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P11



Cummings blames CPP defeat on crisis

-As he gets acquainted with LP officials in Rivercess

McGill launches Gov't scholarship in Bassa

-Nets US\$1 million in fund drive



P10

3G good



4G better



everywhere you go

Dial *352#



Continental News

Pope condemns treatment of migrants in Europe

The Pope has denounced "narrow self-interest and nationalism" over the way Europe treats migrants.

Speaking on the Greek island of Lesbos, where he met dozens of migrants, Pope Francis said they were being used for political propaganda.

He urged focus on the causes of migration, such as "forgotten wars", instead of punishing those who feel their effects.

And he criticised the building of walls to keep people out.

"In Europe there are those who persist in treating the problem as a matter that does not concern them - this is tragic," he said. "History teaches us that narrow self-interest and nationalism lead to disastrous consequences."

While the coronavirus pandemic had shown that major challenges had to be confronted together and there were some signs of this happening on climate change, there was little sign

of such an approach to migration, he said.

"It is easy to influence public opinion by instilling fear of the other," Pope Francis said.

"The remote causes should be attacked, not the poor people who pay the consequences and are even used for political propaganda."

The Pope cited war, economic agreements "where the people have to pay" and the flow of

weapons as factors leading people to seek a better life elsewhere. This was a speech delivered in front of refugees but aimed squarely at political leaders across the European continent. The Pope's words betrayed frustration at what he sees as the failure of politicians to adequately address the migrant issue.

His message of compassion

for asylum seekers is not new but his language on Lesbos was exceptionally forthright.

Pope Francis was speaking against the backdrop of pushbacks of migrants at sea - including close to Lesbos - and on European land borders, as well as the erection of fences to prevent them reaching the EU.

Will his words make any difference? They certainly inject a powerfully compassionate element in a debate so often framed in the language of fear.

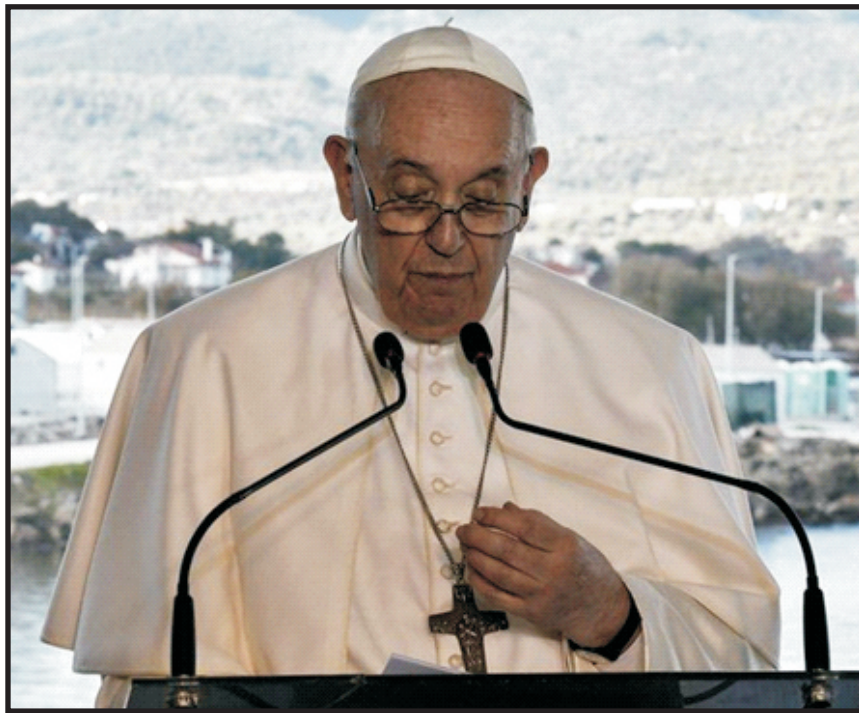
But there is very little political appetite in Europe to liberalise the migration system. Nor is there any sign of the kind of global political will to address the problems of conflict and extreme poverty which drive so many to flee their homes. The number of people entering Europe reached a high point in 2015, when more than a million people fleeing the Syrian civil war and other crises made the journey. Since then numbers have fallen as nations along migrant routes closed borders. The EU also agreed a deal to return failed asylum seekers to

Turkey and has provided support for the Libyan coastguard to pick up people who set off to sea. Last month 27 people died when their inflatable dinghy sank in the Channel between France and the UK. The number of people attempting the crossing has been growing, with more than 26,000 people arriving in the UK so far this year, more than double last year's total.

Several people have also died in freezing temperatures attempting to cross into Poland from Belarus, which denies accusations it has been orchestrating the crisis at its border to destabilise the EU.

And 1,650 people are recorded by the International Organization for Migration as having gone missing while attempting to cross the Mediterranean this year. Francis said he understood that there was a lot of "fatigue and frustration" over migration that had been exacerbated by the pandemic, but warned that without change there was a risk that civilisation itself would find itself "shipwrecked".

"Let us eradicate the prevailing mentality revolving around our ego and personal and national egoisms which determine every decision we take," he said. BBC



Gambians vote under ex-president's looming shadow

Gambians are voting in their first election since the former President Yahya Jammeh left office and fled the country in 2017. Six presidential candidates, including the incumbent Adama Barrow, are running.

The election is seen as a litmus test for the West African nation's democratic transition.

Some 960,000 voters,

almost half of the country's population, are eligible to cast ballots.

Unemployment, economic recovery from the impact of the Covid pandemic, and whether Mr Jammeh should return from exile have been the central issues in the campaign.

Long queues have formed outside several polling stations, but many voters are not wearing masks or observing social distancing measures, the BBC's

Thomas Naadi in the capital, Banjul, reports.

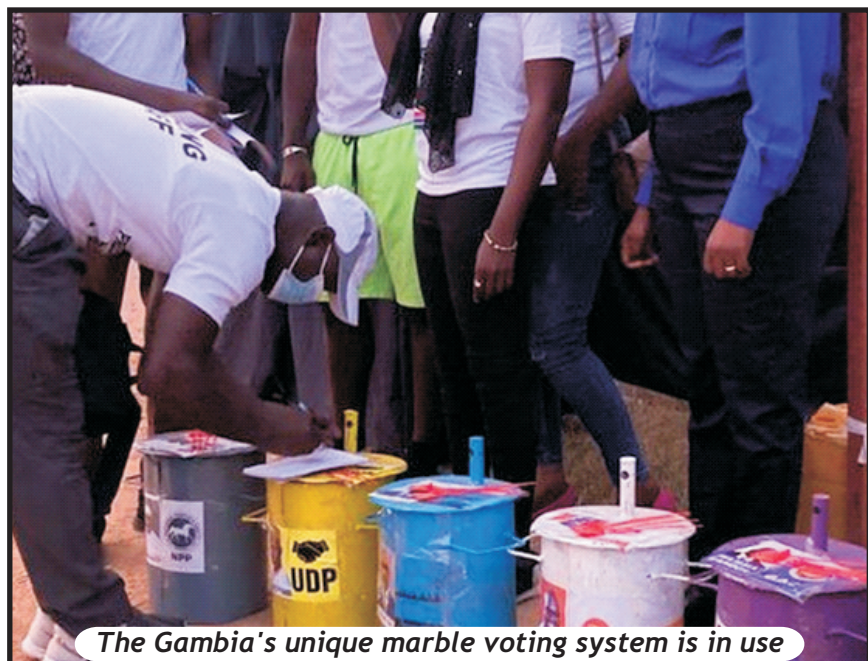
The Gambia's unique marble voting system - introduced in 1965 because of the country's high illiteracy rate - is still being used.

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. Mr Jammeh fled into exile in Equatorial Guinea following his shock defeat in 2017. Last week President Barrow received a long-delayed government report on alleged abuses under his 22-year rule.

Hundreds of witnesses told the truth commission of state-backed executions squads and other rights violations including Aids patients being forced to take bogus cures. Mr Barrow has promised to ensure justice for the victims.

The truth commission's



The Gambia's unique marble voting system is in use

Bus carrying choir members plunges into Kenya river



A witness captured the accident on video

At least 23 people have drowned after a bus travelling to a wedding plunged into a flooded river in Kenya.

Video footage shows the bus was swept away after the driver tried to cross fast-flowing water over a bridge in the Enziu River, about 200km (125 miles) east of the Kenyan capital, Nairobi.

The bus had been hired to transport church choir members.

Four of the dead were children and a least 12 people have been rescued, local reports say.

However, it is unclear how many people were in the bus at

the time. The driver was not familiar with the route and the bridge over the river in Mwingi, Kitui county, local news site the Standard reports.

The governor of Kitui Charity Ngilu said the "terrible" accident happened on Saturday morning.

She added that 23 bodies had been recovered but added that more were still stuck in the bus and that recovery operations would continue on Sunday.

Unusual heavy rains have been falling in many parts of Kenya recently, including in some drought-hit regions where domestic and wild animals have died because of lack of pasture. BBC

report sets the scene for a showdown between the two men, who have already

abandoned a controversial pre-election deal their parties announced in September. BBC

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.

COMMENTARY

By Mohamed A. El-erian

Can the Fed Overcome Its Transitory Policy Mistake?

CAMBRIDGE - It took way too long, but key officials at the US Federal Reserve have finally acknowledged that for months they mischaracterized an inflationary surge that has proven larger and more persistent than they expected. That recognition is welcome, especially given the likelihood that inflation will remain uncomfortably high in the coming months. The challenge now, not just for the Fed but also more broadly for the United States and other major economies, is to navigate a policy terrain in which communication and implementation have been rendered significantly more complex by a fundamental misreading of inflation as "transitory."

That initial characterization of inflation earlier this year was understandable. From March to May, in particular, strong base effects were at work, because inflation in the year-earlier period had been suppressed by the lockdown of the global economy in response to COVID-19. In addition, policymakers hoped that markets would quickly resolve the initial mismatch between robust demand and lagging supply as the economy continued to open up.

By summer, it was clear to some of us that such transitory factors were being accompanied by longer-term issues. Firms were detailing the persistent nature of the disruptions in their supply chains. Labor shortages were multiplying, adding to the cost-push drivers of inflation. Few, if any, companies expected these two issues to be resolved any time soon - and said so on one earnings call after another.

But, rather than revisit its initial inflation call in light of the data, the Fed doubled down. Transitory went from meaning a few months to a few quarters, with some commentators and officials even embracing the concepts of "extended transitory," "persistent transitory," and "rolling transitory." In the process, they lost sight of the analytics of a transitory phenomenon.

Something transitory is widely regarded as temporary and quickly reversible. As such, economic agents - whether consumers, producers, or wage earners - see no reason to change their behavior. Instead, they "look through" the phenomenon.

But by the end of the summer, it became clear that behavior on the ground was changing, especially as inflation continued its steady ascent (to 6.2% for the headline consumer price index in October and 4.1% for the core personal consumption expenditures price index, the Fed's preferred gauge). Yet, consistent with classic behavioral traps, the Fed remained wedded to a transitory concept, with Chair Jerome Powell insisting again in the last week of November that "inflation will move down significantly over the next year."

Many rightly note that the Fed does not have the tools to unblock supply chains or increase labor-force participation. But if the Fed had maintained even longer this transitory inflation mindset, it risked unleashing another strong driver of future price increases - that of unanchored inflation expectations. And while this would not mean a return to the double-digit inflation rates of the 1970s, it would result in the persistence of inflation rates significantly above what the economy and financial markets are safely wired for.

The later the Fed is in reacting properly to inflationary developments, the greater the likelihood that - by having to hit the policy brakes hard - it will end up being the main cause of the transitory inflation pattern on which unfortunately it had bet part of its credibility. But in being proved right in this way, the Fed would risk a damaging domestic recession, market volatility, and destabilizing spillovers for the global economy.

Such a pattern is familiar to economic historians. Caught behind the inflation curve, the Fed scrambles to tighten monetary policy abruptly, hitting demand hard and pulling the rug from under firms that are looking to hike prices and keep them high. Many workers lose their jobs, robbing labor of its bargaining power. And markets go through bouts of destabilizing illiquidity, risking adverse spillbacks to an already struggling economy.

This risk scenario is particularly worrisome for more vulnerable segments of the population. Having already had to deal with higher prices that affect large portions of their weekly budgets, they would also face the risk of unemployment and the income loss that comes with it. Besides the unnecessary damage to economic well-being, there would also be negative sociopolitical and institutional effects.

It is therefore encouraging that, on the very last day of November, Powell made a sudden inflation U-turn and stated that it was time to "retire" the transitory characterization. The Fed must now follow up by doing two things quickly. First, as part of an urgent effort to regain the credibility that is essential for its forward policy guidance and operational independence, it should publicly detail why it got its inflation call wrong and what is being done to avoid similar slippages in the future. Second, the Fed must move a lot faster in tapering its monthly asset purchases. Easing its foot off a stimulus policy accelerator that is still essentially in a "pedal to the metal" mode will help to mitigate the risk that the Fed will have to slam on the policy brakes in a disorderly manner in mid-2022.

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OPINION

By William A. Haseltine

Buckling Up for Omicron

Although widespread vaccination against COVID-19 remains the top priority, the emergence of the Omicron variant indicates that additional lines of defense are needed. The most promising complement by far lies in new-generation monoclonal antibody treatments.

BOSTON - As yet another new SARS-CoV-2 variant emerges and begins to spread - one with a worryingly large set of mutations that may make the virus more capable of evading our immune defenses - we are all being forced to reassess the strategies we have come to rely on for protection.

In many countries, like the United States, vaccines have been viewed as the primary ring of protection, allowing Americans to live in relative security from the virus. But the more we learn about the virus's ability to dodge and elude the early lines of immune-system defense, the more obvious the need for additional measures becomes.

Instead of relying on a single layer of protection, we should adopt a "belt-and-suspenders" approach. Vaccines remain the primary ring of support - the belt keeping our protective pants on straight. But we would do well to add a set of suspenders for additional support, just in case the belt breaks under mounting pressure from the virus. Based on what we know, our best bet lies with the wider use of monoclonal antibodies for early treatment of COVID-19 and for long-term prevention and protection from the disease.

To see the importance of this approach, imagine a long-term care home in which one resident tests positive for COVID-19, or a ship or submarine at sea, where there would be no possibility of relief from continual and intense exposure in the event of an outbreak. If the people in these congregate settings were immediately administered a single dose of monoclonal antibody treatment, the odds of an infection in that group leading to severe disease would be reduced by up to 70%. And beyond protection from disease, the single dose would also have a powerful preventive effect for future infection, providing ongoing protection for up to eight months (depending on the therapy used).

As is the case for most antiviral drugs, monoclonal antibodies will need to be tailored to counter the particular strains circulating at any given moment. But the benefit remains: a single dose could protect people for up to eight months with no additional pills and no additional doses required. Consider what this intervention could mean for all the people in congregate living settings or at higher risk of severe disease. If you are older, morbidly obese, immunocompromised, or unable to mount an immune response after vaccination, new data show that you are much more likely than your healthier, vaccinated counterparts to have not only a breakthrough infection but also a more severe illness. This single injection could still save you.

Moreover, we already have a very good understanding of the potential adverse effects of monoclonal antibody treatments. All are manageable, which is more than can be said of the antiviral pill molnupiravir, which is currently before the FDA for emergency-use approval. Its potential side effects, heatedly discussed among the FDA experts who issued a very narrow approval, include potential birth defects and the possible mutagenesis of the virus itself, essentially supercharging the virus's ability to create highly mutated variants. The side effects of other pills awaiting further study are still unknown.

The challenge with applying the belt-and-suspenders approach in the past has been the cost of production and the burden of delivery of first-generation monoclonal antibodies. Initially, the therapies could be administered only intravenously, in a clinical setting, over a period of hours. To be effective, the dose needed to be delivered shortly after symptoms appeared and before severe illness set in. Between the high costs and the extra administrative demand placed on overburdened health-care systems, this treatment option simply could not have been applied broadly as a preventive tool. Instead, it was limited to the select few who could both afford and access the required facilities.

But now there is a new generation of antibody treatments that can be administered by injection in a nonclinical setting, at a cost of roughly \$400 per gram (according to my conversations with Indian manufacturers of monoclonal antibodies). At that price, a single dose should cost no more than \$500 (while still allowing room for profit). Admittedly, \$500 is a relatively steep price if the treatment is used broadly as a means of prevention. Nonetheless, it is far lower than the thousands of dollars a single IV infusion costs, and it pales in comparison to the cost of caring for a person hospitalized with COVID-19. Either way, these treatments offer a compelling return on investment.

What we need now is the same kind of rapid mobilization that delivered safe and highly effective COVID-19 vaccines in record time. That feat was made possible by a coordinated effort between government, global pharmaceutical manufacturers, and health-care payers to streamline the supply chain, improve the speed of delivery, and ensure affordability and accessibility for all those potentially in need.

COVID-19 testing also should be made more accessible, especially in congregate living settings, but also for individuals in general. Antibody testing for those at high risk should become commonplace.

Omicron's emergence demonstrates that SARS-CoV-2 still has many tricks up its sleeve, the likes of which we may not even be able to imagine. Early tests suggest that monoclonal antibodies are holding up against the new variant. This is promising news, as is the news that the White House will create monoclonal antibody strike teams to administer the lifesaving treatment. While sartorial observers counsel against wearing a belt and suspenders together, public health calls for precisely such an approach.

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 envelop, print:
"SEALED BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF DESKTOP COMPUTERS"
REF: IFB No.: UL/NCB/010/2021

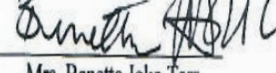
Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address

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

Procurement Department
Administrative Complex Building
Fendall Campus
Louisiana, Liberia

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

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

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

Reviewed
Jamil
Kamaryah
Jallah
11/08/21

McGill launches GoL scholarship program to Bassa



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

LANSA calls on Legislature to speedily enact the ATT Act

The Liberia Action Network on Small Arms (LANSA), with support from its mother coalition (Control Arms) has partnered with the Small Arms Commission and held an engagement with the Legislature for the speedy

During an inception meeting with the Chairman and Leadership of the Small Arms Commission on the project (Ready to Engage), the Executive Secretary of LANSA, T. Nicholas Faryombo informed the Commission that it was important for a further

on Small Arms (LiNCSA) and other partners in holding meetings with all stakeholders including the Legislature to have these instruments passed into law.

He furthered that the two separate meetings held with the Legislative Committees on Security and Defense and, the Media and CSO were all intended to create awareness on the ATT and stakeholders actions to comply with the ATT.

He said, the meetings renewed participant's commitments, including the Legislature to ensure that the draft laws are fast tracked for passage.

The LANSA Executive Secretary intoned that separate remarks during the engagement meetings realized stakeholders' interest in Liberia's compliance with the international arms instrument.

Earlier in the meeting during the project's inception meeting, he said, the Chairman of the Small Arms Commission, Atty. Maxwell Grigsby, acknowledged the efforts and supports of national and international partners in having the

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



passage of the draft UN Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

During the meeting, LANSA presented its perspective to the Legislature, something the Arms Advocacy Civil Society Organization (CSO) group believes the Legislature can act on.

collaboration to engage the Legislature.

Mr. Faryombo, who headed the implementation of the project during the meeting assured that his institution will continue its relationship with the Liberia National Commission

President Weah Hails PPCC's Annual Procurement Forum

President George Manneh Weah, has hailed the three days annual procurement forum organized by the Public Procurement and Concession Commission (PPCC) that witnessed the convergence of people from the public and private sectors in Liberia, which was intended to identify challenges, implementation, support for electronic procurement system and shortcomings of PPC Act of 2010.

Speaking at the Third Annual PPCC Forum recently at the Ministerial Complex, President Weah pledged his government's support for reform and full compliance of procurement laws in Liberia to help improve the country's governance rating; but cautioned PPCC staff to continue on the path of integrity and fairness, which is commendable for the country's image.



According to the Liberian leader, the importance of PPCC in reviewing and making assessments of what needs to be done to improve effectiveness, as the commission plays a cardinal role to bring integrity to

the overall governance process of Liberia.

He mentioned that the essential work of PPCC cannot be overemphasized in Liberia's economic and political governance process

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Chief Zanzan Karwor pleads for calm

By Lincoln G. Peters

Chief Zanzan Karwor, chair of the National Chiefs and Elders Council of Liberia (NACCEL) has appealed to the traditional chiefs and elders of Lofa County to be calm.

The local chiefs and elders in Lofa have been agitating over the row between their son and Liberia's former defense Minister J. Brownie Samukai and the Government of Liberia which has stalled his certification since being elected Lofa Senator in December 2020.

Samukai has been found guilty of corruption over the handling of soldiers' personal pension saving funds, but he

office in Central Monrovia that if the government makes available the money for the meeting, they will use their traditional cola nut to stop the problem in Lofa County.

"This meeting is a four-day meeting that is expected to be held in Gbarnga, Bong County for all the chiefs and elders from Lofa County. We want to put a total end to all the noise in the county," he said.

"We should stop the violence and also stop challenging government because we all are part of the government and they will leave and another will come," Chief Karwor added.

Recently, traditional devils



won the senatorial election ahead of his sentencing.

Following recent disturbing events in Lofa by the local chiefs there, Chief Karwor said he has presented a budget to the Government of Liberia to convene a special meeting in Gbanga, Bong County to stop the crisis between Senator-elect Samukai and the government.

Chief Karwor said the budget has been presented through the Ministry of Internal Affairs headed by Minister Varney Sirleaf so that all parties can sit at a round table to find a solution to the Samukai issue.

He told a press conference over the weekend that at his

blocked the St. Paul Bridge that links Lofa and Bong Counties, thereby preventing citizens and other commuters from using the route to do their normal business.

The traditional devils through an interpreter, gave the Government of Liberia one week grace period to certificate Mr. Samukai as Senator of Lofa County.

They threatened to move in town if the government fails to do so.

Following the traditional devils' statement, the government through the Ministry of Internal Affairs speedily

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

to ensure value for taxpayers and donor funds.

President Weah noted that Public Procurement and Concession Commission (PPCC) has managed to ensure that the already scarce resources of Liberia are effectively and judiciously managed, coupled with contracts and concessions meeting all requirements in accordance with the law of the country.

"This became necessary in the aftermath of the civil war when systems broke down, along with the country's infrastructure," he said, commending the PPCC for working with partners to restore confidence in the system, while at the same time combating impropriety."

President Weah further cautioned PPCC and its staff to

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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Promote accurate images, enhance voices of PWD

- PAL President urges media editors

By Lewis S. Teh

The President of the Publishers Association of Liberia or PAL, the umbrella organization for print media institutions in Liberia, Mr. Othello B. Garblah has urged his colleagues to promote accurate images and enhance the voices of people with disability.

He said the media is best seated to play a critical role in providing education and creating awareness that emphasize the rights of people with disabilities and their needs to form part of the productive sector of society.

“In order to achieve this, editorial leaders should begin to promote accurate images and enhance the voices of person with disabilities in the media”, he says.

establish societal norms.

Mr. Garblah continues that the media can be an important instrument in raising awareness, countering stigma and misinformation, adding that it can be a powerful force to change societal misconceptions and present persons with disabilities as individuals that are a part of human diversity.

The media, he explains, can do so by increasing the awareness and understanding of disability issues and the diversity of persons with disabilities and their situations by actively contributing to an effective and successful integration of persons with disabilities in all aspects of societal life.

He says the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities requires States to raise awareness and combat stereotypes related to persons with disabilities, including by

saying the person is blind, - visually impaired.”

Earlier, the chief of Party at Internews, Ms. Lien Bach said the media and society roundtable with people with disabilities was intended to bring both the media, civil society including people with disabilities together and find solutions to the many challenges the PWD face as well as for the media to understand its role, challenges and prospect.

“We at Internews our mission is to support local media, and its partners to report on issues affecting people with disabilities”, she says, and adds “For us, we are there to provide you guys with the necessary support to enhance your work to report accurate, balance stories and happenings in communities. We are hoping to maximize the impact of the story that you will publish, thereby raising awareness especially on the various topics that our panelist will be speaking on.”

Also giving an overview of the roundtable, Jefferson Massah, senior advisor at Internews narrates that the observance of the international day of person with disabilities is being celebrated in few countries across Africa including Kenya, Tanzania, and Cote d’voire, saying “We all know the United Nations recognizes this day as the day to celebrate persons with disabilities globally.”

Massah continues that Internews being a media development organization is using the media to amplify the voices of people with disabilities, noting that they’ve been working since last year through inclusive media platform to increase not the quantity, but the quality of media reporting on people with disabilities in Liberia.

He discloses it was against this backdrop that Internews has decided to work with twenty selected media personnel from across the country, including civil society organizations to organize community media forum through providing them small grants and independent media organizations.

“As the result of this, we have over sixty stories that have been produced by those journalists, so in the next five years we can have a strong foundation of team of journalists that will be able to

Conduct transparent elections in 2023

-Representative-elect Samuel Brown urges NEC

By Lewis S. Teh

The National Elections Commission or NEC has been urged to conduct transparent, credible and peaceful elections comes 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

“We commend the NEC for ably handling these by-elections, but we also urge them to be very transparent in the conduct of the general elections come 2023 to avoid chaos.”

Nimba County Representative-elect, Samuel Brown, made the urge to NEC authorities recently when he was certificated by the board

anyone should be called winner, it should be the great people of Nimba. I'm happy to be standing here today to be certificated as a son of Nimba County, I want to applaud the NEC to apply this same formula in 2023 for Liberia and Nimba County to be free”, Representative-elect Brown emphasized.

He said winning more than 50 percent of the total votes from the by-election is an indication that the people of Nimba want change.

Speaking earlier, NEC chairperson Davidetta Brown Lassanah thanked winners from



of commissioners at the NEC as winner from the just ended district#1 by-election in Nimba County.

He said the safety of Liberia rests on the shoulders of NEC, saying any results you will put out will determine our safety as a country, because the upcoming elections will be a crucial one, and as such, it is imperative for this board of commissioners to be transparent and credible.

He also thanked commissioners for the certificate, which he noted is a testament of the Commission’s pronouncement. “We are grateful to the board of commissioners and believe if

the district by-elections, but said two results have been challenged in Grand Gedeh and Bong Counties, something she noted was responsible for delay in coming out with the final results.

“We want to assure the public that the commission is looking into compliant filed against the winners and in the soonest possible time we will adjudicate those cases.”

She thanked the Government of Liberia for ably assisting the Commission by providing necessary resources that enable it to carry out its functions and mandate. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**



The PAL President, who is also Managing Editor of the New Dawn Newspaper made the call in Monrovia during a roundtable on people with disabilities organized under the auspices of Internews Liberia in commemoration of International Day of Persons Living with Disabilities.

Serving as one of the panelists, he shares his thought on the topic: Editorial Leadership beyond Peripheral Reporting on PWD issues, prospects and challenges.

According to him, editorial leadership in the newsroom can also be exercised, based on the kinds of images and stories that are published in the media, noting images of stories published or broadcast can influence public opinion and

encouraging all media to portray persons with disabilities in a manner consistent with a respect for human rights.

“As part of achieving its goal on upholding the dignity of persons with disabilities, the UN indicates that the media can help in changing perceptions around disabilities.”

Meanwhile, the PAL President points challenges facing the media in creating awareness and promoting the rights of PWD includes lack of training in this regard, saying “Therefore, in order to surmount this challenge, I would suggest that special trainings be organized for practitioners on how to report on disability-taking into consideration terminologies that would be used to dignify them. For example, instead of saying the person is crippled, say physically challenged. Instead of

report and amplify issues relating to people with disabilities.”

The celebration which was held under the theme; Amplifying the Voices of People With Disabilities to inclusion and participation brought together scores of media

practitioners from both print and electronic media institutions including CSOs and people with disabilities, among others. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Français

Célébration des 200 ans du Libéria: le Comité directeur donne le coup d'envoi

Le ministre d'État et des Affaires présidentielles du Libéria, Nathaniel McGill, a appelé tous les Libériens à s'impliquer dans la prochaine célébration du bicentenaire.

S'exprimant lors du lancement des activités marquant les 200 ans d'existence du pays, M. McGill a dit que l'on ne célèbre pas l'indépendance du Libéria mais plutôt la fondation du pays. Cette célébration, selon lui, n'a rien de politique, donc les médias doivent jouer leur rôle, à savoir faire le récit de l'histoire du pays.

« Racontez l'histoire de votre pays, soyez le champion de cette entreprise, car il s'agit de vous », a-t-il dit aux journalistes lors d'une conférence de presse qu'il a animée jeudi.

M. McGill a révélé que le président George Weah soutient l'initiative nationale et travaille dur pour faire de ces célébrations une réussite totale.

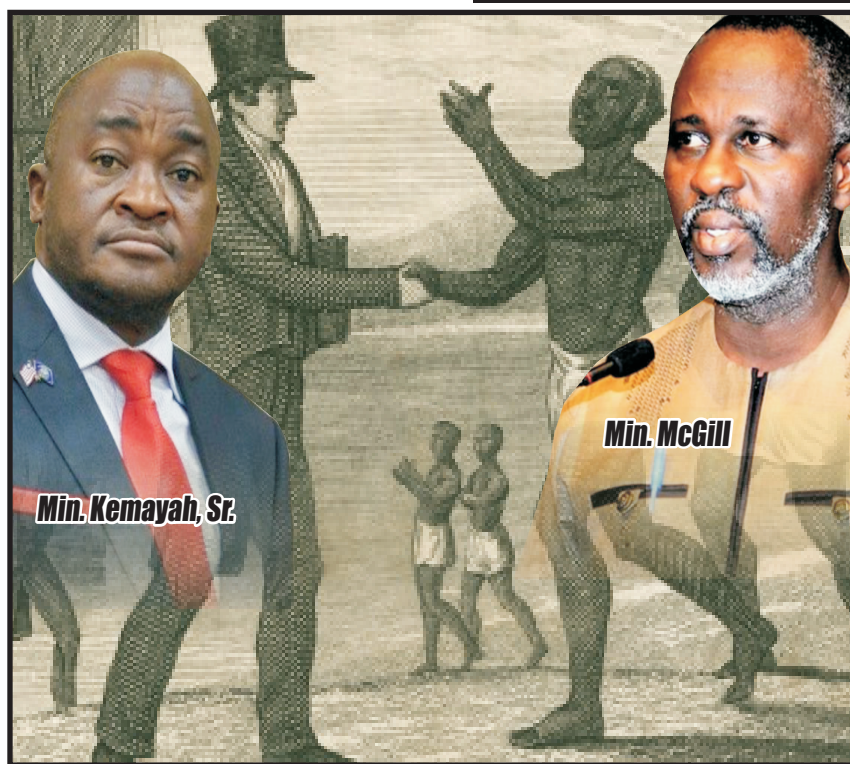
Dans le cadre des

célébrations, a expliqué McGill, des responsables américains de haut niveau arriveront au Libéria. Des Libériens de la diaspora, y compris des États-Unis d'Amérique, eux, commenceront à arriver en décembre. Pour sa part, le ministre des Affaires étrangères Maxwell D. Kamayan, a dévoilé le thème de la célébration:

"Libéria : la terre du retour - Commémoration de 200 ans de liberté et de leadership panafricain" et son slogan: "L'étoile solitaire pour toujours, plus forts ensemble".

Il a fait savoir que l'événement sera célébré tout au long de l'année 2022, du 7

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Présidentielle en Gambie: fort engouement pour un vote dans le calme

Les Gambiens étaient appelés aux urnes pour élire leur président lors d'une élection à un tour. Six candidats sont en lice pour succéder à Adama Barrow dont la victoire surprise en 2016 avait mis à plus de deux décennies de régime dictatorial de Yahya Jammeh. Et les électeurs semblent avoir répondu présent avec de longues files d'attente dans les centres électoraux de Banjul notamment.

Le dépouillement a commencé avec plusieurs minutes de retard en raison de l'affluence dans le bureau

numéro trois de la mosquée centrale, quartier Ker-Sereign, de Banjul. La loi prévoit de laisser voter après l'heure officielle tous ceux qui attendent dans la file, même si, à 17h, les forces de sécurité ont fermé les portes de la cour transformée en centre électoral.

Les gens sont venus nombreux et cela réjouit le président du bureau: « On est très content, on a eu beaucoup de votants. Maintenant, on va compter les votes. » À ses côtés, les représentants des candidats présents font part aussi de leur satisfaction après une journée sans incident. Ils montrent les

feuilles d'émargement quasiment pleines avant de condamner l'entrée des urnes pour commencer le dépouillement. Un dépouillement en petit comité En Gambie, en raison du système de vote à billes, on appelle plutôt cela le comptage et l'opération est plutôt rapide et efficace. Chaque urne est scellée, vidée sur une planche à trous d'une capacité de 200 billes. Dès que tous les responsables et représentants se sont mis d'accord sur le nombre, les billes retournent dans l'urne, sont scellées de nouveau et conservées en cas de contestation.

Un comptage qui se fait en petit comité. Selon la loi électorale gambienne, seules les personnes accréditées peuvent y assister, un héritage des années Yahya Jammeh. Et une règle que le président de ce bureau de Ker-Sereign applique à la lettre, n'hésitant pas à demander à ceux qui n'ont pas d'autorisation de quitter les lieux. Une journée d'affluence

Dans ce bureau de vote numéro trois, l'affluence s'est bien traduite dans les urnes. Sur les 697 votants inscrits sur les listes électorales, ils sont 615 à s'être déplacés.



Éditorial

L'école traditionnelle n'a jamais aidé les enfants libériens

Le fait que les enfants du comté de Bong abandonnent les cours pour aller fréquenter les écoles traditionnelles comme Poro et Sande est à la fois décevant et triste. À cette époque où les enfants du monde entier sont collés à la technologie et à l'éducation numérique, il est impensable que les enfants libériens optent pour des pratiques qui ont mis en retard leurs ancêtres et leurs parents en termes de développement.

Pourquoi les parents en milieu rural au Libéria préfèrent conduire leurs enfants à l'école traditionnelle qui n'a jamais apporté de changement à la civilisation et à l'amélioration culturelle? Tout ce qui sort de ces écoles traditionnelles, comme nous l'avons constaté au cours des dernières décennies, n'est rien d'autre que la pauvreté, l'analphabétisme, la mauvaise santé et un niveau de vie misérable.

La surintendante du comté de Bong, Madame Esther Walker, a fait le tour des écoles de Gbarnga et ses environs et observé que les élèves ont abandonné les cours pour rejoindre l'école traditionnelle. Cela montre que notre système éducatif ne se porte pas bien.

Pourquoi les parents, les tuteurs et les enfants s'intéressent moins à l'éducation formelle et préfèrent l'école traditionnelle où tout ce qu'ils apprennent est de rester à la maison, de chasser et de cultiver?

Autant l'éducation informelle est importante à des fins culturelles, autant elles offrent très peu en termes de progrès sociétal et de modernité.

Mais en quoi le ministère de l'Éducation rend-il les études intéressantes pour retenir les enfants en classe? Hélas, rien de bon. Conséquence: la plupart d'eux finissent par devenir des voyous. Il ne semble pas y avoir de réponses claires de la part des autorités du système éducatif du pays quant à comment rendre l'école attrayante. Tout ce qui les intéresse, c'est d'amasser des richesses en rendant les frais de scolarité très exorbitants et en exploitant les élèves et les parents.

Il est difficile de comprendre que tandis que les élèves et les parents dans les autres pays du monde se sacrifient pour une éducation de qualité qui leur permettra d'améliorer leurs conditions de vie, les élèves et les parents au Libéria tournent les regards vers des pratiques traditionnelles qui n'ont jamais apporté d'amélioration dans leur vie.

La situation malheureuse dans le comté de Bong est un appel clairement lancé aux autorités qu'il est temps de se réveiller de leur sommeil et d'injecter un nouveau dynamisme dans le secteur éducatif, non seulement pour attirer mais pour retenir les enfants en classe. Si des instructeurs mal préparés continuent de demander aux élèves de l'argent et du sexe en échange de bonnes notes, alors ces derniers finiront par abandonner l'école pour se livrer à d'autres activités moins rentables, comme nous le voyons actuellement.

Le scénario de Bong ne devrait pas être laissé au surintendant Walker seul pour trouver une solution. Tout le monde doit se serrer les coudes, y compris les parents, la communauté, les groupes de jeunes et les chefs religieux, pour sauver notre cher pays de l'effondrement.

Cela nécessite de consacrer plus d'argent ou d'investir davantage dans le secteur de l'éducation en formant plus d'enseignants et en révisant le programme pour répondre aux normes mondiales actuelles, tout en faisant en sorte que les élèves soient occupés en classe.

Le temps presse. Il faut que nous agissions dès maintenant pour sauver l'avenir de notre nation et l'avenir de notre jeunesse. Les laisser sombrer dans l'ignorance et l'analphabétisme est contre-productif.

Français

Célébration des 200 ans du Libéria: le

janvier au 10 décembre 2022, la cérémonie d'ouverture officielle aura lieu le 14 février 2022.

Le Libéria a été fondé en 1822 par des esclaves africains affranchis des États-Unis d'Amérique.

Selon le comité directeur, le thème met en exergue trois jalons historiques importants que le pays a posés depuis sa fondation en 1822.

Premièrement, il s'agit de célébrer le Libéria en Afrique de l'Ouest en tant que terre choisie comme refuge par des esclaves africains libres après avoir enduré des années de servitude aux États-Unis, pour s'y installer et en faire leur pays d'origine.

Sous les auspices de l'American Colonization Society (ACS), des milliers d'esclaves noirs affranchis ont débarqué sur l'île de Providence au Libéria le 7 janvier 1822 et s'y sont installés comme leur pays d'origine.

Deuxièmement, il s'agit de chercher à commémorer la liberté et la nationalité des Noirs et la détermination de l'autonomie qui a commencé il y a 200 ans lorsque le Libéria a été créé en 1822.

La fondation du Libéria, «la République noire», qui a obtenu son indépendance en 1847, signifiait clairement que les Africains étaient capables de s'autogérer.

Et troisièmement, il s'agit de reconnaître le rôle central de leadership panafricaniste que le Libéria a joué, en militant en faveur de la décolonisation et de l'indépendance de l'Afrique, y compris sa position intransigeante contre la ségrégation raciale en Afrique du Sud connue alors sous le nom d'apartheid.

Le Libéria sera plus tard le champion de la création de syndicats multinationaux sur le continent africain et sur la scène mondiale.

Le plus important était son rôle de leadership panafricaniste dans l'organisation de l'historique « Conférence de Sanniquellie » de 1959 impliquant le Libéria, la Guinée et le Ghana qui a finalement abouti à la formation de l'Organisation de l'Unité africaine (OUA) en 1963.

Le Libéria a assumé un leadership panafricaniste similaire dans la formation de l'Union africaine (UA), successeur de l'OUA.

Il s'est également joint à l'appel lancé au continent

pour la création d'organisations économiques régionales, telles que la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO) et l'Union du fleuve Mano.

Et c'est dans un esprit similaire de panafricanisme qui a inspiré le Libéria à se joindre à d'autres pays pour soutenir la formation d'organismes internationaux, notamment les Nations Unies, la Banque mondiale et le Fonds monétaire international (FMI).

En tant que leader panafricaniste, le Libéria est devenu le porteur de la vision et le fondateur de la Banque africaine de développement lorsque la banque a été créée dans les années 1960 pour favoriser la coopération économique sur le continent africain.

On peut se rappeler que même si l'esclavage est resté légal aux États-Unis jusqu'en 1865, les efforts de réinstallation de l'ACS ont abouti à l'établissement de l'actuel Libéria en Afrique de l'Ouest pour accueillir hommes, femmes et enfants noirs libres en provenance des États-Unis.

Cela a conduit au départ du premier groupe d'environ 86 Noirs libres des côtes de New York en 1820. À la fin des années 1800, environ 17 000 Noirs libres des États-Unis et des Caraïbes ont été rapatriés au Libéria. D'autres personnes de couleur continueraient à chercher refuge au Libéria, la «terre de la liberté».

Depuis leur arrivée, les colons ont établi l'autonomie au Libéria. Joseph Jenkins Roberts en est élu premier président Afro-Américain du pays.

Par la suite, neuf autres Africains nés aux États-Unis du Maryland, de la Caroline du Sud, de l'Ohio et du Kentucky ont été présidents du Libéria, la première République noire d'Afrique. La capitale du Libéria est nommée Monrovia en l'honneur de James Monroe, cinquième président des États-Unis, un fervent partisan de l'AEC et le drapeau du pays est une réplique partielle du drapeau américain pour symboliser la relation étroite entre les deux pays.

Pour préserver et maintenir un lien fort avec les États-Unis d'Amérique, les colons ont nommé la plupart des comtés et villes du Libéria d'après un certain nombre d'États américains, notamment le Maryland et le Mississippi en Afrique, entre autres « pour continuer à préserver leur liens culturels avec les endroits d'où ils viennent aux États-Unis.

Le slogan montre le Libéria comme la nation Lone Star et la

COMMENTAIRE

Par Mohamed A. El-erian

L'inflation et l'erreur de la Fed

CAMBRIDGE - Il leur a fallu beaucoup trop de temps, mais finalement les principaux responsables de la Fed (la Réserve fédérale américaine) ont reconnu que pendant des mois ils se sont trompés sur la nature de la poussée inflationniste - bien plus forte et plus persistante que ce à quoi ils s'attendaient. Cette prise de conscience est bienvenue, notamment compte tenu du risque du maintien de l'inflation à un niveau dangereusement élevé au cours des prochains mois. La grosse erreur d'appréciation de la Fed qui initialement qualifiée la poussée inflationniste de "transitoire" a généré un environnement dans lequel la communication et la mise en œuvre d'une politique sont devenues bien plus complexes. De ce fait, il est maintenant beaucoup plus difficile d'agir non seulement pour la Fed, mais plus largement pour les USA et les autres grandes puissances.

L'erreur initiale de la Fed date de quelques mois, et elle est compréhensible. Entre mars et mai dernier, de puissants "effets de base" étaient à l'œuvre, car il n'y avait guère eu d'inflation l'année précédente en raison de la quasi mise à l'arrêt de l'économie mondiale due à la pandémie. Par ailleurs, les responsables politiques espéraient que les marchés trouveraient rapidement une solution à l'insuffisance initiale de l'offre confrontée à une forte demande au moment du redémarrage économique.

Dès l'été, il était clair pour certains d'entre nous que ces facteurs transitoires s'accompagnaient de problèmes à plus long terme. Les entreprises détaillaient la nature persistante des perturbations de leurs chaînes d'approvisionnement. S'ajoutant aux facteurs d'inflation liés aux coûts, la pénurie de main-d'œuvre s'accroissait. Peu d'entreprises (peut-être même aucune) s'attendaient à ce que ces deux problèmes soient résolus dans un avenir proche - elles le rappelaient lors de chaque réunion des investisseurs.

Or, plutôt que de revoir sa prévision initiale d'inflation à la lumière des chiffres, la Fed a doublé la mise ; le transitoire est passé de quelques mois à quelques trimestres, certains commentateurs et responsables adoptant même les concepts de "transitoire prolongé", "transitoire persistant" et "transitoire continu". Ce faisant, ils ont perdu de vue l'analyse d'un phénomène transitoire.

Un phénomène transitoire est généralement considéré comme rapidement réversible. Aussi en tant que tels, les agents économiques (qu'il s'agisse des consommateurs, des producteurs ou des salariés) ne voient-ils aucune raison de modifier leur comportement et ils tendent à ignorer le phénomène.

Mais le comportement sur le terrain a commencé à changer à la fin de l'été, d'autant que l'inflation a poursuivi sa progression régulière (jusqu'à 6,2 % pour l'indice global des prix à la consommation en octobre et jusqu'à 4,1 % pour l'indice des prix des dépenses de consommation personnelle de base, l'indice préféré de la Fed). Pourtant, tombant dans un piège comportemental classique, la Fed est restée attachée au concept transitoire. Son

président, Jerome Powell, a répété lors de la dernière semaine de novembre que "l'inflation va baisser de manière significative au cours de l'année prochaine".

Beaucoup d'observateurs notent à juste titre que la Fed ne dispose pas des outils nécessaires pour débloquer les chaînes d'approvisionnement ou pour accroître la main-d'œuvre. Mais si la Fed s'était accrochée plus longtemps cette idée d'une inflation seulement passagère, elle risquait de déclencher un autre facteur important de la hausse des prix - celui d'une anticipation très fluctuante de l'inflation à venir. Cela n'aurait pas entraîné un retour à un taux d'inflation à deux chiffres comme dans les années 1970, mais aurait conduit à la persistance d'un taux nettement supérieur à celui auquel l'économie et les marchés financiers peuvent faire face.

Plus la Fed tarde à réagir correctement à l'évolution de l'inflation, plus grande la probabilité qu'elle soit amenée à changer brutalement de politique, devenant elle-même la cause principale d'une tendance inflationniste transitoire. Or elle a malheureusement mis en jeu une partie de sa crédibilité en croyant à une inflation transitoire. Mais en ayant ainsi raison, elle risquerait de susciter une récession nationale, la volatilité des marchés et des retombées dommageables pour l'économie mondiale.

Un tel scénario est familier aux historiens de l'économie. Prise en défaut par la courbe de l'inflation, la Fed se débat pour resserrer brusquement sa politique monétaire, frappant durement la demande et coupant l'herbe sous le pied des entreprises qui cherchent à augmenter durablement leurs prix. De nombreux travailleurs perdent alors leur emploi, ce qui limite le pouvoir de négociation des syndicats. Quant aux marchés, ils traversent des épisodes déstabilisants de manque de liquidité, avec des conséquences potentielles négatives pour une économie déjà en difficulté.

Ce scénario est particulièrement inquiétant pour les personnes les plus vulnérables. Ayant déjà subi une hausse des prix, elles seraient également confrontées au risque de chômage et à la perte de revenus qui l'accompagne. Outre l'atteinte inutile au bien-être économique d'une partie de la population, cette situation aurait des effets sociopolitiques et institutionnels négatifs.

Il est donc encourageant de voir que finalement Powell a changé son fusil d'épaule le tout dernier jour de novembre en admettant qu'il ne fallait plus qualifier l'inflation de transitoire. En conséquence, la Fed doit maintenant faire rapidement deux choses :

- expliquer publiquement et en détail (notamment pour regagner de toute urgence la crédibilité qui est indispensable à son guidage des anticipations et à son indépendance opérationnelle) pourquoi elle s'est trompée quant à la nature de l'inflation et ce qu'elle fait pour éviter de répéter une erreur similaire dans l'avenir ;

- diminuer beaucoup plus rapidement ses achats mensuels d'actifs. Ralentir sa relance monétaire encore très intense contribuera à limiter le risque qu'elle doive y mettre fin brutalement au milieu de l'année prochaine.

McGill launches Gov't scholarship in Bassa

Liberia's State and Presidential Affairs Minister Nathaniel McGill over the weekend continues the launch of the Government's scholarship scheme, a flagship program of President George Weah for struggling primary and secondary students in Grand Bassa County raising US\$1million. The launch in Bassa follows that of Margibi, Bong, and Nimba Counties.

The Scholarship Fund Drive which was launched at the Fair Ground in Buchanan on Friday, December 3, was prefixed by an elaborate welcoming ceremony on Tubman Street with over hundreds of motorcyclists dressed in red berets, as students roared after them.

The students who dominated the launch of the scholarship fund drive in Buchanan, Grand Bassa were said to be potential beneficiaries from the various public and private schools in

program, which is similarly benefiting students in upper and lower Bong, Kakata, Margibi County, and Ganta, Nimba County, is geared towards increasing enrollment in schools.

"The President wants to help you our students. He is not only concerned about creating a conducive learning environment for a few of you who are privileged to learn but to also increase enrollment," he added.

Mr. McGill explained that money raised from the scholarship fund drive will be deposited in an account with representatives from the students' community, county administration, County and District Education Officers as signatories to the account.

He said the purpose is to ensure the transparent supervision of the fund, while these signatories along with the Bassa Superintendent, JanjayBaikpeh, will work along with the schools and benefit students to rollout the scholarship



the county.

Minister McGill was first received by parents and senior officials of Grand Bassa County a few miles away from the St. John River Bridge, before escorting him to the Fair Ground.

Upon taking the stand during the official ceremony, Mr. McGill raised One Million United States Dollars to begin the scholarship program for students in the County.

The money was raised through donations from Friends of McGill based in the United States and Liberia, business owners, companies, and officials of Government with a vested interest in education.

Speaking during the launch, McGill opined that the scholarship will benefit, mostly, all public schools in Buchanan city and its surrounding areas for the next academic year.

According to him, the scholarship

program.

Meanwhile, an initial five million Liberian Dollars, from a Ten Million, has been promised for disbursement to businesswomen for empowerment purposes.

Minister McGill said the money, which will be given as loan, is intended to enhance their businesses and improve their livelihood.

Officials of the county and the student community thanked President Weah for the initiative and indicated that enrollment in schools is expected to increase significantly in the County due to the launch of the scholarship.

Grand Bassa County Superintendent, JanjayBaikpeh stated: the students are overwhelmed by the provision of the scholarship which will ease the constraints of going to school.

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

1. 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.
2. 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:

ItemNo.	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:

- a. Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with Code C1811
- b. Valid GOL Tax Clearance
- c. 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.
- d. PPCC Vendor Registry
- e. Current Bank statement for the past two (2) years - present with the closing balance of USDS 3,000
- f. 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 (ACI-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 #: ACI-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 Fipoteh(Mrs.)
Director/Procurement/UL

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

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT
Offset & Digital Printing

Cummings blames CPP defeat on crisis

Alternative National Congress (ANC), standard-bearer Alexander B. Cummings, has blamed the recent defeat suffered by the opposition Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) in the just ended four counties by-elections on the ongoing internal wrangling within the opposition bloc.

Both the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) and the CPP comprising of the former ruling Unity Party, Liberty Party, All Liberian Party and the ANC failed to win a single seat in the recent by-elections.

Cummings who was visiting Rivercess County over the weekend at the invitation of the Rivercess Chapter of the Liberty Party took

to build a strong and united collaboration to take on Weah.

Speaking on the economy, which he said is the crux of everything, Cummings advised the legislature not to allow itself to be used as co-conspirators to the looting of state resources clearly orchestrated by the Executive to rob the people of this country through 'legal' means - the national budget.

He explained that a budget of almost US\$800 million - the highest in our country's history is reportedly debt-based. "This is concerning. To finance those debts, someone has to pay. Unfortunately, you the poor people will pay with high commodity prices beginning next year", he continued. "This must stop and it has to be you, me, all of us together in 2023 to make sure of that,"

Earlier on Friday night, during a radio interview on Radio Gbehzohn in Buchanan, the ANC flag bearer promised to fight corruption with every fiber in his body from day one of his presidency. "Don't call it corruption. That's a beautiful way to put it. It is stealing - stealing from poor and destitute people. That has to stop and I will lead by example," Mr. Cummings in a rather strong tone said.

The visit of Cummings to Rivercess being view as strategic, considering the Bassa belt is the second largest voting belt next to the Kpelle. A consolidation of Bassa support in Grand Bassa, River Cess, Margibi, Bong and Montserrado counties is likely to boost his approval ratings leading to the CPP primary



Cummings addresses LP and ANC partisans in Rivercess

ownership of the defeat blaming it on the crisis that has engulfed the CPP.

He stressed the need for the CPP to fix her in-house problems and "quickly present to the people of Liberia the alternative to Weah's poor handling of the country."

Cummings told the political gathering that the fact that the ruling party also did not win a single seat in the just ended by-election is also a clear demonstration and evidence of the anger and resentment of the people toward the CDC as it relates to the poor state of the economy.

He, however, lauded the victories of opposition candidates and promised to reach out to them in an effort

he bemoaned.

The former Coca-Cola Exec also asserted that President Weah and his cronies are on a grab and go spree because they know that the "Liberian people will and cannot endure another six years of this nightmare of a government."

Meanwhile, the purpose of his visit was to get acquainted with partisans of Liberty Party and meet with supporters on the ANC in the county.

Among the Cummings delegation were LP National Treasurer Wadei Powell, Youth Assembly Chair Onesimus James, County Chairman Daniel Gbassagee and Chairman Musa Hassan Bility.

The delegation held two separate meetings in the county, one in Yarpah Town and the other in Neezuin.

and the 2023 elections.

It can be recalled that the ANC standard-bearer has toured Grand Cape Mount, Bomi, Gbarpolu, Nimba, Margibi and River Cess counties during the last four months in his drive to better acquaint himself with the people and as well as get a firsthand knowledge of the conditions and challenges of the people of those counties.

Mr. Cummings faces UP's Joseph Boakaisometime next year in what promises to be a hotly contested CPP primary to select a face to battle Weah in 2023. He has vowed to make Weah a one term president, stressing 'Liberia cannot afford another six (6) years of a Weah presidency.

LANSA calls

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instruments, especially the approval by the President and now submission to the Legislature for enactment.

He pledged his Commission's continual collaboration with LANSA and other stakeholders in ensuring that these instruments are legally concluded.

Meanwhile, LANSA has expressed appreciation to President George Manneh Weah for his commitment to arms control, peace and security in Liberia and the ECOWAS sub region.

LANSA particularly lauded President Weah for recently forwarding to the Legislature

for enactment the draft Act to domesticate the UN Arms Trade Treaty and the Act establishing the Small Arms Commission to expand its scope beyond small arms to all conventional arms.

The draft Acts, to domesticate the Arms Trade Treaty Act and to amend the Act establishing the Liberia National Commission on Small Arms, have over the years been scrutinized by national and international partners, security institutions, Civil Society actors, the media and other stakeholders following Liberia's ratification of the ATT in 2015. -Press release

Chief Zanzan Karwor

Cont'd from page 6

requested Chief Karwor to move in the county to put things under control so that the devils can go back to the bush.

Accordingly, Chief Karwor did as he was instructed but the devils again threatened this time to come back after one month if Samukai is not certificated.

He said at the end of the four-day meeting, if it's established that Mr. Samukai won the election, they will meet with President George Manneh

Weah and use the traditional colanut so that he can use his executive clemency to have Mr. Samukai seated.

"When people kill and they go to jail, the President can make executive clemency for those people to be freed. I think the president can use that same power to talk to the country because this country is too small for such a crisis," Chief Karwor said.

President Weah Hails

Cont'd from page 6

put integrity, fairness, as well as legally-applied procedures at the front-burner in the discharge of their duties, when reviewing procurement issues.

"As it is often said, 'he who seeks equity must come with clean hands,'" PPCC should review procurement issues in a free, fair and according to the laws of Liberia, President Weah intoned.

He said the commission over the years has established itself as one of the most vital institutions of Liberia's governing processes.

According to him, holding an Annual Review Meeting at this time to make assessment of what the Commission needs to do to improve its effectiveness is highly important to uphold integrity in every procurement process.

He stated that the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) and the PPCC, along with other anti-graft entities, are being given renewed focus by his administration, in an effort to improve their capacity and facilitate their work.

"This involves budgetary support and reforms to the way their work is done," he emphasized.

Also speaking, PPCC Executive Director, Roseline Nagbe-Kowo, elaborated that the forum is

designed to seek innovative ways to open new avenues for greater digitization in public procurement functions.

According to Attorney Kowo, the theme of the forum: innovative and reform is intended to strengthen Liberia's public procurement system and scrutinize recommendations for subsequent action and improvement.

She mentioned that the forum is also aimed at as serving as a driver of public procurement modernization to establish a well-functioning procurement system in Liberia that employs the necessary tools to digitize procurement for effectiveness and efficiency in public procurement.

The PPCC Executive Director expressed optimism that the forum is serving as preliminary activities to inform the establishment of an electronic procurement platform in Liberia and remove the anomalies and individual discretions often associated with paper-based procurement.

Meanwhile, the third Annual PPCC Forum was held under the theme: "Innovations and Reforms: Strengthening Liberia's Public Procurement System."

The Forum is aimed at creating avenues to identify implementation challenges and shortcomings of the PPCC Act of 2010 as Amended.

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Gongloe finally accepts

Cllr. Gongloe was the Solicitor-General under the administration of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who delivered the arrest warrant to now jailed former President Charles Ghanaky Taylor upon Taylor's arrival at the Roberts International Airport from


Nigeria where he had taken sanctuary.

Taylor was immediately handcuffed and flown to the UN-backed Special Court of Sierra Leone and subsequently tried, convicted and sentenced for 50 years in The Hage for aiding and abetting RUF rebels in Sierra Leone.

However, Gongloe eventually parted with Ellen and rejected a reappointment in her government after Madam Sirleaf summarily relieved all officials of their posts. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

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Gongloe finally accepts petition for presidency



By Thomas Domah, Nimba County
Veteran Liberia lawyer and immediate former president of the Liberia National Bar Association Counselor Taiwan Gongloe

has accepted a petition to contest for the presidency in 2023. Addressing a huge gathering over the weekend in Ganta, Nimba County, Cllr. Gongloe finally accepted to be on the presidential ballot comes 2023.

He promises that if elected President, his leadership will be corruption-free with females forming 50 percent of his government. He further vows to fight corruption, which he notes, has taken center stage in public service here. Cllr. Gongloe continues that under his administration, no official will be involved corruption. He urges Liberians to follow up on his past records in both public and private sectors were he once served to fine if there were any corruption reported. The well known human rights layer rallies Liberians to support his dream for the presidency that will propel him to combat corruption and redeem the country from bad leadership that has brought untold suffering on the citizenry.



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