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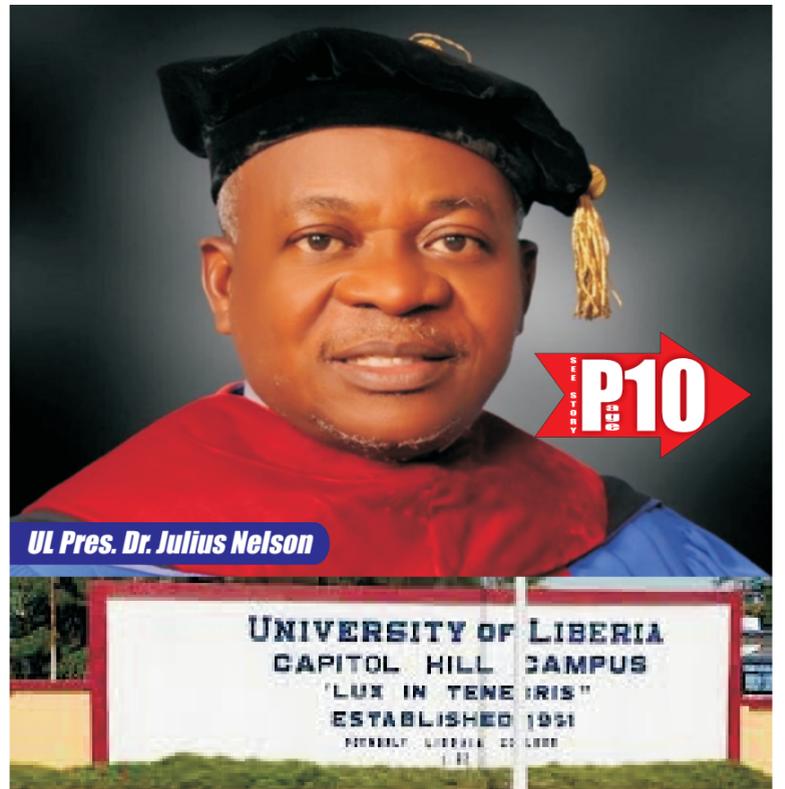
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021



Mr. Wilmot Paye

PLP expels Paye, others

Gov't reviews UL Faculty's demands *--amid go-slow*



UL Pres. Dr. Julius Nelson

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Continental News

Hotel Rwanda hero convicted on terror charges

A man who was portrayed in a film as a life-saving hero during the Rwandan genocide has been sentenced to 25 years for terrorism by a court in Rwanda.

Paul Rusesabagina, 67, was found guilty of backing a rebel group behind deadly attacks in 2018 and 2019.

His family has called the trial a sham, saying he was taken to Rwanda, from exile, by force.

Rusesabagina's journey from celebrated figure to state enemy happened as his criticism of the government grew.

Initially he was hailed for his acts during the genocide 27 years ago.

In the Oscar-nominated movie *Hotel Rwanda*, Rusesabagina, played by Don Cheadle, was shown as a hotel manager who managed to protect more than 1,000 people who had sought shelter.

In a period of 100 days

from April 1994, 800,000 people, mostly from the Tutsi ethnic group, were slaughtered by extremists from the Hutu community. Some survivors have gone on to question the version of events in the 2005 film.

But as Rusesabagina's profile was raised following its release, his criticism of the post-

genocide government and President Paul Kagame gained a wider audience.

He spoke about human rights abuses and alleged that the government was targeting Hutus.

Living in exile, Rusesabagina went on to lead an opposition coalition, which

had an armed wing - the National Liberation Front (FLN).

In a 2018 video message, he called for regime change saying that "the time has come for us to use any means possible to bring about change in Rwanda".

The FLN was accused of carrying out attacks in 2018 in which the authorities said nine people were killed. Rusesabagina said he never asked anyone to target civilians but did admit to sending the group money.

Rusesabagina's family said he was kidnapped and forcibly taken to Rwanda last year. His daughter, Carine Kanimba, told the BBC that a just trial could not follow from this

illegal act.

But in court, one witness spoke about how he had tricked, rather than forced, Rusesabagina on to a plane in Dubai by telling him it was flying to neighbouring Burundi, not Rwanda.

Rusesabagina withdrew from the trial in March this year, shortly after it began, saying that he was not being given a fair hearing. Ms Kanimba told the BBC's *Newsday* programme that he did not have proper access to his lawyers and that the president was "the only judge in the court".

Twenty others were tried alongside Rusesabagina, some of whom were members of the FLN who implicated him in their evidence. BBC



Paul Rusesabagina refused to appear in court for most of the trial

South African whistle-blower: I don't feel safe

The recent murder of South African civil servant Babita Deokaran, who blew the whistle on government corruption, has highlighted the dangers for those who speak out against the mounting problem, writes the BBC's Pumza Fihlani. "What happens when your boss is corrupt [and]... the president is implicated?"

Mosilo Mothepu's question hangs in the room, demanding an answer that has to balance morality, good citizenship and

personal safety.

Six years ago she was faced with the dilemma of what to do, and decided to call out the corruption.

Everything changed.

"I don't feel safe, I don't follow a routine, I always feel like someone is following me so that peace of mind is not there. It's been hard, it's been very hard," she says. There is a determination about her, and a belief that she did the right thing, but it has come at a cost.

"I naively thought that a report will come out and people

will be convicted and go to jail and within a couple of months I would find work and life will just continue as normal.

"Instead, I was unemployed for two years," she says, fighting back tears.

In 2015, Ms Mothepu was an executive director at investment firm Trillian. It was linked to the Gupta family, which has been accused of being at the centre of a huge corruption scandal known as state capture. They deny any wrongdoing.

Ms Mothepu began to see how the firm was allegedly used to siphon money from state-owned companies, often through phoney invoices.

She raised questions with her bosses and was told that if she was loyal she would be taken care of.

But her Christian beliefs as well as her personal integrity drove her to speak out.

She quit and gave evidence to the Public Protector, a state official charged with fighting corruption.

It is because of whistle-blowers like her that many of the country's corruption scandals have come to light.

Despite some legal protection being available, Ms Mothepu's fears for her safety are not unjustified. Last month, Babita Deokaran, a

Zambian president hailed for his 'lean' travel team



Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema promised a change in governance

Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema is earning some praise online for travelling with a "lean team" for the UN General Assembly in New York.

Mr Hichilema travelled to the UN meeting on a commercial Qatar Airways flight from the main airport in Lusaka. He was accompanied by two ministers.

"Just like we promised before taking office, we will ensure prudent management of public resources and have therefore travelled with a lean team that is composed of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Finance, Stanley Kakubo and Dr Situmbeko Musokotwane

respectively," he said in a statement before leaving.

"This is a first in the region where [Zimbabwe's President] Emmerson Mnangagwa and [Malawi's Lazarus] Chakwera take planes packed with hangers on", tweeted Zimbabwe journalist Hopewell Chin'ono.

Another social media user wrote: "Africa is coming up: Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema has left Zambia for the UN General Assembly, New York using a commercial flight".

The Malawian president was in July criticised for taking his family members along on a UK trip but he said that they were needed for the event. BBC



Mosilo Mothepu had a breakdown because of the pressure she was under after she blew the whistle on her employers

senior finance official in the health department of Gauteng province, died outside her home after being shot several times. Six people have been charged with her murder. There is a suspicion that she was targeted because she was a witness in an ongoing investigation into fraudulent contracts worth 332m rand (\$23m; £17m) awarded by her

department to buy personal protective equipment to help stop the spread of coronavirus.

While acknowledging that the motive for her murder is still not known, President Cyril Ramaphosa described her as "a hero and a patriot" and said her killing was "a stark reminder of the high stakes involved in our collective quest to remove this cancer from our society". BBC

EDITORIAL

Pro-lobbyists Vs. Anti-lobbyists

WHILE THE GOVERNMENT of Liberia recently announced the hiring of a CNN commentator to lobby on its behalf in Washington D.C. for U.S. support and subsequent presence of a high-level Weah government delegation headed by Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Nathaniel F. McGill in the United States, holding discussions with U.S officials including Congressional Members, a counter-lobby force is perhaps steps ahead, working against interest of the Weah administration.

THE COUNTER-LOBBY GROUP, the Liberia Renaissance Office Inc. reportedly with a US\$180,000 budget is registered by Alan White and Jeffery Birrell to campaign for U.S. government support to the opposition bloc in Liberia working under the canopy, Collaboration Political Parties (CPP) seeking to defeat President George Manneh Weah in 2023.

IN SHORT, TWO groups of Liberians from the government and the Opposition are competing to get Washington's attention in a campaign clouded by selfish political interest and motives.

ACCORDING TO REPORT, the Liberia Renaissance Office in Monrovia is headed by an ex-minister from the former Sirleaf administration Sylvester Grigsby, with key opposition leaders, including Mr. Alexander B. Cummings of the Alternative National Congress/CPP behind its activities, though it has not been independently established.

BUT WHY WOULD two separate groups with separate interest compete to seek support from the U.S. Government when realities on the ground in Liberia are not impressive by any measure? Here is an opposition bloc that is bent on self-destructing on one hand, and a government that is nursing impunity, corruption with poor human rights record and lack of accountability on the other.

LIKE IT IS OFTEN said, deeds, not words that matter. No amount of lobby would change anything if either side is walking backward rather than moving ahead. When university, tertiary and secondary education are crumbling before our very eyes and health is more symbolic than practical with insecurity sending residents indoors as early as 8pm then lobby cannot change reality.

SIMILARLY, WHEN THE opposition is allegedly spending US\$180,000 to get Washington on its side, while tearing itself apart in Liberia, it does not present a serious face to gain attention.

COMMONLY, WASHINGTON IS fully abreast of situations in Liberia so hiring lobbyists to white-wash would short-live because a monkey cannot change its black hands regardless how much detergent it applies in washing off the dirt.

THE LOBBYISTS IN Washington would do well if they adapt sincerity in public service and prioritize interest of Liberians above selfish political interest rather than threading on deceit, lies and greed.

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

COMMENTARY

By Angel Gurría

New Business Models for a New Future

MEXICO CITY - COVID-19 has sharpened the focus on many challenges with which the world has long been grappling, including rising inequality, insufficient access to adequate health care and education, and climate change. Long before the pandemic, people had begun to ask hard questions about globalization and technological progress. Despite all the wealth creation and reductions in global poverty in recent decades, economic opportunity has remained elusive for many people, irrespective of their abilities. The resulting fracturing of society poses a grave threat to the long-term health of businesses, citizens, and economies.

For many, the pandemic feels like a watershed moment in global policymaking. It is a rare opening to think big. In the crisis lies an opportunity to establish new foundations for a more sustainable, resilient, and inclusive economy. But what would such an economy - and a resilient society - look like? What principles should guide the difficult choices we must make? How do we ensure that everyone is on board?

Business for Inclusive Growth (B4IG), a strategic partnership between the OECD and 35 major global companies, is one major initiative seeking to change how business is done. Founded in 2019 at the G7 Leaders' Summit, it brings together private- and public-sector entities to support the development of more inclusive business models, which are in turn the building blocks of a more sustainable long-term economic model.

Here, inclusion means providing more equal access to good jobs and training opportunities. It means committing to diversity, gender balance, and human rights. These commitments can all lead to more trust and engagement vis-à-vis employees, customers, and other stakeholders, and to greater long-term value creation.

A key priority for B4IG is to rethink how company performance is measured. Together with the OECD's Centre on Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability, and Equal Opportunity (WISE), the coalition is exploring how non-financial performance indicators - such as stakeholder well-being and environmental footprints - can be incorporated into business models. These indicators touch on everything from housing and health to knowledge and skills, and they apply to not only employees and consumers, but also suppliers and society.

The rapid growth of sustainable finance in recent years attests to the broader effort to go beyond pure financial metrics and GDP. More than \$30 trillion of assets worldwide now meet some level of environmental, social, and governance criteria, representing an increase of more than 30% from 2016. The rise of ESG-driven investing

underscores the vital role that finance must play in incorporating non-financial metrics in the allocation of capital across the global economy. This is how, for example, a corporate borrower's cost of capital can be linked to its success in reducing carbon emissions or meeting diversity goals.

Public-private partnerships are essential for a strong, inclusive recovery and tackling the intersecting challenges that we face. Today's global problems demand fresh thinking about the roles of businesses, governments, and civil society, and about how they can best work together.

It is not sufficient for governments simply to referee the marketplace and otherwise "stay out of the way." Governments are needed to shape and create markets, by incentivizing and de-risking certain investments, and by establishing targeted support and regulatory frameworks. Private-sector innovation in technology, health care, and other sectors often could not have happened without public backing. We can thank governments for the basic research that led to the internet, clean energy, and vaccines.

Managing the green and digital transitions - including the trend toward more labor-replacing automation - will require a vast effort to reskill and upskill workers. In the European Union, 75% of firms with more than ten employees already provide, and partially fund, training for their workers. But more companies and governments must follow suit to extend training access to those who need it the most, particularly adults with low basic skills and those with low incomes.

Employers, on the other hand, have a crucial role to play in ensuring maximum effectiveness across our education and training systems. Governments and employers need to come together to help students benefit from work-based learning - for example, by creating more flexible arrangements and developing local school-business partnerships.

Employers must also engage more actively in career guidance to prepare today's youth for the world of work. And companies must play their part in tackling gender inequality, by offering paid parental leave and childcare, instituting pay-transparency rules, and engaging in unbiased job advertising.

It is on these bedrocks that we can start building new foundations for long-term economic prosperity beyond COVID-19. The scale and the breadth of challenges we face are unprecedented. We must discuss and solve them through global fora such as the Paris Peace Forum. Many have adopted the slogan of "building back better." But we cannot solve today's problems by going back to yesterday's solutions. We need to build forward better.

OPINION

By Jeffrey D. Sachs

Vaccine Producers Must Step Up

Governments of countries where vaccines are being produced - the United States, European Union members, the United Kingdom, India, Russia, and China - need to cooperate under United Nations leadership to ensure that a sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses reaches the poorest countries. Five steps are especially urgent.

NEW YORK - The world stands at a critical juncture of the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries that lack the first round of vaccine coverage are extraordinarily vulnerable to the highly infectious Delta variant, and are also seedbeds for new variants that could quickly spread worldwide. The Lancet COVID-19 Commission, which I chair, is working urgently with the United Nations system to strengthen the multilateral response. Governments of countries where vaccines are being produced - the United States, European Union members, the United Kingdom, India, Russia, and China - need to cooperate under UN leadership to ensure that a sufficient supply of vaccine doses reaches the poorest countries.

The high-income countries now have more than 50% of their population fully vaccinated. Yet the fully vaccinated population in Africa remains under 4%. This lack of vaccine coverage in Africa, and in low-income countries elsewhere, poses an imminent danger to these populations.

US President Joe Biden has called for a vaccine summit on September 22. This is potentially a highly significant step forward. It is important that the US hold this meeting in cooperation with China, India, Russia, and the other vaccine-producing countries, and with the UN system. Only the UN, with its universal membership and its operational capacity in low-income countries, has the ability to coordinate the rapid global scale-up of vaccine coverage.

In April 2020, the UN created the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) facility to provide vaccines to lower-income countries. These countries expected COVAX to provide timely deliveries. Yet COVAX has been unable to buy a sufficient volume of vaccine doses mainly because high-income countries have repeatedly cut to the front of the queue. Moreover, the vaccine-producing countries' governments have imposed export quotas so that COVAX is often unable to secure even the vaccines for which it has contracts. The company shareholders are of course happy with these arrangements, because the rich countries pay more for the doses than COVAX would.

The supply crisis facing low-income countries in Africa and elsewhere will not resolve itself. On the contrary, high-income countries are now beginning to offer a third dose, even before highly vulnerable groups in the poorest countries (the elderly, health workers, the immunocompromised, and others) have received their primary vaccination.

Global opportunities for scaling up vaccine production are also being hampered by some governments' continued insistence on enforcing the patents on key vaccine technologies, even though these patents are held by academic institutions that were funded by the governments (notably by the US National Institutes of Health). Likewise, public money funded the clinical trials and rollout of the vaccines. Despite the global urgency of the pandemic, life-saving public goods have been privatized.

The World Health Organization has set minimum targets for vaccine coverage in every country - at least 10% of the population by end-September 2021, 40% by end-2021, and 70% by end-June 2022 - that the current vaccine allocation system will not achieve. At this moment of great global peril, the governments of the vaccine-producing countries should take the following steps:

First, when governments meet this week at Biden's vaccine summit, they should chart a path to achieve the WHO targets in all countries, including 40% global coverage by the end of this year. The vaccine producers should cooperate fully by disclosing all existing orders (and prices) on their books, so that the UN and governments can prioritize under-served countries.

Second, the UN system, with the full support of governments and companies, should set delivery timelines for every low-income country aligned with the WHO targets. The WHO and COVAX, and other UN agencies such as UNICEF, should work with the recipient countries to scale up the "last-mile" deployment systems for the arrival of the vaccine doses.

Third, the new \$650 billion allocation of special drawing rights just approved by the International Monetary Fund should be used, in conjunction with other emergency financial resources, to ensure that short-term financing constraints pose no obstacles to the supply of vaccines.

Fourth, the governments of the vaccine-producing countries should agree, in line with long-standing trade agreements on public health, to waive intellectual property rights and to promote technology sharing in order to increase global vaccine production. Promising vaccines that are now in clinical trials should also be supported with official financing for rapid production and deployment upon regulatory approval.

Lastly, governments in all countries should make clear to the public that the vaccines are not sufficiently effective on their own to suppress the community transmission of the coronavirus. Additional public health measures - including face masks, physical distancing, contact tracing, and limits on indoor gatherings - are still needed.

The bottom line is that we must treat universal vaccine coverage as an urgently needed global public good, not as an eventual outcome of market forces. Biden's vaccine summit this week can provide the vital breakthrough we need, by empowering the UN with the vaccine doses and finances it needs to ensure immunization for all.

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OP-ED

By Takatoshi Ito

Japan's Four-Horse Race

The winner of the Liberal Democratic Party's presidential race this month will succeed outgoing LDP leader and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga. And while party leadership contests usually are subject to the uncertainties of factional politicking, there is good reason to think that this time will be different.

TOKYO - Last month, I wrote, "Unless [Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide] Suga acts quickly, more lives will be lost, and his own political position may become yet another victim of the virus." This has now come to pass.

On September 3, Suga announced that he will not seek re-election as president of the Liberal Democratic Party in its leadership election on September 29. Because the LDP holds a majority in the House of Representatives (with its coalition partner, the Komei Party), its next leader will automatically become the new prime minister. The LDP leadership election will then be followed by a general election in October or November, when the current four-year parliamentary term expires. Because the LDP is most likely to win the election, the leader it selects this month will become prime minister for the next term.

Suga's tenure as prime minister will have lasted only around a year. The announcement of his departure spurred a sharp increase in stock prices, with the Nikkei 225 rising more than 2% on the day and maintaining an upward trend ever since. Markets previously had given significant weight to the possibility of Suga hobbling on as a weak prime minister and losing this fall's general election and the Upper House election next July. Now that this scenario has been eliminated, the market is reacting positively, despite the uncertainty about Suga's successor.

Suga did try to maneuver for a re-election fight, but he never managed to gain the necessary momentum. His low approval ratings (below 30%) had left younger LDP members worried about the party's ability to hold onto its parliamentary majority. Electorally vulnerable members with far less experience in the Diet (parliament) had been searching for a more popular leader.

With Suga's vulnerability becoming more apparent, members of parliament such as Fumio Kishida and Sanae Takaichi decided to throw their hats into the ring. And following Suga's decision to exit, Taro Kono, a reform-minded veteran, decided to join the race, too. And at the last moment, Seiko Noda, a former minister of internal affairs and communications, threw her hat into the ring.

Kishida, Japan's minister of foreign affairs from 2012 to 2017, is known for his liberal agenda. In his campaign for the LDP presidency, he has advocated a shift away from neoliberal economic policies and called for "tens of trillions of yen" in fiscal stimulus (100 yen is around \$0.92). He argues that redistribution toward lower-income households would foster more sustainable growth, and he supports doubling the incomes of people in the medical, childcare, and long-term care professions.

Takaichi, who served as minister of internal affairs and communications under former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, is known as more of a conservative hawk. She supports revising (or reinterpreting) the constitution to broaden the remit of the Self-Defense Forces, so that it is empowered to strike an enemy preemptively, rather than only in response to an attack.

Takaichi's conservatism extends to social policy as well. For example, she opposes same-sex marriage and separate surnames for husband and wife. On the economic policy front, however, she would revive and sustain the expansionary monetary and fiscal policies of Abenomics, only with a new name: "Sanaenomics." Channeling Modern Monetary Theory, she favors an unlimited increase in fiscal stimulus until the 2% inflation target is reached.

Kono, for his part, currently oversees the country's COVID-19 vaccination rollout, and previously served as minister of foreign affairs from 2017 to 2019 and as minister of defense from 2019 to 2020. He is known as a reformer who is not afraid to face down bureaucratic resistance. In his bid for the LDP presidency, he has claimed credit for the acceleration of vaccinations after a long initial delay, boasting that he has secured a sufficient supply of doses and established large vaccination sites. While he previously advocated phasing out the country's nuclear power plants, he seems to have switched to a more moderate position that would allow existing plants to continue or resume operations in accordance with stringent safety standards.

In terms of economic policy, while Kono has floated the idea of a corporate tax break for firms that keep the labor share of income above a certain level, he does not have any specific new proposals for monetary or fiscal policy. When asked recently about fiscal stimulus, he responded that the destination of public investment is as important as the amount, thereby dodging the question of spending levels. Though he is considered somewhat radical, his policy platform is relatively moderate, to the disappointment of his traditional supporters.

In fact, Noda's last-minute candidacy could draw votes away from Kono. She will run on a platform of helping the low-income and disadvantaged.

None of the candidates would change Japan's close relations with its Western allies. As the most "right-wing" of the three, Takaichi's cultivation of support among Japanese nationalists would probably stoke tensions with China. She has already visited the Yasukuni Shrine, whose Book of Souls contains the names of around 1,000 Japanese convicted of war crimes after World War II.

On the specific question of fiscal stimulus, Takaichi, the MMT advocate, is the most ambitious, followed by Kishida. None is advocating a change in the inflation targeting framework or the Bank of Japan's 2% inflation target.

According to the most recent Nikkei poll, Kono was leading with 27% support, followed by Shigeru Ishiba (17%), who has since dropped out of the running and endorsed Kono. Next came Kishida at 14%, with Takaichi at 7% and Noda at 2%.

An LDP leadership election involves both rank-and-file party supporters and LDP Diet members. Generally speaking, LDP Diet members will be swayed by factional politicking, injecting more uncertainty into the mix than public polling would suggest. But this time may be different. With the general election only a month away, a candidate's popularity among the party base will weigh heavily on individual Diet members' decisions. That makes Kono the clear front-runner.

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SPECIAL

FEATURE

Liberia Risk Constitutional Crisis (J. Brownie Samukai Jr. Case)?

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What the AFL High Command Investigative Report simply found out? There is a need for an audit of the Pension Scheme Account. An audit was necessary to verify counts d, f, h, l and l in the report. For example, in count d, "That apart from the pension fund, there were other funds deposited into the account." How much was these extra deposits that were not related to the pension scheme? The AFL High Command Investigative Report did not state the amount. This can only be done by the auditor(s). And in count h, the report indicated that the total deposited in the account was US\$1,943,971.99 and the balance as of November 3, 2017 was USD688,964.96. If you do the simple mathematics, the difference is US\$1,255,007.03. AFL High Command alleged that only 147,303.20USD was withdrawn for the intended purpose. If you subtract this from the fund, you get a balance of US\$1,107,703.83. Hence it is not possible for Samukai and others to withdraw US\$1,147,656.35s. from the account for intended purpose because the account did not have US\$1,147,656.35. It was unfortunate that Samukai's lawyers could not pick up these simple things which would have either helped to acquit them or may have led the court to institute an audit of the account.

Former Solicitor Generals like Winfred Smallwood, George Henries, George S. B. Tulay and Taiwan Gongloe would have requested for an audit of the account before indictment.

Unfortunately, the learned Solicitor General/Chief Prosecutor of Liberia, the only Liberian Lawyer, who is member of the European Bar did not. What a sad situation. The Twelve -man Grand Jury that indicted Samukai and others were sweet talk by the councilor just like he did with the host and co-hosts of Spoon Talk on August 23, 2021.

Prohibition

Coming to the prohibition to the Supreme Court requesting the Court to deny Senator-elect certification, this is another embarrassment. The constitution does not prevent an elected public official from being certificated and there is NO LAW in our status to prevent the same. If there is one, let the Solicitor General/ the Ministry of Justice cite the same. What was cited in both MDC and the Ministry Justice prohibitions as reliance for prohibition is an article in the Election Laws. Now let us look at the Election Laws.

Chapter 3.17- Registration of Voters Subchapter A: General Provision

Every citizen of Liberia who has attained the age of eighteen (18) years or older, may register as a voter except one who has been Judiciary declared to be incompetent or of unsound mind or who has been disenfranchised as a result of conviction of an infamous crime and has not been restored to citizenship. Maybe let me define for some of you what an Infamous Crimes are: Infamous Crime is crime that have been judged infamous because they constitute Treason or Felony because they involve moral turpitude of a nature the create a strong presumption that the person guilty is unworthy of law, or because it subjects the one guilty to infamy. You all know what treason is, hence I will not define it. Felony crimes are (rape, murder, robbery vandalism



kidnapping and arson). You know that Samukai and others were not charged for any of the above crimes.

Subchapter E: Alteration of Registration Rolls S. 3.23 Names of Disenfranchised to be furnished by the Minister of Justice

a. "The Minister of Justice shall send to the Commission annually in the month of December a list containing the names and addresses of all persons judicially convicted and sentenced for disenfranchise able offense and disenfranchisement continues.

b. He shall also furnish along with the list, the registration cards of all persons."

The Election Laws Chapter 3.17 Sub Chapters A and E of the law prevents convicted persons from voting registering in an election but does not deny convicted from contesting. Like the United States of America, this section of the law is a photocopy of the Election Laws of America. In Canada and some states in the United States of America, no convict is disqualified from contesting a Federal Elective Position. The Solicitor General and the lawyers of MDC are chasing shadows by using this law. The honorable Supreme Court is now embarrassed to rule on these prohibitions because the constitution of Liberia and that of the United States of America do not disqualify a convict from contesting in Federal Election. However, sixteen of the fifty-one states have laws that disqualify convicts from participation in a state election and thirty-one do not have such laws, meaning a convict is qualified to contest in state elections.

The requirements for one to qualify to participate in an election are in Article 30 of the Constitution of Liberia.

Article 30 of the Constitution of Liberia

This article reads as follows: Citizens of Liberia who meet the following qualifications are eligible to be members of Legislature.

Requirements for senators

a. Must have attained the age of 30 years and

b. Be domiciled in the county or constituency to be represented not less than one year prior to the time of the election and a taxpayer.

Now you have read the New Election Laws and the qualifications for senator are cleared. It is interesting to note that the MDC and the Justice Ministry prohibitions have been at the Supreme Court for more than four months and are still there. When the lower Court judgement was delivered in 2020, eight months before the December 8, 2020 election, some citizens of Lofa petitioned the Supreme Court to stop Samukai

from participating in the election because he was a convict. The Supreme Court ruled against them, because the court knows that when a case is on appeal and awaiting final ruling the defendant cannot be disqualified. Equally so, there is clause or article or part in the Constitution to stop an elected senator from being certificated. The sooner we understand this the better.

a convict. The Supreme Court ruled against them, because the court knows that when a case is on appeal and awaiting final ruling the defendant cannot be disqualified. Equally so, there is clause or article or part in the Constitution to stop an elected senator from being certificated. The sooner we understand this the better.

Can an indicted or convicted person, who is serving prison term run for elective position? And if he or she wins serve his or her term? In the United States of America, the answer is yes for Federal Elections. A convicted person in prison can run for Federal elective office because there is no part of the United States of America Constitution that prohibits a felon from contesting. In Alaska, Senator Ted Stevens was convicted of seven felony counts of corruption, but ran for re- election in 2008. In 1798, Representative Mathew Lyon ran for Congress and won from prison. He assumed his seat after serving his term. In Ghana, Nkrumah was in prison when he was elected, in Kenya, Kenyetta was in prison when he was elected, and in South Africa Mandela was in prison when he was elected. All of these people were convicts. I can go on naming convicts who were serving prison terms and were elected by their people and they were freed/released to enable them to serve their country.

Let the Supreme Court do the honorable thing by ruling in the Samukai case pending before her according to the Constitution and laws of Liberia. The Constitution of Liberia calls for two senators per county and Lofa being represented by one senator is a violation of the Liberia Constitution.

Supreme Court Precedents

Equally so, the Supreme Court can use Precedent of the court, which should have been done in the first place. The Supreme Court of Liberia has decided two cases similar to that of Samukai's, when it comes to variance in the amount in the indictment and the evidence amount; One in 1978, Gaye vs RL {1978} LRSC 41; 27 LLR 239 (1978) (29 April 1978) and Ankravs RL [1979] LRSC6; 28 LLR76(1979) (15 June 1979). In both cases, there was a variance between the amount in the indictment and the amount produced during the hearings. The case Gaye vs RL, Chief Justice Pierre delivered the opinion and the lower Court ruling/judgement was reversed and the defendant discharged and freed. In the Second case the Court opinion was delivered by Justice Tulay (Frederick K.) and again the lower Court ruling was reversed and the defendant was freed. In the Samukai Case, Samukai and the others, they were indicted for misappropriation of US\$1,259,462.00 but let us agree with the judge that they misappropriated US\$1,147,656.35 as per the two cases cited, the amount misappropriated and the amount in the indictment do not match. There is a variance and per the court precedents, as cited in the cases above, the lower court judgement should have been reversed and the defendants freed.

One thing we should know by now is whether or not Samukai is certificated, there can be no bi-election in Lofa to replace Samukai. There is No law to support this action. And until the nine- year service period ends or Samukai resigns or falls ill

Continue from last Edition

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Physically-challenged student seeks financial help

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County

26-year-old Venus Chukue Kumeh is not allowing her disability to limit her. A 12th grader, she is among thousands of students in southeast Liberia writing the 2021 West African Senior School Certificate Exams administered by the West African Examinations Council

mother died, she is surviving thru help of some prominent people in the county, including her father that enable her to become a prospective graduate.

She laments that disability has been one of her challenges, but quickly adds the situation would not push her away from acquiring a better education.

"I am very proud and grateful to God for my life and for me to be here as a student among my

financial assistance that has kept her in school.

"Let me say thanks to Bishop Karney, Mr. Dweh and others who have been helping me to reach this far of my academic sojourn", he says.

She notes that though the WASSCE has not ended, but the first session was encouraging, free of fear and pressure.

"I strongly believe with the level of performance, I will surely succeed in order to continue my studies at university."

Venus says due to her condition, she feels uncomfortable sometimes seeing her friends coming from classes at the university but is hopeful of entering college, disclosing

that her dream is to read Public Administration at University with the help of others who may see her condition and want to help.

"If someone wants to help me currently, as you see my condition, I think the only help I need now is finance or scholarship that will enable me to further my education at the University".

"Although there are several challenges I am faced with at the high school level but I know by the help of God and others I will achieve my academic goals."

She maintains that despite her condition, she sees education as something very important in life, and encourages others who are in similar condition not to panic or be discouraged because God will always provide. -

Editing by Jonathan Browne



(WAEC) Monrovia Office.

Venus is optimistic about her educational sojourn and says nothing would discourage her to leave school despite her physical disability.

Speaking to reporters recently following day one of the WASSCE in Maryland County, she said since her

peers taking the West African Senior School Certificate Examination", she says.

She notes that though, financially it hasn't been easy with her, but God who has been using others to help her.

Venus lauds Bishop Andrew J. Karney of the Cape Palmas Diocese, one Tonny Dweh, and others who have come with

Judge urges lawyers to practice discipline

By Lincoln G. Peters

Civil Law Court Judge J. Kennedy Peabody has told lawyers here that their duties and social responsibilities are cardinal to the sustainability of the country's democracy, thereby calling on them to practice ethical professional discipline in the discharge of their social responsibilities to the country.

Speaking at the opening of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Civil Law Court for its September A.D 2021 Term, Judge Peabody said almost every democratic government today would admit that its pillar rests on the rule of law.

Speaking on the theme: "Duties and Social

Responsibilities of Lawyers to the Public and the Society," Judge Peabody noted that every state advocates for the norms of democratic principles which

include the welfare of the people of Liberia to uphold the rule of law.

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Missing woman found alive after 2 weeks

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County

A 50 years old woman, Eliza Robert, who reportedly went missing on September 4, 2021 in Wlowien town, Maryland County has been found alive after spending two weeks in the bush.

Narrating her ordeal, the victim said on Saturday, September 4, 2021, she went out door at about 4:30 am to urinate, but after urinating, she never knew what led her into the bush.

According to her, she could not imagine herself moving into the bush at that early Saturday morning.

"My people, during that early hours, I came out to urinate but after urinating I started seeing myself going in the bush never knew what was leading me that early morning hours", she adds.

little strength came from but what I imagined was for me to wake up that early Saturday morning and started walking around in the bush until I found myself on the main road between Grand Kru and Maryland before I was seen by my town people who brought me in town", she concludes.

Karluway Statutory District superintendent Solomon Johnny, describes the situation as regretful when residents informed him that Mr. Koffa Roberts, the 53-year-old husband of Eliza left his wife in the town and went to the farm with the intent that she would have prepared the home for Sunday activities, but upon his return, he didn't see her so he alarmed, which prompted elders of the town to sound the traditional drum, claiming



She continues that after dawn, "I didn't see anyone, I couldn't even remember the road leading to town neither to hear voices of people from town because everything left my mind."

She says for the number of days spent in the bush, she didn't eat, but survived drinking water droplets on leaves from rainfall, which sustained her for two weeks.

"I can't even remember the number of days I have spent in the bush because all has lost from my mind now."

Ma Eliza says the entire experience is like a dream.

"But on Saturday, 18th September 2021, I began to develop little strength and I started walking around and later found a road, while coming out, I heard a car sound.

"I don't know where the

everyone's attention.

Supt. Johnny continues that after receiving the news, he along with other local officials quickly invited the Crime Service Division (CSD) of the Liberia National Police (LNP) in Maryland County to look in the matter and during preliminary investigation, four suspects were linked to the mysterious disappearance of Madam Eliza Roberts in Wlowien, Tuo-ou Chiefdom, Karluway Statutory District.

He names the four suspects as Wlowien Town Chief George Gbolugba and three others identified as Isaac Nyemah, Anthony Hoto and Solomon Jallah. They were turned over to the Police on Tuesday, September 14 by the district authority for further investigation while search

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Pressure from above impedes GSA operations

-Director Mary Broh

By Lewis S. Teh

The director general of the General Services Agency (GSA) Madam Mary Taryonnoh Broh says, the mandate and operations of the GSA are continuously impeded due to pressure from above.

"The reason why GSA has stopped seizing and retrieving government properties was [is] due to the high pressure from above us", says the no-nonsense public servant, who came in direct

regulate the improper parking of vehicles in this country."

The General Services Agency is a government institution with a mission to effectively utilize the philosophies of high quality, advanced techniques, and client service.

The Agency's vision is to provide the highest quality value-for-money-asset management services to the Government of Liberia thru informed decisions, while ensuring smooth and uninterrupted delivery of services.

duties and report to her office.

Commenting on progress made in administering COVID-19 vaccines across the country, she notes there are lots of conspiracy theories surrounding the vaccines, but despite all of those theories, Liberia still has one of the best health systems in the subregion.

She applauds efforts of health authorities in the country for allowing the GSA to be one of the centers that is administering the two vaccines, adding her decision to have the Agency served as one of the centers was based on the conspiracy theories surrounding the vaccines and how best she could contribute to saving lives.

"We can't treat anyone diffidently from government officials, everyone is equal when it comes to administering the vaccines." She notes the GSA became the COVID-19 control center due to the country's experience from the deadly Ebola virus that killed over 50,000 Liberians.

Prior to the start of the news conference, the GSA Boss asked several journalists, who had not been vaccinated out because they didn't have certificates or cards to confirm that they had taken either the AstraZeneca or the Johnson & Johnson jabs.

However, it took intervention of authorities of the Ministry of Health and deputy information minister Jarlawah Tonpoe to resolve the situation.

Some journalists were heard arguing that health authorities on many occasions had informed the public that the vaccines are voluntary, but encouraged citizens to get vaccinated. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



confrontation with so many of her fellow compatriots during the Sirleaf administration for her uncompromising stance in executing her job.

Madam Broh explains the GSA has various departments with separate functions, including administration, fleet management, and public buildings management, among others.

"But it will interest you to know that we used to seize government vehicles that were seen after the normal working hours, but we stop that due to the pressure that came from above."

Addressing the Ministry of Information regular press briefing Thursday, September 16, 2021 at the GSA compound in Monrovia, she said influences that came from above were huge, adding "You all are aware when I became Mayor of this [city] I got booted out by the Legislature, where they declared me non-governmental material, only because I was doing the right thing by parking their cars, for introducing the city parking attendance to

Over the years, the Agency has worked very hard to rebuild its infrastructure and systems and handle significant increase in Government vehicle repair services and public buildings maintenance.

Madam Broh, who is also the national coordinator for the government COVID-19 response in the Weah administration, says the GSA has two deputies: a deputy for administration, Varney Darkel, and a deputy for operation, headed by Idris Bility, adding that these two deputies work as per their respective

Prioritize vocational education in Liberia

-SMILE urges govt.

The Student Movement for Intelligent Leadership and Empowerment (SMILE) at the Emmanuel Dahn Foundation Institute (EDFI) wants government to prioritize vocational education in Liberia.

SMILE president Musa Jabateh says vocational and technical education are critical for the socio-economic transformation of any nation with Liberia being no exception.

standard of the people.

Jabateh explains vocational education mostly emphasizes practical training in various disciplines rather than theory which empowers students to venture in the job market sooner than later.

He vows that a SMILE leadership will ensure that students receive needed training materials to enhance effective capacity building, while indicating that some students are realizing the



Jabateh made the call over the weekend when SMILE launched its campaign for the pending student leadership election at the Foundation on Newport Street, Monrovia.

He stresses that vocational education will empower young men and women to contribute significantly to nation building.

According to him, vocational education provides needed skills and training for the job market which is crucial to enhancing the living

significance of vocational education through production of various items practically.

Jabateh continues that empowering youth of Liberia with quality vocational education will go a long way to strengthening youth empowerment in every sector of the job market.

He reiterates that central government should provide subsidies to vocational institutions across the nation to develop the human resource of Liberia. **-Editing by Jonathan**

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Français

CEDEAO : le président de la Cour met en garde contre les dangers des récents développements politiques dans la région

Le président de la Cour de justice de la CEDEAO, le juge Edward AmoakoAsante, a averti que les récents bouleversements politiques en Guinée et au Mali laissent présager un grave danger pour la marche de l'Afrique de l'Ouest vers la consolidation de la gouvernance démocratique dans la région.

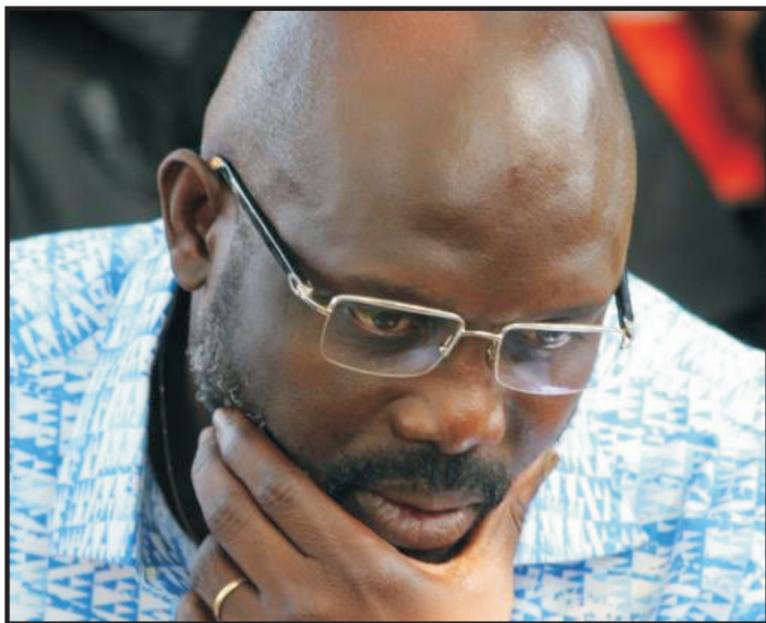
S'exprimant lors d'une cérémonie le mercredi 15 septembre 2021 organisée par l'Association des Nations Unies du Ghana (UNA-Ghana) pour marquer la Journée internationale de la démocratie des Nations Unies à Accra, le président a déclaré que « les développements sont particulièrement déconcertants car ils représentent le dernier affront à nos efforts à la consolidation démocratique dans une région qui, depuis 2002, a connu de telles perturbations dans ses États membres ».

Les perturbations sont révélatrices d'un malaise de

notre approche de la démocratie multipartite, dont les fondements normatifs tels que la tolérance zéro pour les changements anticonstitutionnels de gouvernement, l'abolition de la prolongation du mandat au-delà des deux mandats, l'organisation des élections crédibles ainsi que le respect scrupuleux de la séparation des pouvoirs sont menacés.

« Alors que vous célébrez la journée de la démocratie, l'ombre menaçante de l'apparente marche implacable des aventuriers militaires érode nos acquis démocratiques », a déclaré le président, « une opportunité a été créée pour ceux qui jouent un rôle dans l'entretien de notre chère démocratie de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Guinée : la CEDEAO sanctionne la junte et exige une transition de 6 mois

Après avoir suspendu la Guinée dans toutes ses instances le mercredi 8 septembre dernier, la CEDEAO a exigé une transition de 6 mois. C'était suite au sommet extraordinaire tenu à Accra, au Ghana sur la situation guinéenne après le coup d'État militaire du 5 septembre 2021, qui a évincé le président Alpha Condé du pouvoir.

La communauté économique des États de

l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO), dans une réunion d'urgence virtuelle tenue sur la situation guinéenne, avait suspendue le pays dans toutes ses instances. Outre cela, l'instance avait aussi exigé la libération immédiate du président déchu et le rétablissement de l'ordre constitutionnel. A cet effet, une mission de haut niveau de l'organisation, conduite par le président de la commission de la CEDEAO, Jean Claude Kassi-Brou a été dépêché à Conakry, le vendredi 10 septembre 2021,

afin de rencontrer les nouvelles autorités qui ont pris le pouvoir.

Les chefs d'État et de gouvernement de la Communauté ont également tenu un sommet extraordinaire pour trancher la question ce jeudi 16 septembre 2021. Sur convocation du président en exercice de la CEDEAO, Nana Addo Akufo-Addo, président du Ghana, ce Sommet extraordinaire a été une occasion pour les dirigeants de l'organisation régionale, d'examiner le rapport de la Mission de haut niveau qui avait été dépêchée en Guinée vendredi dernier, pour évaluer la situation.

Dès l'entame des travaux du Sommet extraordinaire, le Président ghanéen, président en exercice de la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO) a indiqué dans son allocution « Nous sommes tenus de prendre des décisions éclairées sur ces questions ». S'adressant à ses homologues chefs d'État, il poursuit « je compte sur vous, Excellences, pour aider à proposer des solutions

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Éditorial

Politique libérienne : pouvoir et opposition se disputent l'attention de Washington

Tandis que le gouvernement du Libéria cherche à convaincre Washington pour le soutenir en vue des prochaines élections qui auront lieu en 2023, l'opposition, elle, aurait mis en place une équipe dont la mission serait de dénigrer l'administration Weah auprès des autorités américaines.

D'une part, le gouvernement du Libéria a tout récemment loué les services d'une ferme américaine pour faire du lobbying auprès des autorités américaines afin de redorer l'image du président George Weah et de son cabinet.

Une délégation de haut niveau du gouvernement Weah dirigée par le ministre d'État aux Affaires présidentielles Nathaniel F. McGill a séjourné tout dernièrement aux États-Unis où elle a eu à discuter avec des responsables américains afin de séduire l'administration Biden en faveur de Monrovia.

D'autre part, un nouveau groupe qui se fait appeler Liberia Renaissance Office Inc., qui disposerait d'un budget de 180 000 \$ US, aurait recruté Alan White et Jeffery Birrell pour faire campagne auprès du gouvernement américain afin de soutenir le bloc de l'opposition au Libéria, à savoir notamment la Collaboration des Parties de l'opposition (CPP) qui cherchent à battre le président George Manneh Weah à la prochaine présidentielle.

En bref, deux groupes de Libériens, (l'un favorable au pouvoir et l'autre à l'opposition), rivalisent pour attirer l'attention de Washington dans une campagne assombrie par des intérêts et des motifs politiques égoïstes.

Selon le rapport, le groupe Liberia Renaissance Office dirigé par M. Sylvester Grigsby, qui fut ministre sous l'administration Sirleaf, aurait été créé à cet effet. Sa mission serait de ternir l'image du président Weah et de faire l'éloge des opposants. Des leaders politiques de l'opposition, dont M. Alexander B. Cummings de l'Alternative National Congress, seraient derrière ses activités, bien que cela n'ait pas été établi de manière indépendante.

Mais pourquoi deux groupes distincts ayant des intérêts opposés se disputeraient-ils le soutien du gouvernement américain alors que les réalités sur le terrain au Libéria ne sont en aucun cas impressionnantes ? Voici un bloc d'opposition qui est déterminé à s'autodétruire d'une part, et un gouvernement qui entretient l'impunité, la corruption avec un piètre bilan en matière de droits humains et un manque de responsabilité.

Comme on le dit souvent, seuls les actes comptent, pas les mots. Aucune quantité de lobbyisme ne changera quoi que ce soit si l'un ou l'autre des deux côtés reculait, au lieu d'avancer. Lorsque l'université, l'enseignement supérieur et secondaire s'effondrent sous nos yeux et que la santé est plus symbolique que pratique avec l'insécurité qui oblige les populations à aller au lit dès 20 heures, le lobbying ne peut pas changer la réalité.

De même, pendant que l'opposition dépense 180 000 \$ US pour avoir Washington de son côté, elle se déchire au Libéria et ne présente pas un visage sérieux pour attirer l'attention des électeurs.

Généralement, Washington est parfaitement au courant de la situation au Libéria, donc embaucher des lobbyistes pour blanchir à la chaux serait de courte durée car un singe ne peut pas changer ses mains noires, quelle que soit la quantité de détergent qu'il applique pour se laver les mains.

Les lobbyistes de Washington feraient bien s'ils adaptaient la sincérité dans le service public et privilégiaient l'intérêt des Libériens au-dessus des intérêts politiques égoïstes, au lieu de se livrer à la tromperie, aux mensonges et à la cupidité.

Français

CEDEAO : le président de la Cour met en garde contre les dangers

se constituer en un rempart pour sa protection ».

Il a mis au défi l'Association, âgée de 69 ans, de réfléchir à la manière dont elle pourrait tirer parti de son réseau pour contribuer à l'effort de sauvetage de la démocratie dans la région, ce qui nécessite l'effort collectif de tous les segments de la société, car cela offre une meilleure assurance pour le succès.

Il a évoqué le rôle de la Cour communautaire dans le renforcement du respect de l'état de droit, de la responsabilité, de la paix et de la sécurité régionales à

travers l'exercice de son mandat en matière de droits de l'homme qui lui a été conféré par son Protocole de 2005.

« Ce mandat sous-tend un engagement régional au respect des droits de l'homme et des libertés fondamentales dans tous les aspects de la vie, conformément à la Déclaration des principes politiques de 1991 et au Traité révisé de la CEDEAO de 1993 », a-t-il souligné.

La célébration a été célébrée sur le thème : Rôle des associations des Nations Unies dans la promotion de la démocratie, des droits de l'homme et de la paix mondiale.

Guinée : la CEDEAO sanctionne la junte

durables à la crise ».

Dans leurs délibérations, les Chefs d'État et de gouvernement de la CEDEAO ont décidé de maintenir la suspension de la Guinée de toutes les instances de la CEDEAO jusqu'à la restauration de l'ordre constitutionnel. En effet, les dirigeants de l'organisation sous régionale ont exigé la tenue, dans un délai de six (6) mois, des élections présidentielles et législatives de restauration de l'ordre constitutionnel en République de Guinée dont les membres du CNRD seront interdits d'être candidats à l'élection présidentielle.

Aussi, les chefs d'État ont décidé de mettre en œuvre des sanctions ciblées, conformément aux protocoles de la CEDEAO, impliquant l'interdiction de voyage des membres du CNRD

et les membres de leur famille ainsi que le gel de leurs avoirs financiers.

Dès le lendemain de ce sommet extraordinaire à Accra, la CEDEAO a dépêché deux Chefs d'État, notamment le président en exercice de la communauté ouest-africaine, le Ghanéen Nana Akufo-Addo, et son homologue ivoirien Alassane Ouattara en Guinée. Ces dirigeants ouest-africains se sont rendus dans la capitale guinéenne pour informer la junte au pouvoir des décisions prises au cours de la réunion extraordinaire de l'instance ouest-africaine tenue jeudi, à Accra. Durant le séjour, la délégation de chefs d'État de la CEDEAO a eu des entretiens avec le chef de la junte, lieutenant-colonel Mamady Doumbouya. Elle a également pu rencontrer Alpha Condé, au palais Mohamed V, rapporte nos confrères de Africaguinée.com.

Réconciliation en Côte-d'Ivoire: L'Église céleste de Kanon Luc prépare un coup pour Ouattara, Bédié et Gbagbo

Le 29 septembre 2021, l'Église du christianisme céleste dirigée par le Supérieur évangélique Kanon Luc célèbre le 74e anniversaire de sa création. Pour marquer l'événement, cette communauté religieuse a décidé de distinguer le président de la République Alassane Ouattara, ses prédécesseurs Laurent Gbagbo et Henri Konan Bédié pour leur contribution à la paix et à la réconciliation des ivoiriens. Cet événement sera organisé en son temple d'Abobo, en partenariat avec la Fondation internationale pour la paix, la presse et le développement durable en Afrique (Fippda) que dirige le journaliste Boli Aimé Narcisse.

L'information a été rendue publique samedi au cours d'une conférence de presse donnée par le chef de l'église céleste Kanon Luc et Boli Aimé au siège de l'institution religieuse à Abobo Sogefiha. Dans son exposé, le Supérieur évangélique a décliné les raisons qui amènent son église à honorer ces trois personnalités politiques. D'Alassane Ouattara, il retient le geste fort d'apaisement qui a consisté à donner son quitus au retour de l'ancien président Laurent Gbagbo après son acquittement au procès de La Haye. Quant à Laurent Gbagbo, le comité de distinction a retenu sa disposition à la paix en tournant la page sans appeler à la révolte et le fait d'abandonner son parti pour éviter tout affrontement avec son ancien proche collaborateur Affi N'guessan. Le même comité de distinction loue l'action patriotique de Konan Bédié dans sa recherche permanente de la paix, lui qui a laissé le pouvoir sans effusion de sang quand il fut renversé par des militaires.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Angel Gurría

Pour une économie durable, résiliente et inclusive

MEXICO - Réchauffement climatique, creusement des inégalités, accès insuffisant aux soins de santé et à l'éducation, tels sont quelques-uns des nombreux défis auxquels nous sommes confrontés depuis longtemps. Bien avant la pandémie, des voix se sont élevées pour remettre en question la mondialisation et le progrès technique. Malgré toute la création de richesse et le recul de la pauvreté au niveau mondial depuis quelques décennies, en dépit de leurs qualifications, beaucoup de gens se retrouvent sans emploi. La fracture sociale qui en résulte constitue une menace grave à long terme pour la prospérité économique et la santé publique.

Beaucoup d'observateurs considèrent la pandémie comme une occasion rare, un moment décisif pour voir grand et prendre des décisions cruciales au niveau international. La crise, c'est aussi l'occasion de construire une économie plus durable, plus résiliente et inclusive. A quoi ressemblerait une telle économie et une société résiliente ? Sur quels principes s'appuyer face aux choix difficiles qui nous attendent ? Comment faire pour ne laisser personne sur le bord du chemin ?

La coalition pour une croissance inclusive B4IG (Business for Inclusive Growth), un partenariat stratégique entre l'OCDE et 35 grandes entreprises mondiales, constitue une initiative majeure pour changer la manière de faire des affaires. Fondée en 2019 lors du sommet du G7, elle rassemble des entités privées et publiques en faveur du développement de modèles commerciaux plus inclusifs, eux-mêmes éléments constitutifs d'un modèle économique plus durable à long terme.

L'inclusion fait référence à un accès plus équitable à des emplois corrects et à la formation professionnelle. Elle suppose un engagement en faveur de la diversité, de l'équilibre hommes-femmes et des droits humains. Elle peut conduire à une plus grande implication et plus de confiance à l'égard des employés, des clients et des autres parties prenantes, ainsi qu'à une plus grande création de valeur à long terme.

L'une des premières priorités de la coalition B4IG est de repenser la manière d'évaluer la performance des entreprises. En collaboration avec le Centre pour le bien-être, l'inclusion, la durabilité et l'égalité des chances de l'OCDE (WISE, Centre on Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability, and Equal Opportunity), la coalition étudie la manière d'intégrer des indicateurs de performance non financiers (tels que le bien-être des parties prenantes et les empreintes environnementales) aux modèles économiques. Ces indicateurs concernent énormément d'éléments, du logement à la santé en passant par le savoir et les compétences. Ils s'appliquent non seulement aux employés et aux consommateurs, mais aussi aux fournisseurs et à la société.

La croissance rapide de la finance durable au cours des dernières années témoigne de l'effort plus large visant à ne plus se contenter des chiffres financiers et du PIB. Plus de 30 000

milliards de dollars d'actifs dans le monde répondent maintenant à des critères environnementaux, sociaux et de gouvernance (ESG) - une hausse de plus de 30 % par rapport à 2016. L'essor de l'investissement axé sur les critères ESG souligne le rôle capital de la finance pour intégrer des critères non financiers dans la répartition du capital au sein de l'économie. Ainsi, le coût du crédit que demande une entreprise peut être lié à sa réussite en matière de réduction des émissions de carbone ou de respect des objectifs de diversité.

Les partenariats public-privé sont essentiels pour parvenir à une reprise forte et inclusive et relever les défis croisés auxquels nous sommes confrontés. Les problèmes mondiaux d'aujourd'hui exigent une réflexion nouvelle sur le rôle des entreprises, de la société civile et des États, et sur leur collaboration.

Les États ne peuvent pas se contenter d'arbitrer le marché sans se préoccuper du reste. Ils doivent façonner et créer des marchés en encourageant certains investissements, en réduisant les risques qui leurs sont associés et en mettant en place des aides et des cadres réglementaires ciblés. Nombre d'innovations du privé dans le domaine de la technologie, des soins de santé et dans d'autres domaines n'auraient pas vu le jour sans le soutien des pouvoirs publics. Leur soutien en faveur de la recherche fondamentale a conduit à Internet, aux énergies propres et aux vaccins.

Compte tenu de la tendance vers plus d'automatisation qui supprime des emplois, la gestion de la transition verte et de la transition numérique (surtout) nécessitera un vaste effort de reconversion des travailleurs. Dans l'Union européenne, 75 % des entreprises de plus de 10 salariés assurent déjà et financent partiellement la formation de leurs employés. Mais davantage d'entreprises et de gouvernements doivent faire de même pour étendre l'accès à la formation à ceux qui en ont le plus besoin - en particulier les adultes ayant de faibles compétences et les personnes à faibles revenus.

Les employeurs ont un rôle majeur à jouer pour garantir une efficacité maximale des systèmes d'éducation et de formation. Ils doivent coopérer avec les pouvoirs publics pour favoriser l'apprentissage en milieu professionnel des étudiants - par exemple en créant des dispositifs plus flexibles et en développant des partenariats locaux école-entreprise.

Les entreprises doivent s'impliquer davantage dans le soutien au parcours professionnel des jeunes pour les préparer au monde du travail, et dans la lutte pour l'égalité hommes-femmes en offrant des congés parentaux, en instituant la transparence des salaires et en veillant à l'absence de discrimination dans les offres d'emploi.

Bien au-delà de la pandémie, c'est sur cette base que l'on peut construire les fondations d'une prospérité économique à long terme. Confrontés à des défis sans précédent, nous devons discuter de la réponse à leur apporter dans des forums mondiaux comme le Forum de Paris sur la paix. On entend souvent le slogan "Reconstruire en mieux", mais nous ne pourrions pas résoudre les problèmes d'aujourd'hui avec les solutions du passé. Nous devons faire mieux avec des solutions nouvelles.

Gov't reviews UL Faculty's demands

By Lincoln G. Peters

The president of the University of Liberia (UL) Rev. Prof. Dr. Julius Julukon Sarwolo Nelson says the Government of Liberia is reviewing demands made by the UL Faculty, which include salary disparity and salary increment, among others.

Speaking on OK FM Monday morning, 20 September 2021, Dr. Nelson said the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Finance has sent delegates to his office and they are expected to meet in an

Dr. Nelson called on every student to be calm as the issues are being discussed, saying before the end of this week, there will be a comprehensive resolution that sees students back in school to end the semester.

Dr. Nelson explained that upon his ascendancy as president of the university, he researched and got to know that 212 persons were affected by salary disparity, something he said he promised to settle in January and made two months payment as a means of telling them sorry.

He confirmed that after the

they are not up to standards," Dr. Nelson said.

"The government has decided to renovate the entire building until we can have money to build our modernized new university city," Dr. Nelson further disclosed.

He explained that his only problem with the aggrieved faculty is due to their unwillingness to sit with the Administration of UL and the Government of Liberia to make their cases so that the problem can be resolved.

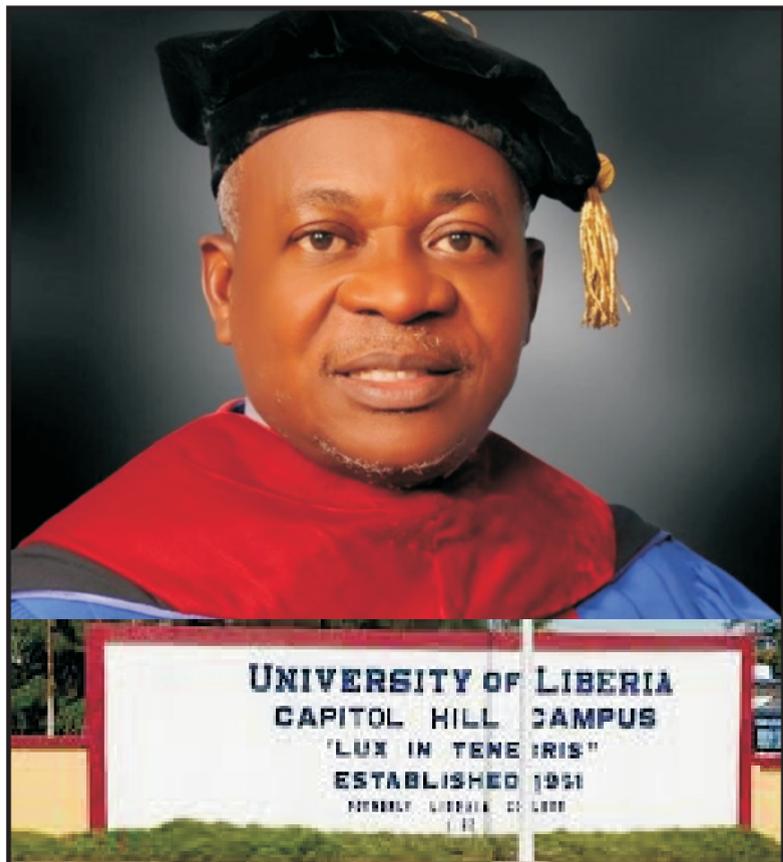
Dr. Nelson said the Faculty have refused many times to sit with the government to find solutions to their problems, adding that they want him to enter a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the faculty without the involvement of the Government of Liberia that supports the university, something he said he can never do.

Commenting on the medical insurance and social security of staff and faculty, Dr. Nelson noted that they are reviewing the medical insurance which expired in July of this year.

He noted that they have talked to the insurance company to provide services for the next six months until the faculty in consultation with the administration can agree to extend the contract.

On the social security issues, Dr. Nelson indicated that they are also having conversations with the National Social Security and Welfare Corporation (NASSCORP) because since 2012, the University of Liberia, like other government institutions across the country, has been facing problems with salary.

"We had those discussions and I asked them if learning and teaching can be going on while we find solutions to those listed counts, but they promised to come back on Wednesday after their meeting and I'm awaiting them because I just can't make decisions alone," said Dr. Nelson.



emergency meeting on Wednesday, 22 September.

He said the emergency meeting was intended to look at the salary disparity to see how best there can be equitable salary structure which could lead to salary increment.

The planned emergency meeting is necessitated by the announcement of UL Faculty's go -slow following a general assembly held last week which led to UL students' protest on Monday, 20 September.

During the radio talk show,

faculty came out with a resolution at a meeting on Friday, 18 September 2021, the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Finance also agreed to refurbish the entire university and provide a better and conducive learning environment with better sanitation.

"We are also having conversations with the Government of Liberia concerning the construction of a new university city to be built in the country, but equally so, we can't abandon our already existing structures even though

Liberia ends anti-fraud training

By Kruah Thompson (Intern)

The Liberian chapter of the association of certified fraud examiner (CFE) climaxes a three-day Anti - Fraud Training Conference in Monrovia.

The training was held from September 15-16, 2021 on the theme, "Together, reducing fraud nationwide."

It was conducted at the internal audit agency (All) office adjacent Zone-3 Police Station in Congo Town.

The Liberia chapter of the CFE is an affiliate of the global

Speaking to reporters during the training, the president for the Liberia chapter, Augustus G. Chenoway, said the conference was designed to provide a platform geared towards broadening the minds of CFE members.

It also provides knowledge on modern fraud investigation and examinations techniques.

Fraud is a major roadblock to growth in institutions around the world.

The forum encourages participants to act with integrity



body of Certified Fraud Examiners.

They aimed to reduce fraud and white collar crimes, and assist members in detecting fraud and applying deterrence.

Topics covered during the exercise, include financial institutions fraud, prevention and deterrence of healthcare fraud, recovering proceeds of fraud, how to detect proceed of fraud and tackling ethical dilemma, respectively.

while performing their duties.

Meanwhile, participants have applauded the leadership of the Liberian Chapter for organizing a certified professional education with certification for the three days' training.

They caution members not to be confused on the national scene but to continuously support CFE Liberia chapter existence. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

MoH to screen new born for Sickle cell disease

By Kruah Thompson (Intern)

A team of experts from the hematology association in America is in partnership with Liberia to start screening new born for sickle cell disease at the JFK hospital in Monrovia.

According to scientific research, sickle cell disease (SCD) is a group of inherited

red blood cell disorders which causes joint pains and complications in babies.

In Liberia, the disease is diagnosed when babies with SCD grow a little older.

Speaking to reporters at the Ministry of Information Thursday in Monrovia, the Minister of Health Dr. Wilhemina Jallah disclosed that to address the issue, government a along with a

team of experts from the hematology association in America has agreed to screen new born for Sickle cell disease in the country.

The process starts today, September 20, 2021 to be followed by full launch in November 2021 when the team from the United States arrives.

She emphasizes that if a

child is diagnosed positive, the infant will be placed in a special program.

Dr. Jallah also reveals there's no new COVID-related death in the country, adding that total recovery is 5,478, while total confirmed cases currently stand at 5,776 with persons vaccinated with the J&J jabs hitting 69, 284, respectively.

At the same time the ministry of health has embarked on training people in oxygen therapy across the political subdivisions of Liberia.

Dr Jallah recalls that oxygen was needed most during the first outbreak, so they are seriously preparing people to learn how to use oxygen, including having a oxygen plant in the country, eventually.

Adolphus Clarke, head of immunization at the ministry of health adds that 69,284 persons have vaccinated with the J&J jab, while 24,490 persons received their second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Meanwhile, he says a total of 93,774 persons are fully vaccinated across the country. Editing by Jonathan Browne

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PLP expels Paye, others

The People's Liberation Party (PLP), through its General Policy Commission (GPC) has officially expelled its dethroned acting National Chairman Wilmot Paye and few others for allegedly violating the norms, code of values and ethics of the party.

Mr. Paye was expelled from the party along with several others including Mr. Henry Sackie, Kansualism Kansuah, Carlos Edison Tingban, Peddi Ross and Reuben Washington for similar reasons.

The PLP was fully certificated by the National Elections Commission (NEC) as a full-fledged political

misrepresent himself in the public as Chairman of the party.

The communication was signed by the Acting National Organizing Chairman of the PLP, Mr. Tapple E. Doe.

It maintained that Mr. Paye and the others have been engaged in fabricating stories, which have no iota of truth to besmear the party's image and bring it to public ridicule.

The GPC added that Mr. Paye continues to demonstrate gross violation of the Party's norms, and as such, his membership is terminated with immediate effect.

It can be recalled that the PLP in recent time removed Mr. Wilmot Paye as acting chairman

Paye and the others challenged the decision taken by the GPC and filed an official complaint to the NEC.

But in a report dated August 30, 2021, issued under the signature of NEC Director of Political Affairs Ignatius B. Wisseh and addressed to PLP Acting Organizing Chairman, Mr. Tapple E. Doe, the commission pointed out that the positions previously held by Mr. Paye and the others had no legal backing.

It said the PLP had not held a convention to elect its required officials, referring both parties at the conference to Chapter II, Section 2.9 of the Regulations and Guidelines Relating to Political Parties and Independent Candidates.

The provision states that: "once accredited, the leadership of the organizing committee of every newly accredited political party shall be required to take the party to convention not later than six months following its accreditation to, among other things adopt the party's constitution and elect its corps of officers."

Following the NEC ruling on the matter, Mr. Paye and the others went on the rampage by engaging into verbal attacks, smear campaign and propaganda by taking to the airwaves to derail the character of the Vision Bearer of the PLP, Dr. Daniel E. Cassell and tarnishing the image of the party in general.

"In view of the recent waves of gross violations of the PLP's Norms, Code Values and Ethics, the Organizing Committee (OC) of the People's Liberation Party (PLP) do hereby expel your membership from the PLP as of the above-mentioned date," the party said.

In a brief chat with Reporters shortly after the GPC's meeting, PLP Organizing Chairman, Mr. Tapple E. Doe, cautioned members of the public, including political parties to avoid doing business with the expelled individuals in the name of the party.--*Press release*

and few others from various leadership positions within the party for multiple reasons ranging from alleged fraud, acts of undermining and poor performances and unilaterally violating the constitutional rights of other members of the party.

Those removed from positions along with Mr. Paye include Henry Sackie and Kansualism Kansuah, then Acting Vice Chairman for Political Affairs and Secretary General, respectively.

Former student leader Carlos Tingban Edison was suspended from his position as acting National Youth Chairman of the PLP.

Following their removal, Mr.



party on December 21, 2020.

The GPC is the highest decision-making body of the People's Liberation Party which is headed by Dr. Daniel Cassell.

The GPC of the party took the decision to expel Paye and the others on Monday, September 20, 2021 shortly after the climax of an executive meeting held at the party's headquarters in Congo Town, outside Monrovia.

In a letter dated September 20, 2021 and addressed to Mr. Paye, the GPC stated that since his removal as acting Chairman of the PLP, he continues to

Drivers protest

Starts from back page

their economic survival.

The aggrieved drivers, some of whom are in traffic as contractors, indicated that they report about LD\$3,000 to LD\$4,000 to their bosses, in addition to making other expenses that include buying of gasoline which according to them, is sold LD\$640.00 per gallon.

Two spokespersons for the protesting commercial drivers, James Masselay and Abrehah Mohammed Kiazolu said the drivers have nothing to take home to their families, suggesting that they want to return to transporting five passengers in a taxi cab if the fare reduction should continue.

According to them, they were paying US\$30.00 for a driver's license for two years and US\$150 for car registration, but they are now paying US\$40 for driver's license and US\$175 for vehicle registration.

The protesters lamented that this is seriously killing them, calling on the Government of Liberia to ensure that commercial drivers can benefit something good.

"They have told us to do a formal, written

communication concerning our plight and they will respond to us in another scheduled meeting on Wednesday, September 22, 2021," the group told reporters.

They noted that if their plights are not taken into consideration, they will get back on the street and continue with a massive protest which will be followed by a go - slow.

Responding to the drivers' concerns, Transport Minister Samuel Wlue said he is having conversations with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to see how best they can brainstorm within the next six months to handle issues surrounding the importation of car parts and gasoline, among others.

He noted that the issues about three passengers in the backseat of a taxi cab is beyond his power, adding that it's a decision that was taken by the Health Ministry in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 across the country.

"We will talk with you people in the next [few] days from now through your leaders. We will make sure that these concerns are addressed adequately in order to help drivers to have something to take home for them and their families," Minister Samuel Wlu concluded. -*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

Judge urges

Cont'd from page 6

"I'm of the view that lawyers should have the spirit to render services and the obligation in providing social services to the society. This can't be overemphasized," the judge said.

He continued that lawyers should devote their time and energies to the rule of law and be committed to the welfare of society and not only their clients.

He indicated that the professional responsibilities of lawyers in the country have been directed towards defining and defending the rule of law, adding that a democratic government like Liberia's, rests on the shoulders of lawyers.

Judge Peabody added that knowledge of the rule of law and ethical professional discipline by lawyers will work to promote justice and help establish the truth in society.

He described lawyers as the

mouthpiece of society through the legal process, and that they are to perform a critical role in promoting social order by the administration of the law in a manner which answers the fundamental requirements of the rule of law.

According to Judge Peabody, adherence to the rule of law, public interest and common good are some of the things to put above all else, adding that there are many instances of lawyers getting wrong as opposed to right in advancing the public interest.

"The legal profession has a specific responsibility to fight for the sustainability of the rule of law. Therefore, society is said to be more open, tolerant and economically successful when people obey the rule of law. When the rule of law is threatening, our democracy is threatened as well," he warned.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

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"While they were making their way in the bush in search of the lady, argument broke out between Anthony Hoto and Isaac Nyemah, accusing each other, he recalls.

Meanwhile, residents of the town, including the district

superintendent and his team of officials have thanked Almighty God for finding the 50 years old woman alive while Police probe the suspects for their alleged role in her disappearance. -*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Cont'd from page 6

Missing woman

continued for the woman.

The district superintendent details that during the search, residents of Wlowien and nearby towns suspended farming activities, spending days and nights patrolling the bushes in search of Oldma Eliza Roberts.

The district superintendent adds that Suspect Gbolugba and his alleged accomplices

including Solomon Jallah, who denied his involvement, but claims to have seen them in witch form, carrying on rituals, are currently in police custody in Pleebo for their refusal initially to produce the woman.

Though Supt. Johnny lauds tribal authority for handling the case in a civil manner, he describes the incident as terrifying, shameful and regrettable, saying to have such news coming from his district,

especially when calm had just been restored in the county following street protests for the murder of Mordecia Nyemah, a cyclist and senior student of the Pleebo High School in Maryland County.

He says the four suspects admitted publicly without torture and intimidation of leading the women into the bush, but later refused to call her from the bush thru the spirit realm.

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With Emmanuel B. Juduh

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Drivers protest against fares reduction



By Lincoln G. Peters

Several commercial drivers staged a peaceful protest early Monday, 20 September 2021 in Monrovia, expressing their opposition to the reduction in transport fares by the government here.

The protesting commercial drivers peacefully assembled at the Ministry of Transport and expressed their disappointment against the reduction, saying they are finding it difficult to make their ends meet.

They complained that they have been restricted to

transport four passengers in a taxi cab at a time, and they are paying high fees for driver's license and vehicle registration, adding that the reduction in transportation fare is causing serious harm to

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