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# Second chopping



**-As lawmakers receive another US\$15k each**



Min. Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah

# More vaccines expected

**-Health Minister Dr. Jallah**

3G good



4G better

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# Continental News

## South Africa to deploy 25,000 troops after unrest

The South African government plans to deploy 25,000 troops after days of widespread looting and violence.

The military deployment - to counter riots sparked by the jailing of former President Jacob Zuma - is the biggest since the end of apartheid. At least 72 people have died and more than 1,700 have been arrested in South Africa's worst unrest in years.

Hundreds of shops and businesses have been looted and the government says it is acting to prevent food shortages.

Citizens are arming themselves and forming vigilante groups to protect their property from the rampage.

More than 200 incidents of looting and vandalism were recorded on Wednesday, the government said, as the number of troops deployed doubled to 5,000.

But Defence Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula said she had submitted a request for the deployment of 25,000 soldiers to the two provinces

hit by violence - KwaZulu-Natal, where Durban is located, and Gauteng, which includes Johannesburg. The government has been under pressure to put more boots on the ground to tackle the unrest. Shopping malls and warehouses have been ransacked or set ablaze in several cities, especially Durban.

Dr Dulcy Rakumakoe, who runs a chain of medical centres in Gauteng province that have

been looted, told the BBC more action was needed.

"We've started with the clean-up but we can't even think about the rebuild because we are not sure when the unrest will be totally done," she said. "It's still not safe to even go in and rebuild."

Protests began last week after Zuma handed himself in to police to serve a 15-month sentence for contempt of

court. Zuma's supporters reacted furiously to his imprisonment, blockading major roads and calling for a shutdown to demand his release. The protests have since descended into riots on a scale rarely seen in South Africa, with businesses in every sector looted, burnt and petrol-bombed in cities and towns across KwaZulu-Natal.

Army reservists were called to report to their units on Thursday.

The request came after President Cyril Ramaphosa warned that parts of the country "may soon be running short of basic provisions" following disruption to supply chains.

The wreckage to businesses comes as South Africa's economy struggles with unemployment and Covid-19 restrictions. Wielding sticks and guns, a group of minibus drivers violently beat up suspected looters in a township near Johannesburg on Wednesday.

Durban resident Lauren Alexander says the situation in the city is like a "war zone".

"It is frightening because we don't actually know what's happening next,"

the 26-year-old told BBC Radio 1 Newsbeat.

"Our roads are all blocked off, a lot of our food shops are closed, which frightens us a lot because we've got to ration our food now." BBC



More than 1,700 people have been arrested since disorder broke out

## Nigerian separatist tortured in Kenya - lawyer

The lawyer to Nnamdi Kanu, who leads a banned group seeking a breakaway state in south-eastern Nigeria, has told the BBC that he has visited his client for the first time since his arrest more than two weeks ago.

Alloy Ejimako said the Indigenous People of Biafra (Ipub) leader looked unwell with bruises on his hands and

the back of his head.

He said Mr Kanu, who is being held in a facility run by Nigeria's secret police,

had told him that he had been detained and tortured in Kenya before his extradition last month.

Mr Kanu, who faces treason-related charges, fled Nigeria in 2017 while on bail - but was detained last month after his extradition from a country the

authorities have refused to name.

Speculation that he was arrested in Kenya was denied at the time by Kenya's high commissioner to Nigeria.

Mr Ejimako said his client told him that he had been kept in a private facility in Kenya and had been chained to a bare floor for several days.

He alleged that he had been beaten, tortured and kept incommunicado before being handed over to the Nigerian authorities.

Neither the Nigerian government nor the Kenyan authorities have reacted to these allegations.

Mr Kanu, 53, founded Ipub in 2014 - the latest group advocating a country for Nigeria's ethnic Igbo community.

In 1967 Igbo leaders declared independence for the state of Biafra, but after a civil war, which led to the deaths of up to a million people, the secessionist rebellion was defeated. BBC



Nnamdi Kanu has renewed calls for Biafran independence which were dashed in the brutal 1967-1970 civil war

## Cameroon Says Separatists Disguised as Military Kill, Loot

Cameroonian officials say anglophone rebels are taking a new tack in their fight to break away from the country's French-speaking majority. Officials say the separatists have started disguising themselves as military troops to infiltrate villages and launch attacks.

In a video widely circulated on social media platforms, including Facebook and WhatsApp, a group of 10 men armed with AK-94 assault rifles claim they are separatist fighters. The men, in civilian clothing, appear to brandish Cameroonian military uniforms, guns, ammunition and bulletproof vests they say they seized from Cameroon military. The men display a man's head claiming it is that of a government soldier they killed and beheaded.

Cameroon's military says the head displayed by the fighters as a trophy is that of one of its troops deployed to Babadjou, a French-speaking commercial town on the border with the English-speaking North-West region.

Awah Fonka, governor of Cameroon's West region, where Babadjou is located, said more than 20 English-speaking separatists from Pinyin, a town in the North-West region, infiltrated the French-speaking West region Wednesday. He said the fighters attacked government troops and looted Babadjou shops.

Fonka said two government

troops were killed by fighters disguised in Cameroonian military uniforms to fool the government troops.

Fonka visited Babadjou on Wednesday. He encouraged civilians who fled into the bush to return home.

Fonka said more government troops have been deployed to Babadjou and neighboring villages to find fighters hiding in the bush or among civilians.

The Cameroonian military warned both separatists and civilians against wearing military uniforms in a statement.

Separatists claim on social media they are in possession of several hundred Cameroonian military uniforms removed from the bodies of government troops they have killed. The fighters said some of the uniforms were seized from military camps they have attacked in the English-speaking western regions.

The military acknowledges that the fighters seized uniforms and military weapons from government troops but says the number of weapons and uniforms seized is low.

Peter Ngumulah, a 38-year-old college teacher, has been living in Babadjou for two years and says he fled fighting between government troops and separatists in the town of Bambili in the North-West region. Ngumulah says the government should increase the number of its troops in Babadjou. BBC

# EDITORIAL

## Liberia's messy COVID-19 fight

**AMID DAILY RISE IN** new cases of the deadly Delta variant from the coronavirus, Liberia is now without vaccines to prevent its citizens from contracting the virus, which is spreading across the country like wildfire.

**THE COUNTRY'S REMAINING DOSES** of the 96,000 AstraZeneca jabs received in April this year expired on Saturday, July 10, 2021, having administered over 90,000 among a population of 4.5 million people, barely a drop in the bucket.

**WHAT IS EVEN** of grave concern though is authorities' handling of the third wave of outbreak, particularly from the Delta variant brought into the country largely by travelers from India and other Asian countries via the Roberts International Airport, where health regulations were seriously compromised for alleged personal gains.

**AIRPORT SECURITY AND** health regulators commercialized COVID-19 test results, and in some instances, gave incoming visitors access to the capital unchecked, raising infection rate among the population. On the other hand, the Minister of Health Doctor Wilhelmina S. Jallah has been more concerned with collecting US\$75.00 from travelers for COVID-19 test than keeping surveillance.

**THE GOVERNMENT IS** still cleaning up the mess created at the RIA effecting suspensions and dismissal, but the harm has already been caused with over 5,000 confirmed cases and nearly 200 deaths recorded, at least by official counts.

**EVEN CITIZENS THAT** took the first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccines are being left to wait up to August or September for arrival of fresh consignment of vaccines, while the virus rages, affecting lives.

**THE GRIM PICTURE** has left the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to place Liberia's COVID-19 at Level 4, meaning a very high risk country in the entire West Africa. As a result, travelers from Liberia are being subjected to vigorous scrutiny at airports in the region and beyond.

**UNLIKE GHANA AND** elsewhere in the region, Liberia is yet to embark on mass testing to identify infection trend among its population for informed decision making. Health institutions here lack basis supplies, including PPEs to fight the virus.

**FRONTLINE AUTHORITIES IN** the COVID-19 fight need to wake up and recalibrate to put Liberia on the right trajectory if we should win the battle against the pandemic. The Weah administration seems to have lost focus in the ongoing fight after it mismanaged US\$30 million allotted from the national budget for stimulus package during the first round of the outbreak in 2020. The government has failed to account for the money.

**AMID THE SEEMING** lack of political will and clear strategy in tackling the health crisis, the population faces risk of any kind, including mass infection and death that could bring the country on its knees.

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

# COMMENTARY

By Werner Hoyer

## Deepening the EU-African Partnership

**B**RUSSELS - Home to more than one billion people, Africa boasts the youngest, fastest-growing middle class in the world. With a median age 14 years younger than that of any other continent, Africa is on the cusp of profound political, economic, and social transformation. Around 20 million jobseekers enter the labor market every year in Sub-Saharan Africa. If these young people can be incorporated into the economy, they could contribute decisively to the region's development and growth.

To help Africa realize this demographic dividend, financial institutions and development banks must invest in the coming transformation. That means both promoting the private sector - the engine of job creation - and changing how we ourselves operate.

Across all areas of economic development, investing in Africa's future represents a win-win, because many of the continent's biggest challenges are in fact global problems that will affect us all. COVID-19 has made this abundantly clear, offering a warning of what awaits us in an age of climate change. For Europe to avoid the worst effects of global warming, it must engage with countries everywhere to help them achieve sustainability and climate resilience.

Though Africa is blessed with great natural wealth, political and historical factors have left it afflicted with high poverty rates. Nine of the ten countries with the highest poverty rates are in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the economic fallout from the pandemic is estimated to have added another 32 million to the total.

Still, the continent's prospects are changing. Its oil and mining sectors now account for a minority of long-term capital inflows, because investors have come to focus on telecommunications, retail, and services. In Sub-Saharan Africa, an average of 90,000 users per day connect to the internet for the first time. Africa is quickly emerging as the new global center of mobile banking, a development that will expand its economies' access to global markets, build resilience, boost transparency, and create jobs.

In the European Investment Bank's 2021 development report, which details our €5 billion (\$5.9 billion) of lending in Africa last year, we offer a series of articles from experts highlighting the complexities facing development finance today. New issues range from how to calculate climate risk to expanding programs to save the forests of Ivory Coast, which are being cut down at an alarming rate to make way for cocoa production.

Alongside the development report, we have also published A Partnership with Africa, which delves deeper into key strategic and policy ideas driving contemporary development efforts. As one of the defining global issues of this century, climate change

will intensify Africa's challenges, including by displacing more people and making states and societies more fragile. Despite contributing less than 4% of global greenhouse-gas emissions, Africa stands to suffer the full impact of a warming planet.

However, owing to Africa's relatively low level of industrialization (reflected in its small contribution to global warming), there is a unique opportunity to leap-frog directly into a greener future. To succeed, African leaders must support innovation and adoption of the best available technologies. Basic goods such as water, renewable energy, and clean mobility must be made available to all.

The EIB has operated in Africa since 1965, investing €59 billion in 52 African countries and honing a model from which other international financial institutions can learn. Last year, 71% of our financing for Sub-Saharan Africa was allocated to fragile states or least-developed countries, where we have sought to support positive changes underway, including rapid economic growth, improved political stability and integration, increased foreign investment, and more and better business opportunities. Underpinning this work is a willingness to listen to African leaders and to cooperate with ambitious, committed innovators. This allows us to respond directly to local needs and priorities while still working in line with EU policy.

Over the last couple of months, we have held strategic discussions with the presidents of Senegal, Ghana, and Tunisia, as well as African Union Commissioner Josefa Sacko. The EIB also played an active role in the recent Africa summit that French President Emmanuel Macron hosted in Paris, and in the EU-Africa Green Investment Forum in April. At both events, leaders from both continents stressed the need for a stronger partnership.

Many African leaders have responded to the COVID-19 pandemic with impressive determination. By acting together, Africa and Europe can face down the current health and economic crisis while mapping out shared investment priorities to achieve a sustainable and inclusive recovery.

For our part, we at the EIB have refined our African operations significantly in recent years. And following discussions among EU policymakers on how to enhance the European financial architecture for development, we have been considering how to refocus our contributions to maximize their impact in the service of EU and African objectives.

By improving how we deliver our development financing in close cooperation with the European Commission and the European External Action Service, we can help meet the growing need for ever-stronger economic and trade ties between Europe and Africa. In an age of climate change and global pandemics, our continents will sink or swim together.



## Lord, this man is only displaying his true self

Dear Father:

You know, there is a saying that no matter how hard a man tries to hide, his true self, will one day show up. Yes, a person's true self (character) depicts who he/she really is and no man can hide from himself.

My son, why all these big, big book for na? Speak our village English so we all can hear whattin you saying.

Yea mehn Father, that this other Chief from the Traditional Council here every day apologizing for lying- if that na Uncle Sam's money 15,000 story, that ticket bisnay and he will not stop.

Now, everybody calling him Mr. Liar man all over the village because it looks like the guy likes lying too much! He na turned from light to darkness-puah...

But wait oo, he was ever a light first? The man da pure conned-artist then you're calling him light around here.

Ah Father, but wattin I moh say. The man said he was going to the Traditional Council to be the only light in the darkness. Now, the thing his people can't understand is that light bulb can attract insects of all kinds.

But the one I can't understand must he lie? Was it not his own money? What was he trying to prove?

Father, the man was trying to impress his followers and other villagers who are easily fooled by him. And in so doing he has exposed his true self-which he has been faking all along. I'm telling you Father, only fake people lie to impress. And just so you know Father, only fake people lie about simple things because lying is their habit so it's hard for them to tell a simple truth.

The money is yours, you could choose anything you want to do with it and nobody will ask you-even if you went in Charlie Land and decided to do an upgrade, it's for your own comfort and nobody but because everything you must lie and so you told a lie. You know, it's like a child who keeps his/her food, turn around and steal over it.

But my son, all the things you talking hear, I still can't understand, was he forced to lie?

Father, if something is in your nature, it doesn't matter the situation. There are some people who will go behind the house to ease themselves and when they are asked where you coming from, they say nowhere. They lie about every simple thing.

Funny enough, this chief behavior is not far from what they say about liars- They are always people who try to be something they are not.

The man wants us the villagers to believe that he is humble and not extravagant, but in truth that's what he is. And all he is trying to do is to fake it that he is not. But the truth is that's what he is.

The bad news is, it's really difficult to live a lifestyle that is not yours-for how long can you pretend to be what you are not. Let say you even want to have a double face, one day you will be caught, because maybe you will forget to wear the other face when you should have stay with the current.

The most shameful part in this was to go and print ticket trying to defend a lie- and that's what liars do, they use lies to defend a lie.

Anyway, the chief's supporters will go all out to defend his lying habit. And like we always do in our village, we will try to find comfort by comparing with other people. But the truth is the chief was the one who set his own standards, the others did not. They know they are not correct so they never went over there shouting.

Unfortunately, your chief did and so he should be held by his own standards, not looking at other standards to take comfort in your failure to uphold your own standards.

The other chiefs did not go to the Traditional Council saying their hands are clean, you said your hands were clean and will remain as such-it's your own standard deal with it. Now, you are just like the rest of them-you have lost your moral standing because what else are you not lying about and showing us different reference papers?

# O-P-E-D

By Kemal Dervis, Sebastián Strauss

## The Key to Global Climate Success

WASHINGTON, DC - Recent advances in green technologies have made reaching net-zero greenhouse-gas emissions by 2050 not only technically feasible but also economically worthwhile. Meeting this goal - which has started to anchor expectations now that an increasing number of countries have adopted it - is necessary to keep global warming well below 2° Celsius relative to pre-industrial levels. But countries must start rapidly reducing emissions now.

Climate change affects different parts of the world differently, and not all countries are equally responsible - both now and historically - for carbon dioxide emissions. These disparities have so far prevented the emergence of an international consensus on how to share mitigation costs fairly. But in the run-up to the United Nations climate-change summit (COP26) in Glasgow in November, recognition of the severity of the global warming threat, coupled with a dramatic reduction in the cost of renewables, is making rapid progress easier. In fact, the emphasis in the climate debate has shifted from the costs of mitigation to the opportunities provided by new technologies.

The race to realize a net-zero world by 2050 remains tight, with different groups of countries moving at varying speeds. But it is becoming increasingly clear that the performance of emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs) other than China is likely to hold the key to success.

Among advanced economies, Europe is at the forefront of green transformation efforts. The United States under President Joe Biden now seems determined to raise its climate ambitions, and its technological capacity makes it likely to perform well, despite continued domestic political obstacles. The same can be said for other rich countries such as Japan and Canada, which also have the resources and technology to be in the net-zero vanguard.

The poorest countries already suffer the most from ongoing climate change and are the least able to afford mitigation and adaptation measures. On ethical grounds, they deserve a lot of assistance to help them adapt and leapfrog to green technologies, but their total CO2 emissions will be too small to affect the global aggregate significantly between now and 2050.

This is not the case for EMDEs, whose level of climate ambition and capabilities will be a major determinant of global success. While emissions in most advanced economies are declining, they are still increasing in most EMDEs, which, including China, now account for about two-thirds of global emissions. (China by itself generates about 30% of the global total.)

But, because China differs in some important ways from most other EMDEs, lumping it together with these countries is not the best way to assess their prospects for further decarbonization. For starters, China has both the desire and the capacity to be a global export leader in green technologies, and pursuing this ambition will also boost China's efforts to tout the attractiveness of its sociopolitical system.

Moreover, China has the financial resources to meet the often-large upfront costs of the green transition, and the country's semi-public firms may be willing to take the long view needed for many of these investments to prove profitable. Finally, China's sheer size means that it will benefit substantially from its own emission cuts, diminishing the free-rider problem - a point that many overlook.

There are thus good reasons to believe that China will soon scale up its climate policies and embark on a growth path that reduces emissions much more rapidly than now. In contrast, the other EMDEs, while a diverse group, are almost all still on carbon-intensive growth paths.

EMDEs must invest heavily in power, transportation, housing, and related sectors to meet the expectations of their still-growing populations, including hundreds of millions of very poor citizens. Despite the justifiably optimistic emissions-reduction scenarios for the advanced economies and China, therefore, it is the other EMDEs' trajectories that could be the difference between limiting global warming to well below 2°C and significantly exceeding this threshold.

Compared to developed countries and China, EMDEs have limited ability to mobilize the long-term upfront finance needed to put them on green growth trajectories. They lack domestic fiscal space and do not qualify for concessional resources from advanced economies, which are mostly reserved for low-income countries.

Moreover, some important EMDEs such as India, Indonesia, and South Africa still rely heavily on coal. While these countries' primary challenge is rapid growth of new green capacity, they face the additional difficulty of decommissioning relatively new capital stocks. China also must confront these issues, but has greater leeway to deal with them.

The only viable solution to this challenge is a lot of long-term international financing for EMDEs, mostly from private sources. Multilateral development banks should facilitate this process by offering to blend in some slightly concessional financing of their own and providing risk-reducing facilities to mobilize private resources. That would require the MDBs to obtain additional shareholder capital as well as permission to use their balance sheets less conservatively. Meanwhile, China, rather than being a net recipient of foreign capital, will be a source of long-term private and public finance for the other EMDEs.

As policymakers prepare for COP26, prospects for achieving a carbon-neutral world by 2050 are improving. But it is unrealistic to expect to keep global warming well below 2° C if middle- and lower-middle-income countries do not participate fully in the green transformation.

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# The Trust Deficit between Public Officials and the Citizens: The Case of Senator Abraham Darius Dillon

By S.Karweaye

Trust is the glue that binds people together. Public trust entails demonstrating transparency, accountability, and competence. However, in Liberia, society's confidence in transparency, accountability, fairness has plummeted. In Short, there is a growing trust deficit between public officials in Liberia and many of the citizens.

We cannot trust public officials to always say what they mean and mean what they say. They speak in forked tongues and are mostly dishonest in their promises. When they are in trouble and have been exposed, they use language to cover up. In Liberia, as soon as we hear certain words and statements, we know that we are being lied to. Statements such as "the law must take its course"; "We are still investigating and the outcome of will be announced in due course"; "We welcome the court decision, the report was forwarded to the President, Investigation is ongoing, we are still studying the judgment and we will comment in due course"; "Fellow Liberians, I sincerely apologize to the nation, I hope you will find it in your hearts to forgive me."

While many citizens have praised Senator Dillon's leadership on transparency at the Liberian senate with the hope it would assist the leaderships in the Liberian senate to cleanse themselves and earn some legitimacy, some recent mishaps from the Senator keep reminding us why public trust is being eroded in Liberia.

The first issue has to do with the so-called Legislative Engagement Fund. The members of the 54th Legislature including Senator Dillon received from the Executive Branch of government US\$15,000 for the so-called Legislative Engagement Fund, but the Senator's decision of receiving such money raised massive public condemnation with some citizens arguing he professes to be the "Light" and as such; he should not have taken the money. It also comes in the wake of further revelation from a fellow CPP lawmaker that the Senator Dillon Montserrado received US\$20k to offset loans they had taken a while back. During a news conference at his Capitol Building office, Senator Dillon tried to unsuccessfully to extricate himself from the embarrassing situation by declaring his share would be donated to the Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment (LACE). However, LACE in a press statement rebuffed the Senator's antics by clearly stating the agency would be



violating their statutes if they receive the 15k from Senator Dillon. The Senator found himself straddling between many worlds - to keep or donate the money. The decision landed to donate the money, or at least half of it - US\$ 7,500 - to the Montserrado County Health Team. However, Health Minister Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah has asked the County Health Officer of Montserrado to return the money.

The second issue we cannot let slide is his debunking of FrontPageAfrica story which revealed the Senator flew business class on Delta Airway enroute to the United States of America. In debunking FrontPageAfrica, the Senator Screenshots original economy class ticket from Monrovia to New York, however, according to FrontPageAfrica investigation, Senator Dillon deceitfully concealed his upgraded ticket which he arrived in Accra, and flew to the United States. Unfortunately, Sen. Dillon left the ticket confirmation number exposed which was researched by FrontPageAfrica which revealed the Senator flew Class Z also known as Delta One after upgrading his ticket to Business class fare. After FrontPageAfrica revelation, Senator Dillon appeared on Spoon Talk and admitted the truth stating "I brought this upon myself. I should not have lied about it,"

We have been told lots of lies over the past years by the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) led government with no remorsefulness or apologies and must commend Senator Dillon for his apologies, but we must also criticize him like any other public officials or politicians when their actions erode public trust. Under President Weah's leadership, a culture of impunity has taken hold, and consequences and accountability have

fallen by the wayside. That culture of impunity now needs to be excised, and visibly so. Only integrity and ethical values imposed from the top down will help undo the damage, which has undermined the credibility of our institutions. That's why the citizens of Montserrado County overwhelmingly voted for Abraham Darius Dillon in 2019 and re-elected him in 2021 as Senator. Senator Dillon was elected to assist in espousing an ethos of ethical leadership and clean governance something President Weah and others elected are failing to do. He should be the proponent of a transparent, accountable, and fair state, one in which society could have confidence and stop making a conscious decision to lied and only come back to apologize when the truth is revealed. He must understand in order to undo the structural legacy of bad governance - manifest in Liberia's unequal wealth distribution and high Gini co-efficient - transparency, accountability, and fairness are essential. Trust and Confidence, both by business and the citizenry, in a competent and capable state are essential and prerequisite ingredients for creating an environment that is not only conducive to investment, but can enable people to fulfill their economic potential.

It is imperative our public officials commit to a change in behavior by building a culture of integrity to bridge the trust divide. This requires responsive and responsible leadership to set the tone and lead by example. Strengthening institutions and dismantling networks of patronage, cronyism and corrupted systems are critical tasks in reinforcing an economy that caters to the needs of society on an inclusive basis. Similarly, increasing levels of trust is a fundamental requirement. Re-establishing Liberia's position and profile internally and externally requires leadership from every stakeholder, candor from individuals, and a collective commitment to secure human dignity for all, together with economic inclusion on a sustainable basis. Only then will Liberia realize the vision of a free and fair society, in which every Liberians can achieve their true potential with their head held high. They will fulfill the dreams of their forebears and lay the foundation for future generations to enjoy real freedom, unshackled from the chains of the past. They will be able to achieve their goals, in a country characterized by public trust, integrity, compassion, and determination.

*Editor's note: The views expressed here in this article are that of the author and not of the New Dawn.*



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Weah makes anti-corruption pledge

**--Requests increased IDA support against Covid-19**

President George Manneh Weah Mr. Weah has committed his government to doing its part in redoubling efforts on the fight against corruption to ensure that resources are not wasted, while requesting an increased support from the International Development Association

mobilization, but also to redouble our efforts on the fight against corruption, to ensure that resources are not wasted," Mr. Weah said Wednesday, 15 July.

Addressing the World Bank Meeting virtually on IDA 20 Replenishment in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, President Weah said that

Covid-19 has not only been having devastating impact on health systems, but has also caused serious devastation on the Liberian economy, contracting the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 3% in 2020.

He shed significant light on the impact that Covid-19 is having on Liberia, most particularly the economy and the population, and also accentuated the critical interventions that multilateral and bilateral institutions have made to buttress the country's anti-Covid-19 fight.

He told the meeting that an early IDA 20 replenishment would be critical, not only to address shortfalls and setbacks created by the global pandemic, but also to provide investment programs that will lay the foundations for sustainable recovery and a smooth transition to growth and development over the next few years.

President Weah disclosed that huge financial support from the International Development Association through the World Bank Group has been invaluable in assisting the country cope with the global pandemic.

He noted further that "It has been the largest single source of financing to our COVID-19 response," reflecting that in 2020, this emergency support enabled Liberia to provide

such increased support would ensure that the gains realized as a result of the World Bank Group's support through the IDA are not wiped out by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Weah noted that the increased support would also enable affected nations meet urgent development needs now and in the future, adding that



(IDA) of the World Bank to countries largely impacted by Covid-19.

"As we look up to the generosity of the major shareholders and donors for a significant IDA 20 replenishment, we would like to commit to doing our part by not only increasing domestic resource

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

# LRRRC concludes persons of concern verification

**By Kruah Thompson (Intern)**

The Government of Liberia through the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Liberia has completed the population verification of Persons of Concern (PoC) living in Liberia.

Speaking during the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism (MICAT) regular Thursday briefing, 15 July 2021, LRRRC boss Festus Logan said the verification process started on 17 April 2021 and ended 30 May 2021.

He explained that the main objective of the verification exercise was to verify refugees and asylum

seekers living in Liberia, along with their enrollment and update of their bio-data in line with national and regional data

set. Mr. Logan said it was also meant to undertake continued registration which



▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

# LNFS launches nationwide awareness

**By Kruah Thompson (Intern)**

The Liberia National Fire Service (LNFS) is expected to launch nationwide fire awareness activities in Monrovia and other parts of the country on Monday, 19 July 2021.

Speaking during a press conference Thursday, 15 July, Liberia National Fire Service Director Col. Alex Dickson said the initiative is intended to provide the necessary information on how to prevent fire outbreaks and how to respond in case of an outbreak.

He indicated that the Monday awareness launch is prompted by a survey conducted by the LNFS on the

support, the right thing to do is to create awareness to the public on how to prevent fire disaster, adding that on the aspect of prevention, "we are going out with a full awareness."

"As you go out there, educate the Liberian people on the best way they can prevent fire outbreak from their homes, the best way you can stop fire outbreaks in your vehicles," he added.

Meanwhile, Director Dickson has also disclosed that the Liberian National Fire Service will soon begin a missive vehicle inspection throughout the length and breadth of Liberia in order to make sure that vehicles



causes of fire outbreaks in the country.

Col. Dickson urged LNFS Officers that will be going out to follow all health protocols, while also alerting the public on causes of fire outbreaks in order to minimize fire disasters across the country.

Col. Dickson explained that the Liberia National Fire Services was established to safeguard life and properties from scourge of destructive fire across the length and breadth of the country as well as to promote efficient fire prevention services.

He further stated that in the absence of logistical

are in compliance with the safety rules with regards to fire.

Recently, the National Fire Service trained 61 of its officers, according to Col. Dickson, adding that they were trained in First Aid in order to abreast them with international techniques in rescue operation in the absence of renowned health workers during times of fire outbreaks.

The 61 firefighters were specifically trained in cardiac preliminary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) techniques which are very cardinal to the provision of First Aid during disaster. --Edited by Winston W. Parley

Parley

includes (new birth and death registration), carry out local integration and voluntary repatriation survey, as well as issuing proof of registration for all cases already verified and close all cases that cannot be traced in Liberia.

He further stated that

before the Ivorian emergency, Liberia hosted 8,235 refugees and asylum seekers out of which 8,112 were Ivorian refugees.

Mr. Logan continued that with the Ivorian emergency, 30,230 Ivorians and some third country

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## 3,500 citizens benefit Social Cash Transfer -Says Gender Minister Saydee-Tarr

The Government of Liberia announces disbursement of over 1.2 million United States Dollars (US\$1.2m) to approximately 3,500 beneficiaries in Grand Kru and Maryland counties in over four cycles of its Social Cash Transfer Program.

The Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection Williametta E. Saydee-Tarr says payment for the next two cycles is scheduled for August 2021.

Speaking Thursday, July 16, 2021 at the Ministry of Information weekly press briefings in Monrovia, she said as of July 1, 2021 approximately 1.2 million United States Dollars has been transferred to households in Monterrado County with 13,350 out of 15,000 beneficiaries receiving full payments, while the rest are to follow.

income support to approximately 10,000 extremely poor and food insecure households in Liberia through regular cash transfers and Accompanying Measures. These transfers are being implemented in Maryland and Grand Kru with Bomi and River Gee counties in the pipeline. These counties were selected because they had the highest rates of poverty and food insecurity in Liberia", she adds.

At the same time the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection has reunited 22 children with their families.

Minister Saydee-Tarr narrates the children were trafficked from Gbarpolu County and later rescued in Margibi County by the Liberia Immigration Service on January 29, 2021, and subsequently turned over to the Ministry.

She says the Ministry will routinely monitor the children's

change makers from around the world. The stakeholders embarked on a 5-year journey to accelerate equality, leadership and opportunity for women and girls worldwide."

Minister Saydee-Tarr recounts that during the three-day long Forum, she met with UNESCO Assistant Director for Education, Stefania Gianini, and stressed the need to keep girls in school, especially, those residing in rural areas.

"I reminded the Assistant Director for Education that the coronavirus pandemic has affected many young girls already, but noted that a change of direction to ensuring that girls and women are brought back to the classroom or ensure some form of digital learning that keep them busy and aware of their surroundings."

The Gender boss details that during the meeting, she also emphasized the urgent need of a program that pushes capacity development of teachers in the sciences, development of a WASH Program in schools and a holistic education program to enhance education for girls and women.

Saydee-Tarr: "Madam Gianini assured the delegation that Girls Education, as in getting girls back to school in post COVID-19 situation, remains paramount to UNESCO and Liberia stands to benefit significantly through the Ministries of Gender, Children and Social Protection and Education.

We were informed that UNESCO has programs to place young girls back in school due to lapses in their academic sojourn as a result of school closures, social and emotional effect, early marriages and pregnancy that have accompanied the COVID-19 Pandemic and affected many students around the world and Liberia is poised to benefit."

She says during the Forum, Liberia reaffirmed pledge to join the Action Coalition's commitment makers to promote economic rights and justice and that government has already launched a 2 million united states dollars rural women loan scheme to support vulnerable market women yearly.

Additionally, we have provided along with USAID a Stimulus package to support women businesses at a combined total of \$13 Million US Dollars. We also committed and have starting rolling out Gender and Social

## Liberia: Lonestar Cell MTN launches first nationwide Music Competition

Young Liberians across the country now have the chance to showcase their vocal abilities in Lonestar Cell MTN's first nationwide music competition, "MTN Y'ello Star."

Abigail Nufeatalai, Lonestar Cell MTN Brand and Communications Manager, said, "This five-week competition, which starts today, is a platform that seeks to uncover new talent among the youth from 16 to 34, educate them and showcase their skills to the world."

The three-stage competition begins with contestants submitting a one-minute, 45-second video to the website <http://www.mtnyellostar.lonestarcell.com>. Contestants will receive a confirmation

have access to a platform that can transform talent and give them practical knowledge for their professional singing careers. Also, most producers lack the resources to travel the country to scout for talent. This competition provides great value and gives Liberia's Music industry a boost."

One key feature of MTN Y'ello Star is the three-week Y'ello Academy or bootcamp. After vetting of the initial contestants, thirty artists will enter the Y'ello Academy.

Ms. Nufeatalai said, "During this phase of the competition, artists will receive voice lessons, learn how to market themselves, produce music, maximize studio time, among others. In addition, the artists will have the opportunity to interact with International



Min. Williametta E. Saydee-Tarr

She explains that the Social Cash Transfer Program is in alignment with Pillar One of the government's Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development which anchors on providing greater income security to an additional one million Liberians, and reduce absolute poverty by 23 percent across five out of six regions through sustained and inclusive economic growth driven by scaled-up investments in agriculture, infrastructure, human resource development, and social protection.

According to the Gender Minister, the Program aims to protect children and empower women as it provides subsistence to households, thereby strengthening their ability to provide for the basics and respond better to shocks.

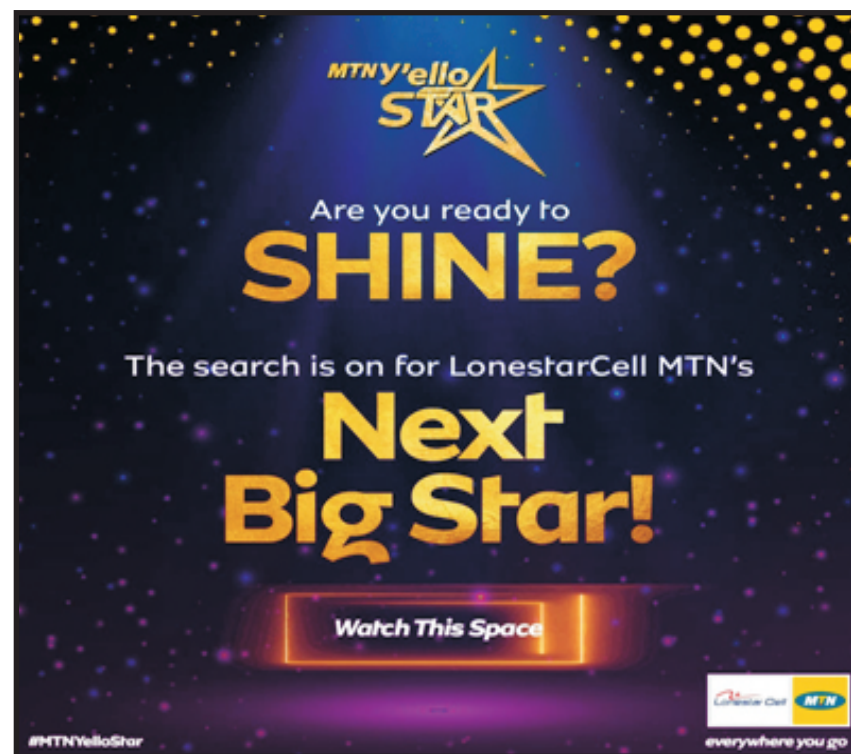
"The Program is providing

welfare and remain engaged with court proceedings as the alleged trafficker identified as Anthony B. Sumo is being prosecuted.

"We are reaffirming our commitment in achieving PILLAR 1 of the Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development, (Power to the People) 2. 4.2, which highlights Children protection as a key priority of the Government of Liberia."

Commenting on the 2021 Generation Equality Forum that was recently held in Paris, France, where she accompanied President George Manneh Weah along with other officials, she notes that the Forum nourished a powerful and lasting coalition for gender equality by presenting a vital moment for activists, feminists, youth and allies to achieve transformative change for generations to come.

"It brought together governments, corporations and



email from Lonestar Cell MTN after registration.

Ms. Nufeatalai said, "The Y'ello Star competition is how we are developing Liberia's next generation of hitmakers. In that way, we are enhancing the country's culture and image through music."

Those judging the competition include Sipher the King, Co-owner of Hot FM and music producer, Master Queen radio personality, and Chris Wolo, the Chief Executive Officer of Capital FM.

Considering the importance of MTN Y'ello Star to the Liberian Music Industry Mr. Wolo said, "Young Liberians are endowed with musical talent. Few, particularly in the rural areas,

producers and hitmakers."

Only five contestants will make it to the finals in September where they will have the opportunity to perform with top artists.

In addition to the cash prizes and record deal, the MTN Y'ello Star Winner will perform at the MTN Liberia Music Awards in November.

Lonestar Cell MTN CEO Rahul De said that Lonestar Cell MTN is committed to developing the capacity of Liberian youth.

"We believe in Liberian youth. Creativity is crucial to the overall development of the nation and they are the human resources for achieving this. We are committed to turning up their drive to succeed in their careers and in their lives," he said.

Inclusion Units in government offices, and they are instituting Gender Policies", she adds.

She discloses that currently, government has

established four GSIUs, which include Gender Ministry, Liberia Electricity Corporation, Ministries of Mines and Energy, and Public Works, respectively.

# Français

## Ellen déplore les réductions de l'aide britannique

L'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf ne savait pas que son plaidoyer contre les réductions continues de l'aide britannique aux pays pauvres l'aurait soumise à des flèches sur l'Internet le mercredi 14 juillet.

Dans un poste sur son compte twitter, Mme Sirleaf a critiqué l'action du parlement britannique qui a approuvé la réduction de l'aide étrangère du gouvernement anglais, comme quoi ces coupes auront un impact négatif sur des millions de personnes dans les pays pauvres comme le Libéria.

Mme Sirleaf : « Je suis attristée de voir que le parlement britannique a approuvé une réduction continue des dépenses concernant ses aides étrangères. Ces coupes auront un impact négatif sur des millions de personnes dans les pays les moins riches, dont beaucoup ont des relations historiques profondes avec le Royaume-Uni ».

Mais il semble que son plaidoyer cette fois-ci n'ait pas été bien accueilli par bon nombre de ses partisans, en particulier ceux du continent qui croient qu'ils élisent leurs dirigeants pour changer la dynamique et ne pas continuer avec les aumônes des pays occidentaux.

Emmett P. Chea @C... réponse à @MaEllenSirleaf : Ma Ellen, je ne suis pas d'accord

avec toi ici. Les petites aides étrangères n'ont développé aucune nation. Je pense que nous avons élu des leaders pour changer la dynamique. Dites-vous qu'il est impossible pour un Africain d'être indépendant ? Où sont les souverainetés ? Notre objectif devrait être...

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Kemayah prend part au Dialogue régional africain au Maroc

Le ministre libérien des Affaires étrangères, l'ambassadeur Dee-Maxwell SaahKemayah, a rejoint plusieurs responsables à Agadir, au Maroc pour prendre part au dialogue régional africain sur les problèmes affectant le secteur agricole du continent. S'exprimant lors du dialogue à Agadir, le ministre Kemayah a déclaré que le dialogue régional africain offre une opportunité de tenir des discussions vitales, non seulement sur les besoins du continent africain en général,

et les pays africains individuels en particulier, mais aussi sur les ambitions d'engendrer une voie commune vers l'éradication de la faim, construire des systèmes alimentaires inclusifs et plus sains et protéger la planète.

Ces dirigeants s'efforcent collectivement de renforcer la vision commune de l'Afrique, à savoir ses valeurs fondamentales et ses perspectives. Le ministre libérien a dit dans son discours reconnaître les contributions des acteurs régionaux concernés, dont l'Union africaine, pour son leadership dans la gestion du processus d'élaboration de la

position commune de l'Afrique et le partenariat de la Commission économique des Nations Unies pour l'Afrique (UNECA). Le chef de la diplomatie Libérienne a félicité l'Agence de développement de l'Union africaine (AUDA-NEPAD) pour la création de la Plateforme des organisateurs des systèmes alimentaires nationaux en Afrique et la réunion des responsables nationaux africains dans le but de faciliter les échanges entre pairs sur les dialogues nationaux et l'élaboration de la position commune africaine sur les systèmes alimentaires, de partager sur les problèmes émergents et les priorités nationales et la recherche des systèmes alimentaires résilients et inclusifs et de fournir un soutien technique aux organisateurs nationaux.

Selon lui, l'Afrique ne fait pas exception. Les défis et la fragilité des systèmes alimentaires, en particulier pour les populations les plus marginalisées, sont devenus encore plus évidents en raison des perturbations des systèmes alimentaires causées par la pandémie de Covid-19, exposant davantage les vulnérabilités des systèmes alimentaires dans de nombreux pays africains.



## Éditorial

### COVID-19 : nous allons visiblement de mal en pis ?

Tout va mal au Libéria, car chaque jour plus de 200 nouveaux cas sont enregistrés au niveau de la population et les décès ne cessent d'augmenter.

Les morgues privées sont submergées de cadavres, tandis que les cercueils se font rares. Déjà, le Centre américain de contrôle des maladies et de Prévention a revu à la hausse le niveau d'alerte, en le situant à 4, le niveau le plus élevé. Le pays risque de succomber progressivement à la pandémie, si des efforts concertés ne sont pas entrepris immédiatement.

Les autorités sanitaires du pays continuent de faire croire au public qu'elles sont à la hauteur de la tâche, après avoir annoncé des mesures préventives. Cependant, la réalité sur le terrain montre le contraire, vu que de nouveaux cas et les décès se comptent par des centaines. Il est vrai que les combattants n'abandonneront jamais jusqu'à la mort du dernier combattant, mais le peuple libérien ne veut pas être décapité ou conduit à l'abattoir.

Nous croyons fermement que les tests rapides sont le moyen le plus sûr pour inverser la tendance actuelle, ce n'est pas le fait d'attendre que les patients infectés soient emmenés à Star Base pour de l'oxygène qui est à peine disponible. Le Libéria ne peut contenir la résurgence du coronavirus à moins qu'une campagne massive de tests rapides ne soit lancée dans tout le pays.

Dans ce combat, nous avons besoin de toutes les forces, y compris les experts qui ne font pas actuellement partie du gouvernement. Le combat n'appartient pas qu'à la ministre de la Santé, le docteur Wilehmina S. Jallah, et son équipe ou au système de gestion des incidents. Tous les Libériens doivent se joindre au combat pour vaincre le COVID-19.

C'est dans cette optique que nous nous félicitons de l'engagement de 150 000 USD de la Fondation Cummings Africa envers notre crise sanitaire, rejoignant le gouvernement du Libéria pour atteindre les hôpitaux et les centres de santé en particulier et les citoyens en général.

Comme M. Alexander B. Cummings, fondateur de la Fondation et leader politique de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC) l'a déclaré la semaine dernière lors de l'annonce de ce geste, le Libéria est actuellement gravement menacé, Si nous ne nous unissons pas les mains pour faire de notre mieux pour les uns les autres, nous continuerons tous à être en danger, même si nous nous cachons dans les maisons.

En outre, ceux qui mènent le combat du côté du gouvernement devraient faire preuve de volonté politique. Nous exigeons la vigilance à l'aéroport international Roberts, aux ports maritimes et aux frontières terrestres pour limiter la résurgence.

Ce faisant, il faut que nous érigeons des points de contrôle pertinents qui pourraient stopper la propagation, en particulier dans les comtés. Le système de santé n'a pas la capacité de répondre à toute situation accablante en dehors du comté de Montserrado, alors que même le siège du gouvernement lui-même est sérieusement remis en question.

Qu'on ne se méprenne pas sur le fait que nous sommes ici pessimistes. Il s'agit d'une tentative honnête de présenter la sombre réalité afin que tous les Libériens se réveillent de leur sommeil, de leur état de déni et fassent face au danger qui nous attend en tant que peuple. Nous devons porter nos masques correctement, respecter la distance sociale, nous laver les mains régulièrement et éviter les rassemblements de masse ou les endroits surpeuplés, entre autres, pour arrêter la propagation.



# Français

## Ellen déplore les réductions

Sulaiman A Bangura @SulaimanABangu3: Le fait que les dirigeants africains s'appuient sur ces aides étrangères est l'une des raisons pour lesquelles les Africains sont toujours téléguidés par ces pays occidentaux, (parce qu'ils sont pleinement conscients que la plupart de nos dirigeants dépendent de ces donateurs.

MACSHINE MWEEMBA K W A M E N K R U M A H @MweembaMacshine: C'est triste de constater à quel point nos dirigeants mal éduqués croient encore que l'aide pourrait être une catapulte pour le développement de l'Afrique. L'Afrique n'a besoin d'aucune aide. Qui nous a ensorcelé?

Mustapha Bah Paasewe @BahPaasewe: Il vaut mieux que les pays les plus pauvres abandonnent l'aide.

Gratiano Nyuma @GratianoNyuma1: C'est bien, mais la plupart des pays les plus pauvres ne sont pas encore indépendants de l'Aide étrangère

Détérmine Mind@AbrahamASwaray7: peut-être que les sommes versées ne sont pas utilisées aux fins prévues. C'est pourquoi le Royaume-Uni adopte cette tendance.

Aburek Eric Ongodia @AburekO: Nous n'avons pas besoin d'aide votre Excellence ! Former nos gens à l'autonomie est important.

Nathaniel Zumo @nathaniel\_zumo: Personne ou une nation ne devrait vivre des revenus d'une autre personne pour toujours, il est temps de repenser en particulier pour les nations africaines.

Bishop Washington George @BishopWashingt9: Que les nations les moins dignes apprennent à être indépendantes et utilisent bien leurs ressources

The Peaceful Warrior @GikimaAlex : Jusqu'à quand continuerons-nous à dépendre de l'aide étrangère ?

CHIJIJOKE IBEH @Chijiokelbeh87: De quelle aide parlez-vous parce que nous ne pouvons voir l'impact d'aucune aide du Royaume-Uni. Vous devez tous arrêter de vous tromper. Libérez les nations et personne n'aura besoin d'aide ou de déranger qui que ce soit pour un prêt.

Le Biafra est une nation censée être indépendante. Sois sage

FrancisSkollie1 @FSkollie1: L'Afrique et les Africains doivent apprendre à vivre sans aide, en particulier les aides étrangères, et à travailler avec leurs propres mains et esprits. AFRIQUE, LEVEZ-VOUS !!!

okn@KasNwuke: Les coupures auront un impact négatif... vraiment ? Les coupes dans l'aide n'auront pas un impact aussi négatif sur la vie de millions d'Africains que la corruption et l'incompétence. Peut-être devriez-vous vous concentrer davantage sur la corruption et l'incompétence africaines que sur la décision souveraine du Royaume-Uni de réduire l'aide.

Steven O. Johnson @StevenOJohnson: Oldma, que les nations moins riches cessent de dépendre de l'aide étrangère du Royaume-Uni... Nations paresseuses !!

patrickwoman @PatrickNjwoman: Madame la Présidente, je ne suis pas d'accord avec ce tweet. Il semble que vous soyez du mauvais côté du système international. Vous essayez de promouvoir le néocolonialisme en demandant au Parlement britannique de faire ce que vous suggérez.

martinbropleh @martinbropleh: Avec toutes les aides que vous avez reçues pendant votre séjour au pouvoir, qu'avez-vous fait ? Mais vous avez dit qu'à propos de votre fils qui avait volé notre argent, vous en preniez la responsabilité. Si je fais bien votre bilan, vous avez reçu les aides les plus élevées de l'histoire du Libéria. Mais qu'avez-vous fait ?

DemelzaMonger @DemelzaMonger: Les millions, vous voulez dire les comptes bancaires de politiciens corrompus ?

New Beginnings @zankpayai: S'il vous plaît, ne soyez pas Madame Sirleaf. Il n'y a pas de « nations moins riches », c'est seulement ce que ces nations croient. Honnêtement, un véritable développement ne peut pas venir des aides étrangères. Le travail acharné, le développement des ressources et la responsabilisation sont le meilleur moyen.

Mais certains ont cependant reconnu son plaidoyer :

Boima C. J Toure@BoimaCJToure5: Vous avez tout dit EJS. J'espère que le Parlement britannique repensera cette décision.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Werner Hoyer

## Renforcer le partenariat euro-africain

**B**RUXELLES - L'Afrique compte plus d'un milliard d'habitants et peut s'enorgueillir de la classe moyenne la plus jeune du monde, dont la croissance est aussi la plus rapide. Avec un âge médian inférieur d'au moins quatorze ans à celui des autres continents, l'Afrique s'apprête à de profondes transformations, politiques, économiques et sociales. Environ 20 millions de demandeurs d'emploi entrent chaque année sur le marché du travail en Afrique subsaharienne. Si ces jeunes gens peuvent être intégrés à l'économie, ils contribueront de façon décisive au développement et à la croissance de la région.

Pour aider l'Afrique à toucher ses dividendes démographiques, les institutions financières et les banques de développement doivent investir dans la transformation qui s'annonce. Cela signifie non seulement aider le secteur privé - le moteur de la création d'emplois - mais aussi changer nos propres façons d'agir.

L'investissement dans l'avenir de l'Afrique est un engagement gagnant-gagnant, dans tous les domaines du développement économique, pour une raison simple : les principaux défis du continent sont en réalité des problèmes mondiaux, qui nous affecteront tous. La pandémie de Covid-19, comme un avertissement de ce qui nous attend à l'âge du changement climatique, l'a abondamment montré. Pour que l'Europe évite les pires effets du réchauffement climatique, elle doit collaborer, partout, avec les autres pays, pour les aider à bâtir leur développement durable et leur résilience climatique.

Quoique l'Afrique soit dotée d'immenses richesses naturelles, elle souffre, en raison de multiples facteurs historiques et politiques, de taux de pauvreté élevés. Sur les dix pays du monde affichant les taux de pauvreté les plus importants, neuf se situent en Afrique subsaharienne, et l'on estime que les conséquences de la pandémie vont ramener 32 millions de personnes supplémentaires dans l'extrême pauvreté.

Pourtant, les perspectives du continent évoluent. Ses secteurs minier et pétrolier ne drainent plus aujourd'hui qu'une minorité des flux de capitaux à long terme, car les investisseurs donnent désormais la priorité aux télécommunications, à la distribution et aux services. En Afrique subsaharienne, 90 000 usagers, en moyenne, se connectent chaque jour pour la première fois à Internet. L'Afrique devient, vite, le premier centre mondial des activités bancaires en ligne, et cette évolution étendra l'accès de ses économies aux marchés mondiaux, bâtira la résilience, renforcera la transparence et créera des emplois.

Dans le rapport de développement 2021 de la Banque européenne d'investissement, qui donne le détail de nos 5 milliards d'euros (5,9 milliards de dollars) de prêts en Afrique l'an dernier, nous proposons une série de contributions d'experts, qui soulignent les complexités auxquelles fait face aujourd'hui le financement du développement. Les questions qui se posent vont désormais de l'évaluation du risque climatique à l'extension des programmes de sauvetage des forêts de Côte d'Ivoire, abattues à un rythme effréné pour faire place à la production de cacao.

Parallèlement au rapport de développement, nous publions aussi un Partenariat avec l'Afrique, qui examine plus profondément les grands principes de stratégie et d'action qui président aux initiatives de développement. Question déterminante de ce siècle, pour le monde entier, le changement climatique ajoute aux difficultés spécifiques de

l'Afrique, notamment parce qu'il augmentera le nombre de personnes déplacées et fragilisera plus encore les États et les sociétés. Si l'Afrique ne contribue que pour moins de 4 % aux émissions de gaz à effet de serre, elle s'apprête pourtant à subir de plein fouet le choc d'une planète qui se réchauffe.

Néanmoins, étant donné son niveau relativement faible d'industrialisation (que traduit sa faible contribution au réchauffement mondial), l'Afrique a une chance unique de basculer directement dans un avenir plus respectueux de l'environnement. Pour y parvenir, les dirigeants africains doivent soutenir l'innovation et adopter les meilleures technologies disponibles. Les biens de base, comme l'eau, l'énergie renouvelable et une mobilité propre, doivent être mis à disposition de toutes et de tous.

La BEI est active en Afrique depuis 1965. Avec 59 milliards d'euros investis dans 52 pays africains, elle dessine un modèle dont les autres institutions financières internationales peuvent apprendre. L'an dernier, 71 % de nos financements pour l'Afrique subsaharienne étaient alloués aux États fragiles et aux économies les moins développées, où nous avons cherché à soutenir les évolutions positives déjà en cours, au nombre desquelles, une croissance économique rapide, une plus grande stabilité et une meilleure intégration politiques, une hausse des investissements étrangers et des opportunités d'entreprendre plus nombreuses et de meilleure qualité. À la base de ce travail, il y a la volonté d'écouter les dirigeants africains et de coopérer avec des innovateurs ambitieux et engagés. Cela nous permet de répondre directement aux besoins locaux, tout en œuvrant dans le sens de la politique de l'UE.

Au cours des deux derniers mois, nous avons organisé des discussions stratégiques avec les présidents du Sénégal, du Ghana et de la Tunisie, tout comme avec la commissaire de l'Union africaine Josefa Sacko. La BEI a également joué un rôle actif lors du récent sommet africain accueilli à Paris par le président français, Emmanuel Macron, et dans le Forum UE-Afrique sur l'investissement vert, au mois avril. À l'occasion de ces deux réunions, les dirigeants des deux continents ont souligné la nécessité d'un partenariat renforcé.

De nombreux dirigeants africains ont réagi à la pandémie de Covid-19 avec une détermination impressionnante. En agissant de concert, l'Afrique et l'Europe peuvent affronter la crise sanitaire et économique actuelle tout en définissant des priorités d'investissement communes en vue d'une reprise durable et inclusive.

Nous avons quant à nous, à la BEI, amélioré significativement notre fonctionnement en Afrique au cours de ces dernières années. En conformité avec les discussions qui se sont tenues entre responsables politiques européens concernant l'amélioration de l'architecture financière de l'aide européenne au développement, nous nous sommes attachés à repenser nos contributions, afin de maximiser leur impact au service des objectifs tant européens qu'africains.

En améliorant la façon dont nous contribuons au financement du développement en étroite coopération avec la Commission européenne et le Service européen pour l'action extérieure, nous pouvons répondre aux besoins croissants de liens commerciaux et économiques encore plus étroits entre l'Europe et l'Afrique. En cet âge de changement climatique et de pandémies mondiales, nos deux continents navigueront de conserve ou couleront ensemble.

**A NOTE OF CONDOLENCE**

To The Varmah & McGill Families  
Following the Death of Ma Watta Varmah  
Mother of Honorable Nathaniel F. McGill  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS



JUNE 26, 2021

Today we have received with deep sadness news of the unfortunate passing of Madam Ma Watta Varmah, Mother of the Honorable Minister of State for Presidential Affairs, Nathaniel McGill. Mother Ma Watta Varmah succumbed to the cold hands of death earlier today.

I came to know her personally and we created a special bond.

On behalf of First Lady Mrs. Clar Marie Weah, the entire Weah family and in my own name, I extend my profound sympathy to the bereaved family. The deceased offered invaluable counsel, especially during the 2017 elections whenever we stopped by her house. She was a loving and wonderful woman.

She was one of the biggest supporters of the Coalition for Democratic Change, and we cannot thank her enough for all her contributions.

Her passing has created a deep void in our hearts.

We pray that the Lord consoles the McGill family and all Liberians afflicted in similar manner.

May her soul and the souls of all faithful departed rest in perfect peace and may light perpetual shines upon them.

H.E. George Manneh Weah  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

# Announcement

A reputable printing press is seeking marketers to market its printing services. Interested applicants should be able to seek for contracts / attract customers. Salaries are negotiable.

Interested applicants should address their applications to:

The Management of Searchlight Communications Inc., /  
NewDawn, U.N. Drive  
Monrovia, Liberia  
Email: Info@thenewdawnliberia.com

# Grand Kru County to get 33 hand-pumps

Thousands of citizens in Grand Kru County District #2 now have reason to smile following the breaking of grounds for construction of 33 hand-pumps in 29 communities in the county.

Representing Deputy Speaker Cllr. J Fonati Koffa, the constituency coordinator Chris Joboe said the project is in fulfillment of Cllr. Koffa's promise made during his most tour of 45 communities in the district. The cost of the 33 hand pumps is US\$106,228.

Joboe said the hand pumps project will play a significant role in the lives of citizens.

He said the long awaited safe drinking water is about to be over, adding that all have been finalized to ensure the project is implemented.

"Cllr Koffa remains the beacon of hope, and whenever he made a promise he always fulfills; I can say for the record he is a leader that cares for his constituents and the records are there",

he said.

He called on citizens in the district to rally support around Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa and ensure that they take ownership of the facilities when completed.

"To get this project started, Cllr. Koffa had to go in his own pocket because we are all aware since the inception of this new government there have been no legislative funded project due to financial constraints." Chris stated.

The indoor program of the ground breaking ceremony was held recently at the Methodist Church in Felorken Harrisville City, Grand Kru County.

Joboe explained the project is in three phases with the first phase expected to target two Statutory Districts: Barclayville District and Dorbor District, respectively.

In the Barclayville District, five communities are being captured, including Felorken Harrisville, Small

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# Weah makes anti

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ambulances, ventilators, and diagnostic laboratory equipment for its health care system.

President Weah acknowledged additional financing in the amount of \$8 million has been approved for Liberia to finance the acquisition of much-needed Covid-19 vaccines.

He expressed gratitude to the World Bank Group and other international partners for the additional support being organized to assist Liberia mitigate the impact of the pandemic on citizens.

Mr. Weah disclosed that under the auspices of the World Bank and in collaboration with the International Monetary Fund, Liberia has received financial support for a nation-wide household food distribution program.

"More recently, another financing package has been approved to provide grant support to vulnerable households, to enable them to start or revive small businesses, as well as provide temporary employment support to vulnerable individuals," he noted.

President Weah said Liberia is grateful for the support provided so far, but made

it clear that the country's needs remain critical.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has wiped out a significant proportion of the gains registered after we recovered from the recent Ebola outbreak," he said, adding: "Moreover, Liberia, like many other countries, is currently battling a new wave of COVID-19, with new variants that are more deadly and infectious than ever before."

According to him, though Liberia has not yet decided to go into another hard lockdown, many essential economic activities are still adversely affected.

President Weah said Liberia will still be counting on the support of the World Bank Group to mitigate the negative impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the health sector as well as on the economy as a whole.

"We believe other member countries are in a similar situation, in spite of the fact that disbursements under IDA-19 were accelerated to address the new and unique challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic," he stressed.

# LRRRC concludes

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arrivals were registered, making a total of 38,465 refugees and asylum seekers registered within the Liberian territory, 99 percent of them Ivorians.

According to him, after the population verification, Liberia now records a population of 31,944 verified refugees and asylum seekers as of 30 June 2021, adding that this figure represents 83 percent of the total Persons of Concern living in Liberia, while 17 percent were 'no show.'

However, Mr. Logan disclosed that the LRRRC and UNHCR have given a period of three months, starting from 1 June 2021 up to 31 August 2021 to enable any individual that missed the verification for legitimate reason to be verified.

He noted that of the total number of 31,944 refugees verified, Nimba County represents 56 percent; Grand Gedeh, 25 percent; Maryland, 11 percent; River Gee, 7 percent and Montserrado, 1 percent.

According to Mr. Logan, a durable solutions survey done during verification revealed that 57 percent of the population representing about 18,208 refugees opted to voluntarily return to Cote d'Ivoire, while four percent of them representing 1,278 individuals opted for integration in Liberia. He added that 12,458 of the population representing 39 percent are undecided on a preferred solution.

Logan continued that mop up exercise is ongoing for 6,521 individuals representing 17 percent of refugees who missed the verification, noting that LRRRC and UNHCR are liaising with the government of Cote d'Ivoire for possibilities that some PoCs may return home.

The Government of Liberia used the medium to thank the UNHCR for the support provided to complete this exercise.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



## Change of Name

I, Larry Nelson Jacobs, Jr., has officially changed my name from Fadee Murad to Larry Nelson Jacobs, Jr., as of the date of this publication hence, I am in this public manner informing the general public in line with the Liberia National Police regulation on Change of Name that I am now officially called Larry Nelson Jacobs, Jr. as of the date of this publication.

# Second batch of chopping

After their first chopping of a whooping US\$15,000 each stirred public anger here, Liberian lawmakers are again receiving the second batch of the same amount of US\$15,000 dubbed "Legislative Engagement Fund" as allotted in the 2020/2021 National Budget.

A communication available to the NewDawn newspaper, dated 15 July

communication says.

The communication says on 10 June 2021, Senator Nuquay received the first disbursement of US\$15,000 of the Legislative Engagement Fund and directed it to the Dolo Town Youth Center project that is soon to kickoff.

Members of the Liberian Legislature continue to be bombarded by heavy criticism from across the Liberian society barely a week after they all received a whopping sum of

batch of US\$15,000, it means in total US\$3,030,000 would be disbursed among the sitting lawmakers for the first and second distributions combined.

Liberia's Legislature actually has 103 lawmakers, but two Senators - elect have not yet been seated since the 2020 December polls either due to election disputes or other legal issues which have contributed to the reduction of sitting lawmakers to 101.

Members of the public, including opposition leaders, have been condemning the allotment and receipt of the US\$15,000 by each of the lawmakers on grounds that such money could have been directed to other national efforts, mainly in the fight against Coronavirus for a country that has a very weak health system.

Meanwhile, Nuquay's office says the US\$15,000 received Thursday, 15 July will be augmented and directed to the acquisition of 20 motorcycles, 15 of which will be given to the Lower Margibi Commercial Cyclists and the remaining five will be given to other well-meaning Margibians as a means of empowerment.

"This scheme for the cyclists in Margibi, is in fulfillment of a promise made by Senator Nuquay under the campaign "don't ride for gas but empowerment."

The communication adds that Nuquay's office has contracted a Margibi-based enterprise - Z Group of Businesses, owned by prominent entrepreneur Mawolo Jallah, to procure the motorcycles and deliver them to the beneficiaries. --  
**Edited by Winston W. Parley**



2021 under the signature of Ebenezer Wilson, Chief of Staff, indicates that Margibi County Senator J. Emmanuel Nuquay has received US\$15,000 "as the second disbursement of the Legislative Engagement Fund as allotted in the 2020/2021 National Budget."

"A check bearing the amount was received on Thursday July 15, 2021," the

USD15,000 each under the guise of project fund, with calls that the money is returned.

Liberia, one of the world's poorest countries, currently has 28 sitting Senators with 73 Representatives, bringing the total to 101 lawmakers. The number of sitting lawmakers - 101 multiplied by US\$15,000 amounts to US\$1,515,000.

In case each of the 101 sitting lawmakers receives the second

# More vaccines expected

By: Kruah Thompson (Intern)

A second batch of 96,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines is expected in the country by the end of July 2021, says the Minister of Health, Doctor Wilhelmina Jallah.

According to the Minister, a total 84,288 persons who took the first dose of vaccines would receive their second dose if the consignment arrive.

"Currently as we speak, there are no vaccines in Liberia, so the ministry cannot give first or second dose.

the Johnson and Johnson vaccine and the Pfizer dose, but the former will be administered as a single dose, saying, "Other people will be given the Johnson and Johnson, while others will be given the Pfizer based on when those vaccines arrive in the country."

She says whatever doses are left or shortages that may be experienced, government will purchase them because the target is to vaccinate over two million people. "If we get two million people vaccinated, this



Meanwhile, we are expecting ninety six thousand (96,000) doses of AstraZeneca vaccines by the end of the month", Doctor Jallah announced here Thursday, 15 July in a weekly briefing at the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs, and Tourism in Monrovia.

She says immediately the vaccines arrive, the ministry will make available 84,288 doses for those people that need their second dose, adding that 9,135 persons have taken both doses.

However, she reveals that government is expecting both

will change for better and we will not worry about covid-19."

The Minister maintains there can be no talk of Liberia becoming better until counties with confirmed cases turn yellow or green, noting, "Before they were all green but now they are all red."

Meanwhile, she discloses that total confirmed cases as of Thursday, July 14, is 5,306 since the index case was reported on March 16, 2020 but from June 1st to 30th 241 cases were recorded, which indicate there was a peak. - **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

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opposition Collaborating Political Parties.

The hearings at the Liberian Senate were provoked by President Weah's request for advice on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) recommendations that contain call for a War and Economic Crimes Court.

President Weah on September 19, 2019, wrote the Senate, seeking its advice on how to proceed with implementation of the TRC final report amid immense pressure by Liberians at home and abroad, and buttressed by international partners, seeking justice for victims of the bloody 14-year civil war that took about 250,000 lives.

Among trending and challenging issues of international law and

## Senate votes

domestic law include whether or not Liberia is bound to respect all international treaties, conventions and agreements it signed (Executive) and ratified (Legislature) as in the case of the Geneva Convention and the Rome Statutes that deal with certain crimes defined as war crimes, whether the Liberian Constitution is subordinate to international instruments Liberia signed and ratified, whether crimes committed during the Liberian civil war that violated provisions of international law that Liberia acceded to can be pardoned by the Liberian Legislature or other Liberian Authorities and whether accused war criminals would get justice before national criminal courts as expected under international law.

Other concerns that the President asked senators to look into were making a case for the

establishment of a war crimes court presided over by Liberian and foreign judges without violating the Constitution, whether the timing is ripe for such a court and whether there is statute of limitation for the trial or punishment of war crimes, without losing sight of peace, security and development against demand for accountability and justice.

The recommendations from the Liberian Senate to the President also suggests that President Weah should apologize to all Liberians especially, victims to find a way forward for lasting peace and co-existence among Liberians, where perpetrators and victims will accept each other again. - **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

## Grand Kru County to get

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Seen, Beswen, Topor, and Upper Felenken benefiting one hand pump each; while in Dorbor District Warkpo, Nyenkupo, kpo, Barforwin and new town are to benefit one hand pump each.

The Ground Breaking

Ceremony was attended by Grand Kru County Superintendent Madam Doris Ylatun who admonished residents to take ownership of the project—describing it as a milestone intervention.

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# Senate votes for transitional justice -writes Pres. Weah



By **E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor**  
Following three weeks of deliberations that brought together experts from professional and technical backgrounds, the Plenary of the Liberian Senate has overwhelmingly voted for establishment of a

transitional justice commission to probe the Truth and Reconciliation Commission final recommendation.  
The proposed transitional justice commission, if accepted by President George Manneh Weah, will lead to holding of dialogue where Liberians will be

given opportunity to choose between establishing War and Economic Crimes Court for Liberia to prosecute warlords who committed crimes against humanity and other heinous crimes during the country's 14 years civil war or restorative justice, the latter being recommended that would involve bringing victims and perpetrators together in a palava hut-style reconciliation.

The proposed transitional justice commission, if enacted, will also seek to review the works and recommendations of the TRC, where necessary, and make additional recommendations on how far back in Liberia's history should such transitional justice process go, among others.

Members of the Senate took the decision following debate and recommendations signed by about 20 of the 30 senators from both the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change and the main four

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