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Continental News

Sudan's military seize power in coup

A coup is under way in Sudan, where the military has dissolved civilian rule, arrested political leaders and declared a state of emergency. The coup leader, Gen Abdel Fattah Burhan, blamed political infighting.

Protests have erupted in several cities including the capital Khartoum. Three people are said to have died after being shot by the armed forces. Military and civilian leaders have been at odds since long-time ruler Omar al-Bashir was overthrown two years ago.

Large numbers of protesters are on the streets of the capital demanding the return of civilian rule, BBC Arabic's Mohamed Osman reports from Khartoum.

More protesters are expected to join the crowds after calls for action by political parties and professional unions, our correspondent says. Doctors have refused to work at hospitals and institutions under military rule, except in

emergencies, he adds. One demonstrator, Sawsan Bashir, told AFP news agency: "We will not leave the streets until the civilian government is back and the transition is back."

"We are ready to give our lives for the democratic transition in Sudan," fellow protester Haitham Mohamed said.

Army and paramilitary troops

have been deployed across Khartoum, the city's airport is closed and international flights are suspended. The internet is also down.

At least three people have been killed and 80 have been injured, the Sudan Central Doctor's Committee wrote on its Facebook page. Those who died had been shot by soldiers, it said. Video footage

from Khartoum on Monday showed large groups in the streets, including many women. Barricades of burning tyres can be seen, with plumes of black smoke rising in various parts of the city.

"There is tension and also violence because people tried to go to the army headquarters... they were met with gunshots", human rights defender Duaa Tariq told the BBC. She added there was fear and confusion in the streets, but also solidarity between the protesters.

World leaders have reacted with alarm to the military's move. Prime Minister Abdallah Hamdok and his wife are among those reported to have been detained and put under house arrest, along with members of his cabinet and other civilian leaders. Their whereabouts are unknown.

They are part of a transitional government designed to steer Sudan towards democracy after the rule of former president, Omar al-Bashir.

Mr Hamdok was reportedly being pressed to support the coup but was refusing to do so, and instead he urged people to continue with peaceful protests to "defend the revolution". Gen Burhan had been leading the power-sharing arrangement between military and civilian leaders, known as the Sovereign Council.

In a televised address, he said infighting between politicians, ambition and incitement to violence had forced him to act to protect the safety of the nation and to "rectify the revolution's course".

He said Sudan was still

committed to "international accords" and the transition to civilian rule, with elections planned for July 2023. But a senior official from the prime minister's office, Adam Elhiraika, told the BBC the coup could lead Sudan back into a civil war, adding the risk was "extremely high".

Although Sudan remains in a deep economic crisis, it had been receiving more international support. A military takeover will put that at risk. The UK's special envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, Robert Fairweather, tweeted that military arrests of civilian leaders were "a betrayal of the revolution, the transition and the Sudanese people".

The African Union, of which Sudan is a member, said it had learned with "deep dismay" of the situation, and called for the "strict respect of human rights".

The US, EU, UN and Arab League have also expressed deep concern.

The military and civilian transitional authorities have ruled together since 2019, when President Bashir was toppled after months of street protests.

The power-sharing deal between the military and a loose coalition of groups - the Forces for Freedom and Change - saw the launch of the Sovereign Council.

It was scheduled to rule the country for another year - with the aim of holding elections and transitioning to civilian rule.

But the deal was always fractious, with a large number of rival political groups - and divisions within the military too. Tensions grew further after a coup attempt attributed to followers of Mr Bashir was foiled in September.

Sudan has been unable to find a workable political system since independence in 1956 and has seen numerous coups and coup attempts. BBC



Demonstrators take to the streets of Khartoum to protest against the arrests

How the West has fallen out with Ethiopia

With the Ethiopian government's relationship with the US and European Union (EU) at a low ebb, it is looking elsewhere for new allies to crush the rebellion being waged against it from the mountainous Tigray region.

Both the US and EU have threatened sanctions on the government and its arch-

enemy, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), in a bid to press them into ending the almost year-long conflict that some fear could be as devastating as the civil war that led to the break-up of Yugoslavia.

Kjetil Tronvoll, a professor in conflict studies at the Oslo New University College in Norway, said this has led to the

government's focus shifting.

"The Ethiopian government feels that it can do without the West - that it can obtain weapons from Iran, Turkey and China, soft loans from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and political protection from Russia and China," he said, pointing out that the latter two had already blocked the UN Security Council from agreeing on a resolution on the civil war.

He added that while there was no official confirmation, there were credible reports that the Ethiopian military had obtained Iranian and Turkish-manufactured drones to carry out strikes in Tigray in the hope of tilting the war in its favour. "The international community should be standing by the legitimate government of Ethiopia, and all three regions [Tigray, Amhara and Afar] affected by the conflict. It should call out the TPLF's atrocities, and call on it to lay down arms," she said, adding that there was also a need for the government to communicate more clearly and regularly.



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Prof Tronvoll said the EU and US had seen Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed as a "close strategic partner" when he took office in 2018, and regarded Ethiopia as a "lynchpin of security" in a region that was close to the shipping routes of the Red Sea, a hot-bed of militant Islamist activity, and a major source of migration to Europe.

"Their relationship

deteriorated after the war started. The US and EU became increasingly critical of government atrocities, and the famine-like conditions in Tigray," Prof Tronvoll added.

UN officials say that a de facto blockade imposed on Tigray by the government has restricted aid deliveries, leaving about 400,000 people in famine-like conditions in the region. BBC

EDITORIAL

Depoliticize LEC to make it vibrant

THE LIBERIA ELECTRICITY Corporation (LEC) like the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC) are charged to provide two critical services that the Government of Liberia has failed to effectively deliver, but presides over both corporations for political reasons, particularly the LEC.

FORMER PRESIDENT ELLEN Johnson Sirleaf successfully campaigned on the promise of bringing electricity to Monrovia in six months if elected and delivered “Small Light today, Big Light Tomorrow” after coming to the Presidency.

SHE LEFT OFFICE with the inauguration a new hydro plant with the capacity to produce 88 megawatts of electricity, but more than half of Liberia is still in darkness due to poor distribution.

HER SUCCESSOR PRESIDENT George Manneh Weah sees electricity as a political tool to gain popularity and grow support. President Weah has been using the planting of few street lights in some parts of Monrovia to receive public ovation without doing much to have power distributed across the country.

THE PROBLEM IS even compounded by well syndicated power theft involving officials in high places and unscrupulous business people, who enjoy a good portion of electricity but pay very little or nothing at all to the detriment of the larger population.

POWER THEFT AT the LEC has claimed the attention of international partners, including the United States of America, the European Union, Japan who contributed financially in having a new hydro power in Liberia. However, despite providing their taxpayers' moneys here, efficiency is lacking in the corporation's activities thus it is unable to generate sufficient revenue to remain sustainable.

THE EU HEAD of delegation to Liberia Laurent Delahousse' last week called for the privatization of the Liberia Electricity Corporation to make it efficient and economically viable. Ambassador Delahousse' believes commercialization of the LEC is the best way to proceed in having the service available and affordable to all.

DAYS BEFORE, THE United States Ambassador to Liberia Michael McCarthy had decried power theft in Liberia as one of the greatest threats to the country's development, stressing that by contributing to LEC (Liberia Electricity Corporation's) commercial losses, this theft prevents the utility from conducting preventative maintenance and installing new connections, which also raises the price for electricity for ordinary Liberians to one of the highest tariffs in the world.

WE AGREE WITH the two foreign envoys that interventions are needed urgently to make the LEC serviceable and efficient. It is also an economic issue because without reliable electricity, investors would not be attracted to Liberia.

IN A NUTSHELL, we believe it is time government relinquishes the LEC to private investors to make the service efficient and available to everyone regardless of status in society.

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

COMMENTARY

By *Benedicte Berner*

The Trumping of France

PARIS - According to a new poll that sent shockwaves through France, Éric Zemmour, the far-right essayist and television talking head, would get 17% of the vote were he to run in the upcoming presidential election. That puts him in second place, ahead of Marine Le Pen of the far-right National Rally.

Known since the early 2000s for his popular television appearances and regular column in the conservative newspaper *Le Figaro*, Zemmour has become an important player in a political game that he hopes to destabilize - though he remains vague about his own possible presidential bid. His political megaphone is CNews, an influential TV channel backed by the billionaire Vincent Bolloré, a major owner of the Vivendi group. Although its top-rated programs do not usually attract more than 800,000 viewers, CNews has doubled its audience in four years, putting it in second place among France's four 24-hour news channels.

The company's business model combines topical news coverage with commentaries and debates that simplify complex issues, often featuring extreme positions. The key to both CNews and Zemmour's recent success is that they have absorbed a lesson from Donald Trump: be extreme and provocative. Zemmour's latest high-profile outburst, for example, was to call for a ban on “foreign” names like Mohammed.

While the French far right has been fixated for the past 30 years on Islam, immigration, educational failures, and the alleged decline of French civilization, Zemmour's extremist rhetoric has brought these issues to the fore. “Extremist” is no understatement: in recent years, Zemmour has been convicted twice for hate speech and inciting racial violence.

Zemmour emphasizes all the same incendiary topics in his new book, *La France n'a pas dit son dernier mot* (France Has Not Said Its Last Word). By conflating Islam and Islamism, he hopes to stigmatize the entire religion and stoke opposition to immigration. He contends that Muslim immigrants will “swamp” and overwhelm Europe's native inhabitants, and that the “Islamization of city streets” by the new “colonizers” threatens the survival of the French nation. “No small town, no small village in France is safe from savage groups of Chechen, Kosovar, Maghreb, or African gangs who steal, rape, pillage, torture, and kill,” he writes.

Not surprisingly, Zemmour blatantly distorts history. The Nazi-aligned Vichy regime, he contends, “protected French Jews” during World War II. His aggressive misogyny and homophobia are similarly de rigueur.

Zemmour wants these themes to be at the center of the debate in the presidential election next spring. France's broadcasting regulator, *le Conseil Supérieur de l'Audiovisuel* (CSA), has already decided to treat him as a candidate, tracking his TV airtime so that he cannot claim more than other candidates.

The Zemmour phenomenon worries French political parties across the political spectrum,

though not for the same reasons. It concerns Le Pen because she hopes to be the candidate representing the far right. Traditionally, the protest vote in France has been divided between populists and abstainers, and at least until the 2017 election, this tendency mainly favored her party.

To present herself as a legitimate presidential candidate in 2017, Le Pen moderated the party's message and distanced herself from her father (the party's founder and former leader) and his reactionary, racist, and anti-Semitic rhetoric. The following year, she even changed the party's name. But moderation hasn't played well with much of her base, a significant share of which has fled to Zemmour. A poll published on September 28 indicated that support for Le Pen was at around 16%, down from 28% in the first round of the 2017 presidential election.

Zemmour also worries the traditional center-right party, *Les Républicains*. Whereas many French conservatives would be embarrassed to vote for National Rally in light of its anti-Semitic past, they might view Zemmour, a Sephardic Jew, as an acceptable spokesman for the contemporary right's position on immigration.

Even more misleading, Zemmour has also been posing as a champion of Gaullism, taking up three of Charles de Gaulle's favorite themes: national independence, social policy, and the idea of Christian France. By playing on the fluid boundaries between the right and the far right, he is taking votes from the Republicans that Le Pen never could have hoped to win.

But while a Zemmour candidacy could hurt the right, it also could serve it. If Zemmour undercuts Le Pen, another right-wing candidate, such as Xavier Bertrand, a current favorite in opinion polls, could prevail as the challenger to President Emmanuel Macron in the election's second round. Macron would have much more to worry about in a runoff against Bertrand, a candidate who could claim broad support, including from leftist and centrist voters who want to prevent a second Macron term at all costs.

Macron could also be hurt by the negative effect that far-right themes will have on the overall debate. He will want to highlight his economic and social achievements, his education measures, and his pro-European convictions. But that will not be easy when campaigning against an opponent who has only “Islam” and “immigration” on his lips.

It remains to be seen whether Zemmour will run. Some analysts doubt that he can muster the necessary endorsements from at least 500 mayors. But the 17% of French voters who support his candidacy cannot be ignored. A significant share of the public is clearly disillusioned with the current crop of political elites.

Whatever Zemmour decides, he, along with CNews and other right-wing media outlets, have changed the debate, forcing all candidates to focus on immigration and crime. Macron, too, has had to adjust, reflected in his decision to impose tight restrictions on visa authorizations for Moroccan, Algerian, and Tunisian nationals. Without yet becoming a candidate, Zemmour is already a force in next year's election.

OPINION

By Nina L. Khrushcheva

Russia's Communist Comeback

Russia's Communist Party performed strongly in last month's parliamentary and regional elections - and would have performed better, had the vote not been (most likely) rigged. But can the Party unite the Kremlin's opponents and together stand up to President Vladimir Putin's United Russia?

MOSCOW - A little over a year ago, while on sabbatical from the American university where I teach, I returned to my hometown, Moscow. I didn't exactly arrive in a bastion of free speech. But it was a place where some freedom still remained. Opposition leader Alexei Navalny traveled around the country, attempting to muster support for politicians who were not under the Kremlin's thumb. Popular protests took place. Independent NGOs operated in the country. Journalists and analysts did not necessarily toe the Kremlin line. And the Communist Party was widely viewed as a relic of the past.

Since then, Navalny has been imprisoned, and the protest movement he mobilized has been crushed. His anti-corruption foundation has been outlawed for "extremism," and its members are under investigation or in exile. Virtually every day, another journalist, media outlet, human-rights advocate, or independent organization is listed as a "foreign agent" or - worse - an "undesirable."

Russia's descent into unfreedom over the last year was steep, but not far. For example, the law under which the foreign-agent designations were made was enacted in 2012, with the aim of disrupting or discrediting organizations or people engaging in "political activity" while receiving funding from abroad.

But the law's application has become increasingly arbitrary, to the point that a re-tweet is now grounds for being branded a foreign agent. (The "undesirable" label gets you outlawed altogether.) This year alone, a record 101 entities have been added to the list of foreign agents. The total of 359 includes 88 media-related individuals and organizations.

According to the Russian government, these "agents" must be listed, because they "influence state politics." Influencing politics is of course a core purpose of both journalism and advocacy work. And that's the problem: Though President Vladimir Putin has positioned himself to remain in control of Russian politics for the foreseeable future, he views criticism as an existential threat.

Amid all this silencing and persecution, an unlikely group has survived and become the Kremlin's only real opposition: the Communist Party. Thanks largely to Navalny's "smart voting" strategy - whereby voters are urged to support whoever has the best chance of beating a Kremlin-backed candidate - Communists performed strongly in last month's parliamentary and regional elections.

Officially, Communist Party candidates took 18.9% of the popular vote for the State Duma (parliament), compared to nearly 49.8% for the Kremlin's United Russia party. But the Communists refused to recognize the results, insisting that the vote was rigged. And, indeed, some experts estimate that they should have gotten around 30% of the vote, with United Russia taking about 35%.

It seems that, for many Russians, Communists are now more respectable than Putin. But this is not the Communist Party of old. Far from denying themselves all earthly pleasures, Party members can be seen wearing fur coats, traveling abroad, driving foreign cars, and using social media. Some - like the charismatic farming executive Pavel Grudinin (who was barred from running in last month's election) - are millionaires. And while the party is still led by the 77-year-old Gennady Zyuganov, it is increasingly supported - and shaped - by younger members.

Consider Nikolai Bondarenko. Nicknamed the "Red Navalny," the 36-year-old Bondarenko was highly critical of the poorly designed pension reform of 2018. More recently, when a regional minister suggested that Russians should be able to "eat well" on a measly 3,500 rubles (\$50) per month, Bondarenko documented his efforts to prove her wrong on his YouTube channel.

Despite threats to bar him from elections, Bondarenko was allowed to run in last month's State Duma election. Despite the support of Navalny's smart-voting system, he lost to the United Russia candidate. But his potential should not be dismissed: he recently headlined a protest, in which he accused United Russia of a "state and government takeover."

Then there is the 43-year-old Anastasia Udaltsova. Like Bondarenko, she improbably lost the last election. But she remains highly - and increasingly - popular. Yet another rising star, the elegant Ekaterina Engalycheva, was elected to the Moscow City Duma in 2019, thanks to smart voting.

Somewhat ironically, the Communist Party's modern makeover reflects a yearning for the past: in 1917, Lenin's Bolsheviks promised justice and equality, delivered by a state that, while strict, was merciful and just. Moreover, like the liberal Navalny, today's Communists represent a vision of predictability and consistency, in which people are not subject to the whims of one man. It is based on this logic that all opponents of the Kremlin are increasingly joining forces: this is the "united Russia" that can stand up to Putin's United Russia.

This approach is not exclusive to Russia. In the Czech Republic's recent parliamentary elections, Andrej Babiš - also known as the Czech Donald Trump - was unseated as prime minister, because a coalition of opposition groups put aside their ideological differences to form the Together Coalition, whose leader, Petr Fiala, will likely head the new government, along with another opposition coalition. As Fiala put it, "People were fed up with the populist" and wanted "normal, competent, and decent politics." Hungary's opposition, too, is fielding a unity candidate for prime minister in next year's parliamentary election, as well as a single electoral list.

Of course, the Czech Republic is still a democracy, so Babiš is preparing to move into opposition. Unseating Putin will be far more difficult, and more sweeping measures aimed at crushing the Communist Party can be expected. But this approach also carries its own risks for the Kremlin. The fact that the president is claiming that Russian democracy "hasn't died," pointing to the country's "lively opposition" as proof, shows that he has an interest in at least pretending not to have led Russia to near-totalitarianism.

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With Jones Mallay

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LIBERIA POLITICAL

HOT-FIRE

Why Did CDC's Education Minister Lie to Lawmakers on Capitol Hill?

It is inconsiderable for most modern-day Liberian politicians to easily perpetuate lies rather than invoke truth, and nothing but the whole truth. This was the case with the CDC's Educational Minister, Prof. Ansu Dao Sonii, who heedlessly misled Lawmakers on capitol hill that the only "problem in the educational sector now is money" The Minister's didn't only misrepresent the facts, he mischaracterized the real obstacles thus undermining the fragile educational foundation in Liberia.

The Minister should have asserted that the ministry was experiencing tenth-face dimensional problems which include but not limited to poor Liberian administrators managing the education Ministry and its affiliate departments. Second, Liberians without high education credentials in educational leadership are placed in positions of trust at the Ministry of education by the CDC, thus messing up the entire educational structure and the Minister is included. Third, most teachers and faculty members have outlived their educational usefulness, they are ineffective and inefficient, yet they are still keeping them inactive teaching positions across Liberia.

Fourth, political interferences into the educational ministry have continued to deface the value of the Liberian educational foundation. Fifth, the lack of thorough disciplinary measures against schools-teachers,

administrators, principals' universities' Presidents for inappropriate conduct in schools is a normal phenomenon under the noises of the Educational Minister himself. Sixth, the issue of rampant corruption-extortions, bribes, sex for grades is still on the horizon across Liberia. Seventh, the lack of qualified faculty/teachers, administrators, principals to provide modern academic curriculum cuts across Liberia. Eight, there is no intensive outside training for administrators, school principals, and teachers across Liberia.

Ninth, there are no better attractive incentives; no books, no computers, no Libraries for students and faculty to improve their learning capacity. Tenth, the educational ministry has been contributing immensely to the formation of hundreds and hundreds of makeshift colleges and feeble universities which have undermined the excellent educational standard and dignities of education across Liberia, yet Minister Ansu was able to effectively concealed all these problems from the Lawmakers on Capitol Hill for his personal aggrandizement

The 71-year-old Educational Minister had no business harboring lies simply to retain his ministerial portfolios. The educational obstacles are visible all over Liberia, all the Minister should have done was to simply speak the truth to lawmakers on Capitol Hill. The education Ministry is not a private endowment, a loyal entity, a secret society, or a special fraternity, the Ministry is one of the lead Ministries in Liberia which has been engulfed with multiple problems and the lawmakers needed to understand those myriads of problems facing the ministry.

The Ministry shouldn't be a job-seeking center. It should be a place that requires knowledgeable specialists trained in higher education with education credentials. This is very important because those with strong education credentials better understand how to handle the educational problems in Liberia. Those with no new idea nor educational credentials to man the education ministry should step aside and make way for the real specialists if they are available. Amazingly, it is leant that a misshaped-college (Starz College of Science and Technology) conferred a doctorate on the Minister when such college doesn't even have a doctoral program, nor a master program needless talks about having substantive faculty with first degree credential which is one of the biggest embarrassments to Minister Ansu to be honored by such makeshift so-called college.

The Minister on the other hand accepted this funny honor and has dressed him in such a worthless academic title and parading around as a doctor which is an academic insult and an academic disgrace to the Ministry of Education and the entire professoriate. This is one major reason while Liberia has mushrooming sub-standers so-called colleges, universities, and vocational institutions, and understand Nursing Schools conferring useless credentials on folks within the educational sector of Liberia from half-baked educational entities in Liberia-what a severe injury to education in our lifetime!



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Insert Solicitation Number: VA-669-22-00001

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-22-00001
2. **ISSUANCE DATE:** October 19, 2021
3. **CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** November 2, 2021, 5:30 pm Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia
4. **POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov
5. **POSITION TITLE:** Computer Management Assistant
6. **MARKET VALUE:** USD 27,502 to 44,008 [USD] equivalent to ESN- 09 In accordance with AIDAR Appendix J and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value.
7. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.
8. **PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia with possible travel as stated in the Statement of Duties.
9. **ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.
10. **SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility and computer access.

11. STATEMENT OF DUTIES

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION:

This position is in the Information Technology (IT) Division of the Executive Office. The job holder is responsible for assisting in the management of computer systems and automated programs. The incumbent of this position will be involved in the day-to-day operations, development, installation, repair, maintenance, support and management of Windows, LAN and PC hardware, software, peripherals, accessories, and automation. The incumbent is responsible for the development, installation, operation, and maintenance of the Mission's network and desktop installations. The work involves comparing the organization's work process to LAN system capabilities and developing methods to improve both, operating day-to-day network and maximizing system performance; providing management advisory services, user support and training. The incumbent is expected to develop, implement and manage computer-training programs on different applications and operating systems. The incumbent provides IT systems and application support to users. Application support incorporates the use and refinement of hardware, software and user expertise in Mission Standard Applications. The incumbent will work with other IT staff in furthering USAID/Liberia Intranet website development and coordination. The incumbent works under the supervision of the Computer Management Specialist and takes full charge of the computer center operations during his absence. S/he performs systems development and maintenance of applications related to USAID/Liberia operations. S/he will be responsible for maintaining the Mission's LAN hardware for approximately 105 users, 105 workstations, modems, routers, switches, scanners, printers, and various peripherals of computer equipment.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. LAN Administration and Security

Estimated Time - 30%

- Performs LAN administration routines such as adding/removing users, support of Windows Servers, PC/LAN and PC hardware, software, applications, peripherals (Workstations, printers, plotters, scanners, tape and disk drives, DVD Writers, etc.), data communication equipment (switches, Data Cryptor servers, routers, cards or controller, network cabling, etc.) and auxiliary equipment (Central UPS, small to medium UPSs, temperature and humidity monitoring systems etc.) Maintain disk directories for users, manage profiles and printer locations. Sets up user's Access Rights to system files and software applications in the Windows File and Print Server. Carries out the installation and setup of new equipment in a PC-LAN network which includes configuration of memory, installation of approved software, configure desktops and procedures. Installs equipment at user locations and configures cabling modifications if necessary.
- Manages network resources for Windows for accessing the print services & print queues.
- The incumbent is responsible for operating USAID information systems and information security to a level of "Least Privilege", "Separation of Duties", "Individual Accountability" and "Need to Know" as defined in ADS 545.3.2.1.
- Ensures IT and Mission staff are aware of and in compliance with Agency specific Information Resource Management policies and guidelines. Understands the content and applicability of USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS), chapters 541-551 and 577 and 578 which pertain to Information Resource Management. Verifies that IT and Mission staff follow the appropriate Rules of Behavior as defined in ADS 545.3.1.5.
- Monitors the security of Servers and workstations on the agency approved Vulnerability reporting system. Ensures that USAID ISSO Security, FMFIA and NIST guidelines are being followed and patches/hotfixes are applied immediately when vulnerabilities are logged and reported. Makes sure antivirus software and security patches are updated promptly on the servers and workstations. Oversees that Software Copyright laws are strictly followed in the Mission.
- The incumbent takes the responsibility to perform the job of the Systems Administrator of secured systems.
- Installation, monitoring, testing and network management of, Windows servers/workstations, network security devices, PC/LAN and PC hardware, software, peripherals, data communication equipment and accessories, recommending and performing systems programming, fine tuning, upgrades, enhancements and re-configuration to attain optimum system efficiency and performance.
- Secondary contact person for all LAN questions. Works with the supervisor on LAN problems. Notes down the exact nature of the problem and attempts to solve. Prepares himself as a backup person for regular LAN operations which would include bringing the system up, backing up the hard drives and maintaining the system.
- Assists in planning and scheduling adequate technical support for all systems which includes Routine Preventive Maintenance schedule (RPM) for all equipment at least once every four months.
- The incumbent will be called on to install, upgrade, and maintain a wide assortment of commercial, locally developed, and agency developed or approved software applications. Updates and service patches must be loaded when the department approves them. Anti-virus definitions must be kept up to date. Unexpected problems must be diagnosed and de-bugged. The incumbent will work with her/his subordinate to create and maintain an orderly library of the Mission's software and reference material. Develops and maintains a systematic, preventive-oriented approach to routine network maintenance tasks.
- Provides software support services designed to maximize ADP systems utilization and increase office productivity. These services include telephone assistance, on-site technical assistance, software installation and reinstallation, update and fixes, recovery of operating system, hardware or software problem isolation/identification/resolution and ADP consultations..
- Carries out activities relating to the various telecommunications links of the USAID network. Duties include implementation and operation of the WAN connection including Local ISP and State DTSP system. Incumbent monitors all links and always ensures trouble free operation, takes corrective measures in an event of failure by coordinating repairs with providers and implements backup routes to maintain communications. Incumbent monitors communications logs.
- Remains vigilant about information security, including anti-virus software updates, network intrusion detection, and proper file security settings.
- Recommends to the supervisor the acquisition of professional engineering services from outside contractors as needed.

2. System Development, Maintenance and implementation

Estimated Time - 30%

- Primary person for all programs being used in the Mission along with applications to be developed and maintained for the better workflow in the Mission and Mission Programs. Develops an information system to prioritize and schedule the implementation of all possible and planned information systems. Writes the basis for such prioritizing and discusses it with the EXO and the Computer Management Specialist.
- With consultation with the Computer Management Specialist, the incumbent performs periodic maintenance activities required on servers and workstations to remove unnecessary files, release unused disk space, re organize databases, archive inactive documents, etc. with the ultimate goal of balancing workload, minimize system degradation, improve system performance, data integrity and maximum utilization of disk space.
- Develops/Maintains the mission intranet website.
- Identifies, analyzes and writes technical specifications for possible new information systems for eventual implementation. Estimates the hardware and manpower resources necessary to implement them.
- Evaluates and recommends PC & LAN hardware configurations, and software packages appropriate for Mission use. Tests and implements all automation software from AIDAashington and other Missions.
- Provides in-depth training to all the Computer Center staff on the Automation software being used in the Mission to back-up on technical issues during absence.
- Provides prompt repair and maintenance services to automation equipment by utilizing contractor engineers working under various repair and maintenance contract agreements.
- Makes recommendations to the supervisor as to how hardware resources should be balanced between offices, particularly whenever any significant percentage of hardware is down.
- Assists in the installation, testing and configuration of IT equipment. This will also include suggestions on relocation of PCs, Laptops, scanners, Document Senders, Smartphones, printers, etc.
- Performs development and maintenance services on applications that: electronically logs

service requests; monitors repair and maintenance services; records of parts replaced; status and conditions of ADP systems; and preventive maintenance schedules.

- Compliant to Mission-adopted development and documentation standards, performs systems analysis and design of application and databases; programming coding, compilation, testing and debugging using approved programming languages, standard desktop publishing, forms designer software and related tools; parallel run using live data to beta test completed programs; implement application, input data, regular and ad hoc reports generation; maintains applications to cope with management and technology changes.

3. User Support and Training

Estimated Time - 20%

- Provide IT support to around 100 users and various IT devices.
- Primary contact person for users with PC, Laptop, problems. Promptly investigates problems, if unable to solve the same day, writes a technical support notice, and initiates plans to solve expeditiously with the supervisor.
- Responsible for providing user support on the use, operation, features, capabilities of Windows OS, Google Apps, PC/LAN hardware; conversion of data, Word, graphics and images to various format and storage medium; archive and retrieval of data.
- Interacts with end users on a day-to-day basis and provides first line support on standard application software packages and other agency software installed on the various platforms.
- Contact person for users with any sort of PC problem including hardware, system software, application software and automated systems. Promptly investigates problems, attempts to solve them immediately, or initiates plans to bring to a solution. Reports the problem to the other members of the computer center and works on the solution as soon as possible.
- Contact person for users with any PC problem if the problem is beyond the individual PC and more on the network. Documents the exact nature of the problem and reports to the supervisor for action.
- Assists the supervisor to respond to the service needs of USAID end users, responding within reasonable time after receipt of a service request.
- The incumbent will provide customer support on Multimedia setups.
- The incumbent will conduct computer training to the LAN users. Generally training will be one-on-one; however, when there is a need s/he will organize larger, more formal classes. Training will include commercial applications such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Windows OS, My USAID and Google Apps. The incumbent will also be called on frequently to assist users in learning department specific software. S/he may also be called on to teach locally developed software.

4. Other Measurable Outputs

Estimated Time - 10%

- In consultation with the Computer Management Specialist, performs critical tasks such as preventive maintenance, operating system upgrade and recovery, administrative support outside regular office hours when necessary and urgent, to keep system down time and inaccessibility to end-users to a minimum.
- Makes recommendations to the supervisor as to how hardware resources should be balanced between offices, particularly whenever any significant percentage of hardware is down.
- Performs other related tasks and duties that may be assigned by the Division Chief.
- The incumbent should suggest budget planning for yearly procurement of IT and should also plan the allocation of hardware to the entire mission users.

5. Administrative Functions

Estimated Time - 10%

- Secondary contact person in Mission for all communications with CIO/Washington.
- Receive, inspect, and record all automation-related deliveries, warranty claims, short shipment claims, out-of-office or out-of-country repairs, inter-office transfers, and disposal. Regularly updates the Mission inventory of automation hardware, software, peripherals, and auxiliary equipment.
- Manages the automation facilities implementing time-in and time-out log, pull-out and return log, spare parts control and issuance, physical security, cleanliness, non-smoking and other administrative policies applicable.
- Maintains an up-to-date listing of the automation resources Hardware, software, auxiliary equipment, facilities, manuals, schematic diagrams and licenses of the Mission including its physical distribution and assignment, classification, condition, source of funding, related purchase orders, warranty coverage, etc.
- Prepares purchase requisition for any PC hardware and software necessary, keeps an updated inventory on it. Work with GSO and EXO on procurement of IT equipment.
- Assists supervisor, recommends and performs engineering improvements and modifications to improve the operation, safety and/or reliability of the ADP Systems recommended by the manufacturer and approved by Computer Management Specialist.

Supervision controls: This position is directly supervised by the Computer Management Specialist.

Supervisory Relationship: None

12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

1. **Education:** A Bachelor's degree in computer science or a related field is required.
2. **Prior Work Experience:** Three to five years of progressively responsible technical experience in the field of IT is required. At least three years of experience with a Non-Governmental Organization or International Organization is required. Experience with Network installation and support along with web page experience is also desired.
3. **Work/Residency Permits:** For applicants who are not Liberian Citizens, valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia are required. This information should be clearly stated in the application package.
4. **Language Proficiency:** English proficiency requirements by level II, III and specialization (speak/read): Proficiency in speaking and writing English Level 4 is required.

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

The Evaluation Factors listed below will be the basis for evaluating and ranking applicants for the position. Applicants will be scored based on the documentation submitted within the application. Applicants must submit a supplemental document outlining their responses to the evaluation factor(s) in order to be considered.

1. Selection Process

After the closing date for receipt of applications, a committee will convene to review applications that meet the minimum requirements and evaluate them in accordance with the evaluation criteria. As part of the selection process, the most qualified candidates will be interviewed. Reference checks will be made only for applicants considered as finalists. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities.

2. Evaluation Factors

Those applicants who meet the minimum education and experience qualifications will be evaluated based on the content of their application as well as on the applicant's writing, presentation, and communication skills. Applicants should include their name and the announcement number at the top of each additional page. Failure to specifically address the Evaluation Factor will result in the applicant not receiving full credit for pertinent experience.

FACTOR #1: Please describe how your technical, administrative, and operations experience directly relates to the major duties and responsibilities of this position.

3. Basis of Rating

Applicants determined to be competitively ranked will also be evaluated on their interview performance and satisfactory professional reference checks. The Applicant Rating System is as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Evaluation Factor | 50 points |
| Interview Performance | 50 points |
| Total Possible Points | 100 |

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's ability to:

- Respond in a clear and concise manner to a series of questions about your experience, skills, goals, and other areas.

IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-72066922R00001 - Computer Management Assistant LiberiaHR@usaid.gov**

Applicants may submit an application prior to the closing date and time specified in Section I, item 3 mentioned above unless revised.

Qualified applicants must submit the following documents or their applications will not be considered for this position:

1. A current curriculum vitae (CV) or resume, not to exceed 3 pages.
2. A minimum of three (3) professional references with telephone and email contacts, who are not family members or relatives, with working telephone and email contacts. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities. At least one reference provided should be a current or former supervisor.
3. A supplemental document with a written response to the Evaluation Factor.

Candidates who are applying for this position must fully meet the education requirement (graduated and degree and/or diploma already received) as specified. At the time of applications, candidates must also meet in full the work experience requirement. There is no exception to these requirements.

Short-listed candidates may be requested to provide educational documents such as transcripts for degrees, diplomas, certificates, and other pertinent documents as needed.

Any attachments provided via email must be compatible with Microsoft Word or PDF and not zipped. Note that attachments to email must not exceed 25 MB. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

The Agency retains the right to cancel or amend the solicitation and associated actions at any stage of the recruitment process.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Senators want social benefit for counties

By Ethel A Tweh

Grand Kru County Senator Numene Bartekwa and Grand Cape Mount County Senator Simeon Taylor have called on the Executive Branch of Government to ensure that concession agreements that come before

the Chairman of Senate Committee on Mines and Energy.

The two senators said it is important that affected communities across the country have something to show when companies are operating in their respective areas.

They made the call at a

license for an initial term of twenty-five years from the effective date.

Senator Bartekwa and Taylor were addressing officials of the Executive, which included the Minister of Justice, Cllr. Frank Musa Dean, Deputy Minister of Mines & Energy, Mr. Emmanuel O. Sherman and the Assistant Commissioner of the National Investment Commission.

The two Senators called on the Executive to ensure that the issue of infrastructure and housing of employees be taken into serious consideration when negotiating concessions.

They noted that inadequate housing facilities have been provided by several concessionaires in the past, something the two committee chairpersons indicated, does not represent the dignity of employees.

They also called on technicians in the executive to increase the scholarship fund in the BAO CHICO agreement to ensure that many persons in the county acquire requisite knowledge to take over some managerial roles in the future.

At the hearing, the two Senate Committee Chairs called for an increment in the Social Contribution from US\$ 300,000.00 to US\$850,000.00.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



the Legislature contain sufficient social benefits for the people of affected counties.

Senator Bartekwa is the Chairman of Senate Joint Committee on Concession & Investment, while his colleague, Senator Taylor, is

hearing of the Senate Joint Committee on Concessions & Investment and Mines & Energy relative to the BAO CHICO Resources Liberia Ltd. Concession for the extraction of iron ore in Gbarpolu County.

The company is expected to operate under a Class "A" mining

Govt. declares COVID-19 treatment units empty

By Lewis S. Teh

The Ministry of Health says there are no Covid-19 cases in treatment units across Liberia except six active cases that are receiving home-based care here.

Liberia's Minister of Health Doctor Wilhelmina Jallah disclosed that two of those cases in home-based care are in Montserrado County, while four are in Maryland County, southeast of the country which means they are okay and not in critical condition.

She told a press briefing at the Ministry of Information in Monrovia that total deaths since the third wave of the pandemic in Liberia registered 287, while 5,518 persons recovered from a

total of 5,811 confirmed cases.

Liberia experienced its worst period of the pandemic in May and early July 2021, with the emergence of the infectious

Delta variant.

The country recorded 63 deaths during this period, and

▶ **CONT'D ON PAGE 7**



Weah: Promise fulfilled

As Liberian Fisheries Cooperatives receive free outboard engines

President George Manneh Weah began the distribution of the first batch of outboard engines Saturday, 23 October 2021 at a well-attended grand launch on the Fairground in front of the Unification Pavilion in the port city of Buchanan to 23 Fisheries Cooperatives from all the landing sites.

Making the presentation at the Fairground in Buchanan City, Grand Bassa County, President Weah declared that the donation which is first of its kind was his government's assistance to Liberian fishermen across the country.

President Weah reminded the fishermen that he is a Talk and Do President, terming the donation as a promise fulfilled. It can be recalled in 2019 a Liberian delegation headed by President Weah

were informed of a pending free outboard engines distribution across the nine coastal counties. The outboard engines were anticipated in 2020 but they were delayed due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic which affected the production of the engines.

Presenting an overview of the project, the Director-General of NaFAA described the distribution ceremony as an intervention by President Weah intended to take the paddle canoes, fishermen, from "Paddle to Engine."

She said this "provides hope and empowers Liberian local fishermen, thus putting them in a position to compete with their foreign counterparts."

Madam Emma Metieh Glassco stated further that "we can now boldly say, in the words of my President, H.E George Mannah



visited Japan and negotiated among other things, assistance for the overall development of the Liberian fishery sector.

A National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) press release issued over the weekend says the free outboard engines distribution is currently affecting paddling canoe fishermen established into Fisheries Cooperatives by NaFAA in collaboration with Cooperative Development Agency (CDA).

The Fisheries Cooperatives which comprises fishermen, canoe owners, fish processors, fish sellers, safeguards, and other fishing community residents/dwellers are drawn from the nine coastal counties in Liberia where fishing activities are on the increase.

Following the return of the Liberian, Liberian fishermen

Weah that the fishermen of Liberia shall never be "Spectators in their own Economy" but active players.'

Disclosing how the outboard engines initiative came about, the NaFAA Boss revealed that in densely populated rural coastal areas such as Grand Bassa, Maryland, and Grand Cape Mount counties which lack job opportunities, fishing provides alternative livelihood opportunities for their respective population.

She said, "It was on this basis that we were able to present a strong case to our development partners for support and also considering that the full potential of the wealth of aquatic fish resources Liberia possesses is yet to be harnessed."

Madam Glassco recalled that

▶ **CONT'D ON PAGE 11**

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MRU technical commission meets in Monrovia

By Lewis S. Teh

The Secretary General of the Mano River Union Secretariat Ambassador Madina A. Wesseh has told delegates of Member States meeting in Monrovia that neighboring Guinea, which is the current chair of the MRU needs predictable and stable governance processes that will return it to stability.

"We at the Secretariat have engaged and in the process of engaging all the major international and other subregional stakeholders to ensure the return to constitutional order within the shortest possible time for the people of Guinea", Ambassador Wesseh stresses.

She says the people of Guinea and the subregion need predictable and stable governance processes to ensure peace and stability in order to carry on with the socio-economic development process.

emerging issues in the MRU space, adding "We hope this meeting will be guided by this overarching principle."

She indicates that the objectives of their meeting here was laid out in draft documents, detailing, among others, that the meeting in Monrovia is expected to review the key operation documents and reports of the MRU Secretariat, follow up on the recommendations of the TCAF last session held in Freetown, Sierra Leone and make recommendations for the consideration of the Ministerial Council.

At the same time Ambassador Wesseh reminds delegates that the MRU is a professional inter-governmental organization, urging the Commission to put professional recruitment for technical competence to the fore if they must realize and actualize the vision the MRU forefathers set out for the subregion.

The Liberian Ambassador to

mandate. The countries will take note from your work that going forward those who come to leadership at the apex of this organization must be people of technical competence and experience. Working at International Organizations is a unique experience and it must not be taken for granted."

Meanwhile, the head of the Guinean delegation Alpha Kamara extols the MRU Secretariat and its members for convening the extraordinary TCAF session. He says the integration space which is the MRU remains one of the top priorities of the current Head of State of Guinea, Col. Mamady Doumouyah.

"On behalf of this delegation the mandate given us is that Guinea will never cease to exist as a founding country of the MRU, and we remain committed to our contribution for the improvement and livelihood

Govt. declares

Cont'd from page 6

number of cases increased by 3,254. A staggering 219 of those cases were recorded on July 3 alone, the highest daily surge of the virus since the index case in March 2020.

With these, the country was subdued by fear, especially with reports that health facilities, mainly the John F. Kennedy memorial hospital which is the nation's top referral hospital was overwhelmed with patients in the face of an acute shortage of logistics and accommodation.

The situation was worsened further when the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) ranked Liberia at Level 4, warning U.S. citizens from travelling to Liberia in late July.

Minister Jallah, in a gratified mood, lauded healthcare workers across the country, especially those at Covid-19 treatment units, for their sacrifices that are now yielding tangible results.

She credited Liberians for the tremendous progress, saying "We are grateful to Liberians for positively responding to the health guidelines. This has helped to bring cases down. We pray that we all continue to abide by those regulations."

As a result of progress made

so far, the government has relaxed some of the rigid regulations. The Ministry of Health in a release last week amended its Covid-19 regulations.

The new regulations, amongst other things, extended the 9 pm restriction of recreation centers to 11 pm.

"Night clubs, bars, beaches, cinemas, video clubs, entertainment centers, including hotels, restaurants and guest houses shall close by 11 pm. Hotel and guest house guests can access room service at the same time," she said.

The statement however, mandates everyone to wear facemasks at all times in public and ensure physical distancing of a minimum of three feet from each other in public. It also emphasizes frequent washing of hands or use hands sanitizer.

Meanwhile, Dr Jallah has called on citizens to be vaccinated to meet up with the World Health Organization's global vaccination target of 40 percent by December 31, 2021. The ministry also warned that government will have no alternative but to impose another regulation that would mandate people who have not taken any of the COVID vaccines to get vaccinated. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



MRU Secretary General Amb. Madina A. Wesseh (center) flanked by delegates from Member States

Ambassador Wesseh spoke Monday, October 25, 2021 at the official opening of a three-day technical working session of the 13th Extraordinary Technical Commission on Administration and Finance (TCAF) being held at Murex Plaza in Sinkor, Monrovia.

In her introductory remarks, the MRU Secretary General says as one of the foundations upon which the essence of the Secretariat is assessed, the Technical Commission on Finance and Administration is once again gathered in Monrovia following their recent meeting held in Freetown in June to review and assess the finance and administrative activities of the Secretariat.

She notes that as per the mandate of the structure and the terms of reference of the extraordinary TCAF, members are to examine specific issues of sub regional interest and

the MRU took up the mantle of leadership in June 2017. "Our tenure is a five-year mandate", she says, "with an option to renew a second mandate. As we prepare for submission of our work and review as well as seek additional mandate or offer our thanks for the opportunities to serve, I wish to urge you to take these matters very seriously and put professional recruitment for technical competence to the fore."

She says the work of the Secretariat is clear and the functions of the various departments are clear, noting that the new five-year strategic plan has clearly laid out the program and activities to implement the vision.

"Once these plans are approved, and a resource mobilization plan is put in place to raise the initial resources then it will be incumbent on the Ministerial Council to review and require a proper evaluation of our work to determine a new

of the population within our territory", says Mr. Kamara.

He says the meeting is being held in a difficult context as it relates to COVID-19, and amid minimum resources.

According to Mr. Kamara, from the look of things, he's of the conviction, taking into account the experience of MRU members countries, saying "We will be able to bring more dynamics in order to rectify this integration, it's difficult today but I will assure you that the new authorities that have given us this mandate will like to inform you that we are in a pursuant change, it will become a very civil government", he adds.

Meanwhile, the head of the Sierra Leone delegation Mr. Peter Sam Kpakra, in his introductory remarks notes that it is important that the MRU Secretariat addresses current internal wrangling



within the organization, which he recalls started from Cote d'Ivoire, to Freetown and now in Liberia.

He extends profound appreciation to host Liberia, for the smooth coordination of activities, including the necessary documents, resources and hotels.

"Ladies and gentleman: the Union Secretariat is engulfed with lots of problems which are impeding the movement, working of the Union. If I will say anything as an opening remark is for us as members of this Secretariat to find solutions by solving these problems", says Mr. Kpakra.

He emphasizes that it is imperative that the Union addresses these problems, noting "Let's look at ourselves like brothers and sisters",

adding that if the Union can't speak with one voice, they won't achieve those things that are meant to be achieved.

The MRU is an international association that was initially established between Liberia and Sierra Leone by the 3 October 1973 Mano River Declaration, named after the Mano River that begins in Guinea and forms a border between Liberia and Sierra Leone. Guinea joined the Union on October 25, 1980.

However, the subregional body was reactivated on May 20, 2004 at a summit of three former leaders of Member States: late Presidents Lansana Conte' of Guinea, Ahmad Tejan Kabbah of Sierra Leone and Chairman Gyude Bryant of Liberia. Cote d'Ivoire subsequently joined on May 15, 2008. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Français

L'EPA démolit des structures sur les zones humides

Le gouvernement du Libéria a procédé samedi à la démolition de plusieurs habitations construites illégalement dans les zones humides le long du boulevard SKD, dans le comté de Margibi.

L'opération, qui a été menée par l'Agence de

protection de l'environnement (EPA), en collaboration avec les ministères et agences de tutelle, avec l'appui de la Police nationale libérienne (LNP), fait suite à plusieurs mois de pourparlers et de batailles juridiques avec les propriétaires des habitations construites dans les zones humides en violation de la loi sur la protection et la

gestion de l'environnement du Libéria (EMPL).

Dans un communiqué publié le 25 février 2021, l'Etat du Libéria a demandé aux particuliers, aux entreprises et aux individus qui érigent des structures dans la zone humide autour de l'Académie de police de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Un garçon qui avait ramassé puis restitué 50.000 dollars nommé "ambassadeur de l'intégrité"

Un adolescent libérien qui avait ramassé 50.000 dollars américains et restitué ensuite l'argent à son propriétaire a été nommé "ambassadeur de l'intégrité" de ce pays pauvre d'Afrique de l'ouest et récompensé d'un salaire mensuel par le président George Weah.

L'histoire d'Emmanuel Tuloe, qui conduit une moto-

taxi pour gagner sa vie, a fait l'objet d'une large couverture médiatique pour son acte civique au Libéria, où près de la moitié de la population vit dans l'extrême pauvreté.

Il est tombé le 10 octobre dans le nord-est du pays sur un sac en plastique rempli d'argent d'un montant total de 50.000 dollars alors qu'il était à moto, a-t-il raconté vendredi à l'AFP.

A la grande surprise de ses amis, le jeune de 19 ans a rendu l'argent à sa propriétaire, une femme d'affaires, après l'avoir entendue le lendemain lancer un message à la radio.

"Mes amis me disaient que je suis très stupide et que je ne deviendrai jamais riche de ma vie", a dit M. Tuloe. "Mes parents ne m'ont pas appris à voler, alors j'ai décidé de rendre l'argent qui ne m'appartient pas".

Le président du Libéria, l'ancienne star du football George Weah, a invité Emmanuel Tuloe à une audience au palais présidentiel en début de semaine à Monrovia, lui offrant une récompense de 10.000 dollars pour son honnêteté.

M. Weah, 55 ans, a également offert à l'adolescent une bourse d'études jusqu'au niveau master, l'a nommé "ambassadeur de l'intégrité" pour le Libéria et lui a octroyé un salaire mensuel de 500 dollars.

"Je ne pense pas que je

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Éditorial

Il faut privatiser la LEC pour la rendre plus efficace

La Compagnie d'Electricité du Libéria (LEC) et la Société des Eaux et des Égouts du Libéria (LWSC) sont chargées de fournir deux services essentiels, dont respectivement l'électricité et l'eau potable, quoiqu'elles aient du mal à mener à bien leurs missions à cause du fait qu'elles soient toutes deux gérées par l'Etat pour des raisons politiques, en particulier la LEC.

L'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a fait campagne avec succès en faisant la promesse de restaurer l'électricité à Monrovia en seulement six mois si elle était élue. Ainsi une fois au pouvoir, il a lancé le fameux slogan qui était « Petite lumière aujourd'hui, grande lumière demain ».

Elle a quitté le pouvoir après avoir procédé à l'inauguration d'une nouvelle centrale hydroélectrique d'une capacité de 88 mégawatts, mais plus de la moitié du Libéria est toujours dans l'obscurité en raison d'une mauvaise distribution de l'électricité.

Son successeur, le président George Manneh Weah, considère l'électricité comme un outil politique qu'il faut utiliser pour gagner en popularité et accroître sa base de soutien. Le président Weah a planté quelques lampadaires dans certaines parties de Monrovia et a reçu une ovation incommensurable sans faire grand-chose pour que l'électricité soit distribuée dans tout le pays.

Le problème est même aggravé par le vol d'électricité. Des fonctionnaires haut placés et des hommes d'affaires sans scrupules bénéficient d'une bonne partie de l'électricité en payant très peu ou rien du tout au détriment de l'ensemble de la population.

Le vol d'électricité est si répandu qu'il a fini par attirer l'attention des partenaires internationaux, dont notamment les États-Unis d'Amérique, l'Union européenne et le Japon, qui ont contribué financièrement à la construction de la centrale hydroélectrique au Libéria.

Cependant, alors que ces pays continuent de mettre à disposition l'argent de leurs contribuables pour le développement du Libéria, la société électricité ne fait aucun effort pour rendre ces activités efficaces. Par conséquent, elle est incapable de générer des revenus suffisants pour rester viables.

La semaine dernière, le chef de la délégation de l'UE au Libéria, SE Laurent Delahousse, a appelé à la privatisation de la compagnie d'électricité du Libéria pour la rendre plus forte et économiquement viable. L'ambassadeur Delahousse estime que la privatisation de la LEC lui permettra d'être à la hauteur.

Quelques jours auparavant, l'ambassadeur des États-Unis au Libéria, SE Michael McCarthy, avait dénoncé le vol d'électricité au Libéria, le qualifiant de l'une des plus grandes menaces pour le développement du pays. Il avait fait remarquer que ce vol empêche la société d'élargir ses opérations en connectant plus de foyer et de procéder à l'entretien de ses installations, ce qui rend cher le prix de l'électricité pour les Libériens ordinaires.

Nous sommes tout à faire d'accord avec les deux diplomates étrangers. Des interventions sont nécessaires de toute urgence pour rendre la LEC plus forte et plus efficace. C'est aussi un enjeu économique car sans électricité fiable, les investisseurs ne peuvent s'intéresser au Libéria.

En bref, nous pensons qu'il est temps que le gouvernement cède la LEC aux investisseurs privés pour rendre le service efficace et accessible à tous.

Français

L'EPA démolit des structures

cesser toute activité car il procéderait à la démolition de ces bâtiments.

L'EPA a également décidé d'imposer des sanctions administratives et réglementaires contre ces individus et entreprises.

Le directeur exécutif de l'EPA, le professeur Wilson K. Tarpeh, a indiqué que le remblayage de la zone humide n'est ni durable et ni autorisé. Selon lui, le blocage des cours d'eau, le rejet d'eaux usées et d'égouts dans la zone humide et les cours d'eau autour du carrefour de l'Académie de police, le long du boulevard SKD, compromettent l'intégrité écologique de la zone humide de Montserrado.

Mais, les personnes concernées semblaient récalcitrantes, c'est pourquoi l'EPA s'est mise à raser toutes les structures construites dans les zones humides.

"L'EPA les a avertis à maintes reprises, mais, ils n'ont pas voulu prendre cela au sérieux. Nous avons donc pensé à raser tout ici tôt ce matin pour dégager la zone", a déclaré Isaiah Kamara Paye, inspecteur général de l'EPA.

"Nous n'allons pas permettre que ces choses se produisent ici car cela constitue une violation des lois internationales dont notre pays est signataire".

La zone humide du boulevard SKD est désignée comme site Ramsar en vertu de la Convention de Ramsar sur les zones humides d'importance internationale dont le Libéria est signataire.

S'adressant aux journalistes lors de l'opération de démolition, le directeur exécutif adjoint de l'EPA, Randall M. Dobayou, a déclaré que l'intégrité des zones humides de Mesurado est violée par l'érection non approuvée de structures contraires au règlement de zonage et à la loi sur la protection et la gestion de

l'environnement du Libéria.

Selon lui, l'EPA ne va plus accepter la dégradation continue de l'écosystème de la mangrove et le déversement illégal d'ordures.

« La mangrove sert à de nombreuses fins importantes pour notre subsistance en tant que peuple. Elle sert de filtre pour les eaux souterraines, un terrain de reproduction pour les poissons, et elle permet de lutter contre les inondations en absorbant l'eau », a déclaré Dobayou.

Selon lui, les lois internationales et nationales interdisent d'empiéter sur les zones humides et de détruire les mangroves et autres espèces protégées nécessaires à la conservation de la diversité biologique.

Malgré des preuves solides de la violation de l'EPML, l'EPA a demandé un mandat du tribunal avant de démolir les structures érigées dans les zones humides.

« Bien que nous sachions que ces personnes enfreignaient la loi de manière flagrante, nous ne nous sommes pas réveillés un matin pour démolir ces habitations, ce que nous sommes libres de faire parce que les lois nous en donnent le droit. Mais nous avons quand même dû demander l'autorisation du tribunal avant d'agir. Cela signifie que nous travaillons dans les limites des lois du pays », a expliqué Dobayou.

Pendant ce temps, l'opération de démolition a rencontré une brève résistance, certains habitants mécontents ayant dressé des barrages routiers sur le boulevard principal SKD, obstruant ainsi le flux normal de la circulation tôt le matin.

Des policiers armés ont rapidement maîtrisé la situation et délogé les manifestants.

L'EPA est la principale autorité pour la gestion de l'environnement et l'utilisation durable de ses ressources.

L'agence est habilitée en vertu de l'article 75 de la LPME à prescrire des mesures pour la protection des zones humides, a conclu le communiqué.

Un garçon qui avait ramassé puis restitué 50.000

serai pauvre comme mes amis l'avaient prédit", a déclaré M. Tuloe à l'AFP, expliquant que son rêve est de devenir médecin ou infirmier. "J'encourage tous mes amis à ne pas prendre ce qui ne leur appartient pas", a-t-il déclaré.

Le Libéria, un pays pauvre de 5 millions d'habitants, se

remet encore des guerres civiles consécutives de 1989 à 2003 et de la crise Ebola de 2014-2016 en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Le pays souffre également d'une inflation élevée et de fréquentes pénuries de liquidités. Selon la Banque mondiale, 44% de la population libérienne vit avec moins de 1,9 dollar par jour.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Benedicte Berner

La trumpisation de la France

PARIS - Selon un récent sondage, qui a créé en France une onde de choc, Eric Zemmour, essayiste d'extrême droite et présentateur de télévision, réunirait 17 % des intentions de vote s'il se présentait à la prochaine élection présidentielle. Ce résultat le place à la deuxième place, devant Marine Le Pen, candidate déclarée du Rassemblement national.

Connu depuis les années 2000 pour ses passages remarqués à la télévision et sa chronique dans le quotidien conservateur Le Figaro, Zemmour est devenu un acteur important dans un jeu politique qu'il espère déstabiliser - quoiqu'il maintienne dans le flou son éventuelle candidature présidentielle. L'influente chaîne de télévision CNews, soutenue par le milliardaire Vincent Bolloré, principal actionnaire du groupe Vivendi, lui sert de tribune. Si ses émissions les plus suivies n'attirent habituellement pas plus de 800 000 téléspectateurs, CNews a doublé son audience en quatre ans, parvenant à la deuxième place parmi les quatre chaînes françaises d'information en continu.

Le modèle économique de la chaîne mêle aux reportages des commentaires et des débats qui simplifient des questions complexes et où s'exposent souvent des positions extrémistes. La clé du succès récent tant de CNews que de Zemmour, ce sont les enseignements que l'une et l'autre ont tirés de Donald Trump : extrémisme et provocation systématiques. Le dernier coup d'éclat de Zemmour fut par exemple d'avoir appelé à l'interdiction des prénoms « étrangers » comme Mohamed.

Si l'extrême droite française est depuis trente ans obsédée par l'islam, l'immigration, les échecs de l'éducation et le soi-disant déclin d'une civilisation française, la rhétorique extrémiste de Zemmour a porté ces questions sur le devant de la scène. « Extrémiste » ne doit pas être compris comme un euphémisme : au cours des années précédentes, Zemmour a été condamné deux fois, pour injure et provocation à la haine ainsi que pour provocation à la haine raciale.

On se saurait s'en étonner, Zemmour déforme sans vergogne l'histoire. Le régime de Vichy, qui collabora avec les nazis, « a protégé les juifs français » durant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, prétend-il. Une misogynie et une homophobie agressives font aussi partie de sa marque de fabrique.

Zemmour veut inscrire ces thèmes au centre du débat de l'élection présidentielle au printemps prochain. L'autorité française de réglementation de l'audiovisuel, le Conseil supérieur de l'audiovisuel (CSA), a déjà décidé de le considérer comme candidat, et décompte son temps d'antenne, de sorte qu'il ne puisse être indûment avantagé si d'aventure il réclame le suffrage des électeurs.

Le phénomène Zemmour préoccupe les partis de l'ensemble du spectre politique, quoique pour des raisons différentes. Il inquiète Le Pen qui espère être la candidate représentant l'extrême droite. Le vote protestataire se répartit habituellement en France entre populistes et abstentionnistes, et cette tendance, au moins jusqu'aux élections de 2017, a principalement favorisé son parti.

Afin de se présenter, en 2017, comme une candidate légitime, Le Pen a modéré le message de son parti ; elle s'est distanciée de son père (qui fonda et dirigea le parti) et de sa rhétorique réactionnaire, raciste et antisémite. L'année suivante, elle changeait même le nom du parti. Mais la modération n'a pas beaucoup séduit sa base, dont une part non négligeable a pour Zemmour les yeux de Chimène. Un sondage publié le 28 septembre indiquait que les soutiens de Le Pen se situaient aux alentours de 16 %, une baisse conséquente par rapport aux 28 % des voix qui se sont portées sur son nom au premier tour de l'élection présidentielle de 2017.

Zemmour inquiète aussi le parti Les Républicains, représentant traditionnel du centre droit. Alors que de nombreux conservateurs français seraient gênés de voter pour le Rassemblement national en raison de son passé antisémite, les mêmes pourraient considérer Zemmour, juif séfarade, comme un défenseur acceptable de la position qui est aujourd'hui celle de la droite sur l'immigration.

Plus fallacieusement encore Zemmour se pose en champion du gaullisme, reprenant à son compte trois thèmes chers à Charles de Gaulle : l'indépendance nationale, la politique sociale et l'idée d'une France chrétienne. En jouant sur les frontières parfois poreuses entre la droite et l'extrême droite, il prend au parti Les Républicains des voix auxquelles n'aurait jamais pu prétendre Le Pen.

Ainsi une candidature Zemmour pourrait-elle affaiblir la droite. Mais elle pourrait aussi la servir. Si Zemmour parvient à court-circuiter Le Pen, un autre candidat de droite, actuellement bien placé dans les sondages d'opinion, Xavier Bertrand, pourrait s'imposer à la suite du premier tour comme le rival, au second, d'Emmanuel Macron. Macron aurait beaucoup plus à craindre d'une confrontation finale avec Bertrand, lequel pourrait prétendre à un soutien assez large, allant jusqu'aux électeurs de gauche et du centre qui veulent éviter à tout prix un second mandat Macron.

Macron pourrait être aussi fragilisé par les effets négatifs des thèmes de l'extrême droite sur le débat dans son ensemble. Il voudra faire valoir les succès de sa politique économique et sociale, les mesures prises par son gouvernement en matière d'éducation, ainsi que son engagement en faveur de l'Europe. Mais il ne lui sera pas facile de faire campagne contre un opposant qui n'a que les mots « islam » et « immigration » à la bouche.

Reste à voir si Zemmour sera candidat. Certains observateurs doutent qu'ils puissent réunir les parrainages nécessaires d'au moins 500 maires. Mais les 17 % de l'électorat qui soutiennent sa candidature ne sauraient être ignorés. Une part non négligeable de l'opinion est déçue par la génération actuelle des élites politiques.

Quoi que décide Zemmour, il aura, avec CNews et les autres organes de la presse de droite, changé le débat, contraignant tous les candidats à le porter sur l'immigration et la délinquance. Macron, lui aussi, a dû s'adapter : en témoigne sa décision récente d'imposer des restrictions drastiques au nombre de visas que la France accorde aux ressortissants marocains, algériens et tunisiens. Sans être encore candidat, Zemmour s'est déjà imposé comme une force avec laquelle il faudra compter lors des élections de l'année prochaine.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Pragmatic ways to clean Monrovia's Sanitation Mess

-A focused leadership needed & all hands on deck

By Frank Sainworla, Jr,
fsainworla@yahoo.com

In recent days, the Liberian capital, Monrovia has been in the news for the wrong reason—whether or not it is one of the “dirtiest” cities around the world.

The alarming sanitation crisis that Monrovia and other communities in Liberia face can be resolved by no one else other than ourselves—citizens and residents.

Denial of the reality will not do, as was recently seen with the knee-jerk reaction to the European Union (EU) Ambassador to Liberia, Laurent Delahousse's assertion about dirtiness of Monrovia against the backdrop of tens of millions of Euros and United States dollars international donor partners have invested into solid waste management here.

But cleaning the sanitation mess requires the resolve of everyone to clean the sanitation mess, with a political leadership that is focused and committed to doing the right thing by instituting the right measures in line with the laws

Garbage collection and disposal is not free—people must own it and be willing and ready to pay minimum fees to ensure proper and professional waste management; and community people should subscribe to existing Community Based Enterprises (CBEs);

Enforcement of sanitation and hygiene measures must start from the homes to the neighbourhood and communities and the city;

Institute practical and workable garbage collection and disposal system must be put in place and sustained, and violators of city ordinances must be penalized irrespective of who is involved (NO RESPECTOR OF PERSONS);

Institute guidelines for market and businesses—cleaning and disposal schedule; stipulated penalties for violation of guidelines;

Clearly identifying the various stakeholders and duty bearers in central Monrovia (the commercial hub) & their roles and responsibilities, as central Monrovia is like a microcosm—people who live there, people who do business there, people who reside



Recently, it was very difficult for this writer and Journalist to dispute the utterance made by the EU envoy on the miserable nature of Monrovia's sanitation. Even as a patriot of my beloved country, Liberia, the reality makes it rather extremely difficult to challenge with one's head up high. This assertion may have been “undiplomatic” but he was brutally frank amidst the sad reality.

Here is why. Some two weeks before that controversial utterance, this writer had published a piece about how the uncontrollable sanitary problem was even having a serious toll on the resting places of our dead compatriots—cemeteries, many of which have turned into a dumpsite. Desecration Of Our Cemeteries Continues Unabated! - News Public Trust

A grave yard, where our dead loved ones—relatives and friends—are buried, the article said, should be a place of serenity and tidiness.

But shamefully in our Liberian setting, the filth and stench in two of our major cemeteries in Monrovia and Paynesville bring tears to one's eyes when visiting these burial grounds. Is this how their “final resting place” should be desecrated?

The defilement of the main Palm Grove Cemetery on Center and Gurley Streets in central Monrovia, which has been turned into a dumpsite, has now been extended to the Paynesville Cemetery in the Duport Road suburb of Monrovia.

For this society, such a sad spectacle appears to be a norm. But for people from many other societies, it is despicable. This is how the Duport Road Cemetery looks, as captured by the camera lens of a friend and brother (Christopher Johns) who accompanied me to this area late this week.

In fact, this grave yard hosting the bodies of hundreds of our compatriots has been in this deplorable state for a protracted period now. So heart-wrenching, isn't it!! Indeed, it's hard time to act now. And welcome to the Citizens Board Engagement Board.



and city ordinances. Even the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Bohfal Chambers, whose Capitol Building complex has made headline news in the local media for the filthiness of the bathrooms and generally poor sanitary condition for a protracted period; Dr. Bohfal Chambers described the EU diplomat's assertion as “irresponsible”.

Time and again, when there is national crisis, our leaders tend to look for scapegoats or pay lip service to reform of the laws/regulations; without being committed to transforming the situation through scrupulous implementation of existing laws, regulations already on the books. Transformation can only be realized if there is a serious commitment to implementing existing generally good policies/regulations.

Because cleaning the sanitation mess is a collective responsibility, this is why the decision by the Monrovia City government to constitute a Citizens Engagement Board is a welcomed development. A statement by the Monrovia City Corporation said the 14-member Ad hoc ‘Citizen Engagement Board is to formulate a policy toward maintaining and promoting hygiene and sanitation, within the Liberian capital.’

Pragmatic way out of the sanitation mess

As a patriotic Liberian citizen, who believes in constructive criticisms colored by advancing a pragmatic way out, this writer therefore advances ten (10) recommendations aimed at keeping the Liberian society clean and hygienic daily not occasionally or periodically, as the newly appointed citizens Board is commissioned:

Robust/strict enforcement of city ordinances or laws, after a period of heightened public and civic education; Community residents must see city cleanliness and sanitation as a way of life, regular/daily exercise—not an event or seasonal;

there, and people who both reside and do business there;

Putting into focus and clearly understanding the demographics of central Monrovia as regards producing of garbage/solid waste---the micro and macro levels

Start in earnest from our garbage-ridden cemeteries



CPP alarms broad daylight hardship

Liberia's main opposition establishment, Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) has described as counterproductive to the country's economic growth the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) - led government's alleged broad daylight hardship imposed on the citizenry.

In a statement issued by the CPP Executive Committee Monday, 25 October 2021, the opposition bloc observed that since the CDC regime conducted a controversial and fraud-laden US\$25m Mop-Up Exercise in 2018, the last quarter of each year has been characterized by a strange scarcity of Liberian dollar

recent check on the CBL website shows that monthly data on inflation since June ending 2021 is yet to be published by the CBL.

It challenges the CBL to wake up and not allow itself to be a puppet in the hands of politicians seeking their personal welfare over the Liberian people.

The CPP opined that one significant factor explaining this shortage of the Liberian dollar on the market during the last quarter of the year is the deliberate and intentional failure of the CBL to service Liberian dollar withdrawal demands of the commercial banks that are obligated to hold Liberian dollar current accounts with the CBL.

It indicates that this gross

appreciates, the prices of food items (especially their staple, rice), gasoline, transportation fares, school tuitions and fees, among others, are expected to reduce.

It continued that politics and economics are immiscible, saying unfortunately, while the people suffer the excruciating effects of this economic contradiction, some officials and apologists of the CDC government are rather celebrating the suffering of the Liberian people.

It leaves the CPP to further raise a question as to how they can claim that they are doing a good job when the people here are crying this much.

CPP recalled that when officials of the CDC Government were actively seeking legislative approval for the printing of additional Liberian dollar banknotes, they promised that this would bring to end, once and for all, this recurring last-quarter nightmare of shortage of Liberian dollar banknotes at the commercial banks and in the market.

It said the Legislature must give back operational independence to the CBL that allows the CBL to print Liberian-dollar banknotes in line with economic fundamentals and stop using the current approval process negotiations every time the CBL comes seeking approval to print.

"Do the honorable thing LEGISLATURE by addressing ambiguities in Part II Count 2, Counts 6B, 6C, and 6O; Part V Count 23 (1 and 2); and Article 34 (D) of the Liberian Constitution and ultimately amend the October 21, 2020 Amended CBL Act to restore CBL to normalcy and alignment with international and regional best practices," the party said.

It noted that this should then pave the way for the appointment of competent and professional Liberians with track record in the business of monetary policy design and implementation to sit on the Board and senior management of the CBL.

"The CPP therefore demands that the CDC Government fulfill its promises and urgently put an end to this exploitative and anomalous economic situation," the statement said.

It called on the Government to stop seeking imaginary solutions to the challenges of the Liberian economy and instead focus on predictable actions and systemic changes that will improve the economic fundamentals of the country.

failure of the government to meet its commitments to the commercial banks consequently translates to the growing lack of confidence in the Liberian banking sector by the public.

"It is quite surprising to hear the Minister of Finance speak of achieving single-digit inflation in an environment of induced appreciation of the Liberian dollar against the US dollar," the CPP said.

The opposition party suggested that this, accompanied by the rapid eroding of consumer purchasing power is simply a sophisticated and well-orchestrated deception taking place before "our very eyes."

It reminded President George Manneh Weah that the Liberian people deserve better living conditions than what they are now experiencing after all his campaign promises.

The CPP argued that regardless of how economic data and the facts are twisted, the average Liberian knows what it means to be hungry and deprived.

banknotes on the market.

According to CPP, this strange scarcity of Liberian dollar banknotes often comes with a corresponding precipitous drop in the Liberian Dollar-US Dollar exchange rate.

This is not only counterproductive to the economic growth desperately needed, but it is broad daylight hardship being imposed on the people of Liberia by the CDC-Led Government," the CPP said.

"Not surprisingly, this nightmarish scenario has begun to raise its ugly head this year. This time around, it is the refusal of the government through the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) to supply needed Liberian dollars, which has led to a complete shortage of the Liberian dollars on the market," the statement said.

The CPP Executive Committee wonders how the government can sit idly with such insensitivity to the Liberian people when prices of food, clothing and other essential commodities are still high while the Liberian dollar is appreciating.

The party noted that its



Liberia honors 2nd

Starts from back page

media team in Dakar, Senegal National Coach Robert Lartey thanked the Senegalese for the warm reception accorded the Liberian side which he believes is a payback for the great hospitality given Senegal when they came to Monrovia.

He apologized to Liberian fans for the 2-1 lost to Senegal in Monrovia, while remaining optimistic of making a comeback in today's match.

Meanwhile, Lone Star Female Captain KebehLamine, has also expressed regret for the way they conducted themselves in the first leg that led to the 2-1 home defeat in Monrovia.

She said they are prepared to give their all in today's encounter.

See below the full list of players for the home side:

GOALKEEPERS:

Massa Konneh (Earth Angels, Liberia), Lorpuforkpah (World Girls, Liberia), Kormassah Sumo (Hippo FC,

Liberia)

DEFENDERS:

Loretta Sackie (World Girls, Liberia), Theresa Gaye (Ambassadors FC, Liberia), Lucy Massaquoi (Blanco FC, Liberia), AlineCapehart (Ambassadors FC, Liberia), Choice Tokpah (World Girls, Liberia), Marthaline Moore (Determine Girls, Liberia), ZypheSharewellie (Senior Female Professionals, Liberia)

MIDFIELDERS:

HawaKpan (World Girls, Liberia), Francisca Howe (Earth Angels, Liberia), KebehLamine (Ambassadors FC, Liberia), Leda Johnson (Hippo FC, Liberia), Ruth Wesseh (Determine Girls, Liberia)

FORWARDS: Lucy Kikeh (World Girls, Liberia), Kantiesayee (Earth Angels, Liberia), Albertee Lumber (Blanco FC, Liberia), Pauline Agbotsu (Determine Girls, Liberia) and Mimi Eiden (Montana Athletics, United States).

Weah: Promise

Cont'd from page 6

the Liberian fishery delegation was extended an invitation to attend the Sustainable Use Meeting in Japan 2018.

She the delegation had the opportunity to meet the Japanese Authorities responsible for fisheries and its related matters, noting that Liberia acceded to certain international conventions/protocols which were some of their benchmarks to become eligible for such grants to the

fishery sector.

Following that, she said Liberia submitted its proposal through the local base JICA office in Liberia for onward submission to the government of Japan.

According to her, the project proposal approved was in two folds: the construction of a landing and storage site in Buchanan and the outboard motor engines, and both projects valued at 7.6M USD.



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These actions, it said, will include, inter alia, growing the productive sectors of the economy, improving service delivery across government, fighting corruption robustly and impartially and improving the security climate in the country.

It also mentioned vigorously fighting ritualistic killings, supporting Liberian entrepreneurship in critical sectors such as agricultural value addition, and respecting the merit system.

On another note, the CPP condemns in the strongest term the deliberate refusal by the government to allow a helicopter belonging to the

Political Leader of the People's Liberation Party (PLP), Dr. Daniel Cassel, to land despite satisfying all of the requirements prescribed by the Liberia Aviation Authority.

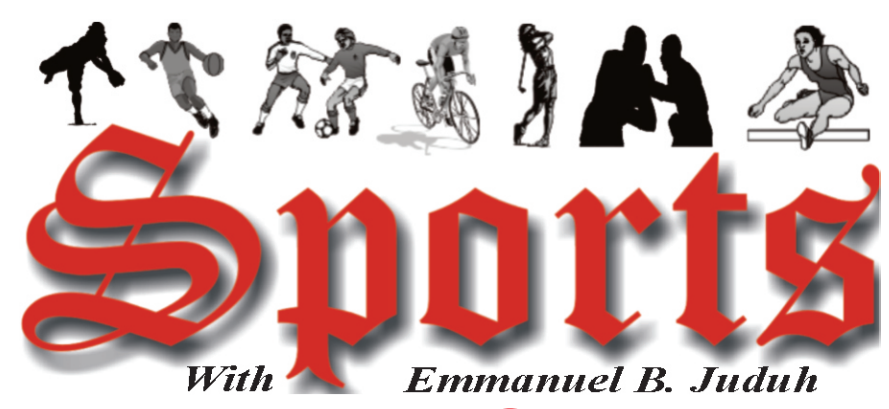
CPP said the refusal infringes on the rights of Dr. Cassel and is clearly based on political grounds.

It added that this also demonstrates how far this government is prepared to go to suppress the opposition.

"We therefore call on the government to immediately correct its actions, which could set unintended precedence and have undesired consequences," it concluded.

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Liberia honors 2nd leg today against Senegal



By Naneka Hoffman
The females Lone Star of Liberia take on their Senegalese counterparts today, Tuesday, October 26 at the StadeLat-Dior in Thies Senegal, in the return leg of the first round qualifiers of the Morocco

2022 AFCON Championship. The girls left here on Friday, October 22, 2021 to honor the return match after they narrowly succumbed to Senegal 2-1 during the first leg played on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at the Antoinette Tubman Stadium in Monrovia.

Liberia needs two goals in today's game scheduled for 5pm to have a chance in progressing to the second round. Speaking recently to Liberia Football Association

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