

TIP ME

...Your wallet is safe

Withdrawals made easy and smooth

TipOut whenever you want.

Download Now

Available on  



The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

ANDROID APP ON Google Play

QPR CODE: 797005

Down Load New Dawn Android App

VOL.11 NO. 123

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021

PRICE LD\$40.00

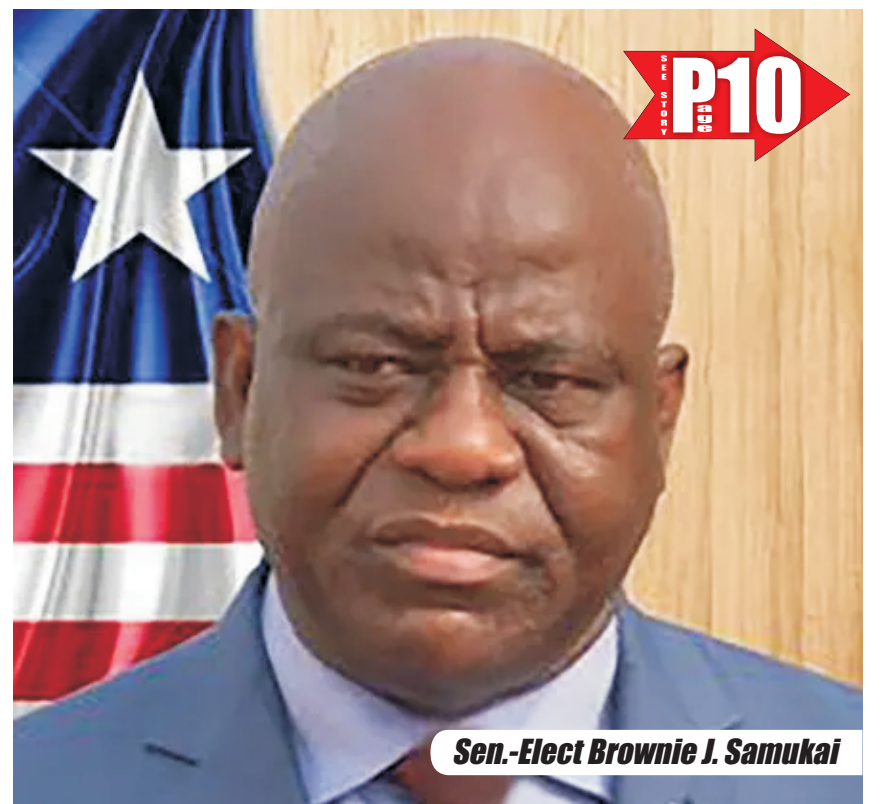


Survivor narrates nightmare

-on sinking vessel

Survivor Mr. Raymond C. Yeon

Samukai, prosecutors battle at Supreme Court



Sen.-Elect Brownie J. Samukai

3G good



4G better

DATA DA LIFE

Dial *352#



everywhere you go



Continental News

Families still running for their lives in Darfur

Two years after the Sudanese revolution, hundreds of thousands of people have been internally displaced as violence in Darfur continues. Many hoped a hard-earned peace agreement would put an end to the decades-old conflict, but the region's bloody legacy continues.

Thirty-five-year-old Khamisa Juma Ishag Abaker is perched on a pile of rubble that was once her home.

Dressed in a floral print fabric that covers her from head to toe, she sifts through the dust to uncover an old bottle of perfume and dinnerware gifted to her but now broken - remnants of her old life.

"My house had a garden and a door. I could lie down in the shade. I could cook for my children."

It's her first time returning to Krinding - a settlement for displaced people - after clashes in January left tens of thousands of people homeless and hundreds dead.

"They burnt all the houses. We tried to flee into the

street, but they shot my brother. He fell and when he tried to stand up, they shot him again - they killed him in front of me. I've cried so much... my eyes can barely see now." Now living in cramped conditions in a school classroom in El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur state, she is struggling to take care of her ailing parents and her children.

"We don't have money. We don't even have beds, pillows, or blankets... I don't have anything. I just stare and do nothing." Ms

Abaker says the Rapid Support Forces [RSF], a paramilitary group tasked by the government with keeping civilians safe, is behind the attacks.

She is too afraid to go back. "If the international forces came, we could return, but they won't."

The absence of joint UN-African Union (Unamid) peacekeepers is being felt by many in West Darfur. After 13 years on the ground, experts

say their gradual withdrawal since December has been met with a surge of violence.

Some 20,000 Sudanese troops were promised to take their place, but they are yet to arrive. The war in Darfur began in 2003 after ethnic African rebels revolted against former President Omar al-Bashir's Arab-dominated government.

Bashir responded by arming local Arab militias - infamously known as the Janjaweed - who targeted non-Arab tribes accused of supporting the rebels. Hundreds of thousands of people died and many villages were burnt and pillaged.

Then in 2019, he was ousted from government by some of his own generals

following mass street protests calling for his removal. Now in prison in Sudan serving a sentence for corruption, Bashir is due to be transferred to the International Criminal Court (ICC) to face genocide and war crimes charges, which he denies.

A year after the revolution the new military-civilian transitional government signed a peace agreement with local rebel groups. Residents believed it was the beginning of a new era of calm, but

unrelenting violence, which began in December 2019, has continued to grip the region. As a result, more than 150,000 people have been displaced, according to data from the International Organization for Migration. BBC



Khamisa Juma Ishag Abaker's home used to stand here, before her settlement was attacked

Nigeria secures release of 100 kidnapped mothers and children

The authorities in north-west Nigeria say they have freed 100 women and children - mainly mothers nursing infants - who were seized by bandits. The group were abducted on 8 June in Zamfara state. Four people were also killed during the incident.

The Zamfara state

government said they were released without any ransom being paid, but gave no further details.

The group will now be given medical checks and debriefed before they return to their homes. A spate of kidnappings has taken place in the region during recent months.

Since December 2020, more than 1,000 people have been

abducted. Most have later been freed, reportedly after ransoms were paid, but some have been killed. Authorities have blamed the incidents on bandits, a loose term for kidnappers, armed robbers, cattle rustlers and other armed militia operating in the region who are largely motivated by money.

Since the well-publicised abduction in 2014 of 276 schoolgirls from Chibok secondary school by Boko Haram Islamist militants in Borno state, more armed groups have resorted to mass abduction of students.

President Muhammadu Buhari has directed the military to flush out criminals in Zamfara and the neighbouring states of Kaduna and Katsina.

Earlier this week, during a raid against a criminal gang, a Nigerian air force plane was shot down on the border of Zamfara and Kaduna states. The pilot survived the attack by ejecting from the plane and fleeing to safety. BBC



SA president among targets of potential phone spying



World leaders including South Africa's Cyril Ramaphosa are believed to have been targeted for spying

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa is among world leaders believed to have targeted for phone tapping using spyware.

Known as Pegasus, it infects phones and allows operators to spy on their targets. Its leaked database is said to include the mobile phone numbers of at least a dozen heads of state and governments. They are in a list of some 50,000 phone numbers of people believed to be of interest to clients of

Israeli-based NSO group - the makers of Pegasus.

Others leaders in the database include French President Emmanuel Macron, President Baram Salih of Iraq and the current prime ministers of Pakistan, Egypt and Morocco, and the King of Morocco.

The list was leaked to major news outlets.

The NSO group denied wrongdoing and said it sold the equipment only to vetted governments to combat crime and terrorism. BBC

WWW **Advertise Here!**
Subscribe to our website
 get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

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 coffers as the system of check and balance is relegated and lawmakers feast with US\$30,000 each in their pockets.

COMMENTARY

By Shlomo Ben-ami

Managing a New Middle-East Order

TELAVIV - Across the Middle East, alliances are shifting in unexpected ways. What does the emerging configuration mean for a region that is seemingly eternally walking a thin line between war and peace?

The ongoing shifts are largely driven by Iran's growing influence. Gulf countries, fearing that the United States, their longtime ally, is unwilling to do enough to stem Iran's rise, are simultaneously reaching out to the Islamic Republic and moving toward deeper security ties with Israel. Meanwhile, the historically close relationship between regional heavyweights Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates is becoming increasingly tense.

But Iran is not the only factor. In the eastern Mediterranean, the discovery of energy reserves in Israeli, Cypriot, and Egyptian waters over the past decade has brought together old enemies. Jordan has a 15-year agreement to buy gas from Israel, despite political tensions between the two countries.

Even gas-rich Egypt is purchasing Israeli supplies - a reversal from just a decade ago, when Egypt supplied some 40% of Israel's gas - in order to boost its profile as an energy-transit hub. (Energy superpowers such as the UAE and Qatar have also acquired stakes in Mediterranean gas fields, in a bid to bypass the Suez Canal.)

Now, an eastern Mediterranean energy community is emerging. The first annual Eastern Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF) was held in Cairo in 2019. Last year, that forum became an intergovernmental organization, with an exceptionally disparate group of members: Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Italy, France, Jordan, and the Palestinian Authority.

The notion that this will lead to the emergence of a political-economic union in the eastern Mediterranean might seem farfetched. But it would not be the first time an energy-security alliance gave rise to a regional strategic community: the European Economic Community emerged from the European Coal and Steel Community in the 1950s.

Israel, for one, has good reason to continue to deepen its engagement with partners in the eastern Mediterranean. Already, Greece has offered access to its airspace for Israeli air force training, in exchange for Israeli gas, defense technology, and military intelligence. Last April, Greece hosted a multinational exercise, in which UAE aircraft flew alongside Israeli fighters. Israel could achieve a level of strategic depth in the eastern Mediterranean that it never gained in the continental Middle East.

But one country is conspicuously absent from recent efforts to deepen cooperation in the eastern Mediterranean. Turkey has been locked in maritime disputes with Greece practically as long as the two states have existed, and now they are at loggerheads over competing claims to energy reserves in contested waters.

Greece is part of two blocs countering Turkey: one with Cyprus and Egypt, the other with Cyprus and Israel. The latter group agreed in January 2020 to construct an eastern

Mediterranean pipeline to channel gas to Europe, thereby reducing the European Union's energy dependence on Russian supplies. For Turkey, which has long sought to position itself as central to any energy corridor between the eastern Mediterranean and Europe, this is very bad news.

Already, Turkey's relations with its NATO allies in Europe have deteriorated sharply. Last summer, Turkish ships entered contested waters between the Greek islands of Rhodes and Kastellorizo, prompting Greece to move almost its entire naval fleet to the area, with a French naval contingent also providing support. Only German Chancellor Angela Merkel's intervention averted a major flareup.

At this point, Turkey's bid for EU membership is all but buried. Yet the country has also been frustrated in its efforts to assume a larger strategic role in the Middle East. In 2019, when Turkey signed an accord with Libya's internationally recognized government, led by Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, to defend Libya's exclusive economic zone under the Law of the Sea, it was partly seeking to ensure that no EMGF project in the area could exclude it.

More broadly, Libya has become a theater for ideological confrontation, in which Turkey, together with Qatar, favors Dbeibah, an old ally of the Muslim Brotherhood and Salafist groups, and Egypt and the UAE support the Libyan National Army commander, Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar. Russia also fights alongside Haftar's rebel forces in Libya, as part of a regional strategy that is as much about energy as geopolitics.

Russia has a 30% stake in Egypt's Zohr offshore gas field, and a 20% stake in a gas-exploration joint venture in Lebanon. It has acquired significant gas concessions from its client regime in Syria as well, and is involved in oil and gas projects in Iraqi Kurdistan. And the TurkStream pipeline, which supplies Turkey, was launched last year.

Russia hopes to keep the EU dependent on its gas and create a new gas corridor to southeastern Europe. But the threat it poses to core Western interests is containable. While Russia is a force to be reckoned with in the eastern Mediterranean, it lacks the economic and military capabilities required to fulfill the role of an uncontested regional hegemon.

Ultimately, the US remains the Middle East's main military power and an indispensable guarantor of regional stability - despite its Gulf allies' fears and its withdrawal from Afghanistan. The US, with its NATO allies, is uniquely positioned to push back against anti-status quo powers, from Iran to Turkey to Russia, and ensure freedom of navigation in the eastern Mediterranean.

But direct confrontation would breed only chaos, with potentially catastrophic results. Instead, the US should use its unique position to convince the EMGF, in which it is an observer, to reach a modus vivendi with Turkey, offering it some path to membership and eventually also a stake in exploration and a revenue-sharing deal. In short, the US must display the same kind of balanced diplomacy it has often used to prevent confrontation between its own "friend-enemies" (US allies but enemies among themselves) in East Asia.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

OPINION

By Eric Posner

The Antitrust War's Opening Salvo

CHICAGO - US President Joe Biden's new executive order on "Promoting Competition in the American Economy" is more significant for what it says than for what it does. In fact, the order doesn't actually order anything. Rather, it "encourages" federal agencies with authority over market competition to use their existing legal powers to do something about the growing problem of monopoly and cartelization in the United States. In some cases, the relevant agencies are asked merely to "consider" ramping up enforcement; in others, they are directed to issue regulations, but the content of those regulations remains largely up to them.

Nonetheless, it would be a mistake to dismiss the order's tentative language as mere rhetoric. Antitrust is the main body of law governing market competition in the US, and it has been the object of sustained attack by business interests and conservative intellectuals for more than 50 years. Biden is the first president since Harry Truman to take a strong public anti-monopoly stand, and he has backed it up by appointing ardent anti-monopoly advocates to his government.

The executive order is ambitious in its scope and style. In strongly worded passages, it accuses businesses of monopolistic and unfair practices in major industries, including technology, agriculture, health care, and telecommunications. It laments the decline of government antitrust enforcement, and identifies numerous harms that have resulted - including economic stagnation and rising inequality.

The order also establishes a new bureaucratic organization in the White House to lead the anti-monopoly effort. Demanding a "whole-of-government" approach, it calls on the vast resources of numerous agencies, and not just the two that traditionally oversee antitrust (the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission).

Still, the Biden administration's antitrust agenda will face significant judicial obstacles. Over the past 40 years, an increasingly business-friendly Supreme Court has gutted antitrust law. In ruling after ruling, it has weakened the standards used to evaluate anti-competitive behavior; raised the burden of bringing an antitrust case; limited the types of antitrust victims who are allowed to bring cases; allowed businesses to use arbitration clauses to protect themselves from class action lawsuits; and much else.

On top of that, the Supreme Court has disseminated throughout the judiciary a generalized suspicion of antitrust claims. Judges at all levels have absorbed an academic skepticism about antitrust law that is now 30 years out of date. Accordingly, business plaintiffs are usually seen as sore losers who have resorted to the law because they were beaten in the marketplace. Consumer cases are attributed to the machinations of trial lawyers. The pretexts businesses offer for their anti-competitive practices are swallowed whole.

So, while Biden is right that "federal government inaction" is partly to blame for the decline in antitrust enforcement, there is little that his (or any) administration can do unless it has the courts on its side. This probably accounts for the order's careful language. Agencies like the DOJ and the FTC would surely like to enforce antitrust laws more vigorously than in the past, but they are not going to commit resources to bringing cases that will fail in court.

Still, there are grounds for optimism in the near term, because the executive order has broken new ground with what it says about labor. For the first time ever, a US president has declared that antitrust law should be brought to bear against employers.

Unlike the tech, agriculture, and health-care sectors, labor markets received virtually no attention from the federal government until just a few years ago, and only baby steps have been taken since then. But as Biden's executive order acknowledges, "Consolidation has increased the power of corporate employers, making it harder for workers to bargain for higher wages and better work conditions."

This new focus reflects the influence of recent economic research showing that countless labor markets have become dominated by a handful of employers. Such concentration is partly the result of mergers and partly the result of the natural growth of large businesses, which often locate plants and warehouses in thinly populated areas where there is little competition for workers. Under these conditions, employers have the upper hand, resulting not only in lower incomes for workers but also in less economic activity and output, higher prices, and greater inequality.

Employers have also entered into anti-competitive agreements with one another to fix wages or to refrain from poaching each other's employees. Back in 2010, Apple, Google, and other major tech firms received a slap on the wrist when it was discovered that they had agreed not to recruit one another's software engineers. But a spate of more recent cases, including several criminal indictments brought against employers, indicates that the 2010 case was no anomaly.

There is also important new research showing that non-compete clauses that block workers from securing employment with their employers' competitors have become ubiquitous. Biden's executive order rightly mentions these clauses, which prevent workers from credibly threatening to quit when bargaining for higher wages. While these agreements supposedly protect trade secrets, that justification beggars belief, given that they also cover unskilled workers who have no access to such information. Moreover, California is one of the few US states where non-compete clauses are illegal, and it hardly lacks for innovation.

Adam Smith called labor-market collusion "the natural state of things which nobody ever hears of." Fortunately, US courts have acknowledged that antitrust law applies to employment practices, so the federal government has significant scope for enhanced involvement in attacking labor-market abuses. A vigorous federal response could make real progress in helping workers. It is here that Biden's contribution to antitrust enforcement may have its most significant impact.

O-P-E-D

By Jim O'Neill

Getting Serious About Leveling Up

LONDON - Earlier this month, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson gave a speech in Coventry about what seems to have become his signature policy initiative: "leveling up" the local and regional economies that have increasingly fallen behind that of London and the United Kingdom's southeast.

Having previously chaired the independent commission that gave rise to Prime Minister David Cameron's Northern Powerhouse plan, I remain heavily focused on the same goal. The original commission had looked into the disjointed pattern of urban growth across the UK. After we released our recommendations, I was invited by Cameron and then-Chancellor George Osborne to serve as the Northern Powerhouse minister in the Treasury; and since leaving government in 2016, I have been a vice chair of the independent Northern Powerhouse Partnership.

Moreover, I recently became the chair of Northern Gritstone, a new private "patient capital" firm that will invest in start-ups emerging from northern English universities, primarily (but not limited to) those of Leeds, Manchester, and Sheffield. While these institutions regularly rank among the top 200 in the world, they are located in low-productivity areas that suffer from a scarcity of fast-growing, high-earning businesses. That means there are ample opportunities for investment.

In his speech, Johnson alluded to a forthcoming white paper on his government's plans for leveling up. If and when that document comes, one hopes that it will offer a clear definition of success and a coherent strategy for achieving it. As Johnson noted in his speech, the gap between the UK's most and least prosperous areas has been growing. "It is an astonishing fact," he observed, "that 31 years after German unification, the per capita GDP of the North East of our country, Yorkshire, the East Midlands, Wales, and Northern Ireland is now lower than in what was formerly East Germany."

Though Johnson can reel off many powerful examples to illustrate the UK's shocking inequalities, his proposals for solving the problem are less impressive. Based on what we have seen, it is hardly surprising that so many commentators are skeptical.

Obviously, nobody opposes the basic idea of "leveling up" the UK economy. The question is how it will be done, and how progress will be measured. Is Johnson's government focusing merely on per capita GDP, with victory to be declared when people in the northeast are earning as much on average as people in London?

This wouldn't do, because, as Johnson notes, large parts of Greater London have also fallen dramatically behind the capital's more successful areas. If leveling up is to be achieved without leveling down anyone else, boosting per capita GDP across Greater London would create an even larger gap between London and the northeast.

Further complicating matters is the issue of living standards. There are massive differences in house prices depending on where one looks. Residents of the southeast - notably of places like Cambridge - may pay so much for housing that their real disposable incomes are below those of others who earn less elsewhere.

Instead of targeting only per capita GDP, perhaps the government could focus on life expectancy. Some of Johnson's most vivid anecdotes highlight the shocking geographical differences in how long people typically live. But it is unclear how, precisely, this public policy would target this metric.

In any case, given that the same party that controlled the previous two governments - including the one that introduced the Northern Powerhouse plan - is still in power, allow me to share what I think the forthcoming white paper should spell out. First, the government needs to explain how it will measure progress and success. In my view, a better choice than per capita GDP would be regional productivity, because this both correlates strongly with per capita GDP and captures a range of other desirable social objectives.

I would also like to see the Johnson government link its goals to those of its predecessors and offer a foundation upon which future governments can build. In one of Johnson's earliest speeches as prime minister, he announced a plan to introduce a "Northern Powerhouse Growth Board." But this ambition has apparently vanished; in fact, the words "northern powerhouse" did not appear even once in his latest speech.

Similarly, while Johnson and his ministers have previously spoken with gusto about introducing Northern Powerhouse Rail, that project wasn't mentioned, either, even when the speech touched directly on infrastructure and trains. That omission would seem to confirm rumors that the government is abandoning the NPR project, just as it did the growth board.

Johnson also appears suddenly to be favoring small towns rather than big urban areas. This might be politically expedient, but it will not necessarily help to improve national performance. If leveling up the UK economy is the objective, the government will need to bring all regions' productivity up to the same level as London's. Here, it could consult the recommendations of the 2013-14 RSA City Growth Commission, which examined urban areas with at least 500,000 inhabitants.

A final crucial factor is education. Johnson listed many failures in this domain, and it is the area that most economists would put first in a strategy to achieve sustained productivity growth and socioeconomic fairness. But the government's ambitions seem to be limited to advocating academies (government-funded independent schools) and recruitment of better teachers. It is blatantly obvious to everyone who works in, or relies on, the education sector that much more is needed to help left-behind areas.

Let us hope that the coming white paper offers a proper policy framework, with targets for which the government can be held to account. To level up the UK economy, Johnson must first level up rhetoric and substance.

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

+231 (0)886618906/776583266/samuelosophy@yahoo.com, samuelosophy1@gmail.com

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 MGCS’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 MGCS for reimbursement with a “little interest” (to cover the transport fare spent by the money changer to get to the MGCS) 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

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Capsized canoe leaves 47-yr-oldman missing

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County

A 47-year-old man has reportedly gone missing after a fishing canoe capsized off the shores of Maryland County, Southeast Liberia.

Mr. Boye Quire and his colleagues were returning from a fishing expedition on Monday, July 19, 2021 when the canoe bringing them reportedly capsized.

Some survivors who spoke to reporters narrated that the canoe capsized suddenly after its 15powerhorse machine stopped.

They noted that the machine hit a rock near the

They said though the fishing community and others launched a massive search without any success, family members of the missing fisherman are currently in tears, calling on local authorities, including the fishing union to intervene.

The family relates its nightmare to the situation of the NIKO IVANKA vessel that sunk Saturday, July 17, 2021 off the shores of Maryland County, leaving about eight persons reportedly missing.

According to the Liberia Maritime Commission at about 3:51 PM Saturday, it received an alert from the Liberia Coast Guard through its Monrovia Regional Maritime Rescue

narrated that while on its way to Harper City, the vessel started to take in water about six nautical miles off the coast of Marshall City, Margibi County which prompted an immediate launch of a search and rescue operation by stakeholders in the Maritime sector.

He noted that the Liberia Maritime Commission, the Ministry of National Defense, the Armed Forces of Liberia (Liberia Coast Guard) along with other partners mobilized resources, including assets and personnel, and immediately commenced search and rescue operations as a means of attending to the distressed vessel.

Commissioner Nagbe emphasized that upon the request of LiMA, ArcelorMittal Liberia, Sea Shepard and other partners were immediately contacted in order to utilize their assets to assist in the search and rescue operations.

Nagbe continued that ArcelorMittal Liberia responded with two boats with coast guard personnel onboard from the Port of Buchanan in Grand Bassa County to the scene of the incident between Buchanan and Marshall Cities.

Meanwhile, Nagbe disclosed that the vessel NIKO IVANKA was under detention and not allowed to sail prior to the incident.

According to the Maritime boss, the vessel throughout its existence has not been licensed to operate as a passenger carrier, noting that the Maritime Authority along with all of the relevant entities, including the Ministry of Justice, are commissioning an investigation into how a vessel that was detained because of failure to meet rudimentary safety requirements managed to get on the sea with passengers and cargo. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Coordination Center of a distress situation onboard the NIKO IVANKA.

Addressing a news conference at the Liberia Coast Guard Base on Bushrod Island, in Monrovia, Maritime Commissioner General and also national coordinator for search and rescue in Liberia, Lenn Eugene Nagbe said the NIKO IVANKA vessel departed the Freeport of Monrovia for Harper on Saturday, July 17, at about 6:00 A.M. with nine crewmembers and nine personnel of the West African Examination Council (WAEC) Monrovia Office onboard.

Commissioner Nagbe



shores of the Port of Harper when the canoe lost control and capsized.

"We had tried but no way so we all were left with no option but rather to swim for survival", they said, and added that members of the fishing community, including residents of Maryland County are worried about the whereabouts of their colleague who has gone missing.

"We are confused about the situation because it's the first time for some of us to experience this type of trouble while on the ocean."

Rep. Gahr opts for war crimes court, instead

By Ramsey N. Singbeh, Jr. in Margibi

Margibi County District # 5 Representative Clarence G. Gahr, signatory to resolution in the House, calling for establishment of a war and economic crimes court for Liberia, says such court is necessary to serve as deterrence for other would-be warmongers.

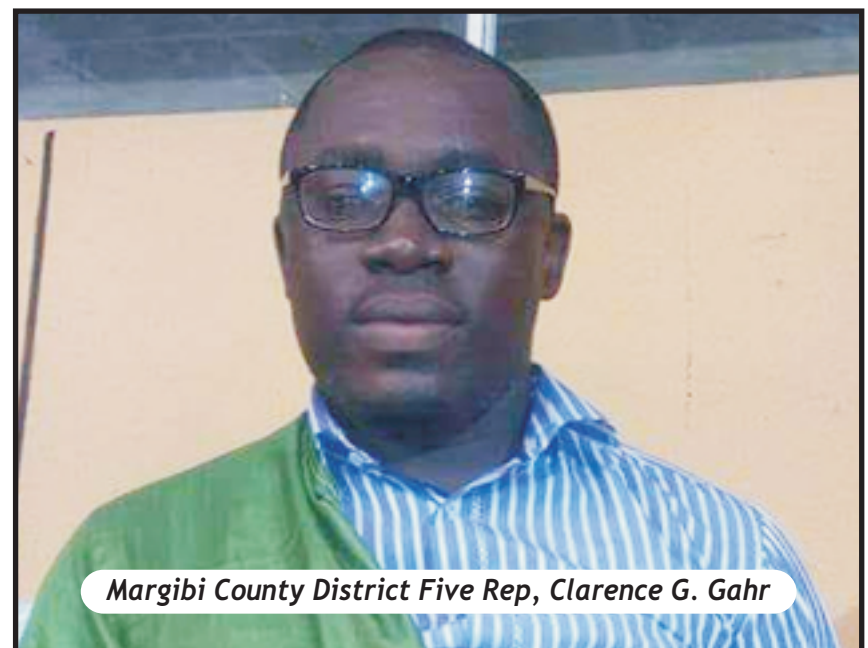
He warns that if care is not taken, there could be a recurrence of violence in the country nastier than ever before.

Speaking recently in his district with journalists, Representative Gahr warned, "If we do not set deterrence, the reoccurrence of war will be very soon and people will feel that is the only means to portray themselves into power. And if we are not careful, in case of any outbreak of civil war here, it

weaker. He made reference to neighboring Sierra Leone, noting that they could have all their misunderstandings, but nobody will think about going to the forest because those who committed heinous war crimes all felt the weight.

Sierra Leone had a special UN-backed war crimes court that tried and prosecuted former Liberian President Charles Ghankay Taylor for aiding and abetting former RUF rebels along with scores of Sierra Leoneans.

Representative Gahr continues that some people claim there should be other ways of handling matters in Liberia because some of the doers acted while liberating the Liberian people and there is interrelationship, but notes they also failed to realize those same so-called liberators killed more



Margibi County District Five Rep, Clarence G. Gahr

will be even nastier than before."

He continues: "During those days there was no telephone, imagine the number of killings they did, what's next about today telephone that for example, they're looking for Clarence Gahr in Monrovia, Clarence ran and came for rescue in Weala, someone can just leave there and say the man you're looking for he's here oo."

He says the real truth is that any recurrence of the civil unrest in Liberia will be more chaotic than any other thing. The lawmaker maintains Liberians should not hail people who killed their compatriots and took the country backward.

According to him, they in the House will support the establishment of the court and whether someone likes it or not, he particularly will support the process, pointing that the war has exposed our security system and made it

than 250,000 citizens.

He cites for instance, there was fighting at Graystone or near the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia but LURD rebels fired rockets among defenseless civilians and killed them unnecessarily, adding that that most of the people did what they did during the war because of personal greed.

"So the real truth here is if you said what was said during the Accra Peace Agreement, the Accra Peace Accord, that it will be settled through peace hut, ok we hold it constant but you said you came to liberate people, the people you came to liberate, how many civilians you killed?"

The Margibi lawmaker narrates that it was not people's fault to come from specific ethnic groups or it is not a crime for someone to render service(s) to the country, which were some of the reasons why people were killed. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*



GOOD LEGACY SOCIAL & ATHLETIC ORGANIZATION SAYS:

Let's Prevent the spread of CORONAVIRUS NOW!

By Following the Health Regulations



WASHING YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY



MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING



WEAR YOUR FACE-MASK



HOTLINE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 4455

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Pres. Weah receives Letters of Credence from two new Ambassadors

President George Manneh Weah on Wednesday, 21 July 2021 received Letters of Credence from the diplomats of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Republic of Ghana.

Receiving the Letters of Credence from the new

praised his Nigerian counterpart for his leadership role in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and for steadily fulfilling the organization's goal of maintaining regional peace and security and promoting trade and free movement of its peoples.

security, trade and economic growth for the mutual benefits of the two countries," President Weah said.

He continued: "You are here at the time Liberia and the world are going through [a] crisis, notably the COVID-19 Pandemic. Together, we can overcome this menace."

Ambassador Odudigbo commended President Weah for his fruitful leadership in Liberia and the sub-region, and assured him of his support as a direct representative of the people and government of Nigeria.

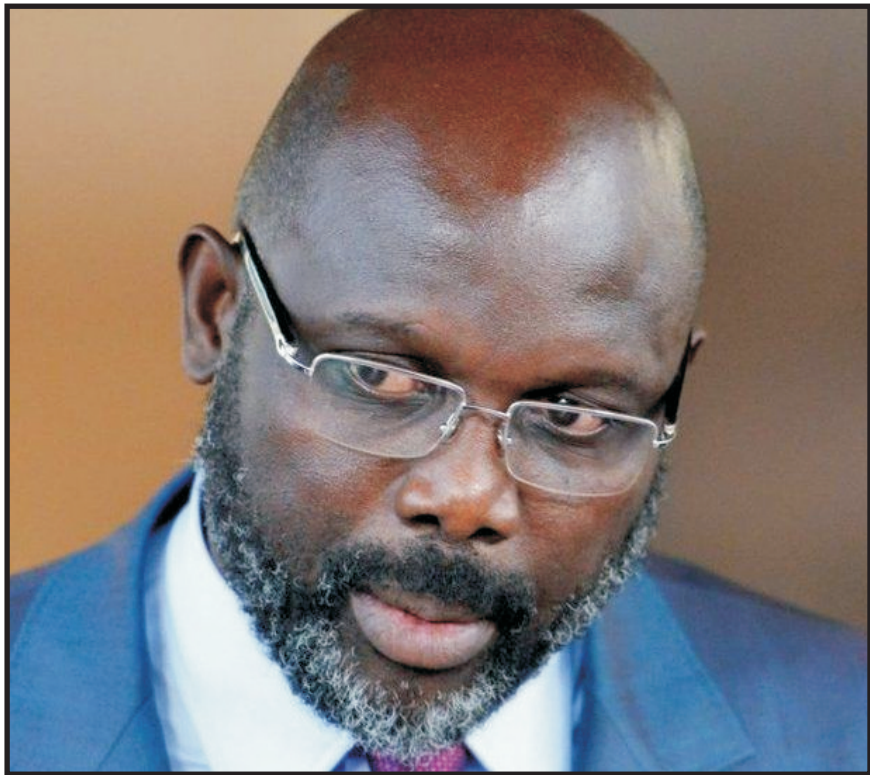
"Under your leadership, Liberia is peaceful and investors from Nigeria and other West African states and beyond are experiencing the noble impact," the Nigerian Ambassador asserted.

"Your pro-poor agenda for prosperity and development is an ideal platform for Liberia's development and stability. I will work with you and the Government of Liberia to promote bilateral and multilateral collaborations," he added

Also receiving the Letters of Credence from the new Ghanaian Ambassador, H.E. Kwabena Okubi-Appiah, President Weah spoke fondly of the historic and mutually beneficial relations between Liberia and Ghana.

"Let us work together to foster local and international

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mr. Godfrey A. E. Odudigbo, President Weah thanked President Muhammadu Buhari and the people of Nigeria for being Liberia's true friends in times of crises and peace.

President Weah also

President Weah, on behalf of the Government and people of Liberia, welcomed the new Nigerian Ambassador.

"Liberia's relationship with President Buhari and the People of Nigeria is enviable. I am sure your presence here will further strengthen and increase our partnership for lasting peace,

Liberia's national interpretation of RSPO principles and criteria takes effect

Liberia's 'National Interpretation of the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) Principles and Criteria' is now effective following its endorsement by the certification body's Board of Governors and publication on its official website.

This comes after a comprehensive process to meet all the requirements stipulated in the formulation of the interpretation, including roadshows and public consultations to solicit opinions and participation from the general public.

The RSPO certification is a global standard that assures consumers that the palm oil produced is of good quality and was produced in a sustainable manner.

Together with Conservation International, a nonprofit environmental organization, Solidaridad,

through its Sustainable West Africa Palm Oil Programme funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Ghana, worked with several multi-stakeholder groups from diverse sectors to ensure that all the required procedures, communications and actions were taken and properly documented.

In October 2019, Solidaridad, through the National Oil Palm Platform of Liberia (NOPPOL), guided and supported the formulation of a National Interpretation Working Group (NIWG) to develop the interpretation draft.

This followed a series of technical sessions, including consultation with relevant groups, such as the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Liberia Land Authority, Environmental Protection Agency, Forestry Development Authority, the oil palm concessionaires, and smallholder oil palm

representatives.

The sessions ensured that the draft accurately reflects the nature of the industry in Liberia, particularly national legislation and customs, while maintaining and strengthening the integrity of the RSPO requirements for certification.

With this milestone, oil palm farmers and processors who will be certified will be able to sell at premium prices on the international market, and have a sustainable supply of traceable fresh fruit bunches and crude palm oil.

Liberia will also be able to protect its forest lands as the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil discourages the depletion of forests for oil palm cultivation.

The RSPO Principles and Criteria will also ensure that oil palm farmers reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, manage their waste better,

Lonestar Cell MTN brings its services to the people

Lonestar Cell MTN's services are now mobile in Monrovia. Liberia's leading telecommunications company is bringing its services to customers in their communities with the Lonestar Cell MTN Kekeh.

The yellow Lonestar Cell MTN branded kekeh has a specially designed customer service window to engage customers and conduct transactions.

A customer experience representative sitting behind the window can register or swap SIM Cards, conduct Mobile Money cash-in and cash-out transactions, activate data, reset mobile

customers. The news service began operations three weeks ago and has helped nearly 500 customers with their transactions and purchases.

On a recent visit to the Old Road/Joe Bah Market area, the Customer

Experience Representative provided services to some United Brotherhood Motorcyclist Association (UBMA) members.

This Association boasts over 200 motorcyclists. UBMA President, Ritchie Smith, said that he was happy about the Lonestar Cell MTN Services on the Go. Because the mobile service came to the area, Mr. Smith became a new customer.



money PINs, and more. Customers can even purchase scratch cards, routers, and cell phones during visits.

Thomas I. Findley, the company's Customer Experience Manager, said, "Our challenge was providing service to valued customers who can't get to our service centers during the working week. So, we decided to bring our services to them."

Each day Lonestar Cell MTN's Kekeh travels to Sinkor and other Monrovia communities including, Somalia Drive, Congo Two, Duala, Vai Town, Matadi, New Georgia, and Barndersville Estates, to serve its

He purchased and registered his new Lonestar Cell MTN SIM card at the Kekeh.

"I work from 5 am to 10 pm. I don't have the time to go to the Lonestar Cell MTN Service Center. It's a far distance. I am happy that the company brought their services to me, here at the motorbike parking.

Lonestar Cell MTN Chief Executive Officer Rahul De said, "Our ambition is to make our customers live a modern and connective life. So, we create relevant and practical solutions that provide great service and convenience to our loyal customers. We will go everywhere our customers are to ensure they are connected."

reduce usage of pesticides and workplace accidents, improve compliance with regulatory requirements, respect land rights acts, and refrain from child labour practice, among others.

J. Cyrus Saygbe, Sr., Solidaridad programme manager for oil palm in Liberia, said this was a major

achievement under the Sustainable West Africa Palm Oil Programme (SWAPP), which seeks to transform the oil palm sector in West Africa through ensuring sustainable production by building the capacity and increasing the incomes of farmers, processors and other

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

Français

« Les gens veulent une révolution dans ce pays », L'imam Krayee

Le chef du Conseil des imams du Libéria, Ali Krayee, met en garde la communauté chrétienne, qui, selon lui, semble vouloir provoquer une révolution religieuse au Libéria en s'opposant à la quête des musulmans de faire de leurs fêtes, des jours fériés.

« Même les gens ordinaires, lorsque les musulmans parlent de leurs jours fériés, ils se moquent de eux », s'est offusqué l'homme de Dieu.

Dans son sermon du jour de la Tabaski le mardi 20 juillet 2021 à la mosquée Benson Street à Monrovia, l'imam Krayee a exprimé sa frustration face au fait que lorsque les musulmans parlent de leurs jours fériés, c'est comme s'ils étaient des étrangers qui en demandaient trop dans le pays.

« Les gens provoquent la révolution dans ce pays... J'ai l'impression comme s'ils veulent voir une sorte

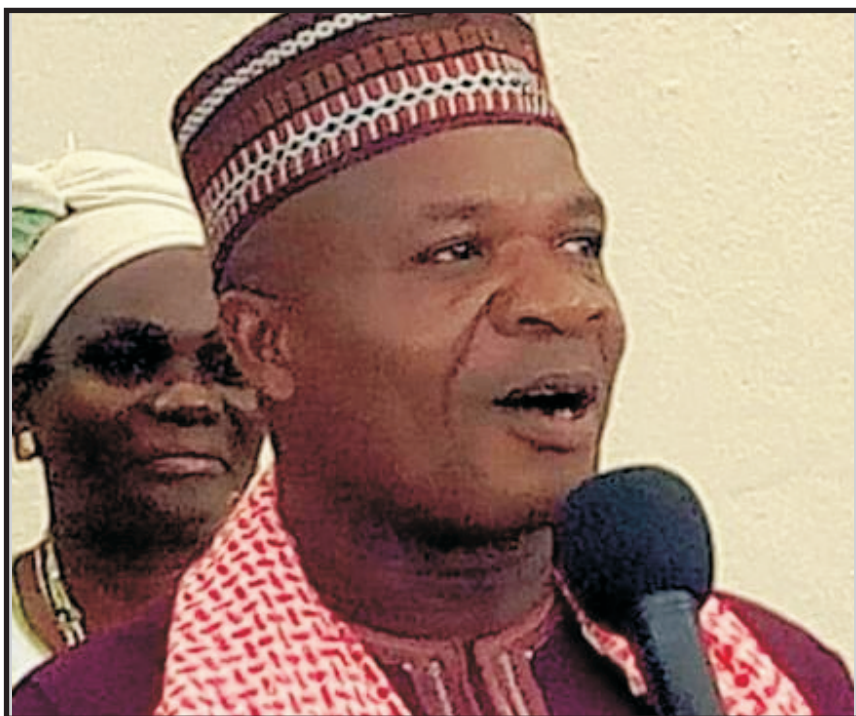
d'action », a-t-il dit. « Si cette nation continue de semer la discorde et la discrimination, elle récoltera la discrimination », a-t-il prévenu, avant d'exiger que la question des fêtes musulmans soit résolue d'ici l'année prochaine, d'ici le prochain Ramadan, « il y aura la liberté pour tout le monde ou la liberté pour personne ».

L'imam Krayee a tenu ces propos au moment où les

activités djihadistes islamiques se multiplient en Afrique de l'Ouest et dans la région du Sahel, qui ont entraîné la destruction continue de vies et de biens et ont accru la menace pour la sécurité nationale dans les pays touchés.

Le Libéria a une paix fragile après des décennies de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Les autorités sanitaires ont retourné l'argent de Dillon

Les autorités sanitaires de Monrovia ont restitué les 7 500 USD que leur avait récemment donnés le sénateur Darius Dillon du comté de Montserrado. L'argent fait partie d'un montant initial des 15 000 \$ US qu'il a reçu chacun des 103 législateurs de Capitol Hill, soit un total de 1 545 000 \$ US pour le soi-disant « engagement législatif » sur fond de critiques.

Les législateurs ont encore

reçu la semaine dernière 15 000 dollars US chacun, ce qui porte le total à près de 4 millions de dollars US.

Le Dr Wapoe a retourné l'argent qui était accompagné d'une lettre du bureau de la ministre de la Santé, Dr Wilhelmina Jallah.

La ministre de la Santé a expliqué dans sa lettre que lors de la réunion de l'équipe de gestion des incidents le dimanche 19 juin 2021, elle a été informée par le Dr Wapoe de

l'argent reçu du sénateur Dillon, mais elle a dit que, bien qu'elle apprécie le geste, elle ne peut accepter ledon.

« Nous sommes conscients que les membres de l'Assemblée législative ont reçu 15 000 \$ à des fins non clairement définies. Nous encourageons donc fermement le sénateur à considérer d'autres priorités plutôt que d'entraîner l'IMS dans la controverse de 15 000 \$ », a dit la ministre Jallah.

Cependant, les critiques disent qu'en aucun cas le ministre ne devrait rejeter de l'argent jugé légitime au milieu d'une pandémie mortelle et de sérieuses contraintes financières, en particulier de la part d'un sénateur en exercice. Beaucoup pensent que la ministre Jallah veut politiser le secteur de la santé en rendant l'argent du sénateur Dillon parce qu'il est de l'opposition.

La ministre Jallah a déclaré que l'IMS reçoit des dons de particuliers et d'organisations, notant que dans ce cas, l'IMS est prudent quant aux sources des fonds.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



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 contre-poids est relégué et que les législateurs se régalaient avec 30 000 \$ US chacun dans leurs poches.

Français

« Les gens veulent une révolution

crise au cours de laquelle des centaines de milliers de personnes sont mortes et des infrastructures totalement détruites.

Des années d'immense assistance de la communauté internationale après la guerre civile ont apporté un certain niveau de transformation qui permet désormais à l'armée du pays, autrefois dissoute, de participer à des opérations de maintien de la paix dans certains pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest, dont le Mali qui est en proie au djihadisme islamique.

Dans ses propos à l'égard des chefs religieux de la communauté chrétienne, l'imam Krayee a averti que les prédicateurs du « feu du Saint-Esprit » seront les premiers à sauter par les fenêtres et à fuir le Libéria le jour où le véritable feu surviendra.

« Non, continuez avec votre agitation, vous n'êtes pas notre problème. Continuez à prêcher votre feu du Saint-Esprit, mais sachez que le jour où le vrai feu viendra ici vous sauterez par la fenêtre et serez le premier à fuir ce pays car votre Saint-Esprit ne pourra pas arrêter le feu que vous provoquez... », a prévenu Krayee.

Il a cependant précisé que cet incendie qu'il prédit ne viendra pas des musulmans, car les musulmans continueront d'être des hommes épris de paix dans ce pays. « Nous n'avons aucun problème avec les prédicateurs de Holy Ghost Fire, mais avec le gouvernement du Libéria. Les musulmans n'ont pas le temps pour l'agitation des prédicateurs du feu du Saint-Esprit parce que certains

d'entre eux perdent du terrain face à leurs homologues nigériens et veulent gagner en pertinence aux dépens de la communauté musulmane ».

« Et vous voulez utiliser la question des fêtes musulmanes pour collecter des fonds auprès de votre peuple à l'étranger et dans votre pays », a-t-il déclaré.

Selon l'imam Krayee, il y a des pasteurs qui se font appeler des disciples de Jésus-Christ alors qu'ils n'ont rien d'un humble serviteur de Dieu. « Ils nous font croire en la Bible qui dit : 'fais aux autres ce que tu veux qu'ils te fassent' ».

Pour rappel, le mardi 15 juin 2021, les évêques des églises du Libéria ont rencontré le président pro tempore du Sénat libérien Albert Chie, pour l'exhorter à ne pas approuver les projets de loi religieux soumis par le sénateur du comté Edwin M. Snowe qui veut faire des fêtes religieuses des jours fériés au Libéria.

M. Snowe, dans ses projets de loi, souhaite que le jour de la fête du Ramadan et la Tabaski, deux fêtes religieuses de la foi musulmane, et le lundi de Pâques, qui est également observé par la foi chrétienne ici, soient légiférés comme jours fériés nationaux au Libéria.

Suite à leur rencontre avec le Sénat libérien, les évêques ont déclaré que « le Libéria est un pays pacifique, et ainsi le travail des religieux doit consister à continuer de prier pour la paix et la stabilité ».

Le christianisme est de loin la foi la plus répandue au Libéria, selon des enquêtes récentes, qui ont montré que les chrétiens représentent 83 à 86% de la population, une augmentation significative par rapport aux enquêtes des années 1980. En revanche, l'islam a légèrement diminué, passant de 15% dans les années 1980 à 12% dans des enquêtes récentes.

Les autorités sanitaires

Elle a ajouté que l'IMS attend avec impatience une allocation budgétaire supplémentaire pour renforcer la lutte contre le virus mortel.

L'argent a été reçu par Abel Plakie, responsable politique au bureau du sénateur Dillon du comté de Montserrado. M. Plakie a déclaré que l'argent avait été donné dans le cadre de la lutte contre le coronavirus.

Il accuse le pouvoir exécutif d'avoir cependant décidé de politiser le geste de son patron, le sénateur Dillon. « C'est dégoûtant, nous ne serons pas découragés, nous

continuerons à faire ce qui est bien pour le peuple libérien. D'autres centres de santé sont ici, des maisons de retraite sont toutes disponibles et ont besoin d'aide », a dit Plakie.

Critique sévère de l'administration Weah, le sénateur Dillon est apparemment étouffé par l'argent controversé, ayant décrit le parlement libérien comme un repère de corrompus, tout en se présentant comme la « lumière » et le seul homme intègre au Sénat. Mais lui aussi a reçu 30 000 \$ US dont la légitimité est devenue controversée.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Shlomo Ben-ami

Gérer un nouvel ordre au Moyen-Orient

TELAVIV - À travers le Moyen-Orient, les alliances se redessinent actuellement de manières inattendues. Que signifie cette nouvelle configuration pour une région qui semble éternellement évoluer sur un chemin étroit entre guerre et paix ?

Les évolutions en cours résultent en grande partie de l'influence croissante de l'Iran. Craignant en effet que leur allié de longue date, les États-Unis, n'agisse pas suffisamment pour endiguer la montée en puissance de l'Iran, les pays du Golfe échangent de plus en plus avec la République islamique, tout en nouant des relations de sécurité plus poussées avec Israël. Dans le même temps, les relations historiquement étroites entre deux grandes puissances régionales, Arabie saoudite et Émirats arabes unis, se font de plus en plus tendues.

Mais l'Iran ne constitue pas le seul facteur en présence. En Méditerranée orientale, la découverte de réserves énergétiques dans les eaux israéliennes, chypriotes et égyptiennes ces dix dernières années a rapproché de vieux ennemis. La Jordanie a ainsi conclu un contrat sur 15 ans pour l'achat de gaz à Israël, malgré des tensions politiques entre les deux pays.

Pourtant riche en gaz, l'Égypte elle-même s'approvisionne auprès d'Israël - une inversion majeure puisqu'il y a dix ans encore, l'Égypte fournissait 40 % du gaz d'Israël - afin de renforcer son statut de pôle de transit énergétique. (Plusieurs grandes puissances telles que les Émirats arabes unis et le Qatar ont également acquis une participation dans des gisements de gaz en Méditerranée, dans l'espoir de pouvoir contourner le canal de Suez).

Une communauté est-méditerranéenne des énergies est en train d'apparaître. Le tout premier Forum du gaz de la Méditerranée orientale (EMGF) s'est tenu au Caire en 2019. L'an dernier, ce forum est devenu une organisation intergouvernementale, composée de membres particulièrement divers : Chypre, Égypte, Grèce, Israël, Italie, France, Jordanie et Autorité palestinienne.

L'idée que pourrait ainsi émerger une union politico-économique en Méditerranée orientale peut sembler improbable. Or, ce ne serait pas la première fois qu'une alliance de sécurité énergétique donnerait naissance à une communauté stratégique régionale : la Communauté économique européenne est bel et bien née de la Communauté européenne du charbon et de l'acier dans les années 1950.

Israël, pour ne citer qu'un exemple, a tout intérêt à continuer d'approfondir son engagement auprès de partenaires en Méditerranée orientale. D'ores et déjà, la Grèce autorise l'accès à son espace aérien pour les exercices de l'armée de l'air d'Israël, en échange de gaz, de technologies de défense, et de renseignements militaires israéliens. Au mois d'avril, la Grèce a accueilli un exercice international au cours duquel un appareil des Émirats arabes unis a volé aux côtés d'avions de chasse israéliens. Ainsi, Israël pourrait atteindre en Méditerranée orientale un niveau d'approfondissement stratégique que le pays n'a jamais obtenu au Moyen-Orient continental.

Un pays se montre particulièrement absent des récents efforts d'approfondissement de la coopération en Méditerranée orientale. La Turquie connaît des tensions maritimes avec la Grèce pour ainsi dire depuis que les deux États existent, Turquie et Grèce évoluant aujourd'hui à couteaux tirés dans leurs revendications concurrentes sur des réserves énergétiques situées dans des eaux disputées.

La Grèce fait partie de deux blocs qui s'opposent à la Turquie : l'un avec Chypre et l'Égypte, l'autre avec Chypre et Israël. Ce deuxième groupe a convenu en janvier 2020 de bâtir un pipeline en Méditerranée orientale, pour acheminer du gaz vers l'Europe,

réduisant ainsi la dépendance de l'Union européenne vis-à-vis des approvisionnements russes. Pour la Turquie, qui cherche depuis longtemps à se positionner au cœur d'un corridor énergétique entre la Méditerranée orientale et l'Europe, il s'agit là d'une très mauvaise nouvelle.

Les relations entre la Turquie et ses alliés de l'OTAN en Europe sont d'ores et déjà très dégradées. L'été dernier, plusieurs navires turcs ont pénétré les eaux disputées situées entre les îles grecques de Rhodes et Kastellorizo, ce qui a conduit la Grèce à déployer dans la zone la quasi-totalité de sa flotte navale, appuyée par un contingent naval français. Seule l'intervention de la chancelière allemande Angela Merkel a permis d'éviter un incident majeur.

À ce stade, les velléités turques d'adhésion à l'UE sont quasiment enterrées. Le pays ne voit pas non plus aboutir ses efforts visant à endosser une plus grande rôle stratégique au Moyen-Orient. En 2019, lorsque la Turquie a conclu un accord avec le gouvernement internationalement reconnu de la Libye, conduit par le Premier ministre Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, pour la défense d'une zone économique exclusive appartenant à la Libye en vertu du droit maritime, c'était en partie pour veiller à ce qu'aucun projet de l'EMGF dans la région ne puisse l'exclure.

Plus largement, la Libye est devenue le théâtre d'une confrontation idéologique dans laquelle la Turquie, aux côtés du Qatar, prend parti pour Dbeibah, vieil allié des Frères musulmans et des groupes salafistes, et dans laquelle l'Égypte et les Émirats arabes unis soutiennent le commandant de l'Armée nationale libyenne, le maréchal Khalifa Haftar. La Russie combat elle aussi aux côtés des forces rebelles d'Haftar en Libye, en vertu d'une stratégie régionale dans laquelle la dimension énergétique intervient tout autant que la dimension géopolitique.

La Russie possède une participation de 30 % dans le gisement gazier offshore égyptien de Zohr, et une participation de 20 % dans une société d'exploration gazière au Liban. Moscou a procédé à l'acquisition d'importantes concessions gazières auprès de son régime-client syrien, et intervient dans plusieurs projets pétroliers et gaziers au Kurdistan irakien. De même, le pipeline TurkStream, qui approvisionne la Turquie, a été lancé l'an dernier.

La Russie espère maintenir l'UE dépendante de son gaz, et créer un nouveau corridor gazier vers le sud-est de l'Europe. La menace que cela représente pour les intérêts occidentaux clés demeure toutefois maîtrisable. Bien que la Russie constitue une puissance à prendre en considération en Méditerranée orientale, elle manque des capacités économiques et militaires nécessaires pour endosser le rôle d'hégémonie régionale incontestée.

Enfin, les États-Unis demeurent la principale puissance militaire au Moyen-Orient, ainsi qu'un garant indispensable de la stabilité régionale - malgré les craintes de leurs alliés du Golfe concernant leur retrait d'Afghanistan. Les États-Unis, aux côtés de leurs alliés de l'OTAN, sont les mieux positionnés pour contrer les puissances de l'anti-statu quo, Iran, Turquie et Russie, ainsi que pour assurer la liberté de navigation en Méditerranée orientale.

Une confrontation directe ne ferait toutefois qu'engendrer le chaos, avec des conséquences potentiellement catastrophiques. Les États-Unis doivent davantage user de leur position unique pour convaincre l'EMGF, dont ils sont membres observateurs, d'aboutir à un modus vivendi avec la Turquie, en lui proposant un chemin vers l'adhésion, puis une participation à l'exploration ainsi qu'un accord de partage des recettes. Autrement dit, les États-Unis doivent faire preuve de la même forme de diplomatie que celle qu'ils ont souvent employée pour empêcher une confrontation entre leurs propres « amis-ennemis » (alliés de l'Amérique mais ennemis entre eux) en Asie de l'Est.

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

Samukai, prosecutors battle at Supreme Court

By Winston W. Parley

State lawyers and convicted former Defense Minister Brownie J. Samukai's lawyers battled at the Supreme Court on Wednesday as the Lofa County Senator - elect tried to overturn a prohibition which hangs over his certification.

The arguments before the full bench of the Supreme Court surrounds his appeal against Chamber Justice Joseph Nagbe's granting of government's request to deny him certification on the basis of his conviction in a criminal trial.

Justice Nagbe presided over two petitions filed separately by the Movement for Progressive Change (MPC) and the Ministry of Justice against Samukai's planned certification by the National Elections Commission (NEC) as Lofa Senator, and ruled in each of the cases by blocking the certification process.

The Court is expected to consolidate the two cases and make a ruling following the parties argument on Wednesday, 21 July 2021.

Early this month, Supreme Court Justice in Chambers Nagbe granted the Justice Ministry's request to disallow Mr. Samukai's certification by the NEC, after

administration.

The MPC asked the Justice - in - Chambers Nagbe to disallow Samukai's certification. In a ruling on 8 February 2021, Liberia's Supreme Court upheld a lower court's ruling but with modification, convicting ex-President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf's longest-serving Defense Minister, now Lofa County Senator-elect Mr. Samukai, and two other former defense officials for the unauthorized spending of soldiers' pension money.

In that ruling, the Supreme Court sentenced former Minister J. Brownie Samukai, his deputy Joseph P. Johnson and Mr. James Nyumah Dorkor to serve a term of two years each in a common jail.

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

Should the defendants fail on these mandates, the Supreme Court said they shall be incarcerated in common jail and remain there until the full amount is



also granting a separate petition for a writ of prohibition filed by MPC against Samukai's certification in May this year.

Justice Nagbe had ordered the NEC to disallow Samukai's certification until the disability imposed on the convicted former Defense Minister is removed according to law.

Mr. Samukai and others have been told to make full settlement of US\$1.147, 656m or (pay) 50 percent within the period of six months of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) private pension saving funds that was said to have been misapplied during his tenure at the Ministry of Defense.

The government said Samukai is a judicially disenfranchised citizen and a convicted felon, therefore he should not be certificated as Senator.

And the MPC of Businessman Simeon Freeman in a separate petition in March this year, contended that Samukai had already been convicted by both a circuit court and the Supreme Court following his trial for misapplying private pension saving funds owned by soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) during his term as Defense Minister in former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf's

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

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

Prior to the Supreme Court's ruling in the criminal case, Mr. Samukai after initially being given a suspended sentence by the Criminal Court "C" won the December 2020 Senatorial election in Lofa County, but had not been seated yet in the Senate due to challenges brought against the election results by his rival.

He won the election-related case at the Supreme Court and the NEC was ordered to certify him before the MPC filed the petition to restrain the commission from the certification process on the basis of Samukai's conviction in the criminal case. -Editing by Othello B. Garblah



Obituary Announcement



Funeral Services Announcements.

The McGill and Siryon 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.

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



Survivor narrates nightmare

The lone survivor of the nine employees of the West African Examination Council that were onboard the vessel NIKO IVANKA that sunk late Saturday, July 17, 2021 near the coast of Marshall City in Margibi County has been recounting his ordeal here.

"It was by God's divine grace and not any human effort that I made it through and I also pray that the same grace by which I was successful will extend to my colleagues who have not yet been found, that they will find them", Mr. Raymond C. Yeon explains to Joy Fm 101.5 on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 in Monrovia via mobile phone.

looming.

"The picture I sent into our chartroom, it was a highly rustic vessel; so the process of even boarding the vessel itself was very risky; the chance of even falling into the pearl was highly likely", he explains.

He says from there, the nine staff of the West African Examination Council (WAEC) Monrovia Office that were onboard lost complete confidence that they would have had a successful sail.

The WAEC staffers were carrying examination papers to Maryland County and other parts of Southeast Liberia when they met their unfortunate fate.

"So as we started to go we began to see those landmarks, but unfortunately as we

staff were mere reflective jackets, lighter than the actual lifejacket.

"They had 12.5 kilograms so if you are a Science student, you convert that it can't hold any grown man", he notes referring the jacket acquired for them to wear onboard the vessel, adding that they cannot even be used in a swimming pool because it is not the original lifejacket normally used during emergency onboard planes, ships or vessels.

Yeon says at that moment when he turned to his right, he saw the entire ocean engulfing the vessel and the cement bags onboard began to slide towards them so he immediately jumped out of



"We got to the pearl around 4pm. The vessel was carrying lots of assorted items from what I did notice, it had cement, those jumbo bags from Cemeco, when I asked one of the crew members, he said they loaded about seven of those trucks onboard. They had rice, two LEC transformers, not those ones on the pole but those big ones that are planted on the ground, there were zinc, four drums of fuel and other assorted items", he says.

Mr. Yeon narrates that they took off from the Freeport of Monrovia at about one minute after seven Monrovia time on Saturday morning, July 17, 2021 and sailed smoothly initially, observing the area features of Monrovia. "You could see the American Embassy, the Executive Mansion, JFK and then somebody posted that the engine went off."

He continued that after the engine failed, the crew brought a heavy [diesel] generator which was used to continue the voyage, but noted that hence, an atmosphere of unease gripped everyone onboard that something sinister was

approach Marshall, the weather started to get bad; there was huge wave. So around 2 am in the Marshall area the captain began to go to deep sea, around 87 degree because I registered that on my smartphone", he details.

He says after a while a lady onboard alarmed that water had entered the vessel so he asked a lay also onboard whose father is said to be the manager at the Harper Port to hand him (Mr. Yeon) his phone.

"So as I came down, the lady said water in the vessel, and then the other guy said that's why I don't like to put woman on the vessel and then I said my dear calm down before you make people scare, but the girl said no and she pointed, there was a gush on the side of the vessel and water began to pour in."

He says at that moment, everybody was tense and a guy immediately wore his lifejacket, but the ones procured by the WAEC Monrovia Office for its

the vessel onto a piece of plank and fell into the water, fighting for his life while his colleagues from WAEC and other passengers remained onboard.

He adds that next thing the propeller of the vessel came towards him with its face lifted into the air.

From 2 O'clock to 12 midnight before the rescue team from the Liberia National Coast Guard was spotted, headed into their direction after waiting for about 10 long hours.

By 12:00 we saw the light of the Sea Shepherd", he concludes.

A total of 12 persons have been rescued from the vessel, according to Liberia Maritime Authority. Meanwhile, investigation into the incident is ongoing. -Story by Jonathan Browne

"I'm going to get

Starts from back page

suspended Mr. Kolubah for ranting insults at President George Manneh Weah.

The House's decision suspending Kolubah for 30 days from session without pay followed a report by the Committee on Rules, Order and Administration on a complaint filed before the House by Rep. Thomas P. Fallah, a ruling party Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) lawmaker, alleging Kolubah's constant use of abusive languages against President Weah.

But Rep. Yekeh filed a petition for prohibition before the Justice -in - Chambers at the Supreme Court, claiming that the House Plenary's action contravened the Constitution and the rules and procedures governing the Legislature.

He asked the court to mandate the leadership of the House of Representatives to lift the suspension.

Ahead of the hearing which was scheduled for Wednesday, 21 July before the Justice -in - Chambers, the House of Representatives earlier on Tuesday, 20 July lifted its suspension imposed on Mr. Kolubah.

But Yekeh insisted that he would not to honor the communication coming from the House of Representatives until he gets the ruling from Justice Nagbe.

In a communication signed by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, Mildred N. Siryon, the House stated that the rights and privileges of Representative Kolubah to receive his salaries and benefits are also restored.

Pres. Weah receives

Cont'd from page 7

peace," President Weah told the new Ambassador who previously served with the Economic Community Monitory Group (ECOMOG) during Liberia's civil crisis.

"Under my leadership, I will ensure that the rights of everyone are respected and peace and tranquillity reign. Join me and let us all continue to give message of peace," President Weah told the Ghanaian ambassador, who in turn lauded President Weah for keeping Liberia peaceful.

"I am pleased to represent my country this time as an Ambassador which now affords me the opportunity to work with this government," H.E. Okubi-Appiah said, adding: "On behalf of my Government, I pledge to exert all effort to

promote bilateral and multilateral relationship, trade and culture for the wellbeing of our two countries and peoples."

The ceremonies were held separately at the President's Jamaica Resort Office on the Robertsfield Highway, Wednesday, 21 July 2021.

President Weah hailed both envoys for their presentations and praised their various countries for their strong bond of friendship with Liberia over the years.

He recounted various milestone projects and assistance their governments have provided to Liberia's recovery and development as well as paying the ultimate prize ensuring peace returns to Liberia.

Liberia's national

Cont'd from page 7

workers in the oil palm value chain.

"Solidaridad is pleased to have supported Liberia to achieve this milestone, which will provide new opportunities for farmers and producers to adopt responsible practices and be incentivised for it," he said.

Cyrus noted that Solidaridad will be providing training on the National Interpretation to small and medium enterprises in the oil palm supply chain towards certification.

Jeanine Milly Cooper, Liberia's minister of agriculture, said the endorsement was a great feat for the country's oil palm supply chain. She thanked

Solidaridad, Conservation International, and the various partners and organizations that funded the process and ensured the National Interpretation became effective.

The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) was established in 2004 to promote the growth and use of sustainable palm oil through cooperation within the supply chain and open dialogue between its stakeholders.

RSPO designed the Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Palm Oil Production to guide the production of sustainable oil palm. Performance indicators and guidance were also developed to ensure compliance and assessment of compliance, leading to certification.

WWW

Advertize Here!

Subscribe to our website

get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

The New Dawn

French Version Inside
TRULY INDEPENDENT



VOL. 11 NO. 123 THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021 PRICE LD\$40.00

With Emmanuel B. Juduh

“I’m going to get my benefits” Says Rep. Kolubah



coming here,” Mr. Kolubah told reporters outside the court Wednesday, 21 July after appearing for the hearing of his complaint against his colleagues.

“They blocked my account for two months, they got to give it. If they don’t give it, the court will compel them to give it, that’s what the lawyer said. And the lawyer said I should get all my benefits,” Mr. Koluabh added.

After the hearing, Mr. Kolubah questioned his colleagues’ absence from court, saying “I finished beating them again then they sent [a] lawyer.”

“You think I’m going to disrespect this court? I’m going to respect this court because this is the only place that’s respected in the whole of Liberia. You think that House is respected? That whole place is not respected. We have lost credibility,” Kolubah added.

In March this year, the House of Representatives

lawmaker emphasized that he had be told by the Justice in Chambers that he should go and make the attempt to get his benefits from the House of Representatives or return to the court if the House denies him his.

“And the court agreed. So I’m going to get my benefits. If they refuse to give my benefits, I’m

By Winston W. Parley

Opposition Montserrado County District #10 Representative Yekeh Kolubah says he is going to get his accrued benefits based on Associate Justice Joseph Nagbe ordered.

The controversial

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

DATA DA LIFE

3G good
4G better

Dial *352#

Lonestar Cell MTN
everywhere you go

THE NEW DAWN PRINTING PRESS

OUR SERVICES

Newspapers & Magazines
Flyers, Posters, Calendars
Brochures, Letterhead
Receipts & Invoices
Souvenirs, Branded Gift
Items, Graphic Designs,
Bank slips, Receipt books
Books, Manuals and etc.

(+231)-886484201, 77007529,
886978282, 775407211

E-mail: info@thenewdawnliberia.com