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Amujae Leaders vow change for women -in public leadership

Ellen: I am humbled



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Continental News

The white student braving racial politics in S Africa

Teenager Jess Griesel does not seem the usual red beret-wearing member of South Africa's Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) - the party intent on upsetting the country's political landscape.

She is a 19-year-old white, Afrikaans-speaking undergraduate who was recently elected to the Student Representative Council (SRC) of Cape Town university on an EFF ticket.

But in a country as racially charged as South Africa, her stance has not gone down well with some people. When Ms Griesel announced her SRC candidacy in September, one social media user described her as a "race traitor".

Twenty-seven years after the end of white-minority rule - when Nelson Mandela was elected as president in South Africa's first democratic election, calling the country "the rainbow nation" - Ms Griesel tells me the backlash shocked her.

"Being called a race traitor was something that I found

very interesting and very telling about South Africa today. It insinuates that there's still an 'us' and a 'them' club."

To understand the reaction she has faced - one needs to understand how the EFF has shaken up politics in South Africa. Formed in 2013, it is led by the fiery Julius Malema, who has modelled himself on Venezuela's late President Hugo

Chavez and unapologetically promotes the interests of poor black South Africans.

The party describes itself as "a left-leaning, radical, anti-imperialist and economic emancipation movement, inspired by the broad Marxist-Leninist school of thought."

Members are disruptive, literally and figuratively.

They are often accused of

being anti-white. That is because they have repeatedly demanded that white South Africans give up the land taken from black people.

Some EFF supporters occasionally sing the apartheid-era chant "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer", a highly controversial song that a court ruled as hate speech and which is seen as being directed against the white farming community. What is undoubtedly the case is that "Red Berets" are unhappy with the status quo.

A few years ago, EFF MPs memorably shook the establishment by their antics in parliament, which is dominated by the African National Congress (ANC) - the liberation movement that has governed since the end of apartheid.

"Pay back the money," they repeatedly shouted in unison, while hitting the desks in front of them with their palms. The male MPs were dressed in red construction overalls, their female counterparts were in red dresses and white aprons -

the signature EFF uniform representing workers.

The nation watched the theatrics on national television as the speaker of parliament tried in vain to calm the situation.

They were demanding that then-President Jacob Zuma, who has been embroiled in corruption allegations for years, give back taxpayers' money for cash spent renovating his private home.

The former head of state has since returned some of that money and denies any wrongdoing, but he is emblematic of the problems the ANC has faced over the last few years.

With local elections to be held on Monday, the governing party faces a trust deficit, especially following the nationwide power outages of recent months and years. The rolling blackouts are crippling an economy that has already been bludgeoned by the Covid-19 pandemic.

As a result, the rate of joblessness now stands at a record 34.4%. BBC



Sudan anti-coup protesters barricade roads

Sudanese protesters have barricaded roads in the capital, Khartoum, as part of week-long demonstrations against a military coup.

Three people were killed on Saturday when security forces fired shots and tear gas to disperse protesters in the nearby city of Omdurman,

medics said.

The interior ministry denied that live rounds had been fired.

The army seized power on Monday, detaining Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and other civilian leaders.

The UN's Sudan envoy, Volker Perthes, met Mr Hamdok at his residence on Sunday.

Mr Perthes said Mr Hamdok

was well but remained under house arrest.

"We discussed options for mediation and the way forward for Sudan," he added.

Coup leader Gen Abdel Fattah Burhan dissolved civilian rule on Monday.

The general, who also called a state of emergency, said his actions were justified to avoid "civil war" and stop political infighting. The military takeover has drawn widespread international condemnation.

Saturday saw the biggest demonstrations yet, with tens of thousands marching across the country with Sudanese flags and chanting, "No to military rule!"

"These protests are going to continue being peaceful even when faced with the guns," Shaheen al Shaheef, a member of the Khartoum Resistance Committee, told the BBC. More than 10 protesters have died in clashes with security forces last week.

The Sudanese authorities have cut off the internet and other communications.

Until Monday's coup, civilian and military leaders had been in an uneasy power-

US calls for halt to Ethiopia fighting



Several million people have been displaced by the war in northern Ethiopia

The US State Department says it's gravely concerned by the expansion of fighting between Ethiopia's government forces and Tigrayan rebels in the north of the country.

Washington reiterated its call for the Tigray People's Liberation Front to withdraw from the Amhara and Afar regions, and halt its advances

in and around the cities of Dessie and Kombolcha.

The Ethiopian government has denied a claim from the TPLF earlier on Saturday that the rebels had taken control of Dessie. The city is just under 400km (250 miles) from the capital, Addis Ababa.

There's been fierce fighting in the area and thousands of people have sought shelter in Dessie. BBC

sharing agreement since longtime ruler Omar al-Bashir was overthrown in 2019.

The deal was designed to steer Sudan towards democracy, but it proved to be fragile with a number of

previous coup attempts.

Gen Burhan, who was head of the power-sharing council, said Sudan was still committed to the transition to civilian rule, with elections planned for July 2023. BBC



Anti-coup protesters chant and clap as they march through Khartoum

EDITORIAL

Sustain the appreciation of the Liberia dollar

THE APPRECIATION OF the Liberian Dollar against the United States Dollar usually around the close of the year is nothing for government to boast about, because it is only for the Christmas season when the country usually experience increased remittance from Diaspora Liberians, especially those residing in the United States.

AROUND THIS PERIOD the business community is noted for exploiting the situation by deliberately dropping the exchange rate because of huge demand for Liberian dollars, but corresponding adjustments in prices remain static, at the detriment of consumers.

THIS IS EXACTLY the quagmire most ordinary Liberians find themselves in with the appreciation of the local currency not positively affecting their purchasing power.

LAST WEEK, THE Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced series of regulations to prevent exchange rate profiteering by businesses and individuals. But how effective these efforts will be is totally something else.

IN A PRESS release issued in Monrovia, the Commerce Ministry said it has observed increasing transactions in Liberian dollars with price quotations completely different from the officially published exchange rate from the Central Bank of Liberia, thus constraining consumers.

Businesses are being urged to tag prices in both Liberian and United States dollars, but the fact is consumers would have to look deeply into their pockets to be able to purchase because prices are not adjusting.

ALL THIS IS happening at a time the government is about to put in circulation 4 billion newly printed Liberian banknotes. In total, the government has over LRD48 billion for the economy that would replace the current money in circulation.

LIBERIA SHOULD BRACE themselves for the real exchange rate by January 2022 onward because what is obtaining in the market right now is broad day theft by unscrupulous business people who are networking to artificially depreciate the U.S. dollar around this time for profiteering.

IF THE CURRENT appreciation of the local currency cannot or will not be sustained in the long-run beyond January 2022, Liberians will come to understand they were robbed under the fictitious depreciation of the U.S. dollars.

LEAST WE ARE misconstrued, this paper is in no way against the appreciation of the Liberian dollar against the United States dollar but said appreciation should positively affect purchasing power thru a downward reverse in prices.

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COMMENTARY

By Michael J. Boskin

The True Costs of Government Spending

STANFORD - US President Joe Biden insists that his \$3.5 trillion (\$5 trillion without the budget gimmicks) “human infrastructure” bill “costs zero dollars” - nothing, nil, nada. While every president makes foolish statements, this must be the most economically illiterate presidential utterance since Jimmy Carter’s demand that the US Federal Reserve lower interest rates in the midst of surging double-digit inflation. In Carter’s case, the result was a dollar crisis. What will come of the Biden administration’s foray into nonsense?

Biden, along with other Democratic leaders such as Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, claims that the plan will be “fully paid for” with tax hikes. Apparently, the administration thinks that only budget deficits impose costs (which runs contrary to the “deficits are costless” argument offered by other “progressives”). Yet it has long been clear that the bill would leave a \$1.5-3 trillion hole to be filled with debt even after the tax hikes.

In any case, Americans aren’t buying it. Polls show that roughly half want less government and lower taxes, and that three-quarters of Americans doubt that the \$3.5 trillion bill would make them “better off.” Perhaps not surprisingly, a majority now disapproves of the Biden administration.

Students in introductory economics learn that the social cost of something is the value of the goods and services that could have been produced with the same resources (labor, capital, land, energy, materials). Usually, this “opportunity cost” can be measured by market prices - though sometimes these must be adjusted to account for other factors, such as pollution or monopolies.

From a basic economics standpoint, there are three fundamental errors in Biden’s “zero-cost” argument. First, there is the suggestion that the proper measure of cost is the impact on the federal fiscal position. The notion that a country’s wealth lies in the value of the sovereign’s Treasury was destroyed by Adam Smith 245 years ago. He showed that wealth comes from the country’s ability to produce goods and services that people need and want. For any country, the cost of government spending is the value of the foregone opportunities from shifting resources from the private sector to the government. Less private consumption and less private investment leads to less housing and fewer factories.

Second, taxes are far from costless, because they, too, divert resources from the private sector and thus impose an opportunity cost. Just as sales taxes primarily affect consumption, corporate income taxes affect investment. The cost is the value of the displaced private consumption and/or investment.

The third fundamental flaw in Biden’s approach is the notion that the cost can be measured just by the dollar amounts involved. In reality, these are far higher than stated. Not only are there administrative and compliance costs, but there is also the economic damage

that taxes cause by distorting incentives. For example, income taxes reduce incentives to work and to save (though this is partially offset by tax-deferred savings accounts); corporate taxes reduce incentives to invest; and progressive tax rates decrease incentives to invest in one’s skills.

Every introductory economics class teaches that the harm these distortions cause rises with the square of the tax rate and the responsiveness of the taxed activities. Doubling the rate quadruples the inefficiency cost (what economists call deadweight loss) of the tax. The effective tax rate takes into account all taxes on the activity, for example, state, local, and federal income taxes.

This is not a doctrinal issue; it is simply a description of what is happening in the areas under the supply and demand curves on a graph. Spending \$5 trillion will cost the economy about \$6.5 trillion, because the marginal cost of federal dollars is estimated to fall in the \$1.30 range. For a government spending program to be considered sensible, it must provide benefits of at least \$1.30 per dollar of spending.

Especially damaging to the economy would be the proposed tax hikes on capital income, as this introduces a tax distortion that compounds over time as horizons lengthen. That would both harm economic growth and create bigger obstacles to more people getting ahead financially - building their own wealth, reducing their dependence on government, and, yes, becoming rich.

The promises of universal pre-school, free community college, and other entitlements are deeply misleading. Taxpayers, after all, will pay for the salaries, the facilities, the computers, and the electricity needed for these ongoing services. It would be more truthful for Biden to say: “I know these costs are huge, even larger than the estimated budgetary impact. Here is my rationale and evidence, program by program, that the efficiency or distributional benefits so outweigh these costs as to justify taking the resources from families and firms, now or in the future.”

Exactly when exaggeration crosses a line into deliberate deception is debatable. President Barack Obama either knew, or should have known, that he was issuing a blatant falsehood when he said, “If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor, period. If you like your health-care plan, you can keep your health-care plan, period.” (To his credit, he later reversed his claim that the 2009 stimulus bill would soon create lots of construction jobs, admitting in 2010 that “there’s no such thing as shovel-ready projects.”) And, of course, President Donald Trump made a habit of excessive claims.

Political hyperbole is par for the course. But like so much else, it seems to have gotten worse, and with fewer consequences. We would all be better off if more elected officials followed the example of Fiorello La Guardia, the mayor of New York City from 1934 to 1945, who, in admitting error, boasted, “When I make a mistake, it’s a beauty.”

OPINION

By José Manuel Barroso

The Test of Pandemic Preparedness

The COVID-19 pandemic is the product of a globalized, interconnected world. Without new mechanisms that offer truly global approaches to crisis management and prevention, the experience of the past 18 months is likely to be repeated, with profound consequences for international security.

BRUSSELS - The COVID-19 pandemic has instilled many harsh lessons. But the most important is that infectious-disease outbreaks pose a risk not just to public health but also to global security. Like nuclear proliferation, terrorism, and climate change, COVID-19 has shown that pandemics can rapidly undermine social stability and economic well-being.

This point may seem obvious now. But before the COVID-19 crisis, infectious disease barely registered on the global security agenda. If efforts to change that by establishing new funding and monitoring mechanisms for pandemic preparedness are to succeed, half measures won't cut it. To avoid a repeat of history, our preparations must reflect the true extent of the challenge. We must recognize that pandemics now represent one of the biggest - and most likely - threats to global security.

Preventing future pandemics will require not only the same level of investment as other global security threats, on which trillions are spent routinely, but also an entirely different way of thinking about global security. The pandemic represents a new form of globalized crisis, one that is both caused and exacerbated by the modern world's interconnectedness.

The Spanish influenza pandemic a century ago was not this kind of crisis. Back then, most people across the globe lived in less dense rural settings, and international travel was much slower and undertaken by only a small fraction of the population. But we saw something similar in 2008-09, when economies fell like dominoes. That was the first globalized crisis of this century, and we are now coming to grips with what will be the century's defining crisis: climate change.

The common denominator in each case is that the crisis demands solutions that no individual government can provide on its own. An infectious disease cannot be fought with traditional security countermeasures such as economic sanctions, bilateral diplomacy, deterrence, or military posturing. Rather, it calls for scientific collaboration, resilient health systems, and long-term investments in global health networks. Shows of force and unilateral acts of national self-preservation are useless. Global collaboration, strategic multilateralism, and transnational compassion are the only way out of this kind of disaster.

Judging by the current global distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, we have yet to muster the necessary response. The coronavirus is still winning, and a lack of global coordination is the principal reason why. Instead of finding ways to work together toward common solutions in the face of an unprecedented crisis, key governments are still putting their national interest first, at the expense of the global response we need.

The global solution to the vaccine distribution problem is the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) facility established last year. By ensuring equitable access to vaccines for people in the poorest countries, COVAX is not only saving millions of lives and protecting hundreds of millions more; it is also offering the best path to recovery. Even from a strictly economic standpoint, COVAX is far more cost-effective than any form of fiscal or monetary stimulus.

There are now more than 1.5 billion vaccine doses being produced each month - an astounding feat less than a year after the first vaccine was approved, and just 18 months into the pandemic. It is predicted that a total of more than 12 billion doses will have been produced by the end of this year. Yet while that is enough to vaccinate every adult on the planet, we are still a long way from doing so, because distribution is so inequitable. Shockingly, only 3.1% of eligible people in low-income countries have received at least one dose, on average, compared to more than 71.1% of people in high-income countries.

This disparity is both morally wrong and dangerously short-sighted. By prolonging the pandemic and allowing more opportunities for the virus to generate new variants, it ultimately harms everyone. But this failure will not be corrected until governments start acting globally. Although more than 190 countries support COVAX, many governments are struggling to balance between protecting their own populations and acting in ways that serve everyone's interest in global health and economic recovery.

Mustering a genuinely global response is necessary both to end this crisis and to avert the next one. It is not just individuals' health that is at stake. As COVID-19 has shown, pandemics can push millions of people into poverty and place unprecedented restrictions on their mobility. Such conditions can subvert even traditionally stable countries, by increasing the threat of political polarization, civil unrest, and violence. The longer the crisis continues, the greater that threat.

Globalized crises require that we globalize critical resources - in today's case, vaccines. G20 governments have the power to lead the way by ending the vaccine hoarding and export bans that have impeded supplies, and by donating more doses to COVAX. But as urgent as such measures are, they are mostly band-aids - solutions to a crisis within a crisis. To avoid a repeat of COVID-19, we need more expansive pandemic preparedness mechanisms built around the model of globalized resources that COVAX pioneered. We cannot wait until the next outbreak has already become a global security threat. By that time, it will be too late.

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O-PED

By Jean Pisani-ferry

The Path to Climate Credibility

Green capitalism can work only if governments eventually keep their climate promises - and the current picture is one of massive credibility failure. Accelerating the green transition will require like-minded countries to form a "climate club" and impose import tariffs on trade partners not contributing to the collective effort.

PARIS - On October 25, the electric-vehicle producer Tesla's market capitalization reached \$1 trillion - more than the combined value of the next ten global car manufacturers. Even after discounting for exuberance, this is a strong indicator of how the threat of climate change is triggering a transformation of capitalism. To be sure, polluters still abound, and greenwashing is pervasive. But it would be a mistake to dismiss the changeover underway.

Governments, however, are not on track to deliver on their promise in the 2015 Paris climate agreement to limit global warming to "well below" 2° Celsius relative to pre-industrial levels. According to the International Energy Agency, meeting the national pledges made so far within the framework of the Paris accord would lead to an increase in global temperature of 2.1° C. Moreover, actual policies fall short of even these insufficient pledges: under the IEA's "stated policies scenario," global warming would reach 2.6° C.

Add to this the fact that - as the Energy Transitions Commission has documented - most governments have committed to achieving net-zero emissions only by 2050 or 2060, and plan to postpone major mitigation efforts until after 2030, and the emerging picture is one of massive credibility failure.

The root of the problem is well known. The Paris agreement was based on the realistic judgment that governments could not agree on a precisely defined allocation of climate-change mitigation efforts. This conclusion had emerged from the collapse of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol (which involved such an allocation but left out emerging economies, including China) and the failure of the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (where an attempt to muster a global Kyoto-type agreement ended in dispute).

So, the world tried a different approach: experts would assess the climate efforts needed, governments would formulate pledges, and civil society would scrutinize them. No one expected the initial pledges to be sufficient. But the hope was that peer pressure, the weight of public opinion, and relentless warnings by the scientific community would gradually put policies on the right track.

Economists were skeptical. Christian Gollier and Jean Tirole of the Toulouse School of Economics warned early on that the strategy was "doomed to fail." And William Nordhaus of Yale University showed that voluntary climate coalitions are vulnerable to free-riding and prone to instability.

The Paris agreement nonetheless achieved something that simple economic models could not reflect: the beginning of a change in business attitudes. Notably, the Paris accord encouraged investors and managers to ponder the risk of being left with stranded assets or an obsolete business model. Mark Carney, then-governor of the Bank of England, added that regulators would hold financial institutions accountable for hidden climate risks. Such considerations generated private-sector momentum toward decarbonization.

But green capitalism can prosper only if governments eventually keep their climate promises. Most investments in renewable energy, energy-efficient buildings, or zero-emission vehicles require carbon pricing, tight regulation, or both. Forward-looking investors may well bet on the eventual enactment of such measures, but only up to a point, and not without consequences.

An insufficiently credible decarbonization policy implies both higher overall costs (because it leads investors to hedge by combining brown and green investments) and recurrent imbalances between demand and supply. Balancing an accelerated transition away from fossil fuels is challenging in any scenario, but even more so if future policies are uncertain. The current rise in energy prices might therefore presage rougher times ahead.

The lack of climate-policy credibility partly reflects domestic political considerations, because governments simultaneously promise a green future and the continuation of the status quo. US President Joe Biden lacks a congressional majority in favor of penalizing fossil-fuel use, Chinese President Xi Jinping is afraid of jeopardizing his country's energy-hungry economic growth, and French President Emmanuel Macron knows from experience that middle-class households are hostile to carbon taxation.

Such concerns are understandable. But if investors conclude that governments are not serious about achieving global climate goals, they will spend less on green initiatives, and the Paris agreement's core mechanism will collapse.

One solution would be for governments to tie their own hands by giving the mandate to set the carbon price to an independent institution, in the same way that they previously delegated responsibility for controlling inflation to central banks. Alternatively, governments could commit to paying a penalty if they fail to adhere to a given future path for the price of carbon (for example, by issuing certificates whose value would depend on the difference between the announced and actual prices). The question, however, is whether institutional or financial engineering could solve a deeply political problem.

Moreover, governments will deliver on climate goals only if a critical mass of countries remains on track to do so. Even more than domestic politics, this is at the core of the current credibility deficit. Nordhaus has therefore proposed that a group of like-minded countries form a "climate club" and apply a tariff on imports from trade partners that are not contributing to the collective effort. Today, for example, this would mean punishing Brazil for President Jair Bolsonaro's irresponsible climate policies.

The idea makes perfect economic sense, and the outgoing German government took it up in a softer form in a recent paper. The difficulty is that although a mechanism to offset the trade implications of differential carbon pricing should be compatible with World Trade Organization rules, an outright penalty would be in conflict with them.

The European Union's decision to push ahead with its European Green Deal is a stepping-stone. Provided the EU sets aside sufficient resources to compensate vulnerable households, the program's common character will help member states solve their own climate credibility problems. In time, the EU will probably form a climate club of sorts with selected trade partners and push for ambitious goals. The question is who the other members will be. As things stand, both the United States and China fall short of the ambition required for such an alliance. That makes this a narrow path to climate credibility. But it is the only one.

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CPP not in conflict -Senator Conmany B. Wesseh

By Lincoln G Peters

Senator Conmany B. Wesseh of the Unity Party describes the current rigmarole in the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) as a healthy exchange, thereby debunking claim from the public that the CPP is in a serious conflict.

Speaking over the weekend at the 10th Anniversary celebration of Radio Bushrod 98.1 on Saturday, October 30, 2021, the veteran Liberian politician said most people who are mistaking heated exchange of political views as conflict.

"What you are hearing in the CPP is an exchange of political views, not conflict. What will come out at the end and bring the Liberian people true happiness that will redeem them from poverty and economic retrogression. Not all conflicts lead to destruction but argument about ideas, policy and decision. We will make every Liberian smile after the outcome", Senator Wesseh promises.



The Rivergee County Senator argues that in social life, every success is associated with conflict, therefore, there is a good side of conflict.

He indicates that before a man and a woman meet to have child that brings happiness, there was conflict but the outcome of their conflict which represent the child is the happiness for which people appreciate them.

"What we are fighting in the society is balance conflict that leads to destruction and death. Before, we could have a better democracy; today we have too many conflicts and it came to an end with efforts of the media", he says.

Meanwhile, Senator Wesseh discloses that he is working with the President of the Press Union of Liberia Mr. Charles Cuffey to introduce a bill in the Senate, seeking to establish a

national media commission.

He says the independent commission would protection of Journalists and that they will not be taken to court for their job or reportage.

"The media is an essential tool for building peace and promoting development. This is the media that was also used to make sure we have good and sustainable democracy today. They don't produce balance conflict but always cautious our people about peace and democracy."

The chief executive officer of Bushrod Communication Incorporated, (D-15) Grand Bassa County Senator Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence expressed excitement to the management and staff of the station for helping her along with friends to maintain the legacy of her later husband, Representative Adolph Lawrence.

"My husband was one of the persons that had the highest scholarship in the country. There came a time his passion

to provide education for all took his scholarship to 1000. However, I want to tell everyone here today that I will be launching the Hon. Adolph Akew Lawrence scholarship foundation soon. These sixteen students who participated in the debate here are going to be the first to have that school before we can officially launch it", Senator Younblee Kangar-Lawrence said.

She called on the station's management and staff to continue their good works and balance reporting, adding that she is gratefully proud of them.

Bushrod Communication Incorporated D-15 over the weekend celebrated 10 years of existence since it was established by the late Representative Adolph Akew Lawrence in 2011.

The program brought together several members of the opposition community including, Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe, Montserrado County Senator Abraham Darius Dillion, River Gee County Senator Conmany B. Wesseh, Grand Bassa County Senator Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence and former Unity Party youth wing chair Amos Tweh, amongst others. -Editing by Jonathan Browne



Republic of Liberia

National Lottery Authority

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National Lottery Authority

Fee Schedule 2021

S/N	DESCRIPTION	PREVIOUS FEE	ADJUSTED & APPROVED FEE
1	Application Fee for License (Non-Refundable)	USD300.00	USD 400.00
2	Application Fee for a Permit (Non-Refundable)	USD 150.00	USD 250.00
3	Application Fee for Charitable Gaming (NonRefundable)	USD 150.00	USD 250.00
4	Late Fee (License Renewal)	USD 250.00	USD 500.00
5	Gaming License (Casino -up to twenty -five (25) Gaming Devices) – Montserrado County	USD 60,000.00	USD 100,000.000
6	Gaming License (Casino up to twenty-five (25) Gaming Devices) Other Counties within the Republic of Liberia	-	USD 60,000.00
7	Gaming License (Sports Betting	USD 40,000.00	USD 80,000.00
8	Gaming License (Scratch and Win)	USD 40,000.00	USD 50,000.00
9	Gaming Machine License (1-25 Gaming Machine)	USD 20,000.00	USD 40,000.00
10	Mini Slot (Chinese Machine)	USD 10,000.00	USD 10,000.00
11	Operation Fee per additional county (Sports Betting)	6.5% of the License Fee	7% of the License Fee
12	Operating Fee per additional county (Scratch & Win)	6.5% of the License Fee	7% of the License Fee
13	Operating Fee per additional county (Gaming Machine)	USD700.00	USD 1,000.00
14	Gaming Permit (Raffle)	15% of the value of the prize (s)	15% of the value of the prize (s)
15	Registration of additional Gaming Machine	USD 500.00 each	USD 500.00 each
16	Registration of additional Table Game	USD 500.00 each	USD 500.00 each
17	Permit for Promotional Game	15% of the total prize of the promotion	20% of the total prize of the promotion
18	Penalty for violation of Regulation 001	Not less than USD 2,500.00	Not less than USD 3,000.00

Liberian businessman appeals to President Weah

The CEO of Symmetrix Management Holding Incorporated appeals to President George Manneh Weah to provide incentives for Liberian-owned businesses in the country.

Mr. P. SonieFlomo says the outbreak of COVID-19 has affected several Liberian businesses financially, noting that empowering small businesses will go a long way in strengthening

Liberian entrepreneurship.

Speaking over the weekend when the Symmetrix Management Holding Incorporated was honored as 'Good, Reliable and Productive Multi-Purpose Business Company' by the Society for the Promotion of Peace, National Reconciliation and Reunification, Mr. Flomo stressed that for Liberian businesses to grow in post COVID-19 era will require financial empowerment from government.

He says empowering Liberian businesses will also help to transform the economy that it is critical for Liberian entrepreneurship to be developed.

According to him, Symmetrix company provides consultancy for accounting, management and traveling processes of individuals and companies across the country.

However, Mr. Flomo notes that more Liberian businesses are striving despite current economic constrains confronting the nation. -Editing by Jonathan Browne



2021 Amujae Leadership Forum in pictures



2021 Amujae Leadership Forum in pictures



Français

La vice-présidente Howard-Taylor honorée par la Chambre des représentants de Géorgie

La Chambre des représentants de l'État de Géorgie a adopté une résolution qui porte reconnaissance et félicitation de la vice-présidente du Libéria, Jewel Howard-Taylor, pour « le service efficace, désintéressé et dévoué qu'il a rendu et continue de rendre au Libéria et à son peuple ».

Madame Cynthia L. Blandford, consul honoraire de l'État de Géorgie auprès de la République du Libéria, a reçu la résolution au nom de la vice-présidente, qui n'était pas présente à la cérémonie en raison d'autres engagements.

La distinction a été remise à Madame Josephine Klanteh-Nyemah, qui l'a ensuite officiellement présentée à la Vice-présidente le 28 octobre 2021.

« La vice-présidente Howard-Taylor est une organisatrice de terrain, un pilier fort de la parole, des droits de l'homme et de l'état de droit, et une voix forte du changement et du progrès

dans la République du Libéria, ainsi qu'une icône pour les femmes libériennes », a dit la résolution.

Selon la résolution, c'est une femme d'État distinguée qui inspire des milliers de personnes grâce à ses idéaux élevés, sa moralité et son profond souci pour ses concitoyens. « C'est une femme qui possède la vaste

sagesse qui ne vient que par l'expérience et la force de caractère qui sont obtenues en surmontant les nombreux défis de la vie ».

La résolution 1335 lue et adoptée le 2 mars 2020 par la Chambre des représentants de l'État de Géorgie a également reconnu les

► CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Privé de sa retraite, l'ex-Président Charles Taylor poursuit le Libéria

D'après un communiqué de presse publié lundi 25 octobre, par la Cour de justice de la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (Cédéao), l'ancien président libérien Charles Taylor a déposé plainte contre le Liberia pour « non-paiement de sa retraite », auprès de ladite cour. « Dans sa plainte, l'ancien président affirme que l'action du gouvernement [le refus du

paiement de sa retraite] constitue une violation de ses droits humains », indique le communiqué de presse de la CEDEAO dont la Cour de justice n'a donné aucune date d'audience n'a encore été fixée.

Selon des membres de la société civile de la société civile libérienne œuvrant pour la défense des droits humains, Taylor devrait recevoir ce que la loi prévoit pour lui puisqu'il n'a pas été condamné pour des crimes commis au Liberia, ce qui

n'affecte donc pas ses droits au pays. L'ancien président libérien condamné en 2012 par le Tribunal spécial pour la Sierra Leone (TSSL) soutenu par les Nations Unies à La Haye, purge sa peine de 50 ans pour crimes de guerre dans une prison britannique, le Royaume-Uni étant le seul pays à avoir publiquement proposé de l'héberger.

Reconnu coupable de 11 chefs de crimes de guerre

Le Tribunal de La Haye a reconnu Taylor coupable de 11 chefs de crimes de guerre, de crimes contre l'humanité et d'autres violations graves du droit international humanitaire, notamment le meurtre, le travail forcé et l'esclavage, le recrutement d'enfants soldats et le viol. Il avait été pénalement reconnu coupable d'avoir « aidé et encouragé » le Front révolutionnaire uni (RUF) et d'autres factions à commettre des atrocités en Sierra Leone entre 1996 et 2002. Le tribunal a appris que le leader libérien était au courant depuis août 1997 de la campagne de terreur menée contre la population civile en Sierra Leone et de la vente de « diamants du sang » en échange d'armes.



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 Liberia (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 du Libéria. Cependant, alors que ces pays continuent de mettre à disposition l'argent de leurs contribuables pour le développement du Libéria, la société d'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 Liberia, S.E. Laurent Delahousse, a appelé à la privatisation de la compagnie d'électricité du Liberia 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, S.E. 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 la rendre plus efficace et accessible à tous.

Français

La vice-présidente Howard-Taylor honoréepar

nombreux rôles influents de la vice-présidente, notamment en tant que membre du conseil d'administration de la Restoration Baptist Church, de l'Association du barreau du comté de Bong, de la Croix Rouge nationale du Liberia et de l'Association des femmes paysannes du Liberia, entre autres.

Ces capacités témoignent davantage de l'attachement de la vice-présidente au bien-être des autres, selon la résolution.

Recevant la résolution des mains de Madame Klanteh-Nyemah, la vice-présidente a remercié humblement les membres de la Chambre des représentants de Géorgie

pour cette reconnaissance.

« Je ressens un immense plaisir d'être sélectionnée pour recevoir une telle distinction de cette glorieuse institution. J'apprécie et respecte cet honneur », a déclaré la vice-présidente dans la brève note d'appréciation qu'elle a adressée à la Chambre des représentants de l'État de Géorgie.

La Chambre des représentants de Géorgie est la chambre basse de l'Assemblée générale de Géorgie.

Aux côtés du Sénat de l'État de Géorgie, il forme le pouvoir législatif de l'État de Géorgie et travaille aux côtés du gouverneur de Géorgie pour créer des lois et établir les budgets de l'État.

Plusieurs habitants du district n° 9 exaltent le représentant Frank SaahFoko

Plusieurs habitants du district électoral n° 9 du comté de Montserrado, en particulier ceux des 12e et 13e rues, à Sinkor, ont exprimé leurs remerciements et leur appréciation à leur législateur, le représentant Frank SaahFoko, pour la réhabilitation de leurs routes et la construction d'un système de drainage.

Selon les habitants, cette réhabilitation constitue un grand soulagement économique et social pour eux. « Les saisons des pluies transformaient ces communautés affectées en un véritable enfer », ont-ils dit.

Récemment, le représentant Foko a inauguré des routes réhabilitées dans les communautés des 12e et 13e rues. Ces routes sont munies d'un meilleur système de drainage des eaux usagées. C'était pour lui une façon de soulager les habitants de cette partie de son district. Il a profité de l'occasion pour rendre hommage à l'ancienne représentante du district. « Le geste est l'accomplissement et la continuation de ce que ma patronne, feu Représentante MunaYoungblood, avait promis aux habitants des 12e et 13e rues », a-t-il dit.

S'exprimant à notre micro dans le quartier le jeudi 28 octobre 2021, Alfred Benedict, motocycliste et habitant de la communauté de 13th Streets, a déclaré que depuis trop longtemps, ils avaient du mal à se déplacer pendant la saison des pluies et la saison sèche en raison du mauvais réseau routier et du mauvais système de drainage dans la localité.



Selon Benedict, chaque fois qu'il pleuvait, les habitants de la communauté et leurs enfants avaient généralement du mal à se rendre à l'école ou au travail, ce qui affectait également les revenus quotidiens des chauffeurs de taxi-moto. Mais maintenant, tout va bien.

"Mon frère, vous ne comprendrez pas ce que signifie pour nous la réhabilitation de cette route et la construction de ce système de drainage. Pendant trop longtemps, nous avons eu du mal à sortir de ce problème", a déclaré Benoît.

Parlant également, Mme Marie Johnson, une résidente de la communauté de la 13e rue, a indiqué qu'à de nombreuses occasions, les résidents de la communauté ont dû se déplacer vers d'autres communautés pendant les saisons des pluies en raison des inondations.

« Les communautés des 12e et 13e rues sont quelques-unes des communautés les plus peuplées du district n° 9, mais nous avons été confrontés au défi des routes endommagées et du manque d'un système de drainage au cours des dernières années », a-t-elle déclaré. « Et cela a causé de graves dommages et une menace pour la vie des habitants de ces zones. La plupart du temps, nos enfants ne vont pas à l'école pendant les saisons des pluies, car lorsque la pluie tombe, il n'y a aucun moyen pour l'eau de s'écouler », a-t-elle ajouté.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Michael J. Boskin

Le vrai coût des dépenses publiques

STANFORD (CALIF.) - Le président des États-Unis, Joe Biden, soutient que son projet de loi dit d'« infrastructures humaines » de 3 500 milliards de dollars (c'est-à-dire 5 000 milliards lorsqu'on l'a débarrassé des astuces budgétaires) ne coûtera rien - nihil, nada. Tous les présidents se lancent dans des affirmations imprudentes, mais celle-ci pourrait être la déclaration présidentielle la plus inepte d'un point de vue économique depuis que le président Jimmy Carter demanda à la Réserve fédérale des États-Unis de baisser les taux d'intérêt alors que l'inflation se mesurait à deux chiffres. Dans le cas de Carter, le résultat fut une crise du dollar. Que nous réserve l'incursion dans l'absurde de l'administration Biden ?

Biden, comme d'autres dirigeants démocrates, notamment la présidente de la Chambre des représentants, Nancy Pelosi, affirme que le plan sera « totalement financé » par les hausses d'impôts. L'administration pense apparemment que les coûts ne concernent que les déficits budgétaires (ce qui contrevient, soit dit au passage, à la théorie, soutenue par une partie de l'aile progressiste, selon laquelle ces déficits n'auraient pas de coût). Il est pourtant évident, depuis longtemps, que le plan laisserait un trou de 1 500 à 3 000 milliards de dollars, même après une hausse des impôts.

Quoi qu'il en soit, les Américains ne veulent pas du plan. Les sondages montrent que la moitié d'entre eux environ veulent moins de gouvernement et moins d'impôts, et que les trois quarts d'entre eux doutent que le plan les rende « plus riches ». Il n'est donc peut-être pas surprenant qu'une majorité désapprouve désormais l'administration Biden.

Dans leurs premiers cours d'économie, les étudiants apprennent ce qu'est le coût social d'une chose : la valeur des biens et des services qui auraient pu être produits avec les mêmes ressources (travail, capital, foncier, énergie, matériaux). Habituellement, ce coût d'opportunité peut être mesuré par les prix du marché - quoi qu'il puisse être parfois ajusté pour prendre en compte d'autres facteurs, comme la pollution et les situations de monopole.

D'un point de vue économique, fort simple, le « coût nul » défendu par Biden souffre de trois erreurs principales. Tout d'abord, il laisse entendre qu'on peut mesurer le coût d'une mesure par son effet sur la situation budgétaire fédérale. L'idée selon laquelle la richesse d'un pays repose sur la valeur du Trésor national a été battue en brèche voici deux cent quarante-cinq ans par Adam Smith, qui a montré que la richesse provient de la capacité de ce pays à produire les biens et les services souhaités par les gens et dont ils ont besoin. Quel que soit le pays, le coût des dépenses publiques équivaut à la valeur des opportunités auxquelles l'allocation de ressources à la dépense publique plûtôt qu'au secteur privé contraint de renoncer. Une consommation privée moindre, des investissements privés moindres se traduisent par moins de logements et moins d'usines.

Deuxième point : les impôts ne sont pas sans coût, tant s'en faut, car eux aussi détournent des ressources du secteur privé et entraînent par conséquent un coût d'opportunité. Tout comme les taxes sur les ventes touchent essentiellement la consommation, l'impôt sur les revenus des sociétés nuit à l'investissement. Le coût est alors celui de la valeur de la consommation ou de l'investissement privés qui se trouvent ainsi déplacés.

L'approche de Biden souffre d'un troisième défaut fondamental : l'idée que les montants en jeu sont la seule mesure des coûts. En réalité, ceux-ci sont bien plus élevés. Il faut non seulement compter les coûts administratifs et de mise en conformité, mais aussi les dégâts économiques causés par l'impôt dans la

mesure où il biaise les incitations. Ainsi l'impôt sur le revenu réduit-il les incitations à travailler et à épargner (bien que le phénomène soit partiellement compensé par le report de l'impôt sur les comptes d'épargne) ; l'impôt sur les sociétés réduit les incitations à investir, et les taux d'imposition progressifs, les incitations à compter sur ses capacités personnelles.

On enseigne en première année d'économie que les torts causés par ces distorsions sont proportionnels au carré du taux d'imposition et à la réactivité des activités imposées. Un doublement des taux entraîne le quadruplement des coûts d'inefficience (ce que les économistes nomment les pertes sèches) de l'impôt. Le taux effectif d'imposition doit prendre en compte tous les prélèvements sur le revenu d'une activité, au niveau de l'État, local ou fédéral.

Ce n'est pas une question de doctrine ; c'est tout simplement la description de ce qui se passe dans les parties d'un graphique qui sont sous les courbes de l'offre et de la demande. La dépense de 5 000 milliards de dollars en coûtera à l'économie environ 6 500 milliards, car on estime que le coût marginal des dollars dépensés par l'État fédéral est de l'ordre de 1,30 par unité. Pour que l'effet d'un programme de dépense publique soit sensible, il doit fournir des prestations d'une valeur d'au moins 1,30 dollar par dollar dépensé.

Les hausses d'impôt proposées sur les revenus du capital seraient particulièrement dommageables à l'économie, car elles introduisent une distorsion fiscale qui augmente dans le temps à mesure que s'allongent les horizons. Elles nuiraient non seulement à la croissance économique, mais créeraient des obstacles plus importants sur le chemin d'un plus grand nombre de gens qui cherchent à s'en sortir financièrement - difficultés supplémentaires à bâtir leur propre richesse, à réduire leur dépendance aux pouvoirs publics et, oui, à devenir eux-mêmes riches.

Les promesses d'école maternelle universelle, de gratuité des formations en deux ans après le bac dispensées par les community colleges, et autres engagements, sont des mystifications. Car se sont les contribuables qui paieront pour les salaires, les installations, les ordinateurs et l'électricité que nécessitent actuellement ces services. Il serait plus juste, pour Biden, d'affirmer : « Je sais que les coûts sont énormes, plus importants encore que leur impact budgétaire estimé. Voici mes motifs, et les preuves, point par point, que leur efficacité ou les prestations distribuées sont tellement supérieures qu'elles justifient de prendre aux familles et aux entreprises ces ressources, aujourd'hui et demain. »

Il est toujours difficile de dire quand l'exagération franchit la ligne au-delà de laquelle elle devient tromperie délibérée. Le président Barack Obama savait, ou du moins aurait-il dû savoir, qu'il était parfaitement inexact de déclarer : « Si vous êtes attaché à votre médecin, vous pourrez conserver votre médecin. Point. Si vous êtes attaché à votre plan d'assurance santé, vous pourrez le conserver. Point. » (À son crédit, il est revenu sur l'affirmation que le plan de relance de 2009 allait créer instantanément de nombreux emplois dans le bâtiment, admettant, en 2010, qu'il n'existe pas de projets de constructions tout prêts). Et bien sûr, le président Donald Trump était devenu un spécialiste de l'exagération.

L'hyperbole, en politique, fait partie du jeu. Mais comme beaucoup d'autres choses, il semble qu'on en use avec toujours moins de modération et sans que les conséquences s'en fassent sentir. Nous aurions tout à gagner de voir nos élus suivre plus souvent l'exemple de Fiorello La Guardia, qui fut maire de New York de 1934 à 1945 et qui, admettant une erreur, se targuait : « Quand je me plante, c'est en beauté. »

Ellen: I am humbled

Former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf says, she is humbled and touched by the warm birthday messages and festivities marking her 83 birthday.

Mrs. Sirleaf whose birthday coincided with the 2021 Amujae Leadership Forum, a flagship program of the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Presidential Center took to her twitter feed on Friday October 29, to express her gratitude.

"I am humbled and touched by the warm birthday messages and festivities today. I am grateful to be able to celebrate another year with friends, loved ones, and fellow

was educated at the College of West Africa in Monrovia and at age 17 married James Sirleaf (they were later divorced). In 1961, Mrs. Sirleaf went to the United States to study economics and business administration. After obtaining a master's degree (1971) in public administration from Harvard University, she entered government service in Liberia.

She served as assistant minister of finance (1972-73) under Pres. William Tolbert and as finance minister (1980-85) in Samuel K. Doe's military dictatorship. She became known for her personal financial integrity and clashed with both heads of state. During Doe's regime she was imprisoned twice

delivered a guest address followed by a Q&A discussion with Professor Mark Shrimel, O'Brien Chair of Global Surgery at the Institute of Global Surgery at RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Internationally known as 'Africa's Iron Lady', Nobel Laureate Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is a leading promoter of freedom, peace, justice, women's empowerment, and democratic rule. Mrs. Sirleaf has held several international portfolios.

As Africa's first democratically elected female head of state, she has led Liberia through reconciliation and recovery



Liberians," Mrs. Sirleaf said.

Mrs. Sirleaf left office in January 2018, after two successive terms in office. She was elected Liberia and Africa's first female president in 2005. She won her second term in 2011 on the heels of winning the Nobel Peace Prize just days before the election.

She was awarded the 2017 Mo Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership, just a month after she stepped down from office. The award provided \$5 million, disbursed over 10 years, followed by an annual \$200,000 stipend for the rest of Mrs. Sirleaf's life. It also brought the possibility of the foundation awarding \$200,000 annually over the course of 10 years to charitable causes supported by her.

In the same year, Mrs. Sirleaf will go on to bag another accolade, an induction in to the International Women's Forum (IWF) Hall of Fame. The award, the second highest international at the time came as Mrs. Sirleaf celebrated her 80th birthday.

Mrs. Sirleaf, a mixed Gola and German heritage. Her father was the first indigenous Liberian to sit in the national legislature. She

and narrowly avoided execution. In the 1985 national election she campaigned for a seat in the Senate and openly criticized the military government, which led to her arrest and a 10-year prison sentence. She was released after a short time and allowed to leave the country.

On September 8, this year, Mrs. Sirleaf, was presented with the Emily Winifred Dickson Award at a virtual ceremony.

Emily Winifred Dickson, another pioneering woman, broke boundaries when she became the first female Fellow of RCSI in 1893, making her the first female Fellow of any of the surgical royal colleges in Britain and Ireland. In 2015, RCSI established the Emily Winifred Dickson Award in honor of the achievements of this pioneering woman.

As part of the ceremony, former President Sirleaf,

following the nation's decade-long civil war, as well as the Ebola Crisis, winning international acclaim for achieving economic, social, and political change.

She is also the recipient of The Presidential Medal of Freedom - the United States' highest civilian award - for her personal courage and unwavering commitment to expanding freedom and improving the lives of Africans.

Mrs. Sirleaf is now on a campaign of empowering women in Liberia, Africa and the rest of the world through her Presidential Center flagship program Amujae. **Written by Othello B. Garblah.**

Bishop Johnson launches Harvest Intercontinental American University

By Jonathan Browne

Harvest Intercontinental Ministries Unlimited, formerly Bethel World Outreach Church, has launched Harvest Intercontinental American University in Liberia (HIAU), a top-notch university that aims to bring high standard American university education to Sub-Saharan Africa.

The Presiding Prelate of the Harvest Intercontinental Ministries Unlimited, Bishop Dr. Darlington G. Johnson says the objective is to bridge the educational gap between the developed and underdeveloped world, by bringing the benefits of American education and brainpower to the underprivileged in Sub-Saharan Africa, especially Liberia.

"Harvest Intercontinental American University is being established to reduce level of poverty and suffering that exists not only in Liberia but in many nations in Sub-Saharan Africa. Our mission is to help bridge the enormous educational gap between what is, and what ought to be, between what exists and what is needed in education in underdeveloped parts of the world. We imagine a world where none lives or dies without access to quality education. The good news is that we have decided to begin in Liberia", Bishop Dr. Johnson said when he addressed a press conference virtually in Monrovia Friday, October 29, 2021 from the United States.

He notes that one of the significant challenges Liberia is faced with is limited access to quality education at all levels, and that sadly, it poses one of the greatest threats to the nation's future and also the most significant contributor to its daily growing social-economic problems.

He details that HIAU is organized as a non-profit 501(c3) Corporation with international headquarters at 16227 Batchellors Forest Road, Olney, Maryland 20832, the United States.

"The University is being organized for the sole purpose of providing access to quality tertiary academic and vocational education to students living in

underdeveloped nations. It will empower this generation to produce leaders for future generations", the Presiding Prelate explains.

He says the University, which opens its doors to the public formally October 2022, will focus on the development of the whole person: spirit, body and soul, saying "Our goal will be to graduate students who are academically qualified to secure the best jobs available, but more importantly, who are trained and infused with an entrepreneurial spirit that will empower them to be able to start their businesses and become job-creators, employers offering jobs to others within their chosen fields."

HIAU is partnering with Oral Roberts University based in the United States to provide both in-person instructions and e-learning facilities thru physical and virtual campuses where students will take most of their classes online, listen to lecturers, and participate in course taught by highly qualified professors both in Liberia and in America.

Earlier, the Bishop of the 1st Diocese Harvest Intercontinental Ministries Unlimited, Dr. M. WoloBelleh expressed excitement as the Church partners with the Government of Liberia to invest in the educational sector to develop boys, girls, men and women who will rise to their full potential.

"As we launch this platform, this is our way of letting people integrate in our efforts to getting our people educated", Bishop Belleh added.

Dr. Konah-Facia Nepay Chairperson of the Board of the Bishop Darlington Johnson Education Mandate says the dream was inspired in the Bishop during a trip to Kenya, where he saw a model school and thought such opportunity should be brought to Liberia.

"Today, we are honored to be a part of this press conference. This has been a long-time dream of the Bishop to provide quality education to those who don't have it", she notes.

Harvest Intercontinental Ministries Unlimited has about 400 churches planted around the world, including Africa, America, Europe and Asia with 35 primary and secondary schools.



Amujae Leaders vow change for women in public leadership

By Winston W. Parley

Women leaders from across the African continent have concluded a three-day gathering of Amujae's second leadership forum convened in Monrovia by the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Presidential Center for Women and Development (EJS Center), vowing to change the landscape for women in public leadership.

During the forum which climaxed Sunday, 31 October

themselves to leadership and achieved at certain level leadership, and to help them to ascend to higher positions in leadership.

She cited certain values that come with women leadership which includes respect for human rights, and ensuring full equality and equity in the world.

She noted that based on their resources, they have decided to increase the number of women annually, announcing a target of 50 women a year.

to challenge, that's our mission," said Dr. Weeks.

Additionally, she said the vision for the mission is that when they provide this kind of support, there will be more women in leadership and more voices that represent both men and women and are able to address issues that affect both genders.

Currently, Dr. Weeks said, the Center has representatives in Amujae in the five African regions



Former President Sirleaf pictured center with Amujae Leaders

2021, Amujae Leaders shared their strategies for building resilience and encouraged each other to persevere in pursuing their goals.

In the press conference that followed the climax of the forum on Sunday, Liberia's former President Mrs. Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf addressed the media alongside former U.S. Ambassador to Liberia and now EJS Presidential Foundation Board Chair Amb. Deborah Malac; and EJS Presidential Center Executive Director Dr. Ophelia Inez Weeks.

Sharing the platform with Mrs. Sirleaf also were Madam Yawa Hansen -Quao, a 2020 Amujae Leader from Ghana; Madam Fatoumatta Njai, 2021 Amujae Leader from The Gambia; Umra Omar, 2021 Amujae Leader from Kenya and Ghada Labib, 2021 Amujae Leader from Egypt.

Mrs. Sirleaf reflected during the press conference saying, when she accepted the Mo Ibrahim prize for leadership in April 2019 she committed that she would do what she could to promote women to leadership.

"And since that time, a year later we were able to establish the Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf for Women and Development," Mrs. Sirleaf said.

She explained that the institution and mission are to promote women who have already committed

Former U.S. Ambassador to Liberia and now EJS Presidential Foundation Board Chair Amb. Deborah Malac said seeing the EJS Center's vision come to light and creating women leaders not just from Liberia or West Africa, but across the continent, is something that is very exciting and absolutely necessary.

The former U.S. top diplomat who ended her tour of duty to Liberia in December 2015 said she had the privilege over the last few years to see firsthand the type of inspiration or impact that former President Sirleaf has on women in Liberia.

Amb. Malac said it was a wonderful opportunity being back in Liberia which she considers her second home.

As Board Chair of the EJS Presidential Foundation in the U.S., Amb. Malac said they have set up to support whatever way they can to ensure that this vision does not die.

Dr. Ophelia Inez Weeks, EJS Presidential Center Executive Director, explained that the mission of the Center is to support women who are already leaders in their own way and are on their way up.

Cognizant that in any journey there's going to be obstacle along the way, Dr. Weeks said the Center is there to provide women the support, mentoring and coaching to ensure that they achieve their goals.

"We also are there to challenge barriers that prevent women from getting to where they're supposed to go. So we're there to support and we're there

representing 16 countries, and that there are 30 Amujae Leaders.

She said another plan is to build a Presidential Center that also includes a library, executive hall, conference or convening space and also exhibits and archives of former President Sirleaf of both her personal and presidential journeys.

Further, Dr Weeks said a very important and strategic aspect of the plan is communications and research which aims to ensure that there is correct information out there about women.

Madam Yawa Hansen -Quao, a 2020 Amujae Leader from Ghana said being a part of Amujae program is an emerging experience for her personally and professionally, saying she has been able to learn from all of the distinguished women leaders through all the interactions they held virtually during COVID-19 and beyond.

She expressed appreciation to the entire team of the Center for bringing together all of the distinguished leaders, saying it has designed a wholistic intervention that is focused on what they will do and who they will be.

Madam Fatoumatta Njai, 2021 Amujae Leader from The Gambia, recounted the rigorous process she faced to get selected like other Amujae Leaders, thanking the EJS Presidential Center for

Cummings is CPP

Starts from back page

Government. Make your decision let us move the CPP forward", LP Chairman Bility said before a jubilant crowd that received Mr. Cummings recently from the United States.

According to him, Mr. Alexander B. Cummings, a former presidential candidate, brings leadership quality to the discourse of the country, something, he believes, will transform Liberia with real change that will impact the lives of citizens.

Also speaking, the Chairman of Mr. Cummings' ANC party, Senator Daniel Flomo Naatehn recalled that four years ago Liberians went to elections and made a decision that has put the country in total hell, adding that the only way to change this course is to elect Cummings, who comes with real change that people can trust.

"We have come to assure you people that the CPP will hold together no matter the undermining and fight. Mr. Cummings took the CPP from

zero and made it a political entity. Through his chairmanship and supervisor, the CPP won the 2020 election [senatorial] and came out with flying colors", Chairman Naatehn added.

He notes that there are attempts to waste dirty water on Mr. Cummings or tarnish his character after all the good things he did for the CPP and where brought he brought the Collaboration as apolitical entity, saying "but they missed it big time."

Chairman Naatehn continued that those who don't want to see Mr. Cummings in the CPP or with the Liberty Party have missed it big time, adding that these institutions will continue to be together as a political family.

"We will go through the process, the primary and we will come out from there as Mr. Alexander B Cummings, political leader of the Alternative National Congress heads the CPP ticket to represent the Collaboration in the upcoming presidential election to defeat President Weah and make his government a one term government," he vowed.

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giving her the opportunity through the Amujae Leadership to share experiences with other leaders and learn from each other.

Madam Umra Omar, 2021 Amujae Leader from Kenya and Madam Ghada Labib, 2021 Amujae Leader from Egypt, in separate statements, expressed humble appreciations to sit with Africa's first female elected president and other fellow leaders in the Amujae Forum.

The Amujae Initiative is the EJS Center's flagship program which prepares women to excel in the highest echelons of public leadership and bring other women along.

Drawn from a diverse range of personal and professional backgrounds, the Amujae Leaders include members of parliament, a governor, a mayor, and several government ministers from 16 countries across Africa.

They were selected through a rigorous application process from hundreds of applicants and they each have a track record of demonstrable achievements in public life and a drive to uplift African women and girls.

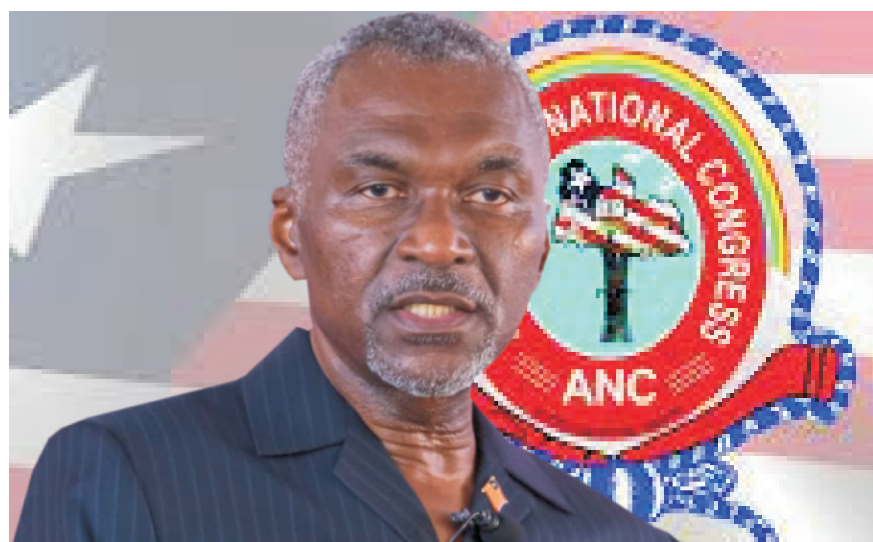
This year's forum was the first gathering of Amujae Leaders since the official launch on March 8, 2020, on the cusp of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Focused on the theme "Building Resilience," the forum aimed to equip the Amujae Leaders with the tools to continue their leadership journeys through uncertain times and support their respective countries in rebuilding following COVID-19.

It also harnessed the power of these accomplished women leaders in advancing women's leadership in Liberia and across the African continent. More on Amujae Leaders in subsequent editions.

Cummings is CPP only hope

-says Bility and Naatehn



By Lincoln G. Peters

The Chairman of the Liberty Party Musa Hassan Bility and his counterpart from the Alternative National Congress (ANC) Senator

Daniel Flomo Naatehn in separate statement maintain Mr. Alexander B. Cummings is the best suitable politician for the standard bearer post of the Collaboration Political Parties (CPP) to defeat President George

Manneh Weah at ballot box in 2023.

According to them, Liberia needs real change and the only person who capable to deliver real change and redeem the people of Liberia from six years of bad governance under the Coalition for Democracy Change is the ANC Political Leader, Cummings.

"As one of only two candidates left in the CPP race, we welcome you with the belief that the best candidate for this country is you Mr. Alexander B Cummings. We also believe that the CPP will survive. You know what this country is, and you also know what we've been through and what we are going through as a country and people under this

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