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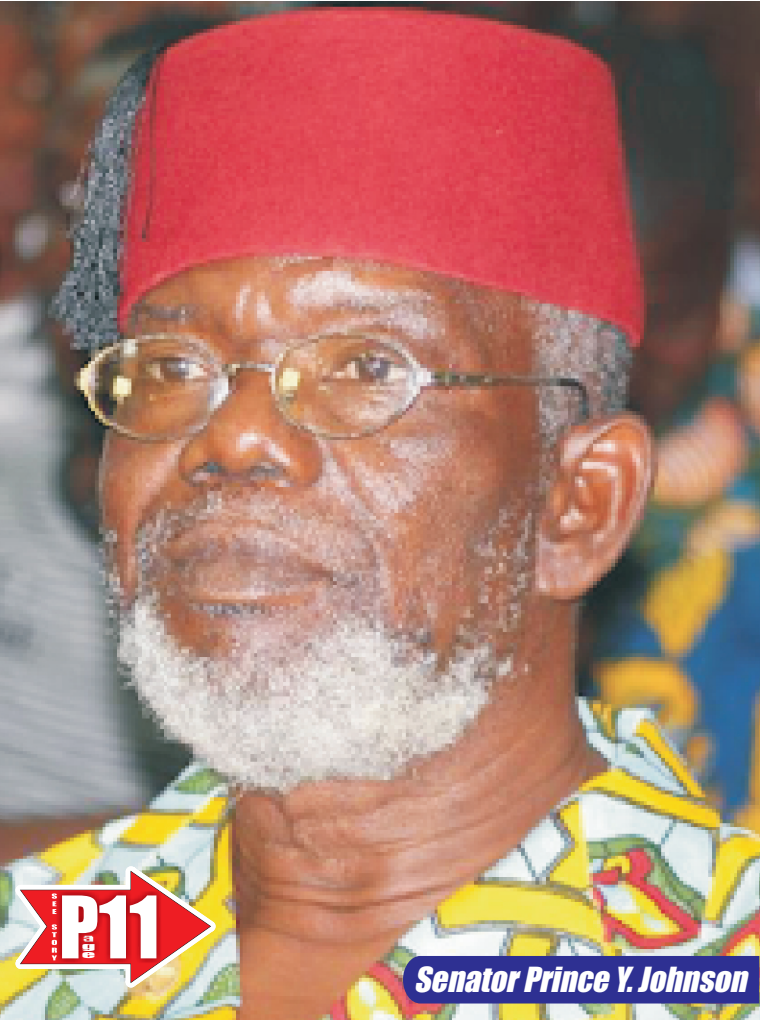
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PYJ risks rejection in Nimba 2023



Senator Prince Y. Johnson



Ellen Joins the #FreetownTheTreeTown Campaign



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Continental News

Ghana's role in honouring a US civil rights hero

In our series of letters from African journalists, Elizabeth Ohene looks at plans to build a state-of-the-art complex in Ghana to honour the pioneering US black civil rights activist William Edward Burghardt Du Bois. A cadre of radical African-American intellectuals and artists moved to Ghana after its independence in 1957 and contributed to the invigorating atmosphere of those times.

WEB Du Bois - the famous African-American scholar and black activist - was probably the most high-profile figure among the coterie of African diasporans who came to live here. The first African American to earn a doctorate from Harvard University in 1895, he fought prejudice and racism in the US, speaking out against lynching and calling for the equality for all citizens.

He was one of the founders at the turn of the 20th Century of the National

Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

And he was seen generally by many Africans as the father of modern pan-Africanism.

His role in establishing the Pan-African Congresses in the early 1900s and his agitation for an end to colonialism made him an inspiration to many African leaders.

By the time Du Bois came to live in Ghana in 1961 at the invitation of then-President Kwame Nkrumah, he was frail, sick and 93 years old.

Officially he came to start the big Encyclopaedia Africana project, but it was obvious time was not on his side.

However, he did find the peace, and was accorded the

respect, that America had denied him throughout his life. He and his wife, Shirley Graham Du Bois, were given a comfortable seven-room government house in the capital, Accra, on an acre of land - No 21 First Circular Road, Cantoments - and they had a staff of four: a steward, a cook, a night watchman, and a driver who was responsible for the two cars given to them. To set the tone for the conversation in the home which was a hive of activity, the Du Bois couple decorated it with the busts of Karl Marx, Lenin and Chairman Mao.

The diasporan intellectuals were known as "Afros" by the locals, who kept well out of their sometimes furious internal ideological rows.

Some of those names still ring a bell: Maya Angelou, George Padmore (there is a library named after him here

in Accra), Marcus Garvey, Bill Sutherland, Julian Mayfield and the dentists Robert and Sara Lee.

There will certainly be a beautiful symmetry to the story when No 21 First Circular Road, the current Du Bois Memorial Centre in Accra where the couple are buried, becomes a world-class destination for scholars and heritage tourists. The government of Ghana and the Du Bois Foundation recently signed an agreement in New York to transform it into "a vibrant, cultural and research centre".

It is already the fulcrum of African diaspora activity, playing host to the yearly Emancipation Day wreath laying, the annual Nkrumah-Du Bois-Padmores Memorial lecture series and serving as the offices for the African-American Association of Ghana and the Diaspora African Forum. BBC



Tourists visit Cape Coast Castle from where many slaves were transported

Husband a 'suspect' as Tirop found dead

Kenyan world record holder Agnes Tirop has been found stabbed to death at her home in the western town of Iten, with police treating her husband as a suspect.

The two-time World Athletics Championships bronze medallist, who finished fourth in the Olympic 5,000m final two months ago, was 25. A criminal investigation is now underway into her death,

with police saying her husband has gone missing. On Wednesday, crime scene investigators were at the house of Tirop, who police say was reported missing by her father on Tuesday night.

"When [police] got to the house, they found Tirop on the bed and there was a pool of blood on the floor," Tom Makori, head of police for the area, said.

"They saw she had been stabbed in the neck, which led us to believe it was a knife wound, and we believe that is what

caused her death.

"Her husband is still at large, and preliminary investigations tell us her husband is a suspect because he cannot be found. Police are trying to find her husband so he can explain what happened to Tirop." Makori added that police believe that CCTV in the house may be able to help with their investigation.

Tirop was also found dead with a stab wound to her stomach, sources have told the BBC. "Athletics Kenya are distraught to learn about the untimely death of World 10,000m bronze medallist Agnes Tirop," the country's athletics body said in a statement.

"We are still working to unearth more details surrounding her demise. Kenya has lost a jewel who was one of the fastest-rising athletics giants on the international stage, thanks to her eye-catching performances on the track."

Last month, Tirop set the world record for a women's only 10km road race in Germany.

At the 2020 Olympic Games

Liberia taxi rider returns missing \$50,000 in cash



A Liberian teenage motorcycle taxi rider has become a national hero after he found and returned \$50,000 (£37,000) that had gone missing from a prominent businesswoman in north-eastern Nimba County on the border with Ivory Coast.

The young man, Emmanuel Tolu, saw the money wrapped in a plastic bag on a highway and heard the owner, Musu Yancy, desperately making a radio appeal to anyone coming across the cash.

He then let her know he had

found it in the presence of local officials.

Ms Yancy told the BBC she and her boss have rewarded the cyclist with \$1,500 (£1,100) and other gifts.

She was so happy and relieved about getting the money back she has almost lost her voice thanking God.

As people sing the praise of the motorcyclist, well-wishers have been pouring into the home of the lady in the town of Tappita in celebration.

Such gestures are exceptionally unusual in post-war Liberia. BBC



Kenya's Agnes Tirop broke the world record for a women's 10km road race in Germany

in August, Tirop finished just outside the medal places for the women's 5,000m, trailing Ethiopia's bronze medallist Gudaf Tsegay by 0.75 seconds.

As well as her 10,000m bronze medals at both the 2017 and 2019 World Athletics

Championships, Tirop also impressed off the track.

In September, she set a time of 30 minutes and one second in Herzogenaurach, Germany, as she took 28 seconds off the old 10km road race record set in 2002. BBC

EDITORIAL

Indeed, equity in prevention matters

THE WORLD IS fighting the Covid-19 pandemic with unequal strength which is dangerous to achieve total eradication. While powerful nations such as America, Britain, France and others are determined to have their populations vaccinated 100 percent, Africa is still struggling to lay hands on at least 25 percent, if not 50 of the world's doses for its population that is predominantly youth. Something needs to be done urgently to give hope to Africa's future.

COMMENTING ON THE global health pandemic when she delivered a speech in Freetown, Sierra Leone, former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf stressed the need for vaccine equity, which she described as the primary means for prevention.

SHE SAID IT is simply wrong for richer nations to vaccinate 80 - 100 percent of the population of their countries while the poorer nations such as those in Africa have vaccinated less than 5 percent of their population. And this is true!

WHILE IT IS undisputable that richer nations have bigger populations and well sophisticated human resources that they desperately want to protect, and is their right to do so, but least they should forget, Africa is a member of the global community, and having just 5 percent of its population vaccinated against theirs doesn't promote a safe global village.

SOMETHING NEEDS TO done and done urgently to scaling up Africa's share of Covid-19 jabs to ensure equity in prevention for sustainable living. As it stands currently, the entire continent is nothing but vulnerable to everything: It lacks capital, economy has nose-dived due to slow growth and uncertainty.

MADAM SIRLEAF ALSO noted that Post-COVID-19 Inclusive Recovery also requires bridging the monopoly of vaccine manufacturing that is currently concentrated in the global North. "We have called for the waiver of intellectual property rights and technology transfers to facilitate vaccine manufacturing in the global South. There is progress to report in this regard. The voices of advocacy have prevailed and efforts are now underway for the collaboration among pharmaceutical companies that will ensure manufacturing in the global South. Already the J and J Company has started in South Africa with expected expansions to Senegal and Rwanda, and then to others", she explained.

THIS IS GOOD news for Africa and we must make maximum use of this opportunity so that Africa can increase the percentage of her people vaccinated to an appreciable level than what it is currently.

WE BELIEVE IF the J and J vaccine is manufactured right here in Africa the jabs would become affordable and available for all, and increase the number of people getting vaccinated to contain the Delta variant that has developed various strains.

ALL SEEMS NOT to be lost. We thank Madam Sirleaf herself, who co-chairs the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. She has vowed that coming months of critical discussions by governments and institutions and institutionalizing the changes that are required will make COVID-19 the last Pandemic.

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

COMMENTARY

By Josep Borrell,
Virginijus Sinkevičius

The EU's Arctic Vision

BRUSSELS - The Arctic is changing rapidly, owing to the impact of global warming, increasing competition for resources, and geopolitical rivalries. Regarding the region's future, the European Union has both interests to uphold and a meaningful contribution to make. We intend to step up our engagement there through climate action, international cooperation, sustainable economic development, and putting people first.

The European Green Deal will make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, and our legally binding commitment to cut greenhouse-gas emissions by 55% by 2030 stands as a global benchmark. The Green Deal and the EU's new approach to fostering a sustainable blue economy are at the heart of the Union's Arctic strategy. Among our core proposals are a call for oil, gas, and coal to remain in the ground, including in Arctic regions, and the establishment of a permanent EU presence in Greenland.

This task could not be more urgent. Climate change is on everyone's mind, but it is happening more than twice as fast in the Arctic as elsewhere. Some of the region's coastal stretches will soon become ice-free during summers - and eventually during winters, too. Melting ice and thawing permafrost are releasing large amounts of methane, further accelerating global warming, while rising sea levels are increasingly threatening coastal communities around the world. The August 2021 report by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stressed that human actions lie at the root of these developments.

Already, receding Arctic ice is opening up shipping routes and easing access to oil, gas, and minerals - some of which serve as key inputs to help meet the world's growing demand for innovative technology products. No wonder, then, that the Arctic is becoming more crowded, with a growing number of actors expanding their engagement. Increasingly, the kind of strategic competition that is so prevalent elsewhere in the world is now also shaping the Arctic landscape.

China, for example, has described itself as a "near-Arctic state," and has added a "Polar Silk Road" to its transnational Belt and Road Initiative. It has been investing heavily in Russian liquefied natural gas fields and is eyeing shorter shipping routes. Russia, meanwhile, is building heavy icebreakers and looking at the Northern Sea Route to increase domestic and international shipping, as well as rebuilding military capacities in the region that had fallen into disuse since the end of the Cold War.

These developments show that Europe must define its geopolitical interests broadly to promote stability, safety, and peaceful cooperation in the Arctic. Of course, the eight Arctic states have the primary responsibility here, but many issues affecting the region can be addressed only through regional or

multilateral cooperation. The EU will thus expand its collaboration on such matters with all interested parties, and notably with allies and partners such as the United States, Canada, Norway, and Iceland.

Regarding maritime search and rescue, for example, we need regional or circumpolar cooperation between national coast guards, and should make greater use of our satellite systems to reduce risks at sea. Likewise, the EU is committed to the success of the agreement to prevent unregulated high-seas fishing in the Central Arctic Ocean. Another regional priority is social inclusion: the challenges that indigenous reindeer herders face do not stop at national borders. We are also more effective working together when it comes to zero-emissions shipping standards, best practices in telemedicine, renewable energies, or reducing plastic pollution.

With decades of experience in fostering regional cooperation, the EU will play its part. We are a leading proponent of multilateralism and take our multilateral commitments seriously - particularly those related to tackling climate change. And the Union is of course itself part of the Arctic. Three of our member states have territory there, and we make laws that apply in five Arctic states. We are active in several regional bodies, including the Arctic Council, the Barents Euro-Arctic Council, and the Northern Dimension, where we work with Russia, Norway, and Iceland, particularly on environmental clean-ups.

The EU will expand its Arctic engagement across the policy spectrum. That includes paying special attention to the interests and views of youth and indigenous peoples, who have unique knowledge of local landscapes and are firsthand witnesses to changes that pose imminent threats to us all.

Clearly, we need an integrated approach. This means combining our climate and environmental goals with economic opportunities and joint action against shared security threats, including those arising from the climate crisis. For example, stimulating a robust green transition will enable Arctic regions to create jobs in sectors such as carbon-neutral energy, as well as develop sustainable approaches to connectivity, tourism, fisheries, and innovation.

Europe will continue to use its substantial research budget and expertise in Earth science to understand better and counter the effects of climate change. And we will seek to increase the EU's strategic autonomy in minerals that are important for the green transition, ensuring that the extraction of these key raw materials is carried out in accordance with the highest environmental standards.

The Arctic faces serious, even existential, challenges. The EU will scale up and modernize its engagement to help ensure that collaborative approaches to addressing them prevail over potentially damaging strategic competition.

OPINION

By Carlo Ratti

Helsinki's Climate Moonshot

Helsinki deserves credit for modeling not only how to set an innovative climate goal, but also how to craft a novel process to achieve it. More cities will likely explore the moonshot route taken by the Finnish capital as they seek to pursue bolder sustainability policies.

BOSTON - Among the many misleading beliefs about climate change, one in particular has too often gone unchallenged. This is the idea that temperature increases will negatively affect only warmer regions, while making polar climates milder and more pleasant. In fact, extreme weather and rising sea levels in colder countries will far outweigh the benefits of warmer winters.

Northern European cities are well aware of this. According to a 2021 study by the World Economic Forum, nine of the ten leading countries in the transition to sustainability are in Europe, and almost all of them are at high latitudes. For example, Nordic cities are competing with one another to see which can cut its emissions the most through various measures related to mobility, raw material consumption, and energy production. Copenhagen wants to become the first "carbon-neutral capital" as early as 2025, while Stockholm aims to be fossil fuel-free by 2040.

But the case of Helsinki is perhaps the most interesting. Finland has placed the sustainability imperative alongside its other pillars of postwar national development: a democracy premised on equality for all citizens, an economic culture based on a healthy work-life balance, and cities living in harmony with nature. These attributes have allowed a relatively peripheral and sparsely populated country to excel consistently in rankings of the world's happiest countries.

Helsinki's carbon-dioxide emissions declined by 26% between 1990 and 2019, despite significant population growth over the same period. But the city still has a major problem: indoor heating, which accounts for more than half of local emissions, is heavily dependent on coal, because the district heating system pumps excess hot water from coal-fired power plants across the capital.

This reality becomes strikingly visible as one travels outward from Helsinki's historic city center, and the severe, twentieth-century residential blocks and the softer lines of more contemporary architecture suddenly give way to power plants of monstrous scale. The most imposing of these, Hanasaari, has a 150-meter-tall chimney that still towers above all other buildings in the capital.

The closure of Helsinki's coal-burning power plants - scheduled for 2029 - is high on the local political agenda. But while almost everyone agrees on the need to phase out coal, how to transform the city's colossal district heating system in a sustainable way is far less obvious. Besides the technical hurdles, there are no standard solutions on this scale or best practices from which to draw inspiration.

Fortunately, the formidable obstacles Helsinki faces inspired a "moonshot" of urban innovation. In February 2020, the city's then-mayor, Jan Vapaavuori, launched the Helsinki Energy Challenge, an international competition to solicit ideas and technical proposals to accelerate its green transition. In just a few months, more than 250 groups submitted entries. Earlier this year, four groups - including one created by the design firm I co-founded and a large team of consultants - were announced as joint winners.

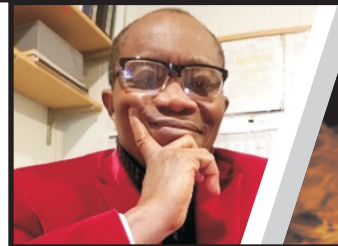
All four winning proposals adopted a patient, systemic approach, and did not promise panaceas or magic wands. Our project proposes channeling the hot water used for Helsinki's district heating system into huge thermal basins floating in the water off the harbor. These would act as a battery to store energy generated from renewable sources such as wind power - which is notoriously erratic, sometimes inaccessible, and at other times available at low or even negative prices - and release it into the system when needed.

Helsinki and its Energy Challenge hold lessons for the rest of the world. The first is that climate efforts must balance competition with collaboration. Vapaavuori's contest allowed Helsinki to synthesize a diverse array of skills and visions.

Second, we need to devise new ways to materialize innovation. City governments usually work on the basis of best practices, selecting projects and policies with a proven track record. This strategy is supposed to minimize risk and the possible waste of taxpayers' money. But the urgency of the climate crisis - not to mention the other demographic and social challenges cities will face in the near future - demands a different, sometimes riskier approach. It was the absence of best practices that spurred a flurry of innovation in Helsinki. By preventing a large body of prior work from constraining our imaginations, we can replicate this creativity elsewhere.

Given that discretion and modesty are often seen as distinctly Finnish traits, Vapaavuori deserves credit for modeling not only how to set an innovative goal, but also how to craft a novel process to achieve it. More cities will likely explore the moonshot route taken by Helsinki as they seek to pursue bolder climate policies.

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With Jones Mallay

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

LIBERIA POLITICAL

HOT-FIRE

The CDC-led government is on the defensive of organized killing. IG Suedue makes President Weah very happy with unfounded falsities

An unimpeachable source familiar with this story revealed that President Weah likes to listen to lies and gossip from his subordinates. As such, the President's itching ears would no doubt be 100% always attractive to terrible unfounded lies and very harmful gossip from officials who are overzealously listening on behalf of President Weah.

Interestingly, a President who often listens to lies and gossip from his key subordinates their paychecks never stalled. But those officials that tell the President truth stories their paychecks often stalled and, in some instances, they are quickly replaced by top-key liars in government or they are three-times prone to get fired by the President himself-so, the government becomes pregnant with a bunch of liars.

This is the case with Col. Patrick Toe Suedue, Liberia Inspector General of Police who is doing everything to keep his monthly paycheck by making President Weah very happy with manufactured lies regarding the ongoing well-organized ritualistic killing spree in Liberia, especially Monrovia.

The veteran IG is now among the congregation of liars regarding the ongoing organized killing spree sweeping across Liberia. For example, the veteran IG concurred: "The ritualistic killing is a fake news being propagated by the opposition parties", "Liberian oppositions are making up stories to damage the CDC-led government image", "ANC partisan post a fake dead person picture in his chat room on Facebook and termed the death as ritualistic killing, which was nothing but the false story", "The IG told the head (Bryon Brown) of Citizens United Against Ritualistic Killings (CURK) in Grand Bassa county that: "there is only one ritualistic death in the country, the rest are unconfirmed ritualistic killings across Liberia."

But the IG and President Weah are vividly familiar with one particular sad event, that is on Friday, October 1, 2021, President Weah celebrated his 55th birthday. It was on the same Friday, October 1, 2021, another innocent elderly Liberian woman was gruesomely murdered in Samukai Town, Upper Caldwell, Montserrado county. The IG and President do not deny this sad event even though the IG has continued to bury his head in shame as he qualified other ritualistic killings as fake news. Moses Carters, the LNP's spokesperson tries to twist his tongue on the Caldwell murder on the day of the President's 55th birthday celebrations but he also couldn't defend President Weah nor sing for a rejected IG.

The gruesome murder of the elderly woman in Samuka Town on President Weah's birthday coupled with other verifiable murders of innocent Liberians is far more attention-driven than the IG's massive defensive strategies which truly exposed the CDC-led government security apparatus gross incompetence to protect lives and properties. Dr. Daniel E. Cassell, the political leader of People Liberation Party (PLP) refused to hold back his tongue when he called on the IG to resign. What is discouraging is the fact that the CDC-led government's defensive tactics have emphatically infuriated thousands and thousands of Liberians.

The government scare tactics have hardened the hearts of Liberians to conclude that the CDC-led government of President Weah is not innocent of the organized killing spree around Liberia especially where President Weah has conspicuously remained mute if though no killings are going on in Liberia.

What is even astonishing and very shamefully is the fact that innocent Liberians are being murdered under the noises of the Liberia National Police, Liberian Immigration Services, National Security Agency, NSA, Ministry of National Security, Executive Mansion Special Forces, Armed Forces of Liberia, and other paramilitary and private security apparatus, yet the murderers are having a momentous feast day taken the lives of innocent Liberians with President Weah turning his blind eyes on such gruesome killings in Liberia. This is a clear message to all Liberians that President Weah is more interested in consolidating his power rather than protecting the lives of innocent Liberians.

The good news is that the Vice President of the Ruling Coalition for Democratic Change Jewel Howard Taylor has vehemently distanced herself from the IG's huge deceptions. The VP is rather on the offensive. She has joined forces to forcibly decry the ongoing killing of innocent Liberians almost daily. She challenged Justice Minister Musa Dean to investigate the unstoppable murders of innocent Liberians across Liberia.

VP Taylor stressed that as a mother, "I will stand up to the occasion and distinguish myself." But on the contrary, her boss President Weah has chosen to remain tight-lipped on the organized killing spree across Liberia especially in Monrovia. VP Taylor calls on the LNP not to hide or shield themselves behind the normal slogan: "limited resources." She lashed out at the LNP/IG to move swiftly to provide security and protection for all Liberian citizens, something she said they "signed up for to protect lives and properties"-Says VP: Ruling Coalition for Democratic Change.



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JUDICIAL BRANCH

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
SITTING IN MONROVIA OCTOBER 14, 2021.



BEFORE HIS HOONOR J. VINTON HOLDER, JUDGE, MONTHLY & PROBATE COURT, MONT. CO. R.L.

IN RE: THE PETITION OF THE FAMILY OF THE LATE ABRAHAM V. KROMAH REPRESENTED BY HIS YOUNGER BROTHER MR. SENESEE VARMUYAH KROMAH, PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY TO BE GIVEN TO THE EXECUTRIX OR EXECUTOR AFTER THE SEAL IS BROKEN AND THE READING OF AN INSTRUMENT WHICH APPEARS TO BE THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF HIS BIOLOGICAL ELDER BROTHER, MR. ABRAHAM V. KROMAH.

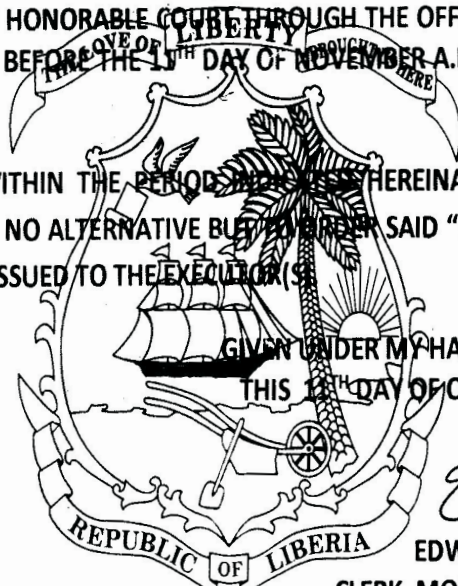
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NOTICE?!

NOTICE!!!

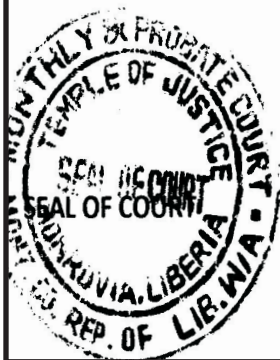
THIS IS TO NOTIFY THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE INSTRUMENT PURPORTED TO BE THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THE LATE ABRAHAM V. KROMAH WAS IN DUE FORM BROUGHT TO THE MONTHLY AND PROBATE COURT FOR MONTSERRADO COUNTY AND SAME READ IN OPEN COURT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF LIBERIA ON THE 5TH DAY OF OCTOBER A.D. 2021. THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS FURTHER INFORMED THAT IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, ALL PERSONS HAVING LEGAL OR FORMAL OBJECTIONS TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED "PETITION" ARE TO FILE SAME IN THIS HONORABLE COURT THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE AFORESAID COURT ON OR BEFORE THE 1ST DAY OF NOVEMBER A.D. 2021, AT THE HOUR OF 10:00 A.M.

FAILURE TO DO SAME WITHIN THE PERIOD MENTIONED THEREINABOVE, WILL LEAVE THIS HONORABLE COURT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO HAVE SAID "PETITION" GRANTED AND LETTERS TESTAMENTORY ISSUED TO THE EXECUTOR(S).



GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT
THIS 14TH DAY OF OCTOBER A.D. 2021

[Signature]
EDWIN S. BOIMAH, SR.
CLERK, MONTHLY & PROBATE COURT
MONTSERRADO COUNTY, R.L.



VP Taylor, others attend Third Eurasian Women's Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia

Liberia's Vice President Chief Dr. Jewel Howard- Taylor and several prominent Liberian women, including lawmakers, have joined other women from across the World at the Third Eurasian Women's Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Some of the women who are attending the International Women's Forum are: Dr. Jewel Howard-Taylor, Vice President of the Republic of Liberia, Sen. BotoKanneh, Senator of Gbarpolu County, Rep. Ellen Attoh-Wreh of District # 3 in Margibi County and Madam Helen Nah-Sammie, Publisher of Womenvoices Newspaper.



Prominent Liberian Women in St. Petersburg, Russia

A letter of invitation addressed to VP Taylor reads in part: "It is our great pleasure to invite you to the Environmental Platform competitions at the 3rd Eurasian Women's Forum that are held for female leaders in different fields: entrepreneurship, media and science. Three competitions for women changing science, business and media

will be held in September 2021.

The Expert Jury will then conduct assessments and select finalists until 10 October 2021. The finalists will be invited to talk about their projects at the pitching session.

Award ceremony and the pitching session for the finalists will be held on 13 October 2021 as part of the Ecological

Platform of the Eurasian Women's Forum in Saint Petersburg (The Universe of Water museum complex) and online".

According to a dispatch from St. Petersburg, VP Howard-Taylor will participate in several side events including the Gala Concert for Participants of the Third Eurasian

CDC calls for speedy investigation

The ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) has strongly descended on authorities of the Liberia National Police for delaying investigations of reported ritualistic killings in the country.

Speaking at a news conference on Wednesday, October 12, at the party's headquarters in Congo Town,

Weah's administration.

He they are only intended to create a an impression that Liberia is not safe, something, he said, is far from reality.

According to him, the best option is for the government to show the clear picture of the level of safety here is for the police to speedily conduct investigation and made public findings.

He cautioned that the falsehood has the propensity to scare investors, visitors and Liberians in the Diasporas from coming to country.

Meanwhile, Morlu has announced the CDC is about to commence a operation styled 'boots on grounds' where every village, town and city will be engaged by the ruling party as the party prepares for the 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

He told the news conference the operation is headed by CDC vice chairman for administration Garblah Williams and national youth league chairman Jefferson Kojjii.

The branding of the party will also introduce new variables where every partisan will be impacted fully.

All three political parties that formed the Coalition, including the National Patriotic Party of Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor, the Liberia People's Democratic Party of former Speaker Alex Tyler and the Congress for Democratic Change of President Weah are set for the boots on ground operation.

Morlu also disclosed the CDC will this October 18, launch a national identification exercise where First Partisan, President George Manneh Weah will take the first ID card in Montserrado County Electoral District #6. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Chairman Mulbah Morlu said that due to delays in some of the investigations conducted by the police, it creates unnecessary fears making a case that these allegations are true.

Morlu narrated that all reported ritualistic killings news circulating on social media is by some individuals who just hate the George

He added that hate for the government and individuals in government has reached highest level of unreasoning noting that some individuals who are against the ruling establishment have created strategies to fuel the social media with false pectorals depicting that the country is not safe when in reality Liberia remains one of the safest places on earth.

Chimpanzees' attacks leave 3 persons hospitalized

By Thomas Domah, Nimba County

Several citizens of district#8, Nimba County are said to be living in fear due to constant attacks from Chimpanzees that have left at least three persons hospitalized.

But Representative Larry Younquoi, who represents the district, has ordered his fellow citizens to kill Chimpanzees preying on them.

Chimpanzee is one of Liberia's wild animals, when killed by hunters there's a jail sentence.

Rep. Younquoi notes that he has applied all efforts for the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) to control the movement species but there has been no fruitful result, as

the wild animal continues to attack women and children some of them hospitalized.

"It's about time for you guys to organize yourself to start killing chimpanzees [that are] causing trouble for my children. We the men in this area, it's about time to do so", he urged his kinsmen.

Over the past four months eight persons, including women and children have been raped, wounded hospitalized from Chimpanzees' attacks.

The victims, some of whom are seeking medical treatment

at the Ganta United Methodist hospital in Ganta Nimba County, narrated to this paper that they were on their way to their farms When the Chimpanzees crossed in front of them, flogged and wounded, and raped three of them.

Report says due to the constant attacks from the Chimpanzees, women and children are barred from going on the farm and to school respectively. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*

We'll reconcile CPP - MO Ali

By Lewis S. Teh

The secretary general of the Ex-ruling Unity Party (UP) MO Ali says when the UP assumes chairmanship of the four Collaborating Political Parties, it will set the CPP on the path of reconciliation, noting that settling the internal wrangling within the CPP remains the foremost priority for his party.

He assures constituent parties of the CPP that includes Unity Party, Liberty Party, the Alternative National Congress and the All Liberian Party that all will be done to reunite the CPP and settle every disagreement that has led to wrangling in the hierarchy of the Collaboration.

Speaking to Prime FM in Monrovia, about the preparedness of the UP to take over the CPP chairmanship this weekend, Ali said, UP Standard Bearer Ambassador Joseph

for them, adding that the UP eight months' chairmanship will serve as a test for Ambassador Boakai, and the CPP. We must work constructively. If the CPP must win the election, there is a need for all of the constituent members to work constructively.

He explains that tussle and internal wrangling within the CPP started over who to head the ticket to challenge the ruling Coalition of Democratic Change or CDC of President George M. Weah come 2023, where two constituent members, Amb Joseph Boakai and Mr. Alexander B. Cummings of the ANC have declared interest.

Both men have been at each others' throats on who to head the CPP ticket, but the ANC Political leader has continually said he will not go as running mate to former Vice President Boakai.

Confusion within the CPP is about the alleged tempering of the framework document. The political leader of ALP



Boakai is well prepared not just to lead the Collaboration, but to take over national leadership.

He says the UP is clear and stands ready to take over from the Liberty Party, because issues involving the framework document being tempered with has to come to an end.

"But now as we speak our focus is moving into reconciling our constituent members, to make sure that members within the Collaboration are well respected to shape the destiny of the CPP; it is against this backdrop we are going to launch a massive reconciliation campaign to engage all of the members of the CPP", he says.

According to him, if critics of the CPP think they can use the current situation to score points then it was unfortunate

businessman Benoni Urey alarmed some time ago that the framework document was tempered with, something that is tearing the CPP apart, leaving room for the public to see if they are ready to battle against the CDC.

But addressing a news conference over the weekend in response to the allegation of tempering, Mr. Alexander B. Cummings said he is not a criminal, neither is he corrupt, but he may not be able to convince everyone that his CPP colleagues are lying.

"I may not convince everyone that they are lying, but the vast majority of Liberians have come to know me and they know that I am no criminal; that I am not corrupt," Cummings told local journalists here Sunday, October 10 as he defended himself and

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Weah hails S/Court decision on dual citizenship

President George M. Weah has described as momentous the decision of the Supreme Court of Liberia to nullify a section of the Alien and Nationality Law that automatically takes away the

"This is Victory for all Liberians," he said.

Last month, the Minister of Justice, Frank Musa Dean, officially notified the Dean of the Cabinet, Foreign Minister D. Maxwell Kemayah, of the

and issuance of Liberian passports "take due note".

It can be recalled that despite the objection of some politicians, the Weah Administration introduced a set of proposals - including the call for dual citizenship - at the 2020 national referendum. The President also made a similar plea to the National Legislature during his first address to that body in 2018. By this decision, therefore, all Liberians remain Liberians unless divested of their citizenship by order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.

"Some of them [Liberians] are successful, but they do not have ownership [of land], the referendum is a proposal to make it happen", the President urged voters on the campaign trail in October 2020.

The ruling to quash the anti-dual citizenship section of the Alien and Nationality law comes at a time the government is planning the 200th year anniversary of the arrival of freed slaves to Liberia. The year-long celebration, which begins in January 2022, is aimed at reclaiming and heralding Liberia's leadership role in Pan-Africanism, while also celebrating its rich cultural heritage and vast tourism attractions. It will be an opportunity for the Liberian diaspora, African-Americans, and friends of Liberia to visit the country.



citizenship of any Liberian who acquires another nationality.

The court's decision is a fulfillment of the long-held desire of the President to ensure Liberians of all persuasions, who left the country due to the civil war, are not deprived of their rights and privileges in the land they regard as home.

Supreme Court's ruling.

In his communication, Minister Dean stressed that henceforth a Liberian by birth who obtains naturalization in a foreign country will only forfeit his Liberian citizenship as a result of a "due process" of law. He called on the Foreign Ministry to ensure that the implementers of the revised regulations governing the administration

New Dawn Management

Starts from back page

Paper by The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Congo Town outside Monrovia and we have decided to give it to you in order to aid you in the process due to some of the constraints you are going through in the rural part of the country".

"I hope you accept it and take it as your own", he added.

Browne disclosed that Management looks forward to providing motorbikes for all of its correspondents across the country, ahead of the 2023 Presidential election, but faces serious financial challenge and appealed to other Foreign Missions near Monrovia to emulate the gesture from the Chinese.

Receiving the bike, Correspondent Mensah lauded the Management of the New Dawn Newspaper for such

gesture, adding that the bike will reduce some of the challenges he faces especially lack of transportation as he goes in search of the news across the entire county.

"Let me use this medium to say many thanks to the Management and staffs of New Dawn for this great opportunity accorded me".

Patrick described the intervention as timely, noting it will help to reduce his costs for transportation, as the issue of mobility has been a serious constraint.

"I remember sometimes I spent close to One thousand Liberian dollars a day just to gather some interesting stories in the county, but with this brand new bike, my costs for transportation are over and it will be used for its intended purpose".

We'll reconcile

Cont'd from page 6

his party.

"I am not here to claim perfection, for no man is perfect, but I am not a fraudster, a liar, a thief, a

murderer or criminal; I am not corrupt - never have been and never will be" the ANC political leader maintains. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Remove social barriers against women

-USAID boss Jim Wright

USAID Liberia Mission Director Jim Wright says here that there are unfortunately still social barriers preventing women from being promoted to top jobs, commonly known as a "glass ceiling," that must be overcome.

"I have two daughters, and I want to do everything I can to help break glass ceilings that should not exist", Director Wright noted here on Monday, 11 October during commemoration of International Day of the Girl Child.

During the celebration, the U.S. Embassy near Monrovia gave a 16-year-old 11th grader at the Levi C. Williams High School in Monrovia TriniciousWesseh the opportunity to lead as USAID Liberia Mission Director for the day.

A release published by the U.S. Embassy says after



arriving at the Embassy, Trinicious got right to work. She visited the entire USAID staff and hosted meetings with office directors. She also attended the weekly USAID senior staff meeting and met with the many

other offices in the Embassy.

At the end of her busy day, Trinicious reflected on the impact of the U.S. Mission in Liberia and her opportunity to be part of the team, saying, "USAID is making a very visible

impact on the lives of Liberians. I am very happy I had the opportunity to see and work with the people responsible for USAID work in Liberia, and my stay at USAID will positively affect my career decisions."

Trinicious hopes to be a diplomat in the future. She certainly proved that she has the potential to accomplish that goal. After her meeting with U.S. Ambassador Michael McCarthy, the Ambassador noted, "Given what we've seen of Trinicious today, we expect great things from her!"

Trinicious is also passionate about girl and women empowerment in Liberia and the rest of the world. Voices like hers will help lead the international community toward achieving a more equitable society for girls in the future.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken recognized the observance of International Day of the Girl Child on Monday, noting "From the promotion of girls' education and leadership to the

prevention and response to all forms of gender-based violence, the United States is partnering with girls and their communities to advance gender equity and equality and the participation of girls in all aspects of society ... We are proud to commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child, and today, like every day, the United States stands firm in its long-standing commitment to the empowerment and rights of girls, in all their diversity, because we know that societies in which girls are enabled to be full and free participants are safer, more secure, and more prosperous."

USAID Administrator Samantha Power stressed the broad societal gains that result from investing in girls: "It is a fact that when we invest in girls' rights and girls' education, the returns are felt not just in individual households, but in economies as a whole. But our support for girls is about much more than GDP. It's about fostering the livelihoods and dignity of all of our children", says Samantha.

Français

Des centres de santé de Nimba fermés par manque de médicaments et défaut de paiement des salaires

La fermeture progressive du seul hôpital public GW Harley de Sanniquellie dans le comté de Nimba, sonne le glas pour les habitants de la localité.

Lors d'une récente visite des installations, notre journaliste a appris à travers des entretiens avec des agents de santé là-bas qu'il y a un manque de médicaments, et que depuis des mois les travailleurs ne reçoivent pas leurs salaires. Il y aurait aussi un manque de main-d'œuvre et d'équipement médical.

L'hôpital est devenu par conséquent un abattoir pour les habitants de la localité et de ses environs.

Selon les personnes interrogées, depuis août de cette année, le ministère de la Santé n'a pas fourni de médicaments à l'hôpital et depuis 9 mois, environ 25 employés ne sont pas payés.

M. Roland Larmie, chef de la salle des opérations de l'hôpital, a confirmé lors d'un entretien qu'au cours des

trois à cinq derniers mois, le gouvernement du Libéria n'a fourni aucun médicament au seul hôpital de la localité.

Il a fait savoir que le gouvernement lui doit 19 mois d'arriérés de salaire, tandis que certains employés de l'institution n'ont pas reçu leur salaire depuis sept ou dix mois.

« Le seul hôpital de référence

pour l'ensemble du comté de Nimba n'a pas de médicaments. Nous n'avons plus de médicaments depuis trois ou quatre mois », a déclaré M. Larmie.

« L'hôpital ne fait que prescrire des médicaments aux patients. Nous ne les

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Le gouvernement chinois se félicite de la Fondation Clar Hope et fait don de plusieurs articles variés

La République populaire de Chine, par l'intermédiaire de son ambassade près de Monrovia, a fait don d'un énorme lot de matériel assorti ainsi qu'un minibus de 15 places à la Fondation Clar Hope du Libéria, CHF.

Présentant les articles le mardi 12 octobre 2021, l'ambassadeur de Chine au Libéria, Ren Yisheng, a déclaré que ce geste était une reconnaissance et un soutien pour le grand travail humanitaire que la Première

Dame Clar Marie Weah continue de faire à travers sa fondation pour les personnes défavorisées du Libéria.

« Nous apprécions tout le travail utile accompli par la Fondation Clar Hope pour les groupes vulnérables ; les jeunes femmes, les enfants et les personnes âgées du Libéria », a dit l'ambassadeur Ren lors d'une brève cérémonie de remise à l'ambassade de Chine sur la route secondaire de Congo Town.

L'ambassadeur Ren Yisheng a mentionné la construction en

cours de la ville de l'espoir à Marshal, dans le comté de Margibi et de la maison des personnes âgées construite à Buchanan, dans le comté de Grand Bassa, parmi les projets admirables de la CHF, qui en disent long sur les soins de Mme Weah pour les moins fortunés Libériens.

« Mon gouvernement et mon peuple sont heureux de s'identifier au travail de Mme Weah. Ce soutien met en exergue les relations bilatérales cordiales de longue date entre nos pays et nos peuples respectifs », a dit le diplomate chinois.

Parmi les articles figurent des jouets pour enfants, des vêtements, du matériel scolaire, 200 tablettes, des ordinateurs et des sacs pour enfants. Ce don, selon lui, a été rendu possible par la Fédération des femmes de toute la Chine, les entreprises chinoises par le biais de la China Charity Foundation et la China Charity Foundation.

Recevant le don, la Première Dame Clar Marie Weah a décrit le geste comme une démonstration d'un véritable partenariat non

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Nathaniel McGill addresses thousands of Margibians

Éditorial

Vaccin contre le COVID-19 : l'Afrique n'est pas à oublier

Le monde combat la pandémie du Covid-19, mais avec une force inégale. Ce qui est peu efficace si l'on veut parvenir à une éradication totale de la maladie. Pendant que des nations puissantes telles que l'Amérique, la Grande-Bretagne et la France visent vacciner toutes leurs populations entières, l'Afrique, elle, a toujours du mal à trouver du vaccin pour vacciner ne serait-ce un quart de sa population. Il faut faire quelque chose dans l'urgence pour donner de l'espoir à l'Afrique.

Prononçant un discours à Freetown, en Sierra Leone, l'ancienne présidente libérienne Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a souligné la nécessité de faire preuve d'équité en matière de vaccination qui reste toujours le seul moyen efficace de prévention.

Pour elle, vacciner tout le monde dans les pays riches pendant que dans les pays les plus pauvres comme ceux d'Afrique on ne peut pas vacciner au moins de 5% de leur population est très contre-productif.

Il est incontestable que les nations les plus riches ont des populations plus importantes et des ressources humaines bien sophistiquées qu'elles veulent désespérément protéger, mais il ne faut pas oublier que l'Afrique fait partie de la communauté mondiale, et donc vacciner que 5% de sa population constituera un danger pour l'humanité toute entière.

Il faut faire quelque chose et très urgemment pour augmenter la part de vaccin pour l'Afrique afin de pouvoir protéger tout le monde. Car dans l'état actuel des choses, le continent tout entier est vulnérable. Il manque de capitaux et son économie croît très lentement.

Madame Sirleaf a également dit que la relance inclusive post-COVID-19 nécessite également que l'on se débarrasse du monopole de la fabrication des vaccins dans le Nord. « Nous appelons à la renonciation aux droits de propriété intellectuelle et aux transferts de technologie pour faciliter la fabrication de vaccins dans les pays du Sud. Des progrès sont à signaler à cet égard. Les voix du plaidoyer ont prévalu et des efforts sont maintenant en cours pour la collaboration entre les sociétés pharmaceutiques qui assureront la fabrication dans les pays du Sud.

Déjà la J and J Company a démarré en Afrique du Sud avec des expansions attendues au Sénégal et au Rwanda, puis dans d'autres pays », a-t-elle expliqué.

C'est une bonne nouvelle pour l'Afrique et nous devons tirer parti de cette opportunité afin que l'Afrique puisse vacciner une grande partie de sa population.

Nous pensons que si le vaccin J&J est fabriqué ici en Afrique, il sera beaucoup plus abordable et disponible pour tous, et beaucoup de personnes seront vaccinées.

Tout ne semble pas perdu. Nous remercions Madame Sirleaf qui copréside le Panel indépendant pour la préparation et la réponse aux pandémies. Elle a promis que les prochains mois des discussions critiques entre les gouvernements et les institutions et l'institutionnalisation des changements nécessaires feront de COVID-19 la dernière pandémie.

Français

Des centres de santé de Nimba fermés par manque

traitions pas. Nous, qui sommes dans les salles d'opération, n'avons pas d'équipement pour effectuer les opérations et autres travaux chirurgicaux, alors ce que nous faisons, c'est leur dire quoi acheter et nous faisons le travail pour eux », a ajouté M. Larmie.

Selon lui, le gouvernement a fourni peu de médicaments à l'hôpital, une quantité si minime qu'elle ne suffit pas pour desservir toute la population.

"Les gens meurent d'un simple paludisme dans le comté parce que l'hôpital n'a pas de médicaments pour traiter les patients. Nous avons connu des cas où nous avons prescrit des médicaments et pendant que les proches sont occupés à chercher ces médicaments, le patient meurt. L'hôpital a perdu son importance sous ce gouvernement », a poursuivi M. Larmie.

Larmie a en outre indiqué que dans les cas d'urgence qui nécessitent une intervention chirurgicale pour un patient, sesont les proches qui mettent à disposition tout le matériel dont l'hôpital a besoin pour réussir l'opération.

"Nous leur avons dit ça dans notre rapport que nous avons remis à nos dirigeants élus du comté, les sénateurs et les représentants. Ils ont promis de travailler avec le ministère de la santé pour résoudre le problème, mais le problème s'aggrave de jour en jour. Pendant ce temps les gens meurent", a déclaré M. Larmie.

Parlant également, Obediah Zeambo, responsable de la vaccination à l'hôpital d'État de Vayenglay a révélé que c'est le seul hôpital public dans la région qui dessert plus de sept villes voisines.

« À elle seule, la ville de Vayenglay compte environ 9 771 habitants. A cela, il faut ajouter ceux qui viennent des sept autres villes voisines

Le gouvernement chinois se félicite de la Fondation

seulement avec son bureau et sa fondation, mais aussi avec le gouvernement et le peuple du Libéria. Elle a fait part de la profonde gratitude du président Weah au président chinois Xi Jinping.

« Le gouvernement de la République populaire de Chine et son ambassade ont toujours soutenu de manière remarquable le travail du Bureau de la Première Dame

pour se faire soigner. Nous ne faisons que prescrire des médicaments aux patients », a dit Zeambo.

« Nous n'avons pas d'équipement et le salaire ne vient pas. Par conséquent, le centre de santé se ferme progressivement », a déclaré M. Zeambo.

Pour sa part, Karnplay K. Dempster Cooper, chef de laboratoire technique de l'hôpital Zorgowee, Upper Sanniquellie, s'est plaint de la même situation. Selon lui, les travailleurs du laboratoire manquent d'équipement pour diagnostiquer les maladies et la plupart du temps, les gens ne savent pas ce qui leur arrive.

"Je travaille dans le laboratoire en tant que technicien, et comme il n'y a pas d'équipement, le laboratoire est fermé. Cela fait un an maintenant. Nous avons informé les autorités, mais il n'y a pas encore de réponse positive", a-t-il dit. "Le problème de salaire est un gros problème et à cause de cela, l'hôpital est pauvre et nous ne travaillons pas activement parce que nous n'avons pas la capacité de résoudre le problème ou de soigner les malades", a expliqué M. Cooper.

Ainsi, les habitants du comté de Nimba lance un appel au gouvernement du Libéria pour qu'il intervienne parce qu'ils ont du mal à se faire traiter en raison du fait qu'ils n'ont pas d'argent pour acheter des médicaments en dehors de l'hôpital.

Certains se plaignent du manque de moyens de transport pour emmener les femmes enceintes à l'hôpital, et après avoir parcouru de longues distances à pied, l'hôpital n'arrive pas à les soulager parce qu'il n'y a pas de médicament.

« Nous mourons principalement à cause du fait que tous nos hôpitaux publics sont devenus pour nous des abattoirs mortels et une ville fantôme. Ils ferment tous petit à petit parce qu'il n'y a pas de médicaments et de matériel pour nous regarder, les pauvres", ont déclaré certains habitants lors de l'entretien.

et de la Fondation Clar Hope ; une fondation qui est ultra-passionnée pour apporter de la joie, de l'espoir et des progrès constructifs dans la vie des femmes et des filles libériennes », a déclaré Mme Weah.

"Notre partenariat avec le gouvernement chinois et son peuple continue de voir ce genre de gestes significatifs et je tiens à vous dire que cela me fait humblement plaisir.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Josep Borrell,
Virginijus Sinkevicius

L'Union Européenne et l'Arctique

BRUXELLES - L'Arctique connaît actuellement des mutations rapides dues au réchauffement de la planète, à une concurrence croissante pour les ressources et aux rivalités géopolitiques. Pour l'avenir de cette région, l'Union européenne a à la fois des intérêts à défendre et une contribution importante à apporter. Nous avons l'intention d'y intensifier notre engagement en faveur du climat, de la coopération internationale, d'un développement économique durable ou encore de notre volonté de ne laisser personne de côté.

Le pacte vert européen fera de l'Europe le premier continent climatiquement neutre à l'horizon 2050, tandis que notre engagement juridiquement contraignant de réduire nos émissions de gaz à effet de serre de 55 % d'ici à 2030 fait référence à l'échelle mondiale. Le pacte vert et la nouvelle approche de l'UE en faveur d'une économie bleue durable sont au cœur de la stratégie de l'Union pour l'Arctique. Au nombre de nos principales propositions figurent, outre la mise en place d'une présence permanente de l'Union au Groenland, l'appel à faire en sorte que le pétrole, le gaz et le charbon restent enfouis dans le sol, y compris dans les régions arctiques.

Cette mission ne saurait être plus urgente. Si le changement climatique est présent à l'esprit de tous, il est deux fois plus rapide dans l'Arctique que partout ailleurs sur le globe. Certaines cîtes de la région seront bientôt libérées de glaces durant l'été et finiront par l'être en hiver également. La fonte des glaces et du pergélisol relâche d'énormes quantités de méthane dans l'atmosphère, ce qui a pour effet d'accélérer encore le réchauffement mondial, tandis que l'élévation du niveau des océans menace toujours davantage les habitants des cîtes dans le monde entier. Le rapport publié en août 2021 par le Groupe d'experts intergouvernemental sur l'évolution du climat des Nations unies a souligné de nouveau le fait que les activités humaines étaient à l'origine de ces évolutions.

Déjà, le recul de la banquise arctique est en train d'ouvrir des voies maritimes et de faciliter l'accès au pétrole, au gaz et aux minerais (dont certains sont déterminants pour faire face à la demande mondiale grandissante de produits technologiques innovants). Rien d'étonnant donc à ce que l'Arctique voit sa population augmenter et qu'un nombre croissant d'acteurs s'y engagent toujours plus. De plus en plus, le type de concurrence stratégique qui est de mise partout dans le monde est en train de modeler le paysage de l'Arctique.

La Chine, par exemple, s'est décrite comme étant un «État quasi arctique», et a ajouté une «route de la soie polaire» à son initiative transnationale «une ceinture, une route». Elle investit massivement dans les gisements russes de gaz naturel liquéfié et s'intéresse à la perspective d'un raccourcissement des trajets maritimes. La Russie, quant à elle, s'emploie à construire de grands brise-glaces et voit dans la route maritime septentrionale la possibilité d'augmenter son trafic maritime intérieur et international, ainsi que de reconstituer ses capacités militaires dans la région, gelées depuis la fin de la guerre froide.

Ces évolutions montrent que l'Europe doit avoir une définition large de ses intérêts géopolitiques afin de promouvoir la stabilité, la sécurité et une coopération pacifique dans l'Arctique. S'il incombe naturellement avant tout aux huit États de l'Arctique de traiter ces questions, il apparaît que nombre de problèmes concernant la région ne sauraient être réglés que par le truchement d'une coopération régionale ou multilatérale. L'UE

étendra par conséquent sa collaboration sur ces questions à l'ensemble des parties intéressées, et notamment à ses alliés et partenaires, tels que les États-Unis, le Canada, la Norvège et l'Islande.

Ainsi, en matière de recherche et de sauvetage en mer, nous avons besoin d'une coopération régionale ou circumpolaire entre les gardes-côtes nationaux et de recourir davantage à nos systèmes satellitaires pour réduire les risques. De même, l'UE est déterminée à assurer le succès de l'accord visant à prévenir la pêche non réglementée en haute mer dans l'océan Arctique central. Une autre priorité régionale est l'inclusion sociale: les défis qui se posent aux autochtones éleveurs de rennes ne s'arrêtent pas aux frontières nationales. Nous sommes également plus efficaces lorsque nous travaillons ensemble sur les normes «zéro émission» en matière de navigation, les bonnes pratiques pour la télémédecine, les énergies renouvelables ou encore la réduction de la pollution par les plastiques.

Forte de décennies d'expérience en matière de promotion de la coopération régionale, l'UE jouera pleinement son rôle. Nous sommes l'un des principaux partisans du multilatéralisme et prenons nos engagements multilatéraux au sérieux - particulièrement quand il s'agit de lutter contre le changement climatique. De plus l'Union est directement partie prenante de l'Arctique. Trois de nos États membres y ont des territoires et nous avons défini des lois qui s'appliquent dans cinq États arctiques. Nous participons activement à plusieurs instances régionales, dont le Conseil de l'Arctique, le Conseil euro-arctique de la mer de Barents et la «Dimension septentrionale», où nous collaborons avec la Russie, la Norvège et l'Islande, en particulier dans le domaine de l'environnement.

L'UE étendra son engagement dans l'Arctique à l'ensemble de son champ d'action politique. Cela consiste notamment à accorder une attention particulière aux intérêts et aux points de vue des jeunes et des peuples autochtones, qui possèdent une connaissance unique des contextes locaux et qui sont les témoins directs des changements qui s'opèrent sous leurs yeux, changements qui sont autant de menaces imminentes pour l'ensemble de la planète.

Nous avons clairement besoin d'une approche intégrée. Il nous faut pour cela combiner nos objectifs climatiques et environnementaux avec les perspectives économiques offertes, tout en menant une action conjointe contre les menaces qui planent sur notre sécurité à tous, dont celles inhérentes à la crise climatique. Ainsi, le fait de stimuler une bonne transition verte donnera aux régions arctiques la possibilité de créer des emplois dans des secteurs tels que l'énergie décarbonée, ainsi que d'élaborer des approches durables en matière de connectivité, de tourisme, de pêche et d'innovation.

L'Europe continuera d'utiliser son important budget de recherche et son savoir-faire en sciences de la terre pour mieux comprendre et combattre les effets du changement climatique. Nous nous attacherons aussi à renforcer l'autonomie stratégique de l'UE en matière de minerais indispensables pour la transition verte, en veillant à ce que l'extraction de ces matières premières essentielles s'effectue en conformité avec les normes environnementales les plus élevées.

L'Arctique fait face à des défis graves, voire existentiels. L'UE renforcera et actualisera son engagement, afin de faire en sorte que les approches collaboratives pour relever ces défis prennent le dessus sur une concurrence stratégique potentiellement dommageable.

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Liberia and Concession Agreement: The Case of MITTAL STEEL

By SeltueKarweaye

Liberia's Minerals and Mining Law, adopted in April 2000, encourages foreign investment. It includes a requirement for a Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) between the government and an eligible applicant for a Class A mining license with concessions awarded for up to 25 years and renewable consecutively if evidence of mineral reserves is found. On 17 August 2005, the National Transitional Government of Liberia (NTGL) headed by Gyude Bryant entered into an MDA with the world's largest steel company, ArcelorMittal (AML) to explore Liberia's extensive reserves of iron ore, which could see, ArcelorMittal investing around US\$900 million over the next 25 years. ArcelorMittal agreed to an annual payment of US\$3 million for communities that would be affected by ArcelorMittal operations. A five-year renewable tax holiday was granted to the company as well as royalties and transfer pricing, the transference of the state assets, the stabilization clause, land rights, private security forces, rights to minerals, and confidentiality.

Following the signing of the deal, there were many allegations of bribery, coercion, and external pressure leading to the awarding and signing of the MDA with ArcelorMittal. Many critics and analysts considered the contract unfavorable to the new government and the people of Liberia. Global Witness' 2006 report 'Heavy Mittal?' highlighted a number of these concerns. The Global Witness report revealed Liberia has ceded important sovereign powers and economic rights over a strategic nonrenewable resource to a foreign multinational - almost creating a state within a state. Mittal's position provides a case study of the way in which multinational corporations seek to maximize profit by using an international regulatory void to gain concessions and contracts which strongly favor the corporation over the host nation.

January 2006, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was sworn in as Liberia's president after winning the presidential election that took place the year before. One of the keys promises she made during the election campaign was to improve accountability and transparency in the management of Liberia's extractive industry. Under Sirleaf's administration, Liberia expressed its commitment to join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) the same year, and the EITI was launched in 2007. Liberia made impressive progress in implementing the EITI by 2009 thereby achieving complaint status. As part of the measures to implement EITI, Liberia enacted the Liberia EITI Act of 2009 formally establishing the Liberia Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (LEITI) as an independent state entity. In line with the requirement of the Act, all extractive contracts, concession agreements must be published and available on the LEITI website.

In 2006, the Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf led government and ArcelorMittal agreed to re-negotiate the contract. During the re-negotiation, ArcelorMittal donated 100 Toyota Hilux DXD4 double cabin pickups to members of the 52nd National Legislature. President Sirleaf defended ArcelorMittal's vehicle donation to the national legislature saying the vehicle donated to the Liberian Legislators by ArcelorMittal was given upon her request to ease the transportation burden lawmakers face and facilitate travel to their various constituencies during their annual break. Following the Arcelor Mittal vehicle donation to the Liberian legislators, the new MDA was ratified by the Liberian Legislature in May of 2007.

The MDA changed the terms of use of the state assets that were initially turned over to ArcelorMittal. The investment package was increased to US\$1 billion and the tax holiday was abolished. Mittal Steel later increased the entire package to US\$1.5 billion. According to the MDA, ArcelorMittal is obliged to provide approximately US\$73 million over the 25-year span of the agreement to support socio-economic development in Liberia via the County Social Development Fund (CSDF) - US\$3 million in 2006 since the contract was being renegotiated and for the other 24 years, US\$3 million on an annual basis to three counties most affected by company operations: Nimba, Bong, and Grand Bassa counties.

Between 2015 and 2016, Arcelor Mittal cut up to 450 jobs and lower iron ore exports from Liberia. According to the company, this action was due to the constant drop in the price of iron on the world market. In 2018 and with mounting concerns of the layoff of employees, the national legislature constituted a joint committee to investigate ArcelorMittal's operations in Liberia. The joint committee found the company liable for grossly violating the MDA and called upon ArcelorMittal to reinstall workers to their previous positions within a period of four months. The Committee in its findings reported that ArcelorMittal failed to construct a processor or washing plant at the Gangra mines in Nimba County; something it should have done within two years of its operation as enshrined in the MDA to maximize the production of iron ore.

The committee, among other things, called for a total review of the MDA between both parties, frequent monitoring of concessions by the government, the rehabilitation or construction of rails, roads, bridges, houses, hospitals as well as other vital structures (workshop, hand pumps, water treatment plant, and the power plant) to ensure appropriate accommodation with available safe drinking pipe bone water and effective power supply in all ArcelorMittal's operational communities (Nimba, Bong, and Bassa counties) within a period of one year. It also called for a guaranteed agreement between the private landowners and ArcelorMittal within all of their areas

of operations with the full involvement of their direct representatives from those electoral districts within three months. So, what happened to the committee report? Has Arcelor Mittal adhered to the legislative committee findings?

On the 10th of September 2021, ArcelorMittal signed an \$800-million expansion agreement with George Weah's administration. The firm said the expansion agreement is set to triple its production of iron ore in the country. The signing comes after, in 2019, ArcelorMittal threatened to freeze its Liberian investments over a murky dispute concerning a port concession in the country. During the signing ceremony, President George Weah said "I am told that with the signing of this Third Amendment to its Mineral Development Agreement, ArcelorMittal will invest an additional \$800 million United States Dollars into its Phase II iron ore project, which will enable them to move from producing five (5) million metric tonnes of iron ore per year to fifteen (15) million metric tonnes per year within the next three years.

I am further informed that the agreement contains several benefits that are important to the Liberian people. For example, to name a few, the government is to receive \$55 million United States Dollars to reserve 15 million metric tonnes capacity for ArcelorMittal; and \$10 million United States Dollars as signing bonus, for a total of \$65 million United States Dollars. I am also informed that this extension and expansion will result in direct spending of about \$200 million United States Dollars per year into the Liberian economy over the next several years. This should result in a significant increase in total government revenue coming from the activities resulting from this Amendment. I am told that the project will create at least 1,000 direct jobs, 2000 temporary construction-related jobs, and about 4,000 indirect jobs and that there will be an increase in the amount of money going to communities of impact in Nimba, Grand Bassa, and Bong counties. Another important benefit, I have also been informed, is that this agreement opens up a multi-user rail system for the transport of goods and iron ore on the rail system."

The World Bank Institute has documented more than 1,000 experiences of negotiation and renegotiation of contracts throughout the world and Liberia can learn from those experiences. Although mainly focusing on infrastructure concessions, most of the lessons learned from the review of these documents can be applied to other sectors such as mining. Aside from the direct negative effects of potential misappropriated rents, contract renegotiation imposes substantial additional costs when handling renegotiation petitions and cases. The report emphasizes the crucial importance of designing an optimal concession contract that carefully limits the opportunities for "opportunistic" negotiations. Weaknesses in the original concession design can result from hurried processes, vested interests (as evidenced in Liberia), and limited resources of governments in the concession design.

The report stresses "the importance of granting negotiation/renegotiation in the strongest possible legal grounding; the potential impact of financial advisors and investment banks in influencing the concession transaction that should be taken into account; the need to strengthen institutions and credibility of regulatory frameworks prior to the negotiation/renegotiation process to ensure appropriate regulatory oversight and enforcement; the growing awareness of the need to establish a separate, autonomous and effective body or regulatory institution that oversees the allocation, renegotiation, and implementation of concession contracts. (This institution should be granted adequate resources and capacity, including well trained and compensated staff); the need to ensure that all processes, procedures, and decisions are made in the most transparent and participatory manner."

According to former World Bank Chief Economist and a Nobel laureate in economics; and University Professor at Columbia University, Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz, with regards to concession agreement foreign companies will push back, emphasizing the sanctity of contracts, and threaten to leave. But the outcome is typically otherwise. A fair negotiation can be the basis of a better long-term relationship. The Roan Selection Trust investment in Botswana is one example of Professor Stiglitz's argument. The development plan for the mining called for a total investment of about US\$200 million: \$121 million for the development of the mines, mill, and smelter; \$7 million for working capital, \$67million for townships, rail links, power supplies, dams, reservoirs, and water pipelines.

The Shashi sector, as it was known, was considered to be the general development of the area. The Botswana government encourages mining companies to enter into special agreements, in the case of major projects for sharing profits between the company and the state. Botswana's negotiations of contracts free of bribery, coercion, and external pressure leading laid the foundations of its remarkable growth for the last four decades which led to immense reduction of poverty. Moreover, it is not only developing countries, such as Botswana, Bolivia, and Venezuela, that negotiated expansion of bad contracts; developed countries such as Israel and Australia have done so as well. Even the United States has imposed a windfall-profits tax. South Africa, home to the greatest mineral wealth in the world, estimated to be worth \$2.5 trillion, is considering imposing a swinging 50% windfall tax on mining "super profits" and a 50% capital-gains tax on the sale of prospecting rights. Those are among the proposals put forward by an independent panel of experts, set up by the ruling African National Congress (ANC) to study the possibility of greater state intervention in the mining sector. Ghana, Africa's second-biggest gold producer, recently announced a review and possible renegotiation of all mining contracts to ensure that mining profits are "maximized... [for] the good of the country".

TO BE CONTINUE



PYJ risks rejection in Nimba 2023

By Lincoln G. Peters

Several residents of Nimba County have vowed to reject the re-election bid of Nimba County Senator Prince Yormie Johnson and any other presidential candidate he will present to them seeking their support in the upcoming 2023 presidential and general elections.

Those interviewed in the country by our reporter during a recent tour there have accused Senator Johnson of allegedly commercializing their votes as well as the vote - Rich County for his personal gains.

Residents in Zoe Town, Nimba County District #4,

candidate.

But some residents have told our reporter that during election periods, Senator Johnson always allegedly takes money from other presidential aspirants for his personal use and brings the person to them for their votes.

"Senator Prince Johnson is responsible for the suffering that the people of Nimba County are going through under this administration because he has caused us to sell our votes which represent our rights many times," one resident said.

"He was the same person who took money from President George Manneh Weah in 2017 and brought him to us when his money finished."

for us to vote and we voted [for] him. However, we didn't know that we were making errors ... because of the respect we have for him," Bahn noted.

He claimed that the county is suffering and nothing has been done by the President and Senator Johnson to address the hardship in the county and country at large.

However, Bahn noted that while they suffer, Senator Johnson benefits because he got money from their votes that he allegedly sold in 2017.

"No good roads in the county. We have no means to get an upgraded medical facility in the county where we can seek treatment and be well. The mountain in our county, we are not benefiting from it," he said.

"2023 we will not vote Senator Prince Johnson and any other person he will bring to us in the upcoming presidential and general elections", Mr. Bahn vowed.

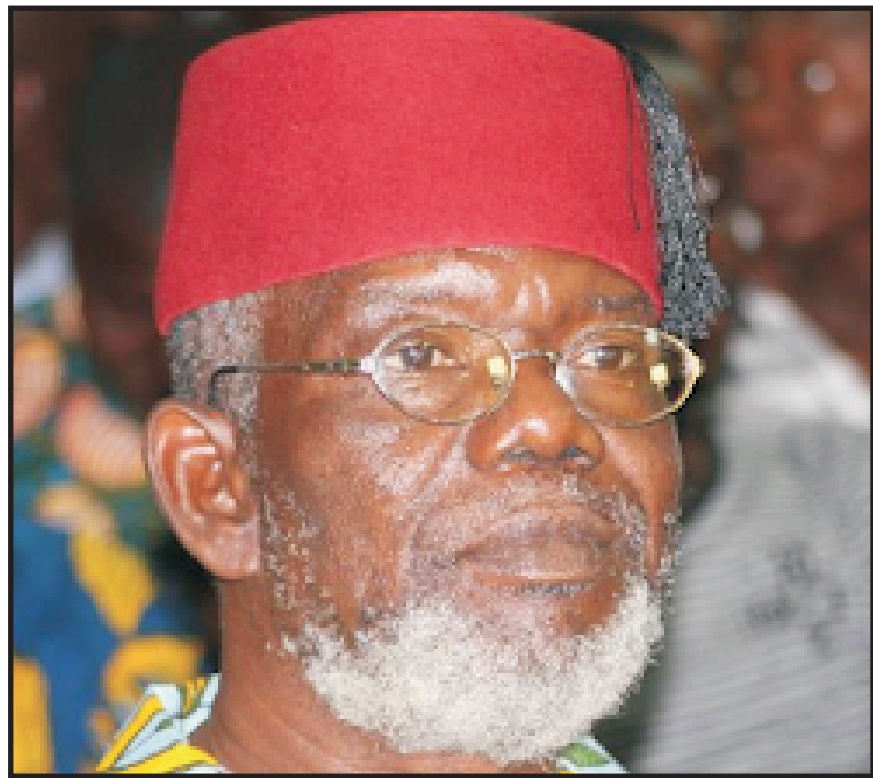
Also speaking, Abraham Kergongor Gbangaye, a resident of Loelay Town and Madam Gweh Karnusama from the Concerned Women of Zakulay, expressed regret for having voted for the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) government headed by President Weah.

According to them, the current hardship that is in the country which continues to remain unaddressed is something that is alarming.

They pointed out that there are no good schools for children in other rural parts of Nimba, adding that before they get quality education and good medical attention, they have to travel to Ganata City and Karnplay.

"We have resolved that we will not vote [for] Senator Prince Johnson and anybody he will bring to us comes 2023," the Nimbaians said.

"We will look for one of our sons and stand with them instead of going behind someone that Senator Prince Johnson will present to us for his personal interest and income," they noted.



complained that for too long Senator Johnson, who will be completing his second nine years term in 2023, has been commercializing Nimba County politically by making contracts for its people.

A former feared Liberian rebel general, Senator Johnson uses his war - time glory to sweep votes throughout his county during elections periods, and sometimes appears to dictate his kinsmen's decision - making by instilling fear in them that he might not defend them again in time of crisis if they did not follow his advice to vote him or his choice of a presidential

J. Aloysius Bahn, a resident of District #4 in Nimba County explained during an interview with our reporter that it's because Senator Johnson feels that he fought for them in Nimba County so he is in the habit of constantly making business out of their votes whenever there is an election.

Mr. Bahn further alleged that Senator Johnson has been collecting funds from other politicians without voters' knowledge in the county during election periods, and those he often presents to Nimbaians are always not in the county's interest.

"In 2017 he presented to us President George Manneh Weah

Ellen Joins the #FreetownTheTreeTown Campaign

After receiving the "Key to the City" of Freetown, former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf joined Freetown City Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyers at the Prince of Wales School to launch the city's tree planting campaign.

The Prince of Wales School is one of hundreds of sites where trees are currently being planted as part of the second phase of #FreetownTheTreeTown.

Mrs. Sirleaf was given the opportunity to listen to FEDURP, the city's partner CBO responsible for tree growing in Catchment 2, and from other members of the city's tree growing team.

The Amujae founder planted a Neem tree with tree tracker code WAC2Neem172.

The local team

by the agriculture department teachers who have been part of the process and are committed to securing the newly planted trees," Mayor Aki-Sawyers said.

The former Liberian President also met with Sierra Leonean Women Leaders

An amazing day with a truly amazing icon culminated in an amazing evening! It was my privilege and joy to host a dinner in honor of former President of Liberia, Her Excellency Madame Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in my capacities as Mayor of Freetown and an Amujae Leader," said Aki-Sawyers.

With a room full of women leaders ranging from age 21 to age 94, representing the public, private and nonprofit sectors, the evening's discourse was about the potential of women being unlocked for the



demonstrated the use of the Tree Tracker App and showed Mrs. Sirleaf how she would be able to follow the growth of the tree she planted online.

The former President was then presented with a certificate by Cllr Murray Conteh confirming her as a Freetown Climate Change Ambassador and with a #FreetownTheTreeTown hat made by the impact investment partner Finor X!

"It was an inspiring and enjoyable exercise even as we emphasized and illustrated that #FreetownTheTreeTown is not just about planting trees, it is about growing trees using a sustainable model that also creates jobs.

We were joined by eager school boys who warmly welcomed Madame Ellen and

development of our society.

Inspiring statements were delivered by media personality Phebean Swill and 2021 cohort Amujae Leader Dr Yakama Jones.

President Sirleaf delivered the keynote address which was uplifting, inspiring and incredibly motivational.

"She left every woman in the room determined to fulfill her potential and to provide a platform for other women to do the same," added Aki-Sawyers.

"I look forward to having another opportunity to host Madame Ellen and to have many more of Freetown's women leaders present as limited spacing was a restriction on this occasion. For now I am excited to share the messages! #womensupportingwomen #LetsTakeOurSpace!" She said.

Cont'd from page 5

VP Taylor, others attend

Women's Forum on October 13, 2021 at Mariinsky Theatre. The dispatch said, on Thursday 14 October 2021, Liberia's Vice President will attend an event focusing on the Women's Mission to Shape a New agenda for Peace and Trust, the Forum Opening Ceremony-Session and a Reception organized by the Valentina Matviyenko, Speaker of the Federation Council.

"On Friday October 15, Chief Dr. Jewel Howard-Taylor will attend an event solely on the Role of Women in the Integrated Development of the African Continent at the Tauride Palace, and she will climax the day with interview with international media", the dispatch concluded.

The Eurasian Women's Forum, regularly held since 2015, is one of the largest international platform uniting female leaders from all continents where they

can discuss the role of women in the modern world and work out new approaches to solving global problems.

The Forum will be held for the third time in St. Petersburg on 13-15 October. The event is organized by the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPACIS).

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New Dawn Management empowers correspondent



The formal presentation was done Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at the newspaper's head office on U.N. Drive, opposite the National Investment Commission.

Presenting the bike on behalf of the New Dawn Management, its Editor Jonathan Browne said, it is the Management's way of enhancing the correspondent's work, especially as the country prepares for general and presidential elections in 2023.

Editor Browne noted that Management has recognized the sacrifices of Correspondent Patrick Mensah over the years since he joined the New Dawn Family in 2020.

"This brand new bike was given to the New Dawn News

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



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