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VOL.11 NO. 050

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# Suspend Judge Eva Morgan

## -Judicial committee recommends

P11



Associate Justice Yussif D. Kaba

Chief Commercial Court Judge Eva Morgan

Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor

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# Continental News

## Cameroon Dialysis Patients Protest Poor Treatment, Equipment Shortage

**S**cores of Cameroonians with kidney failure and their relatives have blocked traffic since Monday around a Yaoundé hospital to protest a shortage of dialysis treatment. Cameroon authorities blame administrative procedures and coronavirus disruptions for slowing the import of dialysis machines and medicines.

Traffic was at a standstill in Yaounde's Melen neighborhood this week as hundreds of patients with kidney failure, and their relatives, protested a halt to treatment at the Yaoundé University Teaching Hospital.

Among the kidney patients who sat or lay on the road in front of the hospital is 54-year-old Emmanuel Pierre Essi. He says their protest began on Monday after at least seven kidney patients died within three weeks due to lack of treatment. Essi says he and many of his peers may die after missing at least six sessions of hemodialysis for the past two weeks. He says the Yaoundé University Teaching Hospital has only five hemodialysis machines for over 160 patients.

says old age and overuse have crumbled the machines and patients who need four hours of dialysis per session, now take seven hours to filter and purify their blood in the dialysis machine. He says kidney patients also lack hemodialysis kits and dialysis fluid.

Cameroonian health officials are pleading with the patients to halt their protest while the government tries to fix the problems.

The government says that

since the coronavirus pandemic began last year, it has been unable to import dialysis equipment and medicine from suppliers abroad due to travel restrictions and the economic slowdown. The hospital's deputy director, Felicien Ntone, says officials are trying to secure the equipment needed for dialysis treatment.

He says Cameroon and its suppliers in Europe and China

are examining the best possible ways to speed the shipment of dialysis kits and dialysis machine spare parts to Cameroon. Ntone says the government has agreed to urgently release funds for the purchase of hemodialysis kits.

Ntone says kidney patients who become critical will be transferred to other dialysis centers.

He says hospitals are negotiating with the government to allow the buying of medicines and equipment without passing through a long procurement process.

Meanwhile, on the third day of the demonstration, some of the protesters are refusing to back down.

Yaoundé University student Donald Yaje's parent has kidney failure. Yaje vows to keep protesting until the government provides the

needed treatment.

"We cannot be indifferent while our relatives are dying," he said. "We want the government to look for a way of importing equipment instead of always complaining that the coronavirus has [imposed] restrictions to the shipment of goods from Europe. They should not forget kidney patients while struggling to stop corona." Cameroonian health authorities say the country has about 2,500 patients with acute kidney infections, up from 400 in 2012.

There are about seven towns in Cameroon with dialysis centers, with five dialysis machines at each.

Yaoundé has two such centers – the largest with 20 dialysis machines. But health authorities acknowledge they are often not working as a result of overuse and poor power supply. VOA



People walk by the entrance to the Yaoundé General Hospital in Yaoundé

## Media ban reversed by Tanzania's new president

**T**anzania's new president has announced that bans slapped on a number of media outlets by her predecessor who died last month are now

to be lifted.

"I understand that there are media organisations that have been closed - let them open and ensure they follow the law," President Samia instructed

national authorities.

She said media rules, regulations and penalties should be transparent, so that everyone knows what to expect should they do wrong - and so that the punishment is proportionate.

Speaking during the swearing in of new ministers and permanent secretaries, President Samia said government must not be seen to curtail media freedoms.

But some say this does not go far enough.

"We cannot operate in an environment where the same oppressive laws that were used to shut us down exist," Maria Sarungi Tsehali, who runs local station Kwamza TV, told the BBC.

"We are not asking for favours - just laws. Real change will happen when we are legally free to operate without government intervention." BBC



## UN says 27 million in DR Congo facing acute hunger

**T**wo United Nations agencies say about a third of the entire population of the Democratic Republic of Congo is facing acute hunger and have appealed for urgent additional funding to deal with the crisis.

as staggering and say the DR Congo should be able to feed its population and export a surplus.

Conflict is a key cause of hunger especially in the eastern provinces where



The World Food Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization say it's never been this bad with more than 27 million Congolese now urgently in need of food - the highest number in any country in the world. Both UN agencies describe the scale of the crisis

dozens of rebel groups carry out frequent deadly attacks.

The situation is dire in the central Kasai provinces where there's also been conflict.

The UN agencies say the Covid-19 pandemic and an economic downturn have made the situation even worse. BBC

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# EDITORIAL

## The National Registry should do better

THE GOVERNMENT OF Liberia wants the entire population to obtain national identification cards, including public service workers, but the National Identification Registry, the state agency responsible for the exercise clearly lacks the capacity to provide the service, leaving citizens queuing weeks or months for identification cards they cannot obtain.

**EVEN MORE CONFUSING**, the government has made the card acquisition a pre-requisite to paying civil servants, and mobile phones users are being harassed to register. Yet, it takes applicants going for ID cards about two to three months to get served because National Registry's system is down.

**A NATIONAL PAYROLL** Clean-up Task Force has issued a circular here, warning that effective April 2021 public workers without national identification card issued by the National Identification Registry would not receive salary, but fails to address issue of delinquent services at the NIR.

**IT IS IMPORTANT** that government matches policy pronouncements with capacity to deliver or else, the desire results may not be achieved. Besides, a haphazard process creates inconveniences for the people it is intended for.

**GIVEN THE CURRENT** rush for identification cards and the NIR's incapability to produce them, leaves room for serious compromise that could bring unforeseen and unintended consequences the nation may regret subsequently.

**WHILE WE WELCOME** issuance of proper national identification to all Liberians, the process should be properly supported both financially and technically. It makes no sense to announce policy that lacks proper planning.

**WE CALL ON** authorities at the National Identification Registry to get their acts together and serve the public accordingly. Forcing people, including students to obtain identification cards is not enough. The service must be efficient and available!

**EVEN AS OF** this editorial, Liberia lacks a synchronized Biometric System that would enhance easy access and save cost on national expenditure, according to the Governance Commission, a government think-tank.

**AS IT IS NOW**, almost all services to the public, including passports, banks, university admissions, and mobile services, among others are being pre-conditioned on national identification cards.

**WE SEEM TO** be putting the cart before the horse, as a nation which has not helped in moving Liberia forward. Like President said, it's time to recalibrate to ensure a better country.

**The New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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

# COMMENTARY

By Jules Kortenhorst

## The Mother of News Stories

**D**ENVER - In addressing climate change, "winning" slowly is the same as losing. We have only one chance to fix this problem before it becomes an existential threat, and the window for action is closing fast.

In addition to being time-sensitive, the climate challenge amplifies every other crisis we face, from the coronavirus pandemic to global inequality. Communicating its urgency in a clear, fact-based, and responsible manner thus has become crucial. Without hard-hitting, accurate, and compelling reporting and analysis of the problem, voters will not understand it, let alone demand solutions from the policymakers who can mobilize the resources needed to confront it.

Owing to the sheer complexity of the climate challenge, we need experienced, committed, and knowledgeable journalists covering all facets of the problem full-time. As an issue that will affect everything on the planet and all aspects of our own lives, climate change is not just some niche newsbeat. The transition to clean, carbon-neutral energy implies an overhaul of the entire global economy - a transformation that will affect how we work, consume, and care for our families.

Already, almost every important news story today must be understood within the context of the climate crisis, which is changing the rules of the game everywhere and for almost every area of life. The journalists best suited to cover the challenge thus will be "systems" thinkers, women and men who excel at drawing connections and then explaining them well. The task calls for a technological perspective, to trace the links between the electric grid, mobility, buildings, and industry, as well as an ecosystems perspective, to identify the links between extreme weather, crop failures, global supply chain disruptions, and financial risk.

Of course, many fine journalists already are covering the climate crisis. It is they who have spread public awareness of the issue and done the hard work of exposing the false and fraudulent arguments advanced by climate-change deniers and backed by the fossil-fuel industry. But there are still plenty of climate-related issues that warrant deeper coverage. When it comes to climate journalism, the more the better. As the Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg says, everyone is needed, and everyone is welcome.

Established journalists who focus on

other topics need to understand how their areas of expertise fit into the climate challenge. Veteran climate reporters need to support newer journalists, by "passing the mic," as the climate journalist and activist Bill McKibben has done with his New Yorker column. And influential voices online - whether they are making videos on TikTok or building audiences through Substack or Clubhouse - need to use their platforms to spread the word.

Against this background, the launch of Canary Media ([www.canarymedia.com](http://www.canarymedia.com)), a new energy and climate media platform, comes right on time. Supported with seed funding from RMI, and featuring experienced journalists, Canary Media aims to be a leading independent newsroom at the forefront of the clean-energy transition.

In today's media landscape, credible independent climate journalism is becoming more important by the day. The watchdog organization Media Matters for America reports that corporate television coverage of climate change in the United States decreased by 53% in 2020. Clean energy, a sector that is expected to receive \$11 trillion in investment by 2050, is still an informational void compared to other industries. Now more than ever, we need foundational public knowledge about clean energy - its business models, technologies, and the policy and regulatory issues it entails.

As awareness of the climate emergency continues to grow, support for climate journalism will need to grow with it. Without compelling and accessible coverage that reaches a broad global audience, the scale of the challenge - and of the opportunity it represents - will not be recognized in time, and the transformation we need will come too late. We need to cut our emissions by at least 50% by 2030 to hit net-zero targets by 2050. Failing that, we will need to start preparing for worst-case climate scenarios. Human civilization itself will be at risk.

Business leaders who understand this are already moving toward the net-zero future, where they will secure a significant first-mover advantage. As a recent report from the World Economic Forum explains, fortunes will be made and lost according to who takes the climate challenge seriously.

We need more leaders to recognize the urgency of the crisis and the opportunities offered by the clean-energy transition. Effective climate journalism is an essential tool for building this understanding. The climate crisis is, and must remain, front-page news.

# OPINION

By Eric Posner

## The End of Amateur Hour for the NCAA

**C**HICAGO - Last week, as the National Collegiate Athletic Association's "March Madness" basketball championship neared its conclusion, the US Supreme Court heard a case brought by Shawne Alston, a former college football player, against the NCAA. Alston claims that the NCAA may not restrict certain types of compensation for student athletes. But the case highlights a broader, long-simmering complaint: In the name of preserving amateurism in college sports, the NCAA operates an exploitative system that enables a handful of universities to earn millions of dollars from the work of players who are neither remunerated nor even (in some cases) afforded a decent education.

The Court faces a paradox. Everyone agrees that the NCAA should be allowed to preserve amateur sports, which by definition must be unpaid for the players. But, because student athletes are barred from sharing in television and box-office revenues, that money flows entirely to the universities, which in turn often pay multi-million-dollar salaries to coaches.

In any other part of the economy, an agreement among employers to suppress workers' compensation is illegal. Amateur sports are legal, of course, but that is because they are normally - in economists' terms - examples of consumption (people do it for fun) rather than production (people do it in order to enable others to consume an entertainment product).

To understand this distinction, suppose that a group of theater owners agreed among themselves not to pay actors, musicians, and other artists who perform at their venues before a paying audience. The theaters could argue that they are in the business of providing "amateur theater," implying that they could not pay the artists even if they wanted to. Facing zero labor costs, they could rake in profits on the backs of struggling artists who are willing to accept gigs out of love of their craft and the hope of a professional acting career, while subsisting on wages from day jobs as waiters and baristas.

Fortunately for the artists, US antitrust laws would prohibit this wage-suppression scheme, which hurts not only actors, but, contrary to appearances, consumers as well. Sooner or later, all the actors who could not afford to work for free would simply stop acting, resulting in less theater overall, and thus less choice and higher prices for consumers. This type of anticompetitive scheme, which hurts workers and consumers alike, is precisely the behavior that antitrust law tries to stop.

The Alston case is a bit more complicated, because the NCAA manages sports leagues. The law recognizes that when companies own teams that compete against one another, they should be permitted to enter agreements to ensure that play between teams is fair and exciting. Hence, professional sports leagues are allowed to cap the amount of money teams may spend on player salaries, so that teams in larger markets do not obtain an insuperable advantage simply by spending more money to attract the best players. But in return, teams agree to share the proceeds with the players, based on contracts negotiated by player unions.

The NCAA's defense therefore boils down to the claim that college football and basketball fans would stop watching if universities started paying their players what they could command in the market or through fair deals negotiated between teams and unionized players. In the language of economics and law, amateur play is a "product" that differs fundamentally from professional play, and people will continue to pay for it only so long as it retains that quality.

But is it true? Nowhere else in the economy does such a situation exist. Patients do not want their doctors to work without pay, nor do consumers demand that the cars and computers they purchase be manufactured by unpaid laborers. On the contrary, most people would bridle at the thought, just as many already participate in boycotts of companies that use underpaid or otherwise mistreated foreign labor. Pretty much everyone agrees in principle that workers should be paid a fair price for their work, set by the market.

The bizarre notion that consumers enjoy watching college football and basketball precisely because the participants are unpaid is rooted in the idiosyncratic history of college athletics, which has generated cultural associations that the NCAA has ruthlessly exploited. There once was a time when these sports truly were amateur, because universities made no or very little money from them. But in the case of football and basketball, the situation gradually changed, owing to a number of largely random factors (after all, most other college sports still have tiny audiences and do not generate revenues).

A bit like professional wrestling, the appeal of college football and basketball rests on a carefully cultivated fiction: the players are scholars who play for the love of the game. The audience for the fiction doesn't really believe it. Scandals involving players being paid under the table have burst that illusion. But the legal basis of the NCAA's restrictions nonetheless continues to depend on it.

What would happen if the courts stopped endorsing the fiction? For starters, they could no longer tolerate the NCAA's violations of antitrust law. The workers who currently staff college football and basketball teams would then need to be paid a fair wage by the universities that hire them, just like IT professionals, custodial workers, and professors.

Or, the universities might stop competing for players by offering them lavish accommodations and under-the-table benefits. Instead, talented youngsters would have a choice between joining professional sports teams (which would likely multiply in expanded minor-league systems), and getting an education while playing their sport after class, just for the joy of it. Would that be so bad?

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# OP-ED

By Ian Buruma

## America's Undimmed Global Culture

**N**EW YORK - Amanda Gorman's remarkable performance of her poem "The Hill We Climb" at US President Joe Biden's inauguration touched millions. That was reason enough for a leading Dutch publisher to commission a prominent novelist to prepare a translation. But the choice of Marieke Lucas Rijneveld, an International Booker Prize-winning novelist who is white and identifies as nonbinary, provoked an immediate protest by black activists in the Netherlands. They demanded that Gorman, an African-American, be translated by a black person. Picking a white translator caused one of the protesters "pain." Rijneveld withdrew from the project.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the world, in Japan, local followers of QAnon, an American far-right conspiracy theory, are adding their own zany fabrications to the shared belief that Donald Trump was robbed of his presidency. Japanese QAnon supporters are convinced that sinister foreigners are ruling Japan behind the scenes, and that the imperial family was responsible for everything from the atom bomb to the devastating earthquake of 2011. If that isn't odd enough, one group of Japanese QAnon adherents idolizes the disgraced former US army general Michael Flynn.

For better or worse, the influence of American culture remains as strong as ever. In this respect, at least, reports of US decline are wildly exaggerated. Even with the rise of China, the vast wealth of the European Union, and the embarrassing spectacle of the Trump presidency, people around the world still look to America for their cultural and political cues.

It used to be people on the right who most feared American cultural influence. Prewar cultural conservatives in Europe and Japan deplored the vulgarity of American commercialism, the rootlessness of its multiracial immigrant society, and the raucous liberalism of its political institutions. The US example was a threat to social order, ethnic homogeneity, and high culture. Of course, political extremes find common ground. The far left deplores the global reach of America's capitalist culture - "Coca-Colonization" - just as much.

In fact, along with Coca-Cola, one of America's most successful exports over the years has been the culture of protest. It was the American Revolution, after all, that inspired the French Revolution. In the 1960s, students all over the world demonstrated against "American imperialism" and the Vietnam War, but they followed the example of students at Berkeley and Columbia. They listened to American protest songs. And sometimes, as with Andreas Papandreou of Greece, anti-American politicians picked up many of their ideas at American universities.

The chief attraction of the United States, despite its many institutional flaws, its history of racism, and its spasms of moral hysteria, has been the promise of greater freedom: economic, political, artistic, and sexual. That is why left-wing refugees from Nazi Germany often chose to move to the US in the 1930s and 1940s, while more conservative refugees preferred to settle in Britain.

The question today is whether the current wave of US influence promises more freedom or less. Some might argue that the "critical race theory" and gender politics now roiling American university campuses and the liberal media expand the scope of freedom, especially for sexual and racial minorities. But much of this is rooted in the specific traumas of American history, just as the insistence on public atonement is linked to particular American religious traditions.

Can these aspects of American culture be projected neatly onto societies in other parts of the world? Do American obsessions with "identity" and "representation" carry the same meaning in countries with very different histories? Why must Gorman's poem be translated by a Dutch person of color? Why should a French high school named for a French female mathematician (Sophie Germain) be renamed for an African-American activist (Rosa Parks)?

One might also wonder whether removing books by classic Western authors from classrooms in the name of social justice and "decolonization" will expand our freedom. This, too, is unquestionably a form of protest culture. But the ideological zeal fueling so much activism in America about race, gender, and identity has echoes of popular movements in the past: puritanism, quasi-religious fervor, intellectual intolerance - in short, the opposite of more freedom.

Extremism on the left is being inflamed and indeed mirrored on the right. If the waves of "woke culture" are washing over universities and liberal media in countries outside the US, so are the often more horrifying effects of right-wing madness, of what the historian Richard Hofstadter famously called "the paranoid style in American politics."

The example of Trump and his illiberal, anti-immigrant, openly racist rhetoric has already inspired a host of authoritarian politicians emerging from the margins of once-robust liberal democracies. The growth of QAnon in Japan is the clearest case of the American paranoid style spreading overseas.

One can, and perhaps should, take the optimistic view that moral panics in the US blow over; reason will once again prevail. It could be that the Biden era will take the sting out of Trumpism, and the tolerance for which American intellectual life has often been admired will be reinvigorated. This might even happen while the noxious effects of American influence still rage in other countries. For the sake of America and the world, one can only hope it happens soon.

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# Independent Committee of Experts (ICE)

## On Vetting INCHR Chairperson/Commissioners

C/O Young Women Christian Association (YWCA), Congo Town, Monrovia, Liberia

E-mail: [expertscommittee7@gmail.com](mailto:expertscommittee7@gmail.com)

Cell: 0777-100-101 | 0777013622 | 0886514308

### JOB VACANCY NOTICE

#### FOR THE POST OF ONE CHAIRPERSON AND FOUR COMMISSIONERS AT THE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (INCHR)

The Office of the Chief Justice of the Republic of Liberia, represented by the Independent Committee of Experts (ICE), is seeking applications from qualified Liberians at home and abroad to occupy the vacant position as Chairperson and four positions of Commissioners at the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR):

**POSITION TITLE:** ONE (1) INCHR Chairperson  
FOUR (4) INCHR Commissioners

#### MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be Liberian citizen

- of at least 40 years of age and above;
- with good human rights record (not have been associated with human rights violation/abuse)
- a non-partisan or without shown political interest;
- not have been convicted by a court for any criminal offense involving financial or moral turpitude;
- and with proven professional competence, knowledge of human rights, and commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights.
- The Chairperson shall be a senior lawyer with a proven professional excellence and commitment to human rights and the rule of law.

#### TENURE & OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- The Chairperson shall hold office for six (6) years, Commissioners for five (5) years.
- The Chairperson and Commissioners shall not:
  - hold any other public or government office.
  - engage in any other paid occupation, business, profession or activity.
  - hold any position incompatible with his/her official duties.

#### COMPETENCIES

A Candidate for Chairperson or Commissioner must:

- Be sensitive to issues involving vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly, the disabled, detainees, and others who may face the risk of becoming victims of abuses.
- Demonstrate experience in human rights advocacy, monitoring, investigation, reporting, and documentation regardless.
- demonstrate working knowledge of the Paris Principle and other human rights mechanism in the protection and promotion of human rights.
- show knowledge in litigating or otherwise handling cases of human rights violations before judicial or quasi-judicial bodies, as well as in research.
- have experience in lobbying, advocacy, working with authorities responsible for the protection of human rights such as the court, military, police, prison officials and other security agencies;
- have proven record of independence, impartiality, and high degree of integrity.
- have a university degree or equivalent practical experience in a discipline related to the mandate of the INCHR.
- have excellent oral, written and interpersonal communication skills

#### HOW TO APPLY:

- Write a letter of application not more than two pages explaining your suitability for the position you are applying to and submit together with a CV and other supporting document(s).
- Subject line should state: **Chairperson for INCHR or Commissioner for INCHR**
- Send by e-mail to: [expertscommittee7@gmail.com](mailto:expertscommittee7@gmail.com)
- And submit hard copies to:
  - Mrs. Roseline Toweh
  - Chairperson
  - Independent Committee of Experts
  - On Vetting INCHR Chairperson/Commissioners
  - C/O The Young Women Christian Association (YWCA)
  - Congo Town, Monrovia, Liberia
- All applicants should ensure they obtain acknowledgement of receipt (name, date, time & phone #) on a copy of your application submitted.
- Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

**CLOSING DATE: Thursday April 8, 2021 at 15:00 HRS GMT** (Applications submitted after this time will be rejected).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Press Release for Immediate Publication

March 29, 2021

The Ministry of Public Works (the Ministry), the statutory Engineering Arm of Government, remains committed to the infrastructural transformation of Liberia, as the sector continues to make significant strides under the dynamic leadership of President George Manneh Weah whose flagship agenda is roads connectivity.

As a premiere government functionary overseeing road related matters and a host of other infrastructures, the Ministry recently embarked on a robust enforcement of Zoning Law and Regulations across the country, evidenced by the recent launch of the Joint Zoning Taskforce comprising Zoning Officers at the Ministry of Public Works, Personnel of the Liberia National Police and other Stakeholders.

The Taskforce is also empowered to provide supervision over all construction works throughout the Republic with the sole intent to oversee structural issues at construction sites, compliant with best practices as contained in Section 102 of the Zoning Act of 1938: "All structures are to be 15ft away from the property line..."

However, said supervision and enforcement power vested in the Taskforce and the Division of Zoning must be exercised on the basis of established facts, and with respect for the Rule of Law.

Hence, having painstakingly investigated the recent scuffle dated January 14, 2021 at 5PM which involved Representative Ceebee Barshell of Electoral District # 3 in Montserrado County-property owner- and Mr. Amadu Bility, Assistant Zoning Director; and noting that the Legislature is an integral component of our infrastructural programs; as such, its members must be respected at all times, the Ministry regrets the situation and hereby apologizes to the Office of the Lawmaker.

Considering the consequences thereof, the Ministry therefore has taken siege of the matter and effectuated remedial administrative actions against Mr. Amadu Bility for acts contrary to established norms.

Meanwhile, the Public is hereby encouraged to seek professional advisement from the Ministry BEFORE, DURING or AFTER construction. Hence, citizens are advised to submit all drawings, deeds and diagrams as a requirement for the issuance of construction permit required by Law.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Hon. Ruth Coker-Collins  
Acting Minister

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REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA MONTSERRADO COUNTY IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE MONTSERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

IN RE: AFFIDAVIT OF CONFIRMATION OF FACT EXECUTED BY DETECTIVE GUANTUAH H. WILLIE, COMMANDER/CSD/ZSD5, LIBERIA NATIONAL POLICE IN FAVOR OF MR. GARGUAH CONWAY CAPEHART OF THE CITY OF MONROVIA, MONTSERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

#### AFFIDAVIT OF CONFIRMATION OF FACT

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, a duly qualified and Commissioned Justice of the peace for and in the County of Montserrado, Republic of Liberia, at my Office in the City of Monrovia, Liberia, DETECTIVE GUANTUAH H. WILLIE, Deponent/Affiant, made OATH according to law and deposes as follows, to wit:

1. That the Affiant is a Liberian Citizen, and resident of Montserrado County, MONTSERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.
2. That Affiant further say that the alleged robbery took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 2018, . Instead of March 10, 2018.
3. That Affiant says that on May 9, 2018 at 10:30pm, victim Garguah Conway Capehart, 24 years of age, Tribe Bassa, a resident of Outland community reported a case of robbery.
4. That victim Garguah Conway Capehart, while coming from escorting his aunt, he met up with group of unidentified men armed with cutlasses and single barrel guns who attacked him. During the heavy fight, one of them opened fire but he managed to knock the barrel and the gun fire on the ground but some of the pellets deflected and hit his left leg.

And that all and singular the claims as set forth and contained in the foregoing AFFIDAVIT OF CONFIRMATION OF FACTS are true and correct and as to those matter of information, they are true and correct.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME THIS 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2021



GUANTUAH Willie  
DETECTIVE GUANTUAH H. WILLIE  
COMMANDER/CSD/ZSD5  
LIBERIA NATIONAL POLICE

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**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Sen. Botoe Kanneh cites challenges**

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan  
in Bong County

**G**barpolu County Senator Botoe Kanneh has described her election to the Liberian Senate as challenging, citing limited

Speaking with our Bong County correspondent Wednesday, 7 April via mobile phone after the lone female candidate's struggle in the Gbarpolu County senatorial race that was dominated by males, Senator Kanneh says she was optimistic of defeating her

our people," Senator Kanneh says.

Madam Kanneh however declares her success as a victory for all Liberian women, with a call for them to take the lead beginning 2023.

She acknowledges females' participation in a male dominated political race as thought-provoking, and calls on women to muster the courage and always throw a dice.

Madam Kanneh vows to deliver the needed goods for the people of Gbarpolu County and pave the way for more female participation.

"We need to work for our people, they have suffered a lot to bring us to where we are today so it is a must for us to work in their interest," she says.

"We have taken oath to work in the interest of our country, Liberia first, and Liberia last. That's our mindset right now and we must work to ensure the implementation because it is in the best interest of the country and the citizens," she concludes.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



Senator Botoe Kanneh

finance, negative criticisms, intimidations and the legal battle at both the National Elections Commission (NEC) and Supreme Court of Liberia as challenges she endured.

rivals.

"I was never one day afraid [of] the so - called big names, I always had the conviction that the election was a sure win and yes we did it with the support of

**Access to vaccines is a matter of global security**  
**-Mo Ibrahim Foundation**

**T**he Mo Ibrahim Foundation has called for a series of urgent actions aimed at up scaling vaccine access in Africa.

Africa is one of the world's most vulnerable regions. The continent is home to 17% of the world's population and yet accounts for just 0.5% of global vaccine distribution, according to the latest data.

Ensuring equitable and balanced access to vaccines is a matter of global security and shared interest. If the virus is not defeated everywhere, it will continue to spread and mutate.

The statement, signed by the Foundation's Board Members, Ibrahim Prize Committee and Prize Laureates, calls for immediate and united efforts to advance vaccine equity. This includes unlocking additional resources to fill Africa's vaccine gap and build the continent's vaccine manufacturing capacity in the longer term.

The Mo Ibrahim Foundation is calling for wealthier countries to share 5% of their vaccine supplies with less advanced countries, and for the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to be efficiently channeled to benefit the countries and sectors that need them most

critically.

These priority areas, as well as new research from the Foundation on 'Africa and COVID-19: one year on', will be at the centre of discussions at the Ibrahim Forum during the upcoming Ibrahim Governance Weekend, taking place for the first time in a virtual format on 3-5 June 2021.



**US-based Nimbaians identify with families of Carbon Monoxide victims**

**U**nited Nimba Citizens Council (UNICCO) based in the United States of America has identified with families of eight persons who lost their lives on the night of February 23, 2021 after inhaling Carbon Monoxide a poisonous gas from generator following the graduation celebration of one of the deceased, Nancy Miller. Others deceased include; Favor (Nancy's only daughter), Ma Yah Miller (Nancy's mother), Alice Wuo (Nancy's aunt) and Kou Miller, another

Country Representative, Attorney Phelecia C. Yeebahn, extended condolences to citizens of Nimba and Bong counties for the disaster.

On behalf of UNICCO, Atty. Yeebahn donated to the Nimba family US\$1,000.00, rice, oil and other food stuff worth US\$750.00, and US\$500.00 to the bereaved family of Bong County. Out of the US\$500, US\$200 was given to the wife of one of the deceased who gave birth a week ago and US\$150 went to each of the other family



The Late Nancy, daughter Favor and mother Yah, all victims of the carbon monoxide

family member.

The incidence occurred in Coal Tile Field Community in Paynesville, outside Monrovia.

Three of the deceased from Bong County had been buried before caskets bearing remains of Nancy and her family members were taken to Zuluyee Town, Nimba County on Friday, April 2, 2021, amid tears.

Following presentation of the remains to the Miller family by County Superintendent Nelson Korquoi, UNICCO, through its

members.

Both families expressed thanks to UNICCO President, Mr. Dahn Dennis and members of the Council for identifying with them.

Other members of the UNICCO delegation to Nimba include, Edmund Gbarwee and Fredrick P. W. Gaye.

The remains of Nancy and her deceased family members were laid to rest on Saturday, April 3, 2021 in Zuluyee Town, Nimba County. -*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**ECOWAS, UNDP launch Capacity Building Programme for the private sector**

Trading under the preferential terms of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) commenced on January 1 2021. The AfCFTA will create a single African market for goods and services covering 1.2 billion people

of trade in services, and developing African disciplines on Intellectual Property Rights, Investment, Competition and E-Commerce.

Considering the important role of the private sector in this newly established market, the

suppliers to maximize the opportunities within the AfCFTA.

For this purpose, on April 07th 2021, the ECOWAS Commission, in collaboration with UNDP, will launch a training programme aiming at strengthening the capacities of the private sector in the region in general and, more specifically, the capacities of women to take advantage of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

As part of this initiative, a "training-of-trainers" will be conducted from April 07th to 09th, 2021, in Freetown, Sierra Leone, to ensure a wider outreach of their training module on the AfCFTA for the private sector. This three-day training module will aim at providing both theoretical and practical knowledge on the AfCFTA and improving teaching skills in order to help the private sector understand the terms, measure the potential benefits and take advantage of the provisions of the AfCFTA.

As part of this training, highlights will be given to priority value chains, regional strategy, and ECOWAS approach and priorities. Also,

▶ **CONT'D ON PAGE 11**



and a combined Gross Domestic Product of US\$3 trillion through the progressive elimination of tariffs, the removal of non-tariff barriers, cooperation in customs arrangements and related areas, liberalization

potential of the region, which consolidated market size can attract investments into the region, the ECOWAS Commission is scheduled to implement a range of awareness and capacity building programmes for producers, traders and service

**CPJ wants Guinea Bissau drops criminal defamation charges against journalist**

Authorities in Guinea-Bissau should drop their criminal defamation investigation into the privately owned broadcaster Radio Capital FM and two of its journalists, and reform its defamation laws, the Committee to Protect Journalists said today.

On February 9, the public prosecutor's office issued a summons to Radio Capital FM asking for a representative to present themselves for questioning, but did not specify why, according to Sumba Nansil, co-host of the "TiraTeimas" current affairs show on the broadcaster, who spoke to CPJ in a phone interview, and a copy of the summons, which CPJ reviewed.

Capital FM owner and director Lassana Cassamá was out of the country at the time and Nansil responded to the summons on the station's behalf, and was questioned by the public prosecutor's office on February 16, the journalist told CPJ. On March

5, the office also summoned and questioned Sabino Santos, host of the station's "Debate Nacional" program, Santos told CPJ in a phone interview.

Prosecutors questioned each journalist about comments they had made on-air and in media interviews about the state-run National Energy and Water

Company (EAGB), which had filed a criminal defamation complaint against the station to authorities, Nansil said.

Nansil and Santos told CPJ that they had publicly noted that their station's EAGB electrical meter had malfunctioned shortly before Radio Capital FM's office was



Journalists Sumba Nansil (left) and Sabino Santos (right) are facing a criminal defamation investigation in Guinea-Bissau. (Nansil photo by BacarCoiate; Santos photo by Santos).

**AYPRC wants Pres. Weah exercise political will**

The African Youths Peer Review Committee (AYPRC) is calling on President George Manneh Weah to exercise his political will by establishing the War Crimes Court in Liberia since indeed he has once been in the vanguard of such advocacy twelve years ago.

AYPRC believes that the only way victims of the war can be extremely satisfied and mentally stable is when retributive justice is applied to perpetrators of the civil crisis.

The group's call came from a spar between two members of the House of Representatives over

However the Grand Gedeh County lawmaker responded by referring to his colleague as a "Pathological liar," denying all of the accusations levied against him.

But prior to being elected a lawmaker, Representative Boley and others were shortlisted in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report as one of the individuals whose warring factions - the Liberia Peace Council (LPC) committed heinous crimes and crimes against humanity.

According to a release by AYPRC, it sees such unfolding between the two members of the Legislature as unfortunate and it is calling on members of



allegations of war crimes committed during Liberia's 14 years civil upheaval.

During a plenary sitting at the House of Representatives on Thursday, 26 March 2021, Representative Dixon Wlawlee Sebio openly confronted his colleague, Representative George Boley of Grand Gedeh County for allegedly killing members of his family during Liberia's bloody civil war.

Representative Sebio while in session in an emotional tone accused his colleague Representative Boley by saying "This man killed my family members; he needs to face the war crimes court."

that body to unanimously support the call for War Crimes Court as it has become evident by the action of Representative Sebio that victims of the war are still yearning for justice.

AYPRC is meanwhile urging other local and international civil society organizations to continuously trumpet the calls for wars crimes court's establishment in Liberia as it is the best way to give justice to those who lost their lives during the country's armed-conflict.

The African Youths Peer Review Committee is a continental body that is heavily involved in advocacy and the promotion of good governance across Africa.--*Press release*

raided and vandalized on July 26, 2020, thereby disabling its security systems.

"Guinea-Bissau authorities should drop their criminal defamation investigation into Radio Capital FM and its journalists, and should let the outlet report freely," said Angela Quintal, CPJ's Africa program coordinator, in New York. "The country should scrap its obsolete criminal

defamation laws, and ensure that there are proper civil remedies to such issues, in line with the trend across Africa and the rest of the world."

Under Article 126 of Guinea Bissau's penal code, criminal defamation convictions can carry fines and prison sentences of up to one year; according to Article 127, if an offense is

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# Français

## Cyril Allen rassure la vice présidente Libérienne

Que se passe-t-il au sein du Parti national patriotique de l'ancien président emprisonné Charles Ghankay Taylor, qui est maintenant dirigé par la vice-présidente Jewel Howard-Taylor - ancienne première dame ? Pourquoi le président émérite du parti, Chief Cyril Allen, essaie-t-il de rassurer Mme Taylor qu'elle n'y a pas lieu d'avoir peur.

Membre du conseil d'administration de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC), Chief Allen s'est vanté du NPP qui, selon lui, compte des hommes et des femmes dont les prouesses intellectuelles et la créativité peuvent protéger leur chef. Il n'y a donc pas lieu de paniquer.

S'exprimant récemment à Kakata, dans le comté de Margibi, lors d'un meeting du parti, il a déclaré que « Mme Taylor a tout ce qu'il faut pour être chef et vice-présidente du Libéria, elle possède des compétences, de l'intégrité, des qualifications, du charisme et des compétences en leadership qui lui ont valu la

vice-présidence et le poste de porte-étendard du parti patriotique national ».

M. Allen, qui préside le conseil d'administration de la National Social Security and Welfare Corporation, a poursuivi en disant que Mme Taylor a des hommes comme lui (Allen) et d'autres qui sont prêts et dévoués à lui apporter un soutien massif.

« Je me demande pourquoi les gens ne feuilletent pas les pages de l'histoire du NPP, ils

trouveront des ingénieurs hydrauliques, des agriculteurs, des médecins et des professionnels bien formés qui peuvent être d'un plus grand service au pays et à ses habitants. Le NPP est un parti d'opportunités et un lieu où les esprits se développent pour le mieux. »

Le NPP est entré en concubinage politique avec le Congrès pour le changement démocratique du président

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



VP Taylor



Mr. Allen

## Élections : En Attendant Les Dates, Des Organisations Politiques « Occupent Le Terrain »

A moins de onze mois de la fin de la transition fixée à 18 mois, les dates exactes des prochaines élections ne sont toujours pas connues. Les autorités du pays ont annoncé il y a quelques mois le référendum au cours de ce deuxième trimestre de 2021. Mais à ce stade, aucune communication officielle n'est faite sur cette échéance. En attendant, de

nombreuses organisations politiques se préparent avec notamment plusieurs meetings enregistrés ce week-end.

Dimanche dernier, le Mouvement pour la Refondation du Mali (MOREMA) a été créé. L'objectif est de réconcilier les Maliens, a déclaré son fondateur, l'ancien ministre de la justice Maître Kassoum Tapo. La cérémonie de lancement de ce mouvement a enregistré la

présence de plusieurs partis politiques et des leaders religieux comme le Cherif Ousmane Madani Haïdara et Chouala Baya Haïdara. Aucune déclaration sur une possible candidature n'a été faite par l'association, mais Maître Tapo a exigé des autorités actuelles le respect du délai de la transition.

Un jour plutôt, le parti URD a annoncé que son candidat « sera issu de ses rangs à la prochaine élection » présidentielle. C'était lors de la rentrée politique du parti de l'ancien chef de file de l'opposition, feu Soumaila Cissé. Une rencontre placée sous le thème, « renforcement de la cohésion sociale dans le parti ».

Les leaders du parti ont appelé les militants à poursuivre le combat politique pour honorer la mémoire de leur défunt président.

L'ex-premier ministre, Soumeylou Boubeye Maïga, président du parti ASMA-CFP a aussi fait savoir son ambition

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## Éditorial

### Le registre national d'identification devrait redoubler d'efforts

Le gouvernement du Libéria veut que l'ensemble de la population obtienne des cartes d'identité nationales, surtout les fonctionnaires, mais il se peut que le registre national d'identification, l'organisme d'État chargé de délivrer ce papier n'ait manifestement pas de moyen, au point que les citoyens font la queue pendant des semaines ou des mois pour avoir leurs cartes d'identité.

Le plus dégoûtant encore, c'est que le gouvernement a fait de la possession de la carte une condition sine qua non pour chaque fonctionnaire d'avoir accès à son salaire. En plus, les utilisateurs de téléphones portables sont harcelés pour mettre à jour l'enregistrement de leur numéro en se servant de leur carte d'identité nationale. Pourtant, il faut environ deux à trois mois aux demandeurs pour obtenir une carte d'identité, car le système du registre national est défaillant.

Le groupe de travail national chargé du nettoyage de la masse salariale de l'état a publié une circulaire, avertissant qu'à compter du mois d'avril 2021, les fonctionnaires qui ne disposent pas de carte d'identité nationale ne recevront pas de salaire. Mais concernant le dysfonctionnement des prestations de services au niveau du registre national, aucune mesure n'a été prise.

Il est important que le gouvernement prévoie des mesures d'accompagnement pour chaque politique mise en place, sinon les résultats escomptés pourraient être désastreux. En réalité, tout processus aléatoire finit par créer des inconvénients aux personnes qui devraient en bénéficier.

Compte tenu de la ruée actuelle vers les cartes d'identité et de l'incapacité du Registre national à répondre à la demande, l'on assiste à de sérieux compromis qui pourraient entraîner des conséquences imprévues et inattendues que la nation pourrait regretter ultérieurement.

Nous nous félicitons certes de la délivrance d'une pièce d'identité nationale appropriée à chaque Libérien, mais encore faut-il que le processus soit correctement soutenu tant sur le plan financier que technique. À quoi sert l'annonce d'une politique qui manque de planification appropriée. Cela n'a aucun sens.

Nous appelons les autorités du registre national d'identification à redoubler d'efforts pour répondre à la demande. Il ne suffit pas de forcer les gens à se faire délivrer des cartes d'identité. Il faut prévoir un service efficace.

Le Libéria ne dispose pas d'un système biométrique synchronisé qui améliorerait l'accès facile et réduirait les coûts sur les dépenses nationales, selon la Commission de la gouvernance, un groupe de réflexion gouvernemental.

Dans l'état actuel des choses, presque tous les services, y compris les passeports, les banques, les admissions universitaires et les services mobiles, entre autres, sont pré-conditionnés par des cartes d'identité nationales.

Nous semblons mettre la charrue avant les bœufs, en tant que nation qui n'a pas contribué à faire avancer le Libéria. Comme l'a dit le président, il est temps de calibrer pour garantir un pays meilleur.



# Français

## Cyril Allen rassure

Weah et d'autres partis politiques minuscules pour former la Coalition pour le changement démocratique, qui est actuellement au pouvoir. Mais, le parti, depuis un certain temps, est en proie à un conflit interne de leadership qui s'est traduit devant les tribunaux. En plus, Mme Taylor elle-même souffre de relations tendues avec le président George Weah et s'est vue dépouillée de ses véhicules officiels et de son budget.

On lui prête des ambitions présidentielles et des intentions de quitter la Coalition pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir avant l'élection présidentielle de 2023.

Ce soupçon a même été renforcé il y a des mois lorsque l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, s'exprimant lors d'un forum de femmes à Monrovia, a

appelé la vice-présidente Taylor à se présenter à la plus haute fonction.

Par ailleurs, M. Allen a exhorté le gouvernement actuel à procéder à la formation des Libériens afin d'avoir plus de techniciens capables de gérer les projets nationaux. Pour lui, si certains des protocoles internationaux signés par les administrations précédentes constituent des obstacles aux investissements du gouvernement, alors ces protocoles doivent être revus pour créer des emplois, l'autonomisation et redonner confiance au dollar libérien.

«Chaque fois que vous vous rendez dans les villes et les villages, vous voyez des jeunes désœuvrés. Ils n'ont plus besoin [formations] académiques, mais d'une formation professionnelle et technique sur laquelle nous pouvons nous concentrer maintenant », a-t-il conclu.

## Élections : En Attendant

de mettre en place une coalition pour le Mali. Soumeylou a rappelé le soutien de son parti à la transition, tout en réaffirmant son attachement au délai de 18 mois. Rappelons que ces 18 mois vont arriver à terme en mars 2022. D'ici cette date, de nombreuses élections comme le référendum, la présidentielle, les législatives sont prévues.

« Pas d'élections en 2021 »

Pour les responsables de l'Observatoire pour les élections et la bonne gouvernance au Mali, il n'est pas « envisageable » d'organiser le référendum cette année. Ils indiquent que, même si le gouvernement avait annoncé le referendum pour le premier trimestre de cette année, tant qu'un « fichier électoral consensuel » n'est pas disponible, il est impossible de tenir un quelconque scrutin.

## Côte d'Ivoire : les Écoles Privées menacent de suspendre les cours à partir du 14 avril

La conférence des Associations de Fondateurs d'Écoles Privées Confessionnelles et Laïques de Côte d'Ivoire (CPAFESP) n'est pas contente.

Les présidents de cette Conférence étaient à nouveau face à la presse ce jour pour interpeller l'Etat sur les difficultés qu'ils traversent à cause du non-paiement des frais d'écolage des enfants affectés dans leurs différents établissements et annoncer des mesures fortes.

Le Père, Jean-Luc Brema, a annoncé que si leurs préoccupations ne sont pas totalement satisfaites, les fondateurs suspendront « les cours le 14 avril 2021.

Jean-Luc Brema a affirmé que cette résolution a été prise, car depuis la conférence de presse du 10 février dernier « la seule

réaction des autorités a été celle de la Direction de l'Encadrement des Établissements Privés (DEEP) ».

Malheureusement, a-t-il poursuivi « la Directrice a dit qu'elle était vraiment surprise des montants qui sont à notre disposition. Elle contestait ces montants. Elle a marqué son étonnement que nous n'avons pas les bons chiffres. On attendait qu'après cette rencontre, le gouvernement fasse quelque chose, puisque c'est l'Etat qui a les vrais chiffres. Sur cette base, on était confiant. Mais nous avons attendu jusqu'aujourd'hui ». Aussi, a ajouté le conférencier, la conférence observe que « les montants engagés au niveau du trésor sur le budget 2020 sont en inadéquation avec les décisions financières, titres et créances détenus par les fondateurs ».

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Jules Kortenhorst

## La première de toutes les questions d'actualité

**D**ENVER - Dans la lutte contre le changement climatique, les « victoires » lentes équivalent en réalité à des défaites. Nous n'avons qu'une seule chance de résoudre le problème avant qu'il ne devienne une menace existentielle, et notre fenêtre d'action se referme actuellement rapidement.

En plus de son horizon temporel critique, le changement climatique amplifie toutes les autres crises auxquelles nous sommes confrontés, qu'il s'agisse de la pandémie de coronavirus ou des inégalités mondiales. Faire savoir l'urgence du changement climatique de manière claire, factuelle et responsable devient par conséquent crucial. Sans une analyse et une communication percutantes, précises et probantes du problème, les électeurs ne le comprendront pas, et exigeront encore moins des solutions auprès des dirigeants politiques capables de mobiliser les ressources nécessaires pour affronter le problème.

Sachant la profonde complexité du changement climatique, nous avons besoin que des journalistes expérimentés, engagés et compétents couvrent à temps plein toutes les facettes du problème. Voué à impacter tous les aspects de la planète et de notre existence, le changement climatique n'est pas un simple créneau médiatique. La transition vers des énergies propres et neutres en carbone implique une refonte de l'économie mondiale tout entière - une transformation qui influencera notre manière de travailler, de consommer, et de prendre soin de notre famille.

Dès aujourd'hui, il est nécessaire que tous les sujets d'actualité importants soient appréhendés dans le contexte de la crise climatique, qui change les règles du jeu partout, et dans quasiment tous les domaines de la vie. Les journalistes les plus à même de relever ce défi seront par conséquent les penseurs de « systèmes », des femmes et des hommes doués pour établir des connexions et les expliquer intelligemment. La tâche implique une dimension technologique, la mise en lumière de liens entre réseaux électriques, mobilité, bâtiments et industrie, ainsi qu'une dimension liée aux écosystèmes, pour identifier les liens entre météorologie extrême, pertes de récoltes, perturbations sur les chaînes d'approvisionnement mondiales, et risque financier.

Bien entendu, nombre de journalistes compétents couvrent déjà la crise climatique. Ce sont eux qui sensibilisent l'opinion autour de cette problématique, et qui travaillent dur pour exposer les arguments erronés ou trompeurs avancés par les climatosceptiques avec le soutien de l'industrie des combustibles fossiles. Pour autant, de nombreux aspects liés au climat sont encore insuffisamment traités dans l'actualité. Le journalisme n'abordera jamais assez la question du climat. Comme l'exprime la militante suédoise Greta Thunberg engagée pour le climat, nous avons besoin de chacun, et tout le monde est le bienvenue.

Les journalistes bien établis qui se concentrent

sur d'autres sujets doivent comprendre en quoi leur domaine d'expertise s'inscrit dans le défi climatique. Les reporters plus informés sur le climat doivent soutenir les journalistes plus jeunes, en leur transmettant le micro, comme l'a fait le journaliste et militant du climat Bill McKibben dans sa chronique du New Yorker. De même, les voix les plus influentes en ligne - qu'elles publient des vidéos sur TikTok ou réunissent un public sur Substack ou Clubhouse - doivent user de leur plateforme pour propager l'information au monde.

Dans ce contexte, le lancement de Canary Media ([www.canarymedia.com](http://www.canarymedia.com)), nouvelle plateforme d'information axée sur l'énergie et le climat, intervient au moment opportun. Appuyée par un financement d'amorçage de la part du RMI, et mobilisant des journalistes expérimentés, Canary Media entend devenir un organe de presse indépendant de premier plan dans le cadre de la transition vers des énergies propres.

Dans le paysage médiatique d'aujourd'hui, l'existence d'un journalisme indépendant crédible en matière climatique devient de plus en plus cruciale. L'organisation de surveillance Media Matters for America rapporte en effet que la couverture médiatique du changement climatique par les grandes chaînes de télévision aux États-Unis a diminué de 53 % en 2020. Les énergies propres, secteur qui devrait représenter 11 000 milliards \$ d'investissement d'ici 2050, fait encore l'objet d'un vide de l'information par rapport à d'autres industries. Aujourd'hui plus que jamais, il est important que le public ait une connaissance fondamentale des énergies propres - de leurs modèles d'entreprise, des technologies impliquées, ainsi que des questions politiques et réglementaires qui s'y rattachent.

À mesure que progresse la sensibilisation autour de l'urgence climatique, le soutien au journalisme du climat doit également s'accroître. Sans une couverture accessible et convaincante, adressée à un public planétaire, l'ampleur du défi - comme l'opportunité qu'il représente - ne sera pas pleinement comprise à temps, et la transformation nécessaire interviendra trop tardivement. Nous devons réduire nos émissions d'au moins 50 % d'ici 2030, si nous entendons atteindre le zéro net d'ici 2050, sans quoi nous devons commencer à nous préparer aux pires scénarios climatiques, avec un risque pour la survie même de la civilisation humaine.

Les chefs d'entreprise qui l'ont compris s'orientent d'ores et déjà vers un avenir neutre en carbone, dans lequel ils bénéficieront d'un important avantage en tant que précurseurs. Comme l'explique un récent rapport du Forum économique mondial, de véritables fortunes seront constituées ou perdues par ceux qui prendront ou non au sérieux le défi climatique.

Les dirigeants doivent souligner en plus grand nombre l'urgence de la crise, ainsi que les opportunités offertes par la transition énergétique. Un journalisme efficace sur la question climatique constitue un outil essentiel pour bâtir cette compréhension. La crise climatique constitue, et devra rester, l'information d'actualité de première page.

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# COVID-19 Travel Restrictions: How a Second Passport Can Help | New Dawn Liberia

At the peak of the global COVID-19 lockdown, most countries shut their borders to international travellers. The restriction was more telling on those from countries with high infection rate. This made many people stranded at different locations against their wish. Interestingly, those with dual citizenship had a better chance at international travel as they could access at least two countries despite the lockdown.

Passport has become a must-have tool for international travel since after World War I. Before then, people didn't need a piece of document to move from one country to another. Ever since then, it determines where people can and cannot visit. And as witnessed during the lockdown, passport will continue to matter for international movements. However, having more than one means you are much less restricted even during a crisis. The following are some of the areas a second passport can be helpful during a crisis.

## Safety

The COVID-19 experience has once reminded us that nothing can be as important as the safety of lives. Fortunately, a second passport can be harnessed for safety during a crisis. At the pandemic outbreak, the epicentre kept shifting from one location to another, increasing tensions among residents in those countries. At that moment, home no longer felt like home for many people. A Pew Research report shows that 1 in 10 young adults in the United States had someone who moved into their household due to COVID-19.

Given the heightened fear of contracting the disease in those epicentre countries, many residents' biggest wish would have been to relocate to another country they considered safest for them and their families. This is because as the virus ravages many places, some countries had very low cases of infections and deaths, and the atmosphere was much calmer in those places. Unfortunately, most people with a desire to move couldn't actualize it because the passport they carry doesn't support that. With border closures in almost all countries and rigorous international travel process, running for safety was difficult or impossible. Having a second passport will make it much easier to move to another country considered safer during a crisis.

## Mobility

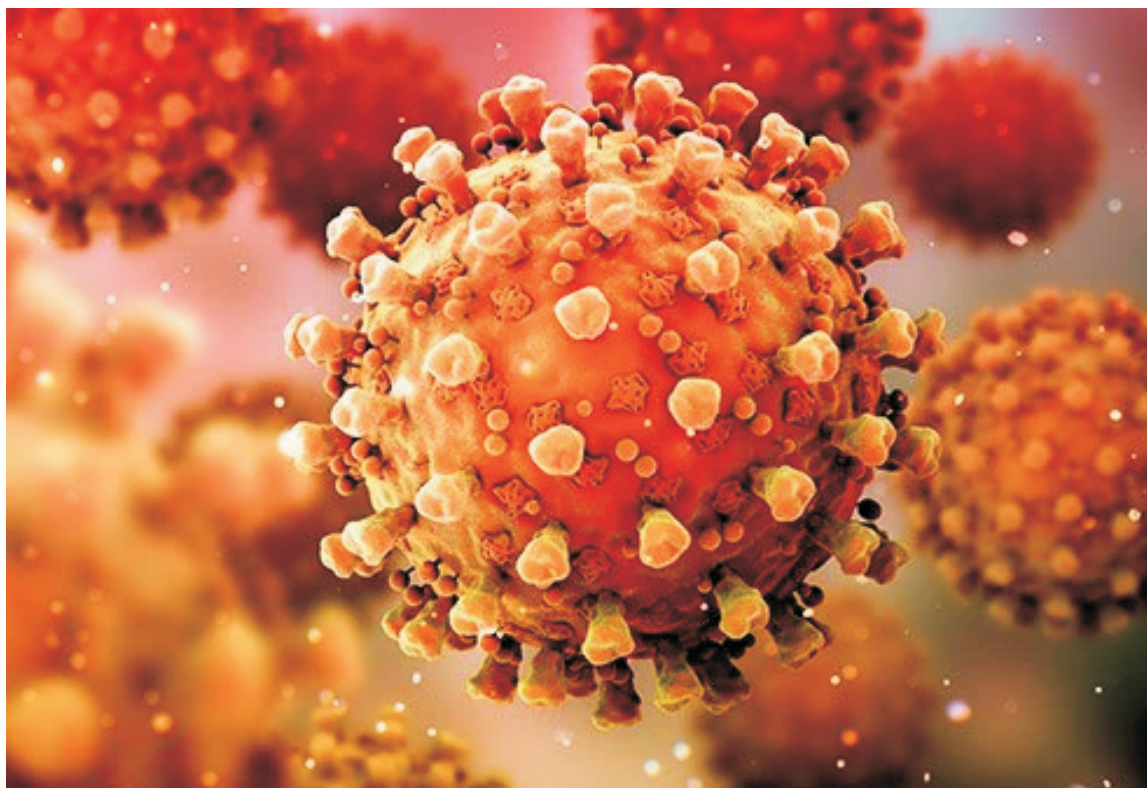
Everyone desires the ability to move about - to anywhere and at any time they want. Unfortunately, a crisis-induced movement restriction can be a huge barrier to this, as witnessed during the pandemic outbreak. Even those from countries with strong passports were stranded as no nation was ready to welcome them. For instance, when the US became the epicentre, almost all countries shut their doors to their citizens. As a result, crucial travel plans were put on hold. The United States has one of the highest annual global health tourism rates. Millions of Americans seek healthcare services in other countries due to reasons ranging from costs and regulations. The movement restriction also affected international business travel, leaving

many entrepreneurs stranded. But for travellers with more than one passport, it was easier to move from one country to another.

This has been the greatest advantage of multiple passports, as you are less restricted by a country's laws because you have multiple options. In addition, a second passport will automatically increase the number of countries you can visit visa-free or visa-on-arrival. Some passports are so powerful that they can unlock the doors to many places. A good example is the British citizenship, which according to UK Immigration Lawyers, can be obtained through various routes. The passport grants access to over 180 countries, either visa-free or visa-on-arrival. Other countries with such high passport privilege include the United States, Canada, and Singapore.

## Family Ties

Having a second passport can help you stay close to your family during a crisis. At the outbreak of COVID-19, many families were torn apart as a result of global travel restrictions. Various reports show the devastating effects of the restrictions on people stranded at different destinations abroad - away from



their loved ones. Among the most affected were the international students who were caught amid borders closure and administrative difficulties and couldn't return home to their families. In August 2020, African News reported how tens of thousands of African students were stuck in France and their struggles coping with confinement, isolation, and loneliness thousands of miles away from their relatives.

On top of the excruciating mental effects of the restrictions, some of them also faced financial downturns and had to rely on food banks on several occasions. "It's hard. Not only without work but at the same time you can't see your family," an Algerian student complained. Thousands of couples were also divided for several months, as spouses got stuck thousands of miles apart. Also, many children couldn't see their parents for several months, and families had to catch up via digital means such as video calls. Despite the digital avenues, many people still expressed frustrations due to the sudden lockdowns that tore their families apart.

## Health Purposes

A second passport can be one of the most important possession during a crisis, especially a health-related

one like coronavirus. The rapid spread and high fatality of the virus quickly put pressure on the healthcare system in many epicentre places. Coronavirus treatment became the highest priority, and many patients suffering from other conditions were given less attention. In many countries, thousands of patients with chronic non-COVID-19 cases faced difficulties accessing a specialist. For instance, in Italy, one of Europe's epicentres, there was a drastic reduction in hospital admissions for non-COVID conditions. The fear of being infected by the virus also discouraged many people from visiting the hospital.

The situation was even worse in countries with inadequate health facilities and a shortage of medical professionals. The best option for many people who found themselves in this situation would have been to access their much-needed healthcare service abroad. Unfortunately, the global travel restriction made medical tourism practically impossible. According to the American Journal of Medicine, around 16 million people embark on medical tourism yearly, spending \$45-\$72 billion. That shows the significance of outbound medical care services on the world population. However, due to the restriction, the industry cratered and left millions of people with little or no option of getting their desired healthcare. This is one of the crucial areas where second citizenship can prove to be invaluable as it can be leveraged to seek medical care abroad.

## How to Get a Second Passport

Obtaining a second passport has different procedures depending on the citizenship and immigration laws in different countries. For instance, the eligibility criteria for getting US citizenship include being a permanent resident in the country for a specified number of years. Other requirements are age, good moral character, and physical presence in the country. Other countries with A-list passport privilege also have similar requirements.

In Britain, you must demonstrate at least 5 years of continuous residency in the United Kingdom, with no longer than 450 days spent abroad within the 5-year period. Though the process can appear to be somewhat lengthy due to several steps involved. However, by working with experienced UK citizenship and immigration solicitors, you can fast-track the application procedures and receive your citizenship without delays.

Apart from these, you can also explore the fast and affordable citizenship options in Caribbean countries like Dominica and St Kitts and Nevis. Other countries with similar options include Grenada and Malta. In some of these countries, you can complete the citizenship by investment process in less than 6 months. It usually requires investing a specified amount of money in the country's economy or donate some money. Again, requirements and process vary widely from one country to another. The most important thing is to do your due diligence and ensure you meet the requirements before proceeding with the process.

OlusegunAkinfenwa is a correspondent for Immigration News, a news organization affiliated with Immigration Advice Service London. IAS is a leading UK immigration law firm that helps applicants navigate their British immigration and citizenship application process.

# Suspend Judge Eva Morgan

By Winston W. Parley

An investigative judicial panel has recommended to the Supreme Court a one-year suspension without pay and benefits against Chief Commercial Court Judge Eva Mappy Morgan for recklessly abusing her description in handling a multi-million dollars case between two petroleum trading partners, causing Ducor Petroleum general manager Amos Brosius unimaginable pains.

The Judicial Inquiry Commission (JIC) chaired by Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Yussif D. Kaba advises the Supreme Court that Mr. Brosius is not precluded by the JIC's proceedings to institute action of damages for wrong against Judge Morgan in a court of competent jurisdiction.

"The investigation found and established that the respondent callously disregarded the duty of speed and care, scruple and

MOTC accused Mr. Brosius of failing to account for US\$8,000,000.00 worth of petroleum products supplied to Ducor Petroleum.

However the JIC found that Judge Morgan singularly presided over the US\$8m case and proceeded to entertain several pretrial conferences which culminated in the agreement of the parties to freeze Ducor Petroleum's account pending the resolution of the matter.

Based on the parties' agreement, the JIC says Judge Morgan ordered a freeze on Ducor Petroleum's accounts held at the Liberia Bank for Investment and Development (LBDI) and Ecobank Liberia.

The commission states that on 9 August 2013 the parties through their lawyers signed an irrevocable stipulation to submit the case to audit and Mr. Brosius was removed from the management of Ducor Petroleum pending the conclusion of the audit.

While the case was pending, the commission says MOTC's

a court-verified amount of US\$999,365.77, but the Commercial Court which took custody of the amounts in the banks and receivable accounts had ignored the debt of the company for the past seven years.

This resulted in some of the vendors instituting lawsuits against Brosius for overdue payables. Giving an example, Brosius narrates that International Bank Liberia Limited (IBLL) filed a lawsuit against him before the Commercial Court in 2015 for an unpaid overdue amount of US\$100,000.00.

Brosius says despite pleading with the Commercial Court that he would settle IBLL's debt when the freeze on his account is lifted, "the court under the watch of Judge Eva Mappy Morgan ... and Judge Richard S. Kollie ... decided that matter within two weeks and went on to sell my residence situated in Jacob Town, Paynesville."

According to Brosius another nearby property that



diligence imposed on a judge in deciding matters before the court. Rather than taking responsibility for her illegal orders, the respondent played victim. The JIC found that the real victim in these proceedings is the complainant," the investigative panel says.

Some unnamed judicial authorities who are knowledgeable of the procedure have told this paper that Judge Morgan could challenge this report before the full bench of the Supreme Court which has to make final determination of the recommendations made by the JIC.

The JIC investigation was sanctioned following complaints against the way Judge Morgan had been handling a petition filed against Mr. Brosius before the Commercial Court on 7 June 2013 by the Monrovia Trading Company (MOTC), claiming to be a majority shareholder in the Ducor Petroleum Inc.

lawyer Cllr. T. Negbalee Warner wrote Judge Morgan requesting a defreeze of the Ducor Petroleum Inc. account at LBDI to his client to enable MOTC to fund an interim management team it had set up without any reference to Mr. Brosius or his lawyer.

Upon MOTC's request, the commission says Judge Morgan again gave the unfreezing order and one day later modified it to return the LBDI account to status quo ante.

"On July 23, 2013, Judge Eva Mappy Morgan ordered the President of LBDI to in effect, do as Cllr. T. Negbalee Warner had requested in his letter of July 22, 2013," Brosius laments.

On 24 July 2013, just less than 24 hours after Cllr. Warner's letter filed with Judge Morgan, the commission says she ordered the President of LBDI to pay US\$212,704.36 to the order of a sheriff of the Commercial Court without any reference to Mr. Brosius.

The commission says Brosius had complained that Ducor Petroleum [owed] other vendors

was not part of the collateral was sold as well, rendering his family homeless for three years.

Mr. Brosius on 18 July 2018 lodged a complaint before Liberia's Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor, Sr., lamenting how Judge Morgan had turned his company Ducor Petroleum over to MOTC on 23 July 2013.

Brosius indicated that Judge Morgan's decision enabled MOTC to open another Ducor Petroleum Inc. office at the Freeport of Monrovia in the same building that housed LBDI's Bushrod Island branch.

Brosius sought Chief Justice Korkpor's intervention on grounds that the Commercial Court, after issuing several notices of assignment for the hearing of the case, had often postponed the case at most times for unexplained reasons.

In her response to the allegation, the commission noted that Judge Morgan argued that most of the

# ECOWAS, UNDP launch

Cont'd from page 7

issues related to the identification of applicable tariffs, regulations, and institutions, completing trade formalities, meeting standards and certification requirements will be taught, among others.

Trainees will come from Business Associations in the ECOWAS region. Representatives of the ECOWAS Commission, African Union Commission (AUC),

Afrexim Bank, German development agency (GIZ), International Trade Centre (ITC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) will also participate in the conduct of the training of trainers workshop.

# CPJ wants Guinea

Cont'd from page 7

deemed to have been committed by an outlet as a whole, the prison term for those deemed responsible can increase to 18 months. The fine is set at a judge's discretion and can total several thousand dollars, Luis Martins, a lawyer for Radio Capital FM, told CPJ via messaging app.

Martins said that both journalists were placed under travel restrictions while the defamation investigation is underway. Nansil and Santos are required to notify authorities if they intend to leave the capital, Bissau, for more than five days, according to Santos and news reports.

On July 26, 2020, unidentified armed men wearing the uniforms of Guinea Bissau's National Guard attacked Radio Capital FM's office and smashed its broadcast equipment, as CPJ documented at the time. Bubacar Turé, the vice president of the Human Rights League in Guinea-Bissau (LDHGB), a local rights group, told CPJ by phone that the investigations into last year's attack on the radio station had not made any progress.

Namir Tavares, a spokesperson for EAGB, condemned the attack on Capital FM and told CPJ by

phone that the journalists should not blame the electrical utility without proof, and said the company felt its reputation was harmed because of their comments blaming the power utility.

Tavares said that she and an EAGB technician had told Radio Capital FM representatives that the station's electrical meter was not operating at the time of the attack because it had been tampered with.

Nansil told CPJ that Radio Capital FM had notified EAGB that the meter was not working three days before the attack, and that no EAGB technician was dispatched to fix it until after the station was raided.

"EAGB doesn't want to be blamed, but it was its lack of service that left the radio station vulnerable, and the company should not sue for not wanting to hear the truth," Nansil said.

Martins told CPJ that he believed the criminal defamation case was politically motivated, and was an attempt to harass Radio Capital FM, which he said is perceived to be critical of the government. Martins said he had provided the public prosecutor with "sufficient proof" that Nansil and Santos's on-air comments were factual and supported by evidence.

allegations are levied against the auditing firm PKF and the Commercial Court of Liberia as institutions and not her as the Chief Judge of the Commercial Court.

She also contends that Mr. Brosius did not allege any specific ethical breach that she may have committed, adding that his main allegation that his lawyers and MOTC's lawyers signed the irrevocable stipulation instead of the parties to the petition for accounting should be against his lawyers and not the court.

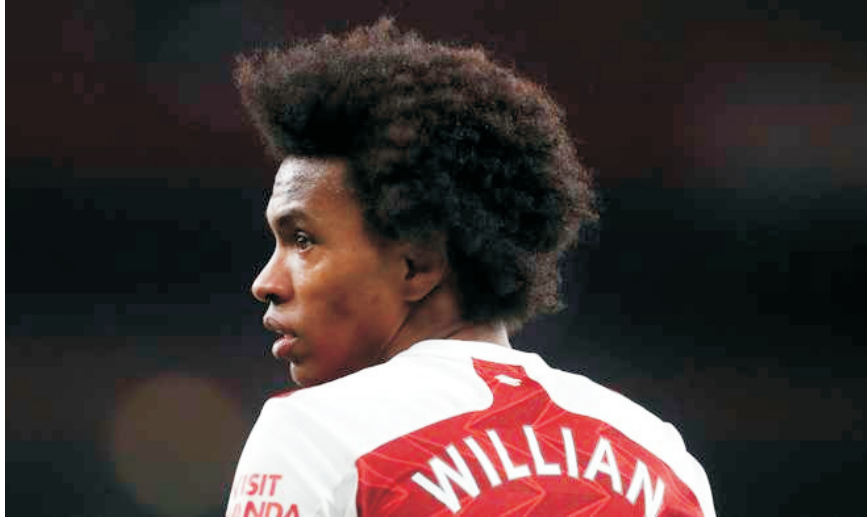
According to Judge Morgan, the court is obliged to accept a party's lawyer's act as that of the party unless or until the party indicates otherwise.

Regarding the complaint about the several notices of assignment, Judge Morgan cited conflict of schedules for the full panel to sit on the case and individual judges' schedules, among others.

But the investigation says it established that "the scruple and diligence required by Canon 23 was overlooked" by Judge Morgan when she elected to order Brosius enjoined continuously without considering his motion to vacate injunction filed consistent with law.

"The investigation found it egregious that the motion to vacate the preliminary injunction was not a subject of the pretrial conference," the JIC says.

# 'Enough is enough' - Willian demands action over online abuse



**W**illian says the time has come for the authorities to take action and help football's fight against racism and online abuse.

The Arsenal attacker is one of several high-profile figures who has shared the abuse he has received on social media this season and admits it has left him fearful at times to even pick up his phone.

And the 32-year-old says something has to change, calling on everyone - both within football and outside of it - to come together to help

make a difference in the fight against racism.

What has been said? Speaking about the abuse that he has suffered, Willian said: "It has been difficult to talk about.

"We as players, we cannot do a lot. We do what we can do. We report it. We share it with you guys (the press) and we speak about that, but we want action.

"I think we have to try to find a way to stop it because it is difficult when people say horrible words about you, about your family, that's not good.

"They can criticise us in relation to what we do on the

pitch. I have no problem with that, no problem at all. If they want to criticise me, what I am doing on the pitch, if I have to play better, if I have to train more - yes, I will accept that.

"But when they come to attack you with horrible words, your family, that's not good. So, we have to stop it and try to find a way to stop it."

Willian continued: "It really affects me when they say about my family.

"As I said before, if they want to criticise me, it's no problem, I always accept that. But when they come to attack your family with those words, that hurts. It's a big problem."

How bad have things got? Willian Stuart Armstrong Arsenal Southampton 2020-21

Willian says the issue has now become so big that he often finds himself afraid to look at his phone after games.

"Yes, sometimes," he admitted. "I was in that situation a month ago.

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# Tiger Woods Was Driving More Than 80 MPH at Time of Crash

**T**he Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department revealed the main cause of Tiger Woods's car crash was "driving at a speed unsafe for road conditions."

Tiger Woods was driving an estimated 84-87 mph in a 45-mph zone when he crashed his SUV on Feb. 23 in Rolling Hills Estates, Calif., Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva said in a press conference on Wednesday.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD)



confirmed that the primary cause of the crash was driving at an unsafe speed, stating that the department did not have probable cause to conduct a sobriety test and did not issue a search warrant to access phone records to see if Woods was distracted.

"The primary causal factor for this traffic collision was driving at a speed unsafe for the road conditions and the inability to negotiate the curve of the roadway," Villanueva said. "Estimated speed at the first area of

impact was 84-87 mph and the final estimated speed when the vehicle struck the tree at 75 mph. There were no citations issued and there were no signs of impairment."

According to LASD, officers felt it was inappropriate to do a field sobriety test due to the state of Woods's injuries. At the scene of the accident, officers reported that Woods was conscious but in a state of shock with his seatbelt still on as they tried unsuccessfully to break the SUV's sunroof to extract Woods.

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