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TRULY INDEPENDENT
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The New Dawn

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Coming Up!
Who are the owners
of the New Liberian
Oil Companies?

VOL.10 NO. 165

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P11

Weah orders replacement

-of protesting health workers

CPP endorses Edith Goongloe-Weh

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-as ANC Taa Wongbe steps aside



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Continental News

WHO sets rules for testing African Covid remedies

The World Health Organization (WHO) has agreed rules for the testing of African herbal remedies to fight Covid-19.

Sound science would be the sole basis for safe and effective traditional therapies to be adopted, it said.

Any traditional remedies that are judged effective could be fast-tracked for large-scale manufacturing.

Madagascar's leader has been promoting an untested product he says can cure the disease despite the WHO warning against using untested remedies.

The WHO said the new rules were aimed at helping and empowering scientists in Africa to conduct proper clinical trials. The move comes as the number of confirmed cases of coronavirus worldwide passes 30 million, with reported global deaths standing at more than 957,000. In Africa there have been more than 1.3 million cases and than 33,000 reported deaths.

Around 140 potential vaccines for Covid-19 are being developed around the world, with dozens already being tested on people in clinical trials. Alongside these efforts, the green light has now been given for phase three clinical trials using African traditional medicines.

A panel of experts, set up by the WHO, the Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention and the African Union Commission for Social Affairs, has agreed on the protocols. Phase three trials usually test the safety and efficacy of a drug on larger groups of participants.

"The adoption of the technical documents will ensure that universally acceptable clinical evidence of the efficacy of herbal medicines for the treatment of Covid-19 is generated without compromising the safety of participants," said Prof Motlalepula Gilbert Matsabisa, the panel's chairman. "The onset of Covid-19, like the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, has highlighted the need for strengthened health systems and accelerated research and development programmes, including on traditional medicines," the WHO's Dr Prosper Tumusiime said in the statement.

In April, Madagascar's President Andry Rajoelina launched Covid-Organics to great fanfare, saying it was a prevention and remedy. It had been tested on 20 people over a period of three weeks.

Mr Rajoelina stands by the herbal concoction, despite the Indian Ocean island having had 15,925 coronavirus infections and 216 Covid-19 deaths.

The drink, which has also been sent to dozens of African countries, is produced by the Malagasy Institute of Applied Research from the artemisia plant - the source of an ingredient used in a malaria treatment - and other Malagasy plants.

Dr Tumusiime said that via the WHO's African Vaccine Regulatory Forum, there was now a way for clinical trials of medicines in the region to be assessed and approved in fewer than 60 days. BBC



Covid-Organics was launched in Madagascar in April after being tested on fewer than 20 people over three weeks

Uganda's 'Ivory Tower' gutted in university fire

A fire has gutted an iconic building at Uganda's Makerere University, which is a prominent landmark in the capital. Known as the "Ivory Tower", an overnight blaze has left its distinctive white walls with blue-shuttered windows blackened.

Police in Kampala have started an investigation into the cause of the fire at one of

Africa's oldest and most prestigious universities.

The vice-chancellor described the destruction as unbelievable. "It is a very dark morning for Makerere University. Our iconic Main Administration Building caught fire and the destruction is unbelievable. But we are determined to restore the building to its historic state in the shortest time possible,"

Vice-Chancellor Barnabas Nawangwe tweeted. Fire officers fought the huge fire from around midnight, reports the BBC's Patience Atuhaire from Kampala. Though most of it had been put out by early on Sunday afternoon, some parts of the building were still smouldering and smoke could still be seen, our reporter says. Huge cracks can be seen on some of the outer walls, most of the roof has been burnt off and many of the windows are completely burnt out, she says. Initial reports indicate that the fire may have started from the roof, spreading to floors that house the finance and records department.

A historian of East Africa, Derek Peterson, says the fire is a disaster for Uganda and for East Africa. "The building holds student records, and the basement is full of archive files spanning the whole history of the institution," he tweeted, adding that he had been intending to help organise a project to catalogue the collection. Makerere was first




It is the thought the blaze started in the roof

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REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA)
MONTERRADO COUNTY)



IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW
MONTERRADO COUNTY SITTING IN ITS
JUNE TERM, A.D. 2020

BEFORE HIS HONOUR: J. KENNEDY PEABODY RESIDENT CIRCUIT JUDGE

IN RE: MR. ARTHUR SATURDAY GBORPLAY, BY AND
AND THRU HIS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT, WILSON
GBORPLAY OF THE CITY OF MONROVIA,
LIBERIA..... PLAINTIFF

VERSUS

MRS. VENUS M. GBORPLAY, ALSO OF THE
CITY OF MONROVIA, LIBERIA
..... DEFENDANT

ACTION OF DIVORCE FOR INCOMPATIBILITY
OF TEMPER

WRIT OF RE-SUMMONS

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, TO THE SHERIFF/DEPUTY SHERIFF OF MONTERRADO COUNTY,
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, GREETING:

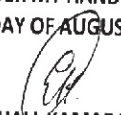
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMON THE ABOVE NAMED
RESPONDENT(S)/DEFENDANT(S) AS YOU WERE BEFORE COMMANDED TO SUMMON THE
ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT(S)/DEFENDANT(S), TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SIXTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT COURT, MONTERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, SITTING IN ITS JUNE TERM,
A.D. 2020, SAME BEING THE 15TH DAY OF JUNE, A. D. 2020, AT THE HOUR 10:00A.M.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED TO SUMMONS THE DEFENDANT(S) HEREIN TO FILE THEIR
RETURNS TO THE PETITIONER'S PETITION, ON OR BEFORE THE 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D.
2020, THAT UPON THEIR FAILURE TO APPEAR, JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE RENDERED
AGAINST THEM.

MEANWHILE, YOU WILL RETURN THE ORIGINAL WRIT OF SUMMONS TO MY OFFICE ON/OR
BEFORE THE 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D. 2020, WITH THE OFFICIAL RETURNS ENDORSED ON
THE BACK OF THE ORIGINAL AS TO THE MANNER OF ITS SERVICE.

COURT'S SEAL

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT
THIS 26TH DAY OF AUGUST, A.D. 2020.


ELLEN HALL KAMARA
CLERK OF COURT

established in 1922 as a technical school and has grown into a widely respected university. Its alumni include independence-era leaders such as Julius Nyerere of

Tanzania, renowned writers including Kenya's Ngugi wa Thiong'o, academics and clergy like John Sentamu, the recently retired Anglican archbishop of York. BBC

EDITORIAL

Replacing striking health workers is counter-productive

THE GOVERNMENT OF President George Weah has resorted to recruiting new health practitioners, including army personnel to replace striking health workers demanding hazard benefits and salary increment, which may not be the right approach to addressing challenges faced by citizens sacrificing in the poorly managed health sector.

IN A GOVERNMENT statement, Liberia's Information Minister Lenn Eugene Nagbe said the Ministry of Health has been instructed to solicit applications from "qualified health workers of various grades, including nurses, nurse aides, midwives and laboratory technicians" to replace aggrieved health workers.

WE LIKE TO state categorically that the path being taken by the government may not provide permanent solutions to mountains of challenges, ranging from poor work conditions, lack of supplies, delayed salaries and incentives, among others that professionals in the health sector continue to endure.

IN THE FIRST place, the current strike is not the first by health workers. In their previous protest, the government and aggrieved health workers dialogued and reached a common ground with the protesters returning to work. We wonder why this insensitivity posture by the state this time around.

THIS IRON-CLAD APPROACH comes at the time the country is still grappling with the deadly Corona virus, which has killed nearly a thousand people, most of them, doctors and nurses. They died, while trying to save lives without proper tools such as PPEs and other gadgets.

IN FACT, WE recalled vividly that the health workers downed tools between May and June this year and the Minister of Health Doctor Wilehmina Jallah intervened, which led to their return to work.

LET'S FACE IT. Health practitioners on the Continent earn very little unlike politicians and loyalists in government. Yet, they spend long hours on the job without benefit of holidays or breaks to spend quality time with family members.

MINISTER NAGBE TALKS about volunteers receiving first preference in the recruitment exercise. But would this improve the appalling conditions at the various hospitals and health facilities across the country? It would not be long before disillusion surface again, once conditions remain the same.

THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL go down in history as the first Liberian government to tell health workers seeking solutions to their plight to go to hell when ruling party candidates are ditching out millions on pre-campaign activities.

WHERE IS THE much-heralded ruling CDC slogan of "power to the people" or where is the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development? Are these mere rhetoric?

WE CALL ON the government to remain engaged with the protesting health workers until a common ground can be found instead of adapting a draconian posture that would soon boomerang.

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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

COMMENTARY

By Hippolyte Fofack
& Pat Utomi

Making the WTO Work for Africa

Three Africans are among the eight candidates to become the World Trade Organization's next director-general. But regardless of who eventually prevails, Africa must demand a level playing field from the WTO.

LAGOS - The contest to succeed Roberto Azevêdo as director-general of the World Trade Organization has entered a crucial new phase, with the first round of voting by WTO members set to end on September 16. Three of the eight contenders are African: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, a former Nigerian finance minister; Amina Mohamed, a Kenyan former chair of the WTO General Council; and Abdel-Hamid Mamdouh, a former Egyptian trade negotiator and WTO official.

Africans are hoping that one of these three highly competent candidates will emerge victorious when the winner is announced in November. But regardless of who eventually prevails - three of the eight candidates will be eliminated after the first round - Africa must demand a level playing field from the WTO.

Trade is vital for Africa's development and to generate enough good jobs to absorb the 17 million young people who enter the labor market every year. But, for too long, global trade regulations have left the continent holding the short end of the stick.

In the 25 years since the WTO succeeded the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the organization has mostly failed to work in the interest of development. Instead, the WTO has largely benefited its chief architects, namely, countries that had already industrialized or were otherwise in positions of strength.

The resulting global trade rules did not take the developing world's circumstances into account. Despite the huge trade volumes - and profits - generated by globalization, Africa's share of global trade since 1970 has fallen from 4.4% to 2.7%. This is partly because binding supply-side constraints have limited Africa's exports largely to natural resources and primary commodities. But unfair trade rules also have undermined Africa's foreign-trade growth in sectors where the region could benefit from comparative advantage.

For starters, persistent import barriers in developed economies - including tariff escalations and stringent standards for final goods - have limited Africa's ability to move up value chains.

Shifting rules are another obstacle to Africa's effective integration into the global economy. In particular, advanced economies do not allow developing countries to adopt the industrial policies that they themselves used to transform their production structures and diversify their exports. The University of Cambridge economist Ha-Joon Chang described this phenomenon as rich countries "kicking away the ladder" with which they had climbed to the top.

But perhaps the most serious indictment against the WTO system is the agricultural subsidies developed-country governments provide, at the expense of millions of Africa's poorest farmers. These subsidies not only depress world food prices, making it difficult for African producers to compete, but also lead to excess production being dumped in African markets, which wipes out local industries and thus threatens food

security.

The current global trade regime is the cause of African countries' structural balance-of-payments deficits and increasing external debt, as well as the main cause of inter-generational poverty and migration pressures. Encouraged by their thriving private sector, today's Africans are asking for fair trade, not aid.

A growing number of African entrepreneurs and industrialists are leading the continent's economic transformation, supported by regional financial institutions such as the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank). For example, Aliko Dangote, one of Africa's most successful industrialists and an Afreximbank Trade Champion, is now making his biggest bet yet by building a \$15 billion petrochemical complex near Lagos, Nigeria that will contain one of the world's largest oil refineries.

Moreover, African markets will be big enough to support large-scale industrialization once the African Continental Free Trade Area - the world's largest trading bloc in terms of the number of participating countries - starts operating on January 1, 2021. With its relatively cheap labor, Africa could become an investment mecca and, in time, a net exporter of industrial and manufactured goods as well as commodities.

The private sector is well aware of these opportunities. But a recent survey commissioned by the Pan-African Private Sector Trade and Investment Committee of over 200 African CEOs - including leaders of multibillion-dollar firms, start-ups, and other fast-growing businesses - revealed a clear consensus on the need to reform the WTO. And a majority of those who report that trade is an important growth driver for their business also stress that unfair trade practices severely constrain their companies' expansion.

Notwithstanding these problems, development-finance institutions are helping to power Africa's economic transformation. For example, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire produce more than half of the world's cocoa, but until recently accounted for less than 10% of the global processed cocoa market. The Afreximbank Africa Cocoa Initiative enabled both countries to capture a larger share of the value chain. Today, Côte d'Ivoire, the world's leading cocoa producer, is effectively competing with the Netherlands to be the world's top processor.

Africa is now a mature global player, with a private sector ready to drive development and take its rightful place alongside firms in more advanced economies. All we ask is that the WTO remove the artificial barriers and prejudicial hindrances that prevent Africans from unleashing their creative and productive energies.

A fairer, more equal, and more accessible global trade system must be at the top of the next director-general's reform agenda. A WTO that is fit for purpose will also allow governments of smaller developing countries to act on behalf of their private sectors without fear or favor. Africa will support Azevêdo's successor, provided that the WTO serves Africa in the same way it serves the rest of the world.

O-P-E-D

By Françoise Barré-sinoussi
& Adeeba Kamarulzaman

Fighting the COVID Infodemic

Countering the COVID-19 infodemic requires not only facts, but also the coordinated and strategic advocacy for which those fighting HIV are renowned. Now more than ever, scientists need to counter lies and myths, and defend the integrity and independence of their enterprise.

PARIS/KUALA LUMPUR - The emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus has not only led to the global COVID-19 pandemic, but also fueled an accompanying onslaught of misinformation. Some have promoted drugs such as hydroxychloroquine as cures for the disease, despite insufficient scientific evidence of their effectiveness; others have announced a COVID-19 vaccine before its safety and efficacy have been rigorously tested. Meanwhile, far-fetched pandemic conspiracy theories circulate widely on social media.

The World Health Organization defines an “infodemic” as “an overabundance of information - some accurate and some not - that makes it hard for people to find trustworthy sources and reliable guidance when they need it.” Today, the huge volume of misinformation regarding COVID-19 threatens to undermine evidence-based responses to the pandemic - and scientists must not stand idly by.

For example, the International AIDS Society (IAS) recently convened the first virtual International AIDS Conference and the first global abstract-driven conference on COVID-19. But the vital research presented at those meetings already risks being lost amid the deluge of content peddled by science deniers and conspiracy theorists who openly challenge established research methods. Less prominent, but equally pervasive and harmful, are the much subtler factual misrepresentations, propaganda, and hyperbole regarding COVID-19. The world therefore needs scientists to help separate facts from semi-facts.

As international HIV researchers, we know what is at stake. For four decades, we have experienced firsthand the deadly consequences of misinformation. We have faced off against AIDS denialists and anti-vaccine extremists, and confronted the stigma and myths that continue to prevent many of those most in need of lifesaving health care from accessing it.

Many of those taking loudly to the airwaves and plastering the Internet with false claims about COVID-19 - offering fake cures, downplaying the consequences, and ignoring those most affected by the virus - recall the tone of the AIDS epidemic's early days. Although the AIDS epidemic taught us that misinformation is lethal, it also showed us how powerful the medical and research communities can be when they band together, speak up, and demand attention and action to address a crisis.

Scientists, clinicians, and researchers are trained to be objective. But being objective does not mean being silent. Countering attacks on science requires researchers and front-line health-care providers to call out deniers' lack of evidence, manipulated data, and flat-out lies.

HIV researchers' greatest victories resulted not from scientific breakthroughs alone, but from forming a common front with policymakers and grass-roots activists. From the early days of the HIV response, activists pressured politicians to give scientists more resources to research the virus, and called for better access to treatment.

The global COVID-19 response is the latest proof that we are most resilient to health threats when scientists and politicians inform one another, and the public receives clear and transparent information. The countries that have fared best in dealing with the pandemic are those where these three constituencies have worked together effectively.

Ensuring such collaboration requires scientists - who this year have been pulled into the global spotlight and often attacked - to stand up for the integrity of science and forge stronger alliances with policymakers and activists. Scientific research may take time, and conclusions may change as new evidence is collected and analyzed, but policymakers must not play with people's health by circumventing the process for political gain.

We need to rally behind our colleagues to show the world that they are not alone in championing evidence-based policies and interventions to combat COVID-19. Being HIV researchers has made all of us activists by default. Now more than ever, our scientific colleagues need to play a similar advocacy role to counter lies and myths, and protect the integrity of science.

We therefore call on governments to protect the independence of national and multilateral scientific institutions. We also call on social media companies to contain, rather than facilitate, the spread of misinformation. These tech giants can no longer pretend to be mere platforms that bear no responsibility for the messages they amplify.

Similarly, we call on the news media to ensure that both coverage and headlines render scientific knowledge accurately. Reporting scientific findings selectively or out of context in order to promote particular narratives is profoundly unethical. And we call on legislators to adopt only evidence-based health-related laws and policies. Too many laws still criminalize disease instead of the stigma and discrimination that accompany it.

Countering the COVID-19 infodemic requires not only facts, but also the coordinated and strategic advocacy for which those fighting HIV are renowned. In the face of misinformation, silence kills. All segments of society must act now to dispel myths and amplify the voice of science. Our lives, and especially those of the poorest and most marginalized, depend on it.

This commentary is co-signed by Anton Pozniak, Professor of Clinical Research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, a consultant physician at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, former president of the International AIDS Society (2018-20); Linda-Gail Bekker, Professor of Medicine and Director of the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the University of Cape Town, former president of the International AIDS Society (2016-18); and Chris Beyrer, Professor of Public Health and Human Rights at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, former president of the International AIDS Society (2014-16).

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With Jones Mallay

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

LIBERIA POLITICAL

HOT-FIRE

Former First Lady Nancy Doe's Benefits Claims: Is It Constitutional or Legal?

Nancy Born Doe was the former first lady and wife of the late Samuel Kenyon Doe who was himself killed in cold blood by War Lord Prince Yormie Johnson. Mrs. Doe earned her title as the first lady when her later husband Doe became a Military junta leader of the notoriously know “People Redemption Council, PRC” that toppled a 123-years political hegemony of the True Whig Party and killed 17-government officials in cold blood. Nancy's title was also validated when former president Doe was elected President, the Republic of Liberia under a would-be cloudy political maneuvering exercise that yielded unprecedented political outcries.

The late Doe presided over one of the most brutal and turbulence political systems after critics concluded that he rubbed the presidency and became a very oppressive and fearful ruler in many ways from the perspective of many critically unassuming minds. How the late Doe took over the affairs may have directly or indirectly fueled the 1980 brutal genocide. Moreover, Doe also acquired stolen properties from the so-called “Americo-Liberian” he killed and legitimized those properties ASAP.

An unimpeachable source directly familiar with these scenarios revealed that the late Doe accumulated huge stolen properties ranging from 15,500 acres of land in Bentol City; 49 duplexes, 16 giant businesses/stores; 63 independent gold mines, and 5mecanize farmland in Grand Geddeh, and Tuozon Doe's birthplace. The late Doe assumed the nation's highest position the presidency without disclosing his assets because political pundits believe Doe was a very poor rate that came to political prominence.

It was however obvious that none of the 17-PRC members were rich or had properties before their ascendancy to political power, but instead, they acquired properties illegally and transformed under their titles around Liberia. The sources also disclosed that Nancy Doe was on taxpayer payroll and was given a budget ranging between 800000 to 1.5 million US dollars as a first lady every budget year when Doe was in power both as military junta leader and President of Liberia.

These unaccounted and unverifiable taxpayer monies were spent by Nancy Doe as she saw it fate. Being the first lady is not an electable position, it was a position hidden under the shadows of the late Doe who was then President OF Liberia. But the questions that arose are as follows: “Was the First Lady Position” a fully constitutional title backed by taxpayer funding? From research, the answer is no. A first lady position is not a constitutional position for which it should deserve the attention of taxpayer funding to service said office from time to time. Nancy Doe claimed that she is entitled to benefits as a former first lady or benefits from for her late husband which is becoming much more acrimonious in most Liberian circles.

30-years after the brutal killing of the late Doe, Nancy Doe, the former first lady is strongly laying claim on serious financial benefits which has continued to generate an endless argument. With regards to Nancy's position to claim her late husband benefits, there are other questions. Did Doe die in the office? Was he killed in the office?

These questions are sensitive and private oriented. Political scholars shared their thoughts with Political Hot-Fire that as long as Doe was killed, is the same as being overthrown or force out of the office and losing everything. He emphatically forfeits all his presidential benefits as compared to whether he died in office due to illness or it was through other natural causes. The death of the late Doe has a lot to do with Nancy Doe's claim for herself and or for her husband. Critics believed that Nancy Doe claimed to benefits is unconstitutional but legal. There is no constitutional provision to state that the taxpayers are obligated to the former first lady in goods, cash, or services.

A president can only be pensioned when he honorably ended his tenure according to the constitution of the land and demands all his benefits. But this was not the same with Doe. He didn't end his tenure. He was killed outside his official office as president of Liberia. He has killed another warlord fighting another warlord and he was overpowered and subsequently killed so he doesn't desire any benefits directly or indirectly as another faction in the Liberian civil war and not has a president of Liberia.

What affected Doe affects Nancy Doe. Her late husband doesn't desire any pension constitutionally according to his role as another faction leader in the war and how he died as a captured faction leader. Doe wasn't captured in the executive mansion and killed like Tolbert. Doe fought back as another faction indirectly. The government of Liberia will need to take Nancy Doe to the task to pay back taxpayer monies she used during her husband's regime since he did not die in office but was captured fighting back as another faction in the civil war.






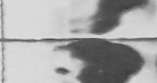





Candidate Petition of Candidate John Akel Ballout of Maryland County

1.	NAME	AGE	SEX	ADDRESS	PHONE#	VOTER ID#	SIGNATURE	DATE	PHOTO
	MANSON BEATRICE	26	F	MARYLAND		766463397		9/16/2020	
	RUSSELL AGATHA	31	F	MARYLAND		724158207		9/16/2020	
	DAVID RUTHS	21	F	MARYLAND		724801057	DAVID R	9/16/2020	
	BROWNELL ALOYSOUS	19	M	MARYLAND		731375797	B.A	9/16/2020	
	CHEA PRINCE P	18	M	MARYLAND		739831637		9/16/2020	
	WREH PATRICK	19	M	MARYLAND		731324147		9/16/2020	
	TOGBA OLIVER	19	M	MARYLAND		802513332	T.O	9/16/2020	
	HARRIS NYEMA D.	21	M	MARYLAND		724153997	H.N	9/16/2020	
	NYEMAH GETRUDE	19	F	MARYLAND		766380257		9/16/2020	
	DIDIO VIOLA	18	F	MARYLAND		766464157		9/16/2020	







21	ALLISON THERESA	F	22	MARYLAND		726255877	Alison	9/16/2020	
22	WERH SUSANNAH	F	24	MARYLAND		726256267	W.S	9/16/2020	
23	WLEH MATHEN	M	32	MARYLAND		726255987		9/16/2020	
24	HOWE SUSANNA	F	34	MARYLAND		723872327		9/16/2020	
25	HOWE ROMEO N.	M	21	MARYLAND		723829717	R.H	9/16/2020	
26	HARE HNEANYLEN	F	40	MARYLAND		726255127	L.H	9/16/2020	
27	HARE DANBIWEDE	F	46	MARYLAND		723829267		9/16/2020	
28	MERRIAM MARY	F	40	MARYLAND		726255197		9/16/2020	
29	CLARK CECELIA	F	50	MARYLAND		723829277		9/16/2020	
30	APLETON CCELIA	F	56	MARYLAND		723775197		9/16/2020	

42	DANDY TAMBA	M	27	MARYLAND		766496917	D Tamba	9/16/2020	
43	YOUNG TELECA	F	20	MARYLAND		732294577		9/16/2020	
44	HARRIS MANDLE M.	F	19	MARYLAND		802513180	H.M	9/16/2020	
45	HARRIS TELECA	F	25	MARYLAND		735576277	F.H	9/16/2020	
46	WORTH JOHN	M	26	MARYLAND		731378567	John Worth	9/16/2020	
47	JONES NYEMAH	M	26	MARYLAND		724136077	Jones	9/16/2020	
48	BRYAN MATHALINE	F	21	MARYLAND		724126107		9/16/2020	
49	HARRIS BEATRICE	F	55	MARYLAND		724126467		9/16/2020	
50	TOE ANNIE	F	20	MARYLAND		73137967	TOE A	9/16/2020	
51	SIEBO BENELL	M	23	MARYLAND		732122917		9/16/2020	
52	JEP, THEOBOSIA	F	29	MARYLAND		739964387	T.S	9/16/2020	

Candidate Petition of Candidate John Akel Ballout of Maryland County

64	BARLEY VICTORY	F	20	MARYLAND	731837497	B.V	9/16/2020	
65		M	62	MARYLAND	726247687		9/16/2020	
66	MADDAH BELL	M	47	MARYLAND	724126027	B.M	9/16/2020	
67	KLOMAY LUCY	F	19	MARYLAND	746491817	L.W	9/16/2020	
68	COLLINS JOSEPH	M	41	MARYLAND	731378777	C.J	9/16/2020	
69	WILSON MLETEBATOR	F	70	MARYLAND	731378047	W.M	9/16/2020	
70	WOMAT BIONTAMFOE	F	77	MARYLAND	724126097	W.M	9/16/2020	
71	WILSON LUCY	F	28	MARYLAND	731379287	Wilson	9/16/2020	
72	WILSON ESTHER	F	20	MARYLAND	724126217	E.W	9/16/2020	
73	WOMAT YUNAHOR	F	42	MARYLAND	74648517	Y.W	9/16/2020	
74	WILSON DISHEEMA	M	59	MARYLAND	724126177	D.W	9/16/2020	

84	WILLIAMS CECELIA	F	27	MARYLAND	724110397	C.W	9/16/2020	
85	WILLIAMS MONDARI	M	33	MARYLAND	703846897	M.W	9/16/2020	
86	WALKER DARLINGTON	M	18	MARYLAND	801901121	W.D	9/16/2020	
87	WALKER AGNES	F	48	MARYLAND	732286637	W.A	9/16/2020	
89	WALKER ISAAC N.	M	68	MARYLAND	70283827	W.I.Saac	9/16/2020	
90	WILLIAMS JULIAN	M	30	MARYLAND	730086877	JULIAN Williams	9/16/2020	
91	WAK PRECELIA	F	21	MARYLAND	732287277	W.R	9/16/2020	

127	DAVIES, OTIS	M	19	MARYLAND	O.Davis	723918787	9/16/2020	
128	ELLIOTT MAYBEL	F	18	MARYLAND	E.M	766266547	9/16/2020	
129	HOWE SIEH	M	45	MARYLAND		731301817	9/16/2020	
130	TOE ESTHER	F	50	MARYLAND		723913527	9/16/2020	
131	HOWARD FELICIA	F	29	MARYLAND		731301287	9/16/2020	
132	HOWE DRETHA	F	47	MARYLAND		731302047	9/16/2020	
133	WALLACE SUSANNA	F	26	MARYLAND	S.W	732120617	9/16/2020	

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Bong Health Team denies receiving US\$50K to open clinic

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County

Jonah Nulee Tokpah, the Administrator of the Bong County Health Team has denied receiving US\$50,000 from Bong County Electoral District #4 Representative Robert Flomo Womba to open the Yowee Clinic.

In a recent meeting with citizens of Yowee, Representative Womba is

opening of the Yowee clinic are being buttressed by Bong County Senator Henry Willie Yallah.

According to Mr. Togbah, the renovation works are at 80% completion and all is set for the opening of the clinic. When contacted, Rep. Womba confirmed his statement, but said he lobbied with his colleagues to place US\$50,000 in the budget for the Yowee clinic, not the Bong County Health Team.

According to him, he has always worked to ensure that his citizens have access to the kind of quality health facility they deserve and he has never played politics with health matters as alleged by Mr. Tokpa.

Meanwhile, several citizens of Bong County District #4 have frowned at the Bong County Health Team Administrator for using the Yowee clinic to seek political glory for Senator Yallah.

They say Mr. Tokpah has always discredited the works of Rep. Womba because he is supporting the Senatorial bid of Yallah.

“He is saying that Hon. Womba is playing politics with health but I think he is the one doing so because he wants the district people to vote for his choice,” one of the residents, Phillip Dumoe told journalists.

He said Mr. Tokpah should not think that his strategy to support Yallah against Womba will work, adding that Mr. Tokpa needs to stay in his health sector and allow the lawmakers to play their politics.—*Edited by Winston*

Womba in the 2023 elections, termed the statement as unfounded and it's only intended to derail his hard-earned character.

He has challenged Rep. Womba to provide prove for such allegation, warning the lawmaker to stop playing politics with the lives of the ordinary citizens who stood in the sun and rains to vote him.

However, some critics think

alleged to have said that he gave US\$50,000 to Mr. Jonah Togbah for the opening of the Yowee clinic, but the Health Team has denied the allegation to the strongest term.

Appearing on a local radio station last week, Mr. Togbah who aspires to contesting against Representative

Mr. Togbah's statement against Rep. Womba is meant to seek glory.

After more than 12 years of controversies, the Yowee clinic was due to be opened to the public over the weekend when the politics started playing in the county.

Mr. Togbah said all efforts that are being made for the



Civil Law Court rules in NPP case

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

The Civil Law Court at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia has ruled in the case involving the National Patriotic Party's national chairman James P. Biney, Andrew Peters versus Vice President and Standard Bearer, Madam Jewel Howard Taylor for dedicatory judgment.

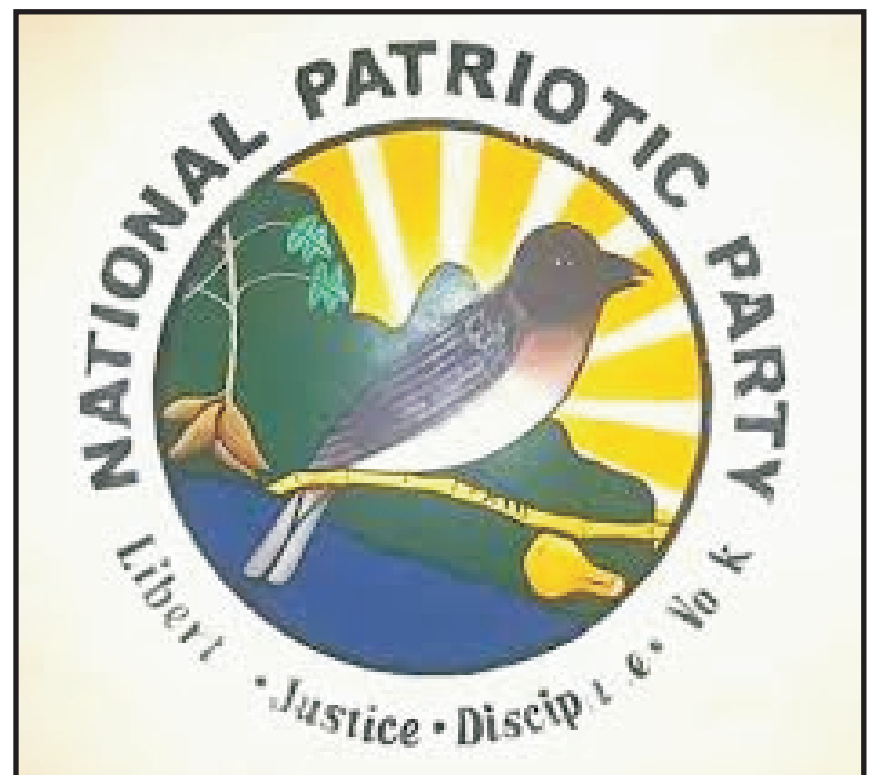
The ruling which was handed down on Friday, indicates that the Secretary General and National Chairman are the sole administrators of the party and have the right to send out citations, convene and presides over all meetings of the NPP, respectively.

The ruling also upholds the 2004 constitution and four amendments done at the 2016 Bomi Convention as sole legal

On June 19, this year, through a writ of summons, the Civil Law Court mandated, its sheriff to summon Madam Taylor and all those acting under her authority to appear before the court to meet on the third Monday in June to answer the petition.

At one point of the internal crisis within the NPP, Mr. Biney was still battling his expulsion from the party when he and his loyalists retaliated by expelling Madam Taylor as party standard bearer, a decision she challenged.

However, some NPP partisans have called on both Mr. Biney and Vice President Taylor to put aside their differences and unite the party. But the party still has issues before the Civil Law Court where the court has indicated through the writ of



instruments of the party.

The Civil Law court also highlights that all decisions derived during the June 12, 2020 meeting at Corona Hotel are deemed irreversible and that decisions reached by the Jewel's faction at the NPP headquarters are hereby denied and dismissed.

The ruling details that standard bearer, Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor is the party's chief administrative agent in government and has nothing to do with the Party administration and management, and that second Saturday in December 2020 is the legitimate date for convention, so chairman James P. Biney and others remain the legitimate leadership of the party.

summons that it could render a judgment if Mrs. Taylor and those under her authority do not appear.

In another development, the Board of Commissioners, of the National Elections Commission (NEC) has denied a motion to dismiss appeal from the Movant, Senator H. Dan Morais of Maryland County against the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change, CDC.

The action grown out of the case Coalition for Democratic Change, CDC, represented by its Chairman, Mulbah Morlu and other executive officers all of the City of Monrovia, as Appellant versus Senator H. Dan Morais from Maryland County as Appellee.

On 31 August 2020, the BOC rendered ruling in this case,

Agriculture boss projects 3-year plan

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Liberia's Agriculture Minister, Jeanie Milly Cooper has projected a three-year agriculture program for the country.

Appearing for budget hearing before the Liberian Legislature Joint Committees on Ways, Means, Finance and Budget over the weekend Minister Cooper disclosed she has developed three years strategic plan for the ministry, adding that the plans include validating six mobilizing programs for second stage implementation, updating the ministry's programs to meet current realities, operationalizing the sector's approved acts, including seeds, food safety, fertilizer and validating the national rice development strategy,

respectively.

Speaking of challenges, she said the Ministry of Agriculture experiences weak private sector participation, weak technical and extension advisory services delivery, inadequate technicians, logistical support, limited infrastructure roads, and lack of post-harvest processing facilities.

She said current extension officer-farmers ratio stands at 1 to 35,000, lamenting that inadequate budgetary support hinders the ministry's ability to implement planned agricultural activities, including restriction of technical staff to provide needed technical and extension advisory services to clients due to the COVID-19 pandemic and poor ministry-vendors relationship.

She narrated that the

ministry's inability to liquidate vendors' obligations for goods and services remains a serious challenge.

Highlighting her major priorities, Madam Cooper pointed to public-private partnership to introduce innovative agricultural financing initiatives, as a way to addressing insolvency in the agricultural sector and low liquidity in the banking sector that should be addressed by direct infusion of cash through agri-business investment incorporates risk-sharing schemes and rural and Small Medium Enterprise (SME) financing models.

She said the ministry, under her leadership seeks to boost local production of staple crops -rice, cassava, edible oils, beans, vegetables - to mitigate imminent slow-

Français

Côte d'Ivoire : Une marche pacifiquement pour que M. Ouattara renonce au troisième mandat

Innocent Yao, président de la Jpdc rurale, dans cette interview, appelle le président Ouattara à se retirer de la course à l'élection présidentielle. Dans le cas contraire, il sera responsable des troubles. Le président de la Jpdc, par ailleurs, demande aux militants du Pdc de rester à l'écoute des mots d'ordre.

Le président Henri Konan Bédié, candidat à l'élection présidentielle de 2020 après la publication de la liste des candidats par le Conseil Constitutionnel, a décidé de rester solidaire à toute l'opposition pour des élections crédibles et inclusives. Quels commentaires faites-vous de cette volonté du président du Pdc-Rda ?

Il n'y a pas de commentaires à faire. C'est ce que le président Henri Konan Bédié a toujours fait. Pour l'intérêt de la Côte d'Ivoire, le président du Pdc-Rda s'est toujours ouvert aux autres afin de sauver la mère patrie. A Yamoussoukro, vous avez vu la mobilisation de tous les Ivoiriens, de toute

l'opposition. Le président Henri Konan Bédié a toujours privilégié l'union et la solidarité. Aujourd'hui, il s'agit de la Côte d'Ivoire qu'il faut sauver. Et Dieu lui a donné cette force pour rassembler les Ivoiriens pour que nous puissions aller à ces élections et les gagner pour le bonheur du peuple de Côte d'Ivoire. Le président a été clair. Il veut gagner ces élections pour l'ensemble des Ivoiriens. Il veut

réconcilier les Ivoiriens, panser toutes les blessures des nombreuses années de crise et remettre la Côte d'Ivoire sur les rails du développement.

Est-ce que le président Henri Konan Bédié a-t-il été compris ?

De part et d'autre, ce sont des déclarations en faveur de l'unité de toute l'opposition.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Macky Sall et le troisième mandat : Soro vend la mèche

Alors que les Sénégalais ne sont jusque-là pas édifiés sur la position du Président Macky Sall quant à une éventualité de briguer un troisième mandat présidentiel, voilà que l'ancien président de l'Assemblée nationale ivoirienne, Guillaume Soro, met un coup de projecteur sur la posture du dirigeant sénégalais.

C'est au cours d'un point de presse tenu, ce jeudi 17 septembre 2020, à Paris, pour revenir sur la situation en

Côte d'Ivoire, notamment le rejet de sa candidature par le président de la Cour constitutionnelle ivoirienne, que Guillaume Soro a fait fuiter la position du Président du Sénégal, Macky Sall, sur le troisième mandat. Au cours de son exposé des faits, l'ancien patron du perchoir ivoirien a dit toute sa gratitude au Président français, Emmanuel Macron, qui a « tenu un langage de vérité au Président Alassane Ouattara au nom de l'attachement de la France à la

démocratie et aux droits de l'Homme »

L'ex-chef rebelle a également remercié les Présidents nigérian, nigérien, sénégalais et Bissau-guinéen. « Je dis toutes mes admirations à M. Muhammadu Buhari, président de la République fédérale du Nigeria, M. Mahamadou Issoufou, président de la République du Niger, ancien Président de la CEDEAO, aux Présidents Macky Sall du Sénégal, Umaro Sissoco Embaló de la Guinée-Bissau, pour leur posture sans équivoque contre les troisièmes mandats ». Guillaume Soro édifie l'opinion africaine et internationale sur la position jusque-là inconnue d'un des chefs d'Etat qu'il a cités. En effet, si la position du Nigérian Buhari, de son homologue nigérien Issoufou ainsi que du nouveau Président bissau-guinéen - auteur de la formule : « Les troisièmes mandats sont aussi des coups d'Etat » jetée à la figure de ses homologues lors de la visioconférence de la CEDEAO.



Éditorial

Ndubuisi Nwabudike à la tête de la lutte contre la corruption, quelle ironie !

Le fait qu'un individu comme Ndubuisi Nwabudike dont la nationalité est douteuse dirige la lutte contre la corruption au Libéria n'est pas que paradoxal, il s'agit au fait une moquerie à part entière. Il est tout aussi honteux qu'une institution d'intégrité vitale telle que la Commission anti-corruption du Libéria (LACC) dont la mission est de moraliser la vie publique et qui, selon la loi, doit être dirigée par un citoyen libérien, soit confiée à un individu dont ignore la nationalité.

Face à cette violation flagrante de la loi libérienne, le président George Manneh Weah finance le douteux Ndubuisi Nwabudike pour organiser et présider une soi-disant conférence anti-corruption alors que l'individu lui-même est un symbole de la malhonnêteté et de l'incohérence.

La conférence anticorruption qui s'est tenue au complexe ministériel de Congo Town n'est rien d'autre qu'un gaspillage total de l'argent des contribuables. C'est aussi la preuve que l'administration Weah manque de volonté politique de restaurer la transparence et la reddition des compte dans le secteur public.

Le fait que le libérien autoproclamé d'origine Nigériane n'ait manifestement pas réussi à prouver sa prétendue naturalisation qui ferait de lui un citoyen libérien lors de la confirmation du Sénat devrait suffire pour qu'il soit radié du gouvernement.

Comment dans ce monde une personne comme Nwabudike qui détient des passeports différents peut prétendre convaincre les Libériens qu'il est capable de lutter contre la corruption.

N'est-ce pas pour cette raison que l'Association nationale du barreau du Libéria l'a expulsé ? De toute évidence, il est devenu membre de cette Association sur du faux.

Pourtant, il se trouve actuellement à la tête de la LACC, sans aucun remords, prenant le peuple du Libéria pour des imbéciles avec la bénédiction du président Weah. Maintenant, tout le monde devrait comprendre pourquoi la soi-disant conférence anti-corruption et ses résultats sont un gadget complet.

Premièrement, l'administration Weah n'a pas l'intention de lutter contre la corruption car il a lui-même acquis sa richesse de manière douteuse, comme la plupart de ses proches, dès son accession au pouvoir. C'est un président qui confond les fonds publics et son propre argent.

D'ailleurs, vu que le tribunal ne poursuit pas le directeur des passeports suspendu, Andrew Wonplo, même après son inculpation, l'on peut clairement conclure sans risque de se tromper un manque criard de volonté politique de la part de ce régime.

Il a fallu que le gouvernement Américain l'interdise de séjourner aux États-Unis pour « corruption importante » avant que le gouvernement libérien prenne le courage de feigner une poursuite.

Ainsi, avec le président George Weah au pouvoir, Nwabudike a toute la latitude d'exercer son métier, c'est-à-dire le mensonge et la supercherie, tout en se faisant passer pour un citoyen libérien.



Français

Côte d'Ivoire : Une marche pacifiquement

Et pour nous, cette unité faite autour du président Henri Konan Bédié permettra de sauver la mère patrie.

Est-ce que c'est au nom de cette union que le Pdc-Rda n'a pas encore prêté serment au niveau de la Commission électorale indépendante (CeI) ? Sur la question de la CeI, il n'y a pas de débat. Le pouvoir Rhdp n'a pas exécuté les exigences de l'arrêt de la Cour africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples. Face à cette situation, le Pdc-Rda a produit un communiqué pour informer la CeI qu'il ne participera pas à l'opération de renouvellement des membres des CeI locales. Notre représentant à la CeI centrale, qui devrait prêter serment, ne l'a pas fait. Le Pdc-Rda attend l'application des résolutions de la Cour africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples afin que toute l'opposition puisse intégrer la CeI Centrale et par la suite les CeI locales pour finalement arriver à une CeI transparente capable d'organiser des élections sans palabre.

Face à ce blocage, que devient de la CeI ?

La CeI est une institution par la volonté de tous les Ivoiriens. Nous la reconnaissons. Mais les animateurs ne font pas preuve de bonne foi pour nous donner une institution crédible. Aujourd'hui, notre volonté, c'est d'aller aux élections mais pas à n'importe quel prix. De la crédibilité de la CeI va dépendre la volonté de l'opposition à aller à ces élections. Toutes ces questions ont été abordées par le président Soro Guillaume. Êtes-vous d'accord avec lui qu'il ne faut pas aller à ces élections tant que le président Ouattara est dans la course ? Tout le monde est unanime que nous devons nous mettre ensemble pour aller à ces élections. Le président Affi a demandé à ses partisans de ne pas intégrer la CeI tant que les questions qui posent problèmes ne sont pas réglées. Les questions soulevées par le président Soro sont celles que nous posons également. La position du Pdc-Rda n'a pas changé, celle de la Jpdc n'a pas également changé, la position des Ivoiriens n'a pas changé non plus. Tant que M. Ouattara est candidat, il nous sera difficile d'avoir des élections. S'il y a quelqu'un qui doit se retirer de ces élections, c'est bien M. Ouattara à qui la Constitution

interdit d'être candidat pour une 3e fois consécutive. C'est de cela qu'il s'agit. Les arguments avancés par le président du Conseil Constitutionnel sont une insulte à tous ceux qui pratiquent le droit. Koné Mamadou n'a pas produit d'arguments juridiques pour valider la candidature de M. Ouattara. Face donc à cette situation, nous devons nous mobiliser, mener la bataille de façon pacifique jusqu'à ce que M. Ouattara se retire parce que la Constitution de la République de Côte d'Ivoire interdit M. Ouattara d'être candidat. Si on accepte que M. Ouattara viole la Constitution, ce n'est pas la peine d'aller aux élections. Quelqu'un qui décide de violer notre loi suprême, ce ne sont pas les élections crédibles qu'il va garantir. C'est le moment de nous unir. Et Soro Guillaume a raison d'appeler l'opposition à l'union pour mener et gagner cette bataille.

Dans les rangs des jeunes, il y a l'un d'entre vous, votre aîné qui rame à contre-courant, nous voulons parler de Kkb. Que reprenez-vous de lui ?

Kkb n'est pas notre cible. Notre cible, c'est M. Ouattara qui viole la Constitution. En réalité, Kkb ne représente rien. Il a été président de la Jpdc mais le Pdc-Rda, c'est une organisation, c'est un esprit. Nous ne connaissons pas le rôle dans lequel Kkb est. Il a produit un communiqué pour dire merci aux secrétaires généraux de sections, aux femmes et autres. Quand on sort d'un parti politique, on sort pour de bon. Le Rhdp a voulu jouer avec le Pdc-Rda en créant Pdc-Renaissance. Mais ça n'a rien donné. Aujourd'hui, les acteurs sont où ? Ils sont l'ombre d'eux-mêmes. Comment voyez-vous l'avenir de la Côte d'Ivoire ?

Si les Ivoiriens doivent retrouver la paix, ce sera par la volonté de M. Ouattara. Voilà quelqu'un qui veut être candidat au mépris de notre Constitution. Les Ivoiriens manifestent et on les tue. La Côte d'Ivoire était calme et tranquille quand Amadou Gon Coulibaly a été désigné comme candidat du Rhdp. Parce que les lois de la Côte d'Ivoire lui permettaient d'être candidat. Si le Rhdp avait choisi un candidat autre que M. Ouattara, la Côte d'Ivoire n'allait pas connaître ces troubles. La paix en Côte d'Ivoire dépendra du comportement de M. Ouattara. La Côte d'Ivoire retrouvera la paix quand M. Ouattara se retirera de la course. Mais tant que M. Ouattara sera candidat, nous serons prêts à continuer le combat de la libération de la Côte d'Ivoire.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Hippolyte Fofack
& Pat Utomi

Pour que l'OMC œuvre aussi en faveur de l'Afrique

LAGOS - La compétition pour la succession de Roberto Azevêdo à la direction générale de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce est entrée dans une nouvelle phase, avec la fin du premier tour de scrutin des membres de l'OMC le 16 septembre. Trois des huit candidats sont africains : Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, ancienne ministre des Finances du Nigeria ; Amina Mohamed, kényane et ancienne présidente du conseil général de l'OMC ; enfin Abdel Hamid Mamdouh, ancien négociateur égyptien pour les questions commerciales et ancien haut responsable de l'organisation.

Les Africains espèrent que l'un de ces candidats, aux compétences indiscutables, sortira victorieux lorsqu'en novembre le nom du gagnant sera rendu public. Mais indépendamment de celui ou de celle qui l'emportera - trois des huit candidats vont être éliminés à l'issue de ce premier tour -, l'Afrique doit exiger de faire jeu égal à l'OMC.

Le commerce est vital au développement de l'Afrique et pour créer suffisamment de bons emplois afin d'absorber les 17 millions de jeunes qui s'y présentent chaque année sur le marché du travail. Mais depuis trop longtemps les réglementations du commerce mondial font du continent le parent pauvre des échanges.

Voici vingt-cinq années que l'OMC a succédé à l'Accord général sur les tarifs douaniers et le commerce (Agéfac), et jusqu'à présent, l'organisation n'est pas parvenue, dans la plupart des cas, à œuvrer en faveur du développement. Bien au contraire : l'OMC a principalement bénéficié à ses concepteurs, à savoir les pays déjà industrialisés ou qui étaient sinon en position de force.

Les règles commerciales mondiales qui en ont résulté n'ont pas pris en compte la situation du monde en développement. Malgré les énormes volumes d'échanges - et les bénéfices correspondants - engendrés par la mondialisation, la part de l'Afrique dans le commerce mondial est tombée depuis 1970 de 4,4 % à 2,7 %. C'est en partie parce que les contraintes obligatoires pesant sur l'offre ont largement limité les exportations africaines aux ressources naturelles et aux matières premières. Mais des règles commerciales inéquitables ont aussi sapé la croissance du commerce extérieur de l'Afrique dans des secteurs où la région pouvait bénéficier d'un avantage comparatif.

Pour commencer, les barrières douanières persistantes des économies développées - du fait, notamment, de l'escalade des droits de douane et de la rigueur des normes applicables aux biens finaux - limitent les capacités de l'Afrique à gravir les chaînes de valeur.

L'évolution des règles constitue un obstacle supplémentaire à l'intégration efficace de l'Afrique dans l'économie mondiale. Car les économies avancées ne permettent pas aux pays en développement d'adopter les politiques industrielles qui furent pourtant les leurs lorsqu'elles transformèrent leurs structures de production et diversifièrent leurs exportations. Pour l'économiste Ha-Joon Chang, de l'université de Cambridge, c'est comme si les pays riches « enlevaient l'échelle » sur laquelle ils ont eux-mêmes grimpé aux pays pauvres.

Mais peut-être le chef d'accusation le plus grave contre le système de l'OMC concerne-t-il les aides agricoles fournies par les États des pays développés, aux dépens de millions de fermiers africains. Non seulement ces aides dépriment les prix alimentaires mondiaux, entravant la concurrence des producteurs africains, mais elles conduisent à des excédents qui sont déversés sur les marchés africains, ce qui élimine les industries locales et par conséquent met en péril la sécurité alimentaire.

Le régime actuel des échanges mondiaux est la cause des déficits structurels de la balance des paiements des pays africains et de la hausse de leur dette extérieure ; on peut aussi lui imputer la pauvreté intergénérationnelle et les pressions migratoires. Encouragés par leur secteur privé en plein développement, c'est un commerce équitable et non de l'aide que demandent les Africains.

Un nombre croissant d'entrepreneurs et d'industriels africains conduisent la transformation économique du continent, soutenue par les institutions financières régionales comme la Banque africaine d'import-export (Afreximbank). Ainsi Aliko Dangote, industriel africain qui a connu une réussite spectaculaire, vient-il de lancer son pari le plus ambitieux : la construction, près de Lagos, au Nigeria, d'un complexe pétrochimique de 15 milliards de dollars, qui comprendra l'une des plus importantes raffineries pétrolières du monde.

En outre, les marchés africains seront de taille suffisante pour soutenir une industrialisation massive lorsque la zone de libre-échange continentale africaine - le premier bloc commercial mondial pour ce qui concerne le nombre de pays membres - commencera à fonctionner, le 1er janvier 2021. Avec une main-d'œuvre relativement bon marché, l'Afrique pourrait devenir la grande destination des investisseurs et, le temps venu, un exportateur net de biens industriels et manufacturés aussi bien que de matières premières.

Le secteur privé est parfaitement conscient de ces opportunités. Mais une enquête récente, réalisée par le Comité panafricain du commerce et de l'investissement du secteur privé auprès de 200 chefs d'entreprise africains - dont des dirigeants de sociétés qui valent des milliards de dollars, mais aussi de start-up et d'autres entreprises à croissance rapide - laisse apparaître un large consensus quant à la nécessité de réformer l'OMC. Et parmi ceux qui déclarent que le commerce est un facteur de croissance important de leur activité, une majorité rappelle aussi que des pratiques commerciales inéquitables restreignent considérablement l'expansion de leur société.

Malgré ces problèmes, les institutions financières de développement contribuent à nourrir la transformation économique de l'Afrique. Ainsi le Ghana et la Côte d'Ivoire produisent-ils plus de la moitié du cacao mondial, mais jusqu'à une époque très récente ne représentaient qu'à peine 10 % du marché mondial du produit transformé. L'initiative Africa Cocoa de l'Afreximbank a permis aux deux pays de capter une plus grande part de la chaîne de valeur. Aujourd'hui, la Côte d'Ivoire, premier producteur mondial de cacao, rivalise activement avec les Pays-Bas pour en devenir le premier transformateur mondial - soit le premier producteur de chocolat.

L'Afrique est désormais une actrice majeure sur la scène mondiale, avec un secteur privé prêt à conduire le développement et à occuper la place qui lui revient aux côtés des entreprises des économies plus avancées. Tout ce que nous demandons, c'est que l'OMC lève les barrières artificielles et les obstacles préjudiciables qui empêchent les Africains de donner libre cours à toute leur énergie créatrice et productive.

La construction d'un système mondial des échanges plus équitable, plus égalitaire et plus accessible doit être la première des priorités sur l'agenda des réformes de la future directrice générale ou du futur directeur général. Une OMC apte à jouer son rôle permettra aussi aux gouvernements des petits pays en développement d'agir en faveur de leur secteur privé sans crainte ni suspicion de népotisme. L'Afrique soutiendra le successeur ou la successeuse d'Azevêdo pourvu que l'OMC serve l'Afrique comme elle sert le reste du monde.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Justice Ministry seeks amendment in criminal law

Justice Minister Frank M. Dean said amending the Criminal Procedure Law of Liberia will further strengthen the criminal justice system of the country. The Attorney-General said the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) engaged the United Nations

Friday at a one-day consultative meeting which brought together participants from the UNDP and other UN agencies, officials of government and representatives of civil society held at a local hotel in Sinkor.

He indicated that the Ministry of Justice, knowing the significance of improving the

amending the quarterly Circuit Courts' term to a bi-annual term, provision of authority and arrest, appointment of additional Relieving judges for Circuit Courts and provision for a standard on preliminary examination in cases above the trial jurisdiction of magistrates and justices of the peace.

Minister Dean stressed that the Ministry of Justice considers the amendment of these chapters of the Criminal Procedure Law as a milestone, adding that amending these chapters in the Criminal Procedure Law will address challenges of prolonged pre-trial detection and dockets over crowdedness.

He expressed appreciation to the Rule of Law joint program supported by UNDP and OHCHR and the Government of Sweden through its embassy here in achieving this process.

"We can assure you of our commitments to engage the Legislature to amend these chapters of the Criminal Procedure Law after your inputs", Minister Dean added. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Development Programme (UNDP) in 2018 to support amendment of Chapter 16, sub-section 16.4, Chapter 3, Section 3.8 and Chapter 10 Section 10.2, 10.4 and 10.6, respectively of the Criminal Procedure Law.

He made the disclosure

Criminal Justice System decided to include the amendment of Chapter 12 Section 12.1 and 12.2 and Section 3.6 of the New Judiciary Law.

He pointed out that these chapters to be amended will provide for plea bargaining,

Weah warned

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innocent lives; destroyed the social and economic fabrics of Liberia and displaced prominent Liberians around the world.

Dr. Whapoe reminds President Weah that slain President Samuel K. Doe's silence on Liberians' outcry against tribal segregation, nepotism, summary execution and disappearance of citizens, abuse of human rights and violation of the Liberian constitution, among others, resulted to a 14 - year guerilla war that barbarically unseated the Doe led - government.

He indicates that the 14 - year civil war also destroyed the infrastructure and human capital of the country, claimed over 250,000 innocent lives including women and children.

He also recalls that imprisoned former President Charles Ghankay Taylor's silence and arrogance resulted to his arrest, prosecution and subsequent 50 years maximum imprisonment in HM Prison Frankland in Durham, England.

"These historical facts mentioned above are being told to help president Weah and his CDC led government to look into the rear view mirror of the nation and have sober reflection on how silence and inaction had had negative impacts on Liberian leadership," says Dr. Whapoe.

The VOLT political leader notes that the wounds from the civil war are still fresh on the hearts of Liberians, and that the mass graves of their loved ones are still uncovered.

He adds that the scars on their bodies are still painful, and their individual experiences from Calvary or Golgotha are indelible and the tears of their eyes are yet to dry.

On behalf of the VOLT party, Dr. Whapoe condemns all verbal and physical violence being meted against any

citizen; be it ordinary or government officials.

Dr. Whapoe insists that in the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) - led government, he is yet to see any peace ambassador taking proactive actions to addressing issues that concern Liberians to bring unity among Liberians.

He says his party VOLT in collaboration with the Rainbow Alliance will continue to engage Mr. Weah and his government, saying if the president doesn't listen, Liberians will take a stance at a time when their cup has filled over which would make the country volatile.

"Over the past few months the country has been engorged with pre-electoral violence in both rural and urban communities and violent rapping of our young girls and babies are becoming accepted as a new normal of the Liberian society," Dr. Whapoe says.

He calls on all peace loving Liberians to join his party's call on President Weah to be proactive and robust in addressing the hovering menace in the country.

Dr. Whapoe also urges all tribal leaders, civil society grouping, religious leaders, and inter-faith council of Liberia to move swiftly and intervene in the current wave of violence in the country before the society becomes volatile.

He cautions that Liberia is moving into the valley of the shadow of death and any inaction to bring under control the recent nationwide outburst of pre-electoral and rape violence in the country and there is blood shared and displacement of any citizen, history will judge the government and other civil intervening groups and their generation.

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affirming with modification the Hearing Panel's final ruling, but not satisfied with the BOC'S ruling, Appellant Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) excepted, and announced appeal to the Honorable Supreme Court. Immediately following the action by the Appellant, on 3 September 2020, Senator Morais, movant filed the instant motion to dismiss the appeal.

Reading the ruling Tuesday, 16 September 2020 on behalf of the BOC, Commissioner Josephine Kou Gaye said Section 9.5 of the Regulations on Complaints and Appeals of 2016 provides

Civil Law Court

that "Determination of NEC Board of Commissioners on the complaint can be appealed to the Supreme Court of Liberia no later than 48 hours after the determination is issued."

Commissioner Gaye said in view of the foregoing, the Respondent's resistance was sustained and that the Movant's motion was denied. The NEC Commissioner with Oversight on Communications said the Board would proceed to consider respondent's bill of exceptions concerning its appeal to the Supreme Court.

Representing the Board of Commissioners were Chairperson Davidetta Browne

Lansanah, Commissioners Boakai A. Dukuly, Barsee Leo Kpangbai, Cllr. Ernestine Morgan-Awar, Floyd OsleySaylor and Josephine Kou Gaye.

It was noted in court that the Co-Chairperson of NEC, Cllr. P. Teplah Reeves did not hear this Motion and could not therefore participate in its determination.

When the Motion was called, Cllr. Stanley S. Kparkillen and Cllr. Sam Y. Cooper appeared for the Movant, while Cllr. Amara M. Sheriff and Cllr. Charles Harris appeared for the Respondent. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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Senate begins Kemayah's

Candidature, and sought/lobbied for the endorsement of the African Group of Fifty-four Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives to the United Nations in New York; before and during its meeting on

September 20, 2018.

He also Served as Chair of the United Nations Special Political and Decolonization - Fourth-4th Committee for the Seventy-third Session of the United Nations General Assembly (73rd UNGA).

He arranged and ensured deposit of 'Submission' with the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States of America; for a claim of the

extension of the Continental Shelf of the Republic of Liberia beyond the Two Hundred (200) nautical mile limits.

Liberia had been trying to get the aforementioned 'Submission' done with the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of

the Sea (DOALOS) for more than Ten (10) Years prior to Liberia's aforementioned successful deposit of Liberia's claim. Kemayah in his short stay at the UN has several accomplishments under his belt and therefore comes with a wealth of experience.

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Weah orders replacement of protesting health workers

By Winston W. Parley

President George Manneh Weah's government has ordered health authorities here to replace aggrieved health workers who have gone on strike by qualified health workers of various grades, including nurses, nurse aides, midwives and laboratory technicians, in what seems to be a breakdown of negotiating efforts to resolve their differences.

Liberia's Information Minister Eugene Nagbe authorized a communication dated 19 September and posted on Information Ministry's Facebook page, soliciting applications from candidates to be submitted immediately to county health centers, the Ministry of Health (MOH), and the John F. Kennedy medial for screening by the MOH.

The government is seeking

decision to recruit new health workers follows NAHWUL's declaration of a nationwide "stay home action" as of midnight, 16 September, seeking to compel President Weah's regime to address public health workers' demands including salary increment, reclassification of health workers and health workers' hazard allowance payment, among others.

Following a mass health workers' meeting at the union's headquarters in Paynesville Tuesday, 15 September, Mr. Deemi T. Dearzrua, NAHWUL Assistant Secretary General told a press conference that he and his group were afraid to go into a meeting with the government due to alleged threats from the government.

"Upon this backdrop, the National Health Workers' Union of Liberia (NAHWUL) is [constrained] to withdraw from health facilities across the country as of midnight

amicably resolve the ongoing standoff with members of the leadership of "the Health Workers Association of Liberia, they continue to remain uncompromising, unreasonable and recalcitrant."

It says the leadership continues to demand unionization for health workers, in addition to an immediate implementation of standardized pay-grade and increment in salaries for more than 9,000 health workers at an estimated cost of US\$15 million per annum.

The government says the health workers' leadership is also demanding payment for more than 11,000 health workers who are not directly involved with COVID-19 response, potentially a payment of US\$8 million as "hazard pay" in addition to their regular monthly salary payment through the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning.

During a meeting chaired by President Weah on 8 September, the government says it informed the leadership of the workers that unionizing civil servants, including health workers, would be a violation of Chapter 1 Section 1.5 of the Decent Work Act, and the Civil Servant Standing Order which together exclude Government Employees from unionizing.

On the demands for immediate salary increment and hazard payment, the government says it assured the health workers of its demonstrated commitment to gradually increase the salaries of health workers, especially workers who are currently earning far below their standardized pay grade.

The government indicates that it assured potential payment of a onetime hazard payment to health workers who are directly involved with the COVID-19 response.

"Pursuant to this commitment, the government, through the Civil Service Agency, has already begun the process of recategorizing all health practitioners as a prerequisite to the salary adjustments which form part of their demands," Mr. Nagbe explains.

According to him, the government has also committed U.S.\$2 million as initial payment of the hazard honorarium.

However, he notes that while acknowledging the hard work and enormous sacrifice health workers continue to make, the government emphasizes that there are limits to its capacity to handle

CPP endorses Edith Goongloe-Weh

By Othello B. Garblah

Describing the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) primary in the northern Liberian City of

Sanniquellie as bad example for Liberian politics, the chairman of the CPP and political Leader of the Alternative National Congress (ANC), Alexander B. Cummings says the parties would push Madam Edith Gongloe-Weh as their candidate for the pending December 8 senatorial election in that county.

Mr. Cummings explains that the decision to let Madam Gongloe-Weh contest on the CPP ticket in Nimba is part of the numerous sacrifices that the ANC will have to make in keeping the four opposition parties together.

"I recognize that this is not an ideal situation and is tough. However, we must make compromises to keep the CPP together and strong. I am therefore grateful that TaaWongbe of the ANC has agreed with me and consented to put Liberia above ourselves and make the sacrifice while he makes decisions on his next steps," Cummings in a special statement released over the weekend.

Violent clashes broke up on Sunday, September 6, 2020, after delegates of the Alternative National Congress (ANC), the Unity Party (UP), the Liberty Party (LP) and the All Liberian Party (ALP), gathered in Sanniquellie to hold a primary to elect a candidate to represent Nimba in the 2020 Special Senatorial Elections. The contest was between Madam Gongloe-Weh of the Liberty Party and Mr. TaaWongbe of the ANC.

The situation led the CPP to set up an Independent Review Panel (IRP) to investigate the conduct of the Nimba County Senatorial Primary. The IRP did not valid the result but rather indicated that the process was

flawed and lacking credibility.

But while acknowledging that the primary was not managed properly and became a divisive bloody theatre of violence, causing great pain and embarrassment to the CPP, Cummings noted that it was important that the parties stay together and confront the inept leadership of President George Weah.

"As leader of the CPP, I am concerned about the outcome of the primaries, and accept the painful truth from the IRP. Today, I renew my condemnation of the violence and the Nimba primary process as flawed and therefore consider its outcome invalid. I reiterate my position and remain firm that no candidate won the Nimba primary. Under the circumstances, it may be logical to split the biblical baby as in King Solomon's days - to allow each of the candidates (TaaWongbe and Edith Gongloe-Weh) to freely contest as independent candidates if they choose. And that choice is theirs to make," Cummings said.

However, he was quick to point out that as Political Leader of the both the CPP and the ANC, he has agreed to let Madam Gongloe-Weh represent the CPP in Nimba.

According to him, this will ensure that CPP has candidates in each of our 15 counties in the upcoming elections, that the CPP and especially ANC is committed to women empowerment and increase of female representation.

"To our colleagues in the CPP, our numerous compromises on many occasions within the CPP is not a sign of weakness, but a determination to keep Liberia's opposition together, despite attempts to break it apart. We are committed to redeeming Liberia through a united fight against the CDC," he added.



new recruits in order to fill the temporary vacancies that have resulted from the strike action by members of the National Health Workers Union of Liberia (NAHWUL).

"The new recruitment will not affect health workers who did not abandon their posts. The government reiterates its commitment to ensuring that there is continuing improvement and viability of the health sector," the statement says.

"Meanwhile, the government commends the army of volunteers, including nurses and medical officers of the Armed Forces of Liberia, who have stepped up to fill the gap in areas where some health workers have abandoned their posts. Such volunteers will be given first preference as the government hires to fill the gaps," it adds.

The Weah administration's

September 16, 2020 - hereby declare the "STAY HOME ACTION" until the Government of Liberia can meet our demands," Dearzrua said.

The NAHWUL official insisted that the strike will continue nationwide until government certificates NAHWUL as a union, and demanded the immediate cancellation of a policy on redeployment and transfer of health workers.

Moreover, Mr. Dearzrua wants government to include NAHWUL in social dialogue; give Covid-19 benefits for infected health workers and the deceased families; that over 1000 pensioners be given their just benefits totaling about six months and that the alleged gap created on the workflow by their retirement be filled with immediate effect.

However responding to these demands the Weah administration says despite intentional steps it has taken to

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all of the workers' demands in the short run.

He says these decisions have been communicated to the leadership of the striking workers, but they insist that all

of their demands must be met as a precondition to calling off the ongoing strike action at several health facilities across the country.



Weah warned of danger

-As opposition sees silence as endorsement of violence



By **Winston W. Parley**

Opposition Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) political leader Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe is warning President George Manneh Weah of the dangerous consequences that past Liberian presidents faced

when their silence on violence and other vices resulted to chaos, equating Mr. Weah's alleged silence on political violence to its endorsement.

At a press conference held at VOLT's office in Sinkor Friday, 18 September, DrWhapoe said "The continuing silence of this government to speak and take

actions on issues that concern the citizens is a quiet acceptance and endorsement of violence that has the potential to create havoc that could lead to civil unrest."

According to him, there is nowhere in the history of this country that keeping silent on issues that concern the ordinary citizens have had successful ending of any leadership.

Dr. Whapoe recalls that in recent history, when the citizens of Liberia cried on President William R. Tolbert for the shortage of rice, the staple of the nation, they outraged on April 14, 1979 and the result was that the loss of several innocent lives.

He continues that the uneasiness from April 14, 1979 continued to April 12, 1980 military coup d'etat that did not only slain President Tolbert, but claimed several

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Senate begins Kemayah's confirmation hearing today

Following several weeks of controversy over his nomination by President George Weah as Foreign Minister, members of the Liberian Senate are expected to begin the confirmation hearing of Ambassador Dee Maxwell Kemayah today.

If confirmed by the Liberian Senate, Amb. Kemayah will replace Mr. Gbehzongar Findley who resigned his post to contest in

the pending December 8, Special Senatorial elections in Grand Bassa County.

Amb. Kemayah will also be coming to the job with a wealth of experience and achievements if confirm by the Senate.

Appointed on August 22, 2018 as Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary & Permanent Representative of f Liberia to the United Nations & all its organs by President Weah, Amb.



Kemayah took office on September 4, 2018 in New York, United States of America.

During his stay and before his nomination as Foreign Minister, Amb. Kemayah was elected as Chair of the United Nations Special Political and Decolonization - Fourth- 4th Committee for the Seventy-third Session of the United Nations General Assembly (73rd UNGA).

He declared Liberia's
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