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VOL. 11 NO. 212

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2021

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Dr. Agnes Reeves - Taylor

Taylor sues ex-TRC commissioner

- Demands million for libel

UL faculties disengage again



- Despite government intervention

3G good

4G better

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Continental News

Why Gambians won't stop voting with marbles

Most Gambians I know are quite proud of their unique voting system.

When they go to the polls on Saturday 4 December to elect a president, ballot papers will not be used.

Instead, on arrival at a polling station, and after their ID has been verified, a voter will be directed to a series of drums painted in the party colours of the different candidates.

Protruding from the top of each drum is a pipe into which the voter will slot a marble handed over by an election official. As it drops a bell sounds so officials are able to hear if anyone tries to vote more than once.

When the polls close, the marbles from each barrel are counted and tallied - as would be done with ballot papers.

This way of voting was introduced after independence in 1965 because of The Gambia's high illiteracy rate.

A number of reforms have

been ushered in since Yahya Jammeh reluctantly left power after losing presidential elections in 2016. As it drops a bell sounds so officials are able to hear if anyone tries to vote more than once.

When the polls close, the marbles from each barrel are counted and tallied - as would be done with ballot papers.

This way of voting was introduced after independence

in 1965 because of The Gambia's high illiteracy rate.

A number of reforms have been ushered in since Yahya Jammeh reluctantly left power after losing presidential elections in 2016. Some election officials had secretly hoped that ditching marbles would be one of them.

They had argued that with the opening up of the

democratic space and the possibility of more candidates participating in future elections, the marbles and drums might prove too cumbersome.

In the past only about three drums were needed at each polling station.

During Mr Jammeh's 22 years in power there seemed little point in contesting.

In fact The Gambia has only had three presidents in its history. Mr Jammeh seized power in a coup in 1994, ousting independence leader Dawda Jawara.

Many observers concede the only election Mr Jammeh went on to win fairly was in 1996, when there was still a honeymoon period after the coup and his authoritarian excesses had not yet taken

hold. Subsequent elections they say were fixed in his favour, and his defeat in 2016 seemed to take him - and his successor Adama Barrow - by surprise.

It had largely been a two-horse race, with Mr Barrow being a consensus candidate chosen by a coalition of opposition parties. The third candidate, Mama Kandeh, took about 17% of the vote.

President Barrow is running again, this time on his newly formed party's ticket.

At one stage it looked like he would face 22 candidates - a nightmarish scenario for the election commission given the marble-and-drum system remains in place as there was no real political will to change it.

To its relief these candidates have since been whittled down to six - still a lot for a country of approximately 2.2 million people. BBC



In our series of letters from African journalists, Sierra Leonean-Gambian writer Ade Daramy says The Gambia has witnessed a remarkable flourishing of democracy over the last five years, but its curious system of electing leaders remains unchanged.

Ethiopia Accuses Twitter of Pro-rebel Bias in Complaint

Ethiopia has filed a complaint with Twitter accusing the social media giant of suspending accounts critical of Tigrayan rebels it has been fighting in a gruesome, year-long war, a government spokeswoman said Tuesday.

The dust-up highlights how both sides are trying to

use social media to shape the narrative of the conflict between Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) rebel group.

"We have reason to believe that Twitter is targeting and suspending pro-Ethiopia voices that are raising awareness about the TPLF's atrocities and its lies,"

Abiy's spokeswoman Billene Seyoum said at a press conference. "We have shared this with their policy team, that we believe Twitter has been infiltrated by TPLF sympathizers in the same manner that many democratic institutions and corporate spaces have also been infiltrated to provide a TPLF narrative."

Billene later told AFP that "a formal complaint" had been sent to Twitter.

She did not specify which "pro-Ethiopia voices" had been suspended.

But neighboring Eritrea, which has backed Abiy in the war, on Tuesday complained that Twitter had suspended the New Africa Institute, a self-described think tank that routinely echoes Ethiopian and Eritrean government talking points concerning the war,

and its executive director Simon Tesfamariam.

Simon "deserves accolades, among others, for his meticulous research and balanced reports (New Africa

Nigeria schoolchildren drown after boat capsizes



At least 29 people, including schoolchildren, have died in northern Nigeria after a boat capsized in a river in Nigeria's northern Kano state.

Most of the victims were Islamic school pupils aged between six and 12 who were travelling to a religious event.

Police say seven survivors have been taken to a hospital as search and rescue operations continue.

The cause of the capsizing is unclear, but previous

accidents have been blamed on overloading and poor maintenance. There is also a lack of proper regulations to ensure the safety of passengers. The vessel was carrying more than 50 people from the village of Badau to the town of Bagwai when it capsized. Just two weeks ago, at least seven girls drowned when a boat overturned in neighbouring Jigawa state, while in May more than 100 people died in Kebbi state in a similar accident. BBC



An activist listens to speakers supporting the Ethiopian government during a protest in Washington

Institute) to counter mainstream media disinformation stemming from political bias," Eritrean government spokesman Yemane Gebremeskel said on Twitter.

"Twitter's suspension of his

accounts is thus unwarranted & requires urgent review."

A Twitter spokesperson said Simon's accounts had been suspended for violations of rules "including our platform manipulation and spam policy". VOA

EDITORIAL

Bush school has never helped Liberian children

REPORT THAT CHILDREN in Bong County are abandoning classes to instead, attend Poro and Sande or traditional schools is both disappointing and saddening. In this age when children around the world are glued to technology and digital education, for Liberian children to opt for practices that had left their ancestors and parents behind is unthinkable.

WHY ARE PARENTS in rural Liberia leading their children to doom with bush schools that had never brought any change to civilization and cultural improvement? All that comes out of those traditional schools, as we have experienced in past decades are nothing but poverty, illiteracy, poor health and standard of life.

THAT IT TOOK the Superintendent of Bong County, Madam Esther Walker, to tour school campuses in Gbarnga and its environs to observe students had abandoned classes for traditional school speaks to the fact that something is seriously or fundamentally wronged with our education system.

WHY WOULD PARENTS, guardians and children take less interest in formal education than traditional school where all they learn is keeping home, hunting and farming? As much as informal education is important for cultural purposes, they offer very little in terms of societal progress and modernity.

BUT HOW IS the ministry of education making academic studies interesting to retain students in class rather than sending them out to become ruffians and deviants? There seems to be no clear answers from education authorities in the country, who are bent on amassing wealth thru exorbitant fees, exploiting students and parents.

IT IS DIFFICULT to understand that while students and parents in other parts of the world are sacrificing to get an education that would change their lives, students and parents in Liberia are turning their eyes the other way to tradition that has never brought improvement.

THE UNFORTUNATE SITUATION in Bong County is a clarion call to educational authorities that it's time to wake up from their slumber and inject new dynamism in the educational sector, not only to attract but to retain students in class. If all students see are poorly prepared instructors asking for money and sex in exchange for grades, they would abandon school for other less profitable activities, as we are seeing right now.

THE BONG SCENARIO should not be left with Superintendent Walker alone to derive solution. All hands should be on deck, including parents, community, youth groups and religious leaders should come onboard to save our dear country from collapse.

THIS WOULD REQUIRE putting more money or investing more in the education sector by training more teachers and revising the curriculum to meet current world standards as well as keeping students busy in the classroom.

TIME IS RUNNING out. We need to act now to save our nation's future which is the youth. To leave them wallop in ignorance and illiteracy is counter-productive to building a better Liberia.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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

COMMENTARY

By Hans-werner Sinn

The End of Free Money

MUNICH - Although the US Federal Reserve is now thinking about tapering its monthly asset purchases in light of increasing inflation figures, European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde continues to insist that no sustained inflation risk exists. The currently measured inflation, she says, is a temporary problem that will disappear once supply bottlenecks are overcome, so the ECB will not be changing its policies. It is like a coachman who refuses to tighten the reins when his horses are bolting, because they will eventually tire themselves out.

Never mind that, according to the Treaty of Maastricht, the ECB is obliged to ensure price stability under all circumstances. There is no provision for the possibility of letting prices run hot for a while. And, unlike the Fed, the ECB cannot legally seek to balance the goal of price stability with other monetary-policy objectives.

The current supply bottlenecks owe much to the quarantine measures in ports - particularly, but not exclusively, in China. Arriving ships cannot unload their cargo and therefore also cannot be loaded with the intermediate products that Europe's economy must be able to supply to its customers. Freight rates for international maritime transport have increased eightfold since 2019. But the bottlenecks also reflect the domestically imposed lockdowns in European economies last winter and spring, which led to shortages even of local timber and other building materials produced in Europe.

Hence, in a fall 2021 Ifo Institute survey, 70% of German manufacturers reported difficulties sourcing upstream products. For comparison, the highest that figure ever reached in 30 previous years of surveys was 20%. Ifo reckons that supply bottlenecks will cost Germany around €40 billion (\$45 billion) of value added - equivalent to 1.15% of its GDP - in 2021.

The supply bottlenecks have obviously been unamenable to the huge stimulus and rescue packages that the European governments implemented during the COVID-19 crisis. The German federal government, for example, enacted programs amounting to roughly 10% of German GDP if spread out over two years, and the European Union enacted additional programs amounting to 4.5% of EU GDP over two years. These programs were largely financed by new government debt, which in turn was immediately monetized by the ECB and thus was issued at ultra-low interest rates.

Never before has Europe experienced stimulus programs on such a massive scale. But given the supply bottlenecks, policymakers were effectively slamming on the gas with the hand brake still on. The result was a particular form of economic overheating that economists call stagflation.

Inflation rates today are very high not only in the United States, where they stand at 6.2%, but also in Europe. As of October 2021, prices in the eurozone overall had increased 4.1% year on year; in Germany, the continent's largest economy, prices were up 4.5%. And as if this wasn't bad enough, the German Federal

Statistical Office has just announced that annual industrial producer prices were up 18.4% in October. That is the highest increase since 1951, shortly after the Federal Republic of Germany was founded, exceeding even the peak monthly price increase during the 1970s oil crises (14.6% in June 1974).

In contrast to the index for consumer goods, which measures only the prices of final products, industrial producer prices capture all intermediate stages of production. They therefore have a certain prognostic significance for consumer prices, even though the final products won't show such extreme spikes. (Unlike the latter, they are not affected by changes in value-added taxes such as those occurring in Germany.)

These new inflation figures are so extreme that the ECB's position looks like willful denial. Germany is currently experiencing the strongest inflation in a lifetime. And the situation is not much better in other European countries. In September, France reported an 11.6% annual increase in industrial producer prices, and that figure stood at 15.6% in Italy, 18.1% in Finland, 21.4% in the Netherlands, and 23.6% in Spain.

Worse, these increases do not look like a temporary phenomenon. Even though the supply bottlenecks will likely be overcome by next summer, trade unions will by then have increased their wage demands to account for this year's inflation figures. That will trigger a spiral of rising prices and wages that may continue for several years. Purchases of consumer durables will be pulled forward, further accelerating inflation.

Moreover, even when the first inflation wave starts to ebb, perhaps as early as next autumn, new dangers will loom. If the ECB hesitates to follow the US Federal Reserve's foreseeable interest-rate hikes, the euro will depreciate, boosting import prices further. The baby-boom generation's transition to retirement implies many additional consumers who no longer support production and therefore create an inflationary demand overhang. On the cost side, the phaseout of all fossil fuels - and of nuclear power plants in Germany - will be a major driver of price growth. It requires little imagination to see how Europe could end up back in a 1970s-like environment of stubborn inflation, which could last for the remainder of the decade and beyond.

Given these circumstances, European economies and the ECB must be given a clear signal to stop any further monetized debt binges. If policymakers want to siphon money from the economy for their aims, they should have to cut other expenditures by a comparable amount. If the rollback via interest rates no longer works because the ECB doesn't play ball, it will be replaced by a direct crowding-out mechanism via the prices for goods.

Either way, today's inflationary surge marks the end of the pipe dream of resources created from nothing. The good life financed by the euro system's printing press is over once and for all.



LIBERIA POLITICAL HOT-FIRE

With Jones Mallay

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

Pres. Weah: "Is US\$15.000 price tag to identify serial killers a real solution?"

Does 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 c 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

Section I. Invitation for Bid

(Printing and delivery of the 102nd Souvenir Program, Protocol & Invitations)

IFB NO: UL/SP/NCB/003/20/21

November 27, 2021

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its Convocation's budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 and intends to apply it towards the procurement of the (printing and delivery of Souvenir programs, Protocols & Invitation) for the 102nd Graduating exercises, 2021.
- 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 & Concessions Commission (PPCC) of the Republic of Liberia.

3. Specification and quantity:

Item No.	Description	Temporary quantity	Total quantities
i.	Printing of Protocols	1	To be Determined
ii.	Printing of Souvenir program	1	To be Determined
iii.	Printing of Invitations	1	To be Determined

4. Qualification requirements include:

- Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with Code C1811
- Valid GOL Tax Clearance
- Past Performance records including the names and contact numbers of at-least 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.
- PPCC Vendor Registry
- Current Bank statement for the past two (2) years - present with the closing balance of USDS 3,000
- Bids will be examined for proper signature and completeness before consideration for further evaluation.

5. A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus beginning November 27, 2021 - December 27, 2021 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

6. All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 60 days after the opening of bids.

7. Interested Bidders are advised to visit the Procurement Department (see address below) to view samples before submitting bids.

8. Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., December 27, 2021 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:

In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:

"SEALED BID FOR PRINTING & DELIVERY OF PROTOCOLS, INVITATIONS & SOUVENIR PROGRAMS"

REF.: IFB NO.:UL/SP/NCB/003/20/21

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

In the middle of the envelop, print the address below:

Procurement Department
Administrative Complex, Right wing, 1st Floor, Room #: AC1-09
University of Liberia
Fendall Campus, Liberia

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

Signed:
Fatu Ruth Tipteh (Mrs.)
Director/Procurement/UL

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

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.

4. 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.

6. 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.

7. All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing valid for 60 days after the opening of bids.

8. 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:

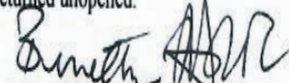
In the upper left corner of the envelope, print:
"SEALED BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF DESKTOP COMPUTERS"
REF: IFB No.: UL/NCB/010/2021

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

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

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

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

Reviewed
Fatu Tipoteh
11/08/21

UNIVERSITY OF LIBERIA Section I. Invitation for Bid FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS (102nd Graduation Academicals) IFB NO: UL/SP/NCB/002/20/21

November 8, 2021

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its Convocation's budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 and intends to apply it towards the procurement of Academicals for the 102nd Graduating Class, 2021.
- 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 & Concessions Commission (PPCC) of the Republic of Liberia.

3. Specification and quantity:

Item No.	Description	Quantity
1	Academicals - Graduate Programs/Visitor/Professors/Law School/Doctorate/ Undergraduate Program etc.	Assorted

- Qualification requirements include:
 - Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with Code M7410
 - Valid GOL Tax Clearance
 - Past Performance records including the names and contact numbers of at-least 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.
 - Current Bank statement for the past two (2) years - present with the ending balance of **US\$5,000**
 - Bids will be examined for proper signature and completeness before consideration for further evaluation.

5. A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of **US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars)** from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus beginning November 8 - December 8, 2021 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

6. All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 90 days after the opening of bids.

7. Interested Bidders are advised to visit the Procurement Department (see address below) to view samples of the fabrics before submitting bids.

8. Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., December 8, 2021 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right wing of the Administrative Complex, 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 ACADEMICALS"

REF.: IFB NO.: UL/SP/NCB/002/20/21

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

In the middle of the envelope, print the address below:

Procurement Department
Administrative Complex, Right wing, 1st Floor, Room #: AC1-09
University of Liberia
Fendall Campus, Liberia

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

Signed: 
Fatu Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)
Director, Procurement/UL

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



University of Liberia Monrovia, Liberia

Request for Proposals

Title of bid: **Provision for Group Life and Medical Insurance Services**

Contract Identification No.: **IFB NO. UL/NCB/QCBS/001/20/21**

The University Of Liberia (UL) anticipates fund from employee salary cut and intends to apply same to the cost of procuring Group Life and Medical Insurance Services as indicated in the contract package listed in the table below. The University will enter into a **framework agreement with the selected Insurance Company** during the Fiscal Year 2021/2022.

The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids in the form of proposals from eligible and qualified firms for the provision for Group Life and Medical Insurance Services during the Fiscal Year 2020/2021. Bidding will be conducted through the Request for Proposals (RFP), Quality and Cost based selection process in accordance with procedures specified in the Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concessions Act (PPCA) published and approved September 18, 2010.

Description of the Services to be provided as per the University of Liberia requirements are as follows:

I Code	Contract Package	Quantity	Bid Submission Deadline	Bid Opening Date
IFB No. UL/NCB/QCBS/001/2020/2021	Provision for Group Life and Medical Insurance Services	About 1,196 Insured Employees, their spouses and two dependents each.	December 10, 2021 2:00 PM	Immediate after bid submission on December 10, 2021 @ 2:00 PM

All Interested eligible firms/Insurance Companies may inspect and obtain a complete set of the Request for Proposals (RFP) from the address below upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US \$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars)** beginning November 10, 2021, from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM daily, Mondays to Fridays.

Proposals must be submitted at the address below on or before December 10, 2021 at 2:00 PM. Bid opening will be done Immediate thereafter at 2:00 PM, in the Administrative Conference Room AC-101 of the Administrative Building Fendall Campus, University of

RFP- Provision for Group Life & Medical Insurance Services 2021/2022

Section 3. Technical Proposal - Standard Forms

Liberia Montserrado County, in the presence of Insurance Companies, their representatives or those who choose to attend. Proposals shall be valid for a period of 90 days after the deadline of Bid submission. Late proposals will be rejected and returned unopened.
Note: Electronic bidding will not be permitted.

Qualification requirements include the following:

- Company's Profile
- Articles of Incorporation (Where applicable)
- Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry with appropriate Coding for Insurance).
- Current Tax Clearance Certificate
- Statements of past performance satisfaction from at least three (3) previous and current clients - including names and contact numbers
- Copy of CBL License (CBL/RSD/002/2013)
- Compliance with PPCC Vendor Registration procedures.
- CVs of one Managerial Personnel/Team Leader and at least two (2) Insurance Staff highlighting qualifications and key experience

The University of Liberia (UL) reserves the right to reject or accept any bid submitted and to annul the process at any time without incurring any liability and without assigning any reason thereto.

All Submissions must be signed, sealed in an envelope and clearly marked, **PROVISION FOR GROUP LIFE AND MEDICAL INSURANCE SERVICE**
IFB NO:UL/NCB/QCBS/001/20/21 and addressed to:

THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
University of Liberia
Louisiana Fendall, Montserrado Co.
Republic of Liberia

EMAIL ADDRESS: tipotehfr@ul.edu.lr / gibsonbt@ul.edu.lr

Signed: 
Fatu Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)
Procurement Director

Approved: 
Benetta Joko Tarr (Mrs.)
Vice President for Administration

RFP- Provision for Group Life & Medical Insurance Services 2021/2022

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

19 suspects face charges

-Following Duala gun battle

Police authorities in Monrovia have levied multiple charges against 19 suspects that were arrested following a recent gun battle with alleged disadvantaged youth, otherwise known here as

criminals reportedly seized the opportunity to loot and cause panic during the violence of 23 November 2021 which resulted in the mass arrests.

Unofficial accounts said three persons were feared dead

Mohammed Juma Barry, Benedict McCauley, IssaLamin, Abraham Kanty, FodaySiafa, Abdullah Samola, and Saah David.

Others include John Teeman, Melvin Logan, George Potter, Anthony Kollie, GedeFilmore Neal, John Freeman, Success Bangura, TebellSaytue, and Arthur Kumorteh.

They were transferred from the Liberia National Police (LNP headquarters to the Monrovia City Court at the Temple of Justice Wednesday, 1 December to face trial.

According to the police charge sheet, the suspects along with several others to be identified, allegedly carried out an attack in Duala, at Kuwait Market burning tires and setting roadblocks.

Police said the accused also attacked people, inflicted wounds on some victims and made away with the victims' properties including cash.

The police further state that suspects Solomon, Naija, Talk and Do, Dump - pal Fire, Yaha, Emeka, Master - P, Joe, another Nigerian drug dealer, CO, Gartuzo and others to be identified, are notorious drugs dealers who are based in Duala and other



zogoos in the Duala Market area on Bushrod Island.

The charges include armed robbery, criminal conspiracy, criminal facilitation and aggravated assault. Business people ran helter-skelter as suspected

following the incident and many others sustained injuries during the gun violence between the suspected criminals and joint security forces.

Those charged include suspects Ernest Hoff, Joseph Mulbah, Mohammed Turay,

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NEC certifies two new representatives

By Lincoln G. Peters

The National Elections Commission (NEC) on Wednesday 1 December 2021 officially certificated two of the four newly elected representatives following the conduct of by-elections in November this year.

Bomi County District #1 Representative Madam Finda Gborie Lansanah and Nimba County District #1 Representative Samuel N. Brown, both of whom are independent, were certificated at the NEC headquarters in Sinkor.

According to the NEC, complaints have been filed against results from the by-

commission seeks to celebrate the determination made by the people of Bomi District#1 and Nimba District#1.

"In testimony there to, and virtues of the authority vested in us as commissioners of NEC, we hereby officiate our signatures and seal on this certificate this First Day of December 2021," she said.

Madam Browne-Lansanah indicated that once the disputes in the other two counties are settled, the two winners will be certificated.

Speaking after being certificated, Rep. Samuel N. Brown expressed excitement and



elections conducted in Bong County District#2 and Grand Gedeh County District #1.

These complaints have to be fully addressed before the NEC can move ahead on whether or not to certify the winners in the two counties.

The certification program of Madam Lansanah and Mr. Brown brought together several supporters of the two independent representatives at the National Elections Commission.

Certificating the candidates of Bomi and Nimba Counties, NEC chairperson Madam Davidetta Browne-Lansanah said the exercise by the

appreciation to the people of Nimba County District #1 and the NEC for the conduct of a free, fair and transparent by-election.

"Samuel N. Brown is not the one that [has] won this election, but the people of District#1," he said.

For her part, Bomi County District #1 Rep. Madam Finda Gborie Lansanah also thanked the people of Bomi County, Sinjeh District for the support given to her.

"I will work with my colleagues at the House of Representatives to see how best that the plight of the people of Bomi and Liberia at large will be held in high esteem," she assured.

USAID's Direct Cash Transfer Program helps over 85,000 vulnerable Liberians cope with economic fallout from COVID-19

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) completed its Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) program today. Launched in October 2020, it helped 85,954 vulnerable Liberians cope with the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic through direct cash payments.

The UCT program assisted micro-entrepreneurs, market traders, smallholder farmers, the rural poor, and others disproportionately affected by the economic fallout from COVID-19.

Each participant in the program received three monthly payments of approximately US\$45, amounting to a total of 2 billion Liberian dollars (approximately US\$11.7 million).

This included 46,844 women, making up 54.5 percent of all UCT recipients. More than 17,000 youth between 15- 29 years of age also received payments.

They account for almost 20 percent of all UCT beneficiaries. Surveys show that more than half of UCT recipients said they used their money to invest in existing businesses. Another quarter of recipients said they spent their money on education for their children and other family members, while the final quarter used the money they

received to buy food and other necessities.

In addition to strengthening the resilience of at-risk Liberians, the UCT program also complemented existing USAID social protection activities by contributing names and contact information to the Government of Liberia

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The UCT program's exclusive use of mobile money to make payments further served to increase confidence among users of the still new

but fast-growing mobile money transfer system in Liberia,

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Gender Minister addresses Dubai Expo 2020

By Kruah Thompson

Liberia's Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection Williametta E. Saydee-Tarr addresses cross sections of participants at the Women's Pavilion Programme Visions and Journeys Event of the 2020 Dubai Expo.

Minister Saydee-Tarr rolled out Liberia's transformative approach in uplifting women as well as

surge in appointment of women to key Cabinet positions; the declaration of free Education in all public schools that has seen the rise in enrollment and retention of girls; the creation of Gender and Social Inclusion Units in various ministries and agencies that are currently blustering gender mainstreaming in the formulation and implementation of government policies and

by directly giving cash to households that are mainly headed by women.

The Gender Boss also touched on the firm commitment and unflinching support from Liberia's Feminist-In-Chief, President George Manneh Weah in achieving gender equality which is the fulcrum of Sustainable Development Goal #5.

Additionally, she shared the Liberian Leader's insistence that gender equality, which is a subset of the Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD), Pillar One, should be mainstreamed and prioritized by all governmental institutions.

Expo 2020 Dubai is being held under the theme, "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future" is a platform for positive collaborative change.

Organizers explain the Expo principles are aligned perfectly with the values of the United Arab Emirate, and with millions of visitors expected both on-site and online, the event will provide a unique opportunity to design and deliver a meaningful programme that accelerates the UAE's collective progress.

The Dubai Expo also provides an opportunity for invited countries to showcase their unique potentials



outlining insidious challenges most Liberian women faced daily.

She also highlights amongst others, the significance of Liberia passing into law the Domestic Violence Act of 2019; the

programs; decline in the number of reported sexual and gender-based violence cases which can be attributed to the launch of the Anti-Sexual and Gender Based Violence Roadmap 2020-2022 and Rural Social Cash Program that is reducing poverty

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Public Works constructs Swedish-funded feeder roads in 3 counties

The Ministry of Public Works with funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) has embarked on construction of feeder roads under the Liberian Swedish Feeder Road Project Phase-3 (LSFRP-3).

The project is being implemented in Bong, Lofa and Nimba Counties, respectively, involving improvement of access roads that has brought about the maintenance of Feeder Roads.

The Village Access Track is founded by the Liberian Swedish Feeder Road Project Phase-3 and co-funded by the German Cooperation for International Development (GIZ) through the GIZ Capacity Development in the Road Transport Sector.

Routine maintenance component of the project is solely founded by the



Liberian Swedish Feeder Roads Project (LSFRP).

It involves upgrading of 20km of footpaths which includes two-three-wheeler motorcycle tracks in Bong County with the

establishment of three (3) Communities Base Organizations (CBO) as sub-contractor.

The footpath upgrading project is an endeavor to

U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission supports 16 days Activism, World AIDS Day

United States Deputy Chief of Mission here, Joel Maybury and USAID Health Office Director Jessica Healey joined the Super Morning Show on State-owned LBS Radio Wednesday, December 01, 2021 to discuss the ongoing 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence campaign and World AIDS Day.

According to a press release, they join the diplomatic community, the Government of Liberia, and civil society organizations in observing the 16 Days campaign, calling for an end to gender-based violence (GBV).

U.S. President Joe Biden

for girls; and growing risk to all forms of GBV, particularly intimate partner violence, female genital mutilation/cutting, homophobic and transphobic violence, including child, early, and forced marriage.

"In Liberia, promoting gender equity and equality is part of everything we do, including but certainly not limited to supporting women entrepreneurs, working with women to fully participate in the electoral cycle, promoting female recruitment and support in the security sector, investing heavily in education for girls, ensuring gender parity of



and Secretary of State Antony Blinken have clearly stated that achieving and protecting human rights for all remains a top goal for the United States. Preventing and responding to GBV is a human rights imperative and one that the U.S. is committed to championing.

The release notes that even before the COVID-19 pandemic, GBV impeded women and girls' free and full participation in society, and that the pandemic has only exacerbated existing gender inequities, including increasing women's economic insecurity; decreasing access to education and safe spaces

reporters at press events, and contributing tens of millions of dollars to strengthening health systems in order for Liberian women and girls to lead healthy, productive, and fulfilling lives."

Deputy Chief of Mission Maybury, speaking to host Sorbor George, said, "Everyone deserves to live a life free from violence and achieve their full potential. Gender-based violence undermines the human rights and fundamental freedoms of far too many people in far too many places. By supporting women and girls, Liberia will see amazing benefits, including in economic

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

further improve rural access and enhance community driven development initiatives as a complemented effort to existing feeder roads network.

It is also part of a larger collaboration between the Ministry of Public Works, SIDA, GIZ, WHH and Swansea University to further establish evidence of impact and development of track construction manual for local and middle level technicians' reference document.

The endeavor follows documentation of evidence of increased impact from an initial pilot undertaken by GIZ, Global Communities, Swansea University and LIDA in 2016, in Nimba County.

Official launch of the Village Tracks Project will be held on 10th December, 2021 in Totota, Bong County for the construction of 300 kilometers of track roads in all three counties with Bong receiving 70km, Lofa 100km and Nimba 130km, respectively.

Français

L'opposant Boakai'a pas de contacts à l'étranger, selon Saah Joseph

Le sénateur du comté de Montserrado, Saah H. Joseph, a envoyé des flèches à l'ancien vice-président Joseph Nyumah Boakai, comme quoi son carnet d'adresses est pauvre.

Selon lui, le président de la Collaboration des partis politiques de l'opposition (CPP) et porte-drapeau du Parti de l'unité (UP) n'a pas de contacts à l'étranger pour solliciter une aide humanitaire pour les Libériens.

S'exprimant brièvement au siège du CDC (le Congrès pour le Changement Démocratique) lors du lancement de la base de données du parti à Congo Town le week-end dernier, M. Joseph a accusé M. Boakai d'avoir sollicité l'aide auprès de ses partenaires aux États-Unis.

Le président de la CPP s'est récemment rendu aux États-Unis à la recherche de partenaires pour soutenir les Libériens.

« Laissez-moi vous dire

quelque chose, la dernière fois que j'étais aux États-Unis, j'ai rendu visite à une organisation et j'ai signé un accord avec eux au nom du gouvernement du Libéria pour nous aider avec des médicaments, jusqu'à ce que nous disions que c'est suffisant. Ils nous ont donné dix conteneurs remplis de médicaments et d'autres équipements médicaux

que j'ai distribués. Et ce sont les mêmes personnes que le leader politique du Parti de l'unité a cherché à rencontrer pour de l'aide humanitaire. Cela veut dire que l'ancien vice-président Boakai manque de soutien international. Un candidat à la présidentielle doit pouvoir

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Le PLP s'en prend au régime Weah et le qualifie d'une honte nationale

Pour le porte-drapeau du Parti de la libération du peuple (PLP), le Dr Daniel E. Cassell, la coalition au pouvoir est une honte pour le pays pour n'avoir pas tenu sa promesse d'apporter le « CHANGEMENT » dans le système politique du Libéria à travers l'Agenda en faveur des pauvres.

Choisi par le PLP le 28 novembre 2021 pour diriger le parti, le Dr Cassell s'en est pris au pouvoir dirigé par le

président George Manneh Weah, l'accusant de ne rien faire pour sortir le peuple de la misère. D'après lui, les Libériens ont souffert d'une nouvelle équipe de personnes honnêtes, nobles, gentilles, et des dirigeants érudits, avisés, pragmatiques, humbles et honorables.

« Quelle honte ! Ces gens nous ont dit qu'ils venaient effectuer un « CHANGEMENT » dans le système politique à travers le soi-disant programme en faveur des pauvres, et mettre fin à des

décennies de mauvaise gestion perpétuelle, mais il s'est avéré que ce programme est un canular », a déclaré le Dr Cassell.

Selon le leader politique du PLP, le peuple est à la recherche des dirigeants capables de libérer le pays et les citoyens de la léthargie de la dépravation historique que le pays continue de subir douloureusement.

« Aujourd'hui, nous observons minutieusement le régime du président George Manneh Weah qui, sans aucune mesure de remords, pille honteusement les ressources de notre pays et plonge notre peuple dans le gouffre bouillonnant de difficultés économiques extrêmes et de dénigrement », a déclaré le Dr Cassell.

Selon le leader politique du PLP, le projet de budget 2022 n'a pas encore réussi à répondre ou à résumer les besoins et aspirations socio-économiques du peuple libérien et ne met pas l'accent sur les domaines prioritaires tels que l'agriculture, la santé, l'éducation, le tourisme et le

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



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

L'opposant Boakai'a pas de contacts

trouver ses propres partenaires, au lieu de courir après des personnes qu'un sénateur a déjà engagées », a dit le sénateur du comté de Montserrado.

Récemment, l'ancien vice-président Boakai a dit sur sa page Facebook avant de venir au Libéria qu'au moment où il mettait fin à sa visite aux États-Unis d'Amérique, il était ravi d'annoncer qu'une énorme livraison de fournitures médicales et d'équipements modernes était en route pour le Libéria.

Boakais'était dit particulièrement heureux d'avoir inspecté l'expédition qui était maintenant prévue pour le départ.

« Je tiens à remercier le président et chef de la direction du PROJET C.U.R.E,

Le PLP s'en prend au régime Weah

divertissement, les infrastructures, et les développements du capital.

« Au lieu de cela, ce budget cherche à enrichir le président et ses confidents comme cela a toujours été le cas depuis l'accession au pouvoir du Congrès pour le changement démocratique (CDC) », a déclaré le Dr Cassell.

Il a affirmé que sous la direction de M. Weah, la corruption et l'impunité ont été institutionnalisées. L'insécurité est devenue quelque chose de normal avec l'augmentation du nombre de meurtres mystérieux et rituels à Monrovia et à travers le pays.

« Nous voyons de jeunes enfants accros à de mauvaises substances médicamenteuses échanger des coups de feu avec les forces de police. Nous voyons nos jeunes filles chercher à survivre dans l'acte dangereux de la prostitution qui leur coûte rapidement de précieuses vies », a dit le Dr Cassell.

Il a déclaré que la pauvreté est en augmentation et que des maladies curables déciment les gens tandis que M. Weah et ses amis aux commandes du pouvoir vivent de manière exorbitante et affichent une opulence absolue sous le regard des citoyens affamés et affligés.

Pour Cassell, le Libéria doit être libéré de cette paralysie, notant que le pays

le Dr Douglas Jackson, ainsi que sa directrice exécutive, Mme Ruth G. Sanchez et sa collègue Mme Vicky Wilson, pour le don à la Fondation Joseph Boakai », a déclaré Boakai.

Depuis 1987, le PROJET C.U.R.E. a livré des fournitures et des équipements médicaux vitaux à des hôpitaux et des cliniques dans 135 pays à travers l'Afrique et d'autres parties du monde en développement.

M. Boakai a déclaré qu'il espérait qu'à son arrivée, ces fournitures médicales vitales et cet équipement médical moderne aideraient les Libériens qui ont désespérément besoin de meilleurs soins de santé à travers le pays.

« Dans tout ce que nous faisons, pensons toujours LIBÉRIA, AIMONS le LIBÉRIA et, ensemble, BÂTISSONS le LIBÉRIA », a dit M. Boakai.

doit être récupéré et racheté de ce fléau éternel de la mauvaise gouvernance et de l'auto-indulgence.

Il a indiqué que les Libériens méritent mieux, et qu'eux aussi ont le droit à de meilleures conditions socio-économiques et à vivre dans la dignité car le Dieu Tout-Puissant a abondamment doté le pays d'une surabondance de ressources naturelles qui, si elles sont exploitées intelligemment, de manière crédible et responsable, pourront faire du Libéria un paradis sur terre.

« Le Libéria, notre cher pays mérite d'être gouverné avec intégrité, responsabilité, transparence, dignité et avec la plus grande compétence pour que la croissance économique et le développement des infrastructures soient réalisés », a déclaré le Dr Cassell.

En effet, a-t-il dit, un leadership solide est ce dont les Libériens ont besoin à ce stade critique.

« Et puis-je dire que le leadership est essentiellement la quintessence pour faire avancer la marche de n'importe quelle nation, et pour le moment, cela fait défaut dans notre pays », a-t-il soutenu.

Le Dr Cassell a déclaré que le PLP est vraiment le parti du peuple qui a certainement les pouvoirs et les compétences idéologiques, professionnelles et intellectuelles ainsi que la volonté politique et les moyens patriotiques d'introduire le Libéria dans un nouveau changement de paradigme de transformation sociale.

COMMENTAIRE

By Hans-werner Sinn

La fin de l'argent gratuit

MUNICH - Bien que la Réserve fédérale américaine envisage désormais de réduire ses achats mensuels d'actifs pour répondre à l'augmentation des chiffres de l'inflation, la présidente de la Banque centrale européenne Christine Lagarde continue d'insister sur le fait qu'il n'existe aucun risque d'inflation durable. L'inflation actuellement mesurée, dit-elle, est un problème temporaire qui disparaîtra une fois les goulets d'étranglement surmontés, de sorte que la BCE ne changera pas ses politiques. C'est comme un cocher qui refuse de tirer sur les rênes lorsque ses chevaux s'emballent, car ils finiront par se fatiguer.

Peu importe que, selon le traité de Maastricht, la BCE soit obligée d'assurer la stabilité des prix en toutes circonstances. Il n'y a aucune disposition prévoyant la possibilité de laisser les prix monter en flèche pendant un certain temps. Et, contrairement à la Fed, la BCE ne peut pas légalement chercher à équilibrer l'objectif de stabilité des prix avec d'autres objectifs de politique monétaire.

Les difficultés d'approvisionnement actuelles doivent beaucoup aux mesures de quarantaine dans les ports - en particulier, mais pas exclusivement, en Chine. Les navires à l'arrivée ne peuvent pas décharger leur cargaison et ne peuvent donc pas non plus être chargés des produits intermédiaires dont l'économie européenne a besoin pour fournir ses clients. Les tarifs de fret pour le transport maritime international ont été multipliés par huit depuis 2019. Mais les goulets d'étranglement reflètent également les blocages imposés au niveau national dans les économies européennes l'hiver et le printemps derniers, qui ont entraîné des pénuries même de bois local et d'autres matériaux de construction produits en Europe.

Ainsi, dans une enquête menée par l'Institut Ifo à l'automne 2021, 70 % des fabricants allemands signalaient des difficultés à s'approvisionner en produits en amont de la chaîne de production. À titre de comparaison, le chiffre le plus élevé jamais atteint au cours des 30 dernières années d'enquêtes était de 20 %. L'Ifo estime que les goulets d'étranglement coûteront à l'Allemagne environ 40 milliards d'euros (45 milliards de dollars) de valeur ajoutée, soit l'équivalent de 1,15% de son PIB, en 2021.

Les difficultés d'approvisionnement ne se sont évidemment pas améliorées avec les énormes plans de relance et de sauvetage que les gouvernements européens ont mis en œuvre pendant la crise de la COVID-19. Le gouvernement fédéral allemand, par exemple, a promulgué des programmes représentant environ 10 % du PIB allemand s'étalant sur deux ans, et l'Union européenne a promulgué des programmes supplémentaires représentant 4,5 % du PIB de l'UE sur deux ans. Ces programmes ont été largement financés par de la nouvelle dette publique, qui à son tour a été immédiatement monétisée par la BCE et donc émise à des taux d'intérêt ultra-bas.

Jamais l'Europe n'avait connu des programmes de relance d'une telle ampleur. Néanmoins, étant donné les difficultés d'approvisionnement, c'est comme si les décideurs politiques appuyaient sur l'accélérateur sans desserrer le frein à main. Le résultat a été une forme particulière de surchauffe économique que les économistes appellent la stagflation.

Les taux d'inflation sont aujourd'hui très élevés non seulement aux États-Unis, où ils se situent à 6,2 %, mais aussi en Europe. En octobre 2021, les prix dans l'ensemble de la zone euro avaient augmenté de 4,1 % sur un an ; en Allemagne, la plus grande économie

du continent, les prix ont augmenté de 4,5%. Et, comme si cela ne suffisait pas, l'Office fédéral allemand de la statistique vient d'annoncer que les prix annuels à la production industrielle étaient en hausse de 18,4% en octobre. Il s'agit de la plus forte augmentation depuis 1951, peu après la création de la République fédérale d'Allemagne, dépassant même le pic mensuel de hausse des prix lors des crises pétrolières des années 1970 (14,6% en juin 1974).

Contrairement à l'indice des biens de consommation, qui ne mesure que les prix des produits finis, les prix à la production industrielle capturent tous les stades intermédiaires de la production. Ils ont donc une certaine signification pronostique pour les prix à la consommation, même si les produits finaux ne présenteront pas des pics aussi extrêmes. (Contrairement à ces derniers, ils ne sont pas affectés par les changements de taxes sur la valeur ajoutée tels que ceux qui se produisent actuellement en Allemagne.)

Ces nouveaux chiffres d'inflation sont si extrêmes que la position de la BCE ressemble à un déni volontaire. L'Allemagne connaît actuellement la plus forte inflation de sa vie. Et la situation n'est guère meilleure dans les autres pays européens. En septembre, la France a signalé une augmentation annuelle de 11,6% des prix à la production industrielle, et ce chiffre s'élevait à 15,6% en Italie, 18,1% en Finlande, 21,4% aux Pays-Bas et 23,6% en Espagne.

Pire, ces augmentations ne semblent pas être un phénomène temporaire. Même si les difficultés d'approvisionnement seront probablement surmontées d'ici l'été prochain, les syndicats auront alors augmenté leurs revendications salariales pour tenir compte des chiffres de l'inflation de cette année. Cela déclenchera une spirale de hausse des prix et des salaires qui pourrait se poursuivre pendant plusieurs années. Les achats de biens de consommation durables seront tirés vers le haut, ce qui accélérera encore l'inflation.

De plus, même lorsque la première vague d'inflation commencera à refluer, peut-être dès l'automne prochain, de nouveaux dangers se profileront. Si la BCE hésite à suivre les hausses de taux d'intérêt prévisibles de la Réserve fédérale américaine, l'euro se dépréciera, faisant encore grimper les prix des importations. Le passage à la retraite de la génération du baby-boom implique de nombreux consommateurs supplémentaires qui ne soutiennent plus la production et créent donc un excédent de demande inflationniste. Du côté des coûts, la suppression progressive de tous les combustibles fossiles - et des centrales nucléaires en Allemagne - sera un moteur majeur de croissance des prix. Il faut peu d'imagination pour voir comment l'Europe pourrait se retrouver dans un environnement d'inflation tenace semblable aux années 1970, qui pourrait perdurer le reste de la décennie et au-delà.

Dans ces circonstances, les économies européennes et la BCE doivent recevoir un signal clair pour arrêter toute nouvelle frénésie de dette monétisée. Si les décideurs politiques veulent détourner l'argent de l'économie à leurs fins, ils devraient être obligés de réduire d'autres dépenses d'un montant comparable. Si le système de freinage via les taux d'intérêt ne fonctionne plus parce que la BCE n'assume plus son rôle, il sera remplacé par un mécanisme d'éviction directe via les prix des biens.

Quoi qu'il en soit, la poussée inflationniste d'aujourd'hui marque la fin de la chimère des ressources créées à partir de rien. La belle vie financée par la planche à billet de la zone euro est définitivement révolue.

UL faculties disengage again

Despite an assurance from the Government of Liberia to increase salaries of members of the University of Liberia Faculty Association (ULFA), the local premiere university staffers have issued a communique to announcing their disengagement from all academic activities at the university.

ULFA in a statement announced that it has disengaged from all academic activities as of Wednesday, 1 December 2021, despite government's intervention and commitment to commence addressing the association's key demands contained in a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

ULFA reached the decision at a special general assembly on the University of Liberia (UL) Capitol Hill campus presided over by the association's president Dr. Edna Johnny.

Multiple sources knowledgeable about a meeting with ULFA on Wednesday, 1 December have revealed to the NewDawn newspaper that Finance Minister Samuel Tweah was on the university campus and signed an MOU with ULFA which is on course for implementation.

Minister Tweah, according to multiple sources, sought to avert the imminent faculty boycott of all academic

administrators and PhD professors and other instructors (salary harmonization). This has been done, saving 800,000 from administration to apply to teachers.

But the cost, according to sources, is \$3.5m and the government has agreed to find additional \$2m beginning 1

pay by Friday, 3 December 2021, according to sources.

Despite their big demands being treated given this information on Wednesday, our sources said ULFA however chose to lay down chalk.

Meanwhile, this paper has been informed that the Tweah has called for a transparent



January 2022. With this new intervention by the government, it means a typical Master's degree five years instructor will get USD 470 more. The deal was said to have been sealed on during a meeting with ULFA Wednesday.

Sealed also was payment of back pay from former UL President Dr. Ophelia Inez

assessment of UL revenue and expenditure next Wednesday. All revenue streams will be compared to expenditures, our sources said.

Further, the Finance Minister is also said to have agreed to take over UL payroll, something which ULFA is said to have already demanded.

Going forward, our sources added, a certain fraction of free tuition payment will be assigned to solve issues affecting faculty.

Some knowledgeable about the meeting suggest that the ULFA president Dr. Johnny has worked hard, but it seems she is up against people who have other aims.

ULFA's resolution adopted at the special general assembly Wednesday said faculty members present at the special general assembly lamented the willful delay on the part of the Government and UL Administration to adhere to the implementation of the MoU signed on 1 October 2021 for the first two months (October and November 2021) deliverables in accordance with the timelines indicated in the MoU.

ULFA said the two months deliverables include, but not limited to salaries and allowances disparity among faculty members as well as disparities between faculty and administrative staff.

They also cited salary increment for faculty members; Part-time faculty back pay; Part-time faculty current semester salaries; and unpaid data package for

activities through continuous negotiations, but they went ahead with their plan despite signing the document.

Key elements of the MOU are said to include reforming the pay scale to end disparity between higher pay UL

Weeks' time. ULFA said the administration owes them \$850,000, but the government had settled with them on payment of US\$700,000.

The government has already processed 500,000 of that and is processing the other 200,000 to

Businessman Quaye donates

Starts from back page

Marshall.

Philip Kangar on behalf of the Entertainment Committee of the Bassa Sports Association appreciated the gesture, terming it as the best way forward.

Kangar encouraged others to help support Grand Bassa for this year's County Sports Meet.

As it stands, Victor Quaye is the first individual citizen to contribute huge money to the

Bassa Sports Association since the process started this year.

The County Sports Meet is an annual tournament that brings together all 15 counties of Liberia to participate in various sports, including football, basketball, handball, and Tennis, among others. The games provide an opportunity to spot young talents for the National Team, the Lone Star. -

Editing by Jonathan Browne

Gender Minister addresses

Cont'd from page 7

through display of their cultural heritage, innovation and business opportunities.

At this year's event, the Liberian delegation is headed by the Minister of State Without Portfolio, Trokon Kpui. Others are: Information Minister Ledgerhood Rennie, Labour Minister Cllr. Charles Gibson, Acting Public Works Minister Ruth C. Collins, Maritime Commissioner Eugene Nagbe, Liberia's

Culture Ambassador Julie Endee, and Liberia News Agency Director General Kwame Oldpa Weeks, amongst others.

Minister Williametta E. Saydee-Tarr is being accompanied by her Deputy Minister for Research, Planning and Policy - Hassan Karneh and Assistant Minister for Administration, Mamensie Kabba. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

U.S. Deputy Chief

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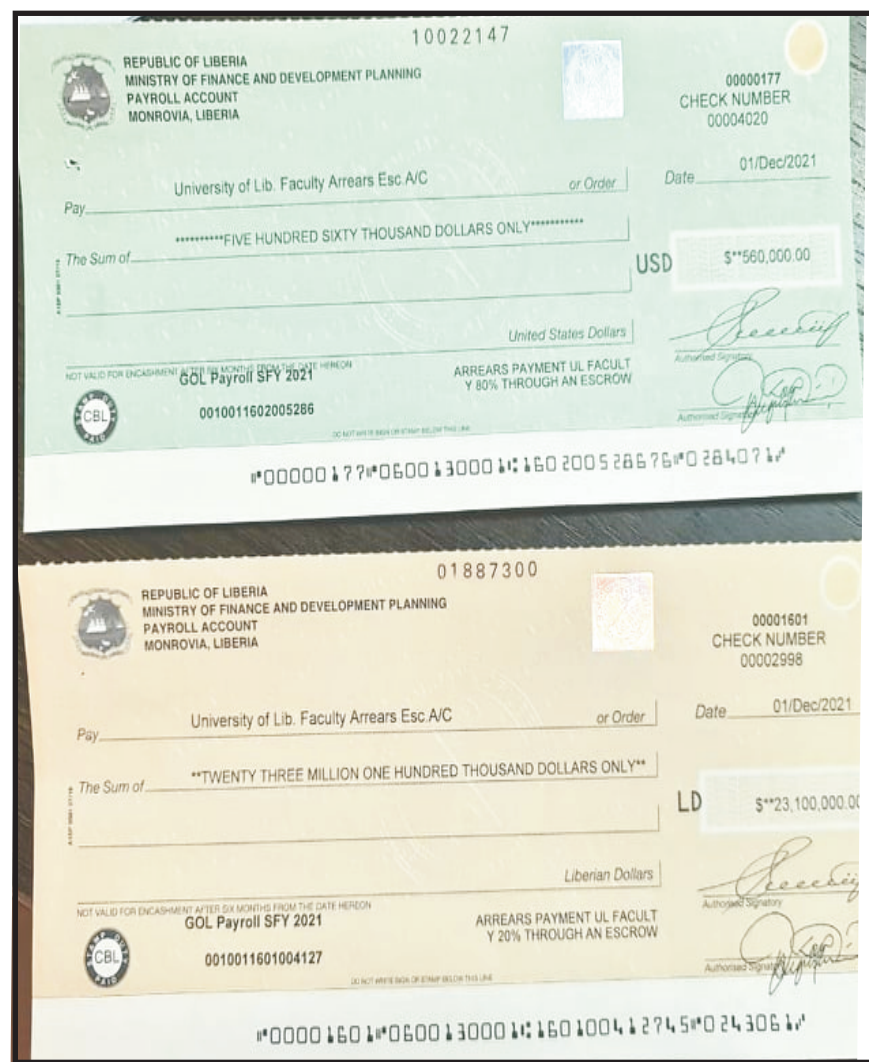
well-being, health, and security."

USAID Health Office Director Healey spoke about how the United States, through the President's Emergency Program for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), is assisting Liberia in achieving sustained epidemic control of HIV by supporting equitable health services, strengthening the national health system and capabilities, and through its enduring collaboration with the Ministry of Health and civil society organizations.

The PEPFAR-Liberia country program is led by USAID, the

U.S. Department of Defense, and our Health Resources and Services Administration office. The U.S. Government plans on spending US\$10 million dollars across all our agencies next year to address HIV and AIDS issues in Liberia.

Last year, PEPFAR supported over 13,500 people living with HIV in Liberia with high quality treatment services. Its goal for this year is to almost double that and support over 22,000 people, which represents more than 50 percent of the total number of persons living with HIV in the country. -Press Release



some faculty members.

Additionally, ULFA lamented about Backlog in Social Security Remittance; Addressing the deplorable sanitary condition on the campuses of the University of Liberia; and the commitment to fully implement the MoU.

In the resolution, the association said its gathering was in line with its Constitution and By-Laws as enshrined in Article 8 Section 1 and 2.

ULFA said the special general assembly had in attendance over 150 faculty members during which Dr. Johnny briefed members on

the status of the MoU signed between the Government of Liberia, UL Administration, and ULFA on 1 October 2021.

"Wherefore, after extensive deliberations around the above issues by faculty members at the Special General Assembly, the body overwhelmingly resolved to disengage from all academic activities as of the date of this resolution until all its demands are met as stipulated in the October 1, 2021, MoU," the resolution said.

Following ULFA's decision, UL students went on the rampage and had exchanges with riot police.

Taylor sues ex-TRC commissioner

Dr. Agnes Reeves - Taylor, ex-wife of imprisoned former Liberian President Charles Ghankay Taylor, has filed a lawsuit demanding over US\$1m in damages for libel against the erstwhile Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) former Commissioner Madam Massa A. Washington who allegedly published fake information to expose the complainant to public hatred.

Dr. Reeves - Taylor, now working as Executive Director, Liberia Institute of Policy Studies and Research,

alleged fake information was broadcasted and circulated on the internet and in print media by some local dailies on 13 October 2021.

The Civil Law Court has ordered defendant Washington to appear before it on 20 December 2021.

Dr. Reeves - Taylor complains that she has suffered serious mental anguish and humiliation to the effect that the public looks upon her as one who does not portray or possess the kind of moral rectitude to be an international public servant.

She said the publication has

and that she had her older sister Laurice Reeves, a former Liberian broadcast journalist (prewar) and former NPFL Press Secretary to the complainant when Dr. Reeves - Taylor was "First Lady of Greater Liberia during the war.

The complainant noted that Madam Washington indicated that she was being assisted by her sister Laurice to "fight back.

Further, she said Madam Washington cited other media outlets and Facebook as her (Reeves - Taylor's) platform for getting their message out.

"Laurice is at the head of the media campaign aimed at discrediting Hassan Bility. The siblings, who are known to be very close, are united in their goal to get back at Hassan Bility," Dr. Reeves - Taylor's complaint quotes Madam Washington as saying.

She said she has been accused by Madam Washington of allegedly orchestrating a smear campaign against Bility aimed at making him pay for being part of a process that saw her lose her opulent lifestyle in the United Kingdom and incarcerated in British prison for more than two years.

But Dr. Reeves - Taylor contends that Madam Washington's allegations are devoid of any iota of truth, challenging her to produce a simple truth to support her allegations against the complainant.

She complains that Madam Washington's scandalous publications which insinuated that "Attacks Against GJRP's Hassan Bility are Coordinated, Purposeful and should be condemned," which was published both on electronic and print media was intended to damage her good reputation and adversely impact her credibility in the performance of her interactions and dealings with others in Liberia and abroad.



University of Liberia (UL), says in the complaint before the Civil Law Court that Madam Washington's actual motive and sinister intent [is] to lower her person in the high esteem of her colleagues.

She said the publications are found wanting, contrary to law, and therefore demands damages from defendant Washington in the sum of US\$1,500,000.00 for libelous statements uttered by the accused.

She laments that the publications have substantially injured her hard-earned reputation after the

also made the public to look upon her as one who does not have the moral to transact business with the public for which damages must lie.

In addition to the 13 October publication, Dr. Reeves - Taylor said the defendant also insinuated and was partly quoted as saying that following her return to Liberia, she (Reeves - Taylor) called a press conference on 27 July 2020, and proudly referred to herself as "Mother" of the NPFL Revolution [National Patriotic Front of Liberia].

She added that Madam Washington asserted that she (complainant) promptly and sternly called out Hassan Bility

USAID's Direct Cash

Cont'd from page 6

the program on behalf of USAID.

GiveDirectly used the 2016 Liberia Household Income and Expenditure Surveys to help determine UCT beneficiaries. In particular, GiveDirectly focused on districts that the surveys identified as having the highest percentage of households living in absolute poverty in the six counties where USAID does most of its development work in Liberia: Bong, Grand Bassa, Lofa, Margibi, Montserrado, and Nimba.

GiveDirectly also determined vulnerable Liberians eligible for UCT payments by partnering with NGOs engaged in poverty reduction work to identify individuals most affected by the economic impact of COVID-19. The UCT program coordinated closely with the Ministry of Finance and

Development Planning and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to ensure processes developed by and lessons learned from the program are available to the Government of Liberia for use in its ongoing efforts to develop a broader social protection system and database for identifying potential beneficiaries.

19 suspects face

Cont'd from page 6

communities and hire criminals to attack people and take properties from the victims.

In their complaints, police said, victims Mohammed Barry, Zachariah Sheriff and WurieJalloh alleged that on 23 November around 11:20 a.m. while they were at their respect businesses in Kuwait, Duala, they saw a group of unidentified men armed with guns, cutlasses and rocks, running after police officers.

The victims alleged that the suspects damaged a police vehicle, set tires ablaze and started to break into their shops, wounding Barry on the left hand in the process and taking away several valuable items.

The accused allegedly took away from Barry 15 pieces of assorted button phones valued US\$150; 12 pieces of standing fan valued US\$300; four pieces

of room speakers valued US\$220.00; assorted goods and DVD players; and a cash of US\$98,000.

Also, victim Zachariah Sheriff is alleged to have lost to the suspects 78 pieces of assorted button phones; 40 pieces of assorted smart phones and cash of US\$98,000. Victim WurieJalloh is said to have also lost an unspecified amount of cash.

Following the incident on 23 November, the Liberia National Police issued a press statement that same day, accusing alleged criminals of opening fire on members of the joint security that included the police, Liberia Drugs Enforcement Agency, Liberia Immigration Service and the Monrovia City Police.

The suspects allegedly injured one officer of the Monrovia City Corporation, the police authorities said.

Bong Supt. ordered bush school closed!

By Thomas Domah,
Nimba County

Bong County Superintendent Esther Walker gives operators of all Poro and Sande (traditional schools) institutions in Bong County up to December 5, 2021 to halt operation.

Superintendent Walker says her action followed a recent tour of various school campuses in the county when she observed school-age girls and boys abandoning school for traditional education.

Report says students who

left school to attend the Poro and Sande institutions across the country are in their thousands.

"I called you people my traditional Zoes and school administrators, among others to a day's meeting", Superintendent Walker said recently in Gbarnga, Bong County.

The New Dawn reporter at the meeting said after the forum, Superintendent Esther Walker gave operators of traditional school up to 5 December to shut down amid speculations that President George Weah is due in Bong County on December 10,

2021.

The New Dawn gathers that over 300 women have reportedly died in bush schools in Nimba County from harsh conditions meted against them, including female genital mutilation (FGM) during the course of the Bush School that took place in several parts of the county.

The Government of Liberia and the international community vehemently opposed dangerous practices of FGM and want it abolished, but traditional people in the country are yet to obey said



order.

Reports also had it that inspectors posted in various counties allegedly receive bribes from traditional people and allow them to operate bush schools were girl and boys as young as three to five years, are enrolled and taught issues of life, including war lessons.

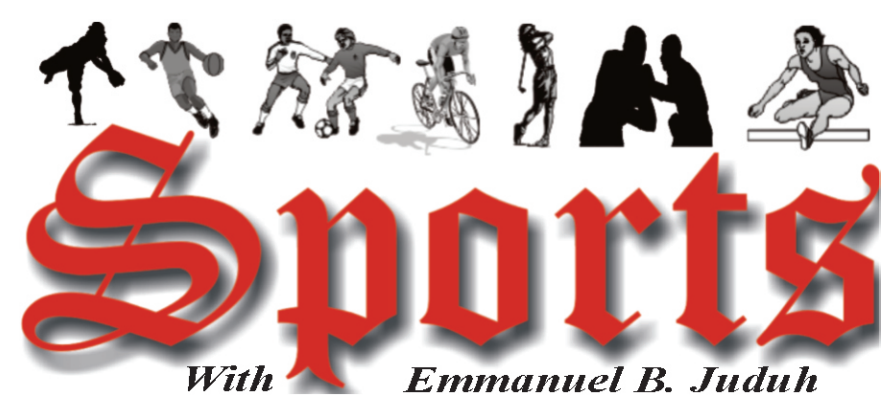
The bush schools include Poro and Sande - the former for men and boys and the latter for

women and girls. Lessons taught among others include hunting, farming, caring and defending the family - for males, and cooking, caring for future husbands, babies and family members - for females, respective.

Graduates of bush school come out prepared for marriage and raising families. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

The New Dawn

French Version Inside
TRULY INDEPENDENT



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Businessman Quaye donates US\$500 to Grand Bassa team



Mr. Victor Quaye

money to a member of the Entertainment Committee of the Bassa Sports Association Philip Kangar on Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

He told the committee that the cash is his initial contribution to the county, as it prepares to participate in 2021/2022 National County Sports Meet scheduled for Margibi County.

“As a son of Grand Bassa, I want to let the Bassa Sports Association know that you’re welcome to use my facilities to raise funds for our county”, Mr. Quaye said, and adds “If the county needs cars for fund raising , call upon me to use some of my cars for the mobilization.”

Victor Quaye is proprietor of Bless One Executive Hotel and water company in

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

By: Naneka Hoffman

A prominent son of Grand Bassa County, Victor Quaye aka

‘Bless One’ has contributed 500 United States Dollars to the Bassa Sports Association.

Mr. Quaye presented the



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