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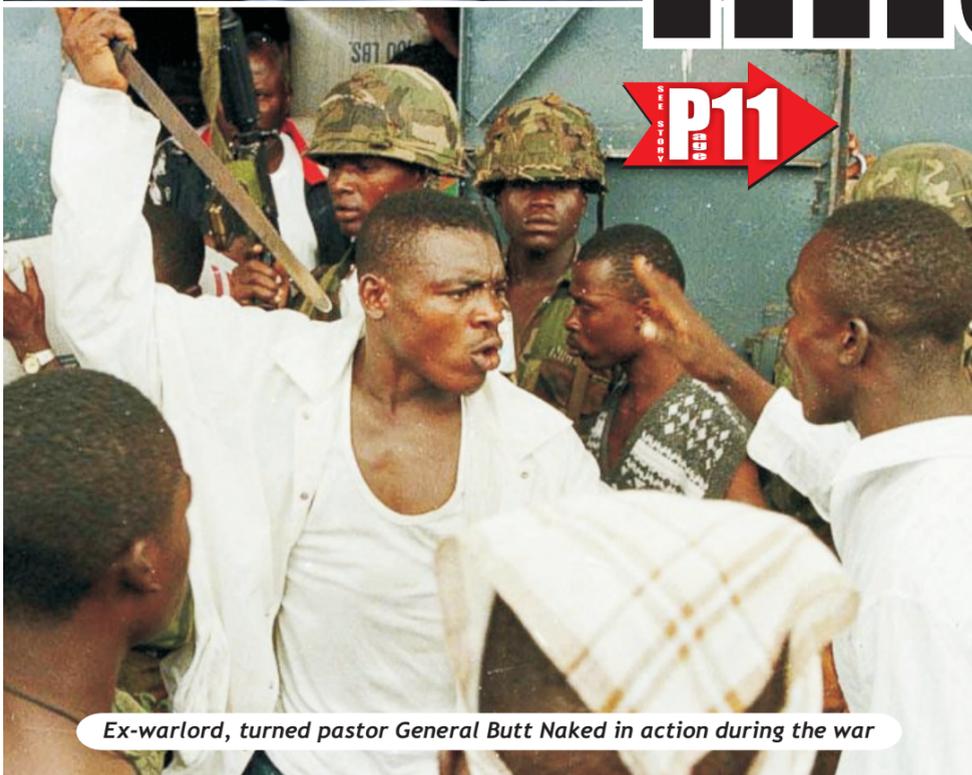
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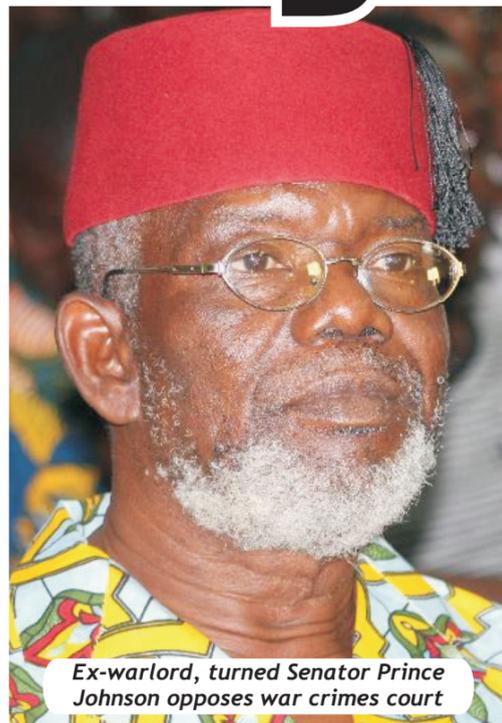
# War Crimes Court is finally here



Ex-Pres. Taylor jailed for war crimes in Sierra Leone



Ex-warlord, turned pastor General Butt Naked in action during the war



Ex-warlord, turned Senator Prince Johnson opposes war crimes court



Gibril Massaquoi, Sierra Leonean indicted for war crimes in Liberia



Deputy Speaker Koffa supports war crimes court in Liberia

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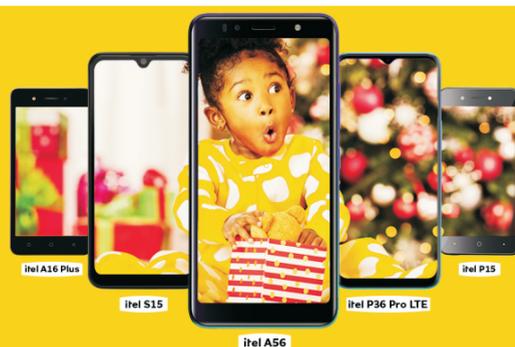
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# Continental News

## 'The police asked if my husband was a sorcerer'

While Chirindo Chisubi was still mourning her husband, she was shocked by a question asked by the police investigating his death in Kenya's Kilifi County on the Indian Ocean coast.

"This man, your husband, was he a sorcerer?" they asked the 63-year-old newly widowed woman.

Her husband, Dzuya Chisubi, had been hacked to death over accusations that he practised witchcraft.

Ms Chisubi knew that her husband had never been a sorcerer and believed the killing was over something else - a dispute over land. "I told them [the police] that since I got married to him, I had never seen anything in him to show that he was a sorcerer," she said.

The death of her husband pained her, although she believed that there was nothing she could do.

She had been told that the husband's own brother planned the killing, she told the BBC, saying the hired killer had confessed to the police.

The two men were

arrested and charged. Both denied the allegations. Ms Chisubi's pain is a familiar experience for the residents in Buni Kisimani in Kilifi, whose relationships are at times soured and torn apart because of the widespread belief in witchcraft.

A number of graves dot the village, some of which are the result of gruesome killings. In this region, it is not uncommon

for misfortunes including common illnesses or deaths in the community to be associated with witchcraft.

Often, elderly men are accused of sorcery and blamed for these misfortunes. The punishment is at times brutal death. The victims are often hacked or burnt to death. Some are killed by their own relatives.

Traditional beliefs coexist

with Christianity and Islam, which are Kenya's dominant religions. A survey by Pew Research Center, conducted in 2010, showed 11% of Kenyans believed in witchcraft.

The government does not collect data on the prevalence of the belief in witchcraft, which is illegal and attracts up to 10 years in prison, but local media often report on incidents depicting the practice across the country. These often include the lynching of those suspected of sorcery.

The police told the BBC that in Kilifi County alone, more than 150 elderly men have been killed on allegations of witchcraft in the last two years. Naturally, the old men and women in the village of Buni Kisimani are living in fear for their lives.

When the BBC arrived here late last year, there were many young men around, some on boda bodas (motorcycle taxis), the ubiquitous mode of transport in the area. It was hard to spot an elderly man. BBC



## Sudan PM picks former rebel leaders in new cabinet

Sudan's Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok has named a new cabinet which includes seven former rebel leaders who were part of a peace deal signed in October.

Mr Hamdok dissolved the previous cabinet on Sunday to form a more inclusive

the veteran rebel leader and economist Gibril Ibrahim. This at a time of sky high inflation and food and fuel shortages.

Being Sudan's foreign minister in a volatile region will also be a major test. That job has gone to Mariam al-Sadiqal-Mahdi - the daughter of Sudan's last democratically



government.

Two ministers were selected from the military. Many are from the Forces for Freedom and Change which led the protests that saw Omar al-Bashir ousted from power.

The prime minister gave the role of finance minister to

elected prime minister, Sadiq al-Mahdi.

There are still military men in Mr Hamdok's cabinet - a reminder of the awkward marriage between soldiers and civilians as Sudan continues its planned transition to democracy. BBC

## At Least 12 UN Peacekeepers Killed in 2020 in Line of Duty

Twelve United Nations personnel and three civilian staff members were killed in the line of duty in 2020, bringing the total number of deaths over the last decade to 440, according to findings of the Standing Committee for the Security and Independence of the

International Civil Service of the United Nations Staff Union. In a press release Monday, the organization said the deliberate killings involved the use of improvised explosive devices and other weapons, targeted assassinations and suicide attacks.

"We learn time and time again of the many colleagues

serving around the world in the most dangerous places who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the United Nations flag," said Patricia Nemeth, president of the U.N. Staff Union.

Four of those killed were from Burundi, and three were from Chad. Three other peacekeepers who died were Egyptian citizens, one Indonesian and a Rwandan. The civilians killed were from the Central African Republic, Myanmar and Syria.

The organization said the Indonesian casualty was serving with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and died in an armed ambush.

In Syria, armed violence led to the death of a science teacher working for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), while a staff driver for the World Health Organization (WHO) in Myanmar was killed in an attack while delivering



UN peacekeepers (UNIFIL) vehicles are pictured in Naqoura

COVID-19 samples. Over the years, the U.N. has recorded numerous deaths of its staff in the field who were trying to ease the burden of people living in some of the most troublesome parts of the world. The highest number of deaths occurred in 2017 with 71 killings, followed closely with 61 personnel deaths in 2014. While the killings in 2020 pale against the 2019 total of 28 deaths, Nemeth said the deaths are sacrifices that are hard to come to

terms with.

"Even though we may not be directly affected by the wars raging around the globe, some of us may not fully comprehend the depth of sacrifice that is being made in our name," she said.

Not all perpetrators have escaped the consequences of their crimes. So far, one suspect, 76-year-old Mahmoud Bazzi, who kidnapped and killed two Irish peacekeepers in the 1980s, was sentenced to 15 years. VOA

# EDITORIAL

## Commending the U.S. for donating over 430 textbooks

**IN CONTINUOUS DEMONSTRATION** of United States-Liberia's traditional and historical ties, the Government of America thru the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Service's Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recently donated more than 430 up-to-date nursing and midwifery textbooks to the Liberia Board of Nursing & Midwifery (LBNM) to help boost Liberia's health service delivery.

**NEWLY ACCREDITED UNITED STATES** Ambassador to Liberia, Michael A. McCarthy, who made the formal handover to LBNM authorities last week Friday, 5 February noted, "Our understanding of medicine is always improving. That's why it is essential for medical students to have up-to-date textbooks. Nursing and midwifery affect some of the most vulnerable and precious among us: newborns and their mothers. With these 430 textbooks, the next generation of nurses and midwives can practice their craft confidently knowing they are equipped with the latest knowledge."

**AMBASSADOR MCCARTHY'S EMPHASIS** is very critical to healthcare delivery anywhere in the world, particularly Liberia, where basic health services are still a challenge. Issue of having up-to-date relevant textbooks in our colleges and universities to properly prepare medical students, including nurses and midwives who are to provide efficient healthcare delivery cannot be overemphasized or ignored.

**TRAINED AND QUALIFIED** health practitioners are 'sine qua non' to providing comprehensive healthcare services to the population of Liberia. Anything short of that could mean manning our hospitals and health centers with square pegs in round holes. News of preventable deaths at the hands of health practitioners, including midwives in the country basically derives from lack of adequate knowledge.

**ACCORDING TO THE** U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, Ambassador McCarthy's first public event on Friday, February 5, 2021 since his arrival in Liberia demonstrates the value the U.S. Government places on healthcare and critical front-line workers such as nurses and midwives.

**WE WHOLEHEARTEDLY WELCOME** the donation and commend the U.S. Government for this important intervention in the Liberian health sector, which it has continuously done in line with historical ties existing between Liberia and America that has lasted over 100 years.

**WE ALSO LAUD** the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Service's Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for making this gesture possible. As the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia noted via a press release, the Government of America supports internal medicine residency training and family medicine training, including in nursing and midwifery, via the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, commonly referred to as PEPFAR.

**NOW IN ITS** 18th year, PEPFAR supports antiretroviral treatment for nearly 17.2 million people living with HIV/AIDS globally - including in Liberia. It has also enabled 2.8 million babies to be born HIV-free to mothers living with HIV and has provided critical care and support for 6.7 million orphans, vulnerable children, and their caregivers so they can survive and thrive.

**IT'S OUR HOPE** that the Liberia Board of Nursing & Midwifery would make effective use of the textbooks in ensuring that nurses and midwives deployed across the country are up to the task in serving the public.

# COMMENTARY

By Dani Rodrik

## Poor Countries' Technology Dilemma

**C**AMBRIDGE - Economic development relies on the creation of more productive jobs for an ever-rising share of the workforce. Traditionally, it was industrialization that enabled poor countries to embark on this transformation. Factory work may not have been glorious, but it enabled farmers to become blue-collar workers, transforming the economy and society as a result.

Many low-income countries in Africa and elsewhere hope to travel a similar path in the future. While none necessarily expects success on the scale of China and the East Asian tigers before it, industrialization and integration into global value chains are viewed as essential for achieving rapid economic growth - or restoring it after the COVID-19 pandemic - and creating a large number of jobs for Africa's young population.

Prior to the pandemic, African countries had already achieved some success in industrialization. Ethiopia has established an export-oriented garment and footwear sector, with help from Chinese and European investors. Tanzania has built a more resource-intensive manufacturing sector focused on serving domestic and regional markets. Recent research suggests that the premature de-industrialization to which the continent had been subject may have been halted or even reversed after the early 2000s.

There's a rub, however, in Africa's manufacturing renaissance. Even where industrialization is putting down deeper roots, few good jobs have been created in the more modern, formal, and productive manufacturing branches.

In fact, the number of formal jobs has been stagnant, with the bulk of the increase in manufacturing employment coming from small, informal enterprises. This experience stands in stark contrast with that of the rapid industrializers of East Asia, such as Taiwan (during the 1960s and 1970s) or Vietnam (more recently), where the growth of manufacturing employment was concentrated in formal enterprises.

The paradox is deepened when we look behind the aggregate numbers. In new research, Margaret McMillan of Tufts University, Xinshen Diao and Mia Ellis of the International Food Policy Research Institute and I have found a striking dichotomy in the performance of large versus smaller firms. In both Ethiopia and Tanzania, larger firms exhibit superior productivity performance but do not expand employment much, while small firms absorb labor but do not experience much productivity growth. The result is that these economies create few good jobs, while the benefits of productivity enhancements remain limited to a very small segment of manufacturing.

Conventional explanations cannot account for this dichotomy. A poor business environment might explain low job creation but not the rapid productivity growth within the same firms. African wages are often

thought to be high relative to productivity, but we find that payrolls' share in total value added is exceedingly low in both Tanzania and Ethiopia, suggesting that labor costs are unlikely to be a constraint. Moreover, low business dynamism is belied by the very high rates of entry and exit we observe in manufacturing.

One important feature of larger manufacturing firms that may help account for the paradox is that they are excessively capital-intensive. In low-income countries such as Ethiopia and Tanzania, workers are plentiful and capital (machinery and equipment) is scarce and hence expensive. Standard economic theory predicts that production in such circumstances would be tilted toward more labor-intensive techniques.

Yet we find large firms in the manufacturing sectors of Tanzania and Ethiopia to be significantly more capital-intensive than these countries' income levels or factor endowments would suggest. In fact, these firms are as capital-intensive as firms in the Czech Republic, even though the latter is roughly ten times as capital-rich as Tanzania and Ethiopia.

It might seem irrational for businesses to use so much capital (along with complementary inputs such as skilled labor) in countries where the underlying comparative advantage is an abundance of less-skilled workers. But it is not clear they have much choice. Manufacturing technologies have become progressively more capital- and skill-intensive over time, responding to the factor prices in the major advanced economies. Technologies from the 1950s or 1960s may have been more labor-intensive, but they will not help African firms compete in world markets today. And technologies used in global value chains appear to be particularly biased against unskilled labor.

This leaves African economies in a bind. Their manufacturing firms can either become more productive and competitive, or they can generate more jobs. Doing both at the same time seems very difficult, if not impossible.

This dilemma is reminiscent of an old concern in the development literature on inappropriate technologies. Authors such as E.F. Schumacher worried in the 1970s that Western technologies favored large-scale, capital-intensive plants ill-suited to conditions in low-income countries. Such worries were swept away by the phenomenal expansion of manufacturing employment in export-oriented industrializing countries in subsequent decades.

We may need to bring the idea back. Recent patterns of technological change in the advanced economies appear to have made it more difficult for low-income countries to develop and converge with income levels in the rest of the world. These changes have contributed to deepening economic and technological dualism even within the more advanced segments of developing countries' economies. This is yet another reason for a public debate on the direction of technological change and the tools that governments have to reorient it.

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## O-PED

By Barry Eichengreen

# New-Model Central Banks

**B**ERKELEY - We are used to thinking about the remit of central banks as focusing narrowly on price stability, or at most as targeting inflation while ensuring the smooth operation of the payment system. But with the global financial crisis of 2008 and now COVID-19, we have seen central banks intervening to support a growing range of markets and activities, using instruments that extend well beyond interest rates and open market operations.

An example is the US Federal Reserve's Paycheck Protection Program Liquidity Facility, under which the Fed provides liquidity to lenders who extend loans to small businesses in pandemic-related distress. This, clearly, is not your mother's central bank.

Now we hear calls to broaden this ambit still further. European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde and Fed board member Lael Brainard have each urged central banks to tackle climate change. Against the backdrop of the Black Lives Matter movement, US Representative Maxine Waters of California has pushed Fed Chair Jerome Powell to do more about inequality, including specifically racial inequality.

Such calls horrify central-banking purists, who warn that charging central banks with these additional responsibilities risks diverting them and their policy instruments from their primary objective of inflation control. They caution that monetary policy is a blunt instrument for tackling climate change and inequality, which can be more effectively addressed by taxing carbon emissions or strengthening equal housing laws.

Above all, the critics worry that pursuing these other objectives will jeopardize central banks' independence. Central banks enjoy operational independence in order to pursue a specific mandate, because there is a consensus that the mandated objectives are best taken out of elected officials' hands. But independence does not mean central bankers are unaccountable to politicians and public opinion. They must justify their actions and explain how their policy decisions advance the mandated objectives. Their success or failure can be judged by whether or not the central bank achieves its independently verifiable targets.

With a greatly expanded mandate, the relationship between policy instruments and targets would become more complex. Justifications for policy decisions would be harder to communicate. Success or failure would be more difficult to judge. Indeed, insofar as monetary policy has only limited influence over climate change or inequality, targeting such variables would be setting up the central bank to fail. And frustration over failure might lead politicians to rethink the central bank's operational independence.

These arguments are not without merit. At the same time, central bankers cannot snooze quietly in their bunkers in the face of an all-hands-on-deck emergency. Calls for central banks to address climate change and inequality reflect an awareness that these problems have risen to the level of existential crises. If central bankers ignored them, or said, "These urgent problems are best addressed by someone else," their response would be seen as a haughty and perilous display of indifference. At that point, their independence would truly be at risk.

So, what to do? Central banks as regulators have tools with which to address climate change, and their responsibility for ensuring the integrity and stability of the financial system gives policymakers the mandate to use them. They can require more extensive climate-related financial disclosures. They can impose stricter capital and liquidity requirements on financial institutions whose asset portfolios expose them to climate risk. Such tools will discourage the financial system from underwriting brown investments.

The challenge of understanding the risks to financial stability from climate change is that climate events are irregular and nonlinear. When modeling them, it will be important for central banks to avoid the mistakes they made in modeling COVID-19. Those problems arose because economists and epidemiologists worked in their separate silos. So, one might ask advocates like Lagarde and Brainard: How many climate scientists have central banks hired? When will they start?

When it comes to inequality, some central banks already have the relevant mandate. In the United States, the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 tasks regulators, including the Fed, with ensuring that low- and moderate-income families have adequate access to credit. The Fed has delegated this responsibility to its 12 regional reserve banks, each of which fulfills it in different ways. Stronger guidance from the Federal Reserve Board on exactly how to ensure equal access to credit, with explicit attention to racial disparities, would reinforce existing efforts.

It would be a departure for other central banks, such as the ECB, to address the credit access of minority and underprivileged groups. But the European Parliament can so instruct it. And the ECB Board can work with the national institutions that make up the European System of Central Banks in meeting that call.

## OPINION

By Beverley McLachlin

# The COVID Revolution

**O**TTAWA - In December 1862, in the throes of the American Civil War, which pitted the norms of slavery against the norms of freedom, US President Abraham Lincoln presented his emancipation plan to Congress. "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present," he declared. "The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew."

In the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, that is our task as well.

Lincoln saw clearly that the Civil War would utterly change the United States, and that in the world that would follow, old norms and mindsets would no longer suffice. He was right. The tragedy is that he only partly succeeded in persuading his fellow Americans to accept the new norm he proposed - equality for all. Some political leaders thought and acted in a new way, but too many sought to revive the past. Instead of heeding Lincoln's call to think and act anew, the southern states built a new regime of segregation and discrimination.

Three-quarters of a century later, another epic conflict would again shift hitherto prevailing norms. World War II erupted in a late-industrial world that by today's standards was local and slow. True, motor vehicles had replaced horse-drawn transport, and early commercial aircraft were flying a privileged few to faraway places. But much remained as it had been for decades. Men controlled business, industry, government, and finance, with women largely relegated to the domestic sphere. Vast swaths of the world - including India, Africa, and South Asia - strained under the yoke of colonialism.

WWII changed everything. In its aftermath, cars became faster, and planes sleeker and swifter. Women assumed a growing role in society, the economy, and governance. But the nuclear age loomed large, bringing with it the new threat of mass destruction.

The world thus needed new ways of thinking and acting in order not to blow itself up. Governments and statesmen rose to the occasion, establishing new multilateral institutions such as the United Nations and forging treaties aimed at deterring nuclear attack. New global agencies like the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization tackled problems of starvation and illness. And while all this was happening, new independent countries emerged from colonial domination.

Fast-forward another 75 years, and the world is once again facing a radical challenge to norms it had come to take for granted. The pandemic, it turns out, is not only a scourge but also a source of revelation. It has revealed that postwar institutions, though still functioning, are tired and need revitalizing. It has exposed the costs of systemic weaknesses that enabled populists and extremists to gain power in many places. Above all, it has demonstrated that, regardless of where we live, we are all in this together.

If the fear after WWII was nuclear annihilation, the fear now is global disease. COVID-19 - and the recurring pandemics experts tell us to expect in the future - is a global phenomenon from beginning to end. We are accustomed to seeing the same diseases in different parts of the world, but never had we faced one requiring every country to take the same precautions, at the same time, lest we all fall victim. The cure for COVID-19 - although the disease is unlikely ever to be fully eradicated - must be global, too.

Within days of China releasing the genetic composition of the novel coronavirus on January 10, 2020, scientists around the world were working to develop vaccines. The effort relied on global science, with international nanotechnology research leading to a new form of vaccine (messenger RNA). This again proved Louis Pasteur's observation that "science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world."

But we have now run into a roadblock. While we have developed vaccines internationally to fight a global contagion - new thinking and new action for a new case, as Lincoln would have put it - we are reverting to old nationalist norms at the delivery stage. Countries and blocs of countries - largely in the affluent West - are adopting an "us-first" attitude that makes no moral or practical sense.

Morally, we know that relegating poorer developing countries to the back of the vaccine line is the wrong thing to do. And, as a practical matter, we know it won't work. In the past, a country's population might have been able to shelter from disease behind reinforced borders. But this will not work in a hyper-connected world.

Because none of us will be safe from COVID-19 until everyone is, the only way to defeat it is by attacking it globally. As long as there are countries or pockets of people where the virus is being transmitted, there will be new cases and, even more frightening, new variants. Some of these may prove more lethal and - the great fear - impervious to the vaccines that represent our only hope of conquering the virus.



Republic of Liberia  
Ad hoc Committee for the Recruitment  
of the Auditor-General of Liberia



**Invitation for the Position of  
Auditor General of Liberia**

**Background**

Established by an Act of the National Legislature in 2014 ("the Act"), the General Auditing Commission (GAC) supports Legislative oversight of the management of public resources. As the independent constitutional external auditor of Liberia, the GAC serves the people of Liberia by conducting quality and timely financial, compliance and performance audits. Headed by the Auditor General of the Republic of Liberia, the GAC is mandated to periodically conduct professional audit of all government ministries and agencies, and reports audit results and recommendations to the Legislature with copies to the President.

According to Section 2.1.5, the Auditor General shall hold office for a term of seven (7) years and shall not be eligible for reappointment. Consequently, given the tenure of the current Auditor General is nearing expiration, the Government of Liberia, in compliance with Part 2, Section 2.1 of the ACT, is recruiting to fill the position of Auditor-General of the Republic of Liberia.

**The Duties and Responsibilities of the Auditor General:**

- The Auditor General shall be the auditor of the public accounts and public funds of the Republic of Liberia. Subject to sub-section (b) below, the Auditor General shall carry out such audits and inquiries as he/she considers necessary of public entities and funds owned or controlled by the Government to enable reporting as required by the General Auditing Commission Act of 2014.
- Notwithstanding the generality of Section (a) above:
  - The Auditor-General shall carry out the annual audit of the Government's annual consolidated financial statements and
  - The scope of audits by the Auditor General for the Judicial Branch of Government shall exclude matters relating to court decisions and for the Legislative Branch of Government shall exclude matters relating to the merits of legislation.
- The Auditor General shall have the right to determine which audits are to be carried out, to select the type of audit to be carried out, when to carry them out and report the findings.
- In the performance of his/her operational duties as set out in sub-section (c) above, the Auditor General shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person or authority.
- The Auditor General and the staff of the General Auditing Commission shall carry out audits, but shall not be involved, or seen to be involved, in any manner, in management's responsibilities of the organizations being audited

**Basic Qualification for Selection and Appointment**

A person shall be appointed as Auditor General only if:

- the person is a Liberian citizen;
- the person possesses at least one professional certification such as a CPA, CA, or ACCA from a recognized professional accountancy body;
- the person possesses at least a Bachelor degree in accounting, audit, business, finance or a related field;
- the person possesses a minimum of fifteen (15) years of relevant work experience, including an understanding of the role of a Supreme Audit Institution; and
- the person is of a high moral character, with integrity and impartiality, and who has neither been convicted of any criminal offence nor judgement or been declared bankrupt, in any jurisdiction.

**Core Competencies Required for the Auditor General:**

**Behavioral**

- Integrity;
- Objectivity;
- Professional competence and due care;
- Confidentiality;
- Professional behavior;
- Ability to work with others; and

**Technical**

The Auditor General must understand:

- Financial Statement, Compliance, Performance and Information Technology Audits;
- Public Financial Management Act and Regulation of 2009 of Liberia as amended in 2019;
- Public Procurement and Concessions Commission Act of 2005 as amended in 2010;
- Revenue Code of Liberia of 2000 as amended in 2011;
- INTOSAI Standards;
- International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS); and
- IFAC Standards.

**Others:**

- Information technology systems for financial accounting and reporting, including relevant current issues and developments;
- Principles and practices for evaluating financial accounting and reporting systems, including evaluating controls and assessing risk;
- Computer-assisted auditing packages and techniques; and
- Have an understanding of the LICPA Act and Regulations.

**SUBMISSION OF INTENT**

To be considered for inclusion in the recruitment process, please submit your CV, Cover Letter, and all relevant Credentials to:

**In Person Delivery:** Office of the Ad hoc Committee  
C/o Office of the Legal Advisor  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Via Email:** [adhoccommittee2021@gmail.com](mailto:adhoccommittee2021@gmail.com)

**Deadline for Application:** Friday, February 26, 2021 @ 4 0'Clock P.M. (GMT)

**Note:** All Applications already delivered in-person to the Civil Service Agency or via email to [agapplication@csa.gov.lr](mailto:agapplication@csa.gov.lr) are valid.

**Committee Room**  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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# PAPA's president-elect speaks on pending induction

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The President-elect of the Paynesville Photographers Association (PAPA) Mr. Sampson B. Yeabah says preparations are ongoing for subsequent induction of officials elected at recently held elections.

Making the disclosure to reporters in Paynesville City outside Monrovia, he said the elected officials will be inducted into office as soon as ongoing planning and implementation committee work is completed.

"The committee is doing her job and we are waiting on it to execute our induction into office to commence work based on the popular mandate of the membership of our unique organization that has the authority to ensure equal opportunity, capacity building, health care and welfare, for every member of PAPA", Mr. Yeabah said.

The PAPA President-elect is proprietor of the Modern Photo Studio situated in Paynesville Redlight.

Mr. Yeabah along with several others was recently elected by majority votes which witnessed the election of president, vice president, secretary general, treasure and chaplain.

The election of the new leadership brings to an end the leadership vacuum which long impeded the effective and efficient operations of the association with many photo analysts hoping for a



better and brighter future for photographers in Paynesville City under Yeabah's leadership.

In the immediate past, activities PAPA was implemented in close collaboration with the National Photographers Union of Liberia, the mother organization of photographers in Liberia.

Moreover, one thing that remains a serious challenge to the new administration is securing an office space in which officials of the association are to be situated to run their day-to-day activities. **-Editing By Jonathan Browne**

# Rep. Duncan donates 3 buses to students in Sinoe

By Lewis S. Teh

As a means of fulfilling his 2017 campaign promises to the people of Sinoe County, electoral district #1 Representative and Chairman of the Sinoe Legislative Caucus, Crayton O. Duncan has put to an end long distance trekking by students in Greenville City by donating three 72-seated buses for use of students.

Presenting the buses over the weekend, Rep. Duncan recalled during his days of schooling in Sinoe, when he walked many days which led him to missing important activities on campus, something, he says, could not make him punctual due to the distance he had to cover in order to reach on campus.

"I can recall during my studies the distance I had to travel to acquire education was long, and at such during the 2017 campaign I made a promise if elected to ease the transportation burden of students by providing buses that will take them to their various schools free", he said.

He added that in this 21st century, students should be pampered and given every necessary support and motivation to go to school, as done in the western world.

Residents of Greenville and its environs were filled with excitement and jubilation when they saw three 72-seated buses for the first time in

history of the county; the buses bearing the colors of Sinoe's flag, and pictures of Rep. Duncan drove through the streets of the provincial capital as students jubilated, sang praises and thanked the lawmaker.

Upon touring the principle streets in Greenville with students jubiling in and around them, Duncan, also Chair on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives officially turned over the buses to the people of Sinoe at the historic, J. Dominic Bing City Hall in Greenville.

He informed the students to make use of bus stops constructed at principle points in Greenville and its environs to wait for the buses to transport them to school and home free of charge.

Meanwhile, the Sinoe legislative caucus chair assured the students that he will ensure the buses are managed by paying drivers, conductors, and maintenance cost. He said the buses will be regularly serviced by himself, so no student should give a cent to anyone they meet on the bus in the name of contributing to servicing the buses.

He said the gesture is not about keeping himself perpetually in leadership but to do things that will show his legacies for generations after him to see and hear about his existence, noting that his efforts are to ensure that his colleagues (Lawmakers) change from depending on the people for survival to impacting lives of ordinary people.

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

# NEC confirms CDC Fokos victory

The Board of Commissioners of the National Elections Commission, (NEC) has confirmed and reaffirmed the Board's declaration of Mr. Frank Saah Foko as the winner

Tuesday, 9 February 2021 by Chairperson Davidetta Browne Lansanah.

However, lawyers representing the Complainant Fubbi F. Henries of the Collaborating Political Parties,

NEC, read by Davidetta Browne Lansanah said the complaint of Appellant Fubi Henries was based on inadmissible hearsay, and that the complaint by the CPP through it Secretary General Aloysius Toe, was not signed by him Toe but an unknown person. The head of the Administrative hearing said the Board considers several factors whether the Appellant establish that irregularity or fraud occurred during the election and whether same was of a magnitude to change the outcome of the December 8, 2020 election.

Chairperson Browne Lansanah said the complainant Fubbie Henries failed to establish that irregularity and fraud occurred during the Representative By-Election on December 8 and that such could change outcome of the election.

The Board cited several opinions from the Supreme Court including the case Sando Johnson versus NEC decided December 2005, Brumskine et al versus NEC decided 21 December 2017, and Fayd versus Dennie, 39 LLR 587, decided 1999.

CPP, led by Cllr. Merfee Kanneh has accepted the ruling but announce an appeal to the Honorable Supreme Court of Liberia.

In the ruling of the Board of



NEC Davidetta Browne Lansanah reads the BOC ruling, affirms Frank Foko, winner D-9 Rep. By-Election.

of the 8 December 2021 electoral District Number 9, Montserrado County Representative By-Election.

The unanimous ruling of the Board of NEC was read

# Senate probes missing persons at St. Moses -summons security apparatus

By Ethel A Tweh

The plenary of the Liberian Senate has summoned the Ministry of Justice and the national security apparatus over three males who went missing last years after they were reportedly hired by the proprietor of the St. Moses Funeral Parlous along Somalia Drive.

The plenary of the Liberian Senate has invited the Ministry and the security apparatus to appear next Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Discussion over the situation which was brought on the Senate floor by Montserrado County Senator Abraham Darius Dillon, has drawn the attention of the Liberian Senate.

In his deliberation, Senator Dillon said it has been about four months since those three boys got missing and there's no account whether they are dead or not.

"Moses was my boss man; I know him very well, I played on his band for funeral,

wedding and other events. I have to close my eyes on this to seek the welfare of our Liberian citizens [who] no one knows

matter walks about freely and moreover, the government still does business with him, carrying bodies of officials at his funeral home, something, he terms as insensitivity.



their whereabouts", he said.

According to Dillon, since the boys went missing, Moses, who is person of interest in the

He noted that people get missing, women and girls get raped on a daily basis and there's no justice given to the families, recalling that

# Weah breaks grounds

Starts from back page

was taking place, saying he practiced there during his days when he played for the Invincible Eleven Majestic Sports Association.

It was during those days that Mr. Weah notes that he broke his first record in the high school league right on the field of the groundbreaking ceremony by defeating the famous Wells Hairston High School when he played for the Muslim Congress High School on the airfield, called The Bench Old-Timers Field.

Also, President Weah says the area where the program was being held has played another important and very meaningful role in Liberia's

and appreciation of their patriotic efforts, this Park will contain a special Prayer Ground area for them to pray, which will feature turf under their feet and shelter over their heads," he says further.

And yet, he says for some reasons best known to his predecessor, Madam Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf, she chose to shut the place down, "thereby denying our people the simple pleasures of recreation and relaxation in the open air."

"Well, just as HER job is to CLOSE it, it is MY job to OPEN it," he says, adding that since no one cared to do anything about it after more than 30 years, it is his job to fix it.



history, when it served for many years as the site where hundreds of Liberian women, wearing white, prayed for peace to return to the nation.

"They were here as Prayer Warriors for our Nation, in the heat and in the rain, laying on the ground and sitting in the sand, with no shelter from the elements," he narrates.

He notes that their prayers were heard by the Almighty God, and their efforts were rewarded with a lasting and sustainable peace that Liberians have enjoyed for almost two decades now.

"In recognition, gratitude,

Additionally, he says he made a formal application to the Liberian Civil Aviation Authority for approval to locate the facility there, because of its close proximity to Spriggs Airport, and permission was granted on the basis of his undertaking that all heights and elevations would comply with the requirements of the aviation regulator.

"Additionally, it will be situated a safe distance from the runway, as determined by the LCAA, and there will be no buildings erected in the Park," he concludes.

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families of the three missing boys who went at the funeral home to request for their children, were beaten up, brutalized and driven away by teargas.

Maryland county Senator J. Gleh-bo Brown said these allegations are grave and the matter needs to be handled properly, saying that Senator Dillon should make it as an official communication to plenary in order to enable the

committee on National Security, Defense and Intelligence to investigate the matter.

But Senator Nyonblee Kanga Lawrence of Grand Bassa County rejected Senator Brown's input, noting that the issue was placed on the agenda as Any Other Business (AOB) in which senators had an opportunity to make necessary

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Stakeholders brainstorm On Liberia's AfCFTA Status

A major stakeholder's workshop on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement has officially opened at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Monrovia, with stakeholders emphasizing the significance of the instrument in boosting trade for Liberia.

The workshop, being held from February 9-10, 2021, brings together participants from the public and private sectors. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) was established in January 2012, in Addis Abba, Ethiopia, and entered into force on May 30, 2021, with a

and that the remaining 10%, 7% may be designated as sensitive, while 3% of the tariff lines can be excluded from liberalization.

Speaking on behalf of the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Madam Mawine G. Diggs, Deputy Commerce Minister for Administration, Wilfred J.S. Bangura, highlighted efforts made by Liberia in implementing the AfCFTA Agreement.

Deputy Minister Bangura said Liberia signed the AfCFTA on March 21, 2018.

"These are few benefits of the private sector actors and the general consuming public stand to enjoy as a result of Liberia's participation in the continental

Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD).

He also announced the establishment of a National AfCFTA Technical Working Group (NATWG), which will be drawn from trade-related government ministries, agencies, private sector and appropriate civil society organizations.

For his part, Margibi County, Senator, James Emmanuel Nuquay, said the Liberian Senate welcomes the issue of the AfCFTA Agreement and its internal ratification by the National Legislature.

Deputizing for the Senate Committee Chairman on Commerce and Industry, Rivercess County Senator, Francis Paye, Senator Nuquay, noted that the launch of the AfCFTA on January 1, 2021, succeeded the African Union's 13th Extraordinary Assembly on December 5, 2020, at which time heads of state finally approved the launch of the flagship program.

The Margibi County Senator also noted that the intent of the AfCFTA Agreement is to accelerate intra African trade and boost Africa's trading position in the global market place.

Also speaking, the Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Commerce, Samuel Kogar, said the AfCFTA Agreement will create the largest free trade area in the world that will constitute 1.3 billion people across 53 countries with a combined GDP, put at 3.4 trillion United States Dollars.

The Nimba County Representative said implementation of the AfCFTA will provide the window of opportunities for Foreign Direct Investment, encourage and empower Liberian-owned businesses to find a wider continental access to huge trade opportunities, boost inter and extra Africa trade regime, spotlight trade opportunities for youth and women, create a huge platform for foreign exchange generation, among others.

# Youth group wants tough punishment against FGM

By Lewis S. Teh

Youth Alliance for Better Future located in Jacob town, Paynesville has urged the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection, and the Ministry of Justice to institute tough punishment against perpetrators of Female Genital Mutilation or FMG practice in Liberia.

The civil society group in a news conference held Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at a local forum, Mamadee Diakite Intellectual Forum in Jacob town, recalled that in July 2019, the government through the national legislature backtracked on efforts to criminalize Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) practice in the country, and deleted sections from the proposed Domestic Violence Bill (2014)

only covered girls below 18 and imposed lenient penalties on perpetrators. Miss Nyei added that the temporary ban came to an end on January 19, 2019, leaving Liberian girls and women expose to the risk of FGM once again.

She called on President George M. Weah, Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor, along with members of the 54th Legislature to ensure that women and girls in Liberia are permanently protected from FGM practice.

She said putting in place a law that prohibits the practice would ensure that women and girls in Liberia are protected and that Liberia adheres to its regional and international human rights commitments, noting that the government should also support educational outreach to relevant communities and educate local



Participants pose for photo

focus on creating a single African market for goods and services.

According to a press release, the idea is also aimed at facilitating the free movement of persons and capital to deepen economic integration and accelerate the establishment of a single continental customs union. The AfCFTA is also aimed at facilitating the free movement of persons and capital to deepen economic integration and accelerate the establishment of a single continental customs union.

State parties to the AfCFTA, agreed to a 90% elimination of tariffs on goods

body," Mr. Bangura said.

He named access to the wider African market of around 1.3 billion consumers, lower or no import duties to designated importing African countries, innovation and production of better quality of products due to specialization and diversification, as well as value for money due to increased supply of variety of goods on the Liberian market.

Deputy Minister Bangura told the gathering that the primary objective of the national strategy is to interlock the main objective of the African Continental Free Trade Area, with Liberia's national development strategy (Pro-poor



that had sought to outlaw the practice.

"We call on the GOL to ensure that a permanent and comprehensive anti-FGM law which imposes heavy penalties on perpetrators is passed and enforced, we also urge the government to support educational outreach to relevant communities and local chiefs on the harms of FGM", it said.

Reading a press statement, Assistant Secretary General of the Youth Alliance for Better Future Satta Nyei narrated that on the 19th January 2018, former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf signed Executive Order 92, temporarily banning the practice of FGM in Liberia for one year.

She said although the ban was a step in the right direction, but noted that it

chiefs about the harms of FGM, noting women's rights and health matters must be treated as a national priority.

According to her, more than half of Liberian women are living with the consequences of this harmful practice and many more are at risk, saying those women and girls have little choice in this matter, with reports of forced mutilations.

"Liberia remains one of the three West African countries that do not have a law criminalizing FGM despite having signed and ratified regional and international human rights instruments condemning the practice as a human rights violation, including the Maputo Protocol", she added.

Satta said the temporary ban on FGM was not as effective

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# Français

## “Personne ne peut décider unilatéralement du destin du LP”

Le vice-président chargé des affaires publiques du parti de la liberté, M. Daniel Sando, a démenti les rumeurs selon lesquelles l'ascension de Musa Bility à la présidence du LP est le résultat de l'achat des responsables du parti.

Dans un entretien accordé à ce quotidien lundi 8 février, M. Sando a déclaré qu'une seule personne ne peut décider du destin du parti. Il a fait valoir que toute décision prise au nom du parti doit faire l'objet d'un consensus de l'ensemble de la hiérarchie du parti. Son démenti intervient alors que les spéculations font état de la volonté de Bility, en sa qualité de président du Parti de la Liberté, de retirer le parti de la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP) pour rejoindre les rangs de la mouvance au pouvoir lors des prochaines élections générales de 2023.

Certaines personnes qui se font appeler membres fondateurs du parti, dirigées par l'ancien vice-ministre de l'Information Isaac Jackson, appellent déjà à la démission immédiate de Bility en tant

que président. Dans une déclaration publiée vendredi 5 février, les membres fondateurs et l'association des Amis de Brumskine ont demandé la démission immédiate de Bility, qui, depuis son élection à la présidence du parti, est sous le feu des critiques.

La direction des Amis de Brumskine (FOB) et les membres exécutifs fondateurs du Parti de

la Liberté qualifient d'anti-démocratique le résultat de la convention spéciale du Parti de la Liberté qui vient de se terminer. C'est, pour eux, une trahison totale de la lutte contre la corruption.

Les dirigeants du Friends Of Brumskine tiennent que la décision de permettre à M. Musa Bility d'accéder à la

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## Des responsables israéliens bientôt devant la CPI, une décision pas que “symbolique”

Alors que la Cour pénale internationale s'est dite compétente pour mener des enquêtes sur des crimes de guerre présumés commis par des Israéliens dans les Territoires palestiniens en 2014, les autorités palestiniennes espèrent que

cette décision va “accélérer” les procédures judiciaires contre ces responsables.

En se déclarant compétente, vendredi 5 février, pour enquêter sur d'éventuels crimes de guerre commis dans la bande de Gaza à l'été 2014, la Cour pénale internationale

(CPI) a offert indirectement une victoire diplomatique de premier plan à l'Autorité palestinienne.

Notamment en précisant textuellement que “la juridiction territoriale de la Cour concernant la situation en Palestine (...) s'étend aux territoires occupés par Israël depuis 1967, à savoir Gaza, la Cisjordanie et Jérusalem-Est”.

Alors même que la CPI a eu beau ajouter qu'avec sa décision, elle “ne statuait pas sur un différend frontalier en droit international ni ne préjugait de la question de quelconques futures frontières”, le Premier ministre palestinien, Mohammad Shtayyeh, a immédiatement salué, dans un entretien exclusif accordé à France 24, une décision qui équivaut à “une victoire et à une reconnaissance de l'État palestinien avec les frontières de 1967”.

Feu vert pour les enquêtes de Fatou Bensouda

Concrètement, sur le plan judiciaire, cette décision est aussi synonyme de feu vert pour Fatou Bensouda, la procureure de ce tribunal international qui avait annoncé en décembre 2019 vouloir ouvrir une enquête sur d'éventuels “crimes de guerre” commis dans les Territoires palestiniens en 2014. C'est à sa demande que la chambre préliminaire de la CPI a dû se prononcer sur la portée de sa compétence territoriale “dans la situation en Palestine”.

“Fatou Bensouda peut désormais lancer une enquête à la demande de l'Autorité palestinienne, qui avait adhéré à la CPI en 2015 et obtenu à ce titre la possibilité de saisir la procureure de crimes commis sur ces territoires”, souligne Stéphanie Maupas, correspondante de France 24 à La Haye, aux Pays-Bas, où siège la CPI.

En 2015, une enquête préliminaire avait été lancée sur des allégations de crimes de guerre et de crimes contre l'humanité en Israël et dans les territoires palestiniens, dans le sillage de l'opération “Bordure protectrice” à Gaza. Une guerre qui a fait 2 200 morts côté palestinien, dont 1 500 civils selon l'ONU, et 73 morts côté israélien, dont 67 soldats.

Fatou Bensouda a également laissé entendre qu'elle pourrait aussi mener des investigations sur l'utilisation de moyens non létaux et létaux par des forces israéliennes contre les “marches du retour”, manifestations organisées en 2018 à Gaza. Mais aussi sur la politique de colonisation israélienne, la procureure estimant que “des membres des autorités israéliennes ont commis des crimes de guerre”, notamment en transférant des civils israéliens en Cisjordanie.

De leur côté, les Palestiniens espèrent que cette décision va “accélérer” les procédures judiciaires contre les autorités israéliennes. “Nous attendons la prochaine phase, nous laissons à la Cour le soin de désigner les responsables des crimes commis contre le peuple palestinien, et je suis certain qu'un certain nombre de personnes vont subir les conséquences de cette décision”, a confié le Premier ministre palestinien Mohammad Shtayyeh.

“L'État hébreu n'est certes pas membre de la CPI, mais cela ne change rien puisque cette juridiction poursuit des individus et non pas des

pays”, explique Bassam Tablieh, avocat spécialisé en droit international et en droits de l'Homme, interrogé par France 24.

Installée à La Haye, la CPI est spécifiquement compétente pour poursuivre des individus soupçonnés de génocide, crimes contre l'humanité et crimes de guerre commis depuis le 1er juillet 2002, date d'entrée en vigueur de son traité fondateur.

“Outre son côté symbolique pour les Palestiniens, je pense que cette décision aura un impact concret sur des responsables politiques et des militaires susceptibles d'être poursuivis, notamment lorsqu'ils seront en déplacement à l'étranger”, estime Bassam Tablieh.

Théoriquement, dans le cas où des dirigeants israéliens seraient poursuivis, ils feraient alors l'objet d'un mandat international. Même si l'État hébreu refusera de collaborer avec une Cour qu'il ne reconnaît pas, les 123 pays qui sont États parties au Statut de Rome de la CPI seraient alors dans l'obligation de collaborer, d'arrêter les personnes concernées présentes sur leurs territoires et de les livrer à la Cour.

Bassam Tablieh rappelle qu'en décembre 2009, l'ex-ministre israélienne des Affaires étrangères, Tzipi Livni, avait annulé in extremis un séjour à Londres après avoir été informée qu'elle était sous le coup d'un mandat d'arrêt émis par un tribunal britannique à la suite d'une plainte pour son rôle pendant une opération militaire israélienne dans la bande de Gaza, un an plus tôt.

“Nous espérons que la Cour mettra fin à l'impunité, non seulement en compliquant les déplacements des responsables israéliens, mais surtout qu'elle puisse juger et emprisonner ceux qui doivent l'être”, a insisté le ministre des Affaires étrangères de l'Autorité palestinienne, Riyad al-Maliki, sur l'antenne arabophone de France 24.

Netanyahu “s'inquiète pour ses militaires”

Du côté israélien, le Premier ministre Benjamin Netanyahu ne décolère pas contre la Cour après ce revers sur la scène internationale. “Quand la CPI enquête sur Israël pour de faux crimes de guerre, c'est purement et simplement de l'antisémitisme”, a-t-il

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# Français

## “Personne ne peut décider

présidence du Parti de la Liberté en dépit de son implication dans une myriade de scandales de corruption au niveau local et international, « témoigne du malaise des dirigeants qui règne actuellement sur le parti ».

Dans leur déclaration, ils ont en outre fait valoir que la nature préemballée des activités conduisant à la Convention spéciale du Parti qui a élu Bility était non seulement contraire aux principes de la démocratie interne, mais déshonorait la mémoire vénérée de Me Charles Walker Brumskine, qui a pris des risques

personnels dans sa quête d'une bonne gouvernance et d'un Libéria sans corruption.

Lundi, selon un rapport circulant sur les réseaux sociaux, l'ancienne sénatrice du comté de Margibi, Clarice Jah, avait été nommée présidente par intérim du parti en remplacement de M. Bility.

Mais M. Sando, qui a refusé d'accorder la moindre crédibilité à Isaac Jackson et à son groupe, a expliqué que toutes ces théories du complot visent à saper la présidence de Bility. « Le parti ne veut pas donner de crédibilité à Isaac Jackson et aux autres », a-t-il dit.

## Des responsables israéliens

affirmé, samedi, dans une vidéo publiée sur les réseaux sociaux.

“C'est purement et simplement de l'antisémitisme”

“Depuis plusieurs mois, les responsables israéliens ont multiplié les déclarations contre la Cour, et notamment Benjamin Netanyahu qui avait déclaré que la lutte conte la CPI était une des priorités stratégiques d'Israël”, précise Stéphanie Maupas.

Le gouvernement israélien rejette la compétence de la Cour et estime que “la Palestine n'est pas un État” et que les territoires ne peuvent donc pas relever de sa juridiction. Techniquement, c'est la reconnaissance à l'ONU de la Palestine en tant qu'État observateur non-membre” en 2012 qui a permis l'adhésion de l'Autorité palestinienne à la CPI trois ans plus tard, contrairement à Israël qui, comme la Chine ou les États-Unis, n'est pas membre de cette cour internationale.

“Il y a une certaine inquiétude côté israélien, où la décision de la CPI est perçue comme un coup dur pour Benjamin Netanyahu, explique Leila Odeh, correspondante de France 24 à Jérusalem. Le Premier ministre s'inquiète notamment pour ses

militaires, car des noms de commandants de premier plan de l'armée israélienne peuvent être concernés par les enquêtes de la Cour”.

Et d'ajouter : “Il y a même une certaine crainte pour des responsables politiques, puisque les décisions militaires ne peuvent être prises sans un feu vert politique et gouvernemental en Israël, les deux sont liés”.

Dans un article publié le 16 juillet 2020, le quotidien de référence israélien Haaretz indiquait que l'État hébreu était en train de dresser une liste secrète de responsables politiques, de militaires et de fonctionnaires susceptibles d'être poursuivis par la CPI.

Une liste qui comprenait, selon le journal, les noms de 200 à 300 personnes, dont ceux de certains dirigeants israéliens en fonction lors de la dernière guerre avec Gaza en 2014. Parmi ceux-ci, se trouvent le Premier ministre Benjamin Netanyahu, les anciens ministres Moshe Yaalon, Avigdor Lieberman et Naftali Bennett, ainsi que l'ex-chef d'état-major de l'époque Benny Gantz, aujourd'hui rival politique du Premier ministre.

Invitée de “L'Entretien de France 24”, diffusé le 2 juillet, Fatou Bensouda s'était dite, quant à elle, déterminée à poursuivre ses enquêtes, malgré les pressions que l'État hébreu et les États-Unis ont tenté d'exercer sur la Cour.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Dani Rodrik

## Le dilemme technologique des pays pauvres

**C**AMBRIDGE - Le développement économique repose sur la création d'emplois plus productifs pour une part sans cesse croissante de la main-d'œuvre. Traditionnellement, c'est l'industrialisation qui a permis aux pays pauvres de se lancer dans cette transformation. Le travail en usine n'était peut-être pas glorieux, mais il a permis aux agriculteurs de devenir des ouvriers, transformant ainsi l'économie et la société.

De nombreux pays à faible revenu en Afrique et ailleurs espèrent emprunter une voie similaire à l'avenir. Alors que personne ne s'attend nécessairement à un succès à l'échelle de ceux de la Chine et des tigres d'Asie de l'Est avant cela, l'industrialisation et l'intégration dans les chaînes de valeur mondiales sont considérées comme essentielles pour atteindre une croissance économique rapide - ou la restaurer après la pandémie de la COVID-19 - et en créer un grand nombre d'emplois pour la jeune population africaine.

Avant la pandémie, les pays africains avaient déjà obtenu un certain succès en matière d'industrialisation. L'Éthiopie a mis en place un secteur de l'habillement et de la chaussure axé sur l'exportation, avec l'aide d'investisseurs chinois et européens. La Tanzanie a construit un secteur manufacturier plus intensif en ressources et axé sur les marchés nationaux et régionaux. Des recherches récentes suggèrent que la désindustrialisation prématurée à laquelle le continent avait été soumis a pu être stoppée ou même inversée après le début des années 2000.

Il y a néanmoins un aspect de la renaissance manufacturière de l'Afrique qui pose problème. Même là où l'industrialisation s'enracine plus profondément, peu de bons emplois ont été créés dans les branches manufacturières plus modernes, formelles et productives.

En fait, le nombre d'emplois formels a stagné, l'essentiel de l'augmentation de l'emploi manufacturier provenant de petites entreprises informelles. Cette expérience contraste fortement avec celle des pays qui ont connu une industrialisation rapide en Asie de l'Est, tels que Taiwan (dans les années 60 et 70) ou le Vietnam (plus récemment), où la croissance de l'emploi manufacturier était concentrée dans les entreprises formelles.

Le paradoxe est encore plus fort quand on regarde ce qui se cache derrière les nombres agrégés. Dans de nouvelles recherches, Margaret McMillan de l'Université Tufts, Xinshen Diao et Mia Ellis de l'Institut international de recherche sur les politiques alimentaires et moi-même, avons trouvé une dichotomie frappante entre les performances des grandes et des petites entreprises. En Éthiopie et en Tanzanie, les grandes entreprises affichent des performances de productivité supérieures mais n'augmentent pas beaucoup l'emploi, tandis que les petites entreprises absorbent une main-d'œuvre abondante mais connaissent une faible croissance de leur productivité. Par conséquent, ces économies créent peu de bons emplois, tandis que les avantages des améliorations de la productivité restent limités à un très petit segment du secteur industriel.

Les explications conventionnelles ne peuvent expliquer cette dichotomie. Un environnement commercial peu développé peut expliquer la faible création d'emplois, mais pas la croissance rapide de la productivité au sein des mêmes entreprises. On pense souvent que les salaires africains sont élevés par rapport à la productivité, mais nous constatons

que la part de la masse salariale dans la valeur ajoutée totale est extrêmement faible en Tanzanie et en Éthiopie, ce qui suggère que les coûts de main-d'œuvre ne sont probablement pas une contrainte. De plus, le faible dynamisme des entreprises est démenti par les taux d'entrée et de sortie très élevés que nous observons dans l'industrie.

Une caractéristique importante des grandes entreprises manufacturières qui peut aider à expliquer le paradoxe est qu'elles sont excessivement capitalistiques. Dans les pays à faible revenu comme l'Éthiopie et la Tanzanie, les travailleurs sont nombreux et les capitaux (machines et équipements) sont rares et donc chers. La théorie économique standard prédit que la production dans de telles circonstances serait orientée vers des techniques à plus forte intensité de main-d'œuvre.

Pourtant, nous constatons que les grandes entreprises des secteurs manufacturiers de la Tanzanie et de l'Éthiopie sont beaucoup plus capitalistiques que ne le suggèrent les niveaux de revenu ou les dotations en facteurs de ces pays. En fait, ces entreprises sont aussi capitalistiques que les entreprises de la République tchèque, même si cette dernière est environ dix fois plus riche en capital que la Tanzanie et l'Éthiopie.

Il peut sembler irrationnel pour les entreprises d'utiliser autant de capital (avec des intrants complémentaires tels que la main-d'œuvre qualifiée) dans des pays où l'avantage comparatif sous-jacent est l'abondance de travailleurs moins qualifiés. Mais il n'est pas certain qu'ils aient le choix. Les technologies de fabrication sont devenues progressivement plus exigeantes en capital et en compétences au fil du temps, répondant à l'évolution des prix des facteurs dans les principales économies avancées. Les technologies des années 50 ou 60 étaient peut-être plus exigeantes en main-d'œuvre, mais elles n'aideront pas les entreprises africaines à être compétitives sur les marchés mondiaux aujourd'hui. Et les technologies utilisées dans les chaînes de valeur mondiales semblent être particulièrement biaisées contre la main-d'œuvre non qualifiée.

Cela laisse les économies africaines dans une impasse. Leurs entreprises manufacturières peuvent soit devenir plus productives et compétitives, soit créer plus d'emplois. Faire les deux en même temps semble très difficile, voire impossible.

Ce dilemme rappelle une vieille préoccupation dans la littérature en économie du développement concernant les technologies inappropriées. Des auteurs comme E.F. Schumacher craignaient dans les années 1970 que les technologies occidentales ne favorisent les usines à grande échelle, à forte intensité de capital, mal adaptées aux conditions des pays à faible revenu. Ces inquiétudes ont été balayées par l'expansion phénoménale de l'emploi manufacturier dans les pays en voie d'industrialisation tournés vers l'exportation au cours des décennies suivantes.

Nous devrions peut-être remettre l'idée à l'ordre du jour. Les évolutions technologiques récentes dans les économies avancées semblent avoir rendu plus difficile le développement des pays à faible revenu et leur convergence avec les niveaux de revenu du reste du monde. Ces changements ont contribué à approfondir le dualisme économique et technologique, même dans les segments les plus avancés des économies des pays en développement. C'est encore une autre raison pour organiser un débat public à propos de la direction du changement technologique et les outils dont les gouvernements disposent pour le réorienter.

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# Foreign Minister impressed by Chinese - aided project at LBS

Following a guarded tour of ongoing works at the Liberia Broadcasting System (LBS) along with Chinese Ambassador Mr. Ren Yisheng, Liberia's Foreign Minister Dee - Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr., says he is very much impressed by the progress being made on the project with support from the Chinese government.

"I'm very much pleased with what we're seeing at LBS. There are things that I am seeing here that, though I have been coming here before, but as Minister of Foreign Affairs, this is my first visit," he said at the climax of

ensure that all Liberians and residents within the borders of the country have access to information and awareness on the development and activities in Liberia.

He extends thanks and appreciation to the LBS management headed by Director General Madam Estelle Liberty Kemoh and her deputy Madam Tete Gebroe, among others, for their great work, commitment and dedication in running the affairs of the state broadcaster.

Minister Kemayah reaffirms his commitment and support as it relates to his ongoing advocacy and lobby for support to the LBS.

to Liberia Mr. Ren Yisheng thanked Minister Kemayah for the invitation to visit LBS, Liberia's Information Minister and Chairman of the Board of LBS Mr. Ledgerhood Rennie and the management team of LBS for the reception.

Highlighting the important role played by the media in disseminating information to the public about what is happening in Liberia and the world at large, Amb. Yisheng notes that the media play an important role in promoting economic development, cultural affairs and tourism, among others.

In order to deliver on all of these commitments, he stresses that the media need capacity and the resources, adding that China is very pleased to help with its partnership with the Liberian Government and LBS in making this to work.

Amb. Yisheng said he was very pleased to have the opportunity to see the progress made on the refurbishment of structures at LBS, adding that China will continue to support the Liberian government in boosting the capacity of the media sector, in particular, the LBS.

Madam Estelle Liberty Kemoh, Director General of LBS, thanks the Foreign Minister of Liberia Amb. Kemayah and Amb. Yisheng of China for the visit and committing more support to strengthen the state broadcaster LBS.

She pledges the commitment of her management team to do exactly what they have been given the opportunity to do to disseminate information to the public and continue to lead the broadcast sector in Liberia.

Madam Kemoh also appreciates her former boss, now LBS Board Chair Minister Rennie, for continuously giving the LBS family a listening ear amidst his busy schedules.--*Press release*

The Liberian Foreign Minister also says the tour at the LBS is in line with his reform agenda at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, pursuant to the vision of President Weah.

As the bridge between the international community and the Government and people of Liberia, he says the Ministry of Foreign Affairs sees it fit to visit projects being undertaken by Liberia's friends and partners in the international community to see what they are doing, assess the level of progress made with respect to different projects and see the challenges.

Also speaking during the interview, Chinese Ambassador



Foreign Minister Dee - Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr.

the tour Tuesday, 9 February during an interview at the LBS Compound in Paynesville.

Through its partnership with the Government and People of the Republic of Liberia, the Chinese Government is helping the Liberian state broadcaster LBS with the construction of modern studios, some of which will be used for commercial purposes to free up airtime and development programs.

Additionally, Minister Kemayah and Ambassador Yisheng assessed a site designated inside LBS Compound where construction is to take place for a proposed two - storey building for the state broadcaster. According to Minister Kemayah, the Chinese are waiting for the design to be approved by the Liberian authorities to see how they can move ahead.

Minister Kemayah stresses that this is in line with President George Manneh Weah's vision to

# Jackson Children Foundation elects PTA officials

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The Jackson Children Foundation for Better Education (JCFFBE) situated in St. Kizito Community in Paynesville City has elected the school's Parents Teachers Association (PTA) Chairman and Co-Chairman respectively.

During the meeting on Sunday, 7 February Mr. Jayjay D. Musuh was elected as PTA Chairman with Madam Mary Tarwoe as a Co-chairperson.

The election of the two individuals comes in the wake of the absence of the PTA, the umbrella organization that represents parents in the school.

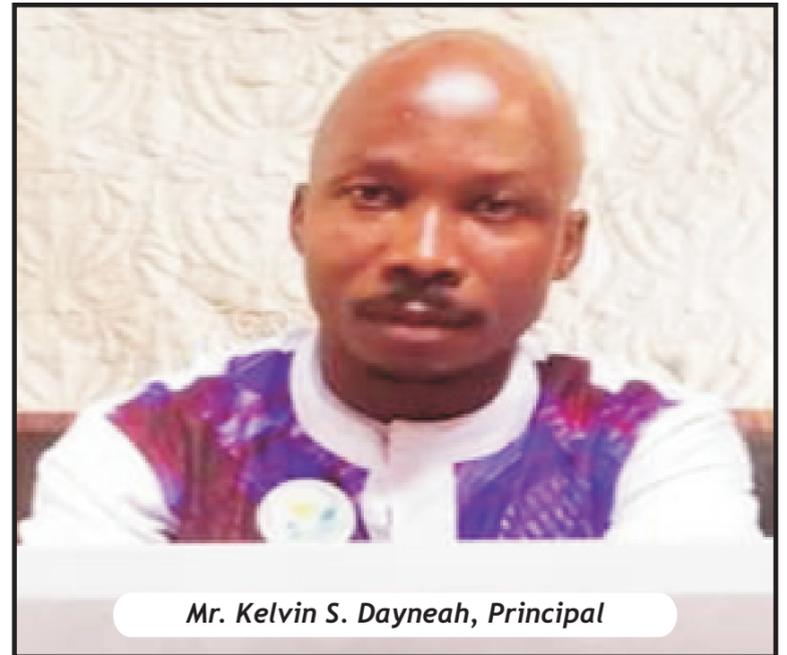
Speaking during mass meeting of parents, guardians, and instructional staff of the institution, the new Principal of the institution Mr. Kelvin S. Dayneah said that he was satisfied that after years of

changing of school uniforms, placement of transparent (asbestos) zinc to provide light in various classrooms in the absence of electricity, among others.

He added that to prevent students from leaving the school campus during recess, the administration has negotiated with four women to sell varieties of food that students can purchase daily, praising parents for their continued commitment to the school.

He disclosed that to ensure sound and quality education at the Jackson Children Foundation for Better Education, the school has hired services of highly qualified and trained instructional staff to provide instructional services to the institution.

He informed parents that the school has observed with



Mr. Kelvin S. Dayneah, Principal

absence of the PTA from the school, the institution was able to have one that will directly speak for parents and guardians.

He disclosed that now the J. C. F. F. B. C. has a leadership, the school will work with the PTA leaders on every issue confronting students to ensure their welfare is addressed.

According to Principal Dayneah, who represented the school's founder and proprietor Mr. James Jackson, the administration of the school will directly engage the PTA on all matters affecting the wellbeing of students in line with the Ministry of Education (MOE) guidelines concerning the operations of school PTAs in the country.

Dayneah informed parents that under his administration, the school has embarked on construction of modern latrines, digging of well,

seriousness the continuous lateness of some students which poses serious academic challenges to their children's education, urging them to ensure that students arrive on campus on time and are properly dressed, threatening three weeks' suspension for any student coming to school late.

Speaking on behalf of the Parents Teachers Association, Chairman-elect Jayjay Musuh expressed gratitude to parents and the school administration for the confidence reposed in them, indicating that he and his colleague with the help of administration, would make the PTA number one in the St. Kizito Community.

Musuh agrees with the school principal, teachers and parents who recommended some forms of punishment for students such as cutting grass, sweeping the campus, and cleaning classrooms, etc.

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# War Crimes Court is finally here

By Othello B. Garblah

The trial of a suspected Sierra Leonean warlord, Gibril Ealoghima Massaquoi, accused of atrocities in Liberia during the civil war, which started in Finland is finally bringing the much debated court to Liberia.

The Finnish Non-Governmental Organization Civitas Maxima, which is heavily promoting the trial is pushing prosecutors to conduct the earing of witness testimonies in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

The court is expected to move to Liberia and neighboring Sierra Leone in the next few weeks to hear testimony from up to 80 witnesses and visit sites where the atrocities are alleged to have been carried out under Mr. Massaquoi's orders.

Massaquoi, this paper has learnt from sources, played a key role in former President

Congress (2017-2018) Resolution 1055, affirms the strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia.

Liberia witnessed one of Africa's most brutal conflicts - the first and second civil wars of 1989-1997 and 1999-2003, respectively.

Many Liberians if not most, welcome the establishment of the Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal in Liberia, but few opposed it.

One man who has been so vociferous against the establishment of the war crimes tribunal here is Nimba County Senator Prince Johnson.

Johnson was the leader of the breakaway Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) that slaughtered former President Samuel K. Doe on his Cardwell based in 1990.

greatest responsibility," Cllr. Koffa told the New Dawn Tuesday February 9 via a WhatsApp interview.

Deputy Speaker Koffa says in order to have the full implementation of the TRC recommendation, he calls for the establishment of the relevant infrastructure both legal and physical to ensure sustainable justice.

But can an EU NGO like Civitas Maxima have any form of authority or jurisdiction over Liberia outside of the TRC?

To this Cllr. Koffa thinks differently. He says this could lead to a misstep that may not be legally recoverable.

"To have ad hoc NGOs conducting bounty hunting throughout the world, while laudable, will lead to missteps that may not be legally recoverable" explained Cllr. Koffa.

"I am not sure they (NGOs) can because the Liberian prosecutorial authorities

# Senate probes

Starts from page 6

changes from the beginning but they accepted the agenda as official working tool of the Liberian Senate. However, she concurred that the security apparatus must appear before plenary next Tuesday.

The lone female senator added that whilst the security apparatus will appear on Tuesday, Senator Dillon should write an official communication and copies be distributed among all senators before Tuesday so they can abreast themselves of the issue and be prepared to question the authorities that are in charge.

Family members of the victims now feared dead besieged the funeral parlor last October, demanding that its proprietor, Mr. Moses Ahoussouhe, to produce their living bodies, but according to the police, they are already dead.

Spokesperson of the aggrieved party Lovettee

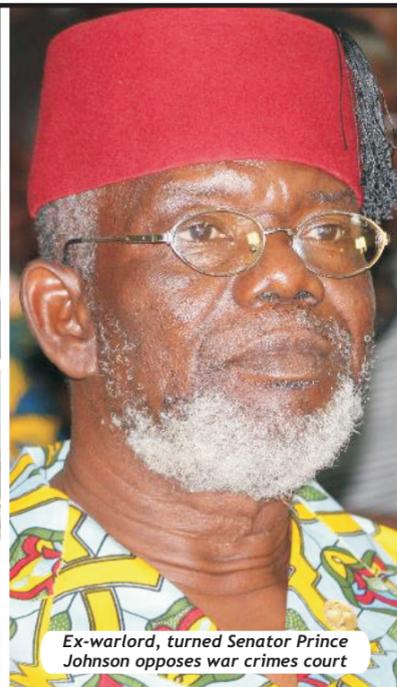
Johnson said their friends and brothers in persons of Robert Blamo, Jr., Siafa and Blama were all motorcycle technicians specialized in heavy duty motor bikes. She narrated the three men were working with Robert Blamo Sr., the father of one of the victims.

According to Lovettee, since Saturday, 15 October 2020 Mr. Ahoussouhe who popularly is called by the name of his funeral home St. Moses, allegedly called the father of the late Blamo, Jr., asking him to allow his son Blamo, Jr. to go to Bomi Hill at the Jungle James Diamond Creek to help fix his motorbike.

But while preparing for service on Sunday morning, Lovettee Johnson narrated further that they were surprised to receive a call, informing them that their children got drowned in the river and since then, their bodies are yet to be found.



Ex-Pres. Taylor jailed for war crimes in Sierra Leone



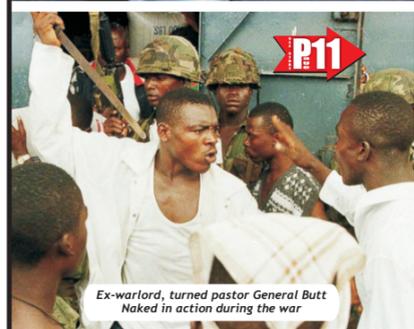
Ex-warlord, turned Senator Prince Johnson opposes war crimes court



Gibril Massaquoi, Sierra Leonean indicted for war crimes in Liberia



Deputy Speaker Koffa supports war crimes court in Liberia



Ex-warlord, turned pastor General Butt Naked in action during the war

Charles Taylor's conviction as a protected star witness.

Like Taylor, who is currently serving a 50-years sentence in a British prison for war crimes committed in Sierra Leone, Massaquoi, is standing trial for war crimes and crimes against humanity allegedly committed in Liberia between 1999 and 2003.

Prosecutors have accused him of killing civilians and soldiers who had just been disarmed, rape, and recruiting child soldiers.

Massaquoi has since denied the charges and says he was taking part in peace talks at the time of the alleged crimes.

But are there support for a war crimes court in Liberia?

The United States House of Representatives passed a Resolution 1055, calling for the establishment of a war and economic crimes court in Liberia.

The U.S House of Representative 115th

Johnson thinks the establishment of a war crimes tribunal here will dig out old wounds and probably plunge the country back into civil war. He believes Liberians have healed and should move on.

But others think Johnson and others like him who committed atrocities here should not go unpunished.

Cllr. Fonati Koffa, is Liberia's newly elected Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives. He believes that those who committed atrocities here should be made to account for their crimes. To him that will bring about true accountability to the horrible tragedy that took place here decades ago.

"In order to bring true accountability to the horrible tragedy of the Liberian civil war, I support a process in line with US House of Rep Resolution 1055 which calls for the full implementation of the TRC as the sole legitimate manner in which we can hold those responsible who bear the

have not been joined in the matter and I don't think they can be joined outside of the TRC process set up by the Liberian legislature," he added.

The first of such case in Liberia

If the prosecutors succeed in moving the court to Liberia to interview witnesses in connection to the Massaquoi trial, this will be the first of such case to be partly held in Liberia, with Massaquoi remaining in Finland.

The wars in Liberia did not only destroyed the lives of hundreds of thousands of Liberians, but eventually spilled into neighbouring Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire.

And yet only victims in Sierra Leone have had some degree of accountability for those responsible for committing such atrocities. This was achieved through the efforts of the UN-backed special court for which

# Youth group wants

Starts from page 6

as initially anticipated during its one year of existence as a law. This was mainly due to lack of knowledge on the existence of the ban and lack of a coordinated multi-sectorial implementation by state agencies, saying that even with the existence of the Executive Order, the number of Sande bushes in Liberia has increased with the practice now extended to 11 counties from the previous 10.

According to her, besides the temporary ban, there has never been any solid attempt at making FGM illegal in Liberia. In fact, the few cases that have gone through the justice system have been covered under Section 242 of the Penal Code which speaks to malicious and unlawful injuries towards another person by cutting off or otherwise depriving him or her of any of the members of his body, finding a person guilty of a felony, which she said is punishable by up to five years in prison says Nyei.

At the same time she mentioned a case involving Ruth Peal who continues to endure the long term health implications of FGM, In July 2011, members of the politically influential Sande secret society who had kidnapped and forcibly subjected Ruth to FGM were sentenced to three years imprisonment; however, they appealed the judgment and were released on bail.

she also mention in March 2017, where a 16-year-old Zaye Doe died in Tappita Nimba county in the Sande bush during forced mutilation, saying traditional leaders (Zoes) subjected Zaye and 25 more girls to FGM despite the government ban on Sande Secret Society operations, including FGM.

"This forced mutilation that led to the death of Zaye Doe in 2017 demonstrate the urgency with which the Government of Liberia must act to end this harmful practice, the statement concluded.



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jurisdiction was limited to crimes in Sierra Leone.

In Liberia, no perpetrator has been brought to book both internationally and locally. But

there are calls overwhelming for those responsible for the spillage here to be held accountable.

## Weah breaks grounds for multi-purpose sports complex



President George Manneh Weah has broken grounds for the Invincible Sports Park, a multi-purpose complex that will contain basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, walking trails, a children's playground, and an outdoor gym, together with adequate sanitary facilities.

During the ceremony Tuesday, 9 February in Sinkor, President, a former Liberian international soccer star, said as a public park, the facility will be freely accessible and available to anyone and everyone who seeks to use it.

"Today has brought me yet another opportunity to share my dreams and aspirations for the happiness and well-being of our

citizens, by providing modern recreational facilities that will contribute to their good health, wellbeing, and fitness," Mr. Weah says.

He recalls that he attended the Ellen Mills Scarborough Junior High School right across the road from where the groundbreaking ceremony

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## Arsenal v Benfica Europa League tie to be played on neutral ground

Mikel Arteta's side were due to travel to Lisbon for the February 18 first leg, but Portugal is on the UK government's 'red list', which means there are strict coronavirus quarantine rules around people returning from the country.

That would have had an obvious knock-on effect on the Gunners' subsequent schedule and both clubs have agreed to move the game to Rome's Stadio Olimpico on the

same date as a result.

"UEFA would like to express its gratitude to Benfica and Arsenal for their support and close co-operation, as well as the Italian Football Federation and AS Roma for their assistance and agreeing to stage the match," European football's governing body said in a statement.

Although it was not mentioned in UEFA's release, Arsenal initially said their 'home' leg on February 25 would take place in Athens at Olympiacos'



Georgios Karaiskakis Stadium.

However, an amended announcement on their official website stated: "Details regarding the second leg will be confirmed in due

course."

Away goals will still be used to separate the teams in the event of an aggregate score draw.

The Arsenal v Benfica clash

is the latest tie in European club competition to be affected by local coronavirus guidelines, with further disruption possible before the Champions League and Europa League resume later this month.

Earlier on Tuesday, Manchester United's Europa League trip to Real Sociedad was moved to the Allianz Stadium in Turin. Regulations in Spain related to arrivals from the UK mean Chelsea's tie against Atletico Madrid is also in the offing to be rearranged.

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