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VOL.11 NO. 121

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021

PRICE LD\$40.00

If CDC loses 2023, we will celebrate

-Mayor Koiijee



Pres. Weah with Mayor Koiijee



Mr. Simeon B. Taylor

NEC declares CPP's Taylor winner

3G good



4G better



Dial *352#



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Continental News

South Africa's Leader Vows to Restore Order, Catch Plotters

South Africa's leader went to Johannesburg's Soweto township Sunday to view badly damaged shopping centers where people were trampled to death in rioting sparked by the imprisonment of former President Jacob Zuma.

President Cyril Ramaphosa toured the Ndofoya Mall in the Meadowlands part of Soweto, where at least 10 people died in the ransacking.

South Africa's unrest erupted earlier this month

when Zuma began serving a 15-month sentence for contempt of court. He had defied a court order to testify at a state-backed inquiry investigating allegations of corruption while he was president from 2009 to 2018. The protests quickly escalated to a weeklong spree of violence, South Africa's worst rioting since the country achieved majority rule democracy in 1994. The unrest hit the KwaZulu-Natal province, which is Zuma's home area, and Gauteng, South Africa's most populous province, which

includes Johannesburg, the country's largest city. Trucks were burned, strategic highways blocked and thousands of rioters ransacked malls and shopping centers in the two provinces.

In the eastern port of Durban, rioters attacked industrial areas, where they emptied warehouses and factories and arsonists set them alight. At least 212 people died in the unrest, many trampled to death when shops were looted, said police. More than 2,500

people have been arrested for theft and vandalism.

Looking at the shattered glass entrance to a cellphone shop Sunday in Soweto, Ramaphosa was told several people died there. "We are all really concerned about what happened here," Ramaphosa said. "But we are also saying we have learned valuable lessons. The most important lesson is, in the end, that we must tighten up our security forces."

Thanking the community volunteer groups helping to clear up the debris, Ramaphosa, speaking in the Zulu language, reiterated his pledge that those who plotted the rioting would be brought to justice.

"They'll be arrested, all those who are behind this damage," he vowed sternly.

"We are going to make sure that they are arrested and sent to prison for a long time."

He thanked law-abiding South Africans for standing together against the lawlessness.

"We shall never be defeated because a united people will never be defeated," said Ramaphosa, to cheers from a small group that had gathered. "Whether they like it or not, they'll never defeat us. We will be victorious."

Ramaphosa spoke on the anniversary of the birth of Nelson Mandela, the country's first Black president, whose election in 1994 marked the end of South Africa's brutal apartheid regime of white-minority rule. To honor Mandela, many South Africans on Sunday did acts of community service. VOA



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, on a visit to Soweto, South Africa

Kenyan fuel tanker explodes killing at least 13

At least 13 people were killed when a petrol tanker overturned and caught fire in western Kenya at the weekend.

The truck collided with another vehicle on a highway between Kisumu and Busia late on Saturday. Witnesses described the crash scene as a "huge fireball".

People had rushed to the

scene with jerrycans to siphon off fuel from the overturned tanker before it exploded.

A local police chief said 24 people were in hospital with serious burns and said children were among the injured.

Investigators are still searching the scene and warned the death toll could rise.

"We will require a proper examination to determine if there were people burnt

completely at the scene, where bones were found," Chief Charles Chacha said.

It took two hours for firefighters to reach the scene, near the town of Malanga, about 320km (200 miles) north-west of the capital, Nairobi.

A lorry carrying milk travelling in the opposite direction had collided with the petrol tanker.

Witnesses said several motorcycles were found smouldering close to the crash site.

One of the injured, Wycliffe Otieno, told AFP news agency how he and others had arrived with jerrycans when the spilled fuel around him ignited. "I was able to run to safety. I just don't know how lucky I was, because I have been told the people we were with did not survive," Mr Otieno said from his hospital bed.

Footage posted on social media showed the fiery wreckage lighting up the local sky as survivors stood nearby.



Officials warned the death toll from the crash could rise

Ethiopia warns foreign media over Tigray coverage



Ethiopia's media regulator says Tigray regional troops cannot be called a defence force

Ethiopia has warned foreign media of stringent measures if they continue to refer to the troops in Tigray region as a defence force. The media regulator said the "characterisation" of the fighters in Tigray as a "defence force" undermined national security.

It says the regional troops cannot be called a defence force as the region is a federation unit of Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian government labelled the former Tigray governing administration, the Tigray People's Liberation

Front, a terrorist group. It says foreign media has continued to allude to a disbanded Tigray regional government - adding that the provisional administration was in charge of the region until elections were held.

The warning comes days after the regulator revoked the licence of a local news site, Addis Standard, over its coverage of the Tigray conflict.

Thousands of people have been killed and millions displaced since Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed ordered an military offensive last year in Tigray last year. BBC

Road accidents are not unusual in the East Africa nation, where lorries and other vehicles often speed along single carriage highways

- some unlit at night, says the BBC's Mercy Juma in Nairobi.

About 3,000 people die in road collisions in Kenya each year. BBC

EDITORIAL

A display of arrogant greed and reckless insensitivity

FOR CLEARLY SELFISH reasons, members of the Liberian Legislature believe that dishing out nearly US\$4million (US\$3,090,000) among themselves on Capitol Hill is honorable and legitimate because they allot the money to themselves in the national budget. But truly, such display of arrogant greed by a small group of men and women who claim to represent the rest of the nearly 5 million Liberians is nothing less than high insensitivity and broad day thievery or political corruption, as opposition leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings noted recently in Monrovia.

IN THE MIDST of a fatal health pandemic and grinding poverty in the country, for lawmakers to defend they need the money to engage their respective constituents is very deceptive because there is no measure put in place for accountability.

WHAT IS EVEN paradoxical is that lawmakers preside over the national budget and regularly demand performance report from the Executive, particularly from spending ministries and agencies but these same breed of people consistently refuse to be audited and therefore, are not accountable to the people who elected them. How dare they would ask the Executive to account when they themselves are not accountable?

WHEN TEACHERS AND other members of the civil service are being pensioned without receiving benefits, and monthly salary payment delays in an economy where the majority lives on less than US\$2.00 a day, 103 lawmakers shared about US\$4million that is in addition to their own monthly salary and benefits that cover housing, car, driver, gasoline, cook, security, health and personal office staff. You can see where Liberia is headed!

AMID SUCH DISPLAY of uncontrollable greed and reckless insensitivity, let's take a close look at the Capitol Building where lawmakers sit to conduct business. The chambers are leaking because of lack of repairs, while serious sanitary and health crises loom as restrooms or toilets are cloaked due to lack of running water to flush commodes and visitors are embarrassingly sent out to urinate and in some instances, defecate behind containers inside the compound of the Capitol Building.

LIBERIAN VOTERS NEED to take a sober reflection each time they go to the ballot box to decide leadership for the country. We can bet this is not the quality of leadership they envisaged when they cast the votes both in 2017 and in 2020, respectively.

EVEN AS WE speak, this tiny country of 5 million people has no vaccines in stock to fight the coronavirus despite being ranked at Level 4 (very highly infected country) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States. Besides, hospitals battling the pandemic across the country lack oxygen, not to speak of PPEs for doctors and nurses on the frontline.

YET, LAWMAKERS ARE dishing out millions among themselves for personal expenditure at the expense of the people with no remorse whatsoever. It is a pity that this nation is being subjected to such bad governance.

HOWEVER, LIBERIANS HAVE within their power, decision to change the current corrupt and self-seeking legislature on Capitol Hill. They can protest under the law and petition their lawmakers to repeal such law that allows them (lawmakers) to dish out millions while hospitals and schools across the country lack drugs, relevant tools to work with, and chairs and qualified teachers in the classroom.

WE BELIEVE THE Executive takes pleasures in disbursing such money to buy its own way into pillaging what is left in the national coffer as the system of check and balance is relegated and lawmakers feast with US\$30,000 each in their pockets.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission,
Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-886978282 /
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

COMMENTARY

By Barry Eichengreen

The Stablecoin Illusion

BERKELEY - The debate over stablecoins has come a long way since Facebook announced the creation of Libra (now rebranded Diem) almost exactly two years ago. An obscure corner of the digital sphere that was poorly understood then is now subject to increasingly intense scrutiny by central bankers, regulators, and investors. The stakes, including for financial stability, are high. Market capitalization, or circulating supply, of the four leading US dollar stablecoins alone exceeds \$100 billion.

But more intense scrutiny does not mean better understanding. Start with the belief that stablecoins are intrinsically stable because they are "fully collateralized." The question, of course, is: collateralized by what?

Naive investors in dollar-linked coins assume that the collateral takes the form of dollars held in federally insured US banks or their close equivalent. But that is only partly correct. After being criticized for its opacity, the leading stablecoin issuer, Tether Limited, recently revealed that it held barely a quarter of its reserves in cash, bank accounts, and government securities, while holding nearly half in commercial paper and another tenth in corporate bonds. The second leading stablecoin by capitalization, USD Coin, says only that it holds its reserves in insured US depository institutions and other "approved investments." Whatever that means.

Such murkiness creates risks for stablecoins themselves, for their investors and, critically, for the stability of financial markets. Lack of transparency about what quality of commercial paper, what kind of corporate bonds, and what other "approved investments" are held as collateral is a source of fragility. This kind of information asymmetry, where investors don't know exactly what has been done with their money, has given rise to bank runs and banking crises through the ages. In this setting, a fall in the value of commercial paper or in the corporate bond market could easily spark a stablecoin run. And the fact of falling bond prices would mean that the stablecoin issuer lacked the wherewithal to pay off its holders.

In addition, there is the danger of contagion: a run on one stablecoin could spread to others. What are the chances that a run on Tether would leave confidence in USD Coin intact? The European Central Bank, which knows a thing or two about financial contagion, has warned against just this scenario.

To limit such problems in the banking system, governments insure retail deposits, and central banks act as lenders of last resort to depository institutions.

Some commentators, such as former Bank of England Governor Mark Carney, have suggested that central banks should provide similar support to stablecoin issuers.

The authorities would agree to this, of course, only if those issuers were subject to stringent supervision designed to limit the incidence of problems. Stablecoin purveyors would have to apply for the equivalent of bank charters and be subject to the relevant regulation. A stablecoin would then be nothing but a so-called narrow bank, authorized to invest only in Treasury bills and deposits at the central bank, with a Paypal-like payments mechanism built on top.

Alternatively, stablecoins could be regarded as the digital equivalent of prime money market funds, which similarly invest in commercial paper. The problem with this model, as we learned during the 2007-08 global financial crisis, is that normally liquid commercial paper can abruptly become illiquid. When this happened in 2008, the US government sought to quell the ensuing panic by temporarily guaranteeing all money market funds. To prevent that from happening again, the Securities and Exchange Commission then issued rules requiring that funds, rather than maintaining a \$1 share price, post floating net asset values as a reminder to investors that money market funds are not without risk. It allowed money funds to institute redemption gates, under which they can limit withdrawals and charge temporary fees of up to 2%.

Revealingly, Diem's latest whitepaper similarly foresees redemption gates and conversion limits to protect the stablecoin against runs. But a stablecoin that is redeemable only for a fee or that can't be redeemed for dollars in unlimited amounts won't be an attractive alternative to Federal Reserve money, just as shares in money market mutual funds are an imperfect substitute for cash.

The more worrisome financial stability problem is that the market capitalization of the four largest US dollar stablecoins already approaches that of the largest institutional mutual fund, JPMorgan Prime Money Market Fund. A panic that forced these coins to liquidate a significant share of their commercial paper and corporate bond holdings would jeopardize the liquidity of those markets. And dislocations to short-term money markets can seriously disrupt the operation of the real economy, as we also learned at considerable cost in 2008.

The upshot is that the stability of stablecoins is an illusion. They are unlikely to replace Federal Reserve money, unlikely to revolutionize finance, and unlikely to realize the dreams of their libertarian enthusiasts.

OPINION

By Otmar Issing

The Return of Inflation?

FRANKFURT - After many years of low inflation, prices have risen almost everywhere in recent months. Energy and commodities have been leading the way, owing mainly to post-lockdown supply bottlenecks. But while such obstacles are widely seen as temporary, implying that the inflationary spike will disappear soon, other factors are at work as well, implying that it won't.

Chief among these longer-term factors is the rapid growth of money. Most monetary aggregates (not just central-bank money) have risen at a breathtaking pace, though this development seems not to worry central banks and many economists. With money having disappeared from the leading models used to explain inflation, the Nobel laureate economist Milton Friedman's famous dictum that "inflation is always and everywhere a monetary phenomenon" is rarely quoted anymore.

The "Quantity Theory" claims that inflation's causality runs from money to prices. Yes, empirical evidence seems to have largely undermined Friedman's hypothesis with respect to moderate inflation. But the fact remains that nominal wages and the prices of goods and services cannot keep on rising without a corresponding expansion of money. And strong monetary growth over time can also increase risks in the development of asset prices and financial stability.

After more than a decade in which a variety of factors - globalization and demographic change, to name just two - have exerted downward pressure on prices, the world might now be on the cusp of a broader economic "regime change." Rising health-care expenditures in aging societies, the reduced pace of globalization, supply-chain disruptions, and recent calls for reshoring production to higher-cost regions represent new sources of exogenous price pressure. Under these conditions, wages, too, might be pushed upward.

At a time when central banks are almost yearning for somewhat higher inflation and ignoring the rapid growth of money, such a change in the real sector is likely to indicate a shift from a deflationary to an inflationary environment. Many of the factors seen today were prominent features of the 1960s and 1970s, the last time inflationary pressures were building up.

Should we expect the return of stagflation? It is hard to say, because we are experiencing an exceptionally high degree of the kind of unquantifiable uncertainty that the economist Frank Knight argued is impossible to integrate into traditional forecasts. In addition to the dramatic structural changes the global economy has undergone in recent years, the pandemic might have created the conditions for consequences that we cannot currently foresee.

Worse, central banks seem to be relying largely on models that lost much of their forecasting capacity years ago, owing to their lack of viable theoretical explanations for what determines financial flows, risk premia, and asset prices. More than a decade after the 2008 financial crisis, the main general equilibrium models used by central banks hardly even consider the large heterogeneity among households in terms of wealth, outstanding long-term debt positions, uninsured risks, and expectation formation. As such, they are unequipped to capture the complex effects that systematic policies or systemic shocks have on wealth distribution and inequality, and thus on aggregate demand.

Without that knowledge, one can only guess whether strong monetary growth reflects precautionary saving due to increased inequality, an inflationary fiscal-monetary shock, or both. This is particularly problematic in a world where central banks are massively expanding the money base by purchasing assets at high prices from a small group of relatively wealthy and informed investors.

Expectations play the key role in forecasting future inflation, and these seem to be firmly anchored at low levels. But what if those expectations, after so many years of very low inflation, are now more backward- than forward-looking? Since the fear of inflation has disappeared from most radar screens, it is perhaps understandable that the recent price increases would be regarded as purely temporary. But, because monetary policies tend to have a long and variable time lag, it is risky to wait until after higher inflation has already taken root before beginning to taper quantitative easing or to raise interest rates.

After all, what credibility will central banks have if inflation expectations have already lost their anchor? In an environment of extreme uncertainty, relying so much on the longer-term stability of inflation expectations is a risky bet. In times of a regime shift, uncertainty is so high that it is just impossible to form rational expectations.

Aside from strong monetary growth, today's extraordinarily high levels of private and public debt pose another incalculable risk. The sustainability of public finances in highly indebted countries rests on shaky ground, and is highly exposed to shocks that might come from many economic or geopolitical sources.

I am not predicting the inevitable return of high inflation. But I am concerned about strong monetary growth and its determinants, starting with central banks' massive purchases of government bonds. Central banks seem far too sanguine about this risk. They are also ignoring the current environment's heightened uncertainty, not least by issuing forward guidance that promises a rather long continuation of extremely low policy rates and high asset purchases.

In the case of the eurozone, it is telling that some observers have begun to predict not inflation but a kind of Japanification: low inflation and nominal interest rates, high public deficits, and increasing fiscal and financial dominance. But, given the increase in wealth inequality and the likelihood that financial investors eventually will lose confidence in the sustainability of public finances, it is unclear whether such conditions would be politically sustainable. The only certainty is that neither a financial collapse nor an inflationary surge can be ruled out.

OP-ED

By Carl Bildt

The Variant Threat Is Real

STOCKHOLM - It has now been 18 months since the SARS-CoV-2 virus was first sequenced in China. Within a month, the World Health Organization had issued its highest possible global alert, declaring the COVID-19 outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. Weeks later, the WHO declared a pandemic. Yet we are nowhere near the end of the crisis. On the contrary, we have entered a dangerous new phase in its evolution.

While complacency sets in among richer, more vaccinated countries, a cloud of despair has descended on lower-income countries that lack the means to fight new variants of the virus. And, after reporting declining numbers of new infections for seven consecutive weeks, the WHO is now recording an increase in confirmed cases practically everywhere. In its weekly epidemiological update on July 6, for example, it found that there had been a 30% increase in COVID-19 incidence in Europe, even though the European Union had delivered enough vaccine doses to immunize 70% of all adults.

The reason for this global resurgence is well known. The Delta variant, now identified in 111 countries, is significantly more contagious than previous strains of SARS-CoV-2, and it is spreading very fast. The rise of new variants serves as a reminder that we are dealing with a living organism that can and will evolve in response to the measures (and half-measures) that we deploy to fight it.

While the Alpha and Beta variants were somewhat less problematic, the Delta variant has proved ruthless, and it is anyone's guess what future mutations will bring. The only certainty is that with the virus raging around the world, new variants are inevitable.

With a growing share of the population receiving vaccines in Europe and North America, lockdowns, mask mandates, and other measures are being eased, leading to unfortunate but predictable results. Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte recently had to apologize for his country's rapidly rising infection rate, and he is unlikely to be the last leader who finds himself or herself in that position.

Worse, rich countries remain reluctant to step up and help. After multiple G7 and G20 meetings, the international community still has not closed the \$16 billion funding gap for the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A), the international coordinating mechanism for equitable access to vaccines. That sum is miniscule compared to the trillions of dollars being spent to support national economies.

While rich countries become complacent, many others are growing desperate, owing to a lack of vaccines, respirators, oxygen, and testing and sequencing supplies. With the rise of the Delta variant, they are essentially flying blind. On July 6, the WHO's technical lead on COVID-19 warned that there are more than 20 countries "with exponential growth in cases ... in all regions of the world." And because many of these countries have low vaccination rates, a higher death toll is sure to follow.

All told, nearly one-quarter of the global population has been vaccinated. That might sound impressive; but the distribution has been grossly and immorally skewed toward richer countries. Moreover, the WHO estimates that 70% of the world will need to be vaccinated to end the pandemic. That means there is still a long way to go.

Yes, vaccine production is increasing fast, and pharmaceutical industry leaders are talking about producing 11 billion doses (the number needed for a 70% global immunization rate) this year. But that supply would come on top of the 3-4 billion annual vaccine doses that the world already needs to fight other diseases. And make no mistake, producing the COVID-19 vaccines is a complicated process. The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine requires 280 inputs from suppliers in 19 countries. Boosting its production has required an unprecedented 200 new technology-transfer agreements.

While new efforts are underway at the WHO and the World Trade Organization to facilitate more of these kinds of arrangements, trade restrictions and vaccine nationalism remain a serious problem. The WTO recently noted that while the number of trade restrictions affecting vaccines has fallen from 109 at the beginning of the pandemic, there are still 53 provisions slowing down the hoped-for production increase.

In the meantime, more oxygen is urgently needed to avoid a repeat of the tragedy we witnessed in India. Multilateral institutions and NGOs have brokered important agreements with key global suppliers, but more must be done to keep up with the rising need across Africa and in parts of Asia.

Testing and sequencing supplies are also critically important, both for managing outbreaks and for detecting and quickly understanding new variants. In addition to the four current "variants of concern," the WHO is monitoring four other "variants of interest," one of which - the Lambda variant - has now been found in 29 countries.

The variant problem attests to the global nature of this crisis. Though the virus was first identified in China, the four variants of concern were identified far afield, in South Africa, Brazil, the United Kingdom, and India. Lambda was first uncovered in Peru. Because the next variant could come from anywhere, this is no time to ease our response. If we are going to avoid successive waves of new variants, we must redouble global vaccination efforts.

This is a test of political leadership. All governments must take seriously the dictum that no one is safe until everyone is. National successes in beating back the pandemic could easily be unraveled by national failures to fight it elsewhere. Let's not learn that the hard way.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. TIPOTEH

CELEBRATING Dr. TOGBA NAH TIPOTEH: A MAN OF THE PEOPLE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

**BY
AMBASSADOR (PROF) DEW TUAN-WLEH MAYSON**



Today is the 80th anniversary of our brother, a true Liberian patriot, Professor Dr. Togba Nah Tipoteh. We his family, comrades and well-wishers had planned an elaborate two-day celebration. However, due to the prevalence of that diabolical COVID 19 witchcraft, we have had to postpone the ceremonies to a later date. And so, Devolonte, by His grace, InshAllah, we shall soon roll out the big drums and render unto the Professor the encomiums he so much merits.

Today, we only stop to congratulate Dr. Tipoteh for his achievements and longevity particularly when we consider the intimidations, harassments, and long years of exile to which he was subjected—all in the cause of our people.

Those who read contemporary Liberian history or who are old enough to remember the events in our country beginning in the early 70's will recall that it was Dr. Tipoteh who popularized and made us proud again to wear our African clothing and sport our indigenous names and culture. Remember the rubber sandals nicknamed the "Tipoteh"?

It was Dr. Tipoteh who along with the late venerable Albert Porte and some others, led the way in "speaking truth to authority", thus laying the foundation for the continuing struggle for rice and rights, for economic development and political freedom.

In 1971, upon my return to Liberia following my studies in the United States, I plunged myself in the budding struggle being led by Dr. Tipoteh for greater freedom in our Liberia. Joining forces with Dr. Tipoteh was a great experience. We held long discussions with each other and with his associates and mine. We had a strategic objective: to work for a more just and equitable Liberia. And we covenanted among ourselves that we would not be used by the ruling class to perpetuate its privileges. Gradually, we began to attract a large following, first among the students, the workers, and among the broad masses of our people.

Dr. Tipoteh was, and continues to be, a paragon of virtue. Modest and brutally honest, he is never tired speaking and working in defense of the mass of our people thereby earning the deep love and respect of all of us.

He is not a wealthy man, but he has never pursued wealth. Whatever money he has made from honest work, he has used it to assist the poor and suffering in our country.

Hear this, my people: When Dr. Tipoteh was Minister of Planning in the first Doe cabinet, he, along with other Ministers, went for a LAMCO Board Meeting in Europe. LAMCO defrayed all the expenses of the Ministers. And so when Tipoteh returned, he, alone among the Ministers, gave back to Government all the per diem he had received for the trip! Such brutal honesty!

Oh yes, the post of President has eluded Tipoteh. But most of the heroes and heroes we now honor in our history did not hold the office of President. Mama Suacocoa, Juah Nimley, P. G. Wolo, Albert Porte, Dr. Morias, Wilmot Blyden, Didho Tweh, Bill Witherspoon, Du Fahnbulleh, Bacchus Mathews—did they occupy the Mansion? No, no, no. Yet we honor them as opposed to, say, C.D.B. King who dishonored the Presidency by being an accomplice in the shameful business of slave trading.

Oh, please let me remember that I said at the beginning that we are saving the major accolades and big Waka for later this year when we hold the formal 80th birthday ceremonies for Dr. Tipoteh. And so I am going to shut up. In doing so, however, permit me to get a little personal. In my long years of association with Dr. Tipoteh, I have come to know, respect and admire this man—his progressive thinking, his moral values, his good character, his tenacity, his capacity for hard work. By Dr. Tipoteh's side, I have lived through some difficult yet magnificent days—with Susukuu in Putu, with the various protests for Albert Porte and against gambling, with the Sawyer for Mayor campaign, on the barricades with our people during the April 14th rebellion—to name only a few episodes when the Dr., as usual, exhibited his rare qualities of leadership and courage.

Yes, my people, Dr. Tipoteh has run the race, he has kept the faith.

Happy birthday, Bo, DG, Dr. All God's blessings for you and Sis. Fatu, your darling wife. I can bet that no matter the circumstance, you, Dr. Tipoteh, can always be counted upon in defense of the poor, the oppressed and the downtrodden in our country, in our Africa, in our world.

Dominus vobiscum.



Obituary Announcement



Funeral Services Announcements.

The McGill and Siron families wish to inform the general public that the funeral services over the remains of their mother, sister, aunt, and grandmother the late Ma Watta Varmah will be held on Thursday, July 22, 2021, at the St. Moses funeral parlors located on Gardensville, Somalia drive at the hour of 11:30 am.

Interment will take place at Disco Hill, Jungle Farm, Robert International Airport highway.

Due to the emergency health protocols advised by the Ministry of Health as a result of the coronavirus epidemic the wearing of masks and the enforcement of social distancing will be observed strictly.

The Book of Condolence will be opened on Wednesday, July 21, 2021, beginning at 10 AM at the residence of the deceased in SDA University Community, Schiefelin Town, Robert International Airport Highway.

There will be live coverage on Facebook, radio stations, TV stations, and other social media platforms for all events.


This announcement was brought in by Hon. Nathaniel F. McGill, (son of the deceased) and Hon. Soko Dukuly, (brother of the deceased) on behalf of the family in and out 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



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Liberia Land Authority

96 Ashmun Street, Monrovia
Liberia, West Africa
Monrovia, Liberia



JULY 19, 2021

INVESTIGATIVE SURVEY NOTICE

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT THE LIBERIA LAND AUTHORITY HAS DULY AUTHORIZED SURVEYOR TOM W. NIMELY#097 TO REPRESENT THE LIBERIA LAND AUTHORITY IN AN INVESTIGATIVE SURVEY BETWEEN CECELIA IRENE BLACKSTON, THE KING WALTER ESTATE AND OTHER ADJOINING PARTIES.


THOSE WITH CLAIM TO THE DISPUTED LAND ARE AS FOLLOWS:


- CECELIA IRENE BLACKSTON WITH CLAIM TO ONE HUNDRED (100) ACRES OF LAND AND NO MORE.
- THE KING WALTER ESTATE WITH CLAIM TO A PARCEL OF LAND.

THIS SURVEY TAKES PLACE ON SATURDAY JULY 24, 2021 AT 11:00 AM.
THE LAND IN QUESTION IS LYING AND SITUATED WITHIN BEN TOWN, LOWER MARGIBI COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

ALL ADJECENT PARTIES AND THOSE CONCERNED ARE ASKED TO BE PRESENT WITH THEIR DEEDS, DOCUMENTS, DIAGRAMS AND TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE DATE AND TIME OF THE SURVEY TO VERIFY THEIR CLAIMS. LET THIS SURVEY NOTICE CLAIM THE ATTENTION OF THE BELOW LISTED:

- ✓ MR. ALFRED CHEA
- ✓ MADAM JANET LORPU KENNEDY
- ✓ THE SDA UNIVERSITY
- ✓ CORNER MARKER T.S / S.S & R.I / P.C.V & P.T.V
- ✓ MADAM MARY DORAH
- ✓ OFFICE OF THE MARGIBI COUNTY LAND ADMINISTRATOR
- ✓ OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR OF MARSHALL
- ✓ THE LIBERIA NATIONAL POLICE
- ✓ ALL THOSE CONCERNED

SIGNED: 
Mr. Paul A. Tolbert
Coordinator
Liberia Land Authority



MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Chinese national rescued

-As authorities continue search mission after vessel sinks

By Winston W. Parley

A Chinese national has been rescued, as authorities continue their search and rescue efforts days after a locally registered vessel Niko Ivanka sank six nautical miles off Marshall, in Margibi County.

The vessel was conveying about 18 persons including

have been rescued so far informed this paper that the Chinese national was one of the latest survival.

However, unconfirmed reports say at least seven persons are feared dead.

Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA) Commissioner-General Len Eugene Nagbe told reporters at the Coast Guard Base in Congo

Defense, and the Armed Forces of Liberia Coast Guard, informed the public that several persons were missing after the local vessel sank.

The authorities announced the launch of a search and rescue operation, and also indicated that 11 persons had so far been rescued, and they were hopeful of recovering the remaining passengers and crew members on board. The news of a Chinese national being rescued now puts the number to 12, the total persons rescued.

At least five vessels are participating in the search between Bassa and Marshall because there might be others who are still along the waterway, Mr. Nagbe said.

He explained that LiMA got an alert from the Liberia Coast Guard through its Monrovia regional maritime rescue coordination center.

Mr. Nagbe further narrated that the center informed LiMA about a distress situation onboard M/V Niko Invanka, a local vessel owned and operated by HYLAEA Inc. which according to LiMA was trading between the Ports of Monrovia, Montserrado County, and Harper, Maryland County.

Commissioner Nagbe said the information received indicated that the vessel departed the Port of Monrovia for Harper on Saturday, 17 July, and while on the way, it reportedly started to take in water about 6 nautical miles

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passengers and crew members bound for Maryland County, in southeastern Liberia.

A well placed authoritative source who spoke to the NewDawn newspaper on condition of anonymity Monday evening, 19 July regarding the latest development of those who

Town that there will be “a transparent and open investigation of the situation because there is a potential for loss of life and property.”

In the meantime, he noted that focus is still being placed on search and rescue.

Earlier on Sunday, 18 July, the Liberian Government through LiMA, the Ministry of National

Sinking boat worries Deputy Speaker Koffa

The Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa, expresses worries for several passengers onboard the sinking vessel off the coast Maryland County that are reportedly gone missing.

The Grand Kru County lawmaker said while the Liberian government and its partners are on a search for either individuals or their remains, he extends his heartfelt sympathy and is deeply shocked and saddened of the tragic incident of a

been found, the injured and to all who have been affected.

“I’m shock and soul touching to have heard and read that some people including Liberians gone missing on a boat near the Liberian shores, it is sadden and heartbroken news for me. My sincere sympathies to the families and we hope as the search continues we will find them or their remains so that their family members can see them once more before returning to our heavenly father,” the deputy speaker said.



Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa

sunken cargo vessel, Niko Ivanka, of which at least seven (7) persons have gone missing since Sunday.

Search and rescue operations are ongoing, Liberia’s Maritime Authority Commissioner Eugene LennNagbe told reporters in the capital, Monrovia. Coastguards of the Armed Forces of Liberia have pulled 11 people from the water, he said.

The Deputy Speaker said the devastation is regrettable and expressed condolences to families of those who have not

According to him, it is worrisome for Liberia in such difficult times to lose some of its citizens to the ocean and probably for them to have cried for help but could not be helped due to distance is worrisome and saddens.

The Deputy Speaker hailed the efforts of the Government spearheaded by the Liberia Maritime Authority (LMA) and the National Coast Guard of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) for the rescue of 11 passengers and looks forward to a speedy recovery process.

Minister Sirleaf, Bong Supt. to appear before House Plenary

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan

Internal Affairs Minister Varney Sirleaf and Bong County Superintendent Esther Walker are expected to appear before the Plenary of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, 20 July, 2021 to address the alleged disappearance of over US \$86,000 from the county’s account.

This is as the result of a communication from Bong County District #3 Representative Marvin Cole to the Plenary of the House of Representatives.

Representative Cole during an interview with our Bong County correspondent on Monday said the Internal Affairs Minister, the Superintendent and the Project Management Committee Chair Stephen



Min. Varney Sirleaf



Supt. Esther Walker

Mulbah on April 13, 2021 allegedly signed more than thirteen cheques to withdraw money from the County’s coffers with no account.

He said after signing the

cheques, more than \$86,000 USD was withdrawn from the account and allegedly placed in their individual accounts and some were used to increase the Project

Management Committee (PMC) Chair’s salary and pay drivers.

The Bong County District #3 lawmaker said the action of the Superintendent and the Minister is a complete violation of the Budget Law, claiming that the money was allegedly withdrawn outside of the 2018 County Sitting’s resolution.

He claimed that the Minister of Internal Affairs is involved because he has the clearance-cheques which authorize the bank to allow

withdrawal for the county.

Rep. Cole told NewDawn that he will do all he can to ensure that the Superintendent and others pay for all the funds they have allegedly taken from the county’s account.

All efforts to speak with the Internal Affairs Minister proved fruitless as his phone rang without response. However, Superintendent Walker who lately picked her calls, has told journalists harshly that she has nothing to say about the issue.--

Edited by Winston W. Parley

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Dr. Fallah donates to COVID-19 treatment unit

As the country continues in the battle against the Coronavirus, the former Director General of the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) Doctor Mosoka Fallah, has donated 44 sets of oxygen regulators, several bags of rice and buckets to the government treatment unit here.

The donation was done Monday, July 19, 2021 through his private NGO, Refuge Place International headed by its Executive Director Mr. Jomah Kollie and Chief of Office Staff to Dr. Fallah, Mrs. Franzetta Nyanford at the Star Based Treatment Unit on Bushrod Island.

Speaking on behalf of Dr. Fallah, Madam Nyanford said, the equipment were purchased through funding provided by friends and his former university, the University of Kentucky in the

the right size, the donors sent the first batch of 44 regulators. A second batch of 90 regulators will be arriving in the country this week or early next week to support the treatment units and hospital across the country as determined by the Incident Management System," she added.

In remarks, Executive Director Kollie said the expected 90 oxygen regulators will be distributed to other treatment units across the country upon arrival.

"We have come here today to make some initial support to star base. There are other support that will be made to the other hospitals that are managing our people and to the counties.

Today, we are here to present to you the following items:

44 regulators for your oxygen cylinders to many of your patients can have adequate oxygen to the cylinders," Kollie said.

"We also present 10 bags of

He asserted that RPI will be donating rice, buckets, hand sanitizers, gloves to the following Hospitals- Redemption Hospital, JDJ Hospital, St. Joseph Catholic Hospital and ELWA Hospital.

"We are partnering with the Montserrado County Health team support awareness, health promotions through the distribution of flyers, radio messaging and community-led awareness on the prevention measures. Our teams will be deployed in hotspots with health promotion messaging and deployment of hand washing stations. We will continue to raise support for testing materials through different universities," he indicated, among other things.

The Director for Emergency Response at the Ministry of Health, Mr. Mark Luke, lauded RPI for the kind gesture stating that the equipment are the best kinds



Madam Nyanford Of RPI Presents One Of The Items To Doctor Abraham Ajamin Of The Treatment Unit

United States of America following a passionate appeal by for support to the health sector of Liberia.

"Some of his friends and partners heard the appeal and responded in money and supply. We have raised the initial Fifty thousand United State Dollars (\$50,000) or eight million five hundred thousand Liberian dollars, from the Royer Family Charitable Foundation to support different aspects of the Response," Madam Nyanford explained.

"We also received donations of 150 regulators for oxygen cylinder from his former University in the states, the University of Kentucky as well as Friends of Liberia (former Peace Corps volunteers to Liberia) and other friends and partners. Not too sure if the regulators would work, they sent the first two on DHL in early July. Once they were proven to be

rice, oil and soup kind to the hard working staffs of the Star Base Treatment Unit. e also present 10 buckets, hand sanitizers, gloves and etc.

We have sent fifteen thousand United States Dollars to a factory in China through our partner Landcent Europe to procure and fly to Liberia 15 oxygen concentrators with a 10 Liter capacity," the RPI Executive Director told the gathering.

He said the goal of RPI is to provide these concentrators at Star Base in order to boost the fight against the disease.

"Once they demonstrate effective use, we will work with the factory and our GoFundme initiative to get more concentrators for the Star base, other hospitals and the counties," he furthered.

In addition to the donations, he disclosed that the organisation is committing US\$35,000 or in the production of masks to be distributed for free to hot spot communities.

of medical devices that the country needs most.

"This is one of the most important medical devices that we need in the country. This will carry us even beyond covid-19," Luke noted.

Adams K. Lincoln, Program Manager of Healthcare Federation of Liberia, indicated that the donation is a demonstration of Dr. Fallah's love for his country and people.

"These materials are critically needed by the patients. These will be distributed to major centers. We would like to commend Dr. Fallah for his desire to restore health. This is a clear indication that Dr. Fallah's love for country supersedes personal self. To see a man who was relieved of his post joining the fight in this manner is completely exceptional.

34-year-old rape suspect on the run

By Krauh Thomas (Intern)

A 34-year-old suspect Emmanuel Dorley is reportedly on the run after he allegedly raped an 11-year-old girl on 20th Street, around the John F. K. Medical Center in Sinkor, Monrovia.

The uncle of the victim, David Sonkarlay, narrates that the incident occurred on July 2, 2021 after he had left for a trip to Ganta, Nimba County, adding that the child was sent to spend time with her grandparent in the J.F.K. community on 20th Street.

However, Mr. Sonkarlay explains that upon his return from Nimba, he was shocked when his fiancé told him that his little niece had been allegedly raped by a guy identified as Emmanuel Dorley.

Suspect Dorley, who reportedly lives on 20th Street towards the beach, is said to a friend of one of the victim's uncles that live in the same house with the grandparent.

The minor narrates that on the night of July 2, 2021, suspect Dorley asked her to accompany him on the road to buy something.

But she says instead, he took her down the beach and allegedly took a knife from his side which he pointed at her, demanding her to undress herself and sexually abused her, while threatening to kill her if she told anyone.

She continues that since the incident, she was afraid to tell anyone and discloses that this was not the first or second time Dorley has raped her.

The foster mother of the girl, notes that during the course of the week after the incident, she noticed the victim's health began to deteriorate characterized by losing weight, so she provided medication but the girl did not

respond to treatment.

She said out of curiosity, she asked the victim what was the problem and told her that she was very concerned about her health, so she eventually called a health practitioner to check her, adding that the result confirmed the girl had been sexually tempered with.

Speaking with The New Dawn on Sunday, July 11, 2021 Mr. Sonkarlay disclosed that after doctor confirmed the sexual penetration, the victim refused to identify who committed the act to her despite all efforts made by his wife, the foster mother, threat to inform him upon his return from Nimba.

He adds that after his return to Monrovia and hearing the news, he mounted more pressure on his niece, saying "If you do not explain to me what happened, I will call the police on you."

He says after severe questionings, the girl decided to speak finally, disclosing that while spending time with her grandmother on 20th Street, Suspect Emmanuel Dorley took her on the beach and raped her.

Sonkarlay notes that immediately he contacted the Salem Police depot in the Airfield area, but was told those officers responsible for rape cases were out, so he and the victim got on a commercial bike and went in search of Suspect Emmanuel on 20th Street, down the beach, but was nowhere to be found.

He said later, the suspect was identified but he denied committing the act, but escaped the community and is currently on the run. The matter is still before the Salem Police depot, pending full investigation.

First Lady Clar Weah

Starts from back page

vocational training already in place in France which only applies to unemployed youth between the ages of 18 and 25.

She said she was rather surprised at the multiple hats worn by First Lady Weah and promised to assist the efforts in Liberia.

The two First Ladies

concluded their meeting with an agreement to explore several possibilities, partnering specifically on a program that would aim at financially empowering the women in Liberia.

First Lady Weah accompanied President Weah to the Generation Equality Forum in Paris, France held in June, 2021.

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Français

Plusieurs personnes portées disparues après un naufrage au large de la côte du Liberia

Entre 15 et 17 personnes ont été portées disparues après un naufrage au large de la côte du Liberia, a-t-on appris dimanche auprès des garde-côtes de ce pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest.

Le Niko Ivanka a actionné samedi en fin d'après-midi son signal de détresse, déclenchant les opérations de sauvetage, a annoncé un responsable des garde-côtes au cours d'une conférence de presse à Monrovia.

Le navire avait quitté Monrovia samedi matin à destination de Buchanan, à 100 km au sud-est, quand il a commencé à prendre l'eau, a déclaré à la presse le responsable de l'autorité maritime du pays, Eugene LennNagbe.

Onze personnes ont été secourues, a-t-il ajouté. Selon le manifeste du navire, 18 personnes se trouvaient à bord, neuf membres d'équipage et neuf passagers.

Eugene LennNagbe a précisé que le navire n'était pas autorisé à transporter des

passagers. Il avait déjà été dans le passé immobilisé de force, car il n'était pas jugé apte à prendre la mer.

Le commissaire général de l'Agence Maritime du Libéria, Len Eugene Nagbe, a déclaré aux journalistes dimanche 18 juillet lors d'une conférence de presse que jusqu'à présent, 11 personnes ont été secourues depuis le lancement de l'opération de sauvetage et

espèrent récupérer les passagers et membres d'équipage restants à bord.

S'adressant aux journalistes sur l'île de Bushord, Nagbe a déclaré qu'il n'y avait eu aucun rapport de victime jusqu'à présent.

Selon lui, au moins cinq navires participent à la

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Réunion Des Chefs D'etat En Côte D'ivoire : Une Déclaration Dite D'abidjan Adoptée À L'issue De La Rencontre

Le 15 juillet 2021, les Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement de l'Angola, du Bénin, du Burkina Faso, du Cameroun, de la Côte d'Ivoire, de l'Ethiopie, du Ghana, de la Guinée, de la Guinée Bissau, du Libéria, de Madagascar, de la Mauritanie, du Mozambique, du Niger, du Nigéria, de l'Ouganda, de la République Démocratique du Congo, du Rwanda, du Sénégal, du Soudan, de la Tanzanie et du Togo, se sont réunis à Abidjan en République de Côte d'Ivoire et ont rendu publique une

déclaration dite " Déclaration d'Abidjan".

La rencontre avait pour but de discuter des défis communs de développement des pays africains, de convenir d'objectifs et de buts qui leur sont communs en vue de guider leur relance économique et « de discuter du rôle essentiel du financement extérieur notamment à travers une reconstitution ambitieuse des ressources de l'Association Internationale de Développement (IDA), dans un contexte marqué par la pandémie de la COVID-19 ».

Cette rencontre au sommet s'est tenue après que beaucoup de partenaires et pays donateurs aient manifesté leur intérêt pour « la 20e reconstitution de l'IDA, instrument capital pour les pays d'Afrique Sub-saharienne pour financer une économie africaine inclusive et durable pour le bien-être de ses populations », apprend-on dans la déclaration.

La "Déclaration d'Abidjan" se présente comme le document qui, selon ce qu'espèrent nos dirigeants, « devrait constituer un cadre de référence pour la priorisation des interventions du Groupe de la Banque Mondiale au cours des années à venir ».

On retient dans ce document qu'en raison de la pandémie du coronavirus, « l'Afrique Sub-saharienne a connu en 2020 la contreperformance économique la plus importante jamais enregistrée depuis plusieurs décennies ».

En effet, selon le dernier rapport du FMI, le taux de croissance économique de la région s'est effondré à -1.9% en 2020 contre 3.6% initialement prévu.

« La pandémie a fortement affecté les indicateurs

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Éditorial

Une démonstration d'arrogance, de cupidité et d'insensibilité téméraire

Pour des raisons clairement égoïstes, les membres du parlement libérien ont distribué près de 4 millions de dollars américains entre eux à Capitol Hill, tout en pensant que c'est un geste honorable et légitime, comme quoi cet argent est dans le budget national.

Vraiment, n'est-ce pas là une démonstration de cupidité arrogante de la part d'un petit groupe d'hommes et de femmes qui prétendent représenter le reste des 5 millions de Libériens ? En tout cas, pour nous, ce n'est rien d'autre qu'une grande insensibilité et un vol et une corruption politique, comme l'a si bien dit récemment le chef de l'opposition M. Alexander B. Cummings.

Au moment où la pandémie mortelle fait ravage et la pauvreté bat son plein dans le pays, le fait que les législateurs ne font que défendre leurs propres intérêts égoïstes, sous le prétexte d'échanger avec leurs électeurs respectifs est très décevant.

Ce qui est même paradoxal, c'est que les législateurs président le budget national et exigent régulièrement un rapport de performance de l'exécutif, en particulier des ministères et agences, mais ces mêmes personnes refusent systématiquement d'être auditées et ne sont donc pas responsables devant les personnes qui les ont élues. Comment oseraient-ils demander des comptes à l'exécutif alors qu'eux-mêmes ne rendent pas des comptes ?

Pendant que les enseignants et les autres fonctionnaires sont mis à la retraite sans percevoir d'allocations et le paiement des salaires mensuels est retardé dans une économie où la majorité vit avec moins de 2,00 USD par jour, 103 législateurs se partagent environ 4 millions de USD en plus de leurs salaires mensuels et avantages sociaux qui couvrent le logement, la voiture, le chauffeur, l'essence, le cuisinier, la sécurité, la santé et le personnel de bureau personnel. Voyez-vous où se dirige le Libéria ?

Pourtant, avec une telle démonstration de cupidité incontrôlable et d'insensibilité imprudente, les salles du bâtiment du parlement coulent en raison du manque d'entretien, tandis que de graves crises sanitaires se profilent et les toilettes sont fermées en raison du manque d'eau courante. Les visiteurs sont ainsi honteusement contraints d'aller uriner ou déféquer derrière des conteneurs à l'intérieur de la cour du Capitole.

Les électeurs libériens doivent faire preuve de sobriété à chaque fois qu'ils se rendent aux urnes pour décider de la direction du pays. Ce n'est pas la qualité de leadership qu'ils envisageaient quand ils votaient en 2017 et en 2020.

Et au moment où nous parlons, ce petit pays de 5 millions d'habitants n'a pas de vaccins pour lutter contre le coronavirus en dépit du fait que le niveau d'alerte de l'épidémie dans le pays se trouve au niveau 4, le niveau le plus élevé, selon le Centre américain de contrôle et de Prévention des maladies. En outre, les hôpitaux qui luttent contre la pandémie à travers le pays manquent d'oxygène, sans parler des EPI pour les médecins et les infirmières qui sont en première ligne de la lutte.

Les législateurs se distribuent des millions entre eux aux dépens du peuple sans aucun remords. Il est dommage que cette nation soit soumise à une si mauvaise gouvernance.

Cependant, les Libériens ont le pouvoir de changer les parlementaires corrompus et égoïstes du Capitol Hill. Ils peuvent protester en vertu de la loi et demander à leurs législateurs d'abroger une telle loi qui leur permet de distribuer des millions pendant que les hôpitaux et les écoles à travers le pays manquent de médicaments, d'outils pertinents pour travailler, de chaises et d'enseignants qualifiés.

Nous pensons que l'exécutif prend plaisir à déboursier un tel argent pour avoir feu vert pour piller ce qui reste dans les caisses de l'Etat, alors que le système de contrôle et de contrepois est relégué et que les législateurs se régalaient avec 30 000 \$ US chacun dans leurs poches.

Français

Plusieurs personnes portées

recherche entre Bassa et Marshall car il pourrait y avoir d'autres qui sont encore le long de la voie navigable.

Il a expliqué que LiMA avait reçu une alerte des garde-côtes libériens via son centre régional de coordination de sauvetage maritime de Monrovia.

M. Nagbe a en outre raconté que le centre avait informé LiMA d'une situation de détresse à bord du M/V Niko Invanka, un navire local détenu et exploité par HYLAEA Inc. qui, selon LiMA, faisait du commerce entre les ports de Monrovia, comté de Montserrado et Harper, comté du Maryland.

Le commissaire Nagbe a déclaré que les informations reçues indiquaient que le navire avait quitté le port de Monrovia pour Harper le samedi 17 juillet et qu'en cours de route, il aurait commencé à prendre de l'eau à environ 6 milles marins au large de Marshall City.

Il a déclaré qu'après avoir reçu l'information, le ministre de la Défense et les garde-côtes des Forces armées du Libéria ont immédiatement mobilisé des ressources, notamment des biens et du personnel, pour commencer l'opération de

recherche et de sauvetage afin de secourir le navire en détresse.

Il a ajouté qu'ArcelorMittal Liberia, Sea Shepherd et d'autres partenaires ont été immédiatement contactés pour utiliser leurs actifs pour aider à l'opération de recherche et de sauvetage, notant qu'ArcelorMittal a lancé ses deux bateaux-baignoires avec le personnel des garde-côtes à bord du port de Buchanan jusqu'à la scène signalée.

Il a déclaré que le navire en détresse avait à son bord un équipage de neuf personnes et neuf membres du personnel du West African Examination Council. "La LiMA souhaite déclarer que le navire en question avait été interdit et n'avait pas été autorisé à naviguer, et ce navire n'avait été à aucun moment autorisé à transporter des passagers ou à fonctionner comme un navire à passagers", a déclaré Nagbe.

Pour sa part, le ministre de l'Éducation, le professeur Ansu Sonii, a remercié la LiMA et ses partenaires pour avoir déployé des efforts considérables pour sauver onze personnes, affirmant qu'il était nécessaire que toutes les parties impliquées travaillent ensemble pour aider à l'opération de sauvetage.

Réunion Des Chefs D'etat En Côte D'ivoire :

sociaux et a freiné les progrès entamés dans la marche vers l'atteinte des Objectifs de Développement Durable (ODD) de 2030 ainsi que ceux de l'Agenda 2063 de l'Union Africaine ».

Selon les sommités africaines, « l'emploi a reculé d'environ 8.5% en 2020, et plus de 32 millions de personnes ont basculé dans l'extrême pauvreté. De même, les progrès dans le renforcement du capital humain, notamment dans la réduction des inégalités spatiales et de genre ont été ralenties, en raison de la fermeture d'écoles, laquelle aurait affecté près de 253 millions d'élèves, entraînant des pertes d'apprentissage et de formation. La crise a davantage exposé certaines vulnérabilités de l'Afrique, notamment au niveau de la sécurité alimentaire, de l'accès aux médicaments et aux vaccins notamment contre la COVID-19, et de l'industrialisation ».

Ils insistent et expliquent qu'aux impacts économiques, sanitaires, et humanitaires de cette

pandémie, s'ajoutent la crise sécuritaire contre laquelle les États consacrent énormément de ressources très « souvent au détriment d'autres dépenses de développement ».

Cette situation pourrait entraîner, tout compte fait, « une augmentation des conflits et de la violence, d'aggraver la fragilité et l'instabilité dans la région ».

La pandémie de la Covid-19 a, aussi, créé des contraintes budgétaires aigües et des tensions de trésorerie pour les pays africains qui, fondamentalement, n'ont eu d'autre recours qu'un endettement croissant.

Le besoin additionnel de financement en Afrique Subsaharienne est à 285 milliards sur les cinq prochaines années, nous apprend la déclaration.

Un tel contexte, soulignent les Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement, « milite en faveur d'une plus grande solidarité de l'ensemble de nos partenaires et d'une réponse adaptée et flexible, qui intègre d'une part des solutions aux contingences de court terme, en matière sociale, économique et sécuritaire, et d'autre part.

COMMENTAIRE

By Barry Eichengreen

L'illusion du stablecoin

BERKELEY - Le débat sur les stablecoins (ou cryptomonnaies stables) a grandement évolué depuis l'annonce de la création de la monnaie Libra (maintenant rebaptisée Diem) par Facebook il y a presque exactement deux ans. Un coin obscur de la sphère numérique, qui était alors mal compris, est désormais soumis à un examen de plus en plus intense de la part des banquiers centraux, des régulateurs et des investisseurs. Les enjeux, y compris pour la stabilité financière, sont importants. La capitalisation boursière, ou l'offre en circulation, des seules quatre principales cryptomonnaies stables dépasse les 100 milliards de dollars américains.

Mais examen plus approfondi ne signifie pas meilleure compréhension. Prenez tout d'abord la croyance que les cryptomonnaies stables sont intrinsèquement stables car elles sont « entièrement garanties ». La question, bien sûr, est : garantie par quoi ?

Les investisseurs naïfs dans les cryptomonnaies liées au dollar supposent que la garantie prend la forme de dollars détenus dans des banques américaines assurées par le gouvernement fédéral ou leur proche équivalent. Or, ce n'est qu'en partie correct. Après avoir été critiqué pour son opacité, le principal émetteur de cryptomonnaies stables, Tether Limited, a récemment révélé qu'il détenait à peine un quart de ses réserves en espèces, comptes bancaires et titres d'État, tout en détenant près de la moitié en papier commercial et un autre dixième en obligations d'entreprises. Le deuxième stablecoin par capitalisation, USD Coin, explique seulement qu'il détient ses réserves dans des institutions de dépôt américaines assurées, ainsi que sous la forme d'autres « investissements approuvés ». Quoi que cela signifie.

Une telle obscurité crée des risques pour les cryptomonnaies stables elles-mêmes, pour leurs investisseurs et, surtout, pour la stabilité des marchés financiers. Le manque de transparence sur la qualité du papier commercial, le type d'obligations d'entreprise et les autres « investissements approuvés » détenus en garantie est une source de fragilité. Ce type d'asymétrie d'information, où les investisseurs ne savent pas exactement ce qui a été fait avec leur argent, a donné lieu à des paniques bancaires et à des crises bancaires à travers les âges. Dans ce contexte, une baisse de la valeur du papier commercial ou du marché des obligations d'entreprise pourrait facilement déclencher un stablecoin run (une ruée hors des cryptomonnaies stables). Et la chute du cours des obligations signifierait que l'émetteur de cryptomonnaies stables n'aurait pas les moyens de rembourser ses détenteurs.

De plus, il existe un risque de contagion : une ruée sur un stablecoin pourrait se propager à d'autres. Quelles sont les chances qu'une ruée sur Tether laisse intacte la confiance dans l'USD Coin ? La Banque centrale européenne, qui connaît une chose ou deux sur la contagion financière, a mis en garde contre ce scénario.

Pour limiter ces problèmes dans le système bancaire, les gouvernements assurent les dépôts des particuliers et les banques centrales agissent en tant que prêteurs en dernier ressort des institutions de dépôt. Certains commentateurs,

tels que l'ancien gouverneur de la Banque d'Angleterre, Mark Carney, ont suggéré que les banques centrales devraient fournir un soutien similaire aux émetteurs de cryptomonnaies stables.

Les autorités n'y consentiraient bien entendu que si ces émetteurs étaient soumis à une surveillance stricte destinée à limiter l'incidence des problèmes. Les fournisseurs de stablecoins devraient demander l'équivalent des chartes bancaires et être soumis à la réglementation correspondante. Un stablecoin ne serait alors rien d'autre qu'une banque dite étroite, autorisée à investir uniquement dans les bons du Trésor et les dépôts à la banque centrale, avec un mécanisme de paiement de type Paypal construit par-dessus.

Alternativement, les cryptomonnaies stables pourraient être considérées comme l'équivalent numérique des fonds du marché monétaire de premier ordre, qui investissent également dans le papier commercial. Le problème avec ce modèle, comme nous l'avons appris lors de la crise financière mondiale de 2007-08, est que le papier commercial normalement liquide peut soudainement devenir illiquide. Lorsque cela s'est produit en 2008, le gouvernement américain a cherché à apaiser la panique qui a suivi en garantissant temporairement tous les fonds du marché monétaire. Pour éviter que cela ne se reproduise, la Securities and Exchange Commission a alors publié des règles exigeant que les fonds, au lieu de maintenir un cours de 1 dollar par action, affichent des valeurs liquidatives flottantes pour rappeler aux investisseurs que les fonds du marché monétaire ne sont pas sans risque. Elle a permis aux fonds monétaires d'instituer des limites sur les remboursements (« gates »), en vertu desquelles ils peuvent continger les retraits et facturer des frais temporaires allant jusqu'à 2%.

Fait révélateur, le dernier livre blanc de Diem prévoit également des limites sur les remboursements et les conversions pour protéger le stablecoin contre les ruées. Mais une cryptomonnaie stable qui n'est remboursable que moyennant des frais ou qui ne peut pas être échangée contre des dollars en quantités illimitées ne sera pas une alternative attrayante à l'argent de la Réserve fédérale, tout comme les actions de fonds communs de placement du marché monétaire sont un substitut imparfait aux espèces.

Le problème de stabilité financière le plus inquiétant est que la capitalisation boursière des quatre plus grandes cryptomonnaies stables en dollars américains se rapproche déjà de celle du plus grand fonds commun de placement institutionnel, JPMorgan Prime Money Market Fund. Une panique qui obligerait ces stablecoins à liquider une part importante de leurs avoirs en papier commercial et en obligations d'entreprises mettrait en péril la liquidité de ces marchés. Et les dislocations des marchés monétaires à court terme peuvent sérieusement perturber le fonctionnement de l'économie réelle, comme nous l'avons également appris à nos dépens en 2008.

Le résultat est que la stabilité des stablecoins est une illusion. Ils sont peu susceptibles de remplacer l'argent de la Réserve fédérale, de révolutionner la finance et de réaliser les rêves de leurs passionnés libertaires.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Liberia against “New Coronavirus Variant”: The “Economic Plight” of “Vulnerable Groups” Under Government’s “Stringent Measures”

By Samuel G. Dweh—Writer, Freelance Journalist, Author

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This article ends with recommendations—solution methods to reduce the suffering rate of these prime disadvantaged citizens.

Since March, 2020, Liberia has been battling with a “strange” respiratory sickness named Coronavirus—medically named “COVID-19”—whose origin is China, according to reports from Western Media. The “thing” entered Liberia through a top government official— Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)—who had returned home from a Climate Change-related International Conference held in a Western Country, according to the Liberian Government through the Country’s Chief Medical Office.

On April 8, President George Manneh Weah declared a State of Emergency during his Address to the Nation on the health of the Country under COVID-19. The President’s declaration crippled the Nation’s economic life as the Government destroyed traders’ market tables (meant to decongest huge concentration of traders in open-market places) and closed all entry points at inter-Country routes for transportation of agricultural products, as well as Liberia’s sides of all border points—at a time Liberia was getting much of staple foods from neighbor Countries.

Liberia’s “vulnerable community”—of persons living with disabilities, elderly persons, single mothers (with two or more children), children, etc.—was the most sufferers of the Government’s actions.

A disabled single mother (half legs) that tours with her children during her survival-based street-begging. Journalist Samuel G. Dweh holding her three-year-old child on Benson Street. Her senior child standing at the back.

When national hunger-related lamentations—especially from members of the “vulnerable group” began filtering into the President George Manneh Weah’s private home and his office, the Head of State responded with instructing the Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI) to design a strategy that would get “free foods” into the homes of the most “vulnerable people”. This strategy was named “COVID-19 Stimulus Package”, of the Government, and the contents of the ‘package’ were rice, beans and vegetable oil. Distribution started May 25.

For transparency in distribution, the Government hired the World Food Programme (WFP), of the United Nations, to distribute dry foods—rice, vegetable oil and beans—across Liberia’s 15 Counties. But complaints of ‘marginalization’ from some groups of the Country’s disability community soon rose—relayed by the media.

On Thursday, September 17, 2020, a group of visually impaired persons (children and adults)—of the “Hope For God Association of the Blind”—conglomerated at the gate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (hosting President George Manneh Weah’s official Office), brandishing placards with various information relating to the COVID-19 Stimulus Package. Some of the wordings on placards said: “WFP Where Is Our Food?” and “WFP, Please Give Our Food”

A woman totes her family’s two bags of rice at Capitol Bye-Pass distribution point (Friday, July 3, 2020) Up to the time (August, 2021) this article was being prepared, the foods had not reached most “vulnerable” groups.

Even the President’s County—Grand Kru—hasn’t received a pinch of any of the food items released in May, 2020—fourteen (14) months after the distribution started. That means the “vulnerable groups” in this County—Liberia’s current impoverished political region, due most to deplorable conditions of roads that connect Grand Kru to all “linking Counties”—Maryland, Grand Gedeh, and Sinoe. Each of the inter-connectivity roads in the President’s County is a “death trap”, due to mudslide, dismantling wooden bridges (constructed over fifty years ago), and narrowness of some of the roads (inches away from mouths of creeks or water body running dozens of feet deep)

Before arrival of COVID-19 into Liberia, or when the George Weah’s Government relaxed the enforcement, disabled people—living hundreds of miles from their “hustle base”—could afford the general transportation fare (Liberian dollar: 100, 50, 20, or 10) demanded by operators of commercial vehicles (buses, taxis, or tricycles or “Kehkeh”) Many of them got the transportation fare from their neighbors on “credit”, to be paid (with interest) upon return from the “hustle”

Many petty-business single mothers—some take one or two of their children on the “roving trading” mission—are in this painful “sustainability boat” with the disabled people on “street begging”.

But with the Government’s reintroduction of the “stringent” anti-COVID-19 pandemic (new variant), has

about the poor citizens to ride bus, taxi or kehkeh, they should give order for gas price to go down to three hundred dollars per gallon.”

The above comments are of a male operator of a tricycle ploughing the Matadi/Airfield-Central Monrovia route in August, 2021. He was arguing with a passenger in his vehicle, who lambasted at him of “cheating passengers on the COVID-19 pandemic issues in the Country.” I was one of the passengers on the tricycle.

In Liberia, there are two gas sale points—at old old-time Filling Stations (been around before the Country erupted into civil war) and the sold-in-bottle points (appeared during post-war time). The latter receive their supply from operators of gas tankers, after supplying to the old-time points. The in-bottle has advantages over the old-time point’s: smaller quantities (quarter liter three-quarter liter) and smaller amounts (fifty Liberian dollars to seventy five dollars) The old-time’s point sells only from one gallon, which is now being sold at six hundred and twenty Liberian dollars (equivalent of about four U.S. Dollars) But the in-bottle type of sale has a major disadvantage: Some of the sellers mix the gas with water for profiteering.

Operators of the other commercial vehicles (buses and cars) are “justifying” their “high transport fares”—on taking three passengers (at the back), which is a mandate from the Government to prevent spread of COVID-19; and “high gas price”

RECOMMENDATIONS

The George Manneh Weah-led Government should provide special buses (preferably, some of the National Transit Authority buses offered by the Indian Government) that will convey disabled people, especially the visually impaired (blind), to points they get their daily bread. Pick up points should be announced over radio stations or published in newspapers.

The Government should financially support operators of commercial vehicles to give “free ride” to members of the Country’s “vulnerable group”, and publicize the “free ride” in the various media.

This is how the ticketing project can be done: Prepare “mobility tickets” for the vulnerable people through a collaborative structure of the Information MGCSP’s “Social Protection” arm, a body of road-side

money changers, and the Liberia National Police (to serve as “monitoring arm” of the collaboration). Any “vulnerable group” member with this ticket will show it to any commercial vehicle’s operator stopped. After conveying the “vulnerable group” member, the vehicle operator will take the ticket to a member of the body of road-side money changers to give the amount written on the ticket. The money changer will take the ticket to the MGCSP for reimbursement with a “little interest” (to cover the transport fare spent by the money changer to get to the MGCSP) This is an alternatively method to the first recommendation.

The Government should create “feeding centers” for members of the “vulnerable groups”, especially visually impaired (blind) persons. This is similar to the COVID-19’s “Stimulus Package”. The needy persons should be created into “zones”, according to communities in which they reside. This is similar to “feeding methods” used by the United States Government, or authorities of States of America, for their citizens who are “financially handicapped” or “homeless”

The “insensitivity” or “empathy” of the Liberian Government toward its “economically disadvantaged citizens” will be shown in its “action”



Partial view of the line of visually impaired beggars on 25th Street, Sinkor, Monrovia (June 18, 2020)
Note: All photos are from the Author’s “Disability File” from his previous reportages (from 2013)

returned to most of the disabled people to the “painful living condition” that had been before the new Government’s “order”. The worst victims are persons who do not have anything to sell, a “Government official” to assist, or a religious organization to help. Many can no longer leave their residences now under the conquest of hunger, as well as sickness.

The absence of a well-functioning welfare program, from the Government’s end, for the Country’s disabled community, has made disabled people’s “economic plight” more complicated. A Government’s Care Program—that ensures regular supply of foods, as well as medications—would have been serving as “ameliorative mechanism” for these “vulnerable groups”. National Political leaderships in Liberia’s sister-Countries have this suffering-reduction structure in place.

On mobility, the major cause of suffering of disabled people is the high transportation fare for commercial vehicles. And operators of commercial vehicles are justifying the high cost.

“I can’t take the old price, seventy five dollars, until the gas sellers bring down the price per a liter to three hundred, from the six hundred they are currently selling it. Besides, the Government has stopped kehkeh riders from taking three passengers at the back seat on which we used to take this small amount of money. When the Government truly cares

If CDC loses 2023, we will celebrate

By Lewis S. Teh

Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson T. Kojjee says, if restructuring of marketers at the Red Light Market in Paynesville outside Monrovia will cause the CDC to lose the 2023 elections, the party will celebrate such defeat.

"If structuring Redlight will cause a defeat for the CDC, then we will celebrate this defeat", he said, adding, "On grounds that we have made great strides, and impact on the lives of our people."

Mayor Kojjee spoke on Monday, July 19, 2021 on Strong FM along Somalia

government.

They were seeing back in the commercial hub of Redlight selling, with goods in their hands.

But following a visit to the market, the City Mayor in a huge police convoy, he has a ninety-day mandate to clean the city, adding that after this week there will be zero tolerance in Red Light.

Marketers presented a long list of concerns about challenges they are faced with, but responding to them, the MCC boss said all of the concerns raised will be addressed, adding, "I can assure you of meeting with

relocating to the Omega market at the right time, as many of them who were squatters, now face the possibility of owning their own structures.

According to him, the government's decision to relocate the Red Light-Gobachop marketers was a consensus reached along with leaders of the Liberia Marketing Association, because they are the direct beneficiaries.

"Our decision is not to create hardship or put marketers in harm's way, but it's meant [for bigger] opportunity"

Ahead of the 2023 presidential and general elections, a delegation of the ruling Congress for Democratic Change headed by chairman Mulbah Morlu is visiting the United States-based chapter of the party, rallying support.

The CDC, which is in a Coalition with the National Patriotic Party (NPP) of Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor, and the Liberian People Democratic Party (LPDP) of ex-speaker Alex Tyler, is leaving no stone unturned in mobilizing stakeholders, especially those in the Diaspora.

Chairman Morlu and delegation left the country last week for a two-week visitation and reactivation of the Diaspora-based chapter.

Other members of the delegation include Austin Clarke and Seedikie Fonfana. They are visiting various states of America, coordinating with party structures in those states for a fruitful 2023 presidential election.

Mr. Morlu on his social media page posted, "It was an enriching experience meeting with top leaders of the CDC-USA Chapter yesterday."

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Drive, Gardnersville after visiting marketers. He said there's no political dividend that will divert the government's mind from its people.

Marketers in the commercial hub of Redlight in Paynesville remain defiant with national government, as they refuse to take orders from the Monrovia City Mayor, the Ministry of Public Works, and the Paynesville City Corporation to have them relocated to the newly constructed 14 Omega market constructed by the

the President to see how we can address these concerns."

Issues raised by marketers include lack of adequately space, warehouses, toilets, and electricity, among others.

But Kojjee indicated that the new committee instituted by President Weah which is headed by the Ministry of Public Works as chair, and the MCC as co-chair will ensure those facilities lacking are provided, disclosing, As you may be aware, we have already erected few solar lights; this is a clear indication of fulfilling of our commitment."

He said marketers are

NEC declares CPP's Taylor winner

The Board of Commissioners, (BOC), of the National Elections Commission, (NEC), Monday reaffirmed and confirmed the ruling of its Hearing Officer, declaring Mr. Simeon B. Taylor, Senator Elect of the Collaborating Political Parties, CPP, winner of the 8 December 2020 Special Senatorial Election conducted in Grand Cape Mount County.

The BOC, on 19 July 2021, through its Chairperson, Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah following the ruling, instructed the Certification Committee of NEC-Liberia, with immediate effect, to go ahead with all necessary modalities leading to the certification of Mr. Simeon B. Taylor as Senator Elect of

agents on the record of the count.

The BOC, through Commissioner Morgan Awar said, the Hearing Officer Atty. FumbaSwaray did not err to dismiss and deny the action of appeal of fraud and irregularity filed by Victor Watson, who witnesses failed to identify any record of the count that signatures of their party agents were forged or did any witness testify to the issue of pre-marked ballots as alleged during the hearing.

On the allegations that Simeon Taylor double register and voted in Lofa Bridge and Tawh Polling places, and that relatives of Mr. Taylor listed in the Final Registration Roll, FRR were the same that were listed in the FRR in Tawh, Cllr. Morgan



NEC-Liberia Commissioner, Cllr. Ernestine Morgan Awar reads BOC's ruling Cape Mount Election Case.

Grand Cape Mount County.

But the legal team of the Complainant, Mr. Victor Watson, of the Coalition for Democratic Change, CDC, led by Cllr. Sheik SalibuSesaytook exception to the ruling and announced an appeal to the Honorable Supreme Court of Liberia.

In the BOC ruling, read by Commissioner Cllr. Ernestine Morgan Awar, the Administrative Court said, the complainant Victor Watson failed to prove by the preponderance of evidence the allegations of double registration and voting, pre-marked ballots, stopping of his party agents by mobs of Simeon Taylor from entering voting centers and the forging of signatures of his party

Awar said the Board of Commissioners agrees with the Hearing Officer that the plaintiff, Victor Watson failed to produce sufficient evidence by the preponderance of evidence to overturn the result in the Cape Special Senatorial Election.

The case, grew out of the action of an appeal, electoral fraud and irregularity filed by Honorable Victor V. Watson, Candidate of the CDC, as Complainant versus the National Elections Commission, first respondent and Mr. Simeon B. Taylor of the CPP as second respondent.

All seven members of the Board of Commissioners heard the Grand Cape Mount County appeal case, but only the Co-Chairperson of NEC, Cllr. P.

Nagbe said the vessel in question is one of the vessels that were under a detention order for failure to meet all of the safety requirements. He revealed that passengers were onboard the vessel, but they were not listed. The LiMA Commissioner said authorities

are still trying to interview some of the survivors, hoping that more people can still be found.

He detailed that the investigation will also determine why the passengers sailed, and who granted them the permission. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah**

Cont'd from page 6

Chinese national rescued

off the shore of Marshall City.

He stated that upon receiving the information, LiMA, Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of Liberia Coast Guard immediately mobilized resources including assets and personnel to begin the search and rescue operation to attend to the distressed vessel.

He added that ArcelorMittal Liberia, Sea Shepherd, and other partners were immediately contacted to utilize their assets to assist in the search and rescue operation, noting that

ArcelorMittal launched its two tub boats along with Coast Guard personal onboard from the port of Buchanan to the reported scene of the incident between Buchanan and Marshall City.

He said the distressed vessel Niko Invanka had onboard a crew complement of nine persons, based on the crew list submitted by the agent, and nine personnel of the West African Examination Council were also on board as passengers.

"The LiMA wishes to state that the subject vessel was detained and not allowed to sail, and this vessel was at no time authorized or permitted to carry passengers

or operate as a passengers' vessel," Nagbe said.

The LiMA boss narrated that his institution follows all of the processes including the domestic, national, and international regulations or requirements to be granted or licensed by the LiMA, leading to the registration of any vessel.

He said in spite of the license, LiMA does regular monitoring of every vessel sailing Liberian waters, noting that if any vessel sailing the waters here fails to meet all of the requirements, you are grounded and detained.

First Lady Clar Weah holds talk with Mrs. Macron



efforts she continues to make to promote the advancement of women and girls in Liberia.

First Lady Weah informed her French counterpart that her focus is not limited to women and girls alone, but rather her various initiatives support the advancement of women and young people. She also informed Mme. Macron about the work of the Clar Hope Foundation and its achievements in Liberia.

Madam Weah, during their discussion, highlighted Liberia's beauty as a nation with its virgin beaches, waterfalls, rivers and lagoons with vast resources, and called upon Mme Macron to see Liberia as such and help as France is working and assisting in development of other nations.

For her part, Mme Macron told her counterpart that as part of her women empowerment program, she founded a vocational training school for girls over the age of 25 to complement a

On the margins of the recently ended Generation Equality Forum in Paris, France, First lady Mrs. Clar M. Weah held talks at the Palais de L'Elysée with Mrs. Brigitte Macron, First Lady of France. The two First Ladies held

fruitful talks about the advancement of gender equality, women empowerment and other specific issues germane to women and girls. For her part, H. E. Clar Marie Weah spoke about the multiple challenges and hardships faced by the women and girls in Liberia and the

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