick because touring this small "military hospital" 3 times in less than 2 years does not in any way address the harsh prevailing crises such as but not limited to: Petroleum Crisis - the Unemployment Crisis - the Economic Crisis - the Liquidity Crisis - the Transportation Crisis - the Education Crisis - the Health, Water, and Sanitation Crisis - the Electricity Crisis - the Food Crisis - and the Leadership Crisis currently confronting Liberia.

No Mr. President, it doesn't! Sorry to say that it is too late to buy time and shift the public's attention from the real issues. Please spare us this gimmick. There is no genuine solution in populist rhetoric and political pageantry. Such mere publicity stunt injures more than it heals. We've had enough of this since January 22, 2018.

Does President GMW understand "The Politics of Rice and Gas" and its corresponding consequences? April 14, 1979 Riot was provoked by RICE and GAS. The President along with his idol worshipers needs to read dialectics. The high demand for gas due to its prolonged shortage is sharply increasing the prices of basic goods and services under this regime. The "Change for Hope" slogan has become another mere fiasco and a promise betrayed.

**About The Author:** Martin K. N. Kollie is a Liberian activist, columnist, and economist. He is a former student leader and a proponent for social democracy and economic freedom. Martin currently lives in exile and can be reached via [martinkerkula1989@yahoo.com](mailto:martinkerkula1989@yahoo.com)

# Bong citizens want Superintendent dismissed

Several citizens from the Gbaota region in electoral District 3 are calling on Liberia's President George Manneh Weah to with immediate effect sack Bong County Superintendent Esther Yamah Walker.

Superintendent Walker was suspended for time indefinite sometime last year after she was heard in an audio recording gossiping president Weah.

The aggrieved citizens in an interview with NewDawn Bong County Correspondent over the weekend said Superintendent Walker does not warrant the position she currently serves on grounds that she has always been allegedly involved in acts that has the propensity of undermining President Weah's struggling government.

The citizens said since her appointment in early 2018, Madam Walker's leadership as vice Juror to Weah in Bong County can point at no tangible achievement and has only been slapped with huge alleged corruption scandals.

They referenced the 2018 four thousand United States



Dollars Superintendent Walker allegedly received from the Turkish gold mining Company MNG Gold as contribution to the county but was allegedly diverted by Superintendent Walker to fund her travel to Ghana for a week long Women conference.

Besides that money, there are documents which suggest that Superintendent Walker received enough money from diverse institutions as support

to the Bong County Sport Teams during the 2018/2019 National County Sports meet but did not account for a cent" Moses Gbarme a youth activist from electoral District 3 has said.

According to him, President George Manneh Weah needs to appoint as Superintendent selfless individual who will work and preach the message of the government not an individual whose only intention is to collect

surreptitious money from people and NGO but can't do anything for the County's development.

Mr. Gbarme also remands the President that the USD 12,000 given to Bong County Sports Team during the 2018/2019 National County Sports meet was not used for its purpose intended but instead, it was allegedly used by Superintended Walker and few of the Sport officials from the County.

On the allegation of the USD12, 000, our Bong County Correspondent says, he wrote the office of the Superintendent in 2019 to provide clarity on the usage of the funds but to no avail as the Freedom of Information (FOI) law was continually being violated by Superintendent Walker.

Also speaking, Mary Juwoe a farmer from Gbaota said Superintendent Walker before the 2017 elections allegedly collected huge money from poor farmers in the area under the pretense of working with the then Central Bank Governor to provide loans for farmers in the area.

"For me I am not talking about their government money, whiter the superintendent took money from the County, that's not what I am saying I am only talking about the money she collected from us before the election" she said.

"She collected one thousand Liberia Dollars each from market women and farmers in our area but since then she has not spoken to us about the money or neither the loan she promised"

"Every member of the group was paying one thousand each and some of the group we were thirty women and there was more than twelve different groups" Mrs. Juwoe clarifies.

She wants President Weah or any top government official to investigate to the Superintendent at the same time threatening court action if nothing happens with in the next two months.

"When asked by our Correspondent about why she does not want to support the leadership of her friend, Mrs. Juwoe said "It is not because I am a woman but the fact is I cannot support corrupt leadership so let the President rest Superintendent Walker at the moment"

When connected by our Bong County Correspondent says, Superintendent Walker angrily told him to leave her alone on grounds that the matter is less important.

"I am thinking on different thing right now, not that your cheap allegation every time in fact if someone feels that I wrong them, let the person goes to court" she shortly concluded and cancelled the call. *By: Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County*

# Weah orders Military

By Winston W. Parley

President George Manneh Weah has instructed defense authorities here to immediately develop a policy framework for the reactivation of the Armed Forces Agriculture Company to help government develop the agriculture sector as a tool of economic transformation and poverty reduction.

In his message Tuesday, 11 February at the 63rd Armed Forces Day celebration in Monrovia, the Commander - in - Chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) said it is his intention to have the AFL

actively collaborate in the process of developing the agriculture sector as a tool of economic transformation and poverty reduction.

"I therefore hereby instruct the Minister of National Defense and the Chief of Staff of the AFL to begin the immediate development of a policy framework for the reactivation of the Armed Forces Agriculture Company," he says.

President Weah instructs that this should also include the identification and assessment of all lands belonging to the Armed Forces of Liberia that are arable and feasible for agriculture productivity.

Further, President Weah

assures that the welfare of the Liberian troops remains a priority of his government, saying he feels a duty and obligation to ensure that the children of military families receive a quality education.

To achieve this commitment, he instructs the Minister of Defense to work out modalities in collaboration with the Minister of Education for the immediate renovation of all schools within military barracks here.

President Weah also directs the authorities to develop the necessary plans to consolidate these schools under a single district to be named the "Armed Forces of Liberia School District."

Under these arrangements, President Weah indicates that qualified administrators and instructors will be provided and supervised by the Ministry of Defense and monitored by the Ministry of Education.

To boost the government's efforts in these arrangements, President Weah adds that bilateral partners will be engaged for their support in the revitalization of the new Agriculture Company and the consolidation of the military schools.

President Weah says he is proud of the versatility of the Armed Forces and the diversity of skill sets and capabilities to be found among its membership.

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Engineers, he notes that they have participated in civil works of all kinds, including the construction of their own barracks, as well as the 14th Military Hospital.

Following his "final inspection" of the military hospital earlier on Monday, 10 February, President Weah reports that the project is most satisfactory and is nearing completion to be dedicated soon for full operation.

It is expected to cater to the critical health needs of servicemen and women and their families, as well as citizens living in nearby communities.

He expresses thanks and appreciation to Liberia's partners including the United States Government, the People's Republic of China, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Republic of Ghana and the Arab Republic of Egypt for their continuous support to the Ministry of National Defense and the Armed Forces of Liberia.

He also thanks the ECOWAS Advisory Training Team, saying the mentorship and training that it provides will continue to enhance both the administrative capacities and operational capability of the AFL.

## Orator recommends increased women's role in military



By Winston W. Parley

The 63rd Armed Forces Day Orator, Madam Mary T. Broh recommends that everything must be done to increase the number of women in leadership role in Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), suggesting that women are indeed capable of not only serving the military, but also leading the military.

The head of Liberia's

General Services Agency (GSA) indicated Tuesday, 11 February during observance of this year's Armed Forces Day celebration that this is 21st century and women are seen serving in almost every way imaginable, including in combat, piloting, and in commercial sectors including plumbing, masonry, and carpentry, among others.

To further ensure that more women are encouraged for leadership in the military,

Madam Broh recommends that the reserved officers training course (ROTC) program be revisited, stressing that now is the time to ensure that the broken society is mended and make the nation a better place for the children.

She calls on all women of Liberia to volunteer their services to every sector of the nation including in the communities, hospitals, schools and other areas that are in need of women's support.

Following her speech, President George Manneh Weah says Madam Broh's in-depth understanding and commitment to women and gender issues made her best-suited to server as this year's Guest Speaker, given the theme of Armed Forces Day celebration.

According to President Weah, the theme for this year's celebration, "Strategies to Incorporate More Females in the Security Sector; AFL in Perspective," coincides with

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## Egyptian striker, 75, hopes to become world's oldest soccer pro

The thought of playing soccer as a professional had remained a distant dream for Ezzeldine Bahader for decades - until, at the age of 75, he registered with the Egyptian Football Association as its oldest player yet.

Bahader, father of four and grandfather of six, started playing football in the streets of Cairo at the age of six.

As an adult, he was consumed by his work as civil engineering consultant and

later land cultivation expert, to say nothing of many years of smoking. Though he carried on playing as an amateur, he abandoned his dream of becoming a professional striker.

For 15 years, he lived in Kuwait, and he now lives in Rehab city, a gated community in the New Cairo suburb.

But nearly seven decades after kicking his first football, Bahader revived his dream and began applying to join clubs. Finally he was accepted into October 6, a club that plays in



Egypt's third division.

He is now training with the club, as well as at home with a personal trainer, to regain his fitness.

In order to be recognised as the world's oldest professional player, Bahader needs to play two 90-minute matches, a task he is training for, and hopes to accomplish in March.

A representative of Guinness World Records will attend the second match to assess his claim, Bahader said.

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