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TRULY INDEPENDENT
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VOL.10 NO. 159

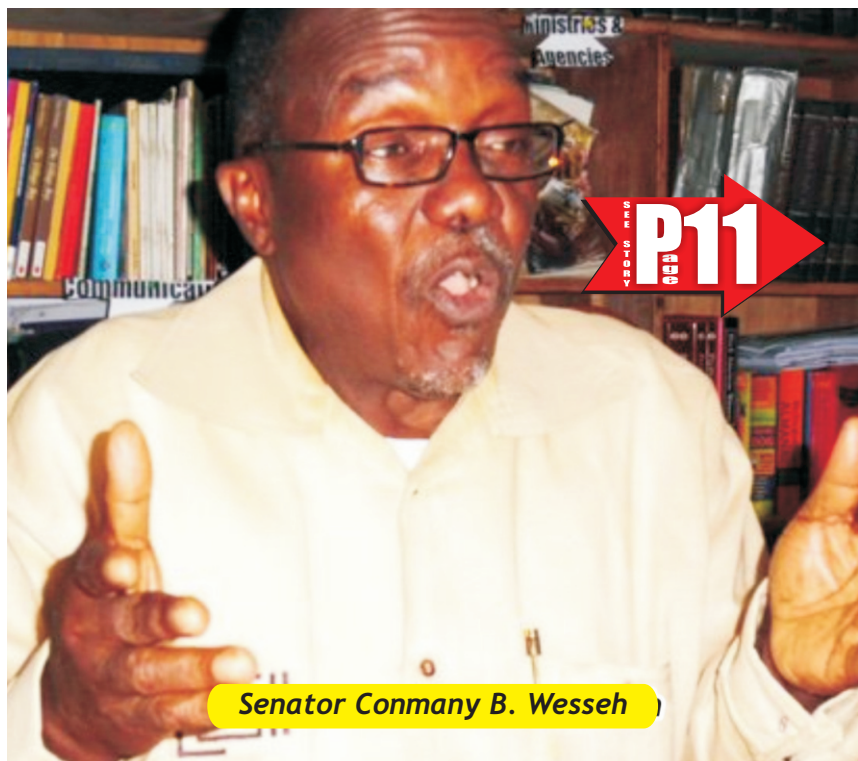
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Senator Conmany B. Wesseh



Why Sen. Wesseh lost UP primary

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Continental News

Mandela lawyer and anti-apartheid icon dies at 92

Top South African human rights lawyer George Bizos, who famously defended Nelson Mandela, has died aged 92.

After representing some of the country's best known political activists during the apartheid years, Mr Bizos became one of the architects of South Africa's new constitution.

President Cyril Ramaphosa announced his death, saying Mr Bizos had "contributed immensely to our democracy".

His family said he "died peacefully at home of natural causes".

Leading tributes on Wednesday, President Ramaphosa described Mr Bizos as an "incisive legal mind", and said his death was "very sad for us as a country".

The Nelson Mandela Foundation said "another giant of South African history and of global struggles for justice has fallen." George Bizos is most widely known for his work with Nelson Mandela.

The pair met while

studying law in Johannesburg and Mr Bizos went on to represent his friend and other anti-apartheid figures in various court cases. He was one of the lawyers who represented Mandela at his treason trial, which began in 1956.

He also represented Mandela during the Rivonia Trial, when

he and other anti-apartheid activists were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 on charges of seeking to overthrow the apartheid government.

Mr Bizos is credited with adding the words "if needs be" to Mandela's famous speech at the trial, in which he said he

was prepared to die. The Nelson Mandela Foundation said Mr Bizos played a "critical role... both professionally and as a family friend" during the years of Mandela's incarceration.

In his autobiography, Long Walk to Freedom, Mandela describes Mr Bizos as "a man who combined a sympathetic nature with an incisive mind".

The foundation said the friendship between the men "spanned more than seven decades and was legendary."

"In the last years of Mandela's life, they were often to be found together, just catching up, sharing memories, or heading off on car rides to see, one more time, places of significance in their life journeys," it added. George Bizos was born in Greece but came to South Africa at the age of 13 as a World War Two refugee.

Before moving to South

Africa, he and his father helped seven New Zealand soldiers to escape Nazi-occupied Greece.

He fell out of education for an extended period of time and worked instead in a Greek shop, after arriving in Johannesburg with no English.

He later trained as a lawyer at South Africa's Witwatersrand university, before being admitted to the Johannesburg Bar.

After the end of white minority rule, Mr Bizos helped to write South Africa's new constitution. He also represented families of anti-apartheid activists who had been killed during apartheid at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

In one of his last major trials, he secured government payouts for families of 34 mine workers who were killed by South African police in 2012. BBC



George Bizos is best known for defending Nelson Mandela at his trials

Nobel laureate under UN guard after death threats

Nobel peace laureate Denis Mukwege has been placed under the guard of United Nations security forces in the Democratic Republic of Congo after death threats against him. The gynaecologist and his colleagues have treated tens of thousands of rape victims and he went on to share the Nobel Prize in 2018.

Dr Mukwege said he received death threats after condemning a massacre.

It prompted hundreds of people to protest, calling for his protection. Eastern DR Congo, where Dr Mukwege is based, has been wracked by conflict for more than 25 years, fuelled by the area's rich mineral resource. The UN has a huge peacekeeping mission in the region but numerous armed

groups still operate and carry out atrocities such as mass killings and rape.

Dr Mukwege is based near the town of Bukavu at the Panzi hospital, which treats women who have been raped, since he survived an attack at his home in 2012 in which a security guard was killed.

UN police officers had been stationed at the hospital but left in May because of a coronavirus outbreak among the peacekeepers. In July there were renewed fears for Dr Mukwege's safety after he said he and his relatives had received death threats.

He has been outspoken on a number of issues concerning violence in DR Congo.

One such example was a tweet in which he condemned the July massacre in Kipupu, a village in South Kivu province.

He tweeted: "These are the same that continue to kill in the DRC. The macabre accounts of Kipupu are in the same patterns as the massacres that have plagued the DRC since 1996. As long as

Guinea's top court clears Condé third term bid



Guinea's constitutional court, the highest in the West African country, has approved 82-year-old President Alpha Condé's bid for a third term in next month's election.

The court also approved 11 other candidates, including the main opposition challenger Cellou Dalein Diallo.

There have been months of protests against Mr Condé's re-election bid after he pushed through a constitutional change in a referendum in March which

allowed him to stand for a third term.

At least 30 people are reported to have died in the protests.

Mr Condé was first elected in 2010 and then re-elected in 2015.

On Tuesday, Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari called on West African leaders to stick to their constitutional term limits - which he described as a source of crisis and political tension in the region. BBC



Dr Mukwege has been outspoken on a number of issues related to violence

impunity reigns and the recommendations of the United Nations mapping report are ignored, the massacres of the Congolese will continue." He did not specify who he thought was behind the attack on the village on 16 July, but others

have attributed it to a coalition of armed groups.

International pressure on the UN to protect Dr Mukwege has built up over the last two months. On Friday Amnesty International demanded "urgent and concrete measures" to protect him. BBC

EDITORIAL

President Weah is leading from behind

FROM ALL INDICATIONS, President George Manneh Weah needs to adjust his leadership style and govern Liberia from the front rather than being a backbencher. President Weah's posture of leading Liberians from the rear is not just harming the country in so many ways, but raising a shadow over the country.

FOR NEARLY THREE years, Mr. Weah has not mustered courage enough to take charge of leadership, instead, allowing his officials to call the shots at the expense of a people-centered Presidency.

WE ARE TALKING about the 4.5 million Liberians in and out of the country including those from the opposition, not just partisans of the governing Coalition for Democratic Change.

THESE LAPSES BY the President have become very glaring so much so that outcries are pouring in about citizens not feeling the presence of the leader they elected at the ballot box in 2017 to govern the county.

PRESIDENT WEAH SEEMS to be confined or has allowed himself to be confined in a corner by so-called advisors and loyalists, who claim to know it all when their real motive is to have an opportunity to get at perceived enemies.

AS NIMBA COUNTY District#5 Representative Samuel G. Kogar observed here on Sunday, President George Manneh Weah has distanced himself from the masses, who popularly elected him.

HE CAUTIONED MR. WEAH not to destroy his popularity by avoiding people under the pretext of "security intelligence", which he described as fake.

REP. KOGAR SPECIFICALLY accused Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Nathaniel McGill, of erecting blockage around President Weah to deny key officials from interacting with the President on major national issues.

THIS IS A VERY serious allegation coming from a member of the House of Representatives, who commands a voting constituent from a vote-rich county. He is not the only one decrying such posture of the President and those surrounding the Presidency. Several other officials have similarly complained of being denied access to President Weah. Even if Mr. Weah is pressurized to come out and speak, he throws nothing but jives at perceived critics and enemies, shamelessly justifying and defending inadequacies of his leadership. It is quite disappointing and embarrassing for a President so elected by popular votes to feel insecure, afraid, and consider his subjects as enemies just half way into his term.

The New Dawn
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Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission,
Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-886978282 /
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

COMMENTARY

By Biniam Bedasso
& Maria A. Gwynn

How to Share a River

Ethiopia and Egypt have again failed to reach an agreement on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile, raising fears that the entire region may be plunged into conflict. But a similar dispute in South America in the 1970s shows how this outcome can be avoided.

JOHANNESBURG/BONN - In 2011, Ethiopia launched construction on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) in the Blue Nile, in order to secure its water resources and generate hydropower. But the project has been highly controversial, with Egypt, located downriver, objecting strongly to it. Unless the two countries can reach a negotiated settlement, the entire region could be plunged into conflict.

For Ethiopia, the GERD could ease a chronic energy shortage that has left over 55% of the country's population without access to electricity. The dam also has emotional significance, promising to fulfill a dream long etched in the public's imagination.

But the Nile is strategically significant for every country it touches. Egypt's agricultural sector depends heavily on its waters. Dam building raises serious concerns for everyone downstream.

That shared dependence on the Nile is why, in 1999, ten countries created the Nile Basin Initiative as a forum to discuss the sustainable management and development of the river's resources. The Initiative then began developing the Cooperative Framework Agreement, which outlined countries' principles, rights, and obligations and sought to establish a permanent Nile River Basin Commission to facilitate the CFA's implementation.

But, in 2010, Egypt and Sudan rejected the CFA. A year later, Ethiopia began building the GERD anyway, choosing to self-finance the \$4.8 billion project. The first filling of the reservoir was recently completed, and the remaining 25% of the project will be finished when the dry season arrives.

Meanwhile, tripartite talks, mediated by the African Union, have continued, including this summer, but have yielded no progress, owing to two sticking points. The first is drought mitigation: Egypt wants to secure a much higher flow of water during dry years than Ethiopia is willing to concede. The second is dispute resolution: Should a binding arbitration clause be included in any treaty?

But mistrust between the parties has reinforced the impasse, fueling tensions that could lead to violence. Yet experience elsewhere shows that a better outcome is possible.

In the 1970s, Brazil and Paraguay initiated a binational effort to construct a massive hydroelectric dam on the Paraná River, located on their shared border. The Itaipu Dam - completed in 1984 - today generates around 88% of Paraguay's electricity and over 11% of Brazil's supply, making it a world leader in renewable-energy production capacity.

But the Itaipu Dam project faced considerable

resistance from Argentina, a downstream country that, like Egypt today, worried about its water supply. Owing to its objections, international financial institutions initially refused to finance the dam's construction.

The problem was resolved with the conclusion of the Acuerdo Tripartito between Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, which all three signed in 1979. The agreement established acceptable changes in water levels, as well as environmental protections and water-quality standards. To monitor compliance, the agreement established a mechanism for the three countries to exchange information on hydrological conditions. Moreover, an institutional framework for cooperation and transboundary water management was created for the Paraná Basin.

The instruments and institutions established at the Itaipu Dam's inception continue to support dispute resolution. Today, extreme drought has severely reduced the Paraná River's water flow, reducing Argentina's water supply and making it difficult in landlocked Paraguay to navigate the river, which is essential for its agricultural export industry.

While no independent arbitration body is in place to manage this crisis, the affected countries have negotiated an amicable solution, based on the 1970s treaties and international law. The binational council managing the Itaipu Dam agreed to release just enough water from the reservoir to ease the drought's effects for downstream countries, without compromising energy production. The work of technical commissions and exchange of data on hydrological conditions among institutions in all affected countries were critical to the negotiations' success.

This experience offers valuable lessons for Egypt and Ethiopia, including the value of treaties and international law for long-term dispute resolution. More broadly, it shows how institutionalization and cooperation can help to build trust - and bring shared benefits.

The Itaipu project has contributed to regional economic integration, by providing the resources to finance infrastructure, such as international bridges, airports, and highways, as well as social and environmental development projects. Likewise, once the GERD reaches full capacity, it can contribute to creating a regional energy market.

As the effects of climate change become increasingly apparent, so does the imperative of using natural resources more efficiently and equitably, and shifting to renewable energy sources. By following in the footsteps of Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, the Nile countries can make important progress toward those goals - and set a powerful global precedent for the use of transboundary resources to foster sustainable development.



Lord, is this Footballer that politically green?

Dear Father,

You know, this guy never ceases to disappoint. I mean, when you think the occasion is ripe for him to redeem himself, it's when he sinks deeper. Come to think of it, which politician would choose to crawl in a hole with his or her tale between the legs when such an opportunity to address a diverse crowd shows up?

Like seriously Father? Just imagine you are less than four month to an election that your future hinges on, is it not a perfect opportunity to show up and win the minds of some doubters?

That is called seizing the moment son.

Yes, Father, exactly. Every situation presents its own opportunity depending on how one seizes it and make the best or worse of it.

Hmmm, my son it comes with maturity and experience too oo.

Indeed, Father and I could not agree with you more on this one. And this is where I think our man has the problem-a serious one too.

But for a second there Father, this kind of display of political naivety could only be as a result of being surrounding by inexperienced chaps in politics who only cares about their belly as advisors or you the individual just careless or misplaced.

When the Old Lady emerged from her palaver hut the other day to join those group of people who have taken our village by storm for three days, it defined a true a mature leader. And this is not her first time though. When she was in charge of spear heading our village affairs like the footballer is doing now, she joined more dangerous demonstrators to calm them down and gave them her ears.

Staying away from your people on the advices of people who lack the knowledge of people oriented politics only prepared you for failure-bigly too.

A leader demonstrates care and concern for his or her people. By so doing you meet their needs and provide direction to remedy their pains. But to ignore them like the way the Footballer has done speaks volumes.

Now, how do you face them tomorrow when you are canvassing for their votes? Or is it that they have been classified as people belonging to the other side of the river. The truth is when the voting finish, you are the leader of all but you can't please all. So to crawl yourself in a corner ignoring the concern of your people is a big political risk.

There is a saying in the good old Book that says "go to the ant, you sluggard" let it teaches you. It knows when to play around and when to gather its food. The ant never works during the rainy season, it uses the time to chill.

As a leader, you summer is after the election, it's when you work harder, while the fruits that you gather during the summer takes you thru the next election.

Such massive gathering of people with pain in their hearts, is when you show up as a leader. It not time to cuddle and hide behind huge fence walls.



With Jones Mallay

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

Rapes, Gang Rapes and Ritualistic Killings Will Continue in Liberia until Pres. Weah Fulfilled One of His Election's Promises

Anti-rape advocates shouldn't forget that Mama Liberia inherited a 16-year brutal civil genocide that left behind a: "War mentality", "Worriers' mentality", "Killing mentality", "Gang Rape mentality", "Hijacking mentality", "Threatening the lives of others mentality", "Stealing mentality", "Hostile mentality", "Corruption mentality", "Bloodletting mentality", "Property theft mentality", and "Raping mentality", as a result, a 3-year old baby was raped in Gbapolu and the perpetrator used a shape razor blade to cut the innocent baby's private parts to facilitate penetration with no impunity. The late Yatta Kamara was raped and killed in cold blood with no impunity. Student Odell Sherman was raped and murdered with no impunity. The Liberia National Police under President Weah has compromised rape cases with no action taken against them. Anti-rape demonstrators should be calling for the institution of the TRC that will weed out these dangerous criminals in Liberia rather than present a petition that to President Weah that will not see daylight.

The United Nations Mission in Liberia and the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights revealed an estimated 803 cases between January 2015 through March 2016 and there was no solution in sight. The Gender Ministry reported 667 sexual assault cases on babies, girls, and women, and 43 girls and women were gang-raped but there was no solution in sight. Maj. Gen. Prince C. Johnson, Liberia Chief Staff, Armed Forces of Liberia called for a death penalty for rapists, but no one listens. The Action for Justice and Human Rights (AJHR) called for immediate action, no one heeds their calls. Rev. Dr. Simon L. Dunbar calls for more action no one listens. Reputable newspaper editorials joined the fight but to no avail. Opposition Cummings confronted President Weah with no solution in sight.

The Liberia Rape Law of section 2:14.70 which specifically referred to gang rape and qualified it as a first-degree felony crime with 10-years behind bars, the Weah Justice Minister Musa Dean has no time to enforce such law. The Justice Minister Musa Dean cannot be blamed because his boss, President Weah vehemently rejected the anti-rape demonstrators' petition to punish rapists across Liberia. The ongoing rapes, gang rapes, and ritualistic killings of innocent women and girls in Liberia were introduced in the Liberian civil war. It is being repeated because there had been no penalty for the perpetrators under the then President Sirleaf as well as President Weah's government.

What is conspicuously shocking is the participation of the then President Sirleaf in the anti-rape demonstration which is more of a strong betrayal of Liberian babies, girls, and women who were themselves raped during President Sirleaf's 12-years in office. What did she do then, and what can she do now that power no longer resides in her domain? Others see her role in today's demonstration as a betrayal of babies, girls, and women in Liberia.

When President Weah embarked on his political career in 2012, he promised to undertake two important development as part of his many political promises made to Liberians. First, he promised to reinstitute the TRC, second, he promised to audit the then Sirleaf's administration. But he has blatantly Renate on these promises. This is a clear indication that Political elections in Liberia have an enormous consequence especially when promises made are not kept to the teeth.

The ongoing gang rapes, rapes, and ritualistic killings of innocent girls and women across Liberia can be attributed to the blatant failures of President Weah to enforce the TRC's that would have tracked gruesome perpetrators of many different crimes since the demised of the Liberian civil genocide. Since there was no penalty for the perpetrators during the civil war, there will continue to be tripled gang rapes, rapes, and the killing of young innocent girls and women across Liberia until President Weah enforces the TRC.

Currently, there are over 16000 plus ex-rebels, and thousands and thousands of others criminals who committed different hideous crimes during the war are currently the so-called hardened criminals, domestic terrorists, hijackers, rogues, gang rapists, armed-Robbers, dangerous rapists, and day-light murderers in our midst walking free with impunity on the streets of Mama Liberia.

These groups were never punished as a result they still carry out gang-rapes, rapes in normal day Liberia under President Weah's watch, but before then it was under former President Sirleaf watch as well. Even the World Health Organization traces the high incidences of sexual abuse in the West African nations, in part, to the country's civil war in which about 61 to 77 percent of women and girls are raped and still being raped under President Weah's government.





SOLICITATION NUMBER: VA-669-20-00010

ISSUANCE DATE: 09/07/2020
 CLOSING DATE/TIME: 10/06/2020 (17:30 local time)

SUBJECT: Solicitation for the Senior County Health Services Advisor, Cooperating Country National Personal Service Contractor (CCNPSC)

Dear Prospective Offerors:

The United States Government, represented by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), is seeking offers from qualified persons to provide personal services under contract as described in this solicitation.

Offers must be in accordance with Attachment 1, Sections I through III of this solicitation. Incomplete or unsigned offers will not be considered. Offerors should retain copies of all offer materials for their records.

This solicitation in no way obligates USAID to award a PSC contract, nor does it commit USAID to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of the offers.

Any questions must be directed in writing to the Point of Contact specified in the attached information.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert W. Appiah
 Supervisory Executive Officer

ATTACHMENT 1**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

SOLICITATION NO: VA-669-20-00010

- ISSUANCE DATE:** 09/07/2020
- CLOSING DATE/TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** 10/06/2020 at 17:30 Monrovia time
- POSITION TITLE:** Senior County Health Services Advisor
- MARKET VALUE:** USD \$51,630.00 to USD \$82,612.00 equivalent to CCN-12 in accordance with AIDAR Appendix J and the Local Compensation Plan of the US Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia. Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value.
- PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** Initial contract will be for one year (with optional years included for extension, not to exceed five years), based on the programmatic needs, funding availability, and performance. This is considered a permanent position.

Employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of series of sequential contract; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.

- PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia with possible travel within the country and overseas.
- SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility and computer access
- STATEMENT OF DUTIES:**

A. BASIC FUNCTION OF THE POSITION

The incumbent is a recognized expert in the field of public health in Liberia, particularly in primary health care service delivery and reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH). S/he serves as an advisor on the Service Delivery Team within USAID/Liberia's Health Team, providing substantive advice and support in the formulation and administration of USAID/Liberia's service delivery programs. S/he is instrumental in the conceptualization, design, development, negotiation, and implementation of highly visible and critical projects, which directly impact on the success of achieving USAID's goals and objectives in Liberia's health sector. The Specialist will lead government-to-government activities for the USAID Health Office. The Specialist provides expert advice in engaging program managers, stakeholders, and policy makers, as well as health workers in developing programs and strategies needed at national, county, and district levels to strengthen service delivery, regulatory frameworks, and technical programs. S/he has a strong understanding and experience working in program management. The incumbent uses his/her professional judgment and initiative to complete complex tasks with minimal supervision.

The incumbent has extensive knowledge of the public health sector and in working with high level government officials and other donors to achieve health program objectives. S/he coordinates with the Government of Liberia (GOL), other donors, and stakeholders to ensure maximum impact of USAID's investments in the health sector. S/he serves as the primary liaison with county health teams to ensure strategic engagement on key health issues and USAID coordination. S/he facilitates shared communication and vision between USAID health team staff and county health team counterparts.

The Senior County Health Services Advisor is supervised by the Service Delivery Team Leader.

B. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**A. Strategic and Technical Leadership 40%**

The Senior County Health Services Advisor provides strategic leadership in support of the USAID/USG health programs with emphasis at the county level for improved health outcomes and efficiency of resources. S/he provides senior policy, strategic, and technical advice and guidance to the Ministry of Health in the planning, drafting of county level plans specific to the USAID's Government to Government Agreement. S/he oversees effective monitoring and evaluation plans, including compiling lessons learned and the dissemination activity results to appropriate USG staff and partners. S/he:

- Serves as the primary liaison with county health teams to ensure well-coordinated communication of USAID resources and activities, most critically the USAID's Government to Government activity.
- Coordinate/facilitates open and productive engagement between USAID technical staff and county health teams to ensure optimal oversight and maximization of resources.
- Identifies challenges and solutions at the county level in collaboration with county health teams and USAID technical advisors and coordinate lessons learned and recommendations that improve alignment with county health teams' goals and planning.
- Advise Health Office Senior Management on technical, strategic, and donor coordination issues with the GOL and within the USG.
- In collaboration with the Health Team's Family Planning/Reproductive Health Specialist, forges relationships with key partners necessary for the achievement of USAID's program objectives, especially related to RMNCH.
- Represents the USG on various MOH technical working groups and in technical discussions on issues related to health service delivery.
- Provides technical leadership and policy and program guidance to the USAID/Liberia Health Team, particularly related to health service delivery.
- Develops program and policy options and recommend appropriate courses of action based on a comprehensive analysis of development problems, alternative actions, objectives, and consistency with overall USG domestic and international policy and law.

B. Program/Project/Activity Management, Monitoring and Reporting 40%

The Senior County Health Services Advisor serves as Manager of USAID's activity providing direct, government-to-government support to the Ministry of Health (MOH), with an annual budget of over \$10 million. This activity incorporates investments in strengthening i) public financial management, ii) management and supervision systems, and iii) service delivery. The incumbent will assist the Service Delivery Team Lead and the Team in managing resources and supporting both program and financial monitoring and evaluation. Management of this activity involves knowledge of program/project management principles, provision of technical advice and guidance, both in-house and with government counterparts, and analysis and follow-through on program reports. It also requires coordination with other health team activity managers on technical components that link with the MOH: financing, service delivery, management, and supervision.

- S/he conducts regular site visits to review program implementation at the county level and meets with beneficiaries and county health teams; based on information collected during visits, s/he adjusts or recommends adjustments to programs/projects/activities as appropriate.
- Provides technical contributions to USG program designs, budget allocations, strategic planning documents and reporting mechanisms.
- Conducts site visits on a quarterly basis, at a minimum, and provides hands-on oversight in Monrovia as well as at the site of implementation.
- Ensures monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to capture results and contributions to targets, approves annual work plans, and maintains detailed and updated project management records.
- Ensures all financial management procedures and payment approval documents are prepared and executed according to guidelines and standards for government-to-government agreements.

C. External Donor and Partner Coordination 20%

The Senior County Health Specialist, alongside the county health teams, serves to ensure that USAID's investments at county level are well coordinated and positioned with other external donors and partner efforts. S/he:

- Participates in Ministry of Health partner coordination meetings, technical working groups, and other forums representing USAID's county level efforts.
- Actively collaborates with external donors and partners to ensure USAID county level activities and planning are shared and understood.
- Provides guidance to USAID senior leadership on county level planning and decision making for activities that includes external donor landscape and planning.

9. AREA OF CONSIDERATION: Open to All Interested CCNs (Cooperating Country Nationals).

AIDAR, Appendix J. 1 (b) Definitions:

(6) "Cooperating country" means the country in which the employing USAID Mission is located.

(7) "Cooperating country national" ("CCN") means an individual who is a cooperating country citizen or a non-cooperating country citizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the cooperating country.

10. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

11. POINT OF CONTACT:

All application packages are to be submitted:

Senior County Health Services Advisorby email to: LiberiaHR@usaid.gov**12. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION****Education:** Master's degree in a related field such as public health or public administration required.

Prior Work Experience: At least 7 Years of progressively responsible, professional experience in public health is required, including program design, implementation, and management and data analysis, interpretation, and presentation. At least 5 years of experience in development assistance, other donor agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), or the private sector and should also have experience working in the public health sector.

Post Entry Training: Mandatory USAID Contract/Agreement Officer Representative (COR/AOR) training courses. Health state-of-the-art workshop attendance, as well as other trainings to update technical competence, as required.

Language Proficiency: Strong written and oral communication skills in English (Level IV – Fluent) required.

Job Knowledge: Must have thorough knowledge of the concepts, principles, and approaches to primary health care/ RMNCH service delivery in developing countries. Must have thorough knowledge of health programs. Should have thorough knowledge of Liberia's economic, social, political, and cultural characteristics. Should have or be able to acquire a thorough knowledge of USG legislation related to development assistance, USAID programming policies, regulations, procedures, and documentation.

Skills and Abilities: The ability to plan, organize, manage, and evaluate important and complex projects is required. Ability to obtain, analyze and evaluate a variety of financial and technical data and to organize and present it in meaningful terms to others is also required. Ability to draft factual and interpretive reports covering complex subject matter is required. Demonstrated ability to exercise good social and professional judgment and excellent interpersonal skills in a cross-cultural setting is required. Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain an extensive range of contacts with high level host government officials and with influential persons in the private sector is required. Demonstrated ability to maintain collaborative working relationships within a team structure is required. Proficiency in word processing is required. The ability to use related computer packages (i.e. Internet, PowerPoint, Excel, etc.) is required.

I. POSITION ELEMENTS

- Supervision Received:** The Senior County Health Services Advisor works under the supervision of the Service Delivery Team Lead, who provides overall objectives, suggests approaches to consider, and reviews completed reports and assignments. Most assignments occur in the normal course of the work, but the Senior County Health Services Advisor is required to determine those that must be coordinated with superiors. The supervisor provides a review of the assignment, the goals, and objectives to be achieved, and the expected results. The Senior County Health Services Advisor will seek advice and assistance as required.
- Supervision Exercised:** The Senior County Health Services Advisor does not have any supervisory duties.
- Available Guidelines:** Available administrative guidelines establish a broad pattern of operations that require a frequent need to exercise judgment and interpretation and provides an opportunity for initiative and innovation. Relevant guidelines include the USAID Automated Directives System (ADS), PEPFAR and PMI guidelines, Country Operational Plans, Health Implementation Plan, Country Development Cooperation Strategy, National Health Strategic Plan, Mission Orders, and other directives. Guidelines are often general in nature and not specific to the situation at hand, requiring considerable interpretation.
- Exercise of Judgment:** Independent judgment is required for developing, implementing, and managing programs/projects/activities, many of which are emergent institutions in areas of political and social sensitivity, and for reporting, and for other assignments. Judgment is required to make decisions, based on careful analysis of facts and variables, possible alternatives, and potential political and development implications and impact. The County Health Services Advisor must exercise good judgment and completes work independently. S/he monitors implementation of activities and maintains accountability for results achieved.
- Authority to Make Commitments:** The County Health Services Advisor exercises the authority given to program/project/activity managers and GATRs/CORs/AORs, and may make administrative arrangements consistent with ADS guidance and Mission policy. The County Health Services Advisor takes action and establishes priorities based on available guidelines and professional judgment. Within the scope of the authority delegated, the County Health Services Advisor may indicate to ranking counterpart and implementing partner officials that s/he will make a recommendation to USAID on a specific activity issue or problem. The County Health Services Advisor has no independent authority to expend USG funds.
- Nature, Level, and Purpose of Contacts:** The County Health Services Advisor has a full range of contacts within the U.S. Mission, at all levels, and maintains contact with contractors and grantees implementing USAID-funded programs/projects/activities in the sector. Within the Embassy, contacts are with counterpart staff and with senior staff as needed. Host-government, local, and other contacts vary widely with the type of activity being implemented, and may be at any level – including Ministerial, Deputy Minister, Permanent Secretary, Director etc. Frequent and substantive personal contacts with senior-level counterparts from external donors and partners engaged in the health sector in Liberia are for the purpose of explaining and defending USAID/USG policies, objectives, and procedures, and to transmit and interpret GOL attitudes and concerns, and the attitudes and concerns of individual Liberians to senior USAID officials.
- Time Expected to Reach Full Performance Level:** One year

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

Applicants selected for interview will also be evaluated on their interview, as well as reference checks. Following is the evaluation criteria for this position:

- Education background (10 points)
- Experience and Qualifications Related to Program Design & Administration (30 points)
- Experience and Qualifications Related to Strategic and Technical Leadership (35 points)
- Oral and Written Communication (25 points)

SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants meeting the required qualifications for the position will be evaluated based on information presented in the application. After initial screening of applications, only short-listed applicants will be contacted and invited for an interview, as well as a written exercise.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications shall be submitted no later than the closing date specified, and should include the following:

- A clearly typed application cover letter that briefly summarizes why you believe you are qualified for this position.
- Resume or CV.
- The names and contact details of three references that can attest to your work experience.
- Documentation (e.g. copies of certificates, coursework, on the job training or degrees) that address the minimum requirements of the position.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Anti - rape measures await Cabinet meeting

By Winston W. Parley

Having received proposals and recommendations from a two - day National Conference on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV), President George Manneh Weah says he will

measures and actions for immediate implementation, as the first steps to begin to urgently address these issues. We will then move with all deliberate speed to roll out the other measures in due course," Mr. Weah said Wednesday, 9 September at the Ministerial

deliberations intended to validate government and partners' Roadmap on Ending Sexual and Gender-Based Violence by 2020-2022 prepared by a High-Level Inter-Ministerial Committee.

This National Conference on SGBV came after three successive days of mass anti - rape protests were staged in Monrovia and other parts of Liberia late August, attracting women, men and children from all walks of life, including former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf who was part of those making speeches at the conference.

The protests which ended on 27 August, came as reports of rape cases continue to rise here of recent with victims even less than a year - old and in some cases, the perpetrators acting very brutally to prey on their victims.

In one case that emerged from Gbarpolu County of recent, a perpetrator is accused of using razor blade to cut the private part of a three - year - old girl so as to pave his way to abuse her sexually.

But these anti - rape protests seem not to have deterred some child abusers, judging from more new alleged rape cases that

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



President George Manneh Weah

announce a number measures and actions for immediate implementation at the end of a planned Cabinet meeting due this Friday, 11 September.

"At the end of the meeting, my Government will announce a number of

Complex in Congo Town.

Mr. Weah says he has been presented with the Validated Roadmap which is the result of the concerted efforts and inputs of all participants at the just - ended National Conference following

Dumoe wants Liberia and Sierra Leone reunite

By Ethel A Tweh

Bong County senatorial aspirant Menipakei Dumoe is calling on the Governments of the Republic of Liberia and the Republic of Sierra Leone to reunite in order to have former President Charles Ghankay Taylor freed from prison.

Addressing journalists Thursday, 10 September, Mr. Dumoe, an official of pressure group Council of Patriots (CoP) intensified his call for the release of Mr. Taylor from prison in the United Kingdom.

Dumoe, in his advocacy for the release of Mr. Taylor, urges the people of Sierra Leone to drop charges against the former Liberian president. Taylor has been convicted and he is serving a 50 year - jail term for alleged war crimes.

Dumoe says he has officially written the Embassy of Sierra Leone in Liberia and

he is also willing to go to Sierra Leone to have talks with the people there for former President Taylor's release.

He says his letter to the Ambassador of Sierra Leone is

calling for reconciliation between the two countries, adding that the people of Liberia and Sierra Leone are

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10



Senatorial aspirant Menipakei Dumoe

Gov't to hold technical workshop

The Government of Liberia (GOL) through the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning will on Friday, September 11, 2020 hold a one-day workshop leading to the development of a dedicated Citizen's Budget Portal at the Golden Key Hotel in Paynesville.

The Ministry is utilizing the expertise of its staff and with technical support from the Budget Strengthening Initiative (BSI) they will focus on review and adoption of technical specifications, functionality and web-architecture, designs as well as graphics as part of critical deliverables under the GOL Fiscal Transparency Initiatives through the Open Budget

the print and electronic media outlets and on government websites.

Following legislative approval of the passage of the Budget Transfer Law in 2008, and subsequently the enactment of the first ever public finance management (PFM) law in 2009, the Government of Liberia is fully committed to making publically available all of the eight key budget documentations as outlined above, policies and programmes, including those relating to promoting transparency and accountability in the budget process and fiscal reports in a manner that is accessible with ease, free-of-cost, interactive with visuals and infographics,



Min. Tweh

Initiative (OBI).

The OBI is GOL's openness mechanism for achieving its fiscal transparency goals. The OBI is designed for implementing budget outreach strategies annually for disseminating fiscal information to the public. Since the establishment of the OBI, a number of initiatives were designed and implemented, including the publication of Budget Calendar (Timetable), Pre Budget Statement, Executive Budget Proposal, Enacted Budget, Citizen's Guide to the National Budget, Mid-Year Review, In-Year Report, Audit Reports and End-of-Year Report through

support by high security features and sensitivity and data contents accessible in a machine-readable format.

These initiatives are consistent with the requirements of international best practices as Liberia has gained its membership and participation into the Open Government Partnership (OGP), the International Budget Partnership (IBP), Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) Global Assessment and most recently in 2019, the Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency (GIFT).

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT
<https://thenewdawnliberia.com>

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

ECC announces deployment of observers for Voter Roll Update

The Elections Coordinating Committee (ECC) Liberia's largest domestic observer network has announced the deployment of Eighty Nine (89) short term observers and County Coordinators ahead of the

electoral district and will follow all the processes of the voter roll update. The County Coordinators will supervise the work of the District Observers.

In preparation for the deployment, the ECC over the weekend conducted training for all observers from the fifteen

Elections Coordinating Committee Oscar Bloh in a statement issued in Monrovia Wednesday said: "the observers recruited are non-partisans and have worked with the ECC during the 2017 General and Presidential Elections.

According to the ECC, the report from the voter roll update will be generated using a checklist and critical incident forms. There will be a periodic release of provisional statements on the quality and Inclusiveness of the process.

The observers will use mobile phones and checklists to collect and share information through a database system setup at the ECC secretariat where the report will be generated based on the information from the observers.

The ECC will then release a final report on the update process that will highlight where there are successes, challenges and areas that have the potential to ignite conflict.

In another development, the ECC condemns the recent violence that characterized the primary of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) that was held in Nimba

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Voter Roll Update for the December 8, 2020 Senatorial Elections and National Referendum.

Seven three (73) of the 89 observers will be assigned to the seventy three (73) electoral districts with one observer assigned to an

counties who will observe six of the fifteen days period for the voter roll update exercise.

The ECC Observers will monitor the voter roll update process to ensure electoral integrity and credibility in the process.

The Chairman of the

British Ambassador visits Commerce Minister Tarpeh

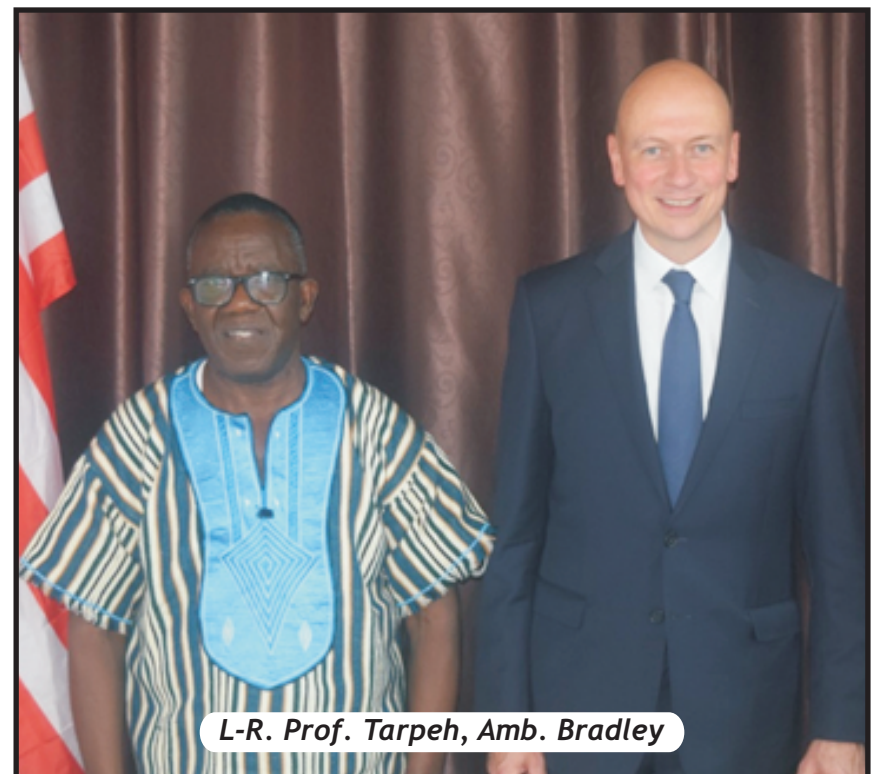
The new British Ambassador accredited to Liberia, Neil Bradley, recently paid a courtesy call on Liberia's Commerce and Industry Minister, Wilson K. Tarpeh.

During Ambassador Bradley's brief courtesy call at the Ministry in Congo Town, he and Minister Tarpeh shared

Laboratory.

The discussions also focused on building Liberia's human resource capacity, specifically in the area of educational training programs up to master's degree level.

According to a Commerce Ministry release, Minister Tarpeh, hailed Ambassador Bradley for the courtesy call



L-R. Prof. Tarpeh, Amb. Bradley

notes on a number of issues that are key to ongoing constructive engagements with Liberia's international partners to transform the country.

Notable among issues both officials discussed include UK-Liberia Trade Relations and support to the Commerce Ministry's National Standards

and pledged his entity's determination for collaboration in the interest of Liberia.

The Commerce boss is the first Liberian government official to receive such a courtesy call since the new British Ambassador officially took up diplomatic assignment here recently. -Press Release

LRA Customs intercept illegal ammunition

The Customs Department of the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) has seized and turned over to security authorities four (4) boxes of single barrel rounds smuggled into the country. The ammunitions were trafficked through Bo-Waterside along Sierra Leonean border in Grand Cape Mount County and Kpassasia, along the Guinean border in Lofa County, says the LRA.

The single barrel rounds were discovered by Customs Anti-Smuggling officers during physical inspection of trafficked goods at the LRA Headquarters in Paynesville.

An investigative report of the incident indicates that the boxes of ammunitions were hidden under goods authorized and cleared for importation.

Presenting the smuggled ammunitions to the Liberia Small Arms Commission and



other government security apparatus, LRA Assistant Commissioner for Customs Compliance and Enforcement, Attorney D. BlamoKofa, said the illicit importation of small arms threatens the peace and security of the state.

He asserted that the illegal importation of small arms poses a "serious risk to the safety of the population", noting that these weapons could land in the hands of unscrupulous individuals who may use them to harm or

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terrorize peaceful citizens.

Assistant Commissioner Kofa, reaffirmed the commitment of the LRA Customs Department in ensuring an effective border security and protection under the LRA's border management strategy.

The Vice Chairperson of the Liberia Small Arms Commission, Madam Bennietta T. Jarbo, meanwhile, lauded the Customs Department of LRA for being very vigilant in discovering and seizing ammunitions illegally imported into the country. She warned against the illicit importation and use of fire arms and light weapons by unlicensed individuals, noting that those involved in such trade and practices will be

prosecuted.

For his part, Deputy Chief of Small Arms Control Unit at the Liberia National Police, Chief Superintendent Roland S. Jimmy, thanked the Customs Department for the interception and called for continuing collaboration among state security agencies in dealing with the illegal importation and use of small arms and light weapons in the country.

The Customs Department of the LRA in April this year intercepted and turned over to the National Security Agency single barrel shotgun rounds illegally imported into the country by a land border truck from Sierra Leone. Press Release

Français

« Une menace pour la sécurité nationale se profile », prévient les autorités sécuritaires

L'inspecteur général de la police nationale du Libéria, le colonel Patrick Sudue, se dit inquiet d'une menace de la sécurité nationale du fait de l'invasion de la forêt dans le comté de Gedeh par plus de 9000 Burkinabés, qui y règnent en maîtres absolus.

S'exprimant devant la plénière de la chambre du Sénat libérien au Capitole le mercredi 09 septembre, le colonel Sudue a déclaré que l'invasion par des migrants illégaux de la forêt du pays s'avère de plus en plus inquiétante et devrait attirer l'attention de tous les Libériens, en particulier celle du gouvernement.

Il a déclaré que les forces de sécurité, dont la police, l'Agence de sécurité nationale et le service d'immigration du Libéria, ont du mal à chasser les envahisseurs en raison de l'inaccessibilité des lieux. Ainsi, sans crainte, les burkinabè s'y installent quotidiennement par dizaines. Ces immigrants clandestins se livrent à la culture du cacao et détruisent la forêt du Libéria.

Le colonel Sudue est

comparu devant le Sénat avec le conseiller spécial du président à la sécurité nationale, Jefferson Karmoh, le commissaire du Service de l'immigration du Libéria, le colonel Robert Budy, le ministre des Affaires intérieures du Libéria, Varney Sirleaf et d'autres hauts responsables du secteur de la sécurité nationale.

S'exprimant également lors de la comparution, Jefferson

Karmoh a déclaré que les corps de sécurité font de leur mieux pour sécuriser le secteur, mais la faible allocation budgétaire est un problème.

Le colonel Budy, chef du service de l'immigration du Libéria, a déclaré pour sa part que le Libéria compte environ 180 localités frontalières, mais plus de 140 frontières ne

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



La CPP condamne les violences de Nimba et constitue une commission d'enquête

La Collaboration des Partis Politiques (CPP) a dit condamner fermement les actes de violence qui ont émaillé ses élections primaires qui se sont déroulées dans le comté de Nimba le week-end dernier.

Dans un communiqué

conjoint, les quatre dirigeants politiques de la coalition, après des heures de délibérations tôt mardi matin, ont qualifié d'inacceptables et contre-productives les violences qui, selon eux, sont susceptibles de miner les objectifs d'unité de la CPP et du peuple libérien.

A la suite d'une réunion des dirigeants des quatre partis membres de l'alliance politique, - Alternative National Congress (ANC), Unity Party (UP), Liberty Party et All Liberians Party - , la CPP a décidé de constituer un comité

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Guinée : le front anti-Condé se fissure en vue de la présidentielle (AFP)

Le collectif qui conteste depuis des mois la candidature du président Alpha Condé à un 3ème mandat en Guinée s'est fracturé à l'approche de la présidentielle, en annonçant la mise à l'écart d'un de ses chefs qui a fait le choix de participer au scrutin plutôt que de le boycotter.

Le Front national de défense de la Constitution (FNDC), collectif de partis, de syndicats et d'organisations de la société civile, minimise la cassure. Il parle de "retrait volontaire" de Cellou Dalein Diallo, l'un de ses principaux dirigeants, ainsi que des autres responsables de partis au sein du FNDC ayant décidé de concourir au scrutin du 18 octobre, présenté par le Front comme dénué de légitimité.

Exclusion ou retrait, c'est en tout cas un événement susceptible de changer la donne avant une élection jugée à risques, tant la contestation a été vive depuis un an. Il survient à l'approche de l'ultime ligne droite, le jour même où la Cour constitutionnelle a validé 12 des 13 candidatures déposées, dont celle de M. Condé et de M. Diallo, qui passe pour son principal challenger.

La Guinée, ancienne colonie française d'Afrique de l'Ouest, don't plus de la moitié des 12 millions d'habitants vit dans la pauvreté malgré la richesse du sous-sol, est parcourue depuis des mois par des tensions politiques meurtrières.

Le FNDC a fait descendre depuis mi-octobre 2019 des milliers de Guinéens dans la rue pour faire barrage à un troisième mandat de M. Condé. La contestation a donné lieu à des heurts et été plusieurs fois durement réprimée.

Des dizaines de civils ont été tués. Dans une déclaration publiée mercredi, le FNDC parle de 93 morts et de centaines de personnes blessées et emprisonnées.

Ancien opposant historique, M. Condé, 82 ans, premier président démocratiquement élu en 2010 après des décennies de régimes autoritaires, puis réélu en 2015, a entretenu le flou sur ses intentions le plus longtemps possible.

Il a mis un terme définitif à l'ambiguïté le 2 septembre en confirmant qu'il briguerait sa propre succession. Lui et ses partisans soutiennent que la nouvelle Constitution qu'il a fait adopter en mars dans la

controverse - et qui limite, comme la précédente, à deux les mandats présidentiels - remet son compteur personnel à zéro et lui permet de se présenter à nouveau.

- Le "dilemme" de Diallo -

Ses adversaires dénoncent un "coup d'Etat constitutionnel" et l'accusent de dérive autoritaire. Avec la confirmation de sa candidature, le FNDC a annoncé de nouvelles manifestations. La contestation va entrer dans une phase "décisive", a averti le FNDC.

En déclarant dimanche se lancer dans la course présidentielle, l'ancien Premier ministre (2004-2006) Cellou Dalein Diallo a mis à mal la cohésion de la contestation.

Comme le FNDC, M. Diallo avait boycotté en mars les législatives et le référendum constitutionnel qui a préparé le terrain à la candidature de M. Condé. Il y a perdu son siège de député et le statut de chef de l'opposition parlementaire.

Mais, arrivé en tête du premier tour de la présidentielle de 2010 et battu au second par M. Condé, il s'annonce comme le futur finaliste du scrutin face au chef de l'Etat sortant.

M. Diallo a dit dimanche avoir dû trancher un "dilemme" entre boycotter ou participer, malgré une "Constitution falsifiée (...)" un fichier électoral tronqué et taillé sur mesure, une (commission électorale) et une Cour constitutionnelle totalement inféodées à Alpha Condé". Mais "pour accéder au pouvoir, il faut participer à des élections", a-t-il expliqué.

Le FNDC "prend acte" de la décision de M. Diallo de prendre part à cette " mascarade électorale", a déclaré à la presse le coordinateur du collectif, Abdourahmane Sanoh. Ousmane Kaba, président du Parti des démocrates pour l'espoir (Pades) et Abdoul Kabélé Camara, président du Rassemblement guinéen pour le développement (RGD), autres membres du FNDC, ont pris la même décision de se présenter au scrutin.

"De cette décision découle

Français

« Une menace pour la sécurité

sont pas protégées et vulnérables en raison du manque de ressources pour répondre aux besoins des agents susceptibles d'être affectés dans ces zones effroyables.

Suite à leurs présentations, le sénateur du comté de Grand Gedeh, Alphonso Gaye, a déclaré que s'il était le président du Libéria, il aurait renvoyé les chefs du secteur de la sécurité nationale pour négligence, manque de volonté et complaisance dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions respectives.

« Puisque les acteurs de la sécurité sont désormais au courant des problèmes, quelles mesures ont-ils prises pour résoudre le problème, au lieu de se plaindre du soutien budgétaire ? A ma connaissance, le pouvoir législatif libérienn'a jamais réduit le budget de sécurité », a-t-il dit.

Mais le sénateur du comté de Montserrado, Darius Dillon, a suggéré que les acteurs de la sécurité devraient présenter un « budget spécial pour les opérations de sécurité » sur

lequel les législateurs pourraient agir.

Ajoutant sa voix au débat, le sénateur du comté de Grand Gedeh, Marshall Dennis, a déclaré que les envahisseurs sont des transporteurs armés qui pourraient provoquer l'instabilité, si rien n'est fait rapidement.

Le sénateur Dennis a rappelé que lors d'une de ses visites aux États-Unis, un membre du Congrès américain lui avait dit que toute la région de l'Afrique de l'Ouest avait été ciblée comme point chaud pour les « terroristes islamiques », mettant en garde contre le retard ou l'inaction des gouvernements de la sous-région.

Plusieurs pays en particulier, le Mali, la Côte d'Ivoire et le Burkina Faso, ont subi des attaques séparément des terroristes islamistes ces dernières années.

À la suite du débat houleux, la plénière du Sénat a voté et a chargé le Ministère des affaires étrangères d'écrire un « mémoire aux autorités de la Côte d'Ivoire et du Burkina Faso sur l'agression illégale de leurs citoyens aux frontières du Libéria.

La CPP condamne les violences de Nimba

d'examen indépendant de quatre (4) membres qui sera chargé de mener une enquête sur le déroulement des élections primaires dans le comté de Nimba. Des citoyens réputés et crédibles qui ne sont pas membres des partis membres de la Collaboration siégeront au comité d'examen indépendant et recommanderont une voie à suivre. « La commission d'enquête commencera ses travaux au plus tard le 9 septembre 2020 et conclura ses travaux et présentera un rapport à la direction de la CPP au plus tard le 15 septembre 2020 », a dit le communiqué.

Les dirigeants des principaux partis de l'opposition s'engagent à rechercher des compromis utiles pour s'assurer que la CPP gagne ensemble et dans l'intérêt de tous les partis membres. « La preuve en est que la Collaboration a terminé avec succès la sélection de ses candidats

dans quatorze (14) comtés », ont-ils dit.

Le Parti de l'unité et le Parti de tous les libériens ont officiellement retiré hier leurs candidats respectifs des primaires de River Gee et ont apporté leur soutien au candidat de l'ANC. L'UP a également retiré son candidat de Grand Gedeh au profit du candidat de l'ALP.

Les quatre (4) leaders politiques appellent également tous les partisans et sympathisants à renoncer aux propos destinés à enflammer davantage la situation. Ils souhaitent rassurer le peuple libérien sur le fait que, « aussi difficile que soit le défi de se rassembler, la CPP reste déterminé à y parvenir pour le peuple libérien. La CPP ne peut que se renforcer grâce à ces expériences qui mettent à l'épreuve le caractère de nos dirigeants collectifs et des engagements partagés envers le peuple libérien, c'est un test auquel nous n'échouerons pas ».

COMMENTAIRE

Par Biniam Bedasso
& Maria A. Gwynn

Comment partager un fleuve ?

JOHANNESBURG/BONN - En 2011, l'Éthiopie a lancé la construction du Grand Barrage de la renaissance éthiopienne (GBRE) sur le Nil Bleu, dans le but de sécuriser ses ressources en eau et de produire de l'énergie hydraulique. Mais ce projet reste très controversé, notamment parce que l'Égypte, située en aval, s'y oppose vigoureusement. À moins que les deux pays ne parviennent à un accord négocié, toute la région risque de sombrer dans un conflit.

Pour l'Éthiopie, le GBRE pourrait régler en partie l'état de pénurie chronique d'énergie qui laisse plus de 55 % de la population du pays sans accès à l'électricité. Le barrage revêt également une dimension émotionnelle, en ce qu'il promet en quelque sorte de réaliser un rêve qui hante depuis longtemps l'imaginaire collectif.

Mais le Nil a une importance stratégique pour chaque pays qu'il touche. Le secteur agricole égyptien dépend en grande partie de ses eaux. La construction de barrages suscite de sérieuses préoccupations pour tous ceux qui vivent en aval.

Cette dépendance mutuelle est la raison pour laquelle, en 1999, dix pays ont créé l'Initiative du bassin du Nil pour discuter de la gestion et du développement durable des ressources du fleuve. L'Initiative a ensuite commencé à élaborer l'Accord-Cadre de Coopération, qui a décrit les principes, les droits et les obligations des pays et qui a cherché à établir une Commission permanente du bassin du Nil pour faciliter la mise en œuvre de l'ACC.

Mais en 2010, l'Égypte et le Soudan ont rejeté l'ACC. Un an plus tard, l'Éthiopie a malgré tout commencé à construire le GBRE, en choisissant d'auto-financer le projet de 4,8 milliards de dollars. Le premier remplissage du réservoir vient d'être achevé dernièrement et les 25 % restants du projet seront terminés au début de la saison sèche.

Pendant ce temps, les pourparlers tripartites, sous la médiation de l'Union africaine, se sont poursuivis notamment cet été, mais n'ont débouché sur aucune avancée en raison de deux pierres d'achoppement. La première est l'atténuation de la sécheresse : l'Égypte veut s'assurer un flux d'eau bien supérieur durant les années sèches à celui que l'Éthiopie est prête à concéder. La seconde est la résolution des litiges : une clause d'arbitrage obligatoire doit-elle être incluse dans un traité ?

Mais le manque de confiance entre les parties n'a fait que redoubler l'impasse, en alimentant des tensions qui pourraient conduire à la violence. Pourtant, l'expérience d'autres pays montre qu'un meilleur résultat est possible.

Dans les années 1970, le Brésil et le Paraguay ont lancé un effort binational pour construire un barrage hydroélectrique imposant sur le Rio Paraná, situé sur leur frontière commune. Le barrage d'Itaipu - achevé en 1984 - produit actuellement près de 88 % de l'électricité du Paraguay et plus de 11 % de l'approvisionnement du Brésil, ce qui en fait un leader mondial en capacité de production d'énergie renouvelable.

Mais le projet du barrage d'Itaipu a connu une

résistance considérable de la part de l'Argentine, un pays en aval qui, comme l'Égypte aujourd'hui, s'inquiétait de son approvisionnement en eau. En raison de ses objections, les institutions financières internationales ont d'abord refusé de financer la construction du barrage.

Le problème a été résolu avec la conclusion de l'Acuerdo Tripartito entre l'Argentine, le Brésil et le Paraguay, que les trois pays ont signé en 1979. L'accord a défini des changements acceptables dans les niveaux d'eau, ainsi que des mesures de protection de l'environnement et des normes de qualité de l'eau. Pour surveiller le respect des dispositions, l'accord a établi un mécanisme permettant aux trois pays d'échanger des informations sur les conditions hydrologiques. En outre, un cadre institutionnel de coopération et de gestion des eaux transfrontalières a été créé pour le bassin de Paraná.

Les instruments et les institutions établis à la création du barrage d'Itaipu continuent de favoriser la résolution des litiges. Aujourd'hui, une sécheresse extrême réduit considérablement le débit d'eau du fleuve Paraná. Cela réduit l'approvisionnement en eau de l'Argentine et complique la navigation fluviale. Ce fleuve est en effet essentiel pour le secteur d'exportation agricole du Paraguay dépourvu de littoral.

Alors qu'aucun organe d'arbitrage indépendant n'est en place pour gérer cette crise, les pays concernés ont négocié une solution à l'amiable, fondée sur les traités des années 1970 et sur le droit international. Le conseil binational de gestion du barrage d'Itaipu a accepté de délester juste assez d'eau du réservoir pour atténuer les effets de la sécheresse pour les pays en aval, sans compromettre la production d'énergie. Le travail des commissions techniques et l'échange de données sur les conditions hydrologiques entre les institutions de tous les pays concernés ont été essentiels au succès des négociations.

Cette expérience présente de précieuses leçons pour l'Égypte et l'Éthiopie, en particulier quant à la valeur des traités et du droit international pour la résolution des litiges à long terme. Plus largement, elle nous montre comment l'institutionnalisation et la coopération peuvent contribuer à établir la confiance - et apporter des avantages partagés.

Le projet Itaipu contribue à l'intégration économique régionale en fournissant les ressources nécessaires pour financer les infrastructures, comme les ponts internationaux, les aéroports et les autoroutes, ainsi que les projets de développement social et environnemental. De même, une fois que le GBRE parviendra à sa pleine capacité, il pourra contribuer à la création d'un marché énergétique régional.

Alors que les effets du changement climatique deviennent de plus en plus apparents, il en va de même de l'impératif d'utiliser les ressources naturelles de manière plus efficace et plus équitable, et de passer à des sources d'énergie renouvelable. En suivant l'exemple de l'Argentine, du Brésil et du Paraguay, les pays du Nil peuvent faire des avancées importantes vers ces objectifs et établir un précédent mondial fort pour l'utilisation des ressources transfrontalières, afin de favoriser le développement durable.

Why Sen. Wesseh lost UP primary

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

River Gee County Senator Conmany B. Wesseh is still digesting his sweeping defeat on Tuesday night, September 08, 2020 from the primary of the former governing Unity Party (UP) that saw him disappeared from the party headquarters in Congo Town outside Monrovia even before the poll results were announced.

A party stalwart and progressive 70s, Sen. Wesseh

or MOJA, a consciousness-awakening group that he still holds loyalty to.

The former ruling Unity Party Tuesday this week elected new corps of officers, days after violent clashes marred the opposition's primary in Nimba County. The UP is a constituent member of the four Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) that participated in that primary.

The NewDawn has been sampling partisans' reaction to the unexpected defeat of the

void of perceived influences.

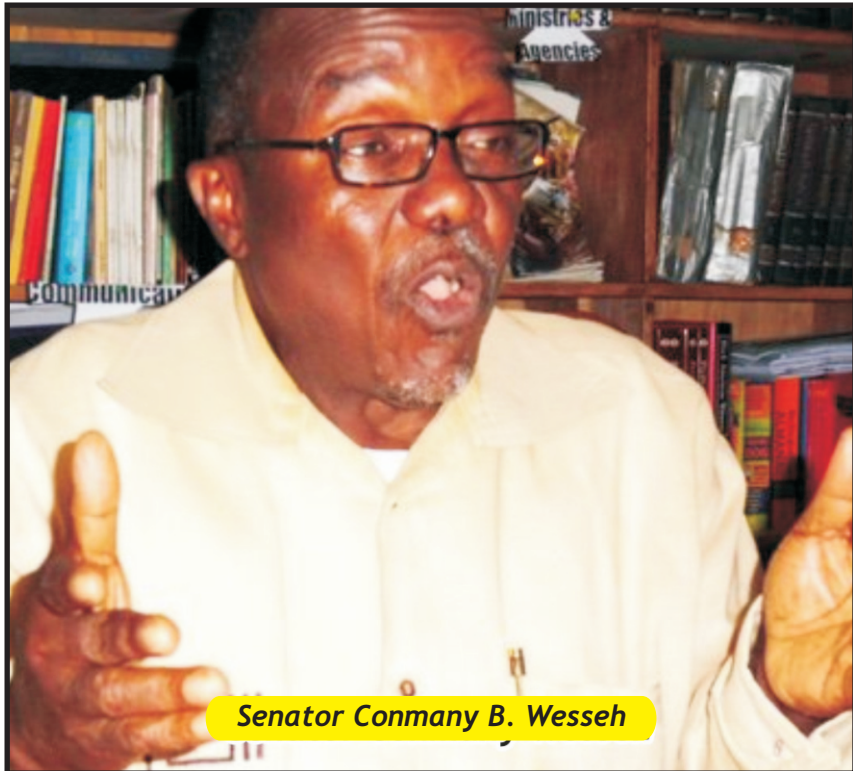
According to them, bringing back onboard Sen. Wesseh especially, at the level of the national chairmanship could amount to having the former standard bearer Ellen Johnson Sirleaf pulling strings and maintaining her shadow over the party.

They said political leader Boakai is passionate about and focused on building a new team totally, bringing onboard young folks with lot of energies to work with parties within the Collaborating Political Parties to face the governing Coalition for Democratic Change in the next elections.

Chairman-elect Amin Modad, who comes with huge financial influence, is now darling boy of Boakai. UP partisans believe strongly that his presiding over the chairmanship will help in redeeming the party's current struggling financial status.

Modad replaces embattled chairman Wilmot Paye, who still has a case pending at the Supreme Court over his controversial dismissal. Other officers elected at the primary were Madam Debah Varpilah, as senior national vice chairperson and Mr. Mohammed Ali, as secretary general.

Both Madam Varpilah and Ali are from the same county. It remains to be seen whether their elections will stand or one may have to give way for the other, simply because the UP constitution forbids two higher ranking officials from the same county. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



Senator Conmany B. Wesseh

terribly lost the primary to business tycoon-turned politician Amin Modad for the national chairmanship by a whopping 08 to 34 votes.

The renowned Liberian politician, activist, diplomat and commentator has been in the corridor of students' and national politics for decades, but his defeat Tuesday was appalling to supporters, sympathizers, followers and admirers, including the Movement for Justice in Africa

veteran politician lost with some pointing it to his loyalty to former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Several UP partisans during the primary were openly heard remarking that Wesseh's days of running the party ended along with the departure of the Sirleaf administration in 2018.

They said the UP, under its current political leader, former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai prefers to work with new faces in charting his own course

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Dumoe wants Liberia

one family and he is hopeful that his letter will be adhered to.

"The people of Sierra Leone are peaceful and we are brothers and sisters, I'm hopeful that my letter will fall [on] fertile ground. Sierra Leone holds no grudge against Liberia," Dumoe explains.

He stresses that it has been 17 years and Former President Taylor has been the only person who has suffered for crime he alone didn't commit.

Dumoe claims that the people of Sierra Leone don't blame the former president for the war in their country, alleging that they blame their own brothers because of their internal problems they had.

The Bong County senatorial aspirant continues that the Special Court for Sierra Leone has started setting people free, lamenting that 17 years are enough time Taylor has spent for being involved with their war.

"I am not buying sympathy from the people of Bong for the senatorial elections. I sympathize with Taylor as he has suffered for so long. As a Liberian I would [like] to see Charles Taylor live here just like former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and put the civil war behind us," Dumoe explains.

Meanwhile, Dumoe says he is also going to petition the Liberian Government, starting with the Legislature and then

onward to the presidency to engage them on behalf of Taylor.

Recalling Taylor's leadership, Dumoe says the former president was a visionary, adding that it was through his leadership that the Ministry of Gender, the National Oil Company of Liberia among others, were created and enacted into law.

"When I spoke of the AK, I was using symbolism in my system but the Liberian Government illegally arrested me and detained me but my lawyer Cllr. Tiawon Gongloe disproved their claims," Dumoe concludes. **--Edited by Winston W. Parley**

Angry staffers deny

Starts from back page

Justice Korkpor, saying: "Korkpor, bring back our money; and bring the people's money."

The protesters say they do not want three months pay, but they want their arrears in full, allegedly totaling 11 months.

"If we [don't] get it, we'll lock this place, nobody will not enter, that's the justice we will give. That's the justice," one female protester says from the crowd as the group's leader Mr. Archie Ponpon addresses journalists.

"The Chief Justice, when he was acting, he called us to Supreme Court meeting. He said that the least man in his regime will build house. He was deceiving us to tell us that the least man will eat grand pea peeling," another elderly female judicial worker among the protesters says, but declines to be named.

The group's head Mr. Archie Ponpo claims that they have been made to understand following meetings that "the Chief Justice is the only one that can solve the problem to bring back our Liberian dollars."

According to Ponpon, the protesters also want various issues to be addressed, ranging from alleged wrongful dismissals to the authorities' alleged failure to put some court support staff on payroll for years despite using their services.

Despite marching and occupying the Chief Justice's parking lot, Mr. Ponpon says their protest is yet to come "because the people are in gear."

Ponpon says one of such protests could be the fact that angry judicial workers "have denied the Chief Justice his right ... to park his car," thanking his fellow protesters "for doing justice."

"That alone must send a message to him to hastily bring back our money. That's all," Mr. Ponpon warns, as he makes a demand for the full payment of 11 months of arrears allegedly owed them.

He further warns that this matter will extend to a major issue because everybody in that protest is traumatized at home due to lack of money.

Ponpon says if they go to a meeting with the authorities, they will only there to get their money back, saying they will not compromise on this one.

He threatens that they will walk out of the meeting if the authorities bring about any bureaucracy like they allegedly did and made a

powerpoint presentation during the previous meeting, adding that the protesters will ensure that there will be no court opening in October if the issues are not addressed.

Mr. Dee Flomo, the Financial Secretary of the group of aggrieved judicial workers accuses Chief Justice Korkpor and his associates of depriving judicial workers their just salaries and by extension, bringing economic starvation upon them.

"Because we don't have money to eat, we come here we don't eat. No money. Our mothers, our sisters, our brothers are hungry. Our families at home are hungry. Their families are eating the best of food, we don't have justice," says Flomo.

When contacted for the Judiciary's response, the head of communication Atty. Ambrose Nmah says this matter has been explained time and again, and he does not know how he can explain it anymore.

Atty. Nmah says the Liberian dollars component which the judicial staff are protesting for was cut off by the Ministry of Finance, not by the Judiciary.

"That Liberian dollars portion, the Ministry of Finance, the Government of Liberia cut it. The workers agitated. The entire bench two weeks ago, sat here and had a meeting," he says.

According to Atty. Nmah, in that meeting which was held two weeks ago, Mr. D. Francis Wreh from the Ministry of Finance told employees of the Judiciary that three million dollars was cut from the Judiciary's salary, and that has allegedly affected the employees' Liberian dollars component of their salaries.

"It is not the Judiciary that cut it, that Ministry of Finance because they had to meet the World Bank standard so they cut it. So when you come and say the Judiciary should put it back, all of us are civil servants, all of us are paid by the Ministry of Finance, so how can the Judiciary put it back," Nmah says.

Additionally Atty. Nmah says he is not in the capacity to respond to the aggrieved judicial workers' threats to disrupt the opening of the Supreme Court this October, and "whether they were able to stop the Chief Justice from parking where he's supposed to park or whether they want to bring him down from his car."

U.S. bars Ex-passport director & family

Though court in Liberia adjudged him not guilty for passport scandal, the United States Government has formally barred former Liberia passport director Andrew Wonplo and his entire family from traveling to America "due to his involvement in significant corruption."

"Today, I am announcing the public designation of the former Director of Passport and Visas at the Liberian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

public's faith in the current government's management of identification and travel documents, and compromised the integrity and security of immigration processes.

"This designation is made under Section 7031(c) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020 (Div. G, P.L. 116-94)", reads that statement published on the United States Embassy's website in Monrovia.

such officials and their immediate family members.

"In addition to Mr. Wonplo, I am announcing the public designation of his spouse, Dennice Wonplo, and their minor children", Mr. Pompeo adds.

The American official says this designation reaffirms U.S. commitment to standing with the people and Government of Liberia in their fight against corruption, promising to continuously collaborate with Liberian authorities to promote accountability for corrupt actors in this region and globally.

However, Criminal Court C at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia under Judge Yamie Gbeisay in July 2019 drop prosecution charges against defendant Andrew Wonplo, and his associate due to the Ministry of Justice (prosecutors) failure to make substantial follow-up on the case.

Under multiple charges, Wonplo was disgracefully dragged before the Monrovia City Court following investigation into his alleged involvement into a major passport scandal that the Government of Liberia disclosed resulted to the loss of US\$25,000 in revenue.

Investigators' probe into the scandal resulted to charges being brought against Mr. Wonplo and a Nigerian national defendant Adedoyin Emmanuel Atiro who had also allegedly been purporting as an authority at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in awarding travel opportunities and receiving money from his victims.

The U.S. Government notes that under Section 7031(c), once the Secretary of State designates officials of foreign governments for their involvement, directly or indirectly, in significant corruption, those individuals and their immediate family members are ineligible for entry into the United States.

The statement continues that the law also requires the Secretary of State to either publicly or privately designate



Ex-Liberian passport director Andrew Wonplo

Andrew Wonplo, due to his involvement in significant corruption", U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo, ordered in a statement issued Thursday, 10 September in Washington.

Secretary of State Pompeo explains that in his official capacity at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2018 to 2019, Mr. Wonplo was involved in passport fraud that undermined the rule of law, reduced the Liberian

BCTC students want Weah to fulfill promise

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan
in Bong County

Several students at the Bong County Technical College (BCTC) have called on President George Manneh Weah to fulfill his 2018 promise by completing the construction of college's facility.

The construction of the college which started in 2013, is yet to be completed despite the disbursement of little over US\$7 million by the government of former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf.

Speaking to journalists on Thursday, 10 September, students on BCTC campus said President Weah allegedly promised to fully complete

the school facility during his visit in 2018, but since then, they are yet to hear from him.

According to them, the

president's promise led to the school being forgotten during the 2018 County Council Sitting, maintaining that



President George Manneh Weah

Anti - rape measures

Cont'd from page 6

continue to emerge based on police authorities' report last weekend of nine additional cases.

"Given the importance of this document, with its comprehensive proposals and recommendations for a holistic and inclusive response to the high incidence of rape and sexual-based violence in Liberia, I will convene a meeting of the Cabinet on this Friday, two days from now, for the sole purpose of discussing it," Mr. Weah says at the SGBV conference.

During group discussions and the Plenary Session, Mr. Weah says the focus was on four important areas of possible improvement in Liberia's approach to prevention of rape and SGBV.

These four areas include engagement of communities;

health implications; proposals to amend and strengthen the existing laws on rape and sexual and gender-based violence; and strengthening coordination on data collection and reporting.

However, Mr. Weah says while his government acknowledges the support from all partners, he looks forward to more financial and technical support to enable the government to implement the National Roadmap fully and timeously.

Further, he states that government alone cannot win this battle, thereby calling upon the Inter-Religious Council here, the Council of Churches, the Traditional Council, community leaders and all Liberians to join hands with the government to win the war against rape and SGBV.

ECC announces

Cont'd from page 6

County. Planned violence and intimidation are intended to influence the outcomes of elections and this undermines free, fair and competitive electoral processes. The ECC calls on the leadership of the CPP to work with the police to ensure that those who were involved in the violence are held to account for their action.

The Elections Coordinating Committee (ECC) is a civil society platform, comprising six (6) organizations that observe elections in Liberia. Center for Democratic

Governance (CDG); Center for Media Studies and Peace Building (CEMESP); Institute for Research and Democratic Development (IREDD); NAYMOTE-Partners for Democratic Development (NAYMOTE-PADD); West Africa Network for Peace Building (WANEP), and the Women's NGO Secretariat of Liberia (WONGOSOL).

The ECC works in partnership with the Liberia Accountability Voice Initiative (LAVI) with support from USAID.

delegates at the sitting already knew that President Weah had promised to channel the coast of the school's full completion so they did not include it in the sitting.

The Chairman of the Concerned Bong County Students Jeremiah F. Suah says for too long students at the Institution have been sitting in an incomplete building, lamenting that some classrooms are not plastered.

Mr. Suah suggests that it is important for President Weah to fulfill his promise, stating that they are not demanding him to do so, but they are appealing to his office to ensure the full completion of the Bong County Technical College.

"We're crying on him to please come and do what he promised in 2018. This is the only public technical college and as you may be aware, students wanting to acquire higher

education do not have the financial backing to attend Cuttington University," he says.

According to student Suah, they have written Bong County Superintendent Esther Yamah Walker, reminding her of the president's alleged promise, but to no avail.

Mr. Suah says if the government cannot see reason and ensure the completion of the college, they might stage a daylong protest which will draw authorities' attention.

However, Superintendent Walker denies receiving any communication from the student group and says she will not speak further to the issue.

Some Bong County - based engineers have told the public that the college needs more than US\$1.5 Million for full completion.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

Angry staffers deny Chief Justice access



workers to clear the place for their boss' car to be parked, but the protesters insisted they were not leaving.

And until their meeting was over, they did not leave the spot, compelling Chief Justice Korkpor's vehicle to be parked elsewhere. However there was no report of confrontation between the protesters and the securities brought to the attention of this paper.

Series of protests have been held by the group in recent times over misunderstanding between them and their bosses regarding what is attributed to be a cut of their Liberian dollars component of their salaries on account of the government's salaries harmonization program.

As the judicial workers marched in the premises of the Temple of Justice, holding each other's hands Thursday, they were seen repeatedly chanting the name of Chief

▶ **CONT'D ON PAGE 10**

By **Winston W. Parley**

Liberia's Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor has been prevented from parking his vehicle at its usual parking lot at the Temple of Justice, as angry judicial staffers intentionally occupied the spot to deny him access while they hold a meeting regarding an alleged unpaid Liberian dollar component of their salaries.

The protesters sat in chairs in a circle at the chief justice's car parking area at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia Thursday, 10 September to conduct a meeting in the open which was followed by a peaceful march and chanting of slogans against the Chief Justice.

While the Chief Justice was approaching the premises, his securities went ahead of him to ask the protesting judicial

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Barcelona set dates for presidential elections

Barcelona will hold presidential elections on March 20 and 21 next year.

Incumbent Josep Maria Bartomeu, who cannot stand for re-election after spending two consecutive terms in office, had previously confirmed they would hold elections between January and the end of March after rejecting calls for them to be this year.

The LaLiga club

announced on Thursday that the elections will be held "at various sites around the territory, and that postal votes shall be permitted" due to the risks posed by the coronavirus pandemic.

Although he is due to remain in office until next year, Bartomeu and the board are facing the possible threat of a motion of no confidence.

The movement, 'Mes que una Mocio', has the backing of presidential candidates



including Victor Font, Jordi Farre and Lluís Fernandez-Ala.

According to Marca, the motion had accumulated 7,500 signatures as of September 8. It requires 15 per cent of registered voting members of the club, or a little over 16,500, to add their signatures by September 17 to force the motion through to the next stage.

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