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# Shame and disgrace



***-PLP descrites CDC – led government***



# Nimba: Land dispute leaves 1 dead, 4 hospitalized

3G good



**4G better**



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# Continental News

## South Africa's president calls for lifting of Omicron travel bans

South Africa's president has condemned travel bans enacted against his country and its neighbours over the new coronavirus variant Omicron.

Cyril Ramaphosa said he was "deeply disappointed" by the action, which he described as unjustified, and called for the bans to be urgently lifted. The UK, EU and US are among those who have imposed travel bans.

Omicron has been classed as a "variant of concern". Early evidence suggests it has a higher re-infection risk.

The heavily mutated variant was detected in South Africa earlier this month and then reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) last Wednesday.

The variant is responsible for most of the infections found in South Africa's most populated province, Gauteng, over the last two weeks, and the number of cases of "appears to be increasing in almost all provinces" in the country,

according to the WHO.

South Africa reported 2,800 new infections on Sunday, a rise from the daily average of 500 in the previous week.

Government adviser and epidemiologist Salim Abdool Karim said he expected the number of cases to reach more than 10,000 a day by the end of the week, and for hospitals to come under pressure in the next two to three weeks. But Health

Minister Joe Phaahla said there was "absolutely no need to panic". "We have been here before," he added, referring to the Beta variant identified in South Africa last December.

On Monday, Japan became the latest country to reinstate tough border restrictions, banning all foreigners from entering the country from 30 November. The WHO has warned against countries

hastily imposing travel curbs, saying they should look to a "risk-based and scientific approach". WHO's Africa director Matshidiso Moeti said on Sunday: "With the Omicron variant now detected in several regions of the world, putting in place travel bans that target Africa attacks global solidarity."

However, numerous bans have been introduced in recent days, with Rwanda and Angola being among the African states to restrict flights to and from South Africa. Foreign ministry spokesman Clayson Monyela described their decision as "quite regrettable, very unfortunate, and I will even say sad". In his speech on Sunday, Mr Ramaphosa said there was no scientific basis for the travel bans and that southern Africa was the victim of unfair discrimination.

He also argued that the bans would not be effective in preventing the spread of the

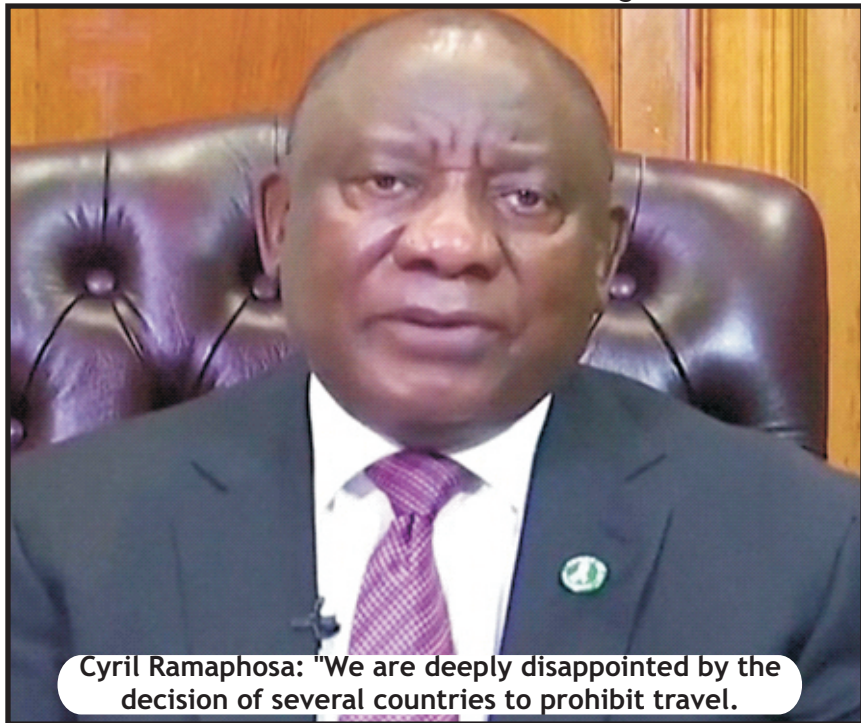
variant. "The only thing the prohibition on travel will do is to further damage the economies of the affected countries and undermine their ability to respond to, and recover from, the pandemic," he said.

He called on countries with bans in place to "urgently reverse their decisions... before any further damage is done to our economies".

Mr Ramaphosa said South Africa would not impose new restrictions, but would "undertake broad consultations on making vaccination mandatory for specific activities and locations".

Current regulations in South Africa make it mandatory to wear face coverings in public, and restrict indoor gatherings to 750 people and outdoor gatherings to 2,000.

There are no vaccine shortages in South Africa itself, and Mr Ramaphosa urged more people to get jabbed, saying that remained the best way to fight the virus. BBC



Cyril Ramaphosa: "We are deeply disappointed by the decision of several countries to prohibit travel."

## 'Hurry he's escaping' - Civilians hunt rebels in Ethiopia

After dark, in a residential neighbourhood in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, dozens of civilian volunteers were busy patrolling their streets one night last week, stopping and searching cars and checking documents.

"Our neighbourhood committee includes about

180 people. We've apprehended many people. And we've found a lot of suspicious materials, including guns and explosive devices," said an older man who appeared to be coordinating the searches.

The volunteers are searching for Tigrayan rebels, and their supporters, under new state of emergency regulations introduced by the Ethiopian

government in response to a Tigrayan military offensive.

Critics say thousands of people have been unjustly detained, but the clampdown appears to have widespread support in the capital.

"Hurry, he is trying to escape," said another man, suddenly, speaking into his mobile phone.

A few streets away, a new group of mostly elderly volunteers had gathered for training, marching more or less in step and listening to instructions. The overall mood in the capital appears to be calm.

Although Britain and other countries have warned that the security situation is "deteriorating," as Tigrayan and other rebel groups report that they are advancing towards Addis, the Russian embassy sent a very different message on social media.

It declared that "the introduction of a state of emergency has not brought any significant changes to the everyday rhythm of life of the Ethiopian capital." Ethiopia's Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed, recently announced he was heading to the frontlines to lead his troops. BBC



Volunteers conduct a night patrol on the lookout for suspicious activity earlier this month

## Seven die after eating poisonous turtle meat



The exact cause of the rare cases of turtle meat being poisonous is not clear

Seven people, including a three-year-old, have died on Tanzania's Pemba island after eating poisonous turtle meat.

Three others are still in hospital. The meat is a common delicacy among those living on Tanzania's islands and coastal areas but the authorities have now banned the consumption of turtles in the area. In rare cases turtle meat can be toxic due to a type of food poisoning known as chelonitoxism.

Its exact cause is not known but it is thought to be linked to poisonous algae which the turtles eat, according to the Turtle Foundation charity. At least five families on Pemba, which is part of the semi-autonomous Zanzibar islands, ate the turtle meat last Thursday, local police commander Juma Said Hamis told the BBC.

The effects were first felt the next day and the three-year-old was the first to die. Two others died that night and then four more on Sunday. A further 38 people were admitted to hospital, but most were discharged and the three who remain are said to be in a stable condition.

In a message on Twitter, Zanzibar's President Hussein Mwinyi sent his condolences to the families affected.

The poisoning can have the worst impact on children and older people, though healthier adults can also succumb, the Turtle Foundation says. In March in Madagascar, 19 people, including nine children, died after eating turtle meat, the AFP news agency reported at the time.

Cases have also been reported in Indonesia, Micronesia and India's Indian Ocean islands. BBC

# EDITORIAL

## The Bar's peaceful election is commendable

**MEMBERS OF THE** Liberia National Bar Association successfully elected new corps of officers at their convention held over the weekend in Nimba County, bringing proud not only to their noble institution but the Liberian society at large.

**WHILE PERFECTION AMONG** mankind is difficult to achieve, but we believe the Bar did exceptionally well in electing a new leadership void of the usual wrangling and some time violence that characterize other professional bodies in our country.

**THERE IS MUCH** to learn from the Bar relative to integrity and professional standards that ought to be hallmark of every professional body that demands public trust.

**WE THANK THE** outgoing administration of Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe, for demonstrating leadership and good moral standards during his stewardship at the Bar. We are not surprise at all because the character of the man speaks for itself.

**IN THE SAME** expression, we welcome the newly elected President for the Bar Cllr. Sylvester D. Rennie and his entire team as they take up the mantle of authority following a democratic process to continue from where their predecessor left. Interesting we understand Cllr. Rennie was the Vice to the outgoing President Cllr. Gongloe, so he would not face much difficulty in taking off.

**IT IS ABOUT** time all members of the Bar rally around the new leadership to move that noble institution to a greater level. A professional body such as the Bar Association serves as conscience for society and should endeavor to remain so against all odds.

**WE ARE HAILING** this body of men and women for their display of quality service and excellent deportment that worth emulating. They bring pride not only to the legal profession and themselves, but society as a whole.

**IT IS OUR** hope that the in-coming administration led by Cllr. Rennie would even do more in championing the cause for justice, respect for human rights and rule of law in our country.

**IT IS EQUALLY** important other professional bodies in our society such as the Press Union of Liberia, National Teachers Association, Drivers Union, among others would copy from the Bar in conducting their affairs to command and maintain public respect at all times.

**TRULY, THE BAR** election has set the stage for the 2023 presidential and legislative elections in Liberia, for all peace-loving and law-abiding Liberians should look to the National Bar for maturity and exemplary standards.

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

# COMMENTARY

By Kenneth Rogoff

## Biden's Wise Fed Choice

**C**AMBRIDGE - Give US President Joe Biden, a Democrat, credit for reappointing Jerome Powell, a Republican, to a second four-year term as chair of the United States Federal Reserve. In doing so, Biden passed up a very strong alternative in Lael Brainard, the candidate much preferred by progressives, and who in the abstract would also have been an excellent choice. Firmly resisting strong pressure from the left wing of the Democratic Party, Biden accomplished several things at once.

First, and most important, he reaffirmed the central bank's independence from political pressures. His predecessor, Donald Trump, inherited a very capable central bank head, Janet Yellen, and he acknowledged as much. But he decided that it was preferable to have his own person in charge, perhaps hoping that he could call on Powell not to tighten monetary policy in the run-up to the 2020 election.

As with many of Trump's decisions, this was a sharp break with tradition. New presidents typically reappoint a competent Federal Reserve chair to serve a second term. Biden's choice resets the tradition. In the unlikely event Trump were to become president again in 2025, would he feel the need to pass over Powell for a third term because Biden had endorsed him? Probably.

In reappointing Powell, Biden also took an important step toward establishing his own independence, in particular from his party's strident left wing, which until now has exerted enormous influence. Biden tacked hard toward the center, basing his choice almost entirely on competence and picked a candidate whom many Republicans also endorsed.

Perhaps some of Biden's newfound emphasis on competence will rub off elsewhere in his administration. Having campaigned as a centrist who knows how to cross the aisle, Biden showed it when the stakes were high. This was the most important appointment of his presidency. Anyone who has studied political business cycles knows that the central bank can have an enormous influence by timing interest-rate cuts to gin up the economy just before an election.

At a time when the post-pandemic economy is still incredibly volatile and the tea leaves still hard to read (though frankly the US labor market looks red-hot), the choice of Powell made Fed policy more predictable and easier to interpret. As excellent a choice as Brainard might have proved to be, there still would have been a period of adjustment for markets as they learned to understand her language and signals.

The Wall Street Journal editorial page, certain that the Fed's policy will inevitably lead to ultra-high inflation regardless of who is in charge, dismissed the choice between Powell and Brainard as "Tweedledum and

Tweedledee." But that denies some consequential differences. Beyond the regulatory stances for which progressives praised her, Brainard, who will become vice chair, has shown herself especially open to innovative ideas about the evolution of central-bank policy in a world of low real interest rates.

Admittedly, I have been painting a somewhat sanguine picture of the decision to reappoint Powell. In fact, the most recent figure for consumer price inflation, at over 6%, was eye-popping. True, so far, financial markets seem to believe Powell's argument that most of it is transitory: Medium-term inflation expectations are just over 2% - not yet particularly high by the standards of the past decade. With Powell no longer looking over his shoulder as Biden decides on his reappointment, one might argue that he will no longer feel constrained in tightening monetary policy when the need arises. But has the Fed already waited too long?

It is a tough call. There is a chance that the factors underpinning recent inflation spikes turn out to be transitory, so that the Fed can double down on its dovish policy and later say, "We told you so." Unfortunately, there is also a good chance that wage and price hikes start chasing each other, with inflation proving far from transitory. If that happens, and if the public begins to lose confidence in price stability, it may take a rather significant recession to restore faith.

At that point, some might say that the Fed should just opportunistically recalibrate and tell everyone that it intends to raise its inflation target to 3% or 4%. This scenario was a key recommendation of one of the core papers the Fed commissioned in its 2019 reassessment of its monetary framework. Unfortunately, to allow inflation to drift inexorably higher, and only then tell the public that there is now a higher new normal, would most likely prove extremely destabilizing.

It has long been my view that a much more elegant way to create space for interest-rate cuts in a deep recession involves negative interest-rate policy. True, this would require that the Fed be prepared to avail itself of one of the increasingly many options for discouraging cash hoarding that might otherwise limit the policy's effectiveness.

Of course, the Fed could hike interest rates preemptively, but that might crash markets and put the economy into recession.

There are no easy options for the Fed at his point, and that would have been true had Brainard, not Powell, gotten the nod. So, at the end of the day, give Biden credit for understanding that no matter how much political pressure his administration was facing to bring the Fed to heel, it was better to uphold central-bank independence - and his own.

# OPINION

By Helmut K. Anheier

## A More Daring Germany

Germany's new ruling coalition has advanced a much-needed vision for the country, but realizing it will depend largely on its party leaders' political skill. If the coalition fails, Germany will risk reverting to its old habit of doing too little too late - an outcome that would jeopardize its position in Europe and the world.

**B**ERLIN - After eight weeks of negotiations, Germany has a new government. For the Social Democrat Olaf Scholz, who succeeds Angela Merkel as chancellor, the much-anticipated coalition agreement augurs nothing less than a revitalized "progressive Mitte" or progressive center - and a far bolder Germany.

The coalition agreement was drafted behind closed doors, with little news leaking out. But it is safe to assume that forging it was no easy feat. This is the first national-level three-party alliance in since the 1950s, and the center-left Social Democrats, the Greens, and the liberal Free Democrats have plenty to disagree about.

Meanwhile, Germany is once again being pummeled by COVID-19 - the fourth wave of a pandemic that has been exacerbated by popular complacency, administrative inefficiency, and squabbling between state governments and the federal authorities. Add to that a darkening economic outlook and a looming migration crisis, and negotiators knew that they would be presenting the coalition agreement to a weary and wary public.

And yet, remarkably, party leaders produced a distinctly hopeful document. That much is clear in the title: Dare to Make More Progress - a clear allusion to Chancellor Willy Brandt's 1969 speech to the Bundestag, in which he urged Germans to "dare more democracy." But where exactly does Germany's new government hope to make progress?

On the domestic front, several objectives stand out. Scholz's government will seek to adopt a more flexible approach to the debt brake, which bars public authorities from excessive borrowing. It also promises to modernize the social security system, by replacing the unpopular Hartz-IV unemployment and welfare program with a less stringent Bürgergeld (citizen allowance) that includes incentives for education and training. And it proposes strengthening support systems for families with young children, raising the minimum wage to €12 (\$13.50) per hour, and allocating €1 billion for one-time payment to reward health-care workers for their efforts during the pandemic.

Major structural reforms are on the agenda as well. These include phasing out coal and increasing the share of renewable energy from 45% to 80% by 2030; investing heavily in university-industry partnerships to encourage innovation and support startups; introducing major tax incentives for businesses investing in digital infrastructure and technologies; increasing the share of women in tech; and rapidly digitalizing public administration. The coalition agreement also commits the new government to investing in neglected public transportation, and to removing administrative impediments that slow the acquisition of permits and approvals.

Last but not least, Germany's new leaders pledge to overhaul Germany's immigration framework to make citizenship or residency easier to obtain; work to make housing more affordable, including by expanding public housing; and legalize the production, sale, and consumption of cannabis.

Beyond Germany's borders, the coalition agreement makes a full and clear commitment to the European project. For example, it calls for deepening the Economic and Monetary Union, and signals greater flexibility in managing the EMU's Stability and Growth Pact. It also expresses support for uniform European suffrage, with a binding lead-candidate system (the Spitzenkandidaten process) for selecting the European Commission president, and stresses the need to make it easier for the Commission to act decisively when necessary - say, to safeguard the rule of law in member countries.

Similarly, the coalition agreement also expresses a clear commitment to NATO, though it leaves open some issues, such as the government's commitment to the defense-spending target of 2% of GDP and questions relating to nuclear-arms control.

On foreign policy, the most notable shift relates to China and Russia. Apparently, the world should expect Germany's new government to replace Merkel's business-first strategy with a more assertive approach to authoritarian regimes. The future of the controversial Nord Stream II gas pipeline, which would bring gas directly from Russia, bypassing Ukraine and Belarus, may well be on the line.

Within Germany, the coalition agreement has received a predictably mixed reception. Those close to the three coalition partners have mostly welcomed it, though some on the parties' fringes expressed greater disappointment and even suspicion. The Christian Democrats, preparing for their role as the main opposition party, criticized it severely, while the far-right Alternative für Deutschland and the left-wing Die Linke rejected it altogether.

Surprisingly, however, the German public has largely welcomed the agreement - and the sense of hope and renewal that underpins it. Merkel was known for her ultra-cautious leadership style. During her 16 years at the helm of Germany's government, few reforms were enacted - and even fewer succeeded. Now, Germans seem to be ready for a more proactive government.

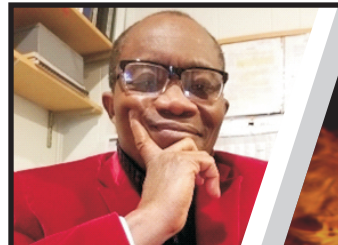
Of course, the coalition agreement is a political, not a legal, document. Nonetheless, it is highly consequential, as it will guide the efforts of the coalition committee - an informal body comprising ruling parties' chief emissaries, which has assumed immense importance over the last several decades.

The coalition committee's role is to ensure agreements' implementation, including by managing the disputes and conflicts of interest that arise. And tensions are already emerging. For example, the emboldened environmental lobby laments that, despite the participation of the Greens, the agreement falls short on climate policy, and the business lobby, represented by the Free Democrats, fears tax increases and doubts the fuzzy financial projections underlying the agreement.

Moreover, an unlikely alliance of unions (demanding job security, higher pay, and pensions) and business (applauding Scholz's fiscal prudence) is wary of increased flexibility on EU budget policies. Finally, while states support the new government's promise of a long-overdue reform of Germany's complex federalist system, some fear a federal power grab.

The bottom line, though, is that Germany's new ruling coalition has advanced a much-needed vision for the country. But whether it can realize it will depend largely on the coalition committee's political skill. If the coalition fails, Germany will risk reverting to its old habit of doing too little too late - an outcome that would jeopardize its position in Europe and the world.

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With Jones Mallay

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## LIBERIA POLITICAL

## HOT-FIRE

### Pres. Weah: "Is US\$15,000 price tag to identify serial killers a real solution?"

**D**oes Pres. Weah know he's the head-of-state, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia? Does he know that when something serious is happening such as the mysterious killings of innocent Liberians in the land by unknown serial killers he should address the nation? Does he know that addressing his people on issues of importance is part and parcel of his presidential duties and obligations, rather than being tight-lipped on the issue? Mr. President, by being tight-lipped creates a dangerous impression that you are either out of touch with your citizens or you and your CDC-led government know the serial killers or your government is an active participant in these ongoing killings of innocent Liberians in the recent past.

No matter how it plays out, Liberians are not going to forget these incidents so easily, especially where President Weah has decided to remain tight-lipped on the killing issue. Liberians would conclude that their President didn't care, he had no concern about human life, and he played down on the values and dignity of Liberians. Many Liberians are becoming very disappointed in their President for keeping Justice Minister Dean and Police director Suede on government payroll when they have no ideas as to how to solve the organized killing sprees in Liberia.

President Weah turned his back on the death of Liberians? The President has forgotten that these are the very grieving Liberians whom he would one day call upon to line up to cast their votes for him in the 2023 elections. How will President Weah feel telling these grieving Liberians to vote for him in 2023? Does President Weah think these very grieving Liberians would vote for him again with all he has done by turning his blind eyes at their plight, at the time when they needed him most in protecting their lives and that of their loved ones, and he failed them?

President Weah should know that in politics, one good gesture deserves another good gesture in return. Grieving Liberians could pay Pres. Weah in the same token as he is doing now. Furthermore, the act of President Weah putting aside taxpayer money in the sum of US\$15,000 to solve the serial killers' issue is a complete waste of taxpayer money. Those who may have advised Pres. Weah and his CDC-led government to take such a ridiculous decision simply made the CDC-led government appear inapt if though the government has no immediate plan to act. But who knows, the serial killers could be throwing bodies of innocent Liberians into rivers, creeks, or even in mass graves in some distant forests around Liberia that we may never know.

Pres. Weah and his CDC-led government are currently short on proactive ideas to deal with the organized serial killers' episode by rewarding US\$15,000 to any Liberian who will identify the serial killer. This move can only be feasible when the CDC-led government has been able to successfully put the killing under perfect control first. The US\$15,000 should be an end in itself and not a means to an end.

Why does the CDC-led government have an array of security apparatus using taxpayer monies when they are simply unable to deliver? It is very disgraceful for Justice Min. Dean to authorize a postmortem into the death of John Tubman, Maude Elliot, and William R. Tolbert, III who were all discovered dead in their homes. Why the Justice Minister had not been to order postmortems for the hundreds and hundreds of other innocent Liberians who had been killed in cold blood in the past under the noises of Justice Min. Dean? This is nothing but segregation and division, Mr. Justice Min.

Since the CDC-led government truly does not have any tangible plan to deal with the wave of organized killing in Liberia, especially in Monrovia. The CDC-led government could use part of the US\$15,000 to bring in homicide experts and professionals from the US to do the work of Justice Min. Dean and Police director Suede. Second, the CDC-led government should use some of the funds to purchase 500 giant security cameras from the State of Rhode Island, USA to be erected in all crime-prone sites around Monrovia to identify criminals, murderers, kidnappers, and human traffickers.

Third, the Liberian government should use the fund to input modern fingerprint machines, and forensic instruments to detect criminals. This is how the US\$15,000 should be spent Pres. Weah and not award it to Liberians as a price tag to identify serial killers in Monrovia. Justice Min. Dean and Police director Suede are no longer useful to Liberia and Liberians. Booting them out could be a very good idea.

## University of Liberia

Republic of Liberia  
Fendall Campus  
Louisiana, Liberia

**Section I. INVITATION FOR BIDS  
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS  
(Desktop Computers)  
IFB No.: UL/NCB/010/2021**

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its internally generated revenue for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 and intends to apply it towards the Procurement and Supply of **DESKTOP COMPUTERS for the DIGITAL TESTING CENTER and DCIS PROGRAM** of the University of Liberia.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the procurement and supply of **DESKTOP COMPUTERS**.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Public Procurement & Concessions Act (PPCA), 2010 and approved by the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC), and is open to all eligible bidders in the Country.
- Specifications and quantity:

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit of Measure
1.	Desktop Computers	105	pieces

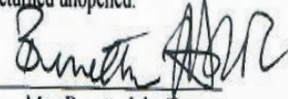
- Eligibility and Qualification requirements include:
  - Valid Government of Liberia Business Registration with Activity Code (G4741)
  - Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
  - Must be registered with the PPCC Vendor Registrar
  - Bank guarantee of 2% of the contract price from a renowned commercial bank in the Country
  - Past performance records including the names and contact details of at-least three (4) clients who had purchased same/similar goods in the last 4 years. They will be used as references to check the performance and quality of the offered model, if necessary.
  - Bids will be examined for proper signature, stamp and completeness before consideration for further evaluation.
- A set of bidding document in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of **Fifty United States Dollars (US\$50.00)** from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus beginning November 9 to December 9, 2021, Administrative Complex Building, Fendall, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00p.m. Mondays to Fridays.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing valid for 60 days after the opening of bids.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 p.m., December 9, 2021, and will be opened in the presence of the bidders or representatives who choose to attend on December 9, 2021, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room, Room #: AC1-01, Administrative Complex Building, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:  
In the upper left corner of the envelope, print:  
"SEALED BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF DESKTOP COMPUTERS"  
REF: IFB No.: UL/NCB/010/20/21

Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address

In the middle of the envelope, print the address below:  
Procurement Department  
Administrative Complex Building  
Fendall Campus  
Louisiana, Liberia

- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed:   
Fat Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)  
DIRECTOR  
Procurement Department, UL

Approved:   
Mrs. Benetta Joko Tarr  
Vice President for Administration/UL

*Reviewed*  
*Jamil*  
*Jallah*  
*11/08/21*

# Gongloe bids farewell

Liberian National Bar Association (LNBA) outgoing president Counselor Tiawan Saye Gongloe has bided farewell to his colleagues following the ended of his term of service on Saturday, 27 November 2021.

This farewell statement followed the holding of the bar's Annual Convention in Ganta, Nimba County.

He became the LNBA's first president to ever return unused cash whenever he travelled during his tenure. He set an example of integrity that he hopes others would follow in running the affairs of the association.

This became known following an external audit conducted by MGI Monbo and Company, an auditing firm hired by the bar that audited Gongloe's administration and found it of no wrongdoing.

Gongloe is a non-debatable factor in Liberia when it comes to integrity checks and the setting up of standard among public servants for being "corruption free" and that has been demonstrated many times both in the private and public sector with the LNBA being no exception.

For the record, he returned over

Gongloe told his fellow lawyers that he had played his part and that it was now time for him to leave but appealed to all members of the LNBA not to let the record he set to end with his regime.

"This is a record that all lawyers must be proud of and not only continue to maintain, but must support all subsequent administrations of the LNBA to improve upon. I want to say for the record that this improvement in the record of the LNBA was not done singularly by me," he noted.

In appreciation of the work done by some members of the LNBA during his one term service, Gongloe certified those who went the extra-mile in their support of his service.

And the included Counselors Sylvester Dorbor Rennie, Bobby F. W. Livingstone, B. Rachell Yabah-Doubah, Cyril Jones, Jura A. Lynch, Joyce Reeves Woods, Jallah Barbu, M. Wilkins Wright, Abraham Sillah, Bornoh Varmah and Frances Johnson Morris.

Others were Barthoh Varmah, Frederick Gbemie, Jimmie Bombo, Bushiben Keita, Alice K. Sirleaf, Mohammed Sheriff, Kukuyon Wleh, T. Emmanuel Tomah, Edward Bonwinkor,



US\$2, 000 of unused money to the LNBA. His first trip to Nigeria as president of the LNBA to attend a meeting of the Governing Council of the African Bar Association, Tiawan was given US\$1,000 by the LNBA for any unexpected expenditure.

He used only US\$183 because his hotel and other expenses were covered by the African Bar Association, except for the short trip from Abuja to Lagos and that of the hotel bill for one night he spent in Lagos before returning to Liberia.

"I returned to the LNBA US\$817. Recently, I returned US\$480 also to the LNBA from my trip to the Gambia from the US\$500, having used \$20 as security fee at the Banjul Airport on departure, as well as also returning the entire US\$1, 000 that I received from the LNBA for my trip to Lome, Togo at the invitation of the Economic Community Court of Justice because all of my bills were paid by the court," Gongloe recounted.

He went further by saying change by any leader is only effective when the leader does what he says. "India's former Premier Mahatma Gandhi put it succinctly, "Be the Change you want to see in the world."

Josephine Boakai Sumo, Dennis P. Dennis, Venus Kanmoh and Washington.

On the LNBA united front, he urged the body to have a collective moral and professional duty, as lawyers, to improve the practice of law in Liberia and in doing so help to improve the performance of the judiciary.

"All lawyers both on the bench and bar should do everything they can for the improvement of the Liberian Judiciary. The peace and stability of Liberia and the economic growth and development of our country depend on an independent and well-functioning judiciary," Gongloe said.

He stated that democracy promotes regular elections and a definite term of office therefore the Liberian National Bar Association's Constitution as President can only serve one term of office lasting three years, adding, "One of the duties of the President of the LNBA is to open the annual convention of the Liberian National Bar Association."

Gongloe then recounted the huge support and cooperation he received from every member of the LNBA, including those serving in the executive, and the Judiciary, from the Chief Justice

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Morlu: No more three-man show in CDC

By Lincoln G Peters

Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) chairman Mulbah Morlu says, there will be no more three man show when it comes to picking candidates to contest seats for the party during elections.

The CDC, which is a constituent party of the

Collaborating Political Parties (CPP).

Speaking during the launch of CDC's membership database in Congo Town over the weekend ahead of the 2023 presidential and general elections, Morlu, admitted that the affairs of the party have been controlled and run with decisions made by three men in Central Monrovia but he felt short of

"The only authority that will determine who gets on the party tickets will be delegates from the various districts and counties," he noted.

Chairman Morlu disclosed that they are ready to change the dynamics of the party in order to have more seats across the country in the 2023 presidential and general elections.

He pointed out that President George Manneh Weah will be easily re-elected comes 2023 because the CDC is restructuring its house to become victorious.

Chairman Morlu disclosed that every time the party executives choose candidates to contest on the party ticket without the approval of the delegates, they loosed, something he said they are ready to change.

He pointed out that when delegates make decisions about a person they have chosen to contest for a senatorial or representative position, they can support that person to the fullest.

Morlu explained that "the past is the past," saying CDC is now committed and ready to build.

"All positions in the party will be contested for and challenged apart from President George Manneh Weah and Senator Saah H. Joseph. All incumbent on the party tickets who have served

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CDC Chairman Mulbah Morlu

ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) suffered a massive defeat in the just ended by-elections conducted in four counties. The defeat also follows the mid-term December 28, 2020 elections where it also loss major seats in the senate to both independent and the

naming the three persons he accused of running the affairs of the party in Monrovia.

"Let me put myself on record, there will be no time again in the history of this party where a seat being contested for will be determined by party executive. That dispensation has passed," said Mr. Morlu.

# Determined Girls

Cont'd from back page

Determined Girls while Marthaline Moore appeared on the score-sheet with a clever finished.

The basket of goals wasn't enough until Bountou scored the fifth to send both teams to their respective dressing rooms.

Pauline Agbotsu introduced the second half with an excellent strike to complete her hat-trick on falling Blanco. Catherine A. Henry who also came from the substitute bench pulled the trigger on goalkeeper Asata Dulleh as

Bountou Sylla widened the scoreline to 8-1.

It was totally a sad day for the shot-stopper after conceding massive goals against their opponents, Determined Girls FC.

The facial expressions of the youngster could clearly define how frustrating she was before the full 90 minutes whistle. As it stands, Bountou Sylla is still doing her thing and truly at her best this season.

The Guinea International has scored 14 goals in three matches played. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

# Liberians gear up

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Mr. Karphe also observed that Team Gongloe's overarching political concept depicts Liberia as a gigantic corporation in which every citizen is considered a shareholder in the corporation called LIBERIA and therefore, everyone is expected to play pivotal role in its holistic development agenda.

Counselor Gongloe, 65, who has been leading the Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA), the umbrella organization of Liberian lawyers for the past three years, is a renowned jurist, locally and globally well-known for his fearless human rights advocacy, with a 33-year legal practice to his credit.

Besides his private legal practice during which he has represented hundreds of clients, many of them low or no income clients on a pro bono (free of charge) basis from varied segments of the Liberian society, Gongloe is also an Assistant Professor of Law at the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law at the University of Liberia.

Prior to studying law, he had served as an Instructor of Economics at the University of Liberia from 1982 until President Samuel Doe's infamous invasion of the university's main campus on August 22, 1984, when Gongloe,

along with other faculty members and students, was severely tortured, almost to death.

Counselor Tiawan Saye Gongloe has had two exemplary stints in Government. From 1990 to 1994, he served as Executive Assistant to Dr. Amos Sawyer, then President of the erstwhile Interim Government of National Unity. His second stint in Government began in 2006 when he was then a Human Rights fellow at Harvard University, following a call from then newly elected President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, urging him to join her government.

A consummate patriot, Gongloe subsequently returned to Liberia and became Solicitor-General in the first Ellen administration. He later became Labor Minister during which he was reputed for his scrupulous enforcement of government's Liberianization policy, to which past administrations had paid lip service without actual implementation.

Many pundits opine that not since the candidacy of the late Jackson F. Doe in 1985 as the standard-bearer of the Liberia Action Party has the potential for a possible presidential candidacy of a son of Nimba County generated intense buzz across the socio-economic, political spectrum in recent times.

While many people attribute

# Liberia National Bar elects new President

By Thomas Domah, Nimba County

The Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA) elects Cllr. Sylvester D. Rennie as its President, succeeding Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe, whose tenure has expired.

Others elected along with Cllr. Rennie to run the affairs of the Bar for the next three years are Vice President, Secretary General, and Treasurer, respectively.

The LNB new President-elect, Cllr. Rennie, served as National Vice President under the administration of outgoing President Cllr. Tiawan S. Gongloe.

The Liberia National Bar Association convention brought together lawyers, magistrates, and judges, including law enforcers, among others. The elections were held in the Wuo Garbe Tarppia Hall, Peace Empire I Nimba under the Theme: 'Corruption a threat to Peace



LNBA Pres. elects Cllr. Sylvester D. Rennie

and Rule of Law.'

Addressing reporters at the end of the convention, out-going President Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe welcomed the newly elected officials to be involved with activities that will help to boost the image of the Bar and

charged them to strive for unity and development.

Also speaking, Associate Justice Jamesta Howard Wolokolie called on the Liberia National Bar Association to become active rather than being pro-active

in speaking on national issues in the judicial system.

A total of 476 voters went to the poll to elect the Bar's new leadership.

Those elected include Cllr. Sylvester D. Rennie, President, who received 218 votes against Dr. /Cllr. Jallah A. Barbu, 129 votes; others include Cllr. Abraham B. Sillah, 114 votes against Cllr. Alhaji Swaliho A. Sesay, 13 votes.

For the post of Vice President, Cllr. Jamal Dehtho, Jr obtained 251 votes against Cllr. Bobby Livingston, 215

votes, while the Treasurer position was won by Cllr. Rachell Yabah-Duobah, who maintains her position with 255 votes against Atty. Mameita Jabateh Sirleaf's 212 votes.

Following his election, Cllr. Sylvester D. Rennie pledged his support and commitment to moving the Bar forward.

"I will make sure to bring on board those who didn't win the election to work together for the betterment of the Union", he pledged. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Sen. Bartekwa wants US\$100m for counties' roads

By Ethel A Tweh

Grand Kru County Senator, Numene T.H. Bartekwa is seeking the approval of the Liberian Senate to allocate an amount of US\$100 million in the 2022 budget exclusively for primary roads in all of the 15 counties here.

Senator Bartekwa in a

Kru Senator, most of the problems in the country are tied to deplorable roads that connect the various counties.

The lawmaker further mentioned the hike in prices of basic commodities and other services as a result of bad roads.

He noted that the citizenry faced extreme difficulty in commuting to the various

government we need to focus our efforts in this direction," Senator Bartekwa said.

He at the same time acknowledged that the proposed US\$100 Million may not be sufficient but there must be a starting point, noting that this amount can make significant impacts.

Senator Bartekwa said that the growing wave of economic activities in the cities of Ganta in Nimba County, and Buchanan in Grand Bassa County are a clear benefit of good roads.

He also said since these two cities experienced the connections of paved roads, there have been rapid developments and smooth economic activities.

Senate Bartekwa who is also chairman of the Senate committee on concession and investment concluded by seeking the indulgence of his colleagues to have a special consideration with respect to his request.

Following the reading of the communication, Plenary resolved that determination of the request be addressed upon a comprehensive report by the Senate Judiciary committee already investigating issues relative to the road funds. The committee is expected to report to the Senate during its sitting on next Tuesday.

counties, adding that there is a need for the government to take decisive steps in addressing the road issues, especially in the rural areas.

"Look at what we go through getting to the South East, Lofa, Gbarpolu and other counties, it is almost impossible for people to get to these counties during the raining season. So as a



Senator, Numene T.H. Bartekwa

communication to the Senate during its 10th Day Sitting of the Special Session on Tuesday, 25 November 2021, called on the Senate to allocate the amount in the national budget, especially at the time the budget is before the Legislature for Legislative actions.

According to the Grand

## Liberia: LLA to issue title deeds to several communities for customary land

The Liberia Land Authority (LLA), with support from the joint United Nations Peace Building Support Programme will on 2 December 2021, commence a historic land survey in Grand Cape Mount, Maryland, Nimba and Sinoe counties, paving the way for the issuance of the country's first-ever legally recognized title deeds to indigenous community for communally held land.

This is the first time in the country's history that the government will formally recognize traditional land ownership. It is expected to end centennial tensions between communities, and between communities and companies that are being granted mining and farming concessions with little regard, involvement or consultation with local communities.

The boundary



harmonization and confirmatory land survey is a major milestone for consolidating Liberia's fragile peace and preventing future conflicts centering on land demarcation and ownership. It sets the stage for

greater social cohesion, and promotes national reconciliation required to spur sustainable development," says UNDP Liberia Deputy Resident Representative for

## LNP educates students on the usage of traffic lights

By Bridgett Milton

As accident cases increase in and outside Monrovia, the Traffic Division of the Liberian National Police (LNP) on Friday, 27 November 2021, launched a campaign on educating students on how to use the traffic lights and how to cross the road.

According to the Chief of Traffic of the Liberian National Police, Fred Gaye, by educating the students on how to use the traffic lights will help reduce the number of accident cases and it will also

take time how to cross the road, and the safe way to cross the road is always looking left and right before they cross the road," Gaye added.

He told students at the two Baptist schools that the road is for cars and pedestrians and that the students should never underestimate the speed of the car.

"Don't [ever] underestimate the speed of the car or say it is still far and that u can cross before it gets to you. It is not good at all. It is always good to cross the road the safe way," he



keep them safe.

Gaye said he is targeting 50 schools within Montserrado County before the end of the academic semester.

Speaking at two schools in Monrovia Friday which include Pioneer Baptist School System in Bassa Community area and the St. Simon Baptist School System, Gaye told the students that before they crossed the road, they should always make sure that there is no car coming, or the car should stop before they can cross the road.

"Students should always

noted.

At the same time, Gaye told the students to always take advantage of the safety signs in order to avoid accident.

He told the students to always be careful when going home and getting in vehicles because of kidnapping of children these days.

The Principals at the two school visited thanked the Liberian National Police for going to educate their students on how to cross the road and how to use the traffic lights.

Programme Violet Baffour.

The boundary harmonization and confirming survey will lead to issuance of legally probated titled land deeds to communities, in effect displacing the informal administration of land that is often challenged in courts of law. The survey will identify and clarify all existing boundary points between and amongst adjacent communities, including the disputed boundaries in the targeted counties.

UNDP, UN-Women, and the World Food Program (WFP), with funding from the United

Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), are supporting the survey. It also aims at strengthening the institutional capacities of Liberia's Land Authority to implement the Land Rights' Act and the Local Government Act.

"The issuance of community land title deeds is one of the dividends of peace that will bring about yet a more peaceful social cohesion within and between communities. The LLA should go a step further to put in place effective and sustained measures for land management and prompt resolution of land

# Français

## POLITIQUE AFRICAINE DE LA FRANCE AU SAHEL

Les autorités militaires et politiques de l'Hexagone ont certainement poussé un grand ouf de soulagement au moment où le convoi militaire français a fait son entrée à Gao au Mali. En effet, parti d'Abidjan en Côte d'Ivoire, il y a plus de deux semaines, pour rallier Gao, ce convoi militaire, fort de 90 véhicules, aura connu des misères sur son chemin. Le premier obstacle de ce parcours de combattant a été la ville de Bobo-Dioulasso au Burkina Faso où des populations ont perturbé son passage par des barricades. Mais cela n'était qu'une sorte de mise en bouche par rapport à ce qui attendait le convoi à Kaya, capitale de la région du Centre-Nord. Là-bas, en effet, le convoi a vécu l'enfer, et cela durant de longs jours. Les croquants de Kaya, don't la détermination à casser du soldat français était palpable, en voulaient à leurs « ancêtres les Gaulois » pour leurs accointances supposées ou réelles avec les

terroristes. En tout cas, pour bien des Kayalais, le doute n'est plus permis, les soldats français supportent les terroristes. D'ailleurs, ils sont convaincus que le convoi transportait des armes et de la logistique pour ceux qui ont pratiquement réussi le coup de force d'inscrire leur région à l'article de la mort, à coup d'attaques et d'incursions

osées. A leurs yeux donc, pour cela, la France doit payer. Il a fallu de longues et âpres négociations pour que les « révolutionnaires » de Kaya consentent à permettre au convoi de progresser vers le Niger. Dans ce pays également, un comité d'accueil attendait le convoi

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## Coopération décentralisée: des industriels italiens aux portes du Guémon (Côte d'Ivoire)

Dans le cadre de la coopération décentralisée, Dr Serey Doh Célestin président du conseil régional du Guémon (ouest de la Côte d'Ivoire) a effectué une visite de travail du 25 au 28 novembre 2021 dans la province de Ragusa, région de la Sicile au sud de l'Italie. Durant leur séjour, Serey Doh Célestin et sa délégation composée de Déazi André Oulaï, directeur général d'administration du conseil régional du Guémon, Dji Ignace Thibault, directeur

général de la radio Guémon FM, Philippe Kouhon, conseiller Technique au secrétariat d'État aux affaires Maritimes et des collaborateurs extérieurs, DjiNahi Athanase dit "Atalaku Di Parma" et Zai Achille, ont échangé avec l'association SICINDUSTRIA, un consortium d'industriels issus des provinces de Agrigento, Caltanissetta, Enna, Messina Ragusa et Trapani. Ils ont visité plusieurs unités de production essentiellement dans le domaine des énergies renouvelables, de l'agriculture et de la pêche.

C'est par une visite des installations de la compagnie des énergies renouvelables (CER) dirigée par Gaetano Casetti qu'a débuté la visite de travail du président du conseil régional du Guémon Serey Doh Célestin et sa délégation le vendredi 26 novembre. Outre la fabrication des panneaux solaires, l'entreprise CER s'est lancée depuis la crise sanitaire à coronavirus dans la fabrication de masques chirurgicaux. L'unité de production visitée par la délégation ivoirienne fabrique 70 masques par minute et compte exporter sa technique en Côte d'Ivoire et particulièrement dans la région du Guémon afin de renforcer la capacité sanitaire contre la propagation de la maladie du COVID-19. Rencontre avec l'association SICINDUSTRIA: bientôt le jumelage entre la région du Guémon et la province de Ragusa

Le Dr Serey Doh Célestin et sa délégation ont échangé ce même vendredi, 1er jour de leur visite de travail avec plusieurs industriels de l'association SICINDUSTRIA,

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## Éditorial

### Les libériens doivent honnêtement se féliciter de l'accord amendé de l'AML

Le gouvernement du Libéria et la direction d'ArcelorMittal Libéria (AML), l'un des plus grands géants mondiaux de l'acier, ont récemment signé une version modifiée de l'Accord de développement minier (MDA).

Dans le cadre de l'accord, l'AML investira près de 800 millions de dollars supplémentaires au Libéria. Mais avant même que la copie modifiée du MDA ne soit signée, les citoyens des zones opérationnelles de l'entreprise dans les comtés de Nimba et de Grand Bassa ont protesté contre l'accord. Il y a eu une action en justice et des actes de harcèlement physique et d'intimidation avec la présence d'un masque traditionnel dans les locaux de la compagnie minière à Nimba dont l'intention était de mettre fin à ses opérations.

Mais toutes ces actions contre l'accord sont-elles vraiment justifiées sans avoir pris son temps pour faire la lecture de l'amendement du MDA? Ou est-ce à dire que les Libériens ne font plus confiance à leur propre gouvernement avec le président George Manneh Weah aux commandes en ce qui concerne leurs intérêts dans cette concession?

Le New Dawn a feuilleté les points saillants de l'accord modifié et pense que les citoyens ordinaires ont beaucoup à gagner en termes d'emploi, de fonds de développement social régional, de bourses d'études et de formation professionnelle, entre autres grâce à l'investissement de l'AML et du gouvernement lui-même qui renflouera ses caisses grâce à cet accord gagnant-gagnant.

En tant que premier investisseur majeur sous l'administration Weah, l'engagement d'ArcelorMittal à investir 800 millions de dollars US montre clairement que la société aspire à raviver la confiance des investissements du secteur privé dans l'économie avec plus de 2000 nouveaux emplois qui devraient être créés pendant la phase de construction, et à mesure que les volumes de production augmenteront, ses équipes d'exploitation généreront également 1 000 nouveaux emplois supplémentaires, ciblant les Libériens.

Le projet d'expansion, en vertu de l'accord modifié, qui englobe les installations de traitement, ferroviaires et portuaires, promet de devenir l'un des plus grands projets miniers de toute l'Afrique de l'Ouest. Il comprendra la construction d'une nouvelle usine de concentration et une expansion substantielle des opérations minières. La première expansion est prévue dès 2023 et pourrait atteindre 15 millions de tonnes par an. Ce qui pourrait stimuler le PIB.

L'accord qui est critiqué dans certains milieux devrait également renforcer la capacité du gouvernement du Libéria à répondre aux besoins d'autres utilisateurs, dont les mineurs guinéens, d'utiliser l'infrastructure libérienne pour leurs exportations. L'AML s'est engagé à conclure un accord multi-utilisateur avec le gouvernement du Libéria après la ratification de l'accord modifié.

Vu que l'économie mondiale est étouffée par la pandémie de COVID-19, les Libériens devraient faire preuve de patience et être optimistes quant à l'avenir plutôt que de chercher à jeter l'eau de bain avec le bébé. Nous avons besoin d'investissements étrangers directs pour développer notre économie et les entreprises qui sont déjà sur le terrain ne devraient pas être effrayées, comme cela a été le cas de Sime Darby dans les comtés de Bomi et de Grand Cape Mount.

ArcelorMittal et le gouvernement du Libéria ont jugé nécessaire de procéder à un amendement depuis août 2016 avec l'ancienne administration Sirleaf. Cela démontre combien l'entreprise tient au partenariat avec le Libéria et au maintien des opérations à flot et son intention d'offrir des solutions gagnant-gagnant telles que l'utilisation des usines de HFO qu'elle avait achetées en 2014 pour fournir de l'électricité dont le pays a si grandement besoin.

Les négociations en cours avec l'administration Weah ont commencé sérieusement le 17 septembre 2020, et il y a eu 54 rencontres avec le gouvernement, l'entreprise et ses conseillers internationaux au cours des 53 semaines qu'il a fallu pour conclure le 10 septembre 2021. Cinquante d'entre elles portaient sur le partage des infrastructures comme l'exigeait le gouvernement du Libéria.

Le Libéria a été le premier pays africain à se conformer à l'Initiative pour la transparence des industries extractives (ITIE). En tant que membre fondateur de l'ITIE du Libéria, ArcelorMittal Libéria a joué un rôle essentiel dans la déclaration de ses paiements au gouvernement, ce qui était essentiel pour les rapports de conformité de l'ITIE. En outre, AML a versé 3 millions de dollars US par an aux pays dans lesquels elle opère. À ce jour, l'entreprise a versé 45 millions de dollars pour cet engagement. En réponse aux plaintes des citoyens selon lesquelles les fonds ne bénéficiaient pas aux communautés affectées, AML a convaincu le gouvernement du Libéria pour que 20 % de ces fonds soient gérés directement par ces communautés. Ce programme a démarré en 2020.



# Français

## POLITIQUE AFRICAINE DE

à Téra. Des populations, à la mine patibulaire, y ont crié leur colère contre la France. Mieux, comme à Kaya, ils ont voulu, par la force, vérifier le contenu des cargaisons. Comme à Kaya, les croquants de Téra sont convaincus que les boys de Macron sont de mêche avec le diable.

Au Burkina comme au Niger donc et encore plus au Mali, des populations sont vent debout aujourd'hui contre la France, accusée de rouler pour les terroristes ou de ne pas en faire assez pour leur casser les reins. Alpha Blondy, la star ivoirienne, avait martelé dans une de ses chansons, ceci : « Armée française, allez-vous-en de chez nous ». Au Mali, au Niger comme au Burkina, ce morceau a de fortes chances de se vendre comme de petits pains désormais ; tant les populations, de plus en plus nombreuses, croient, dur comme fer, que seul le départ des troupes françaises de leurs pays respectifs, peut ouvrir la voie à la paix et au développement. Et face à ces sermons antifrançais, l'on développe du côté de Paris, un contre-discours tendant à justifier la présence des troupes françaises en Afrique en général et au Sahel en particulier. Et ce contre-discours pourrait être ceci : « Vous faites erreur d'exiger notre départ de chez-vous. Nous y restons parce que sans nous, la situation pourrait être pire ». Et c'est là où réside toute l'absurdité de l'attitude de la France. En effet, pendant qu'on réclame à Ouagadougou, à Bamako et à Niamey, qu'elle s'en aille, la France s'échine et s'obstine à rester. Et cette obstination de la France à maintenir ses troupes en Afrique en général et au Sahel en particulier où elles sont conspuées au quotidien, est la preuve que derrière la présence des troupes hexagonales au Mali, au Burkina ou encore au Niger, se

cachent des intérêts, ceux de la France. Et cela vient confirmer l'idée de cet homme politique français, selon laquelle « la France n'a pas d'amis mais des intérêts ». De ce point de vue, on peut dire que la France n'est pas au Sahel rien que pour des raisons philanthropiques. Cette raison qui avait été brandie pour justifier l'œuvre coloniale, a eu le temps de montrer toute sa fausseté. En tout cas, le blocage de ses troupes à Kaya et à Téra ainsi que tout le discours antifrançais virulent qui a été développé à ces occasions, doivent amener la France à se poser les bonnes et vraies questions à propos de sa présence militaire en Afrique. L'une de ces questions pourrait être la suivante : peut-on faire le bonheur d'un pays à sa place et contre son gré ? Cette question est d'autant plus justifiée que dans le cas d'espèce, il s'agit de pays qui se disent jaloux de leur souveraineté. L'autre raison qui doit pousser la France à inscrire son rapport à l'Afrique dans un nouveau paradigme, est que bien des dirigeants africains aujourd'hui sont en porte-à-faux avec leurs peuples. Pendant que les premiers ne se lassent pas de développer des discours laudateurs vis-à-vis de l'ancienne puissance coloniale (cas de Bazoum), leurs peuples, eux, ont une attitude critique, voire hostile à l'égard des anciens maîtres. Et cela est chose normale, car l'Afrique d'hier n'est plus celle d'aujourd'hui. Et l'Afrique de demain a de fortes chances d'être encore plus virulente à l'égard de la France si elle se refuse à revoir sa copie. Car, dans ce village plus que jamais global, en termes de vision, les peuples africains, avec à leur tête, des sociétés civiles et des élites à forte puissance prospective, sont en avance sur leurs dirigeants. L'Hexagone a donc intérêt à changer son regard sur l'Afrique, à refonder sa philosophie dans son rapport au continent noir. Faute de quoi, elle se fera hara-kiri.

## Coopération décentralisée: des industriels

un consortium d'industriels issus de plusieurs provinces de la Sicile au sud de l'Italie.

Occasion pour les membres de la délégation de la province de Ragusa de présenter au président Serey Doh Célestin leurs activités. Ils sont pour beaucoup dans les secteurs de la production et des services des énergies renouvelables, l'agriculture et la pêche. Ils exportent entre 50 et 80 % de leurs produits et services à

l'étranger.

« Les chinois sont déjà présents sur le continent africain. Nous avons le devoir, si nous voulons empêcher l'immigration clandestine avec son corollaire de morts dans les eaux et sur les côtes italiennes, d'investir en Afrique. La Côte d'Ivoire et particulièrement la région du Guémon nous intéressent. C'est pourquoi nous sommes heureux de recevoir monsieur le ministre et président du Guémon.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Kenneth Rogoff

### Le choix judicieux de Biden pour la Fed

**C**AMBRIDGE - Il est temps de saluer le président américain Joe Biden, un démocrate, pour avoir reconduit Jerome Powell, un républicain, pour un second mandat de quatre ans à la présidence de la Réserve fédérale américaine. Ce faisant, Biden a pris un parti très fort contre Lael Brainard, la candidate préférée des progressistes, qui a priori aurait également été un excellent choix. En résistant fermement aux fortes pressions de l'aile gauche du Parti démocrate, Biden a accompli plusieurs choses à la fois.

Tout d'abord, et surtout, il a réaffirmé l'indépendance de la banque centrale par rapport aux pressions politiques. Son prédécesseur, Donald Trump, a hérité de Janet Yellen, la directrice très compétente de la banque centrale, et qu'il a reconnue comme telle. Mais il a décidé qu'il était préférable d'avoir son propre responsable, en espérant peut-être qu'il pourrait appeler Powell à ne pas durcir la politique monétaire à l'approche des élections de 2020.

Comme beaucoup de décisions de Trump, cela a constitué une rupture brutale avec la tradition. Les nouveaux présidents nomment en général un président compétent de la Réserve fédérale pour un second mandat. Le choix de Biden redéfinit la tradition. Dans le cas peu probable où Trump redeviendrait président en 2025, sentirait-il la nécessité d'accorder un troisième mandat à Powell parce que Biden l'avait soutenu ? Probablement.

En renommant Powell, Biden a également fait un pas important vers l'établissement de sa propre indépendance, en particulier par rapport à l'aile gauche véhémente de son parti, qui a jusqu'à présent exercé une influence considérable. Biden a fait un choix difficile vers le centre, en se fondant presque entièrement sur les compétences et en choisissant un candidat que de nombreux Républicains ont également soutenu.

Peut-être que l'accent récemment mis par Biden sur la compétence va-t-il déteindre sur le reste de son administration. Ayant fait campagne sur des thèmes centristes qui le laissent faire des concessions face à l'opposition, Biden l'a montré quand les enjeux étaient importants. Ce fut la nomination la plus importante de sa présidence. Quiconque se penche sur les cycles économiques politiques sait bien que la banque centrale peut avoir une influence énorme en gérant le déclenchement des baisses de taux d'intérêt pour faire démarrer l'économie juste avant les élections.

À une époque où l'économie post-pandémie est encore incroyablement instable et où les oracles ne sont pas clairs (même si franchement le marché du travail américain semble être un sujet brûlant), le choix de Powell a rendu la politique de la Fed plus prévisible et plus facile à interpréter. Aussi excellente que Brainard ait pu être, il y aurait encore eu une période d'ajustement pour les marchés qui auraient dû s'ajuster à son langage et à ses signaux.

L'éditorial du Wall Street Journal, certain que la politique de la Fed conduira inévitablement à une inflation ultra-élevée, quel que soit le responsable aux commandes, a balayé d'un revers de main le choix entre Powell et Brainard comme étant un choix entre « blanc bonnet et bonnet blanc ». Mais c'est ne pas tenir compte de

certaines différences importantes. Au-delà des positions réglementaires pour lesquelles les progressistes l'ont applaudie, Brainard, qui va devenir vice-présidente, s'est montrée particulièrement ouverte à des idées novatrices sur l'évolution de la politique de la banque centrale dans un monde à faibles taux d'intérêt réels.

Il est vrai que je peignais un tableau quelque peu optimiste de la décision de nommer Powell. En fait, le chiffre le plus récent pour l'inflation des prix à la consommation, à plus de 6 %, était tout à fait impressionnant. Il est vrai que jusqu'à présent, les marchés financiers semblent croire que Powell soutenait que la majeure partie de ce phénomène était transitoire : les prévisions d'inflation à moyen terme sont légèrement supérieures à 2 %, ce qui n'est pas encore particulièrement élevé selon les normes de la dernière décennie. Alors que Powell n'a plus à s'inquiéter que Biden décide de sa réélection, on pourrait dire qu'il ne se sentira plus contraint de durcir sa politique monétaire en cas de besoin. Mais la Fed a-t-elle déjà attendu trop longtemps ?

C'est difficile à dire. Il est probable que les facteurs qui sous-tendent les récents pics d'inflation se révéleront transitoires, ce qui autorisera peut-être la Fed à doubler la mise sur sa politique d'apaisement, pour pouvoir déclarer par la suite : « Nous vous l'avions ben dit ». Malheureusement, il est également très probable que les hausses des salaires et des prix entament un cycle de course réciproque l'un avec l'autre, avec une inflation qui s'avère loin d'être transitoire. Si cela se produit, et si le public commence à perdre confiance dans la stabilité des prix, il faudra peut-être une récession assez importante pour restaurer la foi.

À ce stade, certains pourraient dire que la Fed devrait simplement se recalibrer de manière opportuniste et dire à tout le monde qu'elle a l'intention de relever son objectif d'inflation à 3 % ou 4 %. Ce scénario était une recommandation clé de l'un des documents de base que la Fed a commandé dans la réévaluation de son cadre monétaire en 2019. Malheureusement, laisser l'inflation dériver inexorablement à la hausse, et ne dire à l'opinion publique qu'après coup qu'il y a maintenant une nouvelle norme plus élevée, se révélera très probablement extrêmement déstabilisant.

Je suis depuis longtemps d'avis qu'une manière beaucoup plus élégante de réduire les taux d'intérêt dans une récession profonde implique une politique de taux d'intérêts négatifs. Il est vrai que cela exigerait que la Fed soit prête à se prévaloir de l'une des options de plus en plus nombreuses pour décourager la thésaurisation qui risque de limiter l'efficacité de la politique.

Bien sûr, la Fed pourrait augmenter les taux d'intérêt de manière préventive, mais cela pourrait faire chuter les marchés et faire tomber l'économie dans la récession.

Il n'y a pas d'options faciles pour la Fed en ce moment, et cela aurait été vrai si Brainard, et non Powell, avait décroché le poste. Ainsi, en fin de compte, il faut saluer Biden pour avoir compris que, quelles que soient les pressions politiques auxquelles son administration était confrontée pour mettre la Fed au pas, il était préférable de maintenir l'indépendance de la banque centrale - et la sienne.

# Nimba: Land dispute leaves 1 dead, 4 hospitalized

By Thomas Domah,  
Nimba County

A long standing land dispute between the people of Bah, Gayee Clan in Kparblee administrative district and those of Gbotuo in Gblor Clan, Doe administrative district, has led to one person being reported dead, while four others are said to be

that the victims sustained their injuries through the exchange of gunfire between rival groups involved in the land dispute.

The incident, according to report, has left over 20 towns near the border with neighboring Ivory Coast completely empty, as residents crossed into Ivory Coast, abandoning schools and clinics.

The land dispute between the

Bah Town, while they were passing thru to get to their area Gbotuo, due to heavy flooding.

According to Emmanuel, Sylvester accused them of hunting for snails in a bush that does not belong to them. He said two bags of snail were confiscated from them, and they subsequently informed some of their brothers from Gbotuo, including Jimmy Zor, 33, and Oldpa Zor, 28, who told to wait and see.

Emmanuel continued that his senior brother Jimmy Zor in return, threatened to arrest any citizen from Bah Town, and eventually arrested a hunter from Bah with a single barrel gun and meat.

Eyewitnesses also narrated that while firing was taking place in Paye Village, which is the boundary between the two towns, a community watch forum officer, Solomon Gaye who had gone to make peace, was allegedly shot and killed.

During a visit to the scene, the New Dawn observed over 50 empty shells of single barrel rounds scattered on the ground, which indicates indeed, there was exchange of gunfire.

According to eyewitnesses, the late Solomon Gaye was allegedly shot by the people of Gbotuo Town during the exchange of fire. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



hospitalized at various health facilities in the county.

The wounded include Nelson Paye, 38, Eric Fayah, 35; and Robert Dowah, 33. The three are currently receiving medical attention at the Rev. S.K. Gaye Teye Clinic in Kparblee, while 32-year-old Philip Colkahn is being treated by traditional herbalists.

The New Dawn gathered

two towns, according to report, started since 2017. Both sides have accused the County Administration and the government of being unable to address the situation.

The exchange of gunfire lasted from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. last Wednesday, 24 November. Emmanuel Kollie, a resident of Gbotuo Town, narrated that the latest conflict erupted when he along with some others, were arrested by one Sylvester Bah in

# Morlu: No more

Cont'd from page 6

well like Saah Joseph will go back for re-election but all others will pass through delegates," Chairman Morlu disclosed.

He warned that those that are accustomed to bribing their way to power will not bribe anymore, noting that a thousand plus delegates will not easily be bribed.

"In 2019, we were defeated in Montserrado County. We had a national retreat at the ATS (Antoinette Tubman Stadium) to reconcile our party and bring all on board. After a year, we went in the process again and we were defeated," Morlu recalled.

"What is important is that your five thousand three hundred votes in 2019 and in 2020 one hundred and twenty thousand votes were given to us in Montserrado County that a single political party couldn't give. They came against us as four political parties, with that we will reclaim Montserrado County," he said.

Speaking on the CDC ID Card and launch of its membership database drive, Morlu said the process is intended to provide a comprehensive database system for all its partisans across the country.

According to him, the process began with the 17 Electoral Districts of Montserrado County for leaders within those districts and later they will extend it to other counties.

"The path to victory is a fully institutionalized party.

This process is to enable you participate in all processes of the party's primary and other essential activities. The card is only 150 Liberian dollars for members, particularly those who [are] not working," Chairman Morlu explained.

He noted that the CDC leadership in Grand Kru and Montserrado are strong and they are doing better. But he also said all other counties' leaderships will [be dissolved] to enable the party to reconstruct the entire leadership ahead of 2023.

For his part, Montserrado County Senator Saah H. Joseph pledged to pay for seventy thousands of leaders in Montserrado County, adding that it is his own way of responding to his people.

"We will continue to help our people. This shows how your leaders are ready to move for 2023. This rebranding and rebuilding process is initial victory for President Weah and all other candidates of the CDC that will be contesting come 2023," he said.

"We want you to go back to your various districts and zones and make sure that you take the message across because we are ready to move," Sen. Joseph noted.

Also remarking, Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson Tamba Kojee and co-chair on the nationwide reconstruction program noted that it's time that CDCians take control of the party's activities and see themselves in it. **-Edited by Winston W. Parley**

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and justices of the Supreme Court down to the magistrates during the 3 years one term limit.

He strongly believes the support of the Judiciary for the license mandate of the LNBA has greatly helped his administration in getting rid of quacks, who without any form of legal education, were engaged in the illegal practice of law by paying professional license fee at the Liberian Revenue Authority (LRA) performing legal services for gullible Liberians in need of legal services."

"By not allowing unlicensed lawyers to practice law or dismissing cases filed by them at the judiciary has greatly strengthened the standard of law practice in Liberia. By cooperating with our leadership in enforcing the license mandate, the number

## Gongloe bids farewell

of lawyers paying dues and attending LNBA activities has greatly increased," Tiawan pointed out.

During Annual Convention 2020, with the cooperation between the bench and bar on the license, it recorded the attendance of 412 lawyers, an unprecedented number of attendees for a non-election convention in the history of the LNBA.

But that record was beaten this year, because Convention 2021 has, thus far, recorded 585 lawyers and law school students, the highest number of attendees at any bar convention in the history of the LNBA.

"Our leadership stands in an unending debt to the Korkpor Bench for this progress made by the LNBA. In the case of the Executive Branch of Government, I cannot forget the fact that the Vice President of Liberia represented the President of Liberia at the

opening of the 2019 Convention of the African Bar Association and the fact that the President hosted a dinner in honor of all attendees at the convention," he recalled.

Gongloe also stated how the Executive Branch continues to allow the LNBA to use the home of the Late President Joseph Jenkins Roberts as their national headquarters, instead of it being used as a tourist facility.

"With the current level of cooperation between the Bench and Bar, I can safely say that in a few years, the LNBA will soon move to its own headquarters, a beautiful three story building now under construction," he opined.

About setting standards at the bar, Gongloe boasted that today without any fear of contradiction the LNBA is now well-known all over Liberia from Cape Mount to Cape

Palmas and from Mount Nimba to the Putu Mountains.

And this is because the LNBA has been a credible voice of the lawyers in the country on all legal issues on the grounds that the bar is no longer a begging organization but became self-reliant in carrying out its activities and implementing its projects.

On partnering with donors during Gongloe three years the LNBA has made groundbreaking achievements. It was assisted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through its Legal Professional Development and Anti-Corruption Programme (LPAC) that held a validation workshop on its strategic plan and manpower policy, and implemented a vigorous Continuing Legal Education Programme.

The LNBA introduced the licensing of lawyers, instead of a good standing certificate, improved financial accounting by re-organizing the accounting system based on the advice of LPAC, implemented a justice first project, an undertaking that

created awareness on access to justice in several places in Liberia.

With the assistance of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights; drafted a bill for the establishment of a war and economic crimes court in Liberia, continued the Legal Aid Program without any financial support from any source.

Introduced a newsletter of the LNBA, commenced raising of the walls of the LNBA three story headquarters building on the Robertsfield highway and for the first time, hosted Convention 2021 of the African Bar Association, the only international event ever hosted by the Liberian National Bar Association, which convention was rated the best ever by Barrister Hannibal Nwaifo, President of the African Bar Association.

Meanwhile, the LNBA has paid tribute to its fallen comrades or lawyers who died during the year under review, mostly due to COVID19: Counselors Farmere G. Stubblefield, Robert E. Cooper, Richard K. Flomo, Benjamin Mulbah Togba, Emma Shannon Walser and Joseph R. Watson.

# Shame and disgrace

Opposition People's Liberation Party (PLP) standard bearer Dr. Daniel E. Cassell says it's a shame and disgrace that the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) has failed to implement its promise to effect a "CHANGE" in the political system through the so-called "Pro-Poor Agenda" which allegedly turned out to be complete 419 or hoax.

In accepting the PLP's mandate on 28 November 2021 to lead the party, Dr. Cassell directed a barrage of criticisms and accusations against the ruling establishment headed by President George Manneh Weah, saying Liberians are craving for a new brand of

depravity the country has and continues to painfully endure.

"Today, we painstakingly watch the current ruling establishment of President George Manneh Weah without any measure of remorse, shamefully loots and plunders the inadequate resources of our country and submerges our people down the boiling pit of extreme economic hardship and disparagement," Dr. Cassell added.

He suggested that the current draft 2022 national budget which is presently before the Legislature is riddled with fraud and discrepancies.

According to the PLP political leader, the draft 2022 budget failed yet again to address or encapsulate the socio-economic

within Monrovia and across the country.

"We see young kids hooked on bad drug substances exchanging gunfire with police forces. We see our young girls seeking survival in the dangerous act of prostitution which is fast claiming their precious lives," Dr. Cassell continued.

He stated that poverty is on the rise and curable diseases are decimating the people while Mr. Weah and his friends at the helm of power are living garishly and displaying absolute opulence in the full glare of the hungry and afflicted citizenry.

Cassell suggested that Liberia must be liberated from this spelling paralysis, noting that the country must be reclaimed and redeemed from this perennial scourge of bad governance and self-indulgence.

He indicated that Liberians deserve better, and they too have the right to better socioeconomic conditions and live-in dignity as the Almighty God has abundantly endowed the country with an overabundance of natural resources, which, if harnessed smartly, credibly, and accountably, Liberia can be a paradise on earth.

"Liberia, our dear country deserves to be governed with integrity, accountability, transparency, dignity, and with the utmost proficiency for economic growth and infrastructural development to be realized," said Dr. Cassell.

In effect, he said, sound leadership is what Liberians need at this critical juncture.

"And may I say Leadership is essentially quintessential to forward March of any nation, and at the moment, that is lacking in our country," he argued.

Dr. Cassell declared that the PLP is truly the party of the people that certainly has the ideological, professional, and intellectual potencies and competencies as well as the political will and patriotic wherewithal to usher Liberia into a new paradigm shift of social transformation.



selfless, noble, kind, erudite, savvy, pragmatic, humble, and honorable leaders.

"What a shame and disgrace for a group of people who told us they were coming to effect a "CHANGE" in the political system through the so-called "Pro-Poor Agenda and put an end to the decades of perennial misrule, but evidently turned out to be complete 419 or hoax," Dr. Cassell said over the weekend.

The PLP political leader noted that the people are her looking for leaders who will summon the audacity beyond all odds to liberate the country and citizens from the lethargies of the historical

needs and aspirations of the Liberian people and falls short of emphasizing priority areas like agriculture, health care, education, tourism and entertainment, infrastructure, and capital developments.

"Instead, that budget seeks to enrich the President and his confidants as it has always been since the ascent of the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) to power," Dr. Cassell claimed.

He claimed that under the watch of Mr. Weah, Liberians see corruption and impunity institutionalized within the governing system.

He added that Liberians also see insecurity being normalized with the picnicking rise in mysterious and ritualistic killings

## Liberia: LLA to issue

war in Liberia. Land disputes have degenerated to violent conflicts between people and communities, with the destruction of property, the loss of lives and displacement.

The launch of the

confirmatory survey sets the basis for encouraging other counties to emulate the use of non-violent approaches such as land survey and titling to settle land conflicts.



# Liberians gear up for Team Gongloe

## --"Declaration" Fever Grips Ganta

From: Joe Bartuah  
Boston, Massachusetts



November 27, 2021: Reports from multiple sources in Liberia say a groundswell of excitement is bubbling in the country, especially in the northeastern region, as the nation awaits a formal response from eminent human rights lawyer, Counselor Tiawan Saye Gongloe, whether he would affirmatively answer the clarion calls to duty by his thousands of admirers and supporters in and outside of Liberia, to seek the coveted executive chair in the 2023 presidential election.

Dubbed by its organizers as "Declaration Day", or simply tagged as "December 4th", the

event promises to be a crowd-pulling gathering slated to commence at 9 a.m. on December 4, 2021 at the Ganta Methodist School Gymnasium in Gompa City, Nimba County.

Speaking during a recent teleconference, the chairman of the Steering Committee of the United States-based Friends of Gongloe, Dr. Emmanuel Kamara disclosed that hundreds of supporters of Counselor Gongloe, led by an array of traditional leaders and elders from both Bong and Nimba Counties, would be gathering in the central city of Saclepea on December 3rd, in massive preparation for the Ganta event the next.

He noted that because Counselor Gongloe's late mother, Ma Elizabeth Mengua-Gongloe was a daughter of Bong County, a special high-powered delegation from Bong County, comprising the human rights activist's traditional uncles, would travel to Saclepea, wherethey will be formally presenting him to the Liberian people, through Team Gongloe, indicating that they are one hundred percent satisfied with the exemplary public service orientation and leadership acumen of their nephew, and are as a result, sufficiently confident that Tiawan Saye Gongloe would be an effective president with a transformative policy paradigm for the country.

According to Dr. Kamara, following the historic traditional presentation ceremony in Saclepea, the legal luminary will embark on his historic trek to Ganta, with a 100-person motor-cyclist VIP escort.

According to Mr. Spencer Glay, Nimba County Coordinator for Team Gongloe, massive mobilization is underway in strategic parts of the county to ensure the success of the program. Speaking to our reporter on November 25th from Ganta, Mr. Glay disclosed that numerous community and traditional leaders across the county have been invited to grace the occasion.

"As we speak, our district coordinators are carrying on their mobilization to ensure that the occasion becomes a grand success", he noted. He said besides ordinary folks who are expected at the program, they also expect a five-person official delegation of traditional leaders from each of the electoral districts in Nimba to grace the occasion.

The county coordinator also noted many local musicians would be in attendance so as to make the program much more festive.

Also speaking to our reporter, Mr. Weah Karpeh, Team Gongloe's Head of Media Research and Strategy said multiple civil society organizations will be represented at the Ganta event.

He noted that even though they expect some VIPs (very important persons) and some political bigwigs to be in attendance, the December 4th program in Ganta is essentially a grassroots gathering, mainly intended for ordinary compatriots, or as he put it, "street corner people" like mechanics, carpenters, motor-cyclists, petty traders and farmers, among others, who have over the years, been groaning in poverty and also incessantly yearning for a better leadership and a responsive system of governance in Liberia.

Mr. Karpeh said Team Gongloe is also inviting folks from the various political parties, because as far members of Team Gongloe are concerned, they consider all Liberians, even those in other political parties as partners, rather than "opposition" in the socio-economic development of the country.

Cont'd from page 7

disputes," said Baffour.

Ms. Baffour asked the Government of Liberia to allocate adequate budgetary resources for more confirmatory surveys in the other counties of Liberia so that long standing land disputes are settled in a peaceful manner with due respect for the rule of law.

Conflicts over land were one of the factors that fueled the protracted 14-year civil

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# The New Dawn

French Version Inside  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

# Sports

With Emmanuel B. Juduh

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## Determined Girls FC beat Blanco FC 10-1



three (3) matches in roll with 28 goals (P 3, W 3, 9 pts.) in the LFA /Orange Women's Division.

Early in the match, Pauline Agbotsu found the curtain raiser for Determined Girls and got the second goal from the penalty spot to make the score line 2-0, but few moments later, Cynthia Paye reduced the margin at 2-1 after scoring a perfect header to reawaken the hope for Blanco Football Club.

The attacker broke goalkeeper Jackie Touah clean-sheet record around 27 minutes of play, but it wasn't enough to prevent her side from conceding massive defeat against the Upper Women's League Champions.

Bountou Sylla fired the third goal subsequently for

By: Naneka Hoffman

**D**etermined Girls Football Club bang a convincing victory against last season's runner-up, Blanco FC at the Tusa Field in Gardnersville outside Monrovia over the weekend. The defending champions

were like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour, as they defeated Blanco 10-1.

The Super Cup winners truly demonstrated quality football skills in the match and scored 5 goals apiece in both halves on Saturday.

Determined Girls have won all

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