

TIP ME

...Your wallet is safe

Withdrawals made easy and smooth

TipOut whenever you want.

Download Now

Available on  



The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT



Down Load
NewDawn
Android App

VOL.11 NO. 015

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2021

PRICE LD\$40.00



Weah rejects Bong citizens' appeal

US\$16m for agriculture

-Pres. Weah announces



Agriculture Minister at the NAF

For as low as 60 USD,
you can own one of these!

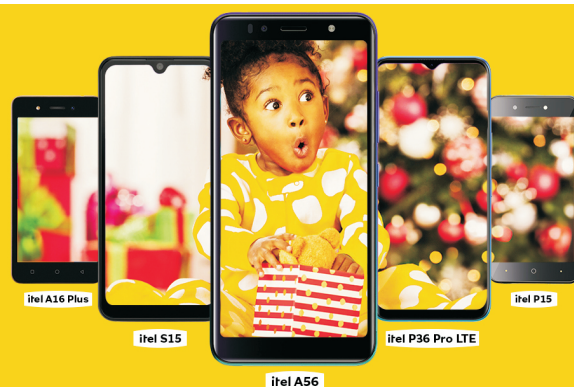
You also enjoy **1GB** free data every month for **6 months!**
Phone prices range between **60USD and above.**

Available at: **itel shop at Broad and Center Streets Intersection.**

everywhere you go

Dial *187# to get 1GB free data after purchase.

Ts & Cs apply.





Continental News

Guinea declares Ebola epidemic after deaths

Guinea has officially declared that it is dealing with an Ebola epidemic after the deaths of at least three people from the virus.

They - and four others - fell ill with diarrhoea, vomiting and bleeding after attending the burial of a nurse.

Newly developed vaccines will be acquired through the World Health Organization

(WHO), officials said.

Between 2013 and 2016 more than 11,000 people died in the West Africa Ebola epidemic, which began in Guinea. In response to that epidemic, which mainly affected Guinea and its neighbours Liberia and Sierra Leone, several vaccines were trialled, which have since been successfully used to fight outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"The WHO is on full alert and is in contact with the manufacturer [of a vaccine] to ensure the necessary doses are made available as quickly as possible to help fight back," the AFP news agency quotes Alfred George Ki-Zerbo, the WHO representative in Guinea, as saying.

An Ebola vaccine was first trialled over four months in 2015 in Guinea - and drugs

that can increase the survival rate of patients have also been developed in recent years. A nurse who worked a health centre in Goueké, near the south-eastern city of Nzérékoré, died on 28 January and her funeral was held four days later. Community funerals, where people help wash the body of the person who has died, can be a key way of spreading Ebola in the earlier stages of an outbreak.

The bodies of victims are particularly toxic. The incubation period can last from two days to three weeks.

Ebola jumps to humans from infected animals, such as chimpanzees, fruit bats and forest antelope. Bushmeat - non-domesticated forest animals hunted for human consumption - is thought to be the natural reservoir of the Ebola virus.

It then spreads between humans by direct contact with

infected blood, bodily fluids or organs, or indirectly through contact with contaminated environments.

All those infected at the funeral of the nurse were over the age of 25, health officials say. Following a crisis meeting on Sunday, the health ministry said all cases had been isolated, contact tracing was ongoing and a treatment centre was to be set up in Goueké. This new outbreak is in roughly the same area where the epidemic began in December 2013.

Given the cross border trade between Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, and their relatively weak healthcare systems, there is concern the outbreak could spread.

Liberia's President George Weah has put the health authorities on heightened alert.

The BBC's Umaru Fofana in Sierra Leone says there is far more fear of Ebola in the country than Covid-19. BBC



Ebola is spread through close physical contact with infected people

Cameroon President, Oldest African Leader, Celebrates 88th Birthday

Africa's oldest and second longest serving leader, Cameroonian President Paul Biya, celebrated his 88th birthday on February 13. Ceremonies were organized in Cameroon's major towns, with loyal government ministers and young people pledging their support, while those opposed to his 50-year rule demanded the octogenarian hand over power. Biya is blamed by some for the several crises his country is facing but his

supporters maintain that he is a godsent leader. Thousands of youths at the Yaoundé Multipurpose Sports Complex sing an anniversary song wishing 88-year-old Cameroonian President Paul Biya long life and good health. The young people said they were invited for the anniversary celebration by Cameroon's government.

Among them is 28-year-old Fatimatou Iyawa, president of the Cameroon National Youth Council. She said Biya works tirelessly to improve Cameroon.

"We are here to wish him a happy birthday because it is not everybody who is lucky to have his age. He is our patriarch, he is our example, he is a role model for the Cameroonian people. We have modern sports infrastructure that he put at the disposal of the Cameroonian young people. There are schools, universities with modern equipment that he put at the disposal of the Cameroonian young people," said Iyawa.

Ernestine Mokake, 24, another member of the youth council, said she does not see any reason to celebrate Biya's 88th birthday. She says it is unhealthy for a man at an advanced age to hang onto power.

"He has been too long in power. Since 1982, we have had just one president. Look at a country like America, from 1982 to 2021, they have had seven presidents. In my country for the sake of democracy, governance, accountability, peace and nation-building, I would have preferred that at least we have a second president. At least for a change," she said. VOA



Sudan's ex-VP arrested over bread protests

Hasabo Mohamed Abdel Rahman, who once served as vice-president to Sudan's ousted long-serving leader Omar al-Bashir, has been arrested for fomenting weeks of protests against rising food prices.

Other senior members of Bashir's administration have also been detained. About 300 people were arrested earlier

It is hoping the country's removal in December from the US list of state sponsors of terror will be a lifeline for the economy.

Sudan was put on the list in 1993 after it was used as a base for al-Qaeda, meaning it was cut off from the global financial system.

Now it can re-engage with international financial



this week during protests across Sudan. States of emergency were declared in four provinces.

There have been months of bread, fuel and power shortages as a fragile power-sharing government, which is leading a three-year transition to civilian rule, struggles to manage the economy.

institutions to obtain loans and get debt relief.

Bashir, who took power in an Islamist-backed coup in 1989, was toppled in April 2019 after mass protests fuelled by a rise in the prices of fuel and bread.

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.



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 Mehari Taddele Maru

The UN Must Intervene in Tigray

FLORENCE - In a recent interview, Rwandan President Paul Kagame argued that US President Joe Biden's new administration and the United Nations Security Council should take the lead in addressing the violence and deprivation in Ethiopia's Tigray region. Kagame described the situation there as worrying, and said the death toll was too high for the conflict to be left only to Ethiopia or the African Union to manage. As the president of a country that is still dealing with the consequences of the 1994 genocide against its Tutsi population, Kagame speaks with considerable authority here, and deserves to be heard.

Richard Wagner's music has provided the soundtrack to the Nazi regime, Donald Trump's MAGA rallies, and even Francis Ford Coppola's anti-war classic Apocalypse Now. As Hugo Drochon observes in a review of Alex Ross's recent book on the composer's legacy suggests, every age seems to get the Wagner it deserves.

There are five reasons why immediate action by the Security Council regarding Tigray is necessary.

First, the likely presence of Eritrean armed forces in Tigray makes the war both a civil and international conflict, and hence within the UN's remit. Eritrean troops have been implicated in killings and in the forcible return of Eritrean refugees, including through the burning of the Shimelba and Hitsats refugee camps. Some 15,000-20,000 Eritrean refugees are missing, according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Second, the Tigray region is now facing a possible famine, with 2.3 million people in need of emergency aid. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reports that 4.5 million people - 67% of the region's population - need assistance. Ethiopian federal government forces are said to be obstructing access to aid and clean water. There are also reports of the deliberate destruction of UN food stores and markets.

Third, with up to two million people now internally displaced, Tigray poses a significant burden on the world's humanitarian resources at a time when the need for them in East Africa has never been higher, owing to COVID-19, locust infestation, and food insecurity. The Ethiopian government's apparent unwillingness to allow the international community to provide rapid, unconditional, unfettered, and sustained humanitarian access to all parts of Tigray has worsened a dire situation.

Fourth, some UN reports and those of other organizations in Tigray point to possible grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions and other aspects of international humanitarian law that prohibit starvation of civilians and collective punishment. There are also reports of what may constitute

state-led ethnic cleansing and genocide, as well as a "high number of alleged rapes." Tens of thousands of Tigrayans serving in Ethiopia's peacekeeping, security, military, police, and intelligence spheres have been dismissed from their jobs and sometimes detained.

Enjoy unlimited access to the ideas and opinions of the world's leading thinkers, including weekly long reads, book reviews, and interviews; The Year Ahead annual print magazine; the complete PS archive; and more - All for less than \$9 a month.

Fifth, Ethiopia is so consumed by the fighting in Tigray that it is no longer a source of regional stability, and appears to be renouncing its role as regional peacekeeper. Security tensions and border disputes are mushrooming in the region, mainly between Ethiopia and Sudan, Kenya, and Somalia, with an election-related crisis in Somalia and negotiations over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam increasing the risk of proxy wars. The fragile political transition in Sudan also may be destabilized.

Making matters worse, the withdrawal of Ethiopian forces from peacekeeping missions in Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan seems almost certain to increase instability. In particular, Ethiopian troops' departure from Somalia, where the AU has conducted its AMISOM peacekeeping mission, could create an opening for the al-Qaeda-linked Al Shabaab to stage a comeback in that country.

When a state fails to prevent or alleviate atrocities within its territory (such as genocide, crimes against humanity, or war crimes), or if the state itself is the primary perpetrator of such acts, the UN must not stand idly by. After all, only the Security Council can successfully challenge a government's deliberate obstruction of humanitarian aid.

For these reasons, the Security Council must address the situation in Tigray immediately. It should adopt a resolution aimed at alleviating the suffering in the region through determined international action, and at convincing the Ethiopian government to restore peace there.

Concretely, the resolution should establish a monitoring and verification commission with a mandate to negotiate, observe, monitor, verify, and report on conditions in Tigray. The goals should be the immediate and definitive cessation of hostilities; rapid, unconditional, unfettered, and sustained distribution of aid to all parts of Tigray; the complete withdrawal of any and all external armed forces and groups; and a ceasefire agreement that can lead to a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Tigray.

Ethiopia's government says that it is ready to work with the international community to ease the suffering in Tigray. That promise must now be put to the test.

O-PED

By Willem H. Buiter

Schrödinger's Bitcoin

NEW YORK - On February 8, Elon Musk's electric-car firm Tesla announced that it had invested \$1.5 billion of its cash reserves in Bitcoin back in January. The news helped to boost the cryptocurrency's already skyrocketing price by a further 10%, to a record high of more than \$44,000. But, especially in Bitcoin's case, what goes up can just as easily come crashing down.

Bitcoin was invented in 2008 and began trading in 2009. In 2010, the value of a single Bitcoin rose from around eight-hundredths of a cent to eight cents. In April 2011, it traded at 67 cents, before subsequently climbing to \$327 by November 2015. As recently as March 20 last year, Bitcoin traded at about \$6,200, but its price has since increased more than sevenfold.

Today, Bitcoin is a perfect, 12-year-old bubble. I once described gold as "shiny Bitcoin," and characterized the metal's price as a 6,000-year-old bubble. That was a bit unfair to gold, which used to have intrinsic value as an industrial commodity (now largely redundant), and still does as a consumer durable widely used in jewelry.

Bitcoin, by contrast, has no intrinsic value; it never did and never will. It is a purely speculative asset - a private fiat currency - whose value is whatever the markets say it is.

But Bitcoin is also a socially wasteful speculative asset, because it is expensive to produce. The cost of "mining" an additional Bitcoin - solving computational puzzles using energy-intensive digital equipment - increases at such a rate that the total stock of the cryptocurrency is capped at 21 million units.

Of course, even if Bitcoin's protocol is not changed to allow for a larger supply, the whole exercise can be repeated through the issuance of Bitcoin 2, Bitcoin 3, and so on. The real costs of mining will thus be replicated, too. Moreover, there are already well-established cryptocurrencies - for example, Ether - operating in parallel with Bitcoin.

But as the success of government-issued fiat currencies shows, the universe of speculative bubbles is by no means restricted to cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin. After all, in a world with flexible prices, there is always an equilibrium where everyone believes the official fiat currency has no value - in which case it consequently has no value. And there are infinitely many "non-fundamental" equilibria where the general price level - the reciprocal of the fiat currency's price - either explodes and goes to infinity or implodes and falls to zero, even when the money stock remains fairly steady or does not change at all.

Finally, there is the unique "fundamental" equilibrium at which the price level (and the value of the currency) is positive and neither explodes nor implodes. Most government-issued fiat currencies appear to have stumbled into this fundamental equilibrium and stayed there. Keynesians ignore these multiple equilibria, viewing the price level (and thus the price of money) as uniquely determined by history and updated gradually through a mechanism like the Phillips curve, which posits a stable and inverse relationship between (unexpected) inflation and unemployment.

Regardless of which perspective one adopts, real-world hyperinflations - think of Weimar Germany or the recent cases of Venezuela and Zimbabwe - that effectively reduce the value of money to zero are examples not of non-fundamental equilibria, but rather of fundamental equilibria gone bad. In these cases, money stocks exploded, and the price level responded accordingly.

Private cryptocurrencies and public fiat currencies have the same infinite range of possible equilibria. The zero-price equilibrium is always a possibility, as is the unique, well-behaved fundamental equilibrium.

Bitcoin clearly is exhibiting neither of these equilibria at the moment. What we have instead appears to be a variant of a non-fundamental explosive price equilibrium. It is a variant because it must allow for Bitcoin to make a possible, if unexpected, jump from its current explosive price trajectory to either the nice fundamental equilibrium or the not-so-nice zero-price scenario. This multiple-equilibrium perspective doubtless makes it appear risky to invest in intrinsically valueless assets like Bitcoin and other private cryptocurrencies.

The real world is of course not constrained by the range of possible equilibria supported by the mainstream economic theory outlined here. But that makes Bitcoin even riskier as an investment.

Tesla's recent Bitcoin buy-in shows that a large additional buyer entering the market can boost the cryptocurrency's price significantly, both directly (when markets are illiquid) and indirectly through demonstration and emulation effects. But an exit by a single important player would likely have a similar impact in the opposite direction. Positive or negative opinions voiced by market makers will have significant effects on Bitcoin's price.

The cryptocurrency's spectacular price volatility is not surprising. Deeply irrational market gyrations like the one that drove GameStop's share price to unprecedented highs in January (followed by a significant correction) should serve as a reminder that, lacking any obvious fundamental value anchor, Bitcoin is likely to remain a textbook example of excess volatility.

This will not change with time. Bitcoin will continue to be an asset without intrinsic value whose market value can be anything or nothing. Only those with healthy risk appetites and a robust capacity to absorb losses should consider investing in it.



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
5th Floor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Via Email: adhoccommittee2021@gmail.com

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

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



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Lofaians attack Supreme Court

-Claim political witch hunt following Samukai's conviction

By Winston W. Parley

Lofa County Citizens in Solidarity with Convicted former Defense Minister, now Lofa Senator - elect J. Brownie Samukai have launched a verbal attack against Liberia's Supreme Court, terming as "Political witch-hunt and mission of character assassination," the court's mandate for Samukai to retribute money he misapplied or face jail for two years.

statement, Mr. Kortimai insists that Mr. Samukai did not steal any money, but implemented the orders of former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf, therefore Lofaians in Solidarity with Samukai are determined to pay the last penny he has been ordered by the Supreme Court to retribute.

"Let the word go forth that we, the thousands of Lofa County citizens who believe in Senator-elect Samukai and voted massively for him wish to inform the world that although

and Mr. James Nyumah Dorkor for the unauthorized spending of soldiers' pension money.

However, the Supreme Court ruled in the corruption case that the sentences shall be suspended provided that the convicted former Defense Ministry officials shall retribute the full amount of US\$1.147,656m or (pay) 50 percent within the period of six months, and following that, make appropriate arrangement to pay the remaining percent in one calendar year.

In its judgment, the Supreme Court said every withdrawal from the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) Pension Account should have been by authorization or consent of the AFL soldiers.

The Supreme Court said the unrelated expenses of US\$1.147,656m on the instruction of former President Sirleaf was without the pale of the law, and the appelants (defendants) are held personally liable for the unauthorized expenditure on the account.

All three officials were last year adjudged guilty by the lower court of the crimes of misuse of public money, a felony of the first degree, theft of property for over a million USD, a felony of the second degree, and criminal conspiracy.

Should the convicts fail on these mandates, the Supreme Court says they shall be incarcerated in common jail and remain there until the full amount is paid.

However Mr. Kortimai says they have not yet collected money, but announces that by Monday, 15 February, they want to open both Liberian Dollars and United States dollars accounts and publish them in the newspaper so that

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



Senator - elect J. Brownie Samukai

At a gathering of Lofaians in Solidarity of Brownie Samukai Saturday, 13 February in Paynesville, Mr. Galakpai W. Kortimai, former Lofa Superintendent and chairman of the Solidarity Movement said the neutrality and integrity of the judiciary branch here has been questioned by Liberians, ECOWAS Court and the U.S. due to how it has been dispensing justice.

Reading the group's

we respect the ruling of the Supreme Court, we are equally very disappointed and frustrated in the ruling handed down against our beloved Senator-elect Samukai!" he says.

Liberia's Supreme Court on Monday, 8 February upheld a lower court's ruling but with modification, convicting ex-President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf's longest serving Defense Minister, Mr. Brownie Samukai, his deputy Joseph P. Johnson

"We will not succumb to threats"

-Weah talks tough

Kokoya, Bong County-President George M. Weah says his Government will not succumb to threats from any company or investors, while promising that his administration will revisit every concession agreement signed under the previous regime.

Responding to a claim that a lodging company known as Alpha Lodging has threaten to pull out of the country over the poor condition of a bridge during a Town Hall meeting in

David Dean's Town, Kokoya District, Bong County, Saturday, President Weah said if the company wants to leave because of bridge, it can leave.

"I don't believe what was said but if it is true then they (company) needs to rethink...Our Government will not be afraid of any company because of Bridge. We will find company that is willing to build a bridge and stay." Said president Weah.

"If a company will wants to leave because of a little bridge,

then we have lawmakers that should be looking for another company to make bridge and stay," he added.

However, President Weah was quick to point out that on the other hand "if it is our responsibility to make sure that the bridge is fixed and the road is good then we need to sit and see how we can move forward. But they cannot abandon a contract and our country because of a little bridge that can be fixed."

"So we have to go back and revisit this document. So we can alter this document to

Moye speaks truth to power

Kokoyah, Bong County-Bong County newly Elected Senator Prince Moye who was conspicuously left out of the entire National Agriculture Fair program at CARL on Friday February 12, warned that development should not be politicized.

"I believe in development let's put the politics aside and start working together for our people," Moye said on Saturday, while making a comment at the Town Hall meeting in Kokoya District during President George Weah's tour of the area.

protect low level appointees under the guise that "they are their interest" when in effect the official's appointment is below pal.

"When one low level official is under performing he is protected by others-"let him be there he is our man.""

But Moye observed that such attitudes were undermining the service delivery of the government.

He argued that instead of other senior officials of government protecting their interest when the person is not performing, "bring another potential person into his/her



Senator - elect Prince Moye

Sen. Moye noted that the essence of government is to provide the necessary service to its people.

To achieve this he said the three branches of government need to work together because no one branch of government can function properly without the others.

He frowned on the behavior of low level members of government passing the burden on the President when they decimally perform and the president will have to take such burdens at elections.

Sen. Moye noted that it was unfortunate how some government officials try to

placer where our people will feel the services.

Moye indicated that this practice where people shield elected leaders from other citizens because they feel that the others do not belong to the leaders party or did not vote for them should stop. He noted that once the leader is elected to office he is there to serve all.

Moye gave an example of how president Weah was prevented from visiting other districts along the road to Gbanrga due to political difference between the president and leaders of these districts.

make sure it benefits our people," the president noted.

He pointed out that people needed to be serious on what they do in the interest of the country and the people.

The president's comments was in response to Kokoyah District Marketing Superintendent Madam Martha Zarkpa who informed the President that the bridge linking Bong and other parts of the district was in bad ship.

She alleged that the

current state of the bridge was due to impact from the Mittal Steels train impact that shock the bridge.

Madam Zarkpa, further claimed that the bad condition of the bridge has impacted trade in the area negatively.

"The road that leave from Bong County to St. Johns is where the food comes from, but because of that bridge there is no help. SO we ask you to repair

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

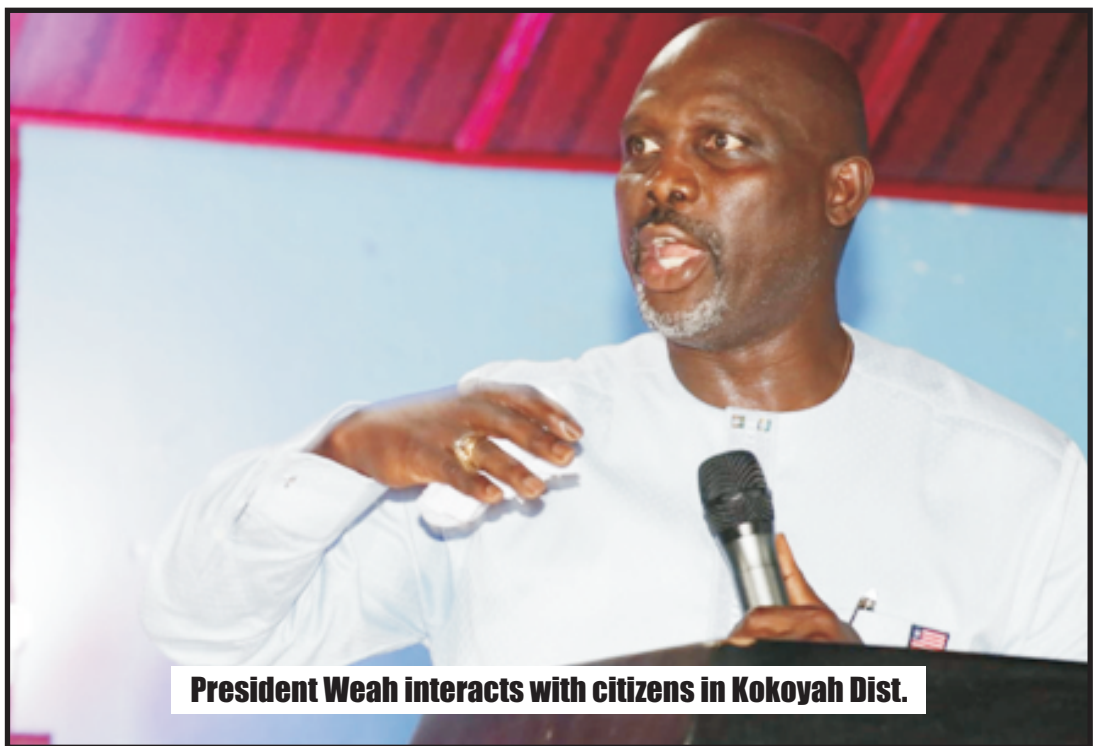
First National Agricultural Fair In



Traditional Leaders welcome President Weah in Kokoyah



Weah received in Bong County by Traditional leaders



President Weah interacts with citizens in Kokoyah Dist.



(I-R) First Lady Clar Weah & President Weah



Pres. Weah greets members of his cabinet during one of the programs in Bong on Friday

Gbarnga, Bong County -Pictorial



President Weah greets Bong County leaders upon arrival



Exhibition of made in Liberia chocolate at the NAF



US and EU officials at the NAF



Agriculture Minister at the NAF



Some side attraction during the President's arrival in Bong



First Lady Clar Weah distribute book bags to girls in Bong



Pres. Weah and First Lady Clar at the NAF



Students and even the elderly welcome president Weah

Français

Diplomatie : l'ambassadeur américain met l'accent sur la sécurité et la stabilité au Libéria

La réduction de la pauvreté, l'amélioration de la sécurité et de la stabilité et la promotion d'un développement économique tiré par le secteur privé sont au cœur du programme d'aide du gouvernement américain au Libéria, a indiqué l'Ambassadeur des États-Unis au Libéria, M. Michael McCarthy.

« Pour que nos efforts d'assistance soient couronnés de succès, nous devons faire en sorte, à travers la recherche et les consultations, que nos programmes atteignent leurs cibles et les buts et objectifs de longue date des deux pays de réduire la pauvreté, accroître la sécurité et la stabilité, et surtout - promouvoir le secteur privé », a déclaré le mercredi 10 février l'Ambassadeur McCarthy dans un discours qu'il a prononcé à l'endroit d'un groupe d'étudiants en relations internationales à l'université du Libéria.

L'ambassadeur américain qui a fait un compte rendu historique des relations bilatérales américano-

libériennes a fait savoir que lors de ses entretiens avec des représentants du gouvernement libérien, il a souligné l'importance de la durabilité et des investissements.

Il a également révélé avoir contacté les représentants de la société civile et du secteur des affaires pour entendre leurs points de vue et mieux comprendre l'environnement

dans lequel ils opèrent.

« J'ai apprécié la chance de rencontrer les dirigeants de certains des plus grands employeurs et contribuables du Libéria - y compris Firestone, APM Terminals et ArcelorMittal - pour en savoir plus sur les défis et les opportunités qu'ils voient ici et les investissements

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Justice : Les habitants de Lofa courent au secours du sénateur Samukai.

A en croire le représentant de la circonscription électorale n° 1 du comté de Lofa, Francis S. Nyumalin, les habitants de Lofa sont disposés à aider leur fils, l'ancien ministre de la Défense et actuel sénateur élu de Lofa, J. Brownie

Samukai, à lever les fonds qu'il a été tenu de restituer suite à sa condamnation.

Le lundi 8 février, la Cour suprême du Libéria a confirmé la décision d'un tribunal inférieur, condamnant le ministre de la Défense de l'ex-présidente Ellen Johnson, son

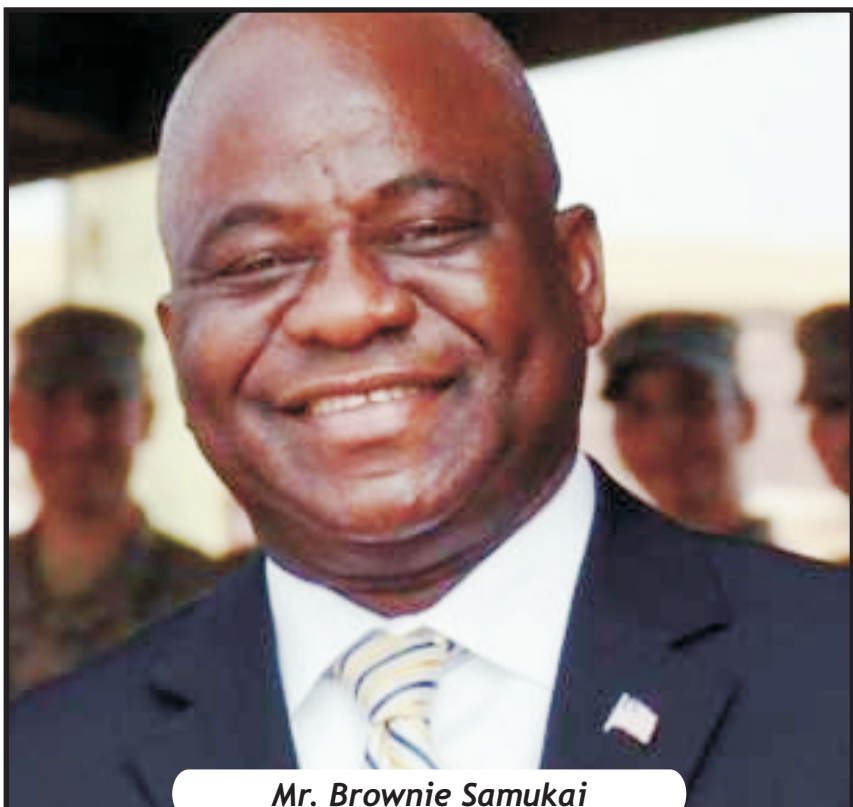
adjoint Joseph P. Johnson et M. James Nyumah Dorkor pour détournement des fonds de la pension des soldats.

Cependant, la Cour suprême a statué lundi dans l'affaire de corruption que les peines seraient suspendues à condition que les anciens fonctionnaires condamnés du ministère de la Défense restituent le montant total de 1,15 million de dollars américains. Les coupables ont six mois pour payer au moins la moitié de l'argent et douze mois pour payer le reste.

Réagissant à la décision du tribunal, le représentant Nyumalin a dit : « dans la mesure où le tribunal a décidé que Samukai porte la responsabilité pour avoir exécuté un ordre écrit de Mme Sirleaf, à l'époque commandante en chef des Forces armées du Libéria (AFL), personne ne peut rien y faire », a dit le député.

« Les habitants du comté de Lofa qui croient en leur fils

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Mr. Brownie Samukai

L'avocat britannique Karim Khan sera le prochain procureur général de la CPI

Karim Khan, avocat, dans la salle d'audience du Tribunal spécial pour la Sierra Leone à La Haye, aux Pays-Bas, le lundi 4 juin 2007.

Karim Khan, 50 ans, succèdera le 16 juin à la Gambienne Fatou Bensouda au poste de procureur général de la Cour pénale internationale. Il a été élu pour un mandat de neuf ans par 72 voix sur 122 vendredi. Il sera en charge de dossiers volumineux et d'affaires complexes, dans un tribunal dont la légitimité est en permanence remise en cause. Les pays membres de la Cour pénale internationale (CPI) ont élu vendredi 12 février un avocat britannique de 50 ans, Karim Khan, comme prochain procureur général, un poste exposé qui vaut à la titulaire actuelle, Fatou Bensouda, d'être sous sanctions américaines.

Karim Khan a été choisi face à trois autres candidats européens au 2e tour de scrutin, remportant 72 voix sur les 122 exprimées. Spécialiste des droits humains, cet avocat a récemment dirigé une enquête spéciale de l'ONU sur les crimes du groupe État islamique. Lors de cette enquête, il avait appelé à des procès semblables à celui qu'ont connu les dirigeants nazis à Nuremberg.

Il succèdera le 16 juin à la procureure générale sortante, la Gambienne Fatou Bensouda, qui a mené des enquêtes controversées, notamment sur le conflit israélo-palestinien ou encore sur l'Afghanistan.

Karim Khan a été avocat de la défense dans de nombreuses affaires de la CPI, y compris pour le fils de l'ancien dirigeant libyen Mouammar Kadhafi, Seif al-Islam. Il a d'abord fait ses armes en droit international à l'ancien Tribunal pénal international pour l'ex-Yougoslavie, où il a été conseiller juridique au bureau du procureur. Il est ensuite passé à la défense et a représenté le vice-président kényan William Ruto devant la CPI. « Une institution jeune »

Ce Britannique a aussi été avocat de la défense de l'ex-président libérien, Charles Taylor, devant un tribunal spécial pour la Sierra Leone et avocat au Tribunal spécial pour le Liban basé à La Haye, créé pour traduire en justice les assassins de l'ex-Premier ministre libanais Rafic Hariri en 2005. La CPI compte au total 123 membres sur les 193

qui composent les Nations unies. Les États-Unis, la Russie, la Chine, ou encore Israël, ne font pas partie de la CPI.

Le mandat du procureur est de neuf ans. La CPI est basée à La Haye. Celui qui sera le troisième procureur de la Cour depuis sa création en 2002 sera en charge de dossiers volumineux et d'affaires complexes, dans un tribunal dont la légitimité est en permanence remise en cause.

« Il y a beaucoup d'endroits dans le monde où la Cour pourrait agir », estime toutefois un ambassadeur sous couvert d'anonymat. C'est « une institution jeune » et « nous n'avons pas besoin de moins [de justice internationale] mais de davantage [de mise en responsabilité] », ajoute-t-il.

Sanctions « inacceptables » Les premières responsabilités du nouveau procureur consisteront à décider des prochaines étapes de l'enquête sur les crimes de guerre en Afghanistan et de l'enquête particulièrement controversée sur le conflit israélo-palestinien de 2014 à Gaza.

L'an dernier, l'administration de l'ex-président républicain américain, Donald Trump, avait pris pour cible Fatou Bensouda et un autre haut responsable de la CPI, leur imposant des sanctions, notamment une interdiction de voyager et un gel de leurs avoirs, en raison d'une enquête sur des crimes de guerre américains présumés en Afghanistan.

Israël et les États-Unis se sont également fermement opposés à une autre enquête sur des crimes de guerre présumés par les forces israéliennes et les groupes armés palestiniens.

La semaine dernière, les juges de la CPI ont cependant déclaré la Cour compétente pour les faits survenus dans les territoires palestiniens occupés, ce qui ouvre la voie à une enquête pour crimes de guerre. L'administration du nouveau président démocrate Joe Biden n'a pas encore dit si elle comptait abandonner les sanctions à l'égard de Fatou Bensouda, qualifiées par cette dernière « d'inacceptables ».

Bilan mitigé Fatou Bensouda laisse derrière elle un bilan mitigé, même si, selon des spécialistes.

Français

Diplomatie : l'ambassadeur américain

importants qu'ils ont réalisés.", a-t-il dit.

Il a encouragé les futurs diplomates libériens à envisager des moyens d'appuyer le développement de leur pays et de créer des opportunités d'affaires et d'investissement étranger.

« Il faut que vous ayez une connaissance des secteurs dans lesquels le Libéria est le plus compétitif et des domaines dans lesquels le Libéria veut accroître ses investissements », a-t-il déclaré. M. McCarthy a en outre dit qu'il est important que les étudiants en relations internationales se renseignent sur les investisseurs et concessionnaires actuels dans le pays pour pouvoir développer des relations avec des entreprises qui pourraient investir ici et contribuer à la création des emplois et à la croissance économique lorsqu'ils seront en poste à l'étranger.

Selon lui, le Libéria, bien que petit, est bien connu internationalement. Il a souligné que « l'histoire unique du pays, remplie d'énormes épreuves, mais aussi d'accomplissements, de

résilience et d'espoir remarquables, vous distingue et est connue du monde entier ».

Il a rendu hommage aux diplomates libériens, tels que l'Ambassadrice Angie Brooks, la première femme africaine Présidente de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies ou Représentante permanente auprès de l'Ambassadeur des Nations Unies Nathan Barnes qui a signé la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme au nom du Libéria, tout en déclarant que ce dernier a été au premier plan des organisations internationales et des institutions multilatérales.

M. McCarthy espère que les études diplomatiques des étudiants porteront sur le thème de la diplomatie publique et sur l'importance d'établir non seulement des relations de gouvernement à gouvernement, mais aussi des relations entre les peuples. « En racontant l'histoire fascinante du Libéria au monde, vous pouvez promouvoir l'intérêt pour le Libéria et son programme et ses objectifs actuels. Vous pouvez mettre en valeur les progrès réels qui ont été accomplis au Libéria et engendrer la compréhension et la coopération à l'avenir.

Justice : Les habitants de

Samukai sont déterminés à aider à collecter les fonds et à payer l'argent du gouvernement. Et... nous le ferons certainement », a-t-il ajouté mercredi sur OK FM, une radio locale.

Dans une décision rendue le 8 février au Temple de la justice de Monrovia, la Cour suprême a condamné l'ancien ministre J. Brownie

Samukai, son adjoint Joseph P. Johnson et M. James Nyumah Dorkor à deux ans de prison avec sursis et à restituer le montant total de 1,15 millions de dollars US.

Les trois responsables avaient été condamnés l'année dernière par le tribunal inférieur de plus crimes, dont abus de fonds publics, vol de biens et de complot criminel.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Mehari Taddele Maru

L'ONU doit intervenir au Tigré

FLORENCE - Dans une interview récente, le président rwandais Paul Kagame a soutenu que la nouvelle administration du président américain Joe Biden et le Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies devaient prendre l'initiative de lutter contre la violence et les privations dans la région du Tigré en Éthiopie. Kagame a décrit la situation de ce pays comme préoccupante et a déclaré que le nombre de morts était trop élevé pour que ce conflit soit laissé à la seule gestion de l'Éthiopie ou de l'Union africaine. En tant que président d'un pays encore aux prises avec les conséquences du génocide de 1994 contre sa population tutsi, Kagame bénéficie d'une compétence considérable en cette matière et mérite d'être entendu.

Richard Wagner's music has provided the soundtrack to the Nazi regime, Donald Trump's MAGA rallies, and even Francis Ford Coppola's anti-war classic Apocalypse Now. As Hugo Drochon observes in a review of Alex Ross's recent book on the composer's legacy suggests, every age seems to get the Wagner it deserves.

Premièrement, la présence probable de forces armées érythréennes au Tigré fait de la guerre un conflit civil et international, et qui est donc du ressort de l'ONU. Les troupes érythréennes ont été impliquées dans des meurtres et dans le retour forcé de réfugiés érythréens, notamment lors de l'incendie des camps de réfugiés de Shimelba et de Hitsats. Selon le Haut-Commissaire des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés, entre 15 000 et 20 000 réfugiés érythréens sont portés disparus.

Deuxièmement, la région du Tigré est confrontée à présent à une possible famine, où 2,3 millions de personnes ont besoin d'une aide d'urgence. Le Bureau des Nations Unies pour la coordination des affaires humanitaires signale que 4,5 millions de personnes - 67 % de la population de la région - ont besoin d'aide. On rapporte en outre que les forces du gouvernement fédéral éthiopien empêchent l'accès à l'aide et à l'eau potable. On rapporte également la destruction délibérée de magasins et de marchés alimentaires des Nations Unies.

Troisièmement, avec près de deux millions de personnes déplacées à l'intérieur du pays, le Tigré représente un fardeau important pour les ressources humanitaires du monde à un moment où le besoin de ces ressources en Afrique de l'Est n'a jamais été aussi élevé, en raison de la COVID-19, des invasions de sauterelles et de l'insécurité alimentaire. L'apparente réticence du gouvernement éthiopien à autoriser à la communauté internationale de fournir un accès humanitaire rapide, inconditionnel, sans entrave et durable à toutes les parties du Tigré a fait empirer une situation désastreuse.

Quatrièmement, certains rapports de l'ONU et ceux d'autres organisations du Tigré font état d'éventuelles violations graves des Conventions de Genève et d'autres aspects du droit international humanitaire qui interdisent le fait d'affamer des civils et les châtiments collectifs. On rapporte également des faits pouvant constituer un nettoyage ethnique dirigé par

l'État et un génocide, ainsi qu'un « grand nombre de viols présumés ». Des dizaines de milliers de ressortissants du Tigré employés dans les sphères du maintien de la paix, de la sécurité, de l'armée, de la police et des services de renseignement éthiopiens ont été licenciés et parfois détenus.

Enjoy unlimited access to the ideas and opinions of the world's leading thinkers, including weekly long reads, book reviews, and interviews; The Year Ahead annual print magazine; the complete PS archive; and more - All for less than \$9 a month.

Cinquièmement, les ravages perpétrés en Éthiopie sont tels, suite aux combats au Tigré, que ce pays n'est plus une source de stabilité dans la région et qu'il semble renoncer à son rôle de gardien de la paix dans cette région. Les tensions en matière de sécurité et les conflits frontaliers prolifèrent dans la région, principalement entre l'Éthiopie et le Soudan, le Kenya et la Somalie, où une crise liée aux élections en Somalie et des négociations sur le Barrage de la Renaissance en Éthiopie font augmenter le risque de guerres par procuration. La transition politique fragile au Soudan risque également d'être déstabilisée.

Pire encore, il est à peu près certain que le retrait des forces éthiopiennes des missions de maintien de la paix en Somalie, au Sud-Soudan et au Soudan va rendre la région encore plus instable. En particulier, le départ des troupes éthiopiennes de Somalie, où l'Union africaine a dirigé sa mission de maintien de la paix AMISOM, pourrait créer une ouverture pour le retour du groupe Al Shabaab, lié à Al-Qaïda, dans ce pays.

Lorsqu'un État ne parvient pas à prévenir ou à atténuer les atrocités commises sur son territoire (comme le génocide, les crimes contre l'humanité ou les crimes de guerre), ou si l'État lui-même est le principal auteur de tels actes, l'ONU doit agir. Après tout, seul le Conseil de sécurité peut réussir à contester l'obstruction délibérée d'un gouvernement à l'aide humanitaire.

Pour ces raisons, le Conseil de sécurité doit immédiatement faire face à la situation au Tigré. Il doit adopter une résolution visant à atténuer les souffrances dans la région par une action internationale résolue et convaincre le gouvernement éthiopien de rétablir la paix dans cette région.

Concrètement, la résolution doit établir une commission de suivi et de vérification chargée de négocier, d'observer, de surveiller, de vérifier et d'enquêter sur la situation au Tigré. Les objectifs doivent être la cessation immédiate et définitive des hostilités ; la distribution rapide, inconditionnelle, sans entrave et durable de l'aide à toutes les parties du Tigré ; le retrait complet de toutes les forces et de tous les groupes armés externes ; et un accord de cessez-le-feu pouvant conduire à une résolution pacifique du conflit au Tigré.

Le gouvernement éthiopien déclare qu'il est prêt à collaborer avec la communauté internationale pour alléger les souffrances au Tigré. Cette promesse doit être mise à l'épreuve dès à présent.

GET ACCESS TO THE

The
New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

www.thenewdawnliberia.com



Daily



US\$16m for agriculture

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

President George Manneh Weah has announced that the agricultural sector is about to benefit a US\$16 million package for aggressive and motivational support to farmers and potential farmers across the country.

Mr. Weah made the statement during observance of the national Agriculture Fair at the Central Agriculture and Research Institute (CARI) in Bong County.

On Friday, the grounds of the CARI was a scene of display of food products, poultry, and other made in Liberia products, as farmers from the 15 political subdivisions of Liberia were at hand to showcase their

production to bolster the Liberian economy and decrease the country's dependency on imported food.

He said Liberians have the capacity to grow what they eat and to eat what they grow but need to overcome complacency and idleness in achieving food security.

He called on the citizenry to return to the soil to grow enough own food if Liberia should surmount poverty and food insecurity.

He assured Liberians that his government is committed and willing to working with farmers in meeting their needs for greater agriculture productivity.

"In collaboration with the world bank, our partner, we are providing US\$16 million in

disbursement of the stipulated funds.

The President stressed: "When I say we should eat what we grow, and grow what we eat, I mean it. We must utilize our soil."

Besides the funding announced, he also said government is collaborating with the World Bank to ensure that farmers have access to low interest rate lending from local banks.

"It is time for Liberians to take ownership of producing more food and as a result, we will begin to decrease our dependency on imported food."

The President noted that the display of Liberia-made products at the National Agriculture Fair provided



products from farms and gardens. Agriculture companies, both local and international non-government organizations grace the historic day.

Liberia has not celebrated agriculture fair since 2008, during the early first term of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. The event was witnessed by international guests, including the United States Ambassador to Liberia, Michael McCarthy, and Laurent Delahousse, Head of Delegation and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the European Union to Liberia.

The Fair under the theme: "Eat what you grow and grow what you eat" has generated more encouraging and immediate drastic push for the sector to improve under President Weah.

The President's message is intended to inspire the citizenry to focus on agriculture production towards poverty alleviation.

President Weah shared his agriculture vision with rural dwellers, mainly farmers, emphasizing the need for self-sufficiency in food

funding to support private sector involved with farming in Liberia," the President announced.

President Weah said the program would capture large scale and smallholder farmers.

The President has thus authorized the Minister of Agriculture, Madam Jeanine Cooper, to begin what he calls "the process of first providing a database of all those in the areas of rice, cocoa, palm oil and rubber."

President Weah said he will subsequently set up a technical committee that will include the ministries of Agriculture, Finance and Development Planning, Commerce, State for Presidential Affairs, Justice as well as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Their task would be to work with the banks to ensure qualification, allocation and

sufficient and reasonable conviction why government must invest in farmers to collectively promote the agriculture sector and become potential exporters of Liberian products on the global market.

However, he bemoaned the lack of productivity and progress in the agriculture sector over past decades, describing the situation as the most deplorable he has seen in years.

The President said it was high time Liberians changed the dynamics, emphasizing that the situation would remain the same if nothing substantially practical was done to improve on progress made in recent months.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

Prince Johnson will

Starts from back page

Monrovia as the late Vaye desired, but the advice fell on deaf ears.

"Unfortunate for Edwin, the man (Prince Johnson) he claimed to have known ordered his execution and when others and I got the news, we were not surprise because in the presence of other comrades [I] advised him," Gongloe reflected.

"He must and will account for his past as crime cannot and will never get rotten whenever you committed it and those charges of human rights violations are clear evidence available," he added.

Senator Johnson, who regularly attended the hearing session in the James M. Fromayan Conference Hall at the National Elections Commission, was conspicuously absent during final argument on Saturday, 13 February perhaps due to President Weah's tour but his perceived followers or supporters sharply reacted.

The situation became tense and almost resulted to fist-fight after hearing officer Counselor Boakai P. Harris, adjourned the summary presentation which lasted just 2 hours in total each party - complainant and defense counsel of Edith Gongloe-Weh, and Jeremiah Kpan Koung were allotted an hour.

Inside the NEC compound, both young and old mostly those supporting CPP's candidate Edith Gongloe-Weh on one side and those supporting candidate Jeremiah Kpan Koung of the Movement for Democracy and Reconstruction, including two elderly women almost had a physical fight but they were restrained by bystanders.

Because of the tense atmosphere from both sides which drew public attention, the private guards at NEC could not contain the situation and subsequently called in the Police who restored calm.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission or TRC indicted Johnson for heinous crimes, including killing, extortion, massacre, destruction of property, force recruitment, assault, abduction, torture, forced labor and rape.

"General Johnson's

divisiveness is not only harming Nimba County, but Liberia and Liberians in general. Being that he killed most Nimbaians during the course of the war, all of his developments are in Ganta and not in his village he claimed to have come from, when his father is a Sierra Leonean but mother, Gio," Gongloe disclosed.

Commenting on the electoral process in Nimba County, Gongloe and team stated that Senator Johnson intimidated voters on Election Day by allegedly "wearing military uniform" and his pronouncement of having 150 militants under his control violated section 10.5 of the new electoral law.

Section 10.5 under Undue Influence states: "Any person who, in connection with any election commits or attempts to commit any of the following acts is guilty of an election offense and punishable by a fine of not more than One Thousand (\$1, 000. 00) or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year or both.

They said the act of Johnson during electioneering of Tuesday 08 December, 2020, midterm senatorial poll was a violation of the new electoral law, and also benefitted senatorial candidate, Jeremiah Kpan Koung of the Movement for Democracy and Reconstruction or MDR.

Cllr. Gongloe is brother and the lead counsel for complainant Edith Gongloe-Weh of the Collaborating Political Parties in the CPP versus the National Elections Commission, and that of senatorial candidate Jeremiah Kpan Koung of the Movement for Democracy and Reconstruction or MDR case for alleged "frauds and irregularities."

He has been assisted for almost two months during the hearing of the case by two retired Supreme Court's Chief Justices, Frances Johnson-Allison, and Gloria Musu-Scott.

Others include Counselors Momolu Kandakai, Augustine Fayiah, Kuku Dorbor, Bobby Livingstone, Philip Y. Gongloe and Lawrence Tomah. They have been making case for recount of ballots and rerun in some electoral districts in Nimba County. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*

"We will not succumb

Cont'd from page 5

that bridge for us. Alpha Lodging is leaving because of that bridge." Madam Zarkpa explained.

"We have to be clear that this our country and we cannot be spectators in our own country. So don't let anybody scare you." He opined. "We

want to work with everybody but we will not work under threat," he noted.

In this regard, the president promised that his administration will review all concession documents to ensure their benefits for the country. *-Othello B. Garblah*

**The NewDawn Newspaper
is on the Newsstand Daily.**

**Grab a copy of today's edition
or visit: <https://thenewdawnliberia.com/>**

Weah rejects Bong citizens' appeal

By Othello B. Garblah

Kokoya, Bong County-President George M. Weah has rejected an appeal from the citizens of Bong County seeking executive clemency for their children who are being detained in both Bong and Nimba prisons for vandalizing public facilities in the county.

Several youths of Bong Count took part in a violent demonstration during the latter end of 2018 at the MNG Gold mines where lot of properties were destroyed including public and private facilities. Most of them are still languishing behind bars in the Gbarnga and Sanniquellie

saying "...If the law acquits them because they are not wrong, so help me God. But if they are wrong, they will be punished by law."

His comments followed an appeal contained in the citizens' petition read out at the Town Hall meeting by their local Representative Albert Hill of District #1 asking that their children who violated the law be set free.

But President Weah reminded them that it is wrong for angry youths to be going around burning police stations-no matter who they are whether motorcyclists or whatever group they are.

"You cannot burn down a

Mr. Weah whose comments went beyond the borders of Bong County said parents should warn their children who are into motorcycle transport to desist from engaging in violent acts when there is an accident.

"Your children should learn how to dialogue. If you have a child who is riding a motorbike to make money, that child should be discipline. They are driving thru cars and when there is an accident, they try to burn the bus. The people on the bus were they all driving?" the President quipped.

President Weah noted that going forward these violent behaviors will not be encouraged.

He gave an example of his son Champ, who was recently arrested in Paris, France for violating a curfew, saying he could not support him in his act of disobedient.

"Look, the other day, my son, and I hope he takes note-the other day there was curfew 3: AM, he was outside. The police arrested him. He says, he George Weah son, the people said no, you are not George Weah son. They called me. I asked him, he said I was outside. I said no Champ, you cannot be outside, and there is a curfew. So they (police) will do their work. If you are not guilty, they will let you go. Not because I am your father and I am the president of another country...-no that will not happen-even in this country that will not happen.

Meanwhile, following the Town Hall meeting in Kokoyah District #1, President Weah and delegation proceeded to District #2 in Jourquelleh to assess the condition of a child who broke her legs out of excitement to see then candidate during the 2017 Presidential campaign when the kitchen felt on her and another, a boy, injured.

The president asked the children's guardian to bring them to town to stay with him if possible but he wants to ensure that they are cater to.



prisons.

Mr. Weah told the locals who had gathered in the David Dean's Town in Kokoya District, Bong County, where the incident was said to have occurred during a Town Hall meeting on Saturday February 13, as part of his nationwide county tour that only the courts can acquit them.

"When people break the law, they have to face the full weight of the law. And nobody should think that they can pressure my government to release them from jail," President Weah accentuated.

"Your children should learn how to dialogue." He added

police station." Said Mr. Weah. "It is the same police station that try to protect you."

The president said an attack on a police station is an attack on the state and government. "If you burn a police station, you are burning the state. It means you have no respect for your government."

"I want you to put me on record," the President told the Bong citizens, "I am a non-violent person. Anything that is wrong, I don't support it."

He opined that there is a need for people to understand that civil liberty is important and that peaceful dialogue for resolution is important.

Pres. Weah mandates increased EPI-surveillance and preventative measures - Amid Reports of Ebola Resurgence in Guinea

President Manneh Weah has mandated the Liberian health authorities and related stakeholders in the sector to heighten the country's epi-surveillance and preventative activities in the wake of reports of the emergence of the deadly Ebola Virus Disease in neighboring Guinea.

Guinean Health Minister told some local and

international news outlets on Saturday, February 13, 2021 that about four people have died of the virulent disease in the Guinean town of Gouècke which is in proximity of Liberia's northeastern border.

However, no case of the disease has so far been detected in the country.

The President's instruction is intended to ensure Liberia acts proactively to avoid any

epidemic situation, the kind Liberia witnessed in 2014.

President Weah also mandates the health authorities to immediately engage communities in towns and villages bordering Guinea and increase anti-Ebola measures.

While the health authorities are urged to increase their alert level, the general public is assured that there is no case of Ebola in Liberia and that the

Lofaians attack

Cont'd from page 6

Mr. Kortimai wonders why the Government of President Weah abandoned the payment it started but decided to make a case when in fact all material evidences are available in the archives of the Ministry of Defense.

After initially being given a suspended sentence by the Criminal Court "C" last year, Mr. Samukai later in December 2020 won the Senatorial election in Lofa County, but has not been seated yet in the Senate due to challenges brought against the election results by his rival.

But Mr. Kortimai warns during the press conference that any attempt to further delay Mr. Samukai's certification beyond the statutory limit will be resisted by Lofaians with all the means available within their reach!

Quizzed by this paper as to what means they would use to ensure Samukai is certificated, Mr. Kortimai explains that Lofaians are not violent people, but they will make use of the Constitution if the National Elections Commission (NEC) causes any delay in certifying their son.

"Let the word go forth that we will not further condone any delay from the National Election Commission (NEC) beyond the statutory time to certificate our Senator. We too are citizens of Liberia and we deserve to be represented by the person of our choice in our country's governance system," he says.

He argues that during Samukai's more than 30 years of public service home and abroad, he has never been involved in any act of corruption.

"We believe in his ability to defend and articulate the aspirations of Lofa County," Mr. Kortimai says of Senator-elect Samukai, adding that this is why they voted him in their thousands and are prepared to stand with him to the very end with their lives and blood if need be.

He recalls that during the presidential transition process of 2018, Mr. Samukai reminded former President Sirleaf about a pending reimbursement of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) pension funds that was used by the Government of Liberia on the AFL.

He narrates that that reminder resulted to decision being reached that the government was going to pay back the AFL pension funds through budgetary allotment following a meeting among Samukai, the current Defense Minister, former President Sirleaf, current President George Manneh Weah and other senior AFL Personnel.

"And true to his word President Weah, instructed the Ministry of Finance to pay four hundred and sixty thousand United States Dollars (\$ 460,000USD) of the AFL pension fund," he says.



Change of Name

I, AMOS DADDY-MAN ZAROE, Jr., of the city of Monrovia do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under: that my name has been recorded as AMOS DADDY-MAN ZAROE Jr., in all educational certificates and in other relevant documents and that now I have changed my name as AMOS DADDY-MAN TWEGBE, Jr., in place of my previous name and that from now and in future, I will be known by my new name AMOS DADDY-MAN TWEGBE, Jr., that my statement is true and correct. Done on this 15th day of February, 2021 that the contents of the above said affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Prince Johnson will be prosecuted

-Cllr. Gongloe



Counselor Tiawan Saye Gongloe says defunct rebels Independent National Patriotic Front (INPFL) leader Senator Prince Y. Johnson, will be prosecuted by all cost by the International Criminal Court or ICC. Ther ICC is transferring to Liberia to try Sierra Leonean

warlord Gibril Massaquoi for alleged atrocities committed in Liberia. He said there is nothing one can or will do to get Johnson off the hook from standing trial for killing people and showing no remorse. The comments of Cllr. Gongloe's, also President of the Liberian National Bar

Association or LNBA were contained in his final argument in the alleged fraud and irregularities electoral case before the National Elections Commission or NEC on Saturday, 13 February in Monrovia.

Though, Gongloe was not specific with the date when Johnson will be arrested, charged and arraigned before the tribunal, but said any moment Liberians in particular, and the world in general, will get to know.

"General Johnson killed John Bartuah, Edwin Vaye, Edward Gblozou Towah, and many others that are nameable but when the time comes the world will get to know," he told reporters Saturday in the premises of the National Elections Commission.

The veteran human rights activist narrated how he and Edwin Vaye were in Freetown, Sierra Leone during the course of the war and he advised the deceased not to come to

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 6

For as low as 60 USD, you can own one of these!

You also enjoy **1GB** free data every month for **6 months!**
Phone prices range between **60USD and above.**

Available at: **itel shop at Broad and Center Streets Intersection.**

price range \$60 and above PLUS 1GB data
Free every month for 6 months

Features:
- 3G or 4G
- Fullscreen
- Powerful Battery
- Quality front and back cameras
- Fingerprint/Face Unlock

Dial *187# to get 1GB free data after purchase.

everywhere you go
Ts & Cs apply.

Lonestar Cell MTN

Bayern sign Upamecano from RB Leipzig

Bayern Munich have signed RB Leipzig centre-back Dayot Upamecano, with the Frenchman set to join the German champions on 1 July. RB Leipzig say Bayern paid Upamecano's buy-out clause, worth a reported 42.5m euros (£38m). Upamecano, 22, has agreed a five-year deal with Bayern. "We're convinced that Dayot will be a very important member of our

team in the coming years," said Bayern sporting director Hasan Salihamidzic. Upamecano, who had been linked to Manchester United, Chelsea and Liverpool, has been at Leipzig four and a half years and played 139 games. European and world champions Bayern are four points clear of second-placed Leipzig in the Bundesliga. Leipzig face Liverpool in the Champions League last 16, with the first leg taking place in Budapest on Tuesday.



Chief executive Oliver Mintzloff said the club wanted to keep Upamecano but the player wanted a "new challenge and to take the next step". "Dayot has shown outstanding development during his time in Leipzig, which is exemplary for our philosophy of finding young talents and consistently bringing them to the top level," he added.

The NewDawn Press

2 colors Heidelberg printing machines

We Offer The Following Printing Services:

- Newspapers, Magazines
- Flyers, Posters, Calendars
- Brochures, Letterhead
- Receipts, Invoices
- Souvenirs, Gifts
- Designs, etc...