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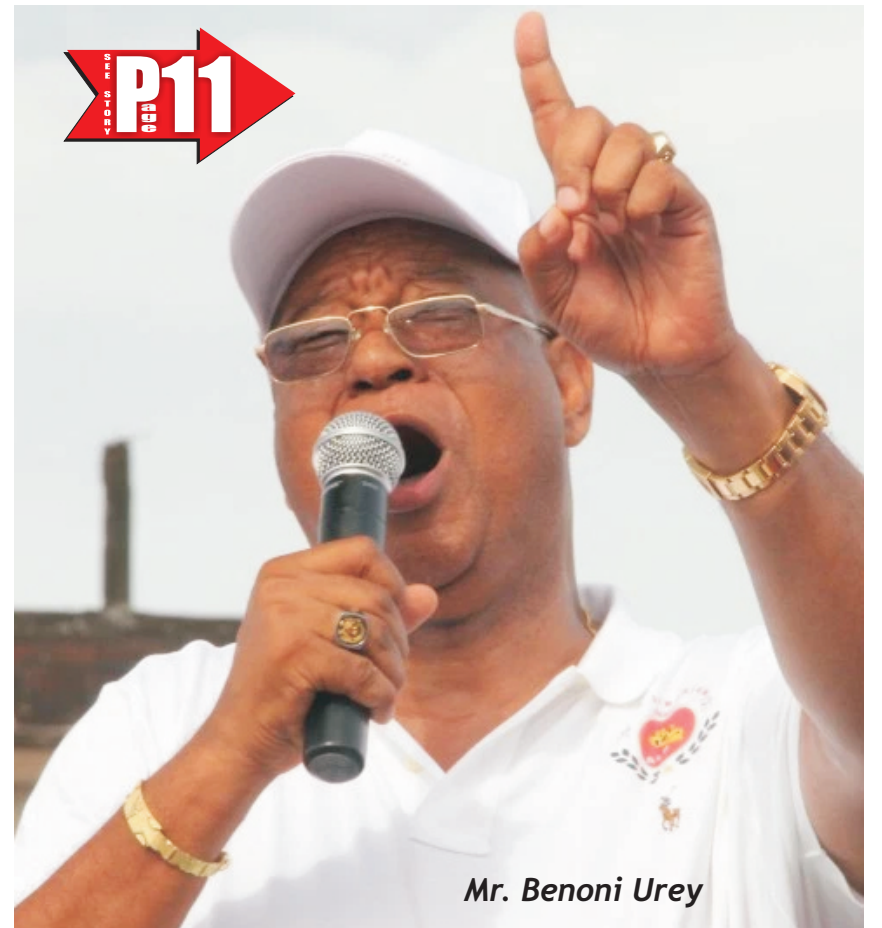
Coming Up!
Who are the owners
of the New Liberian
Oil Companies?

VOL.10 NO. 168

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

PRICE LD\$40.00

I'm prepared to die *-Urey vows*



Mr. Benoni Urey



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Continental News

Six African heritage sites under threat from climate change

From rock art in southern Africa to pyramids along the River Nile, humans have been leaving their mark across the continent for millennia.

But extreme weather events, the rise in sea levels and other challenges associated with the changing climate are threatening to destroy invaluable cultural landmarks, a recent study warns.

Writing in the Azania journal, researchers from the UK, Kenya and the US say that "significant intervention" is needed to save these heritage sites. As if to underline the warning, in recent weeks archaeologists in Sudan have been trying to stop floodwater from the River Nile from reaching the UN-designated World Heritage Site at al-Bajrawiya. The river floods every year, but people working in the area have never seen the water spread so far. The authors of the Azania report have identified a number of sites that they consider under threat. Suakin,

in north-eastern Sudan, was once an extremely important port on the Red Sea.

Its story began 3,000 years ago, when Egyptian pharaohs turned the strategically located port into a gateway for trade and exploration.

Suakin later became a hub for Muslim pilgrims on their way

to Mecca and played a significant role in the Red Sea's slave trade.

It also became part of the Ottoman Empire, though it lost its prominence as a port once Port Sudan was developed further north at the beginning of the 20th Century. Much of Suakin is in

decay but it still contains fine examples of houses and mosques, the UN's cultural organisation, Unesco, says.

Professor Joanne Clarke from the UK's University of East Anglia is currently working on research to quantify the speed at which the loss is being caused by the rise in the sea level and coastal erosion.

"What we do know is that the Red Sea coast will be impacted in the coming decades, which means what currently survives will be lost [without intervention]," she says. The Old Town in Lamu is the oldest and best-preserved Swahili settlement in East Africa, according to Unesco.

Unlike other towns and villages along the East African coast, many of which have been abandoned, Lamu has been continuously inhabited for more than 700 years.

It has also become a significant centre for the study

of Islamic and Swahili cultures, the UN adds. However, Lamu has been "severely impacted by shoreline retreat", meaning it has lost the natural protection once offered by sand and vegetation.

This is partly about the change in sea levels but Prof Clarke also blames the construction of the huge Lamu port to the north of the Old Town, "which is destroying the mangrove forests that protect the island from flooding".

"So a lot of what we would call natural heritage is a protection for cultural heritage. And as we destroy the natural heritage, we also leave cultural heritage sites exposed." The Comoros, a volcanic archipelago off the East African coast, has several well-preserved sites, including a medina and a palace dating back hundreds of years. But it is one of the places "most threatened" by sea level rise in Africa, Prof Clarke says. AFP



Climate change has threatened the availability of high-quality mud for the buildings in Djenné, Mali

Mali military leader asks for end to ECOWAS economic sanctions

Mali's military government chief has demanded an end to potentially crippling economic sanctions imposed after last month's coup in the country.

On Monday, Mali's former defence minister, Bah Ndaw, was named as president of the country's new transition government. Colonel Assimi Goita, leader of the National Committee for the Salvation of the People (CNSP) which overthrew Mali's President

Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, was appointed vice president.

The 15-nation West Africa bloc ECOWAS shuttered Mali's borders and imposed trade restrictions after Malian military officers deposed Keita on August 18.

Last week, the trade bloc also insisted that it would maintain the measures unless Mali's ruling officers appoint civilian leaders swiftly.

Addressing reporters on Tuesday during a ceremony to mark 60 years of Malian

independence, Goita said the recent nomination of a civilian as interim president meant that West African leaders must end their trade embargo.

"The international community is watching us ... which is why we accepted the ECOWAS principles," Goita said. "In the coming days, ECOWAS must remove these sanctions for the happiness of the Malian people."

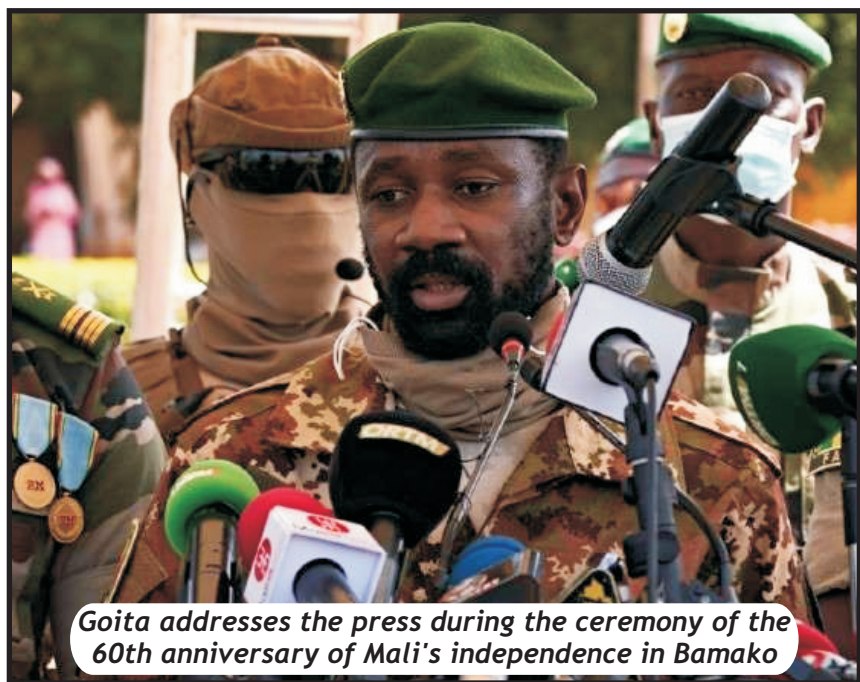
Ndaw, 70, will lead a transition government for a maximum of 18 months before staging national elections, according to a plan endorsed by the military government.

But it remains unclear how West African leaders will react to Ndaw's nomination.

Hauled back from retirement, the former defence minister spent his career in Mali's military, where he occupied a series of senior positions.

ECOWAS's mediator in Mali's crisis, former Nigerian president Goodluck Jonathan, is expected in the capital Bamako on Wednesday.

Mali's neighbours are anxious to avoid the fragile nation of some 19 million people slipping into chaos. AFP



Goita addresses the press during the ceremony of the 60th anniversary of Mali's independence in Bamako

Ex-Liberian leader recruits women in leadership programme



Ellen Johnson Sirleaf urges more women to join public leadership

Former Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has opened up her leadership programme to women across Africa.

The programme launched on 8 March during the International Women's Day trains women to aspire to the highest levels of public leadership.

Ms Sirleaf told the BBC's Newsday programme that the objective is to increase the number of women in public leadership.

She said: The purpose of that is to amplify the voice of women [and] increase the participation of women in public leadership roles."

The purpose of that is to amplify the voice of women [and] increase the participation of women in public leadership roles."

The programme is currently recruiting for next year and applicants have until 30 September to submit their applications.

Ms Sirleaf said in order to increase the number of women in leadership, men need to be involved and shown the contribution women can bring to the table.

She said: What we need to change is the mindset of men at all levels."

What we need to change is the mindset of men at all levels. 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.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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 José Antonio Ocampo

Celebrating 75 Years of the United Nations

The UN embodies the best of humanity - the belief that all people deserve basic dignity, and that working together is the only way to deliver it. Seventy-five years after its birth, the world - beginning with the United States - must revive that belief, and recommit to the multilateralism that it demands.

NEW YORK - As the United Nations marks its 75th anniversary, the world is in turmoil. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in nearly one million deaths so far and is nowhere close to being contained. The world economy is experiencing its worst recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Extraordinarily severe natural disasters, from floods to wildfires, are wreaking havoc on many countries. And the United States - long the world's leading proponent of multilateral cooperation - is rejecting and even antagonizing its friends and partners. The UN, and the belief in global solidarity that it embodies, have never been more essential.

The UN was built on three pillars. The first was peace. Its overriding aim was to succeed where its ill-fated predecessor, the League of Nations, had failed: avoid another world war. Established at the dawn of the Cold War, the UN became an essential forum for dialogue; since the fall of the Berlin Wall, it has played an important peace-building role in several countries.

The second pillar was human rights. In 1948, the UN General Assembly approved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which set out for the first time the fundamental rights - including civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights - that all countries were obliged to uphold. Though the mechanisms the UN created to protect those rights have a mixed record, there is no doubt that the UDHR was a major milestone in making human rights an international priority.

The third pillar was development. According to the UN Charter, member countries are committed to "promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom." The development agenda also encompassed the objective of reducing inequalities among countries, including through decolonization, which was also part of the post-World War II agenda.

To promote development, the UN created five regional commissions between 1947 and 1973, and supported developing countries with technical assistance, an activity that became institutionalized with the creation of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1965. Moreover, in January 1961, the UN resolved that the 1960s would be its first "decade of development" - an initiative promoted by US President John F. Kennedy.

As an essential element of that agenda, the UN sought to support the creation of a fairer global economic system that would enable shared progress. As the decolonization process progressed, and a growing number of developing countries became UN members, the organization became the world's foremost platform for discussing and implementing changes to the world economic order. The UN Conference on Trade and Development - created in 1964 - supported this process. Among its achievements was the introduction in the global trading system of "special and differential treatment" for developing countries.

The UN later expanded its focus to ensuring that developing countries can access the financing

they need. The 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development - held in Monterrey, Mexico, and supported by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank - was a milestone in this regard. Two more such conferences have since been held - in Doha, Qatar, in 2008, and in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in 2015 - to advance the agenda set out in 2002. Similarly, the UN has played a central role in debates on financing developing countries' responses to the COVID-19 crisis.

But economic progress represents only part of the development equation. This recognition first emerged in 1978, when the International Labor Organization (ILO) published a study that defined the "basic needs" of people in developing countries: food, clothing, housing, education, and public transportation. This paved the way for the concept of "human development" that the UNDP later operationalized in its Human Development Reports.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, a series of global conferences broadened the human-development agenda further. For example, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in 1995, produced the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the most progressive blueprint ever for advancing women's rights. In January 2011, a designated entity - UN Women - was established to advance these objectives.

UN Women is just the latest addition to a dense network of specialized agencies reflecting the UN's commitment to social development. These include UNESCO (the UN's educational and cultural agency), the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The ILO was also integrated into the UN system. Yet another essential node of this network is the UN Environment Programme, established at the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm. Since then, a series of UN-sponsored conferences - from the 1992 Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro to the 2015 Climate Change Conference (COP 21) in Paris - have produced landmark agreements to combat climate change, protect biodiversity, and stop desertification. They represent our best hope for keeping our planet habitable. At a moment when the effects of climate change are becoming increasingly apparent, the importance of such efforts cannot be overstated.

In fact, it is the UN that has championed the broad concept of "sustainable development," which recognizes that healthy, long-term development must account for economic, social and environmental issues. In 2000, the UN led the way in establishing the Millennium Development Goals, followed in 2015 by the Sustainable Development Goals, which are today the world's main framework for advancing this agenda.

The UN remains a highly influential institution. More important, it embodies the best of humanity - the belief that all people deserve basic dignity, and that working together is the only way to deliver it. Seventy-five years after its birth, the world - beginning with the US - must revive that belief, and recommit to the multilateralism that it embodies.

O-PED

By Carl Bildt

Europe's Digital Emergency

Although the European Union already has a lot on its hands as it confronts a new wave of COVID-19 infections and seeks to position itself for a sustainable recovery, it must not ignore another crisis looming on the horizon. The bloc is rapidly and inexcusably falling behind China and America in the digital transition.

STOCKHOLM - EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen offered an upbeat assessment in her first annual policy report ("state of the union" address) to the European Parliament this month. Clearly, the agreement this summer on an unprecedented €750 billion (\$879 billion) recovery fund and renewal package has given the European Union a new sense of strength.

But now is not the time for complacency. While Europe can take pride in leading the world toward carbon neutrality and a "green recovery," COVID-19 cases on the continent are spiking again, and the region remains at serious risk of falling behind in the global technology race.

In terms of the broader economy, there is now talk of a "K-shaped" recovery in which some sectors decline sharply while others boom, often by seizing on opportunities created by the crisis itself. The EU has every reason to worry that its economy comprises more sectors in the first category than in the second, which invariably centers on information and communication technology (ICT).

The pandemic has accelerated the digital transition. China, for its part, has stepped up its efforts to achieve technological dominance in artificial intelligence (AI) and other key sectors of the future. And companies like Zoom have gone from being non-entities to household names in the space of just months. ExxonMobil, once the most valuable company in the United States, now doesn't even make it into the top 30, having been surpassed by companies like Netflix. Despite a recent correction, US tech giants' combined market capitalization now exceeds that of all companies listed in Europe.

But even though hundreds of millions of people's daily lives during the pandemic have been mediated by US tech companies' products and services, the US cannot afford complacency, either. Chinese giants like Huawei and TikTok are enlarging their global market share by the day. According to Eric Schmidt, a former executive chairman of Google and Alphabet and chair of the US Department of Defense's Defense Innovation Advisory Board, "China is on its way to surpass us in many, many ways ... we need to take them seriously." Otherwise, he warns, China will "end up with a bigger economy, more R&D investments, better quality research, wider applications of technology, and a stronger computing infrastructure."

There was a time when Europe could proudly claim to have helped launch the era of mobile communications. But now that the world is on the verge of upgrading from 4G to 5G, Europe's technological contributions are notably absent. A new report from the European Round Table for Industry finds that the EU trails the US by three years, and China by nearly as much, just when it comes to implementing 4G, which is already yesterday's technology. Needless to say, it is lagging even further behind in its rollout of 5G base stations, even though it is home to major ICT companies like Ericsson and Nokia.

Europe's slow adoption of 5G will have far-reaching implications for its future competitiveness. Many of the industries that 5G could revolutionize are those in which Europe has traditionally demonstrated strength: manufacturing, design, and health care. Now, there is a high risk that China, through digitalization, will achieve dominance in these industries.

And 5G is just one technology. Even more important is AI, where the situation for Europe is particularly grim. According to a 2019 study by the Center for Data Innovation, the US leads the global AI race "in four of the six categories of metrics" examined (talent, research, development, and hardware), and China comes out on top in the remaining two (adoption and data). The EU commands primacy in none, though it is close behind the US in terms of talent.

This last observation is crucial. Europe's problem is not a scarcity of talent but rather a lack of appropriate institutional arrangements and leadership in this critical domain. Fractured, old-fashioned governance frameworks are hampering the rollout of 5G infrastructure. Insufficient funding for basic research is hampering innovation. And the absence of deep capital markets is making it difficult for start-ups to get the financing they need to grow and scale up, leaving them to be snatched up by deep-pocketed US companies.

The results of these failures are clear to see in the rankings of the world's unicorns (start-ups valued at \$1 billion or more). According to one recent index, six of the ten largest are from the US, three are from China, and one is from Singapore. Other indices give China the biggest share of major unicorns; but none show European start-ups anywhere near the top.

Though many start-ups eventually will fail, at least some of today's highly valued companies will go on to become the giants of tomorrow's digital economy, dominating our lives as much as today's Big Tech firms do. It's no use complaining about Chinese state support or less-regulated US markets. The companies that succeed will be built on innovative business models that deliver what customers want.

Late last year, to lend new momentum to the transition to a carbon-neutral economy, the European Parliament declared a "climate emergency." That is a perfectly understandable objective to prioritize. But Europe also needs to declare a domestic "digital emergency," lest it continue falling behind in the industries that will be necessary for achieving all other development goals - including a green economy.

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OPINION

By Brahma Chellaney

China Is Paying a High Price for Provoking India

For Xi Jinping, the COVID-19 pandemic - which has preoccupied the world's governments for months - seemed like an ideal opportunity to make quick progress on his expansionist agenda. But by provoking India, he may have bitten off more than he can chew.

NEW DELHI - China's foreign minister, Wang Yi, recently declared that aggression and expansionism have never been in the Chinese nation's "genes." It is almost astonishing that he managed to say it with a straight face.

Aggression and expansionism obviously are not genetic traits, but they have defined President Xi Jinping's tenure. Xi, who in some ways has taken up the expansionist mantle of Mao Zedong, is attempting to implement a modern version of the tributary system that Chinese emperors used to establish authority over vassal states: submit to the emperor, and reap the benefits of peace and trade with the empire.

For Xi, the COVID-19 pandemic - which has preoccupied the world's governments for months - seemed like an ideal opportunity to make quick progress on his agenda. So, in April and May, he directed the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to launch furtive incursions into the icy borderlands of India's Ladakh region, where it proceeded to establish heavily fortified encampments.

It wasn't nearly as clever a plan as Xi probably thought. Far from entrenching China's regional preeminence, it has intensified the pushback by Indo-Pacific powers, which have deepened their security cooperation. This includes China's most powerful competitor, the United States, thereby escalating a bilateral strategic confrontation that has technological, economic, diplomatic, and military dimensions. The specter of international isolation and supply disruptions now looms over China, spurring Xi to announce plans to hoard mammoth quantities of mineral resources and agricultural products.

But Xi's real miscalculation on the Himalayan border was vis-à-vis India, which has now abandoned its appeasement policy toward China. Not surprisingly, China remains committed to the PLA's incursions, which it continues to portray as defensive: late last month, Xi told senior officials to "solidify border defenses" and "ensure frontier security" in the Himalayan region.

India, however, is ready to fight. In June, after the PLA ambushed and killed Indian soldiers patrolling Ladakh's Galwan Valley, a hand-to-hand confrontation led to the deaths of numerous Chinese troops - the first PLA troops killed in action outside United Nations peacekeeping operations in over four decades. Xi was so embarrassed by this outcome that, whereas India honored its 20 fallen as martyrs, China refuses to admit the precise death toll.

The truth is that, without the element of surprise, China is not equipped to dominate India in a military confrontation. And India is making sure that it will not be caught off guard again. It has now matched Chinese military deployments along the Himalayan frontier and activated its entire logistics network to transport the supplies needed to sustain the troops and equipment through the coming harsh winter.

In another blow to China, Indian special forces recently occupied strategic mountain positions overlooking key Chinese deployments on the southern side of Pangong Lake. Unlike the PLA, which prefers to encroach on undefended border areas, Indian forces carried out their operation right under China's nose, in the midst of a major PLA buildup.

If that were not humiliating enough for China, India eagerly noted that the Special Frontier Force (SFF) that spearheaded the operation comprises Tibetan refugees. The Tibetan soldier who was killed by a landmine in the operation was honored with a well-attended military funeral.

India's message was clear: China's claims to Tibet, which separated India and China until Mao Zedong's regime annexed it in 1951, are not nearly as strong as it pretends they are. Tibetans view China as a brutally repressive occupying power, and those eager to fight the occupiers flocked to the SFF, established after Mao's 1962 war with India.

Here's the rub: China's claims to India's vast Himalayan borderlands are based on their alleged historical links to Tibet. If China is merely occupying Tibet, how can it claim sovereignty over those borderlands?

In any case, Xi's latest effort to gain control of territories that aren't China's to take has proved far more difficult to complete than it was to launch. As China's actions in the South China Sea demonstrate, Xi prefers asymmetrical or hybrid warfare, which combines conventional and irregular tactics with psychological and media manipulation, disinformation, lawfare, and coercive diplomacy.

But while Xi managed to change the South China Sea's geopolitical map without firing a shot, it seems clear that this will not work on China's Himalayan border. Instead, Xi's approach has placed the Sino-Indian relationship - crucial to regional stability - on a knife edge. Xi wants neither to back down nor to wage an open war, which is unlikely to yield the decisive victory he needs to restore his reputation after the border debacle.

China might have the world's largest active-duty military force, but India's is also massive. More important, India's battle-hardened forces have experience in low-intensity conflicts at high altitudes; the PLA, by contrast, has had no combat experience since its disastrous 1979 invasion of Vietnam. Given this, a Sino-Indian war in the Himalayas would probably end in a stalemate, with both sides suffering heavy losses.

Xi seems to be hoping that he can simply wear India down. At a time when the Indian economy has registered its worst-ever contraction due to the still-escalating COVID-19 crisis, Xi has forced India to divert an increasing share of resources to national defense. Meanwhile, ceasefire violations by Pakistan, China's close ally, have increased to a record high, raising the specter of a two-front war for India. As some Chinese military analysts have suggested, Xi could use America's preoccupation with its coming presidential election to carry out a quick, localized strike against India without seeking to start a war.

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September, 2020
PSA/LRA-07/FY20-21

REVENUE NOTICE

Topic: Enforcement of Customs Brokers License
Attention: Customs Brokerage Firms and Individual Customs Brokers

The Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) hereby announces that effective October 1, 2020, only Customs Brokerage firms and/or individual Customs Brokers that are in possession of a valid and current license issued by the LRA is authorized to do clearing and forwarding business within the Republic of Liberia.

Access to the LRA Customs Department System (ASYCUDA World) will be automatically unavailable to any Broker or Brokerage Firm who license has expired. In addition to the above action, any person found in violation of their license issued under the authority of the Liberia Revenue Authority will be subject to further sanctions as enshrined in the Regulation.

This directive is in accordance with sections 3.1, 3.2 5.0 & 16.0 of the Regulation Concerning Customs Brokers Licensing and Administration, Regulation Requirements and Procedures promulgated by the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) and Published by Authority of the Government of Liberia in the Liberia Official Gazette on June 7, 2017.

All ports users including security, customs officers, port personnel and the public are kindly requested to report violators to the LRA through the Office of Professional Responsibility Section using the following numbers: 0888572572/0770572572 or by email to oprs@lra.gov.lr.

Signed:
Thomas Doe Nah
Commissioner General
Liberia Revenue Authority

Aggrieved judicial workers halt protest

By Ben P. Wesee
Aggrieved judicial workers at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia have abandoned a planned protest that had been scheduled for Monday, September 20, sparking serious contention and suspicion among its rank of alleged bribery.
The aggrieved workers before press time issued a press statement, disclosing that they have agreed

authorities to have the crisis resolved. Meanwhile, the group has announced suspension of its Co-chairman Zebelee Freeman for administrative reasons.
"We again want to announce the suspension of Co-chairman Zebelee Freeman, for administrative reasons and that all workers of the judiciary should kindly remain peaceful as we move to the next stage of the discussion with the administration



among themselves the protest should be halted, pending address of their demand for unpaid salaries.
"When hold these guarantors who have asked over time talking to the leadership of this group as we remain patient and we are patient," the group's statement read.
According to the release, their patience is based on the confidence that their leadership has reached the stage of roundtable with judicial

about how finally these discussions can be sooner addressed to finally avoid further protest."
According the statement, the aggrieved workers' leadership called on all workers to use peaceful means, and noted the onus is on judicial authority to quickly resolve all outstanding issues before the opening of the Supreme Court on 12th October.

Aries Security Services, Inc.
Weaver Street -Town Hall Community • Paynesville, Liberia
Telephone: 0777898610 • 0886544996 • 0886381849
Email: ariessecurity2009@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

This announcement is to clarify the misleading perception in the security and business sectors that Mr. Lemuel B. Sherman is no longer a member of Aries Security Services Inc. (ASSI).

Mr. Lemuel B. Sherman is a 50% co-owner of Aries Security Services Inc. (ASSI). And the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors.

As a policy and by laws governing Aries, and supported by a Board Resolution, no shareholder/board member of the corporation is to manage the day-to-day affairs of the corporation.

Despite the many lies and misconceptions being intentionally placed in the public by Mr. Lemuel B. Sherman, Mr. Lemuel B. Sherman, is a co-signer to all Aries day to day financial transactions and gets a generous monthly dividend and gasoline allowance.

Despite being a 50% co-owner of Aries Security Services Inc. (ASSI), Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, and a co-signer of ASSI day-to-day financial activities, Mr. Lemuel B. Sherman has organized a parallel Security Firm named and styled Kpah Security Services Inc (KSSI) that operates from his home in Oldest Congo Town. His Private Security Firm is competing and going after Aries' Clients for his own personal gains.

All Aries Clients are therefore advised to channel their business affairs through the management team headed by Mr. Sam C. Verdier, General Manager Cell # 0777898610/0886586723 Mr. Hensley B, B, Browne Sr., Administrative Manager, Cell # 0775844596/0886510485 Col. Thomas L. Keselley, Operations Managers Cell # 0777480481/0886381849 And or Mr. Arthur Lewis, Finance Officer Cell # 0886723623/0778327317

Signed:
Philipbert S. Browne, Jr.
Chairman, Board of Directors
& Co-Owner of Aries Security Services, Inc. (ASSI)

Attorney Patrick Sandolo
Member, Board of Directors

Cc: Mr. Lumuel B. Sherman
Vice Chairman, Board of Directors
& Co-Owner of Aries Security Services, Inc. (ASSI)

Cllr. Wufueh Sayeh
Member of the Board

Col. Edwin J. Goodridge, rtd
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- MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING**
- WEAR YOUR FACE-MASK**
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MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Health workers complain to foreign embassies

By Bridgett Milton

Agrieved Liberian health workers under the banner National Health Workers Union of Liberia (NAHWUL) have petitioned foreign diplomatic missions near Monrovia, requesting their intervention to pressure

NAHWUL who have already been on strike, petitioned Embassies of the United States, the European Union and the United Nations near Monrovia, pleading with the foreign partners to prevail on the Liberian government to meet their demands.

The health workers are

According to the protesting health workers, about a year ago, a memorandum of understanding was signed with the government to end their 2019 go-slow.

The health workers indicate that the government reportedly agreed to increase their salaries and benefits, and to also recognize NAHWUL as a union by giving it certificate,

They further claim that the government agreed on their request for reclassification of health workers who have upgraded their professional status, among others.

However the group claims that since 2019, the government is yet to implement any of the demands, thus prompting their go-slow and the subsequent protest staged on Wednesday.

“Now therefore, the Executive Committee of NAHWUL hereby request the United States government, the European Union and the United Nations among others, to kindly prevail on the government of Liberia to deliver on the demands presented to the government,” NAHWUL president Joseph S. Tamba says.

Wednesday’s protest came after the government



President George MannehWeah’s government to address NAHWUL’s demands to increase their salaries and recognize them as a union, among others.

During a peaceful protest held Wednesday, 23 September, members of

currently on strike, demanding salary increment, reclassification of those who have upgraded their credentials, pay their COVID-19 hazard benefits and to give NAHWUL a certificate of recognition as union, among others.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

11 Liberian students risk jail in China if...

By Ethel A. Tweh

The Minister of Education Prof. AnsuSonii says 11 Liberian students who have completed their studies in China are at risk of going to jail if the Government of Liberia doesn’t transport them to Liberia before the end of September 2020.

Making the disclosure Wednesday, 23 September before the full plenary of the Liberian Senate, Prof. Sonii said since the students completed their studies in China, the Government of Liberia has not solicited the funds to have them transported to Liberia.

According to him, Liberia’s Ambassador in China informed him that once the studies of the students are done, the Government of China no longer accommodates them, saying that they will go to jail if their

paying the students’ allowance, they signed a memorandum of understanding with the parents of the students that if the government delays in paying the allowance, the parents should take the responsibility or the child will not be given the scholarship.

Sonni states that there were 748 students on local scholarships in 14 colleges and universities in the country, adding that the ministry has put a pause on scholarship because the government still owes US\$478,000 for scholarships.

Addressing the hike in tuition fees by private and public schools here, Minister Sonii explains that public schools are not paying school fees.

He says there was an understanding between public



PYJ resigns from ECOWAS parliament

By Ethel A. Tweh

Nimba County Senator Prince Y. Johnson has resigned as member of the ECOWAS parliament, as his tenure as 3rd Deputy Speaker to the legislative arm of the regional bloc comes to an end.

In his resignation letter to the Senate Plenary, the Liberian Senate’s delegate to the ECOWAS Parliament says his task at home cannot permit him to serve even as a member to the ECOWAS Parliament.

He notes that while working with the parliament over the years, he received support from the Liberian Senate and he rose from an ordinary member to the Third Deputy Speaker, adding that his tenure in that capacity has ended.

“It was an exciting time working at the ECOWAS Parliament, the Parliament is such a credible forum where consensus building is in the work of the assembly. I wish my successor all the best as

we partner in our collective endeavor to serve our people,” Sen. Johnson writes.

Meanwhile, Lofa County Senator George T. Tengbeh made a motion accepting the resignation of Senator Johnson from the ECOWAS Parliament and forwarded it to the leadership of the Senate.

While Senators Abraham Darius Dillon, Francis Paye, J. Gbleh-bo Brown and others’

hands were up, the presiding officer Senator Albert T. Chie of Grand Kru County passed the motion and sent the resignation to the leadership.

Sen. Prince Y. Johnson along with his colleague Senator Stephen Zargo were the two delegates representing the Liberian Senate at the level of the ECOWAS Parliament.---**Edited by Winston W. Parley**



country doesn’t send for them.

“Even if they go to jail to, about two days, we will get them out. We are trying our possible best to get to the Finance Ministry to generate the funds to get the students out of China,” Min. Sonii says.

He notes that they have 143 students in foreign countries studying, 61 of them in China, 72 in Morocco, 8 in India and 2 in the United States of America.

Minister Sonii further explains that there are 25 students who have overstayed in Morocco, saying that some of them have stayed up to 9-10 years.

According to Prof. Sonii, some students who have overstayed in China have held a demonstration in that country.

He tells the plenary further that because of the delay in

schools and parents that students at the elementary level will pay US\$5.00 while the junior high level will pay US\$10.00.

According to him, it was also agreed that senior students would pay US\$15.00 to help buy chalks and other related school materials, adding that when supplies are available, these payments will stop.

Addressing the private schools issue, Minister Sonii explains that when they go for their permits, the ministry will request their previous and current registration records.

He details that if there is any increment without justifiable reason, the school involved will not be given permit to run as a school in Liberia and their students will not go for the national exam.--**Edited by Winston W. Parley**

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Several Marylanders duped in loan scam -as Police arrest suspect

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland

Police in Harper City, Maryland County have arrested a suspected fraudster identified as Sam Doe Mahn for duping several citizens, including County Inspector and Acting Superintendent

encouraging citizens to take advantage of the loan opportunity.

Several citizens fell to his scam, including Acting Superintendent Clark, who was allegedly robbed of 15,000 Liberian Dollars.

Sources in the county

to remain silent until full investigation.

But speaking on a local radio station on Monday, September 21, 2020, after he was released, he said allegation that he is a fraudster, which led to his arrest by the Liberia National Police, was masterminded by an individual, who had craved to participate in the loan program.

He disclosed that the Canadian loan firm has been operating in Sinoe County since it was established, noting that it was so surprising to have heard from some citizens of Maryland that the firm is a scam.

"Let me encourage you today, as I am planning to get back to Sinoe County; I will be back, so I am calling on more people to see this opportunity as a blessing and help for you", he said.

Months ago, a group identified as "Unilexplor" duped several Marylanders, including business women and men, extorting huge amount of Liberian dollars.

The fraudulent act caused victims to write a petition to government through local officials, calling for investigation of GSM companies for allegedly facilitating said act against customers that subscribe to Mobile Money services.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Hodoe K. Clark.

Suspect Mahn presented himself as manager of a loan firm called Canadian Loan, headquartered in Sinoe County with branches in other counties.

Upon arrival in Maryland County, he appeared on several communication radio stations in the county,

administration said Suspect Mehn was arrested in Grand KRU County after a tipoff from Harper, while attempting to leave the county on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

He was quickly turned over to the Maryland County Police Detachment for probe.

The suspect has refused to speak to reporters, preferring

Liberia Vegetable Sellers Association cries for subsidy

By Emmanuel Mondaye

In the wake of the pending official opening and dedication of the OMEGA general market in Paynesville, the National Chairman of the Liberia Vegetable Sellers Association Mr. Sumo Mulbah is seeking subsidy from local and international partners for the association.

Speaking to reporters at his Paynesville office on 23 September, Mulbah disclosed that the organization is faced with a challenge of storage facilities for products being brought to the market for business purposes.

He explains that the organization plays a cardinal role in preserving vegetable products coming from the 15 political subdivisions of the country.

But he laments that the lack of modern storage facilities for the organization is creating a serious problem



for the organization which has the noble responsibility of preserving locally produced products.

According to Mulbah, the organization is seeking financial assistance from local and

international organizations operating in the country, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the Ministry of Agriculture, among others.

Don't trade your future for rice

-Youth leader cautions young voters

By Lewis S. Teh

The Education Ambassador for the Federation of Liberian Youth or FLY and founder of Alice Leadership Institute Aloysius S. Wesseh has cautioned young people especially, first time voters, not to trade their future for bags of rice and petit cash.

"My fellow young people, Liberia is at the crossroads and we're at the point where politicians find pleasures in trading our future by dashing out money to buy our votes, but we must not forget that we owe it to this country", he

pronouncement recently about contesting the election, but due to my poor health crisis, and to focus on my institution I have decided to step down as an aspirant", he disclosed.

He said decision that led him to declaring interest in contesting the upcoming election was to give young people the opportunity, and chance to serve, adding not too many young people have the chance to serve in the Liberian senate, but rather they are just few in the lower house.

"We had a wonderful platform which center around



said.

Addressing a news conference earlier this week, Aloysius called on youths across the country to see themselves as the next and future generation of Liberians the country depends on in terms of providing leadership that would bring growth and development.

"Today I call this press conference to inform you about things that are unfolding in our country, as it relates to the pending December 8th senatorial election; as you may be aware, I made a

education reforms, health care for women and children, entrepreneurship and talent development, but we noticed that the issue of talent development and entrepreneurship is lacking in this country; in Africa today entrepreneurship is developing countries and making young people to be self-reliant."

Meanwhile, Aloysius has pledged his support to Independent senatorial aspirant, Sheikh Mustapha Kouyateh. Sheikh Kouyateh

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The organization, he continues, is wondering as to what will happen to locally produced food stuffs in the wake of the absence of storage facilities to preserve vegetables.

He calls on the government to also intervene by assisting the organization to archive its mandate of preserving, protecting and securing farm

products produced by Liberian farmers throughout the country.

Presently, the Liberia Vegetable Sellers Association operates in Paynesville with a mini storage facility which cannot absorb farm products being cultivated on a daily basis by local vegetable farmers.--Edited by Winston W. Parley

Français

Guerre de mots entre deux sénateurs au sujet de la convocation des responsables de la NEC

Les sénateurs ConmanyWesseh et Peter Coleman se sont lancés des invectives le mardi 22 septembre, après que le président du Sénat, le sénateur Albert Chie, a déclaré que le conseil des commissaires et l'ensemble des autorités de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) sont actuellement trop occupés pour comparaître devant la plénière du Sénat libérien.

L'objectif de leur comparution était de donner des informations actualisées ou détaillées en ce qui concerne la violence électorale signalée et le camionnage des électeurs.

La convocation des responsables de la NEC avait été proposée après que le comité sénatorial sur les questions électorales et l'inauguration dirigé par le sénateur du comté de Bong, le Dr Henrique Tokpah, a présenté un rapport mettant en évidence certains des défis auxquels est confrontée l'opération de mise à jour de la liste électorale.

Mais le chef du sénat, le sénateur Chie (sénateur du comté de Grand Kru), est resté intransigeant, affirmant qu'il serait injuste de convoquer la NEC en ce moment où l'opération de mise à jour de la liste électorale est en cours.

Il s'en est suivi un débat houleux. Et le sénateur du comté de River Gee, ConmanyWesseh, pour taquiner le chef du sénat, a déclaré que les responsables de la

commission électorale ont été nommés par le chef de l'Etat et confirmés par le Sénat parce qu'ils sont compétents, et donc il n'y a pas de quoi à avoir peur.

C'est la goutte d'eau qui a fait déborder le vase. Le sénateur du comté de Grand Kru, le Dr Peter Sonpon Coleman, qui a mal pris ces propos, s'en est pris au

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Pro tempore, Senator Albert Chie

Sénatoriales 2020 : La CPP porte plainte en justice contre la NEC

La CPP (Collaboration des partis politiques) a décidé d'intenter une action en justice contre la commission électorale nationale (NEC) pour refus de celle-ci de procéder au nettoyage de la liste électorale conformément à l'injonction de la Cour suprême dans sa décision de 2017 et de la résolution de l'Assemblée législative.

La CPP dénonce également

des fraudes massives dans le processus de mise à jour des listes électorales, qui ont accumulé, selon elle, davantage le désordre.

« Au vu de ce qui précède, l'équipe juridique de la CPP déposera le mercredi 23 septembre 2020 une série d'actions en justice contre la NEC », a dit la PCC dans un communiqué publié lundi soir.

« Immédiatement après le dépôt de l'action en justice, les

quatre responsables politiques de la CPP et leurs camarades se rendront au siège de la CPP où ils tiendront une très importante CONFÉRENCE DE PRESSE. La conférence de presse sera animée par les chefs politiques », a dit le communiqué.

La CPP a demandé à ses militants de se rassembler au siège de l'ANC pour la conférence de presse.

Présidentielle en Côte d'Ivoire : Pascal Affi N'Guessan rejoint l'appel de l'opposition

Le président du Front populaire ivoirien (FPI), l'un des quatre candidats à l'élection présidentielle d'octobre, Pascal Affi N'Guessan, tenait une conférence de presse ce mardi 22 septembre au siège du parti à Abidjan. Absent de la grande réunion de la coalition de l'opposition dimanche dernier, sa position sur le processus électoral était très attendue. Sa réponse est claire : il rejoint la coalition et l'appel à la « désobéissance civile » du candidat Henri Konan Bédié, en dénonçant la candidature d'Alassane Ouattara à un troisième mandat et en exigeant les réformes du Conseil Constitutionnel et de la Commission électorale

immense gravité, au-delà de nos personnes, par-delà nos différends et nos différences, il y a l'intérêt national, il y a la Côte d'Ivoire. Et l'intérêt national doit primer sur toute autre considération. »

« Je ne serai pas le candidat d'un scrutin tronqué »

Le président du FPI a dénoncé vigoureusement les décisions du Conseil constitutionnel qui « a franchi une ligne rouge ». Il fustige l'absence de réforme de la CEI, et le rejet par le gouvernement des recommandations de la Cour Africaine des droits de l'homme.

Il en tire les conclusions en déclarant qu'en cas de statu quo, il se retirerait de la course présidentielle : « Je ne



indépendante (CEI) avant le 1er tour du scrutin. Dans le cas contraire, il retirera sa candidature.

Chemise blanche, costume sombre, Pascal Affi N'Guessan, a dressé un tableau inquiétant de la situation politique du pays, en pointant le risque d'affrontements, voir d'une nouvelle guerre civile.

La seule solution face à un régime qu'il qualifie de « dictatorial » est l'union de l'opposition. Selon lui, « l'heure ne peut pas être aux arrières-pensées, aux règlements de comptes, aux agendas cachés... Il faut être à la hauteur, faire preuve de cet esprit de responsabilité, car, je vous le dis avec une

serai pas le candidat d'un scrutin tronqué, un candidat factice, en d'autres termes. Bien évidemment, pour moi, candidat à l'élection présidentielle, il n'est pas concevable de cautionner de quelque manière que ce soit un processus électoral qui serait par avance truqué et don't le résultat serait calé, bouclé. »

Adhérent à l'appel des forces d'opposition, il enjoint les militants du FPI à se « tenir prêt » à la mobilisation. « Nous irons jusqu'où M. Ouattara veut nous conduire », dit-il dans une formulation elliptique.



Français

Guerre de mots entre deux sénateurs

sénateur Wesseh, en disant : « lorsque vous et d'autres comme vous profitez de l'administration passée de l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, vous n'avez pas dénoncé certains des défis que vous considérez aujourd'hui comme une mauvaïsegouvernance ».

Il a critiqué le sénateur Wesseh en disant : « il est injuste quand un sénateur en exercice se moque des fonctionnaires qui ont été confirmés par les sénateurs ».

En réponse, le sénateur Wesseh a dit que Coleman devrait se préparer à fournir ses services professionnels aux citoyens si les élections en cours se terminent par la violence, car, au lieu de siéger au sénat, Coleman sera obligé de retourner à l'hôpital pour servir les Libériens.

Au sénateur du comté de Grand Kru de répondre durement en disant que l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a dû tromper les gens lors des élections spéciales de River Gee en 2014 pour permettre au sénateur Wesseh de remporter la victoire.

C'est ainsi que le sénateur Wesseh a demandé des explications quant à savoir pourquoi le regretté sénateur du comté de River Gee, Isaac Johnson, est décédé après une intervention chirurgicale menée par le sénateur Dr Colemandans sa clinique privée Malag au début de l'administration Sirleaf.

Il a fallu le sénateur Jonathan Kaipee du comté de Grand Bassa et le sénateur J. Milton Teahjay du comté de Sinoe pour calmer la situation.

La Ministre du genre convoquée par le tribunal civil

Le tribunal civil du Temple de la justice a convoqué la ministre du Genre Williametta Saydee Tarr et la Commission indépendante de l'information par l'intermédiaire du commissaire Mark Bedor-Wla Freeman à comparaître le 2 octobre au sujet d'une requête en jugement sommaire déposée par Me Findley Karnga.

Selon un document judiciaire, Me Findley Karnga a intenté une action en révision

demandé au tribunal de prendre connaissance d'office des déclarations du shérif, qui indiquaient que l'intimé avait été signifié le 6 juillet 2020.

«Le requérant a dit que comme la date de la délivrance de l'ordonnance au deuxième défendeur comme indiqué ci-dessus, c'est plus que le délai légal de dix jours, empêchant ainsi le deuxième défendeur de répondre aux allégations de l'ordonnance», a dit Me Karnga.

Il veut que la ministre Williametta Saydee Tarr et



Gender Minister Williametta Saydee Tarr

judiciaire contre la ministre Tarr, soulignant qu'elle avait reçu une ordonnance et qu'elle l'avait reçue sans revenir sur une ordonnance d'assignation.

Sa requête devant le tribunal fait suite à une plainte contre le ministre Tarr pour avoir prétendument retenu les informations demandées, violant prétendument le droit du public à l'information.

Selon le document judiciaire, Me Karnga a

Hassan Karmeh soient individuellement et conjointement tenus responsables pour avoir délibérément refusé l'accès aux informations demandées.

Me Karnga veut en outre que le tribunal leur inflige une amende de 5 000 dollars LD pour infraction grave et ordonne en outre aux deux intimés de payer 5 000 dollars américains pour le paiement des honoraires d'avocat.

COMMENTAIRE

Par José Antonio Ocampo

Commémorer les soixante-quinze ans de l'ONU

NEW YORK - Voici soixante-quinze ans étaient fondées les Nations Unies, et le monde, aujourd'hui, est en crise. La pandémie de Covid-19 aura bientôt tué un million de personnes et nulle part elle ne semble en voie d'être endiguée. L'économie mondiale connaît sa pire récession depuis la dépression des années 1930. Des catastrophes naturelles, extraordinairement violentes, des inondations aux feux de forêt, sèment dans de nombreux pays la désolation. Et les États-Unis, qui furent longtemps le moteur de la coopération internationale, repoussent leurs alliés et leurs partenaires, quand ils ne s'y confrontent pas directement. Les Nations Unies, et la foi en la solidarité mondiale qu'elles incarnent sont plus que jamais indispensables.

L'ONU fut construite sur trois piliers. Le premier était la paix. Le but supérieur de l'ONU était de réussir là où avait échoué, par défaut de conception, la Société des Nations, qui l'avait précédée. Il fallait éviter une nouvelle guerre. Créées à l'aube de la guerre froide, les Nations Unies devinrent un espace essentiel de dialogue ; depuis la chute du mur de Berlin, elles ont contribué dans plusieurs pays à établir la paix.

Le deuxième pilier était les droits humains. En 1948, l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies approuvait la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme, qui définissait pour la première fois les droits fondamentaux - notamment civiques, politiques, sociaux et culturels - que tous les pays étaient contraints de respecter. Si le bilan des mécanismes créés par les Nations Unies pour garantir ces droits demeure mitigé, il ne fait aucun doute que la Déclaration universelle marque un moment crucial dans l'établissement des droits humains au rang de priorité internationale.

Le troisième pilier était le développement. Selon la Charte des Nations Unies, les pays membres s'engagent « à favoriser le progrès social et instaurer de meilleures conditions de vie dans une liberté plus grande ». Le programme de développement affichait également son objectif de réduire les inégalités entre les pays, y compris au moyen de la décolonisation, qui faisait elle-même partie des enjeux prioritaires de l'après-guerre.

Pour favoriser le développement, l'ONU créa quatre commissions régionales entre 1947 et 1973, et soutint les pays en développement en leur apportant une assistance technique, activité institutionnalisée par le Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (PNUD) en 1965. En outre, l'ONU proclama en 1961, sur la proposition du président des États-Unis, John F. Kennedy, que les années 1960 seraient la première « décennie du développement ».

Élément essentiel de ce programme, l'ONU cherchait à favoriser la création d'un système économique mondial plus équitable, capable de répartir les fruits du progrès. Tandis que se poursuivait le processus de décolonisation, un nombre de plus en plus important de pays en développement devinrent membre de l'Organisation, qui s'affirma comme le premier espace de discussion et de mise en œuvre des changements apportés à l'ordre économique mondial. La Conférence des Nations Unies sur le commerce et le développement (CNUCED), créée en 1964, soutint ce processus. Parmi ses réussites, on peut compter l'introduction dans le système des échanges mondiaux d'un « traitement spécial et différencié » pour les pays en développement.

Plus tard, l'ONU étendit son action à la garantie faite aux pays en développement d'obtenir un accès aux financements qui leur étaient nécessaires. La Conférence internationale de 2002 sur le financement du développement - qui s'est tenue à Monterrey, au Mexique, avec le soutien du Fonds monétaire international et de la Banque mondiale - marqua à cet égard une étape importante. Deux conférences similaires ont eu lieu depuis, à Doha, au Qatar, en 2008, et à Addis-Abéba, en Éthiopie, en 2015, afin de mettre en œuvre le programme défini en 2002. L'ONU a de même joué un rôle central dans les débats sur le financement de la réponse des pays en développement à la crise du Covid-19.

Mais le progrès économique ne représente qu'une partie de l'équation du développement. Cette constatation a commencé de recevoir l'attention internationale en 1978, avec la publication d'un rapport réalisé par l'Organisation internationale du travail (OIT) qui définissait les « besoins de base » des populations dans les pays en développement : alimentation, habillement, logement, éducation et transports publics. La voie se trouvait ouverte pour le concept de « développement humain », qui allait informer ultérieurement les Rapports sur le développement humain du PNUD.

Après la chute du mur de Berlin, une série de conférences mondiales ont étendu bien au-delà le programme de développement humain. Ainsi la Quatrième Conférence mondiale sur les femmes, qui s'est tenue en 1995, a-t-elle débouché sur la Déclaration et le Programme d'action de Beijing, soit le document d'orientation le plus avancé existant à ce jour concernant les droits des femmes. En janvier 2011, une entité dédiée, ONU Femmes, a été créée pour se consacrer à la réalisation des objectifs de la déclaration.

ONU Femmes n'est que le dernier élément ajouté au dense réseau d'agences spécialisées qui traduisent l'engagement des Nations Unies dans le champ du développement social. Il faut aussi compter, parmi elles, l'UNESCO (l'agence des Nations Unies pour la culture et l'éducation), l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS), le Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance (UNICEF) et l'Organisation pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO). L'OIT fait aussi partie du système des Nations Unies. Mais le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement, établi en 1972, lors de la Conférence de Stockholm sur l'environnement, constitue un autre maillon essentiel de ce réseau. Depuis lors, une série de conférences parrainées par l'ONU, de la Conférence sur l'environnement et le développement de Rio de Janeiro en 1992, à la Conférence sur le changement climatique de 2015, la COP 21, de Paris, ont débouché sur des accords d'une importance cruciale dans le combat contre le changement climatique, la protection de la biodiversité et l'arrêt de la désertification. Ils représentent à ce jour notre meilleur espoir de conserver une planète habitable. Alors que les effets du changement climatique se font de plus en plus sentir, on ne saurait surestimer l'importance de ces initiatives.

Ce sont en fait les Nations Unies qui ont introduit le concept général de « développement durable », par lequel est reconnue la place que doit être celle d'un développement de long terme et garantissant la santé de tous dans toutes les questions économiques, sociales et environnementales. En 2000, l'ONU ouvrait la voie en établissant les objectifs du millénaire pour le développement (OMD), suivis, en 2015, par les objectifs de développement durable (ODD), qui forment aujourd'hui le grand cadre de

Grand Bassa to get technical, professional school

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The Port city of Buchanan in Grand Bassa County is to shortly benefit from a technical and professional skills training school.

Addressing a news conference on 23 September in Paynesville, Montserrado County, the Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Action for Professional Driving Institute (APDI) Mr. James Massaboi disclosed that his institution has decided to extend its activities to Buchanan following an assessment.

He notes that following the opening of the APDI branch in Grand Bassa County, the institution also

intends to take technical and professional skills training to the rest of the county in the soonest possible time.

According to the APDI boss, the school has seen the urgent need for the establishment of the institution in Grand Bassa to provide residents there the opportunity of acquiring technical and professional skills that would make them skillful in the society.

He furthers that the institution presently has an enrollment of 1,000 students in various departments such as Computer Training/IT, Light and Heavy Duty Driving, Hotel and Restaurant Management, Second Language Acquisition (SLA), Standard English, French, Chinese, Child's Mentor

Training, Life Skills, Welding, Carpentry, Nurse Aid, Electricity, Plumbing and Tailoring.

Mr. Massaboi explains that the institution's desire is to ensure that people residing in the county attain technical skills and knowledge, indicating that Liberia needs technical and professional people in the rebuilding process of the country.

Currently, he says, the APDI is not receiving any subsidy from anyone including the Government of Liberia (GOL) as every cent spent by the school comes from fees being paid by the students who are eager to obtain technical and professional skills to better their lives.

The APDI CEO maintains that training courses at the institution range from five to twelve months with certificate and diploma being issued based on the operational permit from the Ministry of Education (MOE).

According to him, his school is paying huge taxes to the Paynesville City Corporation (PCC) and the Ministry of Education (MOE), but he is not discouraged because of the school's desire to produce men and women who will positively contribute to the national development agenda of Liberia. --*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



Mr. James Massaboi

Liberia faces uncertain

Starts from back page

that transparent and open discussions of the necessary policy environment for businesses in the country to thrive will be advanced through dialogue that is inclusive of all stakeholders.

The forum was conducted in Monrovia Wednesday, 22 September by the Governance Commission, a state institution dedicated to crafting policy reforms in government.

Charges D'Affaires Grunder says while the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on global prices may be partly to blame for some of the recent economic downturn, a difficult local business environment also disproportionately affects investment, like is the case right now in Liberia.

"Obstacles to doing business in Liberia as evidenced by the 2020 World Bank Doing Business report are a dissuading factor for individuals and corporations deciding on countries in which to set up shop", She says.

She stresses a need for strong oversight regime to ensure Liberia receives the most revenue for its natural resources and ultimately its development, saying "In this regard, we sincerely hope the Liberian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (LEITI) and other oversight agencies present here continue to receive public sector support to boost their expertise and independence in line with international standards."

Meanwhile, the U.S. Embassy reiterates its continued interest in Liberia's

development and is ready to supporting the country's efforts to build an open and transparent business environment.

"The histories of our two countries are intertwined and we will continue to support this great country as you look to make Liberia not only "open for business" but also attractive and competitive among the world's emerging markets", the U.S. Envoy assures the people of Liberia.

Three panelists, including the Officer-In-Charge of the Liberia Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative or LEITI, Jeffery Nukata Yates; the Minister of Mines and Energy, Gesler E. Murray, and Liberia's Auditor-General Madam Yusador S. Gaye, facilitated the dialogue.

LEITI boss Yates disclosed that ministries and agencies often renege in making available relevant information that should enhance the agency's reporting process, while Mines and Energy Minister Murray reiterates concerns about illicit Alluvial mining activities across Liberia by foreigners, assisted by local authorities and citizens, recommending need for both soft and hardware devices, including drones, 4-Wheel Drive vehicles, among others to pursue the illegal migrants.

Auditor-General Yusador S. Gaye, says with Liberia having 50 percent of West Africa's rain forest along with other natural endowments, the country ought to do more in ensuring its citizens benefit from these resources.

Cont'd from page 7

Don't trade your

resigned from the governing Coalition for Democratic Change few months ago.

Aloysius noted that half of Liberia's population centers around young people, so they should not allowed themselves to be bought for

peanut.

"We don't need to be belly drivers, we don't need to be in the back pockets of politicians, this election is about you to determine your future and secure it".

According to him, the

pending election is not about big names, but the future of Liberia, noting that it is about time young people stand up for themselves by electing someone who has a clear vision about the development of the country.

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Chinese businessman

China. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce has been established to further promote the cordial relationship that already exists between our countries. Liberia is my second home and accordingly, I will support causes that strengthen China's relationship with Liberia. I am also offering membership to the Chamber of Commerce to Liberian businessmen," he said.

Speaking at the all day sporting activities, Liberia's Armed Forces Chief of Staff, General Prince C. Johnson encouraged the youths to desist from rape, warning that it affects both victims and perpetrators.

Gen. Johnson said it is unfortunate for young people will great future to engage in

such devilish act, stressing that rape is a hideous crime.

He reminded that President George Manneh Weah has declared rape a 'national emergency' which should draw attention of everyone.

Also speaking, the Managing Director of the National Housing Authority, Cecelia Cuffy Brown admonished young men to protect girls against rape.

She described the crime as demonic and satanic, coming from the devil and that good guys don't rape.

The General Secretary for Asia and Middle-eastern Affairs of the Economic and Trade Cooperation of African Youth (ETCAY), Zhou Dawei, who organized the sponsorship of FC Gar'ou and Football Against Rape Campaign, expressed delight in fulfilling the policy-

commitment of the Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

"During the 2018 FOCAC in Beijing, our President Xi stated his hope to strengthen the China and Africa relations through sports. As one of the Chinese youth, I would like to follow Xi's suggestion to work closely with Liberian youth organizations to fulfill this pledge. It is no secret that soccer is the most populous sport in Liberia," Zhou said.

Meanwhile, Alvin Clarke, Chief Executive Officer of FC Gar'ou, has expressed gratitude to the Chinese businessmen and philanthropists for the support to the team and their commitment to football development in Liberia.

Health workers complain

Cont'd from page 6

announced that it has already started replacing the striking health workers with qualified health workers who are in search of jobs.

According to the government, despite initial steps to peacefully resolve the situation, the leadership of NAHWUL refuses to compromise during negotiations.

In a statement signed by Information Minister Eugene Nagbe, the government instructed the Ministry of Health to solicit applications from qualified health workers of various grades, including nurses, nurse aides, midwives and technicians to fill the temporary vacancies that have resulted from the strike action.

Nagbe indicated that the government had already

allotted an initial US\$2 million in hazard benefits, but the striking health workers had refused to return to work.

Nagbe said while the government welcomes dialogue with the health workers, health volunteers have already been recruited and assigned to some public health centers across the country to provide volunteer services.

But the health workers say the money is very small to meet the demands of over 16,000 health workers in the country.

According to them, the government's threats to replace them is only intended to exacerbate the situation, thereby calling on the international community to intervene. --*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

CPP takes the streets tomorrow

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

The national chairman of the Collaborating Political Parties Mr. Alexander Cummings has called on its partisans and executives, including former vice president and political leader of the former ruling Unity Party, Joseph Boakai; Grand Bassa County Senator and political leader of the Liberty Party, Yonblee Kangar Lawrence, businessman turned-politician Benoni Urey of the All Liberian Party, members of the CPP's legislative caucus and well-wishers to converge tomorrow, Friday, September 25, at the Supreme Court of Liberia to file a writ of prohibition against the December 08 Special Senatorial election.

"Therefore, we seize this moment to inform all of our people across Liberia and abroad that the actions of the NEC have left us with no other

Liberians are aware of plans to rig the elections and cause electoral disputes across the country.

Addressing a news conference in Monrovia earlier this week, the opposition leader said at a date to be announced, the opposition bloc led by the CPP and the Rainbow Coalition, another group of opposition parties will engage in a civil but sustained political action until very serious issues raised are addressed.

He said these political actions will take place in all 15 counties but with focus on the capital, saying CPP will draw the attention of the world to the blatant display of poor handling of the electoral processes, which has the propensity to derail the country's fragile peace and security.

"Fellow Liberians, the plans of this CDC-led government to derail our peace and stability does not stop at what is happening with our elections. It

addressing that and other issues in a subsequent statement to be published as our focus today is on the fraudulent and irregular electoral process which is the most imminent danger to our peace and security. In closing, the CPP wants to re-emphasize that it remains committed to our peace and stability but will not sit idly and allow evil to triumph at the detriment of our people," he added.

Cummings told the conference that the CPP have detailed about the experience with the NEC, which presents very troubling signs for Liberia, adding CPP has shown significant good faith and abided by all NEC rules, including the submission of all its candidates for the 15 counties.

"However, what this government and its Elections Commissioners are doing is a recipe for elections disputes which have had devastating consequences on our country in the past. Evidently, the compromised and CDC-led NEC is bent on reverting to our ugly past by endeavoring to conduct an election that has already been marred by fraud and gross irregularities from the very onset of the electoral process."

According to him, they have failed to address the immense violations of the election laws and the 1986 constitutional provisions on elections.

He said currently, there is overwhelming evidence of mass trucking, registration of minors, registration of foreigners, double and triple registration, registration without names, registration in private homes, change of registration centers without notice to parties or citizens, intense violence, bodily injury and destruction of properties, all across the country.

"The NEC in its statement released last night alluded to these violations of our laws but failed to halt the process and institute an investigation. Just yesterday, we received recordings of officers believed to be Sierra Leonean police, arresting people allegedly conducting Liberian Voter registration in Sierra Leone across the border from Cape Mount," he concluded.

Friday's protest by opposition politicians will present another test whether the ruling Coalition-led government has enough courage to tolerate dissent at its doorstep with just two months to the special senatorial election. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

I'm prepared to die

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

The political leader of the opposition All Liberian Party (ALP) and stalwart of the Collaborating Political Parties, Mr. Benoni Wilfred Urey says bad governance under President George Manneh Weah has become unbearable and that he's prepared to die to save the country from further damage.

Urey calls for urgent action to halt bad governance, corruption and "calculated plans to cheat in the pending December 08 Special Senatorial election."

Speaking Wednesday, September 23, at the headquarters of the Alternative National Congress, another constituent member of the CPP, he reiterates that something urgent must be done to rescue the country from the hands of people he describes as "not having good intention" for Liberia and its people.

Adding his voice to the press conference, the political leader of the former ruling Unity Party, ex-vice president Joseph Nyumah Boakai observes that the re-constitution of the NEC board of commissioners by President Weah is to cheat and give the governing CDC undeserved victory at the expense of the Collaborating Political Parties and the Liberian people.

He further alleges the board of commissioners is solely bent on cheating for the ruling establishment at the detriment of peace, justice, and the opposition community.

Mr. Boakai who lost to Mr. Weah during the runoff presidential election in 2017, says the CPP will not accept any fraudulent process in the pending senatorial election, lamenting that Liberia is disappearing gradually on a daily basis both from the international scene and regionally because of bad



alternative than to commence legal and sustained political actions to correct all the missteps we raised in our communications of September 10th and 18th as follow: On Friday of this week, our lawyers will file a Petition for the Writ of Prohibition before the Supreme Court, calling for an immediate halt and cancellation of the ongoing Voter Roll Update Exercises until these issues which border on the credibility of the elections are fully addressed", chairman Cummings said.

He said the CPP will conduct comprehensive Communication/Awareness across the country to inform Liberians in every town, village or hamlet about danger the CDC-led government and its election commissioners pose to the pending elections, adding that CPP will ensure

is evident in every decision they have made and the shame and anger it brings to our people. Over the past few days, our country has been the subject of local and international disrepute as we witness several sad and dramatic scandals that are characteristic of the CDC-led government and clearly inimical to the image, peace and security of our country," Cummings added.

He counted ongoing strike by health workers demanding incentives, sexual assault allegation against Foreign Minister-Designate, Dee Maxwee Kemayah, passport scandal at the Foreign Ministry, which led the United States Government to bar suspended passport director Andrew Wonploe and his immediate family, as among other vices of the Weah administration that need urgent attention.

"This is absurd and unacceptable! We will be



According to him, it is unfortunate the government would say its limited funds to support the National Elections Commission, while officials here dish out cash to voters in exchange for votes.

The former presidential contender calls on the international community especially, the United States government, the European Union, ECOWAS and the African Union to intervene immediately to end looming chaos in Liberia.

He claims members of the international community are largely interested in peaceful election rather than the process being transparent, free, fair and credible.

He says for long partisans and stalwarts of the CPP have sat and allowed the Weah administration misused state resources, the people and anything that comes their way.

governance and bad policies being introduced by the current administration. He urges partisans and leaders of the CPP to fight for the redemption of the country.

Liberians go to the poll in December to elect 15 senators that would join other 15 in the Liberian Senate and to vote for four propositions in a referendum, calling for changes in terms of the presidency from six to five years; the Senate from nine to seven years; the House of Representatives from six to four years, and dual citizenship.

However, the process leading to the poll has been characterized by aspirants from the ruling establishment trucking voters and potential voters from one county to another to enhance their chances of winning. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Liberia faces uncertain business environment - America warns



Charges D'Affaires Alyson Grunder

By Jonathan Browne

The United States Embassy in Liberia has observed with concern new challenges in Liberia's extractives and agriculture sectors in the last few years, leading concessions here to either pause, streamline, or halt operations.

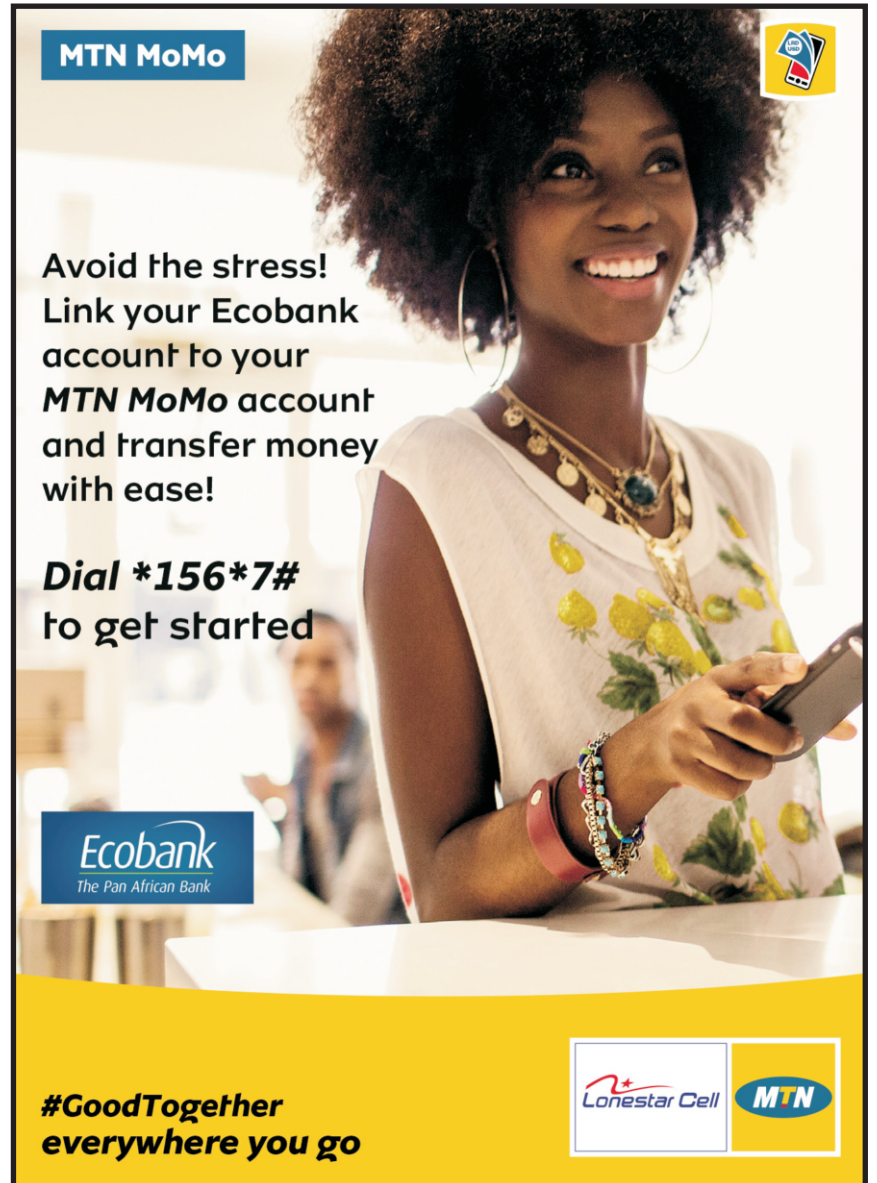
The U.S. Embassy says an enabling environment is necessary to attract the kind of reputable businesses that will move Liberia's economy forward and create jobs, noting that Liberia's productive soil, iron ore, diamonds, gold, and its ideal climate for growing rubber and palm oil cannot make up for an uncertain

business environment.

"From the perspective of the U.S. Embassy, we have experienced a number of instances in which U.S. businesses have expressed interest in doing business in Liberia. But they invest their money and other resources elsewhere when they hear about perceived difficulties in negotiating contracts and retaining respect for them, obtaining permits, and maintaining good relationships with the public", says the Charges D'Affaires Alyson Grunder when spoke at a policy dialogue on Promoting Transparency and Accountability in the Management of Extractive Industries to Enhance National Development in Liberia.

She further notes that Liberia's extractive industries are key to its economic development and to the livelihoods of many, adding

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Chinese businessman sponsors football against rape campaign

Qi Jinlong, Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce in Liberia, has vowed to make good President Xi Jinping's commitment to strengthen the already-firmed Africa-China relations through sports.

In commencing his drive to football development in Liberia, Chairman Qi has moved to commit the sponsorship of the Chinese General Chamber of

Commerce in Liberia, Z&C Investment Company and Z&H Investment Company to a local Liberian football club FC Gar'ou. The club has launched football against rape campaign.

Chairman Qi revealed that there is immeasurable goodwill available to Africa from the People's Government of China, saying he is committed to connecting such goodwill to the young people of Liberia.

The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce Boss disclosed there are millions of



Chinese businesses that are seeking to establish partnership of any form with Liberian entrepreneurs, a reason that the Chamber of Commerce has been established in Liberia.

"In making this public commitment as the Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce in Liberia, I wish for Liberian youth to be aware of the enormous opportunities that they could make use of in

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