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# The New Dawn

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TRULY INDEPENDENT

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TRULY INDEPENDENT

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# Urey pushes Boakai against Cummings

*-says Boakai can defeat Weah face down*



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UP Leader Boakai

ANC Leader Cummings

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# Continental News

## The feared militant behind the Chibok kidnappings

**A**bubakar Shekau, the infamous leader of the Nigerian Islamist group Boko Haram, is dead, a video published by its militants has confirmed.

Last month, a rival faction said Shekau, who masterminded the kidnapping of nearly 300 schoolgirls in 2014, had been killed during a confrontation with its fighters.

Boko Haram did not respond for weeks, but the BBC has now seen a video in which the militants confirm the commander is dead. The Nigerian authorities have not commented on the news.

In the three-minute clip seen by the BBC, a man dressed in white clothes with a black turban urged his faction's followers to remain loyal to the group despite the loss of their commander.

The man speaking is said to be Boko Haram commander Bakura Modu, who analysts believe may be the group's new leader. The list of atrocities that Abubakar Shekau was behind is long,

but the mass kidnapping from a girls' boarding school brought him global infamy.

Having taken over Boko Haram in 2009, Shekau turned it into a ruthless force that terrorised people in north-east Nigeria and beyond. In 2014, its global profile changed after its fighters raided the school in Chibok.

A global campaign under the

slogan Bring Back Our Girls brought the tragedy to light, but also provided publicity to Shekau. A chilling video clip of him laughing about how he would sell or marry off the girls gave an indication of the kind of man he was. Most of the girls have been freed. Some, however, are still being held and for them, their parents and many others in

the region, the fallout from Shekau's actions will be felt long after his death.

Nigeria's most-wanted man was said to be a fearless loner, a complex, paradoxical person - part-theologian, part-gangster. Fondly called imam or leader by his followers, Abubakar Muhammad Shekau was born in Shekau village in Nigeria's north-eastern state of Yobe.

Some said he was in his late 30s, others believed he was in his mid-40s - an uncertainty which added to the myths surrounding him. Shekau was said to have been killed by security forces in 2009 - only for him to reappear in videos posted on the internet less than a year later presenting him as Boko Haram's new leader. Similar subsequent claims of his death also turned out to be false.

The US government had offered a reward of up to \$7m (£4.6m) for information about his location, but his whereabouts were never discovered. Boko Haram's

founder, Muhammad Yusuf, died in police custody in July 2009, and hundreds of others were killed during a massive crackdown - which many blame for making the group even more violent.

Shekau is said to have been introduced to his predecessor in the Borno state capital, Maiduguri, by a mutual friend, Mamman Nur, who himself was wanted for masterminding a bomb attack. All three were theology students - and Shekau was seen as the quietest and perhaps the most radical.

"He hardly talked, he was fearless," said Ahmed Salkida, a journalist with such good access to Boko Haram that, at one stage, he was suspected of being a member.

"He is one of those who believed that you can sacrifice anything for your belief," Salkida said.

Shekau and Nur carried on after the founder's death but both men would later disagree on operational and ideological reasons, causing a split in the group. BBC



Abubakar Shekau took over the leadership of Boko Haram in 2009

## Kenneth Kaunda: A pioneer of African independence

**K**enneth Kaunda, Zambia's first president and one of the last of the generation of African leaders who fought colonialism, has died aged 97. Kaunda was admitted to a military hospital in the capital, Lusaka, on Monday suffering from pneumonia. His aides said he did not have Covid-19.

In the 1950s, Kaunda was a key figure in what was then

Northern Rhodesia's independence movement from Britain. He became president following independence in 1964. As head of the left-leaning United National Independence Party (UNIP), Kaunda then led the country through decades of one-party rule.

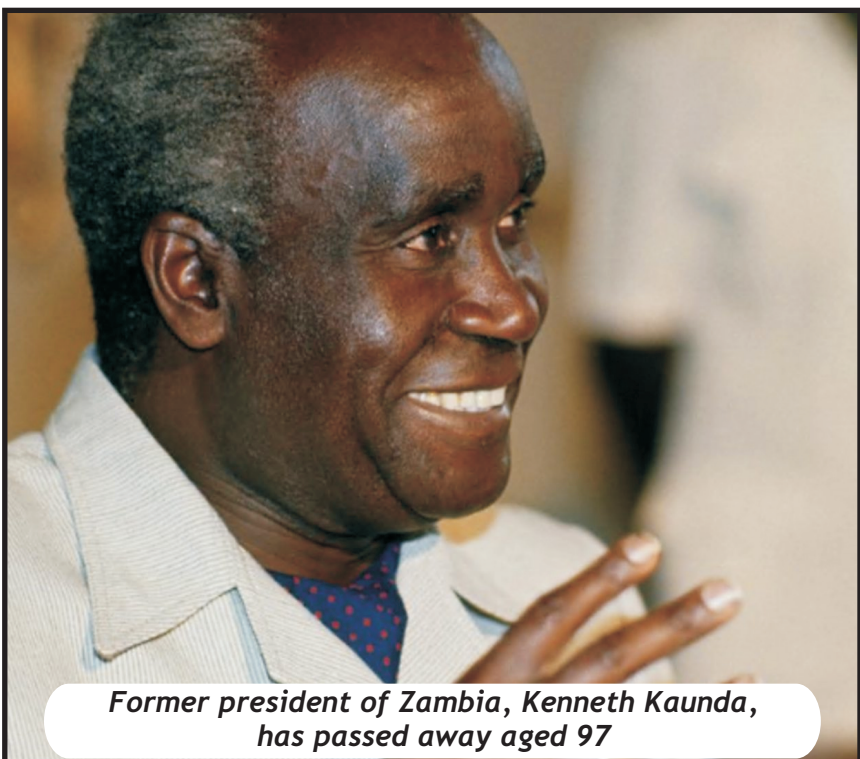
He stepped down after losing multi-party elections in 1991.

"I am sad to inform we have lost Mzee," Kaunda's son, Kambarage, wrote on his late

father's Facebook page, using a term of respect. "Let's pray for him." Zambian President Edgar Lungu said the country was mourning "a true African icon". "I learnt of your passing this afternoon with great sadness," he wrote on Facebook. "On behalf of the entire nation and on my own behalf I pray that the entire Kaunda family is comforted as we mourn our First President and true African icon."

Another tribute came from Kalusha Bwalya, former captain of the national football team, who said Kaunda had made "an immense impact". Kaunda - popularly known as KK - was a strong supporter of efforts to end apartheid in South Africa. He was also a leading supporter of liberation movements in Mozambique and what is now Zimbabwe.

In later life Kaunda turned his attention to the fight against HIV after one of his sons, Masuzyo, died from an Aids-related disease. "We fought colonialism. We must now use the same zeal to fight Aids, which threatens to wipe out Africa," he told Reuters in 2002. BBC



Former president of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda, has passed away aged 97

## Acquitted Ivory Coast ex-president to return home

**F**ormer Ivory Coast President Laurent Gbagbo is expected to return home, 10 years after he was taken to the International Criminal Court (ICC) on charges of crimes against humanity. Mr Gbagbo has been living in the Belgian capital Brussels since his release from detention three years ago.

His successor and rival

acquittal, saying the prosecution had failed to prove its case against Mr Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé, an ally and former youth leader who was accused of leading a militia backing him.

Born in the south-central region of Gagnoa in 1945 to a Catholic family, Mr Gbagbo was educated in a Christian seminary and later became a history



Professor. He cut his political teeth in the trade union movement where he became a vocal opponent of Ivory Coast's then one-party state. He started out on the political left, but in the 1980s took a strong nationalist stance, which critics say bordered on xenophobia. BBC

President Alassane Ouattara invited him back. He was the first former head of state to go on trial at the ICC but was acquitted of all charges. The 76-year-old was charged after his refusal to accept defeat in a 2010 election triggered a civil war that left 3,000 people dead. He always denied all the allegations. In March, the ICC appeals court upheld a 2019



## EDITORIAL

# Tampering with justice undermines peace

**SOME OFFICIALS OF** the judiciary, including the Liberia National Police that is under the Ministry of Justice last week confirmed the release of murder suspect Sampson F. Pennue on bail in Grand Gedeh County in a crime that is non-bailable under the laws of Liberia. But nobody accepts responsibility.

**SUSPECT SAMPSON F. PENNUE**, commander of the National Security Agency (NSA) in Grand Gedeh allegedly shot dead Deputy Police Commander Alexander B. Saye in the county on November 27, 2020, but how he was reportedly bailed out and by whom is the 62 million dollar question, particularly so after the Liberia National Police in Grand Gedeh County formally charged Suspect Pennue with Murder for the killing of late DCP Saye.

**POLICE SAY THE** charge is in keeping with Chapter 14 Sub-chapter A, Section 14.1 of the Revised Penal Code of the Republic of Liberia after the accused “criminally” and “intentionally” shot and caused bodily injury on the person of victim Alexander B. Saye with a 9mm pistol thus, resulting to his death.

**COINCIDENTALLY, A BROTHER** of the deceased, John B. Saye, alarmed over radio last week Thursday, 10 June 2020 in Monrovia that Suspect Sampson Pennue has been released. Unfortunately, the news came just as judicial officials converged last week for a three-day conference that highlighted excesses by courts and lawyers in dispensing justice.

**ALTHOUGH EVERYBODY CLAIMS** innocence, including Solicitor General Symah Cyrenius Cephas, Police Inspector General Patrick Sudue and Grand Gedeh County Attorney Cllr. J. Adolphus Karnue, but how could the 7th Judicial Circuit Court in the county where the case is assigned, release a murder suspect against the law?

**THE ISSUE UNDER** discussion is nothing but a clear attempt by some officials sitting somewhere to temper with the administration of justice for selfish interest. Are those involved saying the life of the late DCP Alexander B. Saye was less important than Suspect Sampson Pennue?

**THE LATE ALEXANDER** Saye was killed in active service, so it behooves the State to deliver justice not only to the Police that he worked for but to family and friends.

**HOWEVER, NEWS THAT** the suspect has been bailed out in a murder case is sufficient reason for concern. Justice is crying out in the wilderness. Someone should listen and correct the wrong immediately.

**IF OUTCOME OF** last week's judicial conference in Monrovia would have any significant impact on the workings of the justice system of Liberia, the murder case involving Suspect Sampson Pennue is a litmus-test for building public conference in the judiciary.

**WHOEVER LET OUT** Pennue should return him immediately so that he may have his day in court to exonerate himself of murder, as charged by the Police and to walk out publicly a free man under the law rather than sneaking out under the cover of darkness, as we are hearing.

**The New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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

## COMMENTARY

By Jeffrey D. Sachs

# We Don't Need the G7

**N**EW YORK - The latest G7 summit was a waste of resources. If it had to be held at all, it should have been conducted online, saving time, logistical costs, and airplane emissions. But, more fundamentally, G7 summits are an anachronism. Political leaders need to stop devoting their energy to an exercise that is unrepresentative of today's global economy and results in a near-complete disconnect between stated aims and the means adopted to achieve them.

There was absolutely nothing at the G7 summit that could not have been accomplished much more cheaply, easily, and routinely by Zoom. The most useful diplomatic meeting this year was President Joe Biden's online meeting with 40 world leaders in April to discuss climate change. Routine online international meetings by politicians, parliamentarians, scientists, and activists are important. They normalize international discussions.

But why should those discussions occur within the G7, which has been superseded by the G20? When the G7 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States) began their annual summit meetings in the 1970s, they still dominated the world economy. In 1980, they constituted 51% of world GDP (measured at international prices), whereas the developing countries of Asia accounted for just 8.8%. In 2021, the G7 countries produce a mere 31% of world GDP, while the same Asian countries produce 32.9%.

The G20, by including China, India, Indonesia, and other large developing countries, represents around 81% of world output, and balances the interests of its high-income and developing economies. It is not perfect, as it leaves out smaller and poorer countries and should add the African Union (AU) as a member, but at least the G20 offers a fruitful format for discussing global topics covering most of the world economy. The annual EU-US Summit can accomplish much that the G7 originally aimed to cover.

The G7 is particularly irrelevant because its leaders don't deliver on their promises. They like making symbolic statements, not solving problems. Worse, they give the appearance of solving global problems, while really leaving them to fester. This year's summit was no different.

Consider COVID-19 vaccines. The G7 leaders set the goal of vaccinating at least 60% of the global population. They also pledged to share 870 million doses directly over the next year, presumably meaning enough for 435 million fully immunized individuals (with two doses per person). But 60% of the global population comes to 4.7 billion people, or roughly ten times that number.

The G7 leaders offered no plan for achieving their stated aim of global coverage, and in fact, have not developed one, even though it would not be hard to do. Estimating the monthly production of every COVID-19 vaccine is straightforward, and allocating those doses fairly and efficiently to all countries is entirely feasible.

One reason such a plan has not yet been developed is that the US government so far refuses to sit down with Russian and Chinese leaders to devise such a global allocation.

Another reason is that the G7 governments let the vaccine manufacturers negotiate privately and secretly, rather than as part of a global plan. Perhaps a third reason is that the G7 looked at global targets without thinking hard enough about the needs of each recipient country.

Yet another example of the G7's false promises is climate change. At the latest summit, G7 leaders rightly embraced the goal of global decarbonization by 2050, and called on developing countries to do so as well. Yet, rather than laying out a financing plan to enable developing countries to achieve that target, they reiterated a financial pledge first made in 2009 and never fulfilled. "We reaffirm the collective developed country goal," they averred, "to jointly mobilize \$100 billion per year from public and private sources, through to 2025 in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation."

It is hard to overstate the cynicism of this oft-repeated pledge. The rich countries missed their own deadline of 2020 for providing the long-promised \$100 billion per year - a mere 0.2% of rich countries' annual GDP. And the promised \$100 billion is itself a small fraction of what developing countries need for decarbonization and climate adaptation.

The disconnect between the G7's soaring aims and meager means is apparent on education as well. Hundreds of millions of children in poor countries lack access to primary and secondary education because their governments don't have the financial means to provide teachers, classrooms, and supplies. In 2020, UNESCO estimated that the low- and lower-middle-income countries need around \$504 billion per year up to 2030 to ensure that all kids complete a secondary education, but have only around \$356 billion of their own domestic resources, leaving a financing gap of around \$148 billion per year.

So, what does the G7 propose in this year's communiqué? The leaders propose "a target to get 40 million more girls into education and with at least \$2.75 billion for the Global Partnership for Education." These are not serious numbers. They are pulled out of thin air and would leave hundreds of millions of children out of school, despite the world's firm commitment (enshrined in Sustainable Development Goal 4) to universal secondary education. Large-scale solutions are available - such as mobilizing low-interest financing from multilateral development banks - but the G7 leaders didn't propose such solutions.

The world's problems are far too urgent to leave to empty posturing and to measures that are a mere token of what is needed to achieve stated ends. If politics were a mere spectator sport, to be judged by which politicians mugged best the cameras, the G7 summit would perhaps have a role to play. Yet we have urgent global needs to meet: ending a pandemic, decarbonizing the energy system, getting kids in school, and achieving the SDGs.

My recommendations: fewer face-to-face meetings, more serious homework to link means and ends, more routine Zoom meetings to discuss what really needs to be done, and greater reliance on the G20 (plus the AU) as the group that can actually follow through. We need Asia, Africa, and Latin America at the table for any true global problem solving.





# Lord, are we really that cursed?

Dear Father;

*You know, I have really been thinking of late about my village. To tell you the truth, I have been having some sleepless nights. It may sound funny, ridiculous but that's just the truth Father.*

*Hmm, what has really been playing on your mind son?*

*Father, you know, by all standards we are a very rich village endowed with all the natural wealth any village on this planet Earth can think of. In fact, because of our wealth, our village has been envied by some of its neighbors.*

*But come to think of it, how can a village so endowed with the natural gift of wealth be so poor-the poorest in the world? Are we really that cursed?*

*It is well my son.*

*No, Father, it is not well. Something must be fundamentally wrong here. And I don't really know where we actually got it all wrong. Sometimes I wonder if it's a curse for slaughtering our forefathers publicly in the name of corruption. Yet still corruption has become more than a vampire in our village since we slaughtered those old men on a pole.*

*Today, to tell you the truth, traveling around the village with the Footballer, I sometime feel ashamed of myself-that ego with which I have paraded myself over the years, not knowing part of our fiefdom still looks like the pre-civilization era-stone age to sound brutal with the truth.*

*So, what was our people doing for the last 170 years? Sometimes Father I figure that it's a resource curse, but again blessings can only be turned as curse when greedy people preside over it.*

*That could be true my son.*

*Yes Father, you only see good gifts being a curse or a reason for trouble when it is not evenly distributed to benefit all. This I think is where our problems lie. The me, myself, and I forms of the English verb conjugation. No other person must benefit, you and only you should benefit.*

*The other day a friend of mine from Uncle Sam's village and I were having a conversation surrounding our village and the lack of underdevelopment thereof and also how our leaders both past and present have siphoned and continue to run our village dry.*

*And it all came down to the lack of home training. Yes, Father, the lack of home training in our village has been one of the catalysts for the rampant corruption and abuse of power we have witnessed and continued to witness in our village-that self-discipline is lacking in every sphere of our village.*

*Yes, Father, that respect for other people thing is not in our gene. In fact, the people don't have respect for self that other people they will have it for. It's all about what I can get for myself and not what I can do for my people.*

*One can only be disciplined at the level when you have a home training, living in a home with your parents and siblings knowing what is yours and what is theirs and sacrificing to ensure that whatever is put on the table goes around evenly at least.*

*But in an environment or society wherein most of its leaders are self-read, survival of the fittest is the only discipline that is in their gene-at least, which is what they have been trained to know-get what you can get for yourself and move on.*

*This is so sad Father. It is very sad. A village, once a beacon of hope for the entire continent and elsewhere today lies in abject poverty with many of its people hopeless in some parts of it-surviving and just waiting to be called home by our creator, because for some there is no hope at the tunnel and yet they sit on such wealth. Where have we actually gotten it wrong Father and for how long can we continue on this path?*

## 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS TO EGYPT

The Government of Liberia, in partnership with the Government of Egypt has made available Seven (7) bilateral scholarships for undergraduate studies in any of the following are as: **Electrical Engineering, Education, Information Technology (IT), Pathology, Mechanical Engineering, Mining Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Agriculture, Computer Science/Programming, Civil Engineering, Geology and Arabic Language**, at public Egyptian higher institutions of learning, beginning 2021/2022 academic year.

Applicants must:

- Be Liberian nationals;
- Have graduated from high school in (2019/2021 or 2021/2022);
- Have passed the **WAEC** or **WASSCE** exam (6 subjects in the following categories: Math and English compulsory, 2 science subjects and 2 general subjects);
- Be between 18-22 years of age at the time of application

Eligible Liberian nationals shall forward **THREE (3) COPIES** of the following documents for consideration:

- Certified photocopies of high school transcript;
- Certified photocopies of high school diploma;
- Certified photocopies of **WAEC** or **WASSCE** Certificate;
- Photocopies of birth certificate;
- Photocopies of the first 4 pages of **VALID** passport (ECOWAS-Liberian Biometric passport);
- A **VALID** medical certificate issued by a designated medical facility (preferably, **St Joseph Catholic, Aspirin Medical and Clinic Lab**);
- Six recent white background (identical) passport photos in color with the full name and nationality of the candidate written at the back of each photo;
- **PERSONAL STATEMENT**: a one to two-page summary of the reasons for wishing to undertake training in Egypt and how this training will benefit Liberia;
- CV (with phone number and e-mail address clearly listed);
- Two recent letters of recommendation (one professional and one academic);
- Recent Police Clearance.

**CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at 4 PM**

**ONLY SHORT LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED.**

For application details or inquiry: Visit [www.moe-liberia.org](http://www.moe-liberia.org) or [www.emansion.gov.lr](http://www.emansion.gov.lr)

Applications should be addressed to:

Division of Scholarships

Ministry of Education

Ministerial Complex, Congo Town

For further inquiry, call **Samuel G. Williams** on **0770421201** (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)





MULTI-STAKEHOLDER  
FOREST GOVERNANCE  
AND ACCOUNTABILITY  
PROJECT

### Media Communication Outreach and Monitoring and Evaluation Associate

#### Background

The Multi-stakeholder Forest Governance Accountability Project (MFGAP) is funded by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) under its flagship Forest Governance Markets and Climate (FGMC) Programme. It is a follow-on technical assistance resulting from the signing of a legally binding Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) which entered into force between the European Union (EU) and the Government of Liberia (GoL) in December 2013. The VPA requires the Government of Liberia (GoL) to implement laws and governance reforms with a view to re-establishing international trade in verified legal timber and forest products. In the agreement, Liberia also committed to ensuring the legality of timber traded on their domestic market, and is developing systems needed to control, verify, and license all its timber production.

The overall goal of MFGAP is to strengthen the effectiveness and sustainability of legal and governance reforms enshrined in the VPA by building institutional checks and balances and greater accountability in the forestry sector. It does this by supporting relevant GoL agencies to provide oversight; civil society to engage and effectively monitor the sector; supporting capacity building for an independent media; and ensuring the private sector reduces illegal practices and assures legal compliance in forest management, production, and trade. The private sector here includes the logging companies, chainsaw millers and forest owners including communities who are involved or planning to be directly involved in forest trade as 'start-ups' and/ or entrepreneurs.

#### The Role

This is an integrated position aimed at supporting communications and outreach through media as well as monitoring effective implementation of MFGAP activities. The Associate will support both the MCO Manager and the M&E Manager who will serve as the line manager for the position. Under the guidance of the M&E and MCO Managers, the Associate will assist in ensuring the necessary data and media information for reporting progress on the delivery of the project is provided.

#### Responsibilities and Tasks:

##### Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL):

- Review existing M&E and management information systems of implementing partners and stakeholders implementing project activities directly with MFGAP Core Team and where necessary strengthen the systems with the guidance of the M&E Manager.
- Assist in the review of formats and procedures for operational monitoring protocol.
- Collect, compile, and analyse reports prepared by implementing partners and stakeholders and assist the M&E manager in preparing consolidated progress reports for project management to be submitted to the MFGAP core team.

- Review monitoring reports to assess interim outputs and outcomes and identify causes of potential bottlenecks in implementation.
- Collaborate with implementing partners and primary stakeholders to develop feasible and effective quarterly strategic review discussions where MEL data are analysed, and corrective actions can be agreed upon.
- Support case study initiatives in providing data and other necessary information for an informative report.

##### Communication and Outreach:

- Collaborate with communication manager to develop and implement an effective communications strategy based on projects target audience.
- Establish and maintain effective relationships with journalists and maintain an update-to-date media database.
- Maintain records of media coverage including photography, videography, audio and collate analytics and matrix into a simple dashboard for ease of reference and reporting.
- In coordination with LMC and under the guidance of the MCO, co-manage social media platforms to enhance project communication and visibility.
- Support the writing of quarterly and annual reports, speeches, and production of other promotional /visibility materials that communicate the project's activities or interventions consistent with project objectives and goals.
- In concert with the MCO and the project management team, respond to media inquiries and arrange interviews when deemed to be necessary and effective.
- With guidance from the MCO manager, seek opportunities to enhance the visibility of the project and coordinate publicity events required under the project.
- Convey for immediate attention of the MCO manager, potential conflicts that may arise as a result of project implementation by partners and stakeholders including awareness and outreach activities to advise the Core team's interventions.
- Serve as moderator, facilitator and note taker during core team activities and in some cases activities of project implementing partners.
- support delivery of training, coaching and mentoring to county forest reformed reporters as captured in the workplan.
- support coordination of project inter-Output media communication activities, and
- Be readily available to execute other necessary activities as directed by the M&E manager and the MCO manager

#### Person Specification:

- Experience and interest in monitoring, evaluation, and communications
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work with diverse stakeholders.
- Critical and reflective thinking skills and the ability to prepare written analysis of qualitative and quantitative data.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Experience in writing M&E case studies, and knowledge of Liberia's forestry and/or media sector would be an advantage.

#### Application Instructions:

Applicants should mail a cover letter and CV to [massayan.zawolo@thepalladiumgroup.com](mailto:massayan.zawolo@thepalladiumgroup.com).

The deadline for application is 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Govt. adjusts nat'l budget

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

President George Manneh Weah through the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning has submitted the Fiscal Year 2020/21 supplemental budget with adjustment to the Liberian Senate for possible approval.

In a cover letter of the supplemental national budget adjustment Fiscal Year 2020/21 read in plenary

US\$65.8 million plus for fiscal year 2020/21 of which: US\$29 million plus is captured in this supplemental budget to address pressures that have constrained the execution of the approved budget and US\$36.3 plus is being carried forward of Fiscal Year 20/21 Special Budget."

The adjustment supplemental budget captures the University of Liberia through a grant of US\$2.3 million, while pensioners are allotted US\$2.3

issues on hand.

In May this year, the government had submitted a special draft national budget for fiscal year July 1 to December 31, 2021, to the Liberian Legislature.

The total resource envelope, consisting of only domestic revenue, is estimated at US\$301.5 million.

Acting Finance Minister Dr. Samora P.Z. Wolokolie at the time presented the draft fiscal instrument to House Speaker Bhofal Chambers.

The submission is in consonance with section 65 of the amendment and restatement of the PFMA Act of 2009, which provides for change in the fiscal year and for the formulation of a special national budget of six months to pave the way for transition to the new fiscal year, which begins in 2022.

Dr. Wolokolie at the submission projected economic growth at 3.2 percent up from a slump of 3.0 percent in 2020, with recovery momentum continuing in 2022 at 4.0.

Priority areas of the special budget include Agriculture, Education, Energy and Environment, Health, Commerce Industry, Infrastructure and Basic Services, Security and Rule of Law, Public Administration and Transparency and Accountability, respectively. -

Editing by Jonathan Browne



of the Liberian Senate Thursday, June 17, in Monrovia, President Weah writes, "I have the honor to herewith submit to the 54th Liberian Legislature, a supplemental budget in the amount of US\$66 million for your consideration and subsequent enactment. This supplemental budget is the result of an additional year end revenue projection of

million, and the Liberia Bank for Development and Investment is to benefit US\$15.4 million, while compensation gets US\$9.5 million and the excess revenue over the approved budget is US\$465.5 plus million.

The communication under the signature of President Weah calls on the Legislature to expeditiously deliberate and consider these adjustments to enable government resolve the

# Weah applauds new Israeli Prime Minister Bennett

## -Promises to strengthen ties with Israel

President George Manneh Weah has sent a congratulatory message to Mr. Naftali Bennett, the new Prime Minister of the State of Israel, on the occasion marking his election as Prime Minister of that country.

According to a Foreign Ministry release dated 16 June, President Weah extended on behalf of the Government and people of Liberia, and in his own name, heartfelt congratulations and sincere best wishes to Prime Minister Bennett, and through him, to the Government and people of the State of Israel, on his

recent election victory.

"As we join you and your compatriots in celebrating this historic event, it is my prayer that the bonds of friendship and cooperation subsisting between our two Countries will be further strengthened for the betterment of our two peoples and

countries," President Weah said.

President Weah then prayed that the Almighty God will continue to endow Prime Minister, Naftali Bennett with abundant wisdom, strength and good health as he assumes the mantle to lead his people to noble heights and prosperity.--Press release



# Liberia lacks protection for children

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

The Gender Justice Specialist and Gender Focal Person at the United Nations Development for Programmes (UNDP), Madam Vivian Neejay Innis says despite commitments from the Liberian government to international protocols, the country still lags behind in many respects, more so in the implementation of the many laws and policies already in place.

She narrates that it is for this reason that children across the country continue to remind their leaders of the obligation to live up to their words by ensuring they create an environment that is beneficial to children at all levels.

Speaking during the observance of the Day of the African Child Wednesday, June

consider the links between the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Charter on Children. We must do all we can to inspire our leaders to accelerate efforts to realize all children's rights, as set out in the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child," Madam Innis adds.

The gender specialist at the UNDP states that this celebration therefore provides a platform to reflect on the national and continental African goals for Agenda 2040 and how they apply to children in Africa today.

According to her, everyone must embrace the vision in Liberia and children across the country must continue to remind national leaders of promise to live up to their words, especially when it comes to enhancing children's right to participation and giving them a platform to



Madam Vivian Neejay Innis

16, 2021 in Monrovia at the Spiritan Academy under the theme: "30 years after the adoption of the Charter; accelerating the implementation of Agenda 2040 for an Africa fit for children", Madam Innis said it implies an environment that nurtures the holistic development of children in Liberia and as the children of Liberia continue to celebrate the Day of the African Child, their deep hope lies in the totality of the implementation of the conventions to the latter.

She notes that of the 57 million primary school-age children worldwide who are currently out of school, more than half are from sub-Saharan Africa and national leaders should focus on reducing the number.

, "I will urge our leaders to

express their views in a meaningful and most empowering way.

"This is also an opportunity for us adults.... leaders, teachers, clergy, etc, to hold ourselves accountable on various issues of the SDGs and the African Charter that are yet to be fulfilled and continue to interfere with the rights of children in the country. This celebration also reminds us that all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their 196 targets relate to children and must be acted upon if children's rights are to be realized in Liberia and indeed in the greater Africa," she explains.

She adds that it also brings to the fore the fact that some goals relate more directly to children's rights, such as SDGs



# MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## AFRIGIST seeks to partner with UL for PhD programs

By Winston W. Parley

The African Regional Institute for Geospatial Information Science and Technology (AFRIGIST), under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has requested a partnership with the

University of Liberia (UL) through a memorandum of understanding to bring AFRIGIST's standards to UL for lecture and for students to be a part of research at UL when Liberia becomes a member state of AFRIGIST.

"So we can have a collaboration to have a PhD program in Geography, on Land Administration or Demography,"

with the University of Liberia.

He suggested that the University of Liberia, AFRIGIST, Liberia Institute for Geo Information Services (LISGIS) and the Ministry of Mines and Energy can put heads together to meet specific needs of Liberia.

Dr. Akingbade said Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Mali, Egypt, Nigeria, and Senegal, among others, are making contributions to the institution, while Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau and Liberia have shown interest.

Explaining the procedure to acquire membership, Mr. Joseph Olouroi of AFRIGIST said the first step is to express interest in joining the institution, noting that Liberia has done that since 2015 through a communication written by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He added that the next step is the payment of membership fees after which the Flag of Liberia will be put [among the member states' flags] before the country can start sending students for scholarships.

Welcoming the guests, the President of the University of Liberia Prof. Dr. Julius Sarwolo Nelson said he was happy that Liberia's Ambassador to Nigeria Amb. Al - Hassan Conteh, had contacted the university, urging it to meet with the

Dr. Akingbade said.

Apart from their long term courses from technology level to PhD levels, Dr. Akingbade revealed that AFRIGIST also runs consultancy activities, standard short courses as well as customized training, among others, noting that these are areas that they can collaborate



University of Liberia (UL) aimed at collaborating for PhD program in Geography or Demography, among others.

AFRIGIST Executive Director Dr. Adewale Akingbade said he and his team visited UL Thursday, 17 June to explore ways they can work with the university

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## Senate cites MOH, Incident Management Team

By Ethel A Tweh

The Liberian Senate has ordered the Minister of Health and the Incident Management Team to appear before its full plenary on Tuesday 22 June to tell the Senate what is the emergency response plan of the Ministry as it relates to the fight against Covid-19.

Making the motion Thursday, 17 June, Grand Bassa County Senator Johnathan L. Kaipay said the

leave or be quarantined.

But the Grand Bassa Senator observed that in Liberia, when the test is done, it takes up to three days before the results come out, adding that it's not safe for the rest of the citizens.

According to Senator Kaipay, a person could be positive and be among other people during the three days they are awaiting to be told that they are positive.

"That airport needs to be carefully attended to. People



Minister of Health and the Incident Management Team needed to come before the Senate to state the measure they're putting in place to curtail the rapid spread of Covid-19.

He stressed that Liberia needs a tester that gives the results rapidly, noting that neighboring countries can test people for Covid-19 and within three hours, the result is out to enable the person to

are travelling in and out of the country and the test is only being done, but there is no result at the same time," Senator Kaipay cautioned.

"Do you know how many [people] I might interact with when I leave the airport before being called to say I'm positive? Do you know how many contacts they will have to trace?" Kaipay wondered.--**Edited by Winston W. Parley**

## Ja'neh returns to ECOWAS Court

By Kruah Thompson (Intern)

The former associate justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia Kabina Mohamed Ja'neh on Thursday June 17, 2021 declares he and his lawyer will not rest until President Weah government complied fully with the ECOWAS Court's ruling.

Last November the Economic Community of West African States, (ECOWAS) community court of justice ordered the Government of Liberia to reinstate Justice Ja'neh and paid him us\$200,000 as reprobation for moral prejudice suffered in the violation of his rights.

He said the Liberian government appealed to the ruling but the court again this month rejected the appeal.

Speaking to the Voice of America early this week from Lagos, Nigeria Justice Ja'neh said, he has always taken the position that the Government of Liberia has no expression in the matter, noting that he has been given the right to excise



whether to retire and get all benefits appertaining thereto or to be reinstated.

He vows that he and his lawyers will not rest until the Weah government complied fully with the ECOWAS Court's ruling.

"For me it's the matter to do with full compliance with the judgment of the court; I have no

choice in this matter but to work along with my lawyers to ensure the George Weah government fully complies with the ruling of the court which means basically, that I be reinstated in my position as Associate Justice, as directed by the court, nothing less."

According to him, the issue is not about the money, but ensuring that the government understands there is a country called Liberia, which is governed by laws and those laws must be in compliant, maintaining that not a dime will be taken until these orders by the court, including reinstatement are fully complied with.

Justice Ja'neh at the same time argues that if the Supreme Court of Liberia does not respect the ruling of the ECOWAS Court, he would be left with the unfortunate situation to seek further action and remedy before the regional court and invoke whatever is available in terms of legal application to ensure there are consequences for non-appliance with the

judgment.

The former associate justice was impeached in March 2019 for granting a rate of prohibition petition brought by petroleum dealers in Liberia to stop the government from collecting 25 cents road tax.

When asked for his view on the just held judiciary conference in Monrovia amid criticism of corruption and lack of independence in the Liberian judiciary, Justice Ja'neh notes the independence of the judiciary is at its lowest ebb, stressing the need for cleansing to restore faith in order to rekindle public confidence in the justice system.

He says the fact that at last week's judicial conference there was an indication that

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# Français

## La CEDEAO vient déterminer sa mission d'évaluation post-électorale au Libéria

Le réseau des commissions électorales de la CEDEAO (ECONEC) a terminé dimanche 13 juin sa mission conjointe de suivi post-électorale et d'évaluation des besoins au Libéria.

La mission conjointe de suivi post-électorale, qui a commencé ses travaux le 6 juin, était dirigée par le Dr Amada Aladoua, vice-présidente de la Commission électorale nationale indépendante (CENI) du Niger, et comprenait également des représentants de la Commission électorale du Ghana et de la Division de l'assistance électorale (DAE).

La mission était soutenue par une équipe technique du Secrétariat permanent de l'ECONEC, de l'Institut électoral pour une démocratie durable en Afrique (EISA) et de la Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

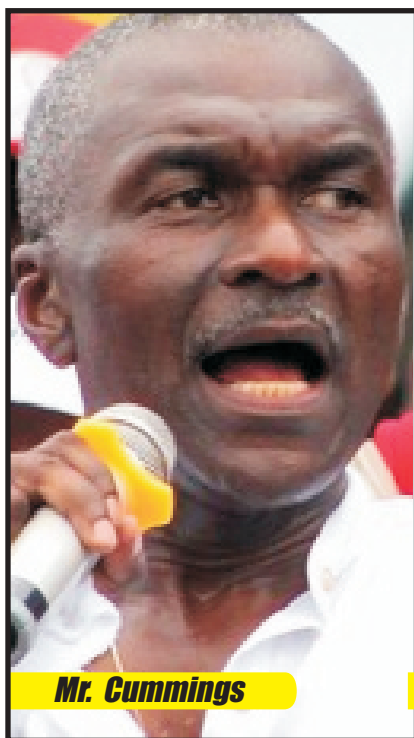
La mission a été déployée avec le soutien financier de la GIZ, à travers son projet

d'architecture et d'opérations de paix et de sécurité de la CEDEAO (EPSAO), cofinancé par l'Union européenne et le ministère fédéral allemand du développement économique et de la coopération (BMZ).

L'objectif de la mission était d'évaluer le niveau de mise en œuvre des recommandations faites aux acteurs du processus électoral par la Mission

d'observation électorale de la CEDEAO lors des élections législatives et présidentielle de 2017 au Libéria ; et évaluer également les besoins de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) et d'autres acteurs électoraux clés à l'approche des élections générales de 2023 au Libéria.

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Mr. Cummings



Sen. Dillon

## Snowe informe Akufu-Addo du Ghana sur la situation sécuritaire dans la sous-région

Le président du parlement de la CEDEAO chargé des affaires politiques, de la paix, de la sécurité et du mécanisme africain d'évaluation par les pairs, le sénateur Edwin Melvin Snowe Jr., a informé mardi le président ghanéen Nana Addo Dankwa Akufu-Addo, président en exercice de la CEDEAO, de la situation sécuritaire dans la région. L'organisation sous-régionale tient actuellement sa quatre-

vingt-sixième session ordinaire du Conseil des ministres de la CEDEAO à Accra.

Bien que tous les détails de l'exposé n'aient pas été révélés à ce quotidien lors d'une conversation en marge du sommet de la CEDEAO, M. Snowe n'a pas tardé à souligner certains des problèmes de sécurité auxquels est confrontée la région et que l'organisme régional doit prendre en compte.

Il a souligné la situation sécuritaire préoccupante au Mali et les récents affrontements au

Burkina Faso le long de la frontière ghanéenne qui ont contraint certains citoyens à fuir vers le Ghana voisin, entre autres.

Le sénateur Snowe a récemment mis au défi ses collègues du parlement de la CEDEAO de prendre des mesures énergiques pour protéger le régime constitutionnel et démocratique dans la sous-région, en particulier au Mali où l'armée a pris le pouvoir.

S'exprimant à Abuja, au Nigeria, lors d'une session plénière pour discuter de la situation politique au Mali, le sénateur Snowe a exprimé sa grave préoccupation concernant les événements dans ce pays et a appelé l'organisme régional à regarder au-delà de la prise de contrôle militaire car, selon lui, si l'on ne fait pas attention, la vague dans laquelle certains gouvernements subvertissent les constitutions de leurs pays respectifs a la propension à créer plus de chaos dans la sous-région.

«Parfois, l'armée prend le relais par les armes, mais il y a maintenant d'autres

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## Éditorial

### Ce que le Président Weah pense du tribunal des crimes de guerre pour le Libéria

La réponse du président George Manneh Weah à la préoccupation du représentant du comté de Lofa, Clarence Massaquo, concernant la nécessité d'établir un tribunal des crimes de guerre et crimes économiques pour le Libéria afin d'éradiquer l'impunité indique clairement qu'il n'a aucunement l'intention de poursuivre les personnes qui ont commis des crimes odieux pendant la guerre civile. En tout cas les victimes de la crise ne peuvent plus compter sur l'administration Weah pour que justice leur soit rendue.

Le représentant du comté de Lofa, Clarence Massaquo, s'exprimant ce week-end dans le district de Foya, dans le comté de Lofa, a rappelé au président Weah que les Libériens sont blessés parce qu'ils ont perdu des proches, y compris des parents, donc l'impunité ne devrait pas faire obstacle à la situation des responsabilités et à la justice. Le législateur de Lofa, comme de nombreux Libériens, souhaite que la recommandation de la Commission vérité et réconciliation concernant les poursuites judiciaires soit mise en œuvre.

« Je sais que ce n'est pas courant de dire ça. Mais Monsieur le Président nous avons le rapport de la CVR, quelles que soient les formes qu'elles prennent Monsieur le Président, ceux qui sont dans ces charniers ne sont pas ici aujourd'hui de leur propre gré. Nous demandons justice », a-t-il plaidé.

Mais le président, par la façon dont il a répondu au législateur, considère la question du tribunal des crimes de guerre comme une discussion farfelue sur l'agenda de son gouvernement. Il a ainsi demandé aux Libériens de plutôt continuer à vivre en toute impunité au nom de la paix.

Les Libériens, tant au pays qu'à l'étranger, aspirent à la justice et à juste titre, en particulier étant donné que les chefs de guerre et autres auteurs de crimes ne cessent de montrer publiquement qu'ils n'ont aucun remords au sujet des atrocités qu'ils ont commises pendant la crise qui a décimé des familles et brisé des rêves.

La plupart des acteurs clés de la guerre sont de retour au gouvernement, y compris l'Assemblée législative. Ils bénéficient d'une immunité totale en dépit des recommandations faites par la Commission vérité et réconciliation. Il s'agit par exemple du célèbre chef de guerre, le sénateur Prince Yormie Johnson, chef de l'INPFL, du représentant Dr. George S. Boley, chef du Liberia Peace Council, de Sekou Damate Conneh, chef LURD, et du professeur Alhaji G.V. Kromah, chef de l'ULIMO-K, entre autres.

En fait, le sénateur Johnson, un fidèle allié politique du président Weah, continue de se vanter qu'aucun tribunal des crimes de guerre ne viendra au Libéria et nie publiquement qu'il a commis des atrocités pendant la guerre, c'est aussi le cas pour le Représentant Boley et pour Sekou Damate Conneh.

Ainsi, lorsque le président Weah appelle les Libériens à s'asseoir autour d'une table ronde pour discuter de la façon de faire avancer le pays plutôt que d'appeler à un tribunal pour crimes de guerre qui pourrait renvoyer le Libéria aux jours sombres, vous pouvez comprendre que la justice va nous échapper continuellement, tant que cette administration est au pouvoir.

Cependant, la Sainte Bible dit que la voix du peuple est la voix de Dieu. Les Libériens ne devraient jamais abandonner le combat. Ils devraient continuer à faire pression pour la mise en place d'un tribunal pour les crimes de guerre et économiques malgré le manque apparent de volonté politique de ce gouvernement.

L'histoire a prouvé à maintes reprises que la volonté du peuple finit par l'emporter malgré les tentatives de réprimer leurs opinions et de piétiner leurs souhaits exprimés de justice, qui est le pivot sur lequel reposent la paix dont le président a parlé, le développement et toutes les autres entreprises humaines positives.



# Français

## La CEDEAO vient de déterminer sa mission

La mission a rencontré le Conseil des commissaires de la NEC, les chefs des services techniques de la Commission, les représentants des partis politiques, les organisations de la société civile (OSC) impliquées dans le suivi du processus électoral et les partenaires techniques et financiers (Délégation de l'UE, Ambassade d'Allemagne, PNUD et USAID) qui soutiennent actuellement les parties prenantes pour approfondir le processus électoral dans le pays.

Les interactions et les discussions ont porté sur les préoccupations concernant la création d'une liste électorale crédible grâce à l'adoption du système d'enregistrement biométrique des électeurs (BVR) pour remplacer le système actuel de reconnaissance optique des marques (OMR) ; des réformes constitutionnelles pour prévenir les différends ; des mesures vers des élections plus inclusives, notamment des mesures positives (quota de 30 % pour

les listes de partis ou sièges réservés aux groupes défavorisés, accès aux personnes handicapées) ; renforcement des capacités du personnel de la NEC ; le déblocage rapide des fonds par le gouvernement ; les besoins d'éducation civique et électorale continue ; recrutement et formation des agents électoraux ; recrutement et formation des représentants des partis/candidats ; Communication institutionnelle de la NEC et le renforcement des relations avec les acteurs électoraux (médias, partis politiques, OSC).

Un rapport complet sera produit pour servir de base aux efforts de plaidoyer, à la conception et à la planification des projets d'assistance électorale, au partage des ressources électorales ainsi qu'au transfert de connaissances entre les membres de l'ECONEC.

L'ECONEC s'engage à apporter le soutien nécessaire à la NEC Liberia et à travailler en synergie avec d'autres partenaires techniques pour aider à consolider la démocratie dans le pays.

## Snowe informe Akufu-Addo du Ghana

gouvernements qui arrivent au pouvoir en modifiant la constitution pour se perpétuer au pouvoir", a affirmé Snowe.

« Donc, il faut que nous examinons également cela parce qu'une fois que l'armée arrive au pouvoir par les armes à feu elle organise un référendum pour modifier la constitution afin de se pérenniser au pouvoir. Il faut que nous examinions cela en tant que parlement afin que nous puissions débattre des questions difficiles dans notre région et faire une résolution à ce sujet », a-t-il ajouté.

Il a déclaré que pour mieux comprendre ce qui se passe au Mali, ce qui pourrait également se produire dans n'importe quel État de la région, il faut examiner certaines des causes profondes de telles crises.

Le président de la commission parlementaire de la CEDEAO pour la sécurité s'est également prononcé contre le gouvernement militaire du Mali qui envoie des représentants désignés pour servir au parlement, affirmant que chaque parlementaire servant dans l'organe régional a été élu par son peuple et permettre à la junte militaire du Mali d'en voyer des représentants non élus au

parlement sera un mauvais exemple et une indication effrayante pour l'avenir.

Il a déclaré que la Cour de justice de la CEDEAO avait statué sur la question de la représentation au Parlement de la CEDEAO mais qu'elle a donné au corps législatif le pouvoir d'accepter ou de refuser les représentants du régime militaire en tant que parlementaires. Concernant la situation au Mali, les membres du Comité mixte ont exprimé leur profonde inquiétude face au mépris total du pouvoir législatif du gouvernement.

Parallèlement, dans un communiqué publié le 9 juin, à l'issue de la réunion du Comité mixte parlementaire de la CEDEAO à Abuja, les parlementaires de l'organe sous-régional ont affirmé que seuls les députés qui sont des représentants directement élus du peuple peuvent siéger au Parlement de la CEDEAO.

Ainsi, le Comité conjoint a déclaré qu'il jugeait nécessaire de réitérer sa détermination à ne permettre à aucun individu nommé par un processus militaire de prêter serment pour devenir membre du Parlement de la CEDEAO. Le Comité a réaffirmé les décisions prises par le Parlement de la CEDEAO lors de sa session extraordinaire à Freetown, en mars 2021, de ne pas admettre la délégation malienne nommée par le Conseil national de transition du Mali.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Jeffrey D. Sachs

## Nous n'avons pas besoin du G7

NEW YORK - La débauche de moyens déployés pour le dernier sommet du G7 n'aura servi à rien. S'il fallait absolument réunir un tel sommet, le mieux eût été de le faire en ligne, ce qui aurait épargné du temps, des frais logistiques et du dioxyde de carbone émis par les avions des participants. Cela dit, les sommets du G7 sont devenus, et c'est surtout là que le bât blesse, un anachronisme. Les dirigeants politiques doivent cesser de consacrer leur énergie à un exercice non représentatif de ce qu'est devenue l'économie mondiale et qui se traduit par un hiatus de plus en plus net entre les buts affichés et les moyens adoptés pour y parvenir.

Il n'y a rien, absolument rien, dans ce sommet du G7 qui n'aurait pu être fait à moindres frais, plus facilement et simplement, par Zoom. Le sommet diplomatique le plus utile de l'année fut la réunion en ligne, appelée par le président Joe Biden, des 40 dirigeants mondiaux qui se sont entretenus en avril du changement climatique. Les rencontres internationales régulières en ligne de responsables politiques, de parlementaires, de scientifiques et de militants sont indispensables. Elles normalisent le débat international.

Mais pourquoi restreindre ce débat au cadre du G7, auquel s'est déjà substitué le G20 ? Lorsque les pays du G7 (le Canada, la France, l'Allemagne, l'Italie, le Japon, le Royaume-Uni et les États-Unis) ont inauguré ces sommets annuels, dans les années 1970, ils dominaient encore l'économie mondiale. En 1980, ils comptaient pour 51 % du PIB mondial (évalué aux prix internationaux), tandis que les pays d'Asie n'en représentaient que 8,8 %. En 2021, la part des pays du G7 dans la production mondiale n'est plus que de 31 %, tandis que celle des mêmes pays asiatiques se monte à 32,9 %.

Le G20, parce qu'il comprend la Chine, l'Inde, l'Indonésie et d'autres grands pays en développement, représente environ 81 % de la production mondiale ; les pays à haut revenu et les économies en développement qui en sont membres y voient s'équilibrer leurs intérêts. S'il n'est pas parfait, puisqu'il laisse sur le pas de sa porte les pays plus pauvres et plus petits et que l'Union africaine devrait y appartenir, il offre au moins un format adapté pour débattre des questions globales qui concernent l'essentiel de l'économie mondiale. Le sommet qui réunit tous les ans l'Union européenne et les États-Unis peut se charger de la plupart des tâches originellement assignées au G7.

Le manque d'intérêt du G7 tient surtout aux promesses non tenues de ses dirigeants. Ils ont plus de goût pour les déclarations symboliques que pour la solution des problèmes. Et, ce qui est pire, ils donnent l'impression de résoudre les problèmes mondiaux alors qu'en réalité ils les laissent s'aggraver. Le sommet de cette année ne fait pas exception à la règle.

Considérons les vaccins contre le Covid-19. Les dirigeants du G7 se sont fixé pour objectif de vacciner au moins 60 % de la population mondiale. Ils se sont aussi engagés à partager directement dans le courant de l'année prochaine 870 millions de doses, qui seraient assez, on peut le supposer, pour immuniser complètement (par l'injection de deux doses) 435 millions de personnes... lesquelles représentent le dixième environ des 60 % de la population mondiale, soit 4,7 milliards d'individus.

Les dirigeants du G7 n'ont proposé aucune solution pour parvenir au but affiché d'une protection mondiale contre le virus et n'en ont assurément imaginé aucune, alors même qu'il ne serait pas difficile de le faire. Estimer la production mensuelle de chaque vaccin n'est pas une chose compliquée et il est parfaitement possible d'allouer équitablement et efficacement les doses produites à l'ensemble des pays.

L'une des raisons pour lesquelles cette solution n'a pas encore vu le jour tient au refus du gouvernement des États-Unis de débattre avec les dirigeants russes et chinois de la distribution des vaccins à l'échelle mondiale. En outre, les gouvernements du G7 laissent le champ libre aux fabricants de vaccins, qui négocient séparément et confidentiellement et non pas dans le cadre d'un plan global. Le G7 fixe aussi des objectifs mondiaux sans prendre suffisamment en compte les besoins spécifiques de chaque pays, ce qui constitue peut-être une troisième raison.

Le changement climatique offre un autre exemple de fausses promesses du G7. Lors du précédent sommet, ses dirigeants avaient adopté, à juste titre, l'objectif d'une décarbonation mondiale d'ici 2050, et appelé les pays en développement à en faire autant. Mais plutôt que de mettre en place un plan de financement qui aurait permis aux pays en développement d'atteindre cette cible, ils se sont contentés de réitérer un engagement financier formulé dès 2009 et resté, depuis, lettre morte. « Nous réaffirmons l'objectif collectif des pays développés - ont-ils déclaré - de mobiliser conjointement 100 milliards de dollars par an auprès de sources publiques et privées, jusqu'en 2025, pour soutenir des mesures concrètes d'atténuation et une mise en œuvre transparente. »

Il est difficile d'exagérer le cynisme d'un tel vœu, maintes fois répété. Les pays riches n'ont pas respecté la date butoir qu'ils s'étaient eux-mêmes fixée, à savoir l'année 2020, pour dispenser ces 100 milliards de dollars annuels depuis si longtemps promis - qui ne représentent que 0,2 % de leur PIB. Une somme qui n'est, par ailleurs, qu'une faible part des fonds nécessaires aux pays en développement pour décarboner leurs économies et s'adapter au changement climatique.

Le hiatus entre les objectifs toujours revus à la hausse du G7 et ses maigres facultés est tout aussi patent pour ce qui concerne l'éducation. Des centaines de millions d'enfants des pays pauvres ne peuvent accéder à l'enseignement primaire et secondaire parce que leurs gouvernements n'ont pas les moyens financiers de leur donner des professeurs, des salles de classe et des fournitures scolaires. En 2020, l'UNESCO estimait que les pays à faible revenu et à revenu intermédiaire de la tranche inférieure avaient besoin d'environ 504 milliards de dollars par an jusqu'en 2030 pour que tous les enfants puissent achever leur enseignement secondaire, mais ne pouvaient rassembler, avec leurs seules ressources, qu'environ 356 milliards de dollars, ce qui laisse une différence d'environ 148 milliards de dollars par an.

Que propose donc le G7 dans le communiqué de cette année ? Les dirigeants souhaitent, disent-ils, « ajouter 40 millions de filles dans le système d'éducation et [verser] au moins 2,75 milliards de dollars en financement dans le Partenariat mondial pour l'éducation. » Ces chiffres ne sont pas sérieux. Ils sortent du chapeau d'un magicien et laisseront aux portes de l'école des centaines de millions d'enfants, malgré les engagements fermes pris au niveau mondial (formalisés dans l'Objectif de développement durable 4) en faveur d'un enseignement secondaire universel. Des solutions à grande échelle sont disponibles - comme la mobilisation de financements à taux bas en recourant aux banques multilatérales de développement - mais les dirigeants du G7 n'en proposent pas.

Les problèmes du monde sont beaucoup trop urgents pour que nous laissions le soin de résoudre ceux qui sont identifiés à des déclarations grandiloquentes et à des mesures de pure forme eu égard à l'immensité des besoins. Si la politique n'était qu'un simple spectacle sportif, dont les acteurs étaient jugés à l'aune de leurs talents photogéniques, le sommet du G7 aurait peut-être un rôle à jouer. Mais nous devons répondre à des besoins urgents à l'échelle mondiale : mettre un terme à la pandémie, décarboner le système énergétique, scolariser les enfants et atteindre les ODD.



## SPECIAL

## ARTICLE

## Liberia and the Pandemic of Pretense

By: Atty. Isaac W. Jackson, Jr.

Liberia is an interesting country; in that, some of our smart brothers have allowed themselves to be manipulated into a position of utter idiocy in the name of belonging to a particular political camp. It is difficult to wrap one's head around a solidarity message in support of a conduct that is illustrative of one of Liberia's major problems, i.e., plunder & pillage of the nation's coffers. By trying to cover up the lack of discretion on the part of our political buddies, are we demonstrating loyalty to the national interest or our friends?

Early this morning, I read an interesting post from one of our brothers, arguing that his political godfather has returned the controversial US\$15k; as such, his chief needed not to be criticized any further. Upon reading the post, I quickly realized that Liberia was not only experiencing the dangerous form of sycophancy, but drowning in the pandemic of pretense.

Conversely, being right is the highest standard because it speaks to consistency and one's character. As John Dewey puts it, character is the inner-penetration of habit. Hence, declaring oneself as a change agent or an anti-corruption warrior is not enough; the commitment to such assertion must be reflected in one's character. Hence, from the look of things, it seems that the brother in question is struggling under the weight of his own declaration: surreptitiously taking money from Albert Chie under the cover of darkness as well as collecting campaign money from a condemned FIFA fraudster in the person of Musa Bility; as well as dividing money (US\$6,000) among his colleague-lawmakers when quarantine centers were without beddings and PPEs.

The crucial point is, if the brother's advocacy were about being right, his first reaction to the US\$15k would have been downright rejection, followed by a solid moral argument that the amount was not in alignment with his advocacy and value judgment. Regrettably, the brother took the money, and his childish maneuvers to use LACE to save face has backfired spectacularly. The pretenses are fast catching up with the conman; he didn't need a huge public pushback to vomit the

Ja'neh; manifested absolute indifference to the suffering of Achie Ponpon; as well as ordaining himself, in obvious repudiation of the principles of natural justice: Article 20 (a) of the Constitution, and Judicial canons 9, 10, 11, 16 and 28 to be my accuser, judge and punisher by suspending my license to practice law without affording me the right to be heard by his Bench?

Today, as a result of Justice Korkpor's unpalatable action, not only my innocent children and I are still struggling to overcome the painful wounds of injustice, but the story is the same with Associate Justice Ja'neh, Achie Ponpon and other invisible Liberians who have been licking at the deep wounds of injustice in silence.

Besides, has Justich Korkpor offered any apology for his revisionist attempt to miseducate and downplay the incredulous human rights violations that took place during the infamous 1979 Rice Riot? Imagine, the Chief Justice of Liberia using the lectern at the Supreme Court to declare that those were jailed as a result of organizing the



In the first instance, how can anyone in good conscience try to withhold genuine criticisms against a fellow who won an election on the basis of not just projecting himself as a change agent but, effectively criticized the lack of transparency, pillage and plunder by Senators, now turn around to accept US\$15k in the name of a controversial legislative project? US\$15k may sound like small money to some; however, if one were to multiply that amount by 30 or by 107, the moral question arises as to when will some of these pretentious and greedy politicians put front and center the plight of the suffering masses?

You see, it is downright frustrating that in an attempt to remain loyal to some of these glib politicians, their slavish supporters blur the distinction between doing right and being right. In a way, doing right has manipulative tendencies, in that, there are people in the world who'll say and even do the right things but for the wrong reasons. Those are the present-day political Pharisees!

US\$15k. So, what obtaining now is a classic display of doing right - placating his slavishly sycophantic supporters into chocking on another garbage - the fig leaf theory at play.

Now, having highlighted aspects of the dangerous form of sycophancy with the pandemic of pretense racking Liberia, it is important to state that I almost laughed my socks off when I read that the Judiciary, Headed by Chief Justice Francis Korkpor, Sr. recently organized a judicial conference with theme: "LAW, PUBLIC POLICY & THE ECONOMY".

The truism that wonders never cease is still alive! What is Chief Justice Korkpor pretending about? Is it respect for the Law, public policy, the economy or he's just trying to copy former Chief Justice Johnny Lewis in a bid to shamelessly rescue his drowning reputation? Because, in adjudicating the facticity of recent developments at the Judiciary, one wonders how could Chief Justice Korkpor in clear conscience have organized such conference when he did not only preside over the infamous defenestration of Justice Kabineh

demonstration were not political prisoner, even though they were charged with treason! From the look of things, no matter what this man does now, he's likely to go down as one of our worse Chief Justices.

Now, for Liberia to have a fighting chance against the pandemic of pretence, our people need to put emphasis on vigorously scrutinising the moral CVs of those we give power - be it elected or appointed power. As for the disease of sycophancy, whereby people unconscionably defend their bosses or political godfathers, I know of no medicament. The disease is huge. The source of the disease is what Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., described as the drum major instinct, the desire for recognition; the desire to be praised, even when we know we are not doing well; and there are those among us who will irreligiously exploit this instinct for their selfish benefit. Hence, our collective challenge!



# Urey pushes Boakai against Cummings

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

In his quest for the opposition Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) presidential ticket, former Coca-Cola bottling executive, now Alternative National Congress (ANC) political leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings says after running large complex organizations and delivering result, he brings different experiences than former Liberian Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

Ahead of the main opposition Collaborating Political Parties (CPP's) convention scheduled for December this year to decide who gets on the Collaboration's ticket for the

will say is, I bring a different set of experiences than the former Vice President, and Liberians will have to decide whether that different set of experiences is what they think we need to lead our country," Cummings said Monday, 7 June in Monrovia during a live talk show on OK FM.

These comments indicate that the bid for the CPP's ticket would be a dog fight at its December convention ahead of 2023.

Speaking at a news conference Thursday, June 17, in Monrovia, Mr. Urey said the former vice president is most suited, experienced and well schooled in good governance hence, he (Boakai) remains the only option for the Executive Mansion.

The CPP is made of the former ruling Unity Party of Joseph

had served the country for 42 years with 12 of those years as vice president to the first democratically-elected female president in Africa, Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

He says it would be an unforgettable mistake for the CPP not to support Boakai for the standard bearer post, warning that President Weah would have an easy ride to his second term.

Commenting on resurgence of the Corona Virus pandemic in the country, he urges the government to give more attention to the fight against the global disease by equipping hospitals and health workers in readiness to serve and stop the virus from spreading.

According to him, there is information that some hospitals are reportedly refusing patients on grounds of lack of medications, logistics and equipment.

On the question of members of the Liberian legislature receiving US\$15,000 each for legislative engagement projects, Urey says this is alarming and unacceptable.

Instead, he suggests that at least each lawmaker should have taken US\$5,000 and directed the balance fund to health. He insists both representatives and senators who directly represent the people should reconsider by returning US\$10,000 to the national government to fight the COVID-19.

Commenting on allegation that both the United States and the United Nations have restricted him from traveling and seized his assets, Mr. Urey denies and terms such information as misleading and total falsehood, clarifying that he was once investigated years back and subsequently cleared by the United Nations thus, he's free man who can travel to any part of the world at any time without restriction.

Recent statistics from the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) reveals there are 2,729 cases of COVID-19 in the country, 2,105 recoveries and 95 deaths. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



presidency, the political leader of the All Liberian Party Mr. Benoni Urey reiterates his support for former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai of the Unity Party.

Mr. Urey believes strongly that the only candidate in the CPP that can defeat incumbent President George Manneh Weah face down at the poll in 2023 is the 76 years old ex-Vice President.

But ANC leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings recently said after running large complex organizations in the United States and producing results, he brings different experiences than former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

"I think the difference, I

# Liberia lacks

Cont'd from page 6

including, eliminate poverty and hunger, promote health, secure education, achieve gender equality, access to water and sanitation, among others.

Madam Innis says the gathering of students, teachers and parents for the Day of the African Child is a great day for all children in Africa and brings to life most of the commitments made by African countries to achieve the goals of the SDGs by 2030.

The Day of the African Child commemorates the heroism of

the African child. On June 16, 1976, nearly ten thousand black students from Soweto, South Africa, marched the streets to protest against the poor quality of their education and to demand their right to be educated in their own language.

Madam Innis is a development practitioner, who is committed to serving and designing methodology to positively impact the lives of women, children, disadvantaged youth and the extremely poor.

# AFRIGIST seeks to partner

Cont'd from page 7

AFRIGIST delegates because it would be in the interest of the university.

Dr. Nelson assured that his administration will do its part to make sure that the partnership between UL and AFRIGIST is continued in an institutionalized way, noting that his Vice President for Institutional Development and Planning, Prof. Weade Kobbah - Boley will coordinate the university team to see how the institution can explore the possibility for the memorandum of understanding with AFRIGIST.

Subsequently Prof. Weade Kobbah - Boley said when it comes to determining what goes into the MOU from both sides, that's where her roles

and functions are, saying most of the programs at the University of Liberia are being improved and upgraded, and her role is to forge partnership and monitor, once they are established.

Also speaking at the meeting were UL's Executive Director for Research Institute Dr. Agnes Reeves Taylor; Dr. Darren Wilkins, Vice President for Information Technology; Dr. James McClain, Dean of the College of Science and Technology; Prof. Thomas Kaydor; Mr. Aaron Tobgah of LISGIS; Mr. Torwon Tony Yarth, Adjunct Faculty, Geography Department and Executive Director, Liberia Geographical Society (LGS), among others.

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**June 15, 2021**

SURVEYOR'S LICENCE  
NAME: ALBERT D. GRAH  
LIC. NO. 053  
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

## Re-Survey Notice

**Contours, Limited** informed the general public that **The Heir of Late George S. Dweh, II** has duly authorized the conduct of Detail & Perimeter Re-Survey of One Point Zero (1.0) Lot of land in Rehah Community along the Flaming Fire Avenue, Paynesville City, Montserrado County.

The parcel of land to be Re-Survey is lying and situated **along the Flaming Fire Avenue, Paynesville City, Montserrado County.**

This Re-survey will commence on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 beginning at 10:00AM.

Therefore, all adjoining & adjacent property owners, and interested parties are requested to be present at the site on the day of the survey with their **deed(s), diagram(s), map(s), technical representatives/surveyors and other relevant document to substantiate their claims.**

Please let this survey notice and announcement claim the attention of the following individuals:

1. Mr. Massaquoi & Family
2. Madam Satta Johnson & Family
3. Mr. Philip Murray & Family
4. Madam Elizabeth Wleh---(Caretaker of the property)
5. Madam Telde Doe---(Community Chairlady)
6. Mr. Tweh---(Community Chairman)
7. All other interested Parties

*Signed: P.P. M. Grah Jr.*  
**Albert D. Grah Jr.**  
Registered Licensed Surveyor  
Cell #: 0886740519/0770266608

**Initials**  
R.P.J.

Cont'd from page 7

retirement age for justices be moved from 70 years but was totally rejected, "symbolized in my view the ebb of low confidence in those who currently mend the system. "

He underscores the need to restore trust so that people once again can say "yeah, we have a judiciary that we can

# Ja'neh returns to

go to for redress when we have difficult challenges."

But Justice Ja'neh notes this is not what is obtaining right now, explaining the fact that judicial orders are issued at the highest level of the judiciary, which is the Supreme Court and they are not respected, clearly demonstrates the Supreme

Court is merely an extension of both the executive and the legislative branches of the Liberian government and this erodes public confidence in the system. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



## UEFA satisfied with treatment Pavard received following Gosens collision



UEFA is satisfied with the France medical staff's assessment that Benjamin Pavard did not lose consciousness in Tuesday's Euro 2020 clash with Germany.

Pavard claimed after Les Blues' 1-0 Euro 2020 victory over Germany that he "felt a little knocked out for 10 to 15 seconds" following a collision with Robin Gosens.

The right-back received treatment for several

minutes at the Allianz Arena and was eventually allowed to continue playing.

Pavard's return to the pitch and subsequent comments drew criticism from world players' union FIFPro, who demanded answers from UEFA for failing to follow the "concussion charter".

The charter was signed by all 24 teams at Euro 2020 - a commitment to taking a series of measures to improve the care of players and includes neurological baseline testing and

access to in-match television replays for team doctors.

However, UEFA released a statement on Thursday stating they are happy the France medical team did not breach a concussion protocol by allowing Pavard to play on.

"According to the reports that we received from the team doctor, it seems that a loss of consciousness did not occur," the statement read.

"The team doctor did not find any reason to suspect a concussion either on the pitch or after thorough assessment made by a renowned specialist in this field in later follow-up.

"The player will nevertheless continue to be closely monitored over the coming days."

The statement added: "All 24 teams committed to follow the recommendations of the UEFA Concussion Charter before the start of the tournament and the responsibility for decision-making remains with the team doctor.

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## Aston Villa re-sign Ashley Young following Inter exit

Aston Villa have signed Ashley Young on a free transfer following the winger's exit from Inter.

Young has agreed a one-year contract at Villa Park, a decade after departing the club for Manchester United.

The former England international spent four and a half years with Villa during his previous spell and made 190 appearances in all competitions.

Villa confirmed Young's

arrival on their official website on Thursday and the versatile wide player added: "It feels amazing to be back, it feels like I've not left.

"I'm just delighted to be back, seeing some old faces, being back at the training ground, seeing the facilities and how well they've grown.

"You can see how much the club has evolved since my time and I'm just ready to get down to work now."

Young featured 34 times for Scudetto winners Inter in the



2020-21 campaign, including 26 outings in their successful Serie A campaign.

He scored one goal - coming in last month's 5-1 win against Udinese - and set up four more in the Italian top flight last season.

Prior to joining Inter, Young won the Premier League, FA Cup, EFL Cup and Europa League with United.

The 35-year-old is Villa's second signing of the close season following the club-record capture of Emiliano Buendia last week, while it has been reported

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