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VOL. 11 NO. 215

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 07, 2021

PRICE LD\$40.00



P11

Alleged rape at Liberian Embassy

Mr. Nat Bayjay, father of the victim

-As victim's father seeks intervention

ArcelorMittal 800m deal stirs protest at Capitol

-As student group supports agreement



P7

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Continental News

Gambian incumbent declared election winner

The Gambia's President Adama Barrow has easily won re-election, authorities there said, in the first vote for decades held without long-term leader Yahya Jammeh.

President Barrow received around 53% of Saturday's vote, with nearest rival Ousainou Darboe on 28%.

Mr Darboe and other

candidates earlier said they could not accept the results of the poll.

The vote is being seen as a test for democracy in the country.

In the last election, Mr Barrow defeated Yahya Jammeh, who was forced into exile after refusing to accept the result.

Mr Jammeh's 22-year rule was marked by allegations of abuse, with witnesses recently telling a

truth commission about state-backed execution squads and Aids patients being forced to take bogus cures. Despite his exile in Equatorial Guinea, Mr Jammeh remains an influential figure, addressing supporters remotely during campaigning and urging them not to vote for Mr Barrow, even though a faction of his party had agreed a controversial deal to work

with the current president. Mr Barrow is a successful property developer who once worked as a security guard in London. He sprung a major surprise in defeating Mr Jammeh during the last vote in 2017.

As news emerged of Mr Barrow's win, his supporters started celebrating in the streets, while supporters of his closest rival,

Mr Darboe, gathered at his house.

Addressing supporters during a victory speech in the capital Banjul, Mr Barrow called for unity between the country's political factions.

"I call on all Gambians, irrespective of your political divide, to put aside our political and other differences and come together as one people to work towards the development of our country," he said.

Mr Darboe and two other candidates - Mama Kandeh and Essa Mbye Faal - issued a joint statement before the final result was declared, questioning the figures.

They said they were concerned at delays and that their party agents had raised a number of issues.

Illiteracy is high in The Gambia so a unique voting system involving marbles is 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.

Voters then slot their marbles into the drum of their choice.

The Gambia is one of Africa's smallest countries and the 2.4m nation is among the poorest in the world. Its economy depends heavily on tourism but it has been hit by coronavirus. BBC



Mr Barrow's supporters started celebrating before the final results were announced

UK Covid red list criticised as 'travel apartheid'

Nigeria has criticised the UK's travel restrictions after it was placed on the red list amid fears over the Omicron Covid-19 variant. "What is expected is a global approach, not selective," Sarafa Tunji Isola, Nigeria's high commissioner to the UK, told the BBC on Monday.

He also echoed comments made by the UN's chief, who described restrictions

imposed on some southern African countries as "travel apartheid".

New rules came into force at 04:00 GMT. It means travellers arriving from Nigeria will be required to enter hotel quarantine - at their own expense - and isolate for 10 days.

"The travel ban is apartheid in the sense that we are not dealing with an endemic," Mr Isola told the Today programme. "We are dealing with a pandemic.

Whenever we have a challenge there must be collaboration." UK government minister Kit Malthouse, meanwhile, said the wording "travel apartheid" was "very unfortunate language".

"We understand the difficulties that's created by these travel restrictions, but we're trying to buy a little bit of time so that our scientists can work on the virus and assess how difficult it's going to be" he told the BBC.

The UK's Department of Health and Social Care said all countries collect data differently, meaning it is hard to directly compare the information. It said the government would continue to keep the data under review. Nigeria became the 11th country to go on the UK's red list for international travel on Monday. All nations currently on that list are African.

The only people allowed to enter the UK from these countries are UK or Irish nationals, or UK residents. They will have to pay for and self-isolate in a pre-booked government-approved hotel

Kenyan politician pledges loans for newlyweds

A presidential aspirant in Kenya has promised loans of between \$4,400 (£3,300) and \$8,800 to all newlyweds should he be elected to the top seat in next year's general elections.

Machakos Governor Alfred Mutua, who was launching his presidential manifesto on Sunday, said the low-interest loan payable within 20 years will help families "start life with dignity".

"What is the effect of all this? Dignity for all of us, improvement of the living standards and quality of homes countrywide and no more mud houses," said Mr Mutua. He also said his government would encourage tree-planting to be counted as part of dowry payment.

"When you are going to pay dowry, you should say how many trees you've planted,"

Mr Mutua said during the launch that was broadcast live on local television stations.

But this promise has drawn sharp criticism and ridicule from Kenyans online.

Nearly a dozen politicians have already begun campaigns to succeed incumbent President Uhuru Kenyatta, who is on the last months of his 10 years in office.

They include veteran opposition leader Raila Odinga and current Deputy President William Ruto, who are seen as the main contenders in the August 2022 polls.

The economy, youth joblessness and fighting corruption have emerged as key issues in the agendas of those seeking the presidency, but past elections have shown that Kenyans largely vote along ethnic tribes or coalitions rather than policy issues. BBC



Nigeria was added to the UK red list on Monday

for 10 days. Nigerians in the UK have expressed shock at the new restrictions.

Olufemi Awokoya told the BBC he was trying to raise money for his wife's quarantine, as she is due to return from a trip to attend her mother's memorial service.

"She is being punished and our household is put in financial hardship. She is an NHS worker and tripled-jabbed, and we can't afford the £2,280 (\$3,024) hotel bill," he said. "I think the government's decision... is

wicked, unfair and a heavy financial burden."

Dozens of countries have imposed restrictions on travel from southern Africa, and Canada and Hong Kong have included Nigeria on their lists. South Korea has also detected the Omicron variant in fully vaccinated travellers arriving from Nigeria. UN Secretary General António Guterres first used the term "travel apartheid" on Wednesday, telling reporters in New York that bans "are not only deeply unfair and punitive, they are ineffective". BBC

EDITORIAL

Faculties' disengagement leaves uncertainty at UL

STUDENTS OF THE University of Liberia preparing for final exams and graduation are being forced to stay home because of disengagement by lecturers and instructors in demand of salary arrears and salary disparities.

OPERATING UNDER BODY the University of Liberia Faculty Association or ULFA, they issued a communique' last week, disengaging from all academic activities until their demands are met

ULFA REACHED THIS conclusion despite assurance from the Government of Liberia to increase faculties' salaries in what seems to be clearly belated.

HOWEVER, THE REAL victims of the current disengagement by the faculty are the more 10,000 struggling students of the University of Liberia, majority of whom cannot afford fees at private universities in the country, so are stock at the state-owned University with its huge capacity gap as result of inadequate funding.

THOSE STUDENTS HAVE no choice but to endure unnecessary interruptions in their academic programs because of poor administrative leadership and decisions.

FINANCE MINISTER SAMUEL Tweah frantically made a last minute's negotiation with ULFA officials last week prior to their disengagement, asking them to return to the classroom with a promise to take charge of the payroll.

BUT HIS PLEAD did not yield any positive fruit, as the faculties abandoned lectures, demanding unpaid salaries and demeaning disparities in their monthly income.

IT IS BECOMING a trend for the Minister of Finance and Developing Planning Tweah to allow situations to reach crisis proportion before attempting to intervene somehow unsuccessfully. The case with teachers of the Monrovia Consolidated School System is one instance.

FOR GOD SAKE, can't these protests be averted by early or pro-active interventions other than carrying water when fire has already razed an entire building to the ground, as it was done with the case of the UL Faculty?

WHEN POTENTIAL CONFLICT situations are allowed to reach points of disengagement, there are always accompanying unintended consequences or what economists called externalities, which students at the University of Liberia are currently going thru largely as a result of poor planning or failure to plan. The faculty disengagement clearly has offset the academic calendar and left students with uncertainty over when they will write exams before the Christmas holiday.

COMMENTARY

By Jeffrey D. Sachs

Time to Overhaul the Global Financial System

NEW YORK - At last month's COP26 climate summit, hundreds of financial institutions declared that they would put trillions of dollars to work to finance solutions to climate change. Yet a major barrier stands in the way: The world's financial system actually impedes the flow of finance to developing countries, creating a financial death trap for many.

Economic development depends on investments in three main kinds of capital: human capital (health and education), infrastructure (power, digital, transport, and urban), and businesses. Poorer countries have lower levels per person of each kind of capital, and therefore also have the potential to grow rapidly by investing in a balanced way across them. These days, that growth can and should be green and digital, avoiding the high-pollution growth of the past.

Global bond markets and banking systems should provide sufficient funds for the high-growth "catch-up" phase of sustainable development, yet this doesn't happen. The flow of funds from global bond markets and banks to developing countries remains small, costly to the borrowers, and unstable. Developing-country borrowers pay interest charges that are often 5-10% higher per year than the borrowing costs paid by rich countries.

Developing country borrowers as a group are regarded as high risk. The bond rating agencies assign lower ratings by mechanical formula to countries just because they are poor. Yet these perceived high risks are exaggerated, and often become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

When a government floats bonds to finance public investments, it generally counts on the ability to refinance some or all of the bonds as they fall due, provided that the long-term trajectory of its debt relative to government revenues is acceptable. If the government suddenly finds itself unable to refinance the debts falling due, it likely will be pushed into default - not out of bad faith or because of long-term insolvency, but for lack of cash on hand.

This is what happens to far too many developing-country governments. International lenders (or rating agencies) come to believe, often for an arbitrary reason, that Country X has become uncreditworthy. This perception results in a "sudden stop" of new lending to the government. Without access to refinancing, the government is forced into a default, thus "justifying" the preceding fears. The government then usually turns to the International Monetary Fund for emergency financing. The restoration of the government's global financial reputation typically takes years or even decades.

Rich-country governments that borrow internationally in their own currencies do not face the same risk of a sudden stop, because their own central banks act as lenders of last resort. Lending to the United States government is considered safe in no small part because the Federal Reserve can buy Treasury bonds in the open market, ensuring in effect that the government can roll over debts falling due.

The same is true for eurozone countries, assuming that the European Central Bank acts as the lender of last resort. When the ECB briefly failed to play that role in the immediate aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, several eurozone countries (including Greece, Ireland, and Portugal) temporarily lost access to

international capital markets. After that debacle - a near-death experience for the eurozone - the ECB stepped up its lender-of-last-resort function, engaged in quantitative easing through massive purchases of eurozone bonds, and thereby eased borrowing conditions for the affected countries.

Rich countries thus generally borrow in their own currencies, at low cost, and with little risk of illiquidity, except at moments of exceptional policy mismanagement (such as by the US government in 2008, and by the ECB soon thereafter). Low- and lower-middle-income countries, by contrast, borrow in foreign currencies (mainly dollars and euros), pay exceptionally high interest rates, and suffer sudden stops.

For example, Ghana's debt-to-GDP ratio (83.5%) is far lower than Greece's (206.7%) or Portugal's (130.8%), yet Moody's rates the creditworthiness of Ghana's government bonds at B3, several notches below those of Greece (Ba3) and Portugal (Baa2). Ghana pays around 9% on ten-year borrowing, whereas Greece and Portugal pay just 1.3% and 0.4%, respectively.

The major credit-rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's, and S&P Global) assign investment-grade ratings to most rich countries and to many upper-middle-income countries, but assign sub-investment-grade ratings to nearly all lower-middle-income countries and to all low-income countries. Moody's, for example, currently assigns an investment grade to just two lower-middle-income countries (Indonesia and the Philippines).

Trillions of dollars in pension, insurance, bank, and other investment funds are channeled by law, regulation, or internal practice away from sub-investment-grade securities. Once lost, an investment-grade sovereign rating is extremely hard to recover unless the government enjoys the backing of a major central bank. During the 2010s, 20 governments - including Barbados, Brazil, Greece, Tunisia, and Turkey - were downgraded to below-investment grade. Out of the five that have since recovered their investment-grade rating, four are in the EU (Hungary, Ireland, Portugal, and Slovenia), and none are in Latin America, Africa, or Asia (the fifth is Russia).

An overhaul of the global financial system is therefore urgent and long overdue. Developing countries with good growth prospects and vital development needs should be able to borrow reliably on decent market terms. To this end, the G20 and the IMF should devise a new and improved credit-rating system that accounts for each country's growth prospects and long-term debt sustainability. Banking regulations, such as those of the Bank for International Settlements, should then be revised according to the improved credit-rating system to facilitate more bank lending to developing countries.

To help end the sudden stops, the G20 and the IMF should use their financial firepower to support a liquid secondary market in developing-country sovereign bonds. The Fed, ECB, and other key central banks should establish currency swap lines with central banks in low-income and lower-middle-income countries. The World Bank and other development finance institutions also should greatly increase their grants and concessional loans to developing countries, especially the poorest. Last but not least, if rich countries and regions, including several US states, stopped sponsoring money laundering and tax havens, developing countries would have more revenues to fund investments in sustainable development.

New Dawn
FULLY INDEPENDENT

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission,
Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-886978282 /
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

OPINION

By Djoomart Otorbaev

A More Perfect Turkic Union?

Russia, China, and the West have so far said relatively little about the seven-member Organization of Turkic States. But with the Eurasian chessboard becoming increasingly pivotal as great-power competition heats up, they are unlikely to remain silent for long.

BISHKEK - I still have vivid memories of my first trip to Turkey in 1993. After the Soviet Union's collapse two years previously, we Kyrgyz gained access to a world we had hitherto only imagined. We all had Turkish relatives somewhere in the West with whom we had lost contact. And there was a similar emotional reaction on the Turkish side: Turkey was the first state to recognize the independence of my country and the other Soviet Central Asian republics.

So, when I arrived at Atatürk airport in Istanbul, I approached ordinary Turks and tried to speak with them. To my disappointment, we didn't understand each other. I realized that although many elements of our respective languages were similar, differences in pronunciation and the many Persian, Arabic, and Latin words that had become a part of modern Turkish prevented me from communicating freely with the people I met. Despite a shared culture and traditions, history had separated Turkic-speaking people not only geographically and linguistically but also in essence.

But a gradual cultural rapprochement has taken place in the 30 years since the ex-Soviet Turkic states gained independence, and major powers are increasingly taking note. The latest step came at a summit in Istanbul in November, when the seven members of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States - Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan, plus Hungary and Turkmenistan as observers - renamed themselves the Organization of Turkic States.

The OTS spans 6,149 kilometers (3,821 miles) from Hungary to Kyrgyzstan and has a combined population of over 170 million and an aggregate GDP of over \$1.3 trillion. In Istanbul, the assembled leaders proclaimed that an alliance based on deep roots, kinship, brotherhood, and political solidarity would guide cooperation in economic development, trade, and investment. The countries pledged to pay special attention to strengthening their cultural and humanitarian ties.

In the economic domain, OTS members will focus on improving the transport corridors between Central Asia, the Caucasus, and Turkey, which are the shortest and most economical routes connecting China and Europe. Here, the organization's geographic location may prove invaluable.

Likewise, potential future energy cooperation among OTS states is assuming considerable geopolitical weight. Four of the seven members - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan - have significant hydrocarbon reserves. And Turkey is positioning itself as a hub for delivering energy resources from Russia and the Caucasus to Europe.

It is no secret that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan wants to turn Turkey into a pivotal regional player. To realize this goal, the country could pursue one of three models: pan-Islamism, neo-Ottomanism, or pan-Turkism. With pan-Islamism, the Turks have serious competitors in Saudi Arabia and Iran. Neo-Ottomanism is untenable, because Turkey has lost its influence in its former European and Asian territories. But when it comes to pan-Turkism, the country has no rivals. For example, Turkey recently cemented its special relationship with Azerbaijan by actively supporting it in its 2020 war with Armenia over Nagorno-Karabakh.

So far, there is no sign that Turkey is seeking to dominate the Turkic world, and even if it wanted to, the Central Asian states have too much geopolitical room for maneuver. Because the region is now a playground for three global powers - Russia, China, and the United States - the Central Asians are able to play them off against each other.

All states build partnerships to promote their domestic and foreign priorities. And because the Central Asian countries value their multi-vector orientation, they will not put all of their diplomatic eggs in one basket. Instead, they will continue to cooperate with Russia for historical reasons, China for economic investment, and the US for security.

Erdogan, a realist at heart, no doubt understands this, and will not seek to reorient the other Turkic countries exclusively in Turkey's direction. He is playing for more regional influence, not necessarily exclusive leadership.

Russia seems to grasp this reality, and may even seek full OTS membership. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov has said previously that, "I see no problems with us joining this organization." And strengthening cooperation between the ex-Soviet Turkic states and Turkey may also strengthen Turkey's bilateral relationship with Russia. Some even speculate that Turkey, instead of trying to join a European Union that has barred its door, will instead opt for the Russia-led Eurasian Economic Union, joining Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan (Uzbekistan is an observer).

For its part, China has been studiously silent on the new Turkic union. But the Global Times, a newspaper published under the auspices of the Communist Party of China, recently published a commentary about the OTS that may well have expressed the Chinese government's fears. "This organization," the newspaper said, "may trigger the rise of extreme nationalism, which could intensify ethnic conflicts and hit the regional stability and security."

Moreover, it added,

"There are also groundless sayings that Uyghur people in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region are of the same ethnic group as Turks. [...] China should remain vigilant against the spread of pan-Turkism and pan-Islamism that the Organization of Turkic States may bring about."

The plight of the Uyghur minority, a Turkic ethnic group in Xinjiang province, is undeniably a sensitive issue for China. But if the OTS serves to reinforce and deepen regional economic ties and thus strengthen Chinese President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative, it is likely to turn a blind eye to what China does in Xinjiang.

The West, meanwhile, has so far said little about the OTS. But with the Eurasian chessboard becoming increasingly pivotal as great-power competition heats up, it is unlikely to remain silent for long.

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With Jones Mallay

LIBERIA POLITICAL

HOT-FIRE

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 any Liberian who will identify the serial killer. This move can only be feasible when the CDC-led government has been able to successfully put the killing under perfect control first. The US\$15,000 should be an end in itself and not a means to an end.

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

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

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

University of Liberia

Republic of Liberia
Fendall Campus
Louisiana, Liberia

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

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

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:

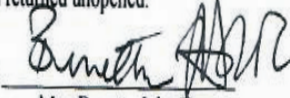
In the upper left corner of the envelope, print:
"SEALED BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF DESKTOP COMPUTERS"
REF: IFB No.: UL/NCB/010/2021

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

Foreign Minister Kemayah heads MRU diplomatic mission to Guinea

-Meets Guinean Transitional President Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya

Liberia's Foreign Minister Ambassador Dee-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr., headed a high level diplomatic and mediation delegation from the Mano River Union (MRU)

President Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya.

Speaking to newsmen minutes after the closed door meeting with Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya, Minister Kemayah said the MRU mission to Guinea

intervention to address the situation but however calls for more time from the International bodies among others to ensure that they can ably complete the road map which is ongoing and is nearing completion.

According to him, the Guinean current leader is willing and prepare to turn over power but said should be done properly and through a democratic process.

Moreover, he indicated that the election process should eventually exclude all those who are currently part of the transition process.

The Liberian foreign Minister said the MRU's involvement into the situation was not a favor to Guinea but an unconditional obligation to the government and people of Guinea nothing that Liberia is an immediate neighbor of the MRU and is happy to be in Guinea to lead such effort.

Minister Kemayah further indicated that their involvement is part of their complementary support role to the efforts of the United Nations, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) the African

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



Liberia's Foreign Minister Ambassador Dee-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr. meets Guinean Transitional President Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya

along with the Secretary General of the Mano River Union Medina Wesseh and the Sierra Leonean delegate, on Sunday December 5, 2021 officially met with the Guinean Transitional

which he headed was fruitful, resounding and rewarding and was also aimed at addressing the political crisis in neighboring Guinea.

Minister Kemayah said Col. Doumbouya welcomed their

Diaspora Liberians welcomes 'Year of the Diaspora Reunion'

-Urges senate to act on dual citizenship bill

The All-Liberian Conference on Dual Citizenship (ALCOD), has welcomed Liberia's Bicentennial Celebration also dubbed as "Year of the Diaspora Reunion".

The Bicentennial Celebration, which activities were launched last Thursday is expected to be a 'reunion' in Liberia of thousands of blacks from all around the world, including diaspora Liberians, some of whom have never been to the land of their fathers and mothers.

These visitors are expected to begin arriving this December 2021 and will continue coming all throughout 2022, marking Liberia's 200 years of existence.

The Year of the Diaspora Reunion 2021-2022, is being organized in collaboration with the Government of Liberia's Bicentennial

Commemoration, aims to celebrate 200 years of that movement.

Agents of the American

1821, and freed black men and women, along with their families, began moving across the Atlantic in 1822 to what is today Liberia, formerly 'Grain Coast.'



ULAA President J. Shiwoh Kamara (right) and ALCOD Eminent Chairman Emmanuel S. Wettee

Colonization Society (ACS), which founded Liberia, purchased parcels of lands from indigenous kings in December of

Welcoming the Reunion, the National President of the Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas (ULAA), a

Government receives newly constructed Du River Bailey Bridge

Scores of residents from Lower and Upper Margibi County on Monday, December 6, 2021 turned out to witness the formal turning over of the newly reconstructed Du River Bailey Bridge in Harbel, outside Monrovia.

The ceremony also brought together other stakeholders, including authorities of the Ministry of Public Works, the Management and Staff of

damaged Du River Bridge.

For his part, the General Manager of Firestone Liberia, Don Darden expressed satisfaction, and said that the MOU signed by both parties [GOL and Firestone] on August 8, 2019 is a good example of government and private sector partnership aimed at benefiting Liberians and the country's economy.

Also speaking, Assistant Public Works Minister for Supervision, Clarence Wilson put



Firestone Liberia, Margibi County Legislative Caucus, traditional leaders, student groupings, amongst others.

Liberia's Acting Public Works Minister, Ruth Coker-Collins who proxied for the Minister of State for Presidential Affairs, Nathaniel McGill, lauded President George Mannah Weah and the Management of Firestone Liberia for the prompt intervention which culminated into the reconstruction of the

the aggregate cost of the project at US\$1.5 Million which was funded through a 60-40 percent Cost-Sharing between the Government of Liberia and Firestone Liberia.

The new Du River Bailey Bridge has a two-lane carriageway of 24ft, a length of 160ft and lifespan of 80 years. It also contains a pedestrian walkway, and links 15 Gate community to Firestone

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

partner of ALCOD, Mr. J. Shiwoh Kamara, has joined ALCOD's Eminent Chairman Emmanuel S. Wettee, to appeal to the Liberian Senate to concord with the House of Representatives on the passage of the Dual Citizenship Bill that was recently passed by the House.

The diaspora's appeal to the Senate comes in wake of reports that the Liberian Government, during the Year of the Diaspora Reunion, will be conferring Liberian citizenship on some of its guests.

"Restoring Liberian citizenship to natural born Liberians who have dual citizenship or nationality must start the Reunion," said Eminent Chairman Wettee.

One senator mentioned that the Senate needs to concur with the House in repealing the 1973 Aliens and Nationality Law as the nation celebrates the bicentennial.

The senator further stated that there is nothing unconstitutional about the 4th Session of 54th Legislature repealing a law enacted through the Fourth Regular Session of the 45th Legislature in 1973. "Any law enacted by lawmakers can be repealed by lawmakers," the Senator, who also is a Counsellor at law, said.

Another senator can't understand why the Senate will not concur with the House. For many years now, members of the Senate had introduced bills to repeal the 1973 Aliens and Nationality Law and all efforts have failed.

The senator made an interesting point of wanting to see who will award Liberian citizenship to African-Americans during the bicentennial celebration without restoring Liberian citizenship to natural-born Liberians in a 'pre-election year.

The bill before the senate

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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ArcelorMittal 800m deal stirs protest at Capitol

A youth and student civil society group called the Coalition of Youths & Students for Better Liberia (COYSBL), has expressed support for the US\$800 million ArcelorMittal Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) amendment between the company and the Government of Liberia.

The group marched to the Capitol Monday, 6 December 2021 to demand passage of the MDA. The Coalition said after scrutinizing the US\$800 million ArcelorMittal Mineral Development Agreement

Amendment on 10 September 2021.

Few days ago, President George Manneh Weah presented the US\$800 million extended ArcelorMittal deal to the Legislature for ratification.

Speaking on behalf of the youth and student coalition at the news conference, the group's Chairman Jeremiah Paye stated that their analysis of the ArcelorMittal MDA Amendment indicates that a ratification of the deal by the Legislature will greatly lead to increment in the company's tax portfolio and royalties and rise in its annual support to the National Budget.

Fund.

He continued: "Community Development Fund (CDF) has been launched, ensuring that 20% of CSDF goes directly to affected communities for development."

He narrated that ArcelorMittal Liberia has been contributing US \$3.0 million annually for the three counties in which it operates (Nimba, Grand Bassa & Bong)," adding that "to date, the company has paid \$45 million towards this commitment.

"AML has made a US \$40 million commitment to fund the paving of Yekepa to Ganta Highway, after the people of Nimba complained that LAMCO had not built this highway during its decades in Liberia," he continued.

On the side of healthcare, Paye disclosed that ArcelorMittal has spent \$18 million to undertake major renovations of the existing health infrastructure and upgraded health facilities in its concession area and outside of its concession areas.

Across Liberia, he said, ArcelorMittal Liberia spent \$5.52 million to help the Government respond to EBOLA and COVID-19.

Speaking of the current US\$800 Million Agreement before the Legislature for ratification, Chairman Paye listed several benefits for Liberians that he said are contained in the instrument.

He said taxes, royalties, CSDF, contributions to affected communities, and other contributions by the company as contained in the MDA will be significantly increased.

The group called on members of the Legislature to speedily ratify the ArcelorMittal Mineral Development Agreement so as to rekindle confidence for private investment in Liberia.

He also claimed there will be a significant reduction in unemployment in Liberia, and an increase in the company's social contributions range to affected counties (Nimba, Grand Bassa & Bong), among others.

The group has boasted of several achievements of ArcelorMittal Liberia in the last 15 years, including the provision of direct and indirect jobs for over 5,000 Liberians.

Mr. Paye said Liberians currently hold 66% of the senior management positions at ArcelorMittal Liberia. He said since 2006, ArcelorMittal Liberia has spent over USD\$38m on County & Social Development



Amendment, it is convinced that the Agreement "is in the supreme interest of the Liberian People."

The group then calls for its speedy ratification by the Legislature.

Their protest comes a few days after some citizens of Nimba protested at the same Capitol rejecting the ArcelorMittal deal.

After 52 weeks of negotiation by the Government of Liberia, through the Inter-Ministerial Concession Committee (IMCC), the Government of Liberia signed the ArcelorMittal MDA

PLP Cassell engages in nepotism

--Appoints Brother In-Law as party chairman

By Lincoln G. Peters

People's Liberation Party (PLP) political leader Dr. Daniel E. Cassell has admitted that he has appointed his brother-in-law Mr. Tarplah E. Doe, owner of Rose Garden, as PLP's National Chairman.

Speaking in an interview with journalists at his Cassell Estate in Boys Town, lower Margibi County, Dr. Cassell argued that appointing his brother-in-law as the party national chairman has nothing to do with his principle and the party's by-laws and constitution.

He claimed that his decision will never be influenced. Dr. Cassell is legally married to Mr. Doe's sister, Mrs. Bindu Rose Cassell and the both are

Liberian presidency.

The PLP political leader indicated that his party has a constitution that provides due process to every member once there is an issue.

"We are [a] government-in-waiting and nothing is wrong [with] making my brother-in-law my party chairman when he is qualified for the position," Cassell argued.

He said the most important thing is that PLP has a system put in place to checkmate everyone.

Recently, the People's Liberation Party held its first national convention in Boys Town, lower Margibi County at the residential estate of its political leader Dr. Cassell.

During the convention, his brother-in-law Mr. Doe was



Dr. Daniel E. Cassell

happily blessed with six children.

"I disagree with people when I hear them talking that I will run a family government. Yes, it's truth that I am legally married to Mr. Tarplah E. Doe's sister as my wife, but I have no friend in my leadership and everyone knows about that," Dr. Cassell claimed.

"People are wrongly judging me that it will hinder my judgment or the party's judgment," he continued.

Dr. Cassell has been speaking against bad governance, and nepotism, accusing President George Manneh Weah's government of engaging in such practices. Yet Cassell is caught hands down in the practice of nepotism in a party he wants to lead to the

serving as the acting chairman of the party. Doe subsequently won on white ballot due to Dr. Cassell's failure to declare the position open.

The convention turned violent and resulted in a serious fight.

Dr. Cassell and his brother-in-law Mr. Doe said they have decided to give the position of deputy chairman for operations to Mr. Alphonso Bindah, a former police chief of public safety.

Bindah quit his job as police chief for public safety and joined PLP, and Cassell and his brother-in-law Doe see the former officer as one with security experience and qualified for the position.

Cont'd from page 6

Government receives newly

Plantation; thereby serving as a major passageway linking the Kakata-Gbarnga Highway and Cotton Tree - Buchanan Highway, respectively.

The bridge collapsed in 2017 as a consequence of heavily loaded trucks transporting materials for the Roberts International Airport Runway Project.

While the bridge remained in a dilapidating state, many residents including students of the state-run Fendall Campus and those seeking medical attention at Du-Side Hospital suffered excruciating hardship, as many resorted to commuting by canoes ride.

Meanwhile, official dedication of the Du River Bailey

Bridge is expected shortly, according to Minister Coker-Collins, who said that the President, being passionate about the completion of the project, has vowed to commission the facility himself. The project was implemented by a purely Liberian-owned company, Jupiter Construction.

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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School fees scam busted in Maryland

-Police arrest suspect after robbing parents of LRD278, 000

By Patrick N. Mensahn,
Maryland Couty

A 45-years-old man, Patrick Doepoh has been incarcerated by the Liberia National Police in Pleebo, Maryland County electoral district#2 for allegedly duping several parents, and walked away with LRD 278,000.

The suspect had been working with the International Bank (IB) Liberia (Little in Monrovia for many years.

According to the victims, the incident occurred between the period August and October 2021 in the heat of registration.

Narrating their ordeals separately to the head of the criminal investigation division of the Liberia National Police in Pleebo, Rev. J. FlahnNyemah, Sr., father of student Agnes K. Nyemah, a 7th grade student

the International Bank staff has caused him more expanses because the school is demanding the fees.

Philomena Sartee, another victim of the incident narrated that in November, during the morning hours, she went to the bank (IB) to register her daughter Jackie Musa with the slip and the amount of LRD10, 000 and when she got there, she stood in the queue, but while standing, she saw Suspect Patrick, whom she described as a kinsman and asked him to assist her with the registration process by depositing the fees.

"So I gave him the money and the slip and I left, the same day he went to the market and carried the return to me but to my surprise, the registrar of the St. Francis School told me that my daughter registration wasn't processed", she disclosed.

"I was shocked and couldn't believe it because I trusted him very much until when I went to

children Isaac Dweh, Jr, Lucy Wesseh, Francis Stall, and Esther Shannon, carrying a total amount of LRD30, 885.

She details that while standing in queue inside the bank, she saw Suspect Patrick Doepoh, who impersonated as an employee of the bank asked him to help her with the registration process.

"So I gave him my children slips and monies for the registration in order for me to save time for other work".

She continues that the next day Suspect Doepoh presented several bank slips with valid stamp on them but to her greatest surprise, the registrar from the school called, informing her that the children have not been registered.

Priscilla Sartial also mentioned that on October 8, 2021 during the morning hour, she went to the Bank to register her son Frederick Sartiah with the amount of LRD2, 000 but gave the bank slip to Ophelia, a cleaner in the bank to give it to Suspect Patrick Doepoh for processing.

"When I went back to get the slip the lady told me that she gave it to Suspect Patrick and he later brought the return slip to me and said it was processed but when I went to verify, I was told that my son didn't register", she explains.

Meanwhile, on Monday, November 28,201 Police arrested Suspect Patrick, who has allegedly admitted to commissioning the act.

"It is true that the students gave me their slips at the bank as I worked there as maintenance and supervisor for the friends of international Company, when I received those slips instead of processing them through the tellers I don't know what criminally came over me".

"I secretly entered into the Bank Manager's Office, took his stamp and I stamped them and pocket the money. I received up to about LRD 278,000 but didn't report it until I was caught by the bank manager", he confessed.

He has been charged with theft of property and misappropriation of entrusted funds, consistent with Section 15.50 and 15.51 of the Revised Penal Law of Liberia, and has been forwarded to the Pleebo Magisterial Court for trial.

The Management of the International Bank is yet to comment on the matter.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



of the Jasper Grant United Methodist High school said, he went at the International Bank (IB) to pay part of his daughter's school fees on Saturday, November 30, 2021 when he met Suspect Patrick in the corridor of the bank.

He continues that over the time, he thought Suspect Patrick was one of the tellers at the bank so he hand delivered his daughter's school fees in the tune of LRD \$8,000 for quick processing

"I have been seeing him for some time at this bank as one of the bank teller oooh but I never knew that he wasn't a teller".

"But to my greatest surprise, I got to know that he wasn't a teller at the bank until my daughter's money that I gave him for processing wasn't processed; instead, he took it away and presented false bank slip.

He stressed that the act of

confirm it, I was told by the bank teller that nothing reflecting on the slip.

Madam Philomena added that upon hearing from the teller, she quickly called Suspect Patrick but his phone was switched off.

She notes that it was very shameful to have heard such information about the same suspect, knowing his track records as her kinsman from the same town.

"I hope the law will take its course because the information is very worrisome and confusing although I was asked to repay my daughter's school fees, but I am also cautious to know the end of this matter."

Similarly, Josephine Stall another victim of school fee scam, explains that in October 2021, at noon hours she went at the bank (IB) to register her

NCHE shuts down four schools

The National Commission on Higher Education (NCHE) has shut down four institutions of higher education for not meeting the commission's standard of accreditation to run as higher institutions of learning.

The affected schools include the Vision International Christian College of Liberia around the Paynesville Town Hall; the Leigh Sherman Community College in Paynesville; the Christian Theological Seminary in the Jamaica Road community and the St. Clements University College.

According to a release, the four institutions mentioned were inspected by the Quality Assurance Department of the National Commission on Higher Education on April 13, 2021.

The inspection considered the institutions' learning facilities, campuses, statuses of accreditation with the NCHE, and compliance to the NCHE's regulations, among several others.

The concerned institutions were found inapt regarding their campuses, learning facilities, including expiration of their accreditation permits, and noncompliance to the annual higher education

service fees payment to the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA).

The release also noted that the NCHE Secretariat provided a six-month ultimatum for these institutions to regularize their statuses and put in place the relevant issues that were flagged. Contrarily, these institutions blatantly failed to comply with the directives of the NCHE.

NCHE says while it continues to effect its full mandates, it stands resolute to take all appropriate actions on institutions in noncompliance with its regulatory functions, including non-accredited operating higher education institutions.

NCHE said the above mentioned institutions no longer exist among the lists of licensed and accredited institutions by the commission within the Republic of Liberia.

The release noted that if these concerned institutions' managements desire to operate accredited programs in the future within the Republic of Liberia, they will be subjected to reapply, and shall be assessed in accordance with the "Policy for Licensing Institutions to Conduct Post-Secondary Education and Training in Liberia."

Sen. Wesseh eulogies

Starts from back page

"My wife Medina and I were honoured to be invited and will observe the cremation ceremony alongside President Nana AkuffoAddo as part of the 60 from many parts of the world."

"Hon. President ProTempore, I'm writing to request an excuse from Plenary on this Tuesday and Thursday.

I must attend the funeral of the veteran revolutionary and Pan africanist Captain KojoTsikata scheduled to be held in Accra on this Thursday, 9Dec."

Sen. Wesseh continues that the late Captain was revered as the brain behind the success of the 24year revolutionary leadership of Ft. Lt. JJ Rawlings that transformed Ghana from 1979 and 1981 to 2005, recalling that as the famous National Security Advisor, in his early life as a you military officer, he stood as one of the most trusted and loyal men with the Founding Father of Ghana, the late Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah up to the notorious 1966 Coup

and after.

He says Capt. Tsikata loyally carried out Nkrumah's orders to protect the late Patrice Lumumba when he was under fire by the Belgian colonialists and their allies, and subsequently joined the Angola liberation forces with the support of Cuban revolutionaries to crush the Portuguese colonialists backed by racist apartheid South African mercenaries and occupationists.

He says in Ghana, the late Pan africanist survived torturous periods of life threatening detentions on charges of attempting coups, and earlier became a huge and trusted comrade of Commandante Fidel Castro, Brother Leader MuamarKhadafi, Chairman Yasser Arafat and others.

"The Captain mentored young men like JJ and Thomas Sankara." "Captain shall live on forever! Liberia will remember you forever for the peace we are enjoying today", Senator Wesseh's letter to the Senate Pro-Tempore Chie concludes.

Story by Jonathan Browne

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Français

Cummings attribue la défaite de la CPP à la crise interne

Le leader politique du Congrès national alternatif (ANC) Alexander B. Cummings a imputé la récente défaite de la Collaboration des partis politiques de l'opposition (CPP) aux dernières élections partielles aux querelles internes qui secouent l'alliance de l'opposition.

La coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) au pouvoir et la CPP n'ont pas remporté un seul siège lors des récentes élections partielles.

Cummings, qui était en visite dans le comté de Rivercess ce week-end à l'invitation du chapitre Rivercess du Liberty Party, a attribué la défaite à la crise.

Il a souligné la nécessité pour la CPP de régler ses problèmes internes et de "présenter rapidement au peuple libérien un alternatif à la mauvaise gestion du président Weah".

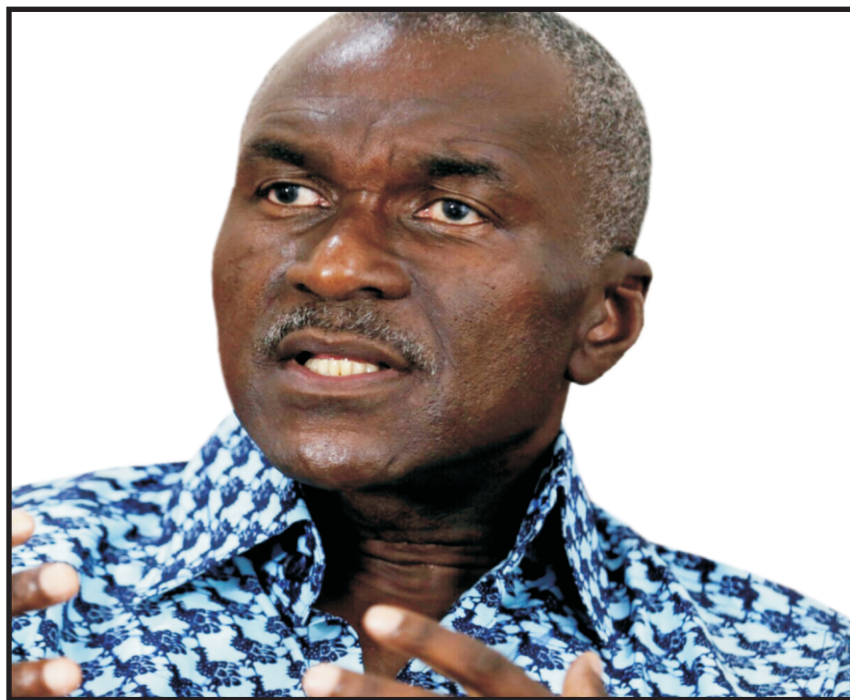
Cummings a déclaré lors du rassemblement politique que le fait que le parti au pouvoir n'ait pas non plus

remporté un seul siège lors des élections partielles qui viennent de se terminer est également une démonstration claire et une preuve de la colère et du ressentiment du peuple envers la CDC en ce qui concerne le pauvre état de l'économie.

Il a cependant salué la victoire des candidats de l'opposition et a promis de les contacter dans le but de construire une collaboration

solide et unie pour affronter Weah.

S'exprimant sur l'économie, qui, selon lui, est au cœur de tout, Cummings a conseillé au législateur de ne pas se permettre d'être utilisé comme conspirateur du pillage des ressources de l'État clairement orchestré par l'exécutif pour voler le peuple de ce pays.



Forum de Dakar : « Des discussions sans tabou sur la paix et la sécurité en Afrique »

La 7e édition du Forum de Dakar s'est ouverte ce lundi matin pour deux jours d'échanges, en présence de plusieurs chefs d'État et de nombreux ministres et décideurs internationaux. Le Forum de Dakar est aujourd'hui un véritable espace de rencontre pour réaffirmer avec force la coalition démocratique et le poids de la diplomatie sénégalaise sur les questions de paix et de sécurité en Afrique. Le directeur de l'organisation du Forum, François-Charles

Timmerman, revient sur l'événement. RFI : Le Forum international de Dakar sur la paix et la sécurité en Afrique réalise cette année sa 7e édition. Comment est née cette initiative et quel est l'objet de ce Forum ?

François-Charles Timmerman : François Hollande avait souhaité, lors du Sommet Afrique-France de 2013, que l'on crée un espace de dialogue et de réflexion autour des problématiques de paix et de sécurité en Afrique à destination des décideurs. L'objectif était de créer une agora de coopération internationale

opérationnelle, un lieu de rencontre des acteurs du terrain, loin du format des sommets officiels. Nous ne voulions pas d'une rencontre où les conclusions sont rédigées avant la tenue des échanges ! Le modèle de forum s'est imposé et répondait à un vrai besoin.

Le président du Sénégal, Macky Sall, s'est saisi de cette initiative. Il s'inscrivait alors dans une longue tradition diplomatique sénégalaise. Par exemple le Sénégal a été un des premiers à reconnaître l'État palestinien tout en ayant de très bonnes relations avec Israël, ou entretient de très bonnes relations avec les États-Unis, comme en témoigne la récente visite du secrétaire d'État américain Antony Blinken, tout en ayant une ambassade en Corée du Nord. Plus récemment encore, preuve de son dynamisme diplomatique, Dakar a accueilli le sommet Afrique-Chine. Le président Macky Sall est l'héritier de la posture sénégalaise depuis l'indépendance du pays : être un pays ouvert à 360°, se positionner en Vienne de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, être la ville où toutes les parties



Éditorial

Le désengagement des enseignants crée l'incertitude à l'Université du Libéria

Les étudiants de l'Université du Libéria sont contraints de rester chez eux en raison de la grève des enseignants qui demandent des arriérés de salaire.

L'Association des professeurs de l'Université du Libéria (ULFA) a publié un communiqué la semaine dernière, se désengageant de toutes les activités académiques jusqu'à la satisfaction de leurs demandes.

L'ULFA est parvenue à cette conclusion malgré l'engagement du gouvernement du Libéria à augmenter les salaires des professeurs.

Cependant, les véritables victimes de la grève actuelle des enseignants sont les plus de 10 000 étudiants en difficulté de l'Université du Libéria, dont la majorité ne peuvent pas payer les frais dans les universités privées du pays.

Ces étudiants n'ont d'autre choix que d'endurer des interruptions inutiles dans leurs programmes académiques en raison d'une mauvaise direction et de décisions administratives.

Le ministre des Finances, Samuel Tweah, a négocié à la dernière minute avec les responsables de l'ULFA la semaine dernière avant leur désengagement, leur demandant de retourner en classe avec la promesse de prendre en charge la masse salariale.

Mais sa plaidoirie n'a donné aucun fruit positif, car les enseignants ont abandonné les salles de classe, exigeant des salaires impayés et le règlement des disparités salariales.

Il devient de plus en plus courant pour le ministre des Finances et de la planification du Développement Tweah de laisser les situations atteindre des proportions de crise avant de tenter d'intervenir. Le cas des enseignants du système scolaire consolidé de Monrovia en est un exemple.

Pour l'amour de Dieu, ces protestations ne peuvent-elles pas être évitées par des interventions précoces ou proactives ? A quoi sert-il d'apporter de l'eau après que l'incendie a déjà rasé tout le bâtiment ?

Lorsque des situations de conflit potentiel atteignent des points de désengagement, il y a toujours des conséquences imprévues ou ce que les économistes appellent des externalités. Les étudiants de l'Université du Libéria subissent actuellement en grande partie à cause d'une mauvaise planification ou d'un manque de planification.

Le désengagement du corps professoral a clairement bouleversé le calendrier académique et laissé les étudiants dans l'incertitude quant au moment où ils passeront les examens avant les vacances de Noël.

peuvent venir discuter, échanger, débattre. Le Forum de Dakar, régi par les règles de *Chatham House* [confidentialité des informations échangées et non attribution des propos], permettra des discussions sans tabou, sur des problématiques capitales et sensibles telles que la paix et la sécurité en Afrique.

Comment ce Forum a-t-il évolué depuis sa première édition en 2014 ? Nous pourrions dire que les premières éditions étaient plus « régionales », avec une forte présence des États d'Afrique de l'Ouest et de la zone sahélo-saharienne. Nous avons ainsi reçu les présidents Idriss Déby du Tchad ou Ibrahim Boubakar Keita (IBK) du Mali lors des premières années.

Chinese Ambassador Speech

Presentation by Chinese Ambassador to Liberia H.E. Ren Yisheng at the meeting via video link with Liberian officials and media outlets representatives

(2 December 2021, 10:00hrs)

Hon. Kwame O. Weeks, Director General of Liberian News Agency(TBC),

Distinguished representatives of Liberian media outlets,

Distinguished representatives of Liberian government departments and political parties,

Distinguished representatives of Liberian academic circle and China-related associations,

Ladies and gentlemen,

A. Opening remarks

Good morning! Thank you all for accepting our invitation to this meeting via video link. I have with me Counselor Xu Kun, Deputy Chief of Mission, Mr. Li Jiang, Counselor for economic and commercial affairs and Mr. Li Zhaoxin, Director for political affairs together with other colleagues from our embassy.

At the outset, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for your interest in and support to the economic and social development of China, and to the China-Africa and China-Liberia friendship and pragmatic cooperation.

Please allow me to give you some update on the following points, the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China(CPC) and the sixth plenary session of the CPC Central Committee, building a moderately prosperous society in an all-round way (including the 14th Five-year Plan and the decisive victory in the fight against poverty), China's ecosystem construction and environment protection, the achievements of Xinjiang and Taiwan question, China-Africa relations and FOCAC, China-Liberia relations and pragmatic cooperation. Then we will open floor for comments and questions.

B. CPC centenary celebration and the sixth plenary session of the CPC Central Committee

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China(CPC). Over the past 100 years, the CPC has developed from only 50 plus members at its inception to more than 95 million members today and is the world's largest socialist ruling party. The CPC has led the Chinese people in winning victories of revolution, construction and reform. China has achieved an unprecedented great leap from continuous decline to a fundamental reversal of fate and continuous progress towards prosperity and strength.

For more than 70 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China(PRC), the CPC has led our people in creating "two miracles" that have attracted worldwide attention, namely the miracle of rapid economic development and the miracle of long-term social stability that are rare in the world. By spending decades' time only, China has completed the industrialization process that Western countries have traversed for hundreds of years. The creation of "two miracles" stems from the strong leadership of the CPC.

Since reform and opening up four decades ago, China's average annual GDP growth rate is 9.4% and the contribution rate of China's economic growth to world economic growth has reached about 18%. China has become the number one engine of world economic growth. Today, China is the world's largest manufacturing country, the largest trader in goods, the largest foreign exchange reserve country, and the second largest foreign direct investment destination and source country.

Building a community of shared future for humankind. The rapid rise of China not only benefits the Chinese people, greatly changes China, but also makes important contributions to the development and progress of human society. China firmly supports multilateralism and the United Nation's central role in international affairs. CPC Central Committee General Secretary Xi Jinping, also president of PRC, has put forward a series of initiatives such as the Belt and Road initiative(B&R) and Global Development Initiative (GDI) put forward at the General Debate of the 76th UN General Assembly, advocating the building of a community of shared future for humankind, calling for a change in the global governance system and the establishment of a new international justice and equity.

So far, more than 140 countries including Liberia and over 30 international organizations have signed on B&R cooperation document. According to relevant World Bank reports, by 2030, the "Belt and Road Initiative" is expected to help 7.6 million people around the world get rid of extreme poverty and 32 million people out of moderate poverty. It will increase global trade by 6.2% and the trade of economies along the route by 9.7%, and global revenue by 2.9%.

The 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China convened its sixth plenary session in Beijing from November 8 to 11, 2021. At the session, the Central Committee heard and discussed the report on the work of the Political Bureau, presented by General Secretary Xi Jinping on behalf of the Political Bureau, and considered and adopted the Resolution on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century and the Resolution on the Convocation of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. Over the past 100 years, the CPC has adopted three resolutions related to historical issues, in 1945, 1981 and 2021 respectively. They have analyzed the causes and drawn conclusions on important historical events and figures, through which the whole Party come to a clear consensus and thus grow stronger in unity.

General Secretary Xi Jinping delivered explanatory remarks on the draft Resolution on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century. It was highlighted at the latest session that the Party has had a glorious journey over the past hundred years. Since its founding in 1921, the Party has made seeking happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation its mission. Staying committed to communist ideals and socialist convictions, it united and led the Chinese people in working tirelessly to achieve national independence and the liberation of the people and then to make our country prosperous and strong and bring happiness to the people. The endeavors of the Party and the people over the past century represent the most magnificent chapter in the millennia-long history of the Chinese nation.

The 20th National Congress of the CPC comes at an important time when the CPC has embarked on a new journey to build a modern socialist country in all respects and to realize the Second Centenary Goal. It will be a highly important meeting and an event of great political significance for both the Party and the country.

C. Building a moderately prosperous society in all respects

In the past four decades or so, China's per capita GDP has increased 65 times. China has won the decisive victory of its battle against poverty and 770 million people have been lifted out of extreme poverty. China's victory over absolute poverty means that the most populous country in the world has achieved the poverty reduction goal of UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goal(SDG) 10 years ahead of schedule. We have achieved our first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

China has embarked on a new journey of realizing the dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation by marching towards the second centenary goal when we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of PRC in 2049, which is to build a modernized socialist country in an all-round way.

Since early 2020, the world has encountered a sudden outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. China took the lead in containing the pandemic, providing technical, anti-epidemic material and COVID vaccine assistance and support to more than 100 countries and international organization including the WHO. China also took the lead in resuming the work and production. Last year, China's annual GDP came in at 101.59 trillion yuan (15.68 trillion US dollars) in 2020 for the first time in history, accounting for about 17% of the world's total, and its contribution to global economic growth was as high as 35%. And China's per capita GDP exceeded 10,000 US dollars for two consecutive years.

This year marks the beginning of China's 14th Five Year Plan and the Long Range Objective through the Year 2035. This year, China's economic growth is expected to exceed 8%. Next year, there will be two major events for China. One is China will host the Winter Olympic Games in February. The other is the 20th National Congress of the CPC will be convened in the second half of the year. Some individuals in the USA have called for the so-called "diplomatic boycott" of the Beijing Winter Olympic Games. Politicizing sports has been an abnormal norm since the Cold War. Given the state of play of China-US relations, nobody would expect China to invite US leaders to the Games. The so-called boycott is no more than a self-invented, and politically convenient, excuse for Washington.

D. Ecosystem construction and Environment Protection

As put by President Xi Jinping, lucid water and lush mountains are invaluable assets. In recent years, China has carried out a series of fundamental, pioneering and long-term work, accelerated the promotion of the top-level design of ecological civilization and the construction of institutional systems, strengthened the construction of the rule of law, established and implemented the central environmental protection inspection system, and vigorously promoted green development. China has achieved remarkable results in tackling desertification, air, soil and water pollution, and in developing such clean and green energy as solar power and wind power.

According to the report released by FAO, China has increased an average of 1,937,000 hectares of forests every year in the past 10 years, with a growth rate of 0.93%, much higher than that of other countries.

For many years, China has been carrying out projects to prevent and control desertification and return farmland to forests in the vast western and northern regions. In April this year, state media reported that the Maowusu Desert, one of China's four major sandy lands, was "about to disappear".

China is firmly committed to working together with other Parties to strengthen implementation of the Paris Agreement. As the largest developing country, China is making arduous and exceptional efforts to achieve the modernization goal by the middle of this century while realizing low-carbon and green development. China has promised to strive to peak carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.

E. Xinjiang-related issues and Taiwn question

For some time, out of prejudice, ignorance and even malice, a small number of politicians, media outlets, and scholars in some Western countries have spared no effort to fabricate the so-called human rights issues of Xinjiang by spreading such rumors and lies as "genocide", "forced labor", "re-education camps". These smearing attacks without a bottom line and a convincing basis seriously violate international law and the basic norms of international relations, and blatantly violate justice and conscience.

Facts prove that "genocide" is the biggest lie of the century. Over the past 40 years,

TO BE CONTINUE

Alleged rape at Liberian Embassy

Liberian Embassy official assigned to the country's diplomatic mission in Abuja, Nigeria, has alleged that his seven year - old daughter has been raped right on the Embassy's premises by two perpetrators.

Mr. Nat Bayjay, Minister Counselor for Press and Public Affairs at the Liberian Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria says his daughter, aged just 7 at the time, was unfortunately sexually abused over a period of seven months by two different perpetrators.

He said in a press statement issued Monday, 6 December 2021 that he had to come public because all efforts he has applied diplomatically to get the attention of relevant authorities to particularly care for his daughter's welfare have only produced no response.

Mr. Bayjay, a Liberian journalist who has

Public Affairs department, Mr. David Akoi, for comment. Mr. Pewee could not be reached via phone, while Mr. Akoi's numbers rang without an answer.

Throughout his press statement, Mr. Bayjay did not name those he alleged to be the perpetrators of the rape incident against his daughter.

He explained that after being raped at the Embassy by two of its residents, this barbaric act was confirmed by medical doctors and the Nigerian police after which he formally complained same to the Liberian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Information.

Nat said as if that wasn't enough shock for the little baby and his entire family, his colleague whose wards committed such a heinous crime against the victim showed absolutely no remorse over the very unfortunate incident.

"The worst shock came when our Liberian Ambassador, my own direct boss Professor Al-Hassan Conteh with whom I have

and Tourism which seconded me to the Embassy, the Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs initially expressed his disappointment especially in the Ambassador's refusal to have him informed on the matter within three weeks of the incident," said Mr. Bayjay.

According to him, the Foreign Ministry sent a three-man investigative panel to Abuja.

Bayjay also alleged that the three - man panel's report was so tailored in protecting the role of the Ambassador whose mishandling of the situation got the Liberian Government to even commit already scarce financial resources to do an investigation of three officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"I also want to use this time to state that the Ambassador Jarjar Kamara Report only amounted to nothing more than a diplomatic appeasement, all aimed at protecting Ambassador Conteh at the expense of us the victims," he alleged.

He claimed that the likes of Ambassador Jarjar Kamara are only concerned about protecting their own clique at the expense of any victimized situation.

While I'm in Monrovia for the past two months to pursue the justice aspect to this matter, Bayjay said he keeps getting calls from his family over his young daughter's declining health back in Abuja, causing the kid to miss out on school for several days.

He said for the past 8 months, he has been asking the Liberian Government to take full responsibility of catering to the child's wellbeing while pursuing justice.

But he said his request has been completely ignored right from when such an alarming matter finally came to his attention since April 17, 2021.

"As we are aware of the long process of litigation, why can't cater to the welfare of this innocent child solely on humanitarian grounds? Why if this litigation lingers for a year, we the family [remain] the only one to be going through the financial stress of her health which is already in a poor state?" Bayjay ponders.

He has launched an appeal to all female advocacy groups, including the Association of Female Lawyers Association of Liberia (AFELL) and the Female Journalists Association of Liberia (FeJaL) in standing up for his daughter.--**Press release**

had very excellent and cordial professional and personal relationships, so terribly intervened in the matter in which he was unfortunately bent on protecting the perpetrators rather than the victim," Mr. Bayjay explained.

He said within three weeks of when this came to his knowledge, the Ambassador refused to notify 'Home Office' (Liberian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) in addition to his determination to protecting the two alleged rapists who took turns in sexually abusing the victim for seven uninterrupted months.

"Ambassador Conteh's biased intervention in the matter compelled me to relocate my family out of our assigned Liberian Government apartment on the chancery of the Embassy at my personal expense as my family was no longer safe under his leadership," he added.

"And when I formally complained the incident to the Ministry of Information, Culture,



Mr. Nat Bayjay, father of the victim

transitioned to public service, has lamented that the situation has made closure on such a traumatizing incident to be yet far off and continues to haunt his family.

"These two perpetrators themselves were under the guidance of a colleague diplomat also assigned at the Abuja Mission who himself up to today's date shows no remorse for the acts carried out by his wards against my baby," Bayjay alleged.

Mr. Bayjay has called for President George Manneh Weah's personal intervention in what he terms as a "very distressful situation" that happened to his family while on national duty in Abuja.

This paper has made contacts with relevant public affairs officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Assistant Minister Sylvester Pewee and the Officer - in - Charge at the

Foreign Minister

Cont'd from page 6

Union (AU) and all other multilateral and bilateral partners of Guinea in a move to have a win, win situation into the process.

He reflected that Guinea over the period played a key role in Liberia's peace process something Liberians are currently enjoying as such it is befitting for Liberia and other Countries in the sub region to reciprocate in the spirit of fraternity and solidarity.

"Liberia's Democratic process is well on course including the historic democratic transition of power from one democratically elected President to the other in Liberia something among other things, he attributed to Guinea's role played in consolidating Peace and security in Liberia", he added.

Minister Kemayah while commending member states of the MRU for their participation into the process also pledged the three Countries namely; Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone and Liberia commitments that no inch of their territorial areas or Country will be in any way use by any individual or groups to cause insecurity within the Republic of Guinea.

"No where in Sierra Leone, No where in Guinea and No Where in Liberia will be used to cause problems for Guinea", you can rest assured for that", Ambassador Kemayah emphasized.

He at the same time, commended Guinea for the path leading to the transition process adding that the MRU will work with Guinea for a road map to the process.

"Our respective Presidents are fully in support of this process and we will work to ensure that this becomes a win, win for the region", he emphasized.

Also speaking to reporters

following the end of the meeting was Guinean Foreign Minister Morissanda Kouyate who appreciated the delegation for such key intervention.

According to him the role and intervention by the MRU into Guinea's crisis signifies a clear fraternity and solidarity in the region of which they are grateful.

He stressed that they are on a good path to the transition process and will do all they can along with regional and bilateral partners to help address the situation.

Among other things, the Sunday's meeting was a continuation in the actualization of the vision of Liberia's President George Weah for said peace initiative mainly as a peace ambassador which he added also led to the hosting of the Mano River Union Diplomatic Peace, Security and Democracy conference which was held in Liberia on November 22-23, 2021.

As part of the conference, he told the media that a joint communique was signed and embedded in it was the need for the MRU to feed in the joint mission comprising the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Chief of Defense Staffs of the three Countries including Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Meanwhile the peace mediation delegation to Conakry, Guinea was Headed by the Foreign Minister of Liberia Ambassador Dee Maxwell SaahKemayah Sr. Others are; Assistant Minister For Foreign Affairs Adonie Z. Greaves, Atty, Naomi Gray, Assistant Minister for Afro -Asian Affairs, the Secretary General of the Mano River Union Medina Wesseh and Prince Vincent, Deputy Minister for operations of the Ministry of National Defense.

While the Sierra Leonean



December 6, 2021

Re-Survey Notice

Contours, Limited informed the general public that **Mr. Mackerson M.E. Kelley** has duly authorized the Conduct of Detail & Perimeter Re-Survey of **Two point zero (2.0) Lots** of land in Pipeline, Lower Johnsonville, Paynesville City, Montserrado County in Favor of **Mr. Eric Freeman**.

The parcel of land to be Re-Survey is lying and situated in **Pipeline Road, Paynesville City, Montserrado County**.

This Re-survey will commence on Friday, 10th of December 2021 beginning at 10:30AM.

Therefore, all adjoining & adjacent property owners, and interested parties are requested to be present at the site on the day of the survey with their **deed(s), diagram(s), map(s), technical representatives/surveyors, and other relevant document to substantiate their claims.**

Please let this survey notice and announcement claim the attention of the following individuals:

1. The Sumo Family
2. Madam Lorpu D. Johnson & Family
3. Mr. Samuel L. Yarkpawolo & Family
4. Mr. Matthew T. Yarseah---Community Chairman
5. All other interested Parties

INITIALS
W.Y.F.

Signed:
Albert D. Giah Jr.

Registered Licensed Surveyor
Cell #: 0886740519/0770266609



The New Dawn

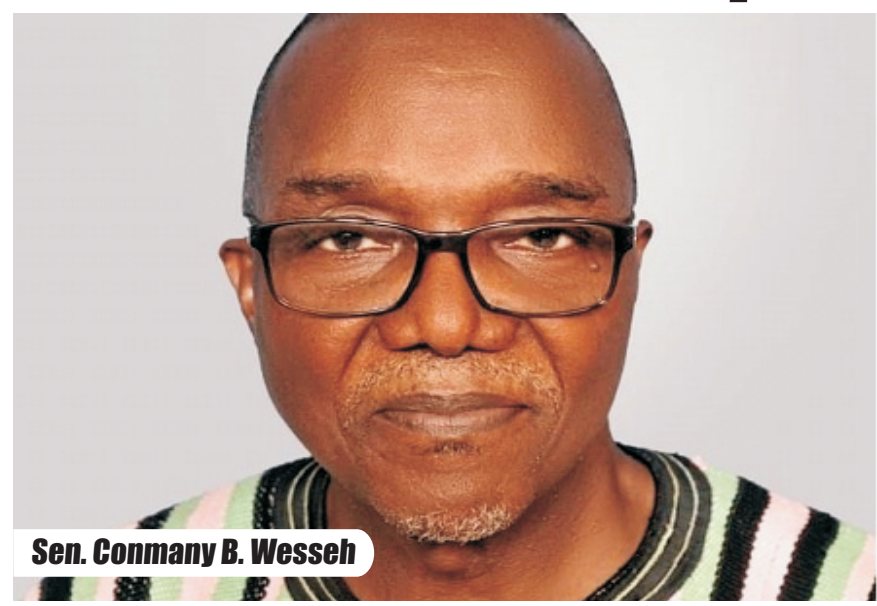
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TRULY INDEPENDENT



VOL. 11 NO. 215 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 07, 2021 PRICE LD\$40.00

Sen. Wesseh eulogies Kojo Tsikata

-In letter to Pro-Tempore Albert Chie



Wesseh recalls that the late Capt. Kojo Tsikata was the main influence for ECOMOG to come to Liberia in 1990 to help save the country from self-destruction.

“During my 10 year exile in Ghana in flight from the Liberian military regime from 1981 to 1991, Captain Tsikata gave me and scores of young Liberians also fleeing the regime, revolutionary support and protection”, he further recalls.

Senator Wesseh also notes that on his passing, the fallen Pan Africanist decreed a simple home going ceremony attended by a small group of family members and comrades/friends, adding

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Sen. Conmany B. Wesseh

River Gee County Senator Conmany B. Wesseh has described fallen Ghanaian official Capt. Kojo Tsikata as a veteran revolutionary and

Pan africanist. In a letter to Senate President Pro-Tempore Albert Chief asking for excuse to attend his cremation Thursday, December 9, 2021 in Accra, Ghana, Senator



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