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ALP pulls out of CPP



CPP Leader Joseph Boakai

ALP Leader Benoni Urey



Commissioner Floyd Saylor



NEC Floyd unleashes "dogs" (Pt2)

-A coup in the making

Christmas season na come!

Watch out for lots of goodies from *Y'ello* Santa.





Continental News

Major fire at South African parliament in Cape Town

A large fire has severely damaged the Houses of Parliament in the South African city of Cape Town.

Video footage showed a plume of black smoke filling the sky, with huge flames coming out from the roof of the building.

President Cyril Ramaphosa visited the scene and called it a "terrible and devastating event".

A 51-year-old man was being held and questioned by the authorities, police said.

The blaze, which began shortly after 06:00 local time (04:00 GMT), came the day after Archbishop Desmond Tutu's state funeral at St George's Cathedral, near parliament.

Mr Ramaphosa said news of the fire was a "terrible setback to what we were basking in yesterday" and added that Archbishop Tutu would also have been devastated.

He said the building's sprinkler system had not functioned properly, and

praised firefighters for responding to the fire in minutes. Without their intervention the National Assembly would have been reduced to "ashes", he said.

Dozens of firefighters battled the flames. Officials later said that the entire parliamentary complex was severely damaged.

Jean-Pierre Smith, a member of the Cape Town mayoral

committee for safety and security, told reporters that the roof above the old assembly hall was "completely gone" and further damage inside the old chamber had not yet been evaluated.

"It is not possible to see whether it's damaged. We hope it is not because it has so many historical artefacts, but you can't gain access to it

without breaking the doors down and we don't want to do that," he said.

He also said that parliament's fire alarm only rang when firefighters were already on site. Officials said the fire started on the third floor offices and quickly spread to the National Assembly (the parliament's lower house) chamber, reports the BBC's Nomsa Maseko in Cape Town.

No injuries have been reported and there's no indication of what may have started it, our correspondent adds.

Fire and rescue service officials said it could take several more hours to put the fire out completely because of the carpets and wooden floors

in the building.

The damage from the fire can be seen in these images made available by the city of Cape Town: The parliament is not currently in session because of the holidays.

The Houses of Parliament in Cape Town are made up of three sections, with the oldest dating back to 1884. The newer sections built in the 1920s and 1980s house the National Assembly. Meanwhile, the government is based in Pretoria.

It is the second fire at the parliament in under a year. In March there was a fire caused by an electrical fault.

Last year, a fire ravaged part of the University of Cape Town's library, which was home to a unique collection of African archives. BBC



shows black smoke coming from the roof of the building in Cape Town

South Africa bids farewell to Desmond Tutu

The funeral mass for South African anti-apartheid campaigner Archbishop Desmond Tutu has taken place at the Anglican cathedral in Cape Town.

Tutu, a Nobel Peace Prize winner who helped end the racist regime in South Africa, died last Sunday aged 90.

In his eulogy, President Cyril Ramaphosa described Tutu as "the spiritual father of our new nation".

Tutu had insisted there should be no "lavish spending" on the funeral. He wanted "the cheapest available coffin".

Family, friends, clergy and politicians were among those who gathered at St George's

Cathedral for Saturday's service, which had limited numbers because of coronavirus restrictions. Tutu's widow Nomalizo Leah sat in a wheelchair at the front of the congregation wearing a purple shawl - the colour of her late husband's clerical robes. Tutu was one of the driving forces behind the movement to end the policy of racial segregation and discrimination enforced by the white minority government against the black majority in South Africa from 1948 until 1991. In the main eulogy at the official state funeral on Saturday, Mr Ramaphosa described the archbishop as a "crusader in the struggle for freedom, for justice, for equality and for peace. Not only in South Africa... but around the world as well".

"If we are to understand a global icon to be someone of great moral stature, of exceptional qualities, and of service to humanity there can be no doubt that it refers to the man we're laying to rest today," he said. Saturday's funeral was given a special status, usually designated for presidents and very important

Most of Africa has missed global vaccine target



A target for achieving full vaccination rates of 40% in every country by the end of December has been missed across most of Africa.

The World Health Organization (WHO) put forward the goal earlier this year, but only about 9% of people on the continent have been fully vaccinated against Covid so far. These low rates of vaccination have been of particular concern following the identification of the Omicron variant in South Africa, and its rapid global spread in recent weeks. Just seven countries on the continent have reached the 40% target.

Three of these are small

island nations where the logistical challenges are much easier to overcome. Seychelles and Mauritius have fully vaccinated more than 70% of their populations, Cape Verde around 45%. Of the countries on the mainland of Africa, only Morocco, Tunisia, Botswana and Rwanda have exceeded the target. Countries in the south of the continent are doing considerably better than elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa. As of 30 December, just under half of the countries on the continent had achieved more than 10% of the population fully vaccinated (a target the WHO had set for the end of September, and which was missed by most African nations). BBC



Tributes paid at state funeral for Archbishop Desmond Tutu

people. Tutu had requested that the only flowers in the cathedral should be a "bouquet of carnations from his family", according to the Archbishop Tutu IP Trust and the Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation.

His ashes are to be interred

behind the pulpit at St George's Cathedral - the Anglican diocese he served as Archbishop for 35 years.

It was earlier revealed that Tutu is to be aquamated - a process using water that is described as an environmentally friendly alternative to cremation. BBC

EDITORIAL

2022 another blank check

2021 WAS VERY challenging pandemically and economically. The novel coronavirus globally took away many lives and affected economies and businesses, Liberia being no exception. But thank God for another great opportunity of 365 or 366 days, or 52 weeks or 12 calendar months, though COVID-19 is still here with its latest strain, known as Omicron, stifling human movement and devastating trade.

HOWEVER, AS A country, collectively a people and individually human beings, we have another blank check before us for our lives in the New Year and what we choose to write on this check will determine who we hope to become tomorrow in life.

THE TRUTH OF the matter is everyone else in the world have this same New Year, which is another 12 months before them but what might be different is opportunities available to exploit. This is does not mean however, we should not dare to do something to change situations round us or to become somebody better in life.

WHETHER WE ARE in business, in government or in private life, we must set goals for our lives and endeavor to achieving those goals to improve conditions of life or to live the standard of life we imagine for ourselves and the country we belong to.

AS LIBERIANS, WE should be reminded that Liberia will never improve unless we sincerely strive by working hard to improve our individual lives, as citizens. This is important if we must join rest of the world in moving forward.

POLITICIANS AND GOVERNMENTS, particularly in Africa would not take us there because they are self-centered, deceitful, greedy and want all for themselves. If we looking up to them and wait on them, our lives will never change. All we will keep getting are promises and more promises that they do not sincerely desire to fulfill.

IF WE ARE in business, we should endeavor to improving services and quality of products for the market. Better services and products would not only attract more customers and increase sales but lead to growth in profit.

WE AT THE New Dawn promise to improve on quality journalism this year by reporting stories that are accurate, balance and concise, without compromising ethical standards. We believe the Year 2022 provides a great opportunity to improve where we went wrong or where we failed to meet expectations of our loyal readers and advertisers last year.

IN OTHER WORDS, we vow to make quality use of the blank check that the New Year provides to write the dreams that will scare us and expand our horizon in taking Liberian journalism to higher levels.

THIS IS A 50-50 chance for all of us but with different opportunities. We must strive to make use of what is before us and forget about who is eating with silver spoon or is dining in a palace. Least we should forget, just as our conditions globally are not the same, so our opportunities will be different. What matters most, is seizing the opportunities around us and making the most out of them to succeed.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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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

COMMENTARY

By Elsa Fornero

The Right Recipe for Reforming Pensions

TURIN - Pension reform is a thankless but necessary task. Pensions are a difficult and emotional subject that affects every citizen, and changing how they are calculated or when workers can retire involves negotiating a complex web of rules, habits, and entitlements that neat academic models do not capture.

In countries with national pension systems, the main pillar is typically written into law and managed by the state. Other sources of retirement income come from occupational pension funds and individual investments, which are dependent on the market but subject to regulatory bodies, such as the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority.

Even though the state does not provide all pension income, governments have good reasons to be involved in reform efforts. After all, more than efficiency is at stake in the provision of pensions, and the insurance market's ability to protect people in old age is limited. Moreover, relying on the market to provide senior citizens support risks causing an increase in poverty.

Twentieth-century social protection programs were created with these considerations in mind. Despite profound demographic and economic changes, they are no less relevant today.

The government pension pillar typically is financed on a pay-as-you-go (PAYG) basis that depends on an intergenerational contract. The working population pays social security contributions via payroll taxes to the government pension agency, which pays this money more or less immediately in the form of annuities to the retired population.

Unlike private insurance programs, the PAYG system does not rely on financial reserves, but on the understanding that those who are working pay for retirees and that the young and yet-to-be-born will do the same for those currently working. The state, not the market, can "guarantee" this contract by pegging future pensions to mathematical formulas, taking into account the entire flow of contributions and a rate of return that corresponds to the growth rate of labor income.

Funding pension programs through private entities has sometimes been touted as a better option than the public PAYG system. This approach assumes that the interest rate will be higher than the rate of economic growth, so pension income - for the same volume of contributions - will be higher. But in countries in Latin America and Eastern Europe where this kind of radical reform has been introduced, it has not been a success. In some cases, a painful policy reversal has been necessary.¹

Today, a mixed system that combines both public and private options has become more common. But even in a mixed system, reforms are required to make sure that pensions are both sustainable and adequate. And careful oversight is necessary as well, to reduce or eliminate possible distortions in the system. These include implicit taxation on work performed after the minimum requirements for retirement have been met, and the possibility that wealthier workers will benefit more than poorer ones, owing to weak correlation between contributions and pensions in defined-benefit formulas.

The main challenge confronting PAYG systems is the need to adapt to major structural demographic and economic shifts. As populations

age, fertility rates decrease, and migration flows stall, the intergenerational contract that forms the foundation of PAYG systems becomes difficult to maintain.

In the past 25 years, pension reform in Europe has focused on changes that increase the effective retirement age, equalize rules for retirement between men and women, and strengthen the correlation between individuals' contributions and benefits. Adopting some type of defined-contribution formula makes it possible to tailor pensions to individual workers' contributions without having to capitalize in financial markets. In this type of program, a worker's initial benefit at retirement and its subsequent indexation are determined by applying to the accumulated notional capital an actuarial factor that considers expected longevity.

In a good reform, the pension system cannot be separated from the labor market and the economy. Dynamic and inclusive labor markets that make it easier for workers to find a job and for employers to hire are the best prerequisite for adequate pension systems. Long-term employment-enhancing policies such as apprenticeships and lifelong learning must be given higher priority and more resources.

Reforms must also ensure that public pensions promote social solidarity, so that those who are disadvantaged in the labor market do not struggle in retirement. Solidarity can take the form of tax-financed notional contributions directed to workers in hazardous jobs, those who are unemployed, or workers who provide long-term care to relatives.

Economic growth remains the main variable determining the adequacy and sustainability of a public PAYG system. Growth at appropriate rates creates additional jobs, reduces unemployment, encourages labor-force participation, and increases the likelihood that citizens of active age (20-65) are employed.

But pension reforms are never merely a technical issue amenable to technocratic solutions. Because they affect wealth, expectations, and life plans, reforms are political. They must be approved by government institutions and backed by the public. Without popular support, any reform runs the risk of being either formally reversed or practically bypassed.

To increase the likelihood that a reform will succeed, workers must have an understanding of their pension wealth. They must be aware of their investment opportunities and retirement options in order to make sensible choices and avoid disappointment, such as a shortfall in pension benefits.

Workers also need to comprehend the basic rationale for the pension reform. Governments must explain how it will reduce generational imbalances, strengthen the pension program's financial sustainability, and limit distortions and privileges. In order for workers to understand this reasoning, they must have some level of financial literacy. Unfortunately, surveys have shown both gaps in knowledge about pensions and widespread financial illiteracy.

Preparing for retirement is a lifelong endeavor, and financial education is a fundamental part of it. Governments must do more to ensure that workers have what they need to make the best decisions about their retirement.

OPINION

By Mark Leonard

The Rule-Maker Race

In the coming decades, the question of who sets the global rules, standards, and norms guiding technology, trade, and economic development will be paramount. Having lost their exclusive prerogative in this domain, some Western governments have begun to rethink the universality of the rules-based order.

BERLIN - Will the West remain committed to the rules-based international order when it is no longer the one making the rules? That will be one of the most intriguing questions of the next two decades. If there is one principle that has united electorates, policymakers, politicians, and media across the West, it is that rules matter for just about everything else. Disrespect of common rules has long been met with intense anger and a forceful response.

Consider the United Kingdom, where Prime Minister Boris Johnson's raw charisma enabled him to win and hold on to power, effectively redrawing the country's political map in the process. Until recently, his public approval had withstood florid displays of incompetence, a rising pandemic death toll, and an economic recession. But Johnson is now finally hemorrhaging support for one simple reason: he and his government went too far in disregarding the rules. The revelation that there was a Christmas party at 10 Downing Street (the prime minister's residence) last year while the rest of the country was in lockdown has hurt Johnson's reputation more than any of his other scandals or transgressions.

At the international level, Western governments routinely condemn others for rule-breaking. Russia, for example, has been rebuked for its annexation of Crimea, repeated cyberattacks on other countries, and physical attacks on Russian dissidents abroad. China, too, has been condemned as a major transgressor. US President Joe Biden may not agree with much that his predecessor said or did, but he has maintained a striking continuity with the Trump administration's characterization of China as a global menace that steals intellectual property, maintains illegal subsidies, permits rampant corruption, and is carrying out genocide.

And yet, in the coming decades, the biggest global threat will not be China the rule-breaker, but China the rule-maker. China's growing influence over international norms, standards, and conventions is a game changer. For centuries, Western powers have taken it for granted that they are the world's norm-setters, massively influencing other countries' policies through the "Washington Consensus," the "Brussels effect," and other channels.

A term coined in 1989 by the economist John Williamson, the Washington Consensus now broadly refers to market-based economic policies and a limited role for the state. For decades, this Western liberal approach underpinned the work of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization, because it was seen as a universal recipe for good governance and prosperity.

The Brussels effect is a newer coinage, popularized by legal scholar Anu Bradford to describe the global impact of the European Union's regulatory policies. The EU's standards governing data privacy, product safety, genetically modified organisms, sexual rights, and other issues tend to be adopted as a matter of course by multinational corporations and other countries seeking access to Europe's massive single market.

Over the last decade, however, the free-market Washington Consensus has been challenged by a "Beijing consensus" of managed globalization, industrial policy, and state capitalism, while the Brussels effect has run up against a potential "Beijing effect": China's export of technology standards through its "Digital Silk Road."

Moreover, many global rule-setting bodies that once underpinned European and American predominance now have Chinese leaders. These include (or have included) the International Telecommunication Union, the International Organization for Standardization, and the International Electrotechnical Commission. China is poised to set the standards for rapidly developing technologies such as artificial intelligence and robotics, and Chinese companies' technological infrastructure - built to Chinese standards - has spread to numerous countries.

As Bradford notes, while the Beijing effect operates differently than the Brussels effect, it still has far-reaching consequences. And as China becomes a bigger trade partner to more countries, its global influence will continue to increase.

Whether the Western commitment to rules will endure therefore has become an urgent question. What if that commitment was always more about the power it conferred than about the underlying principles it upheld? Would Europeans and Americans respect a global rule-based order that followed "Xi Jinping Thought" instead of Western Enlightenment thinkers? Many in China, Russia, and other countries assume that we would not, taking that as proof that our commitment is merely a means to our own ends.

To stay ahead of the curve, some Western governments have begun to rethink the shape of the rules-based order. There is talk of departing from universal, global institutions in favor of a new arrangement based on rules set within likeminded clubs. The EU, for example, is now holding a debate about "strategic sovereignty," recognizing that if it operates as a single bloc, it could have the clout to preserve the rule-based liberal order for itself and other willing participants. The alternative is to submit to illiberal challenges from Xi, Russian President Vladimir Putin, or a return of Trumpism in the US.

A similar shift is visible across the Atlantic, where the Biden administration has gone from supporting global institutions to imagining a new kind of rules-based order comprising the world's democracies. The White House's recent Summit for Democracy could be understood as an archetype for how this new order would function.

It remains to be seen how smaller powers would navigate the changing landscape. One striking clue can be found in the Johnson government's March 2021 Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development, and Foreign Policy. Concluding that, "A defence of the status quo is no longer sufficient for the decade ahead," it advocates a more dynamic approach than merely "preserving the post-Cold War 'rules-based international system.'"

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O-P-E-D

By Melvyn B. Krauss

The ECB's Savvy Gradualism

Unlike the US Federal Reserve, the European Central Bank has no fiscal backstop and must worry about the cohesion of the eurozone, in addition to the risk of inflation. Given these complex policy conditions, ECB President Christine Lagarde's careful approach appears to be as sound politically as it is economically.

STANFORD - This month, the world's major central banks shifted gears and announced plans to tighten monetary policy. But there was one notable exception: the European Central Bank, which says it does not intend to raise interest rates in 2022, even though it is well aware of today's inflation risks.

By contrast, the US Federal Reserve now expects to raise its policy rate three times in 2022, and the Bank of England has already increased its main policy rate by 15 basis points. Moreover, to keep an earlier promise that it would not raise rates until it had unwound its balance sheet, the Fed will accelerate the wind-down of its monthly asset purchases.

Does this mean that the ECB is "soft on inflation," occupying a dovish outlier position among the world's major central banks? Is Germany's bestselling tabloid, Bild, justified in bestowing on ECB President Christine Lagarde the mocking sobriquet "Madame Inflation"?

No and no. While Bild may accurately reflect the traditional German view that inflation counts for everything in ECB monetary policy, that perspective is hopelessly outdated in the Europe of 2022.

Lagarde understands that withdrawing monetary stimulus after a crisis can be a fraught task. Raising interest rates too fast could tear apart the currency union by pushing up borrowing costs and stifling the recoveries of heavily indebted member states like Italy, Spain, and Greece. Economists call this "fragmentation risk." Fragmentation of the currency area is a chronic issue for the eurozone, because, unlike the Fed and the BOE, which both are backed by a single fiscal authority, the ECB operates with 19 independent fiscal authorities.

This may have been uppermost in Lagarde's mind at her December press conference, where she explained that gradualism is necessary to avoid a "brutal transition" to a more restrictive monetary policy. Not surprisingly, that statement provoked a churlish response from the traditionally hawkish outgoing Bundesbank president, Jens Weidmann. Similarly, Christian Lindner, the new German finance minister, says there are growing fears in Berlin that the ECB's sensitivity to heavily indebted member states' borrowing costs would lead it to withdraw stimulus too slowly.

In a way, Lindner is right. Lagarde indeed is in no rush to tighten monetary policy, because of her concern for keeping the currency union intact as the stimulus is scaled down. Like a responsible medical professional, she does not want to rush the process of weaning an addict off a powerful drug. And make no mistake, the ECB's stimulus policies have had a potent effect on the economy, which in turn has become dependent on them.

Always politically savvy, Lagarde understands that in a region that has created a €750 billion (\$850 billion) recovery fund to keep the currency union together, a monetary policy that threatens to split the union would not sit well with the public. A "cold turkey" approach would be as reckless politically as it would be economically.

The biggest potential source of fragmentation risk today is Italy, with its €2.6 trillion in public debt and a long history of political instability. Managing these conditions requires very careful handling. So far, investors seem pleased with Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi's leadership. But they fear that political instability will return if Draghi chooses to pursue the presidency (generally a more ceremonial role) following Sergio Mattarella's imminent departure from that office.

Financial markets already quaked after Draghi's end-of-year press conference earlier this month, when he suggested that his stay in office might be ending soon. But investors should relax, because there is only a small chance of Draghi becoming Italy's next president. Most likely, his hint at the press conference was a tactic to gainsay two of Italy's largest trade unions, the Italian General Confederation of Labour (CGIL) and the Italian Labor Union (UIL), following their call for a general strike just days ahead of a parliamentary vote to approve a crucial budget law. The wily former ECB president-turned-politician knows that sometimes there is nothing like threatening to quit to get one's way.

It should go without saying that Lagarde's effort to manage the eurozone's fragmentation risk will be a lot easier if her predecessor at the helm of the ECB remains in his current post until his term expires in 2023. In my view, he will do just that. But some additional encouragement from Brussels and Berlin could go a long way toward ensuring that Draghi remains in his post - and that the European recovery stays on track.

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Executive Job Advertisement

Vacancy Notice No. BTL/2001/001	Date Advertised: 20 December 2021
Duty Station: Monrovia, Liberia	Deadline: 07 January 2022 @ 4:00 p.m.

Baker Tilly Liberia, Ltd. on behalf of a leading client, the Liberian Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI), is looking to recruit a **qualified Liberian** to be the next **President/Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**.

The President and Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO") is the head of the Executive Management Team of the Liberian Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI). He/She is appointed by the Board of Directors consistent with Section 64.31 of the Bank's Charter and the Prudential Regulations of the Central Bank. He/She shall serve as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board consistent with the relevant provisions of the Bank's Charter and By-Laws.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. The President/CEO will be responsible for: provision of strategic leadership, general supervision, management and administration of the vision, direction and operations the Bank;
2. He/She shall, on a day-to-day basis, be the Chief Marketing Officer and Ambassador of the Institution and shall act in accordance with the plans and policies approved by the Board;
3. He/She shall be the principal contact and chief representative of the Bank to promote the policies and articulate the interest of the Bank to all stakeholders, including the Government of Liberia and multilateral institutions;
4. He/She shall administer the affairs of the Bank within the parameters established by the Board of Directors and the Bank's Act;
5. He/She shall serve as principal signatory for the commitment and authorization funds against capital and operating plans consistent with the guidelines set up in Bank's Charter and By-Laws as well as other enabling legislations and regulations as may be applicable;
6. Under the supervision of the Board of Directors, he/she shall have the power to commit resources, enter into agreements, contracts, leases, etc. in the ordinary course of business, in order pursue the approved plans, and objectives of the Bank as provided for. However, that major commitments, exposures and risks shall be reported to the Board on a regular and timely basis consistent with regulations applicable;
7. He/She shall identify the principals risks of the Bank's business and implement appropriate systems to manage those risks;
8. He/She shall lead the review of the Bank's performance strategy including identification of targets and goals as well as compensations for senior management in consultation with the Board of Directors;
9. He/She shall establish effective control and co-ordination mechanisms for all operations and activities, ensure the integrity of the internal control and management systems;
10. He/She shall manage the required interfaces between the Bank and the industry, Government and stakeholders and shall be the principal spokesperson for the Bank at all times;
11. He/She shall ensure the safe and efficient operation of the Bank in conformity with and in accordance with laws, regulations of the Institution, the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) and all other institutional codes, conflict of Interest Guidelines, sound business practice and in accordance with the policies and practices approved by the Board of Directors;
12. He/She shall foster a corporate culture that promotes ethical practices and encourages individual integrity and social responsibility; and
13. Perform all other functions and duties as may be conferred or imposed from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Bank. .

Education and Experience:

- A Masters Degree in Banking, Finance and Management, Economics or any Business Management Field minimum;
- A minimum of 15 years of work experience in the Banking industry, at least 10 of those years must be in the Liberian Banking Industry;
- Must be fluent in English; knowledge in French is an added advantage;
- Must have experience in working with or understanding the requirements of multilateral financial institutions and knowledgeable of Financial Institutions monitoring framework;
- Must have proven senior level management experience at a financial institution in Liberia or beyond;
- Must have experience in banking operations, credit appraisals, compliance, procurement and general administration; and
- Must have knowledge of computer software application/appreciation;
- Applicants should not be more than age 55.

All interested candidates are required to submit their applications along with CVs and copies of academic and professional credentials via email: info@bakertillyliberia.com within the set timeframe. Kindly note that only Short-listed candidates will be contacted; and will be subject to a rigorous vetting process.

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 (AC1-01), Right wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow: In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:

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

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


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

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

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

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

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

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

LEC power victim pleads for government to pay hospital bill

By Lincoln G. Peters

Madam Betty Menyon, a lady who has been injured by a falling Liberia Electricity Cooperation (LEC) tension line, is calling on the Government of Liberia through the LEC to pay her hospital bill.

The victim claimed that LEC has not fulfilled its alleged promise made through its ELWA Sub-station's Supervisor, only identified as Mr. Lawrence, to pay her hospital bill.

Madam Menyon reportedly got victimized by the LEC tension wire on 27 November 2021 when she went out to the Boulevard rock crushing ground to get her family's daily bread.

She is said to be a single parent of five children. She has been hospitalized at the ELWA Hospital.

Her health situation seems to be getting worse daily and doctors at the ELWA Hospital in Paynesville have

carried out.

The victim lamented that she has no money now, adding that she needs LEC's intervention in the situation.

"My son as you can see me, I am dying slowly because nobody helped me pay my bill. My body [is] hot within and I have other operations to undergo if I will live as normal again," said Madam Menyon.

"Is it because I am poor and I have nobody to talk for me [that's] why LEC management [is] treating me this way? Because I have no husband, am a single mother fighting for the future of my five teenage children?" she asked.

"Now, I am appealing to the government and everyone to help me so I can stand on my feet again to find food for my children and give them education. I am dying slowly," she concluded.



announced that Madam Menyon has to go through some major surgical operation to help her to be physically normal.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with this paper during the weekend at the ELWA Hospital, Madam Menyon explained that after crushing rocks on 27 November 2021, she was resting along with her friend when a storm blew and a heavy rain started to fall.

She said it was during that time when the LEC tension wire fell on her body and she got injured on the side.

Madam Betty Menyon narrated that Mr. Lawrence visited her and gave US\$50 to her. But she claimed that Mr. Lawrence indicated that LEC management would help her with her bills, something she said the corporation is yet to do.

She said she has been discharged, but she can't go home because she is still in pain and other skin tests need to be

An eye witness identified as Bindu Freeman disclosed that there was a fire that broke out on the LEC power pole that caused the wire to drop.

"After the rain that day, heavy fire caught the pole, that was the time the wire dropped while we were fighting for our lives... I saw a group of guys surrounded Betty to help her when she fell on the ground," Bindu said. "It was when I realized that she got affected from the tension wire," the eyewitness explained.

When LEC's Assistant Manager for Communications Affairs Madam Verity Sonkarlay was contacted, she said in a telephone conversation that she awaits a response from the upper management before disclosing information regarding the situation at hand.



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

LCC proposes 'political conciliation' -In Samukai's case

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia Council of Churches (LCC) president Bishop Kortu Brown has proposed that the Government of Liberia settle Lofa County Senator-elect J. Brownie Samukai's certification process through what he calls "political conciliation."

In an interview conducted

"When we have political question, let's address it politically. And when we also have legal question, let's address it legally. This, now largely a political question and I think the government and we as a people, need political conciliation to end this entire Lofa standoff," said Bishop Brown.

Mr. Samukai, Liberia's former long term serving Defense

the majority of the voters in Lofa elected Mr. Samukai during the December 2020 Senatorial elections conducted in the 15 counties here.

But separately, legal dispute cases filed by his rivals against the election results delayed Samukai's certification, and the guilty verdict from the criminal trial has also been an obstacle for him.

He and his fellow convicts had been instructed by the courts to remove the disability imposed upon them by the verdict through restitution of the funds misapplied, or face prison terms.

The Lofa County Senator-elect has separately made 50 percent (US\$182,000) payment of his share of the total amount for which he and the two other convicts were indicted and he was hopeful that he could finally take his seat as senator of the county.

But prosecutors have insisted that the convicts were jointly indicted and tried, and therefore Samukai could not be separated from the rest of the convicts in the restitution process.

In the interview, Bishop Brown noted that time is overdue and the country is now preparing for the bigger presidential and legislative elections which are due in 2023.

According to Bishop

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Senator-elect J. Brownie Samukai's

on New Year Day, Saturday 1 January 2022 at his Church compound in the V.O.A Community, Brewerville, the Water in the Desert Pastor argued that it's clear that this matter between Samukai and the Government is largely a political question instead of legal.

Minister and two other former Defense Ministry officials were found guilty after a criminal trial for their roles in corrupting personal pension saving funds belonging to soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) during former President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf's regime.

Despite the corruption case,

Program to prepare 200 women to run for elective office launched

A program to promote meaningful participation of women in politics was launched on 28 December. The program will train and coach 200 women drawn from all 15 counties on effective political participation.

The training kicks off on January 3 and will run until January 5, 2022. It aims to boost women's confidence and their activism in order to increase their chances of successfully running for elective positions.

Women in Liberia are grossly under-represented in politics. Four of the country's 19 ministers are women, two of the country's 30 senators are women, and nine of the 73 representatives are women.

"Women are woefully



underrepresented in politics. We must change this by proactively participating in politics either as candidates or voters," said Rivercess County Representative, Hon. Rosana Schaack during the program launch. "The time for

us has arrived. When we participate, we vote, we win."

The program is implemented by Liberia's Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security

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African Juniors Battle at Monrovia City Hall In 2021 Continental Chess Championships

More than 20 Junior Chess players are currently battling at the Monrovia City Hall for the coveted title of African Junior Chess Champion in the 2021 edition of this prestigious tournament which is being hosted by the Liberia Chess Federation (LCF) in collaboration with the African Chess Confederation (ACC).

The 2021 African Junior Chess Championships kicked off on Tuesday, December 29 2021 and will be concluded on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. This 9-round continental Chess event has two sections-Open Section and the Girls Section-with participants from Algeria; Egypt, Botswana, Cameroon, Mauritania, Nigeria, Uganda, Sierra Leone and host country Liberia.

After five rounds prior to the Rest Day on Saturday,

rating difference between the two is huge.

Going into Round five, Taleb Mohamed was the clear favorite to win the Open Section because he followed his spectacular Round 3 with a victory over 10-year-old Egyptian rising star David George Samir. But West Africa struck in Round 5. Eyetonghan Denyefa Callistus of Nigeria beat the high-flying Mauritanian with Black in Round 5 which blew the tournament wide open.

With four rounds left, the Girls Section will certainly be won by one of the Nassr sisters of Algeria but the Open Section is still being intensely contested. Liberian Junior players have scored at best 2.5/5 before the Rest Day on New Year's Day. Morlue Kerkula, David Leroy Debblay, Jacobs Mitchell and Wallace Williams are all on 50%



Woman International Master (WIM) Lina Nassr of Algeria scored a perfect 5/5 in the Girls Section to top the table followed by her sister, WCM Manel Nassr, while the Algerian FIDE Master (FM) Lamine Brahami led the Open Section only on tie-break, having scored 4 out of 5 possible points. With an Elo rating of 2212 FM Brahami is the strongest player at the 2021 African Junior Chess Championships. However, he lost to the 14-year-old Mauritanian wonderkid, Mohamed Abderrahim Taleb Mohamed, in Round 3 on Thursday. Taleb's Round 3 victory over FM Brahami shocked the spectators at the Monrovia City Hall and online because the Algerian FM had played the first two rounds almost flawlessly and the

performance (2.5 points) heading into Round 6.

Until 'Press Time' on Sunday night, Round 6 was still being played.

Rounds 7 and 8 will be played on Monday and the tournament will end on Tuesday with Round 9 at 10:00 AM and the Closing Ceremony at 6:00 PM.

The African Junior Chess Championship is an annual chess tournament open to players in Africa who are under 20 years of age. The tournament was first held in 1980, and since its second edition in 1989, has been held annually with the exception of 2010 and 2020.

In accordance with the regulations of the world chess governing body (FIDE), the African Junior Individual Chess Championships are open to all players from federations on the

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Français

Floyd lâche ses "chiens" et enfonce la commission électorale

M. Floyd O. Saylor, le commissaire de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) qui a été réprimandé pour avoir prétendument inséré environ 2,8 millions de dollars américains dans le budget de la commission électorale pour la période de 2022-2023, à l'insu des autres commissaires, a lâché ses « chiens » traînant davantage le corps électoral dans la boue.

Ses mercenaires, le Réseau de la société civile du Libéria, réputé pour avoir écrit des communiqués de presse pour défendre des responsables corrompus du gouvernement, n'ont pas seulement essayé de faire rabaisser davantage la NEC, mais ont également tenté de discréditer le New Dawn.

Le journal New Dawn a publié le mardi 28 décembre 2021 un article intitulé « Revealed » dans lequel le journal a cité une note de service interne écrite par la présidente de la NEC, Davidetta Browne-Lansanah, adressée au commissaire

Floyd, non seulement l'accusant d'avoir augmenté le budget de la Commission de 2,8 USD millions mais aussi l'a traité d'incompétent.

Bien que Floyd Saylor ait refusé de parler à ce quotidien à la suite de plusieurs appels et messages sur son numéro de téléphone portable et WhatsApp, le mercredi 29 décembre 2021, le soi-disant groupe de la société civile qui a

peu ou pas d'existence légale et d'agrément aurait été embauché pour faire pour lui une limitation des dégâts et en même temps diffamer le journal et la NEC.

Avant l'allégation de 2,8 millions de dollars de Floyd, la NEC, notamment sa présidente Mme Davidetta Browne-Lansanah, était mêlée à une

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Commissioner Floyd O. Saylor

Le ministre Nathaniel McGill a traité Me Gongloe d'hypocrite

Le ministre d'État aux Affaires présidentielles Nathaniel F. McGill a qualifié les propos tenus contre lui par Me Tiawan Saye Gongloe d'hypocrisie totale, menaçant de rendre publiques plusieurs transactions financières entre lui et le candidat à la présidentielle.

McGill accuse Me Gongloe de plaider auprès du gouvernement des États-Unis pour le sanctionner comme il l'a fait pour d'autres fonctionnaires corrompus ici,

dont le sénateur Prince Yormie Johnson.

Selon le ministre, Me Gongloe l'a supplié de lui donner de l'argent pour soutenir son programme de l'Association du barreau africain au Libéria et d'autres activités. « Mais ça, il n'en a pas parlé dans son plaidoyer contre moi ».

Récemment, Me Gongloe, l'ancien président de la l'Association du Barreau national du Liberia (LNBA) a appelé le gouvernement américain à sanctionner le ministre d'État aux Affaires

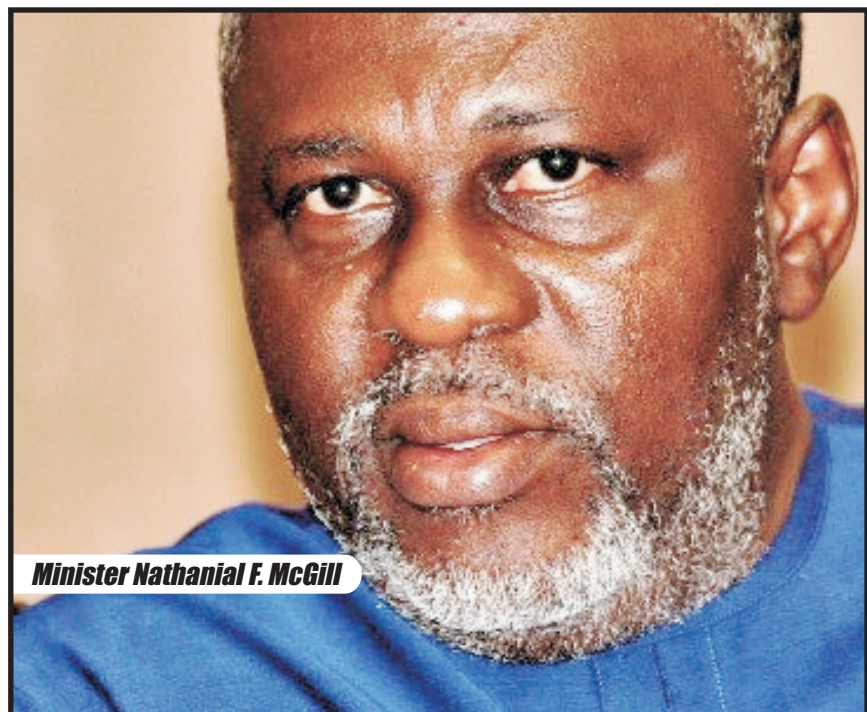
présidentielles Nathaniel McGill, pour avoir prétendument dépensé des millions de dollars libériens pour acheter des électeurs, en vue des élections générales et présidentielles de 2023.

Tout dernièrement, le ministre McGill a été en visite dans plusieurs comtés et dépensé d'énormes sommes d'argent sur des bourses d'études au nom du président George Manneh Weah et promis plus d'argent aux citoyens de tout le pays avant les élections de 2023.

« L'action du ministre McGill témoigne d'un mépris téméraire des sentiments du peuple libérien qui souffre », a déploré Gongloe.

« En un mois, le ministre d'État aux Affaires présidentielles a dépensé environ 170 millions de dollars libériens sous forme de cadeaux politiques à quatre comtés », avait-il accusé

Me Gongloe, un militant des droits humains renommé, a fait savoir que le ministre McGill a donné 50 millions de dollars libériens à Nimba, 50 millions de dollars à Grand Bassa, 50 millions de dollars supplémentaires à Margibi et 20 millions de dollars au comté de Bong.



Minister Nathaniel F. McGill

Éditorial

La lutte sélective contre la corruption ruine la confiance

La hâte avec laquelle la Commission anti-corruption du Libéria veut procéder à la poursuite de la présidente de la Commission électorale nationale, Mme Davidetta Browne-Lansanah et d'autres pour conflit d'intérêts et corruption présumés, met en évidence sa partialité et le caractère sélectif de sa lutte contre la corruption au Libéria.

Des cas de corruption bien plus graves impliquant d'autres fonctionnaires du gouvernement, y compris le vice-président de la commission anti-corruption Me Kanio Bai Gbala et le directeur général de la National Port Authority Bill Tweahway, entre autres, n'ont fait l'objet d'un traitement similaire. D'où la question de savoir pourquoi cette hâte ?

La Commission libérienne de lutte contre la corruption, par l'intermédiaire de son président exécutif Edwin Kla Martin a inculpé Madame Browne-Lansanah le mercredi 15 décembre 2021, de conflit d'intérêts et corruption présumés.

Un rapport indiquait en novembre 2021 que la NEC, sous la supervision de la présidente Davidetta Browne-Lansanah lors des élections partielles du 16 novembre 2021 dans quatre comtés, avait loué des thermomètres à une société appelée Tuma Enterprises Inc., qui appartiendrait à son frère pour plus de 180 000 \$ US en violation de la loi sur les marchés publics.

Selon la LACC, la patronne de la Commission électorale a enfreint la section 1.3.6. du Code national de conduite des agents publics; Partie II, section 2.2 de la loi LACC et section 15.3 de la loi libérienne de 2012 sur le blanchiment d'argent.

La LACC prétend également qu'au cours d'une interrogatoire, Mme Browne-Lansanah serait passée à l'aveu. « Faux », rétorque la patronne de la NEC.

« Connaissant parfaitement son intérêt personnel (relation) dans Tuma Enterprise Inc, et n'ayant pas fait une divulgation complète à ses collègues commissaires ou au comité d'approvisionnement, est passible des chefs d'accusation suivants : Section 1.3.6 (Conflit d'intérêts) du Code national de conduite pour tous les fonctionnaires et employés du gouvernement ; et la partie II, section 2.2 de la loi instituant la LACC qui décrit le délit d'initié comme un acte de corruption », a déclaré Me Martin, ajoutant « Et violation de l'article 15.3 pour le blanchiment d'argent en vertu de l'article 15.2 de la loi sur le blanchiment d'argent de 2012 qui prévoit le délit d'initié et les manipulations de marché ».

Bien que Mme Browne-Lansanah ait nié avoir avoué quelque crime que ce soit lors de sa comparution devant la LACC, le tribunal pénal C du Temple de la justice de Monrovia aurait lancé un mandat d'arrêt la semaine dernière contre la patronne de la NEC pour corruption.

Entre-temps, un cas similaire de conflit d'intérêts impliquant le vice-président de la LACC Me Kanio Bai Gbala et le directeur général de la National Port Authority Bill Tweahway, qui a attribué des contrats portuaires à son frère est encore en stand-by.

Nous pensons que la poursuite en justice de la LACC contre Madame Browne-Lansanah sans permettre au ministère de la Justice d'examiner l'affaire, comme l'exige l'article 11.1 de la loi anti-corruption de 2008, est non seulement sélective, mais partielle.

Nous attirons l'attention de la LACC sur une récente déclaration du Centre pour la transparence et la responsabilité au Libéria (CENTAL) lors de la célébration de la Journée internationale de la lutte contre la corruption. CENTAL demandait à l'administration Weah d'être moins sélective dans la lutte contre la corruption.

« Alors que le Libéria se joint à d'autres pays pour célébrer le 18e anniversaire de la Journée internationale de lutte contre la corruption, en tant que chapitre national de Transparency International (TI), le Centre pour la transparence et la responsabilité au Libéria (CENTAL) souhaite appeler le gouvernement national à être plus sincère, robuste et non sélectif dans la lutte contre la corruption », avait déclaré le directeur exécutif Anderson Miamen.

Miamen : « Nous exhortons la LACC à accorder la plus grande attention à l'affaire impliquant la sienne, car le public attend une conclusion logique de l'affaire, tout comme toutes les autres affaires de corruption devant l'organe. La façon dont la Commission traite le cas impliquant l'un des siens enverra un message très fort sur sa préparation, sa robustesse et son impartialité dans le traitement de tous les cas et problèmes de corruption dans le pays ».

Il est important que la LACC fasse tout dans la lutte contre la corruption pour ne pas être perçue comme étant sélective, afin de maintenir la confiance du public dans ses opérations.

Français

Floyd lâche ses "chiens" et

affaire de conflit d'intérêts. La Commission anti-corruption du Libéria (LACC) a décidé de s'en prendre à la commission électorale dans ce qui semble être une lutte sélective contre la corruption.

Dans leur déclaration à la défense de Floyd Sayor, le soi-disant groupe de la société civile a décrit l'article du New Dawn comme faux et trompeur, tout en admettant néanmoins l'existence de la note de service.

Le groupe, qui manque d'individus crédibles, a affirmé avoir mené une enquête qui a innocenté Floyd de toutes les allégations contre lui par la présidente de la commission électorale.

Ce que le New Dawn a écrit De toute évidence, la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) a été une institution très silencieuse qui a organisé des élections successives, annoncé des résultats fiables et rendu des décisions issues des conflits électoraux.

Mais derrière les hauts murs, cette institution renommée est infestée d'allégations de conflits d'intérêts et d'intentions cachées, pétrifiant le public à l'approche des élections de 2023.

Alors que le public débat du mandat d'arrêt lancé contre la patronne de la NEC, une note est apparue dans les couloirs de la Commission demandant des réponses au commissaire Floyd O Sayor pour avoir inséré 2,8 millions de dollars dans le budget à l'insu des autres commissaires.

Ce quotidien a appelé et envoyé un texto au commissaire Floyd O. Sayor pour des explications, mais en vain. Il n'avait pas encore répondu aux SMS qui lui avaient été envoyés jusqu'au moment d'aller sous presse le lundi 27 décembre.

Selon la note de service de la présidente en difficulté de la NEC, Madame Davidetta Browne-Lansanah, l'argent aurait été placé dans le budget électoral 2022-2023 de la NEC par le commissaire Floyd O. Sayor, président du comité directeur des élections 2023, sans procéder à des discussions préalables avec les autres commissaires.

Le commissaire Floyd O. Sayor aurait manipulé le budget électoral 2022-2023 de la NEC en insérant ledit montant sans dire exactement à quoi le montant servirait.

« Au cours de l'examen actuel et le plus récent (1-8 décembre 2021) du budget de la défense 2022, il a été observé qu'une insertion de quelque 2. 809. 510 dollars US a été faite pour les systèmes de surveillance et de suivi en direct, pour les véhicules, les vélos, les travailleurs occasionnels, les canoës transportant des documents électoraux sans avoir fait référence à mon bureau, sans parler d'autres sections, y compris les opérations et la logistique, etc », a écrit Mme Browne-Lansanah.

« En outre », a-t-elle poursuivi, « il n'y a eu aucune discussion ou accord / décision préalable du conseil d'administration pour entreprendre des dépenses aussi vastes en 2022-2023, qui a augmenté le budget de 2,8 millions ».

Mme Browne-Lansanah a fait valoir que ne pas avoir connaissance d'une telle ligne budgétaire l'aurait rendue irresponsable devant le comité parlementaire du budget.

« Ne pas avoir connaissance de cette ligne budgétaire et défendre le budget 2022 aurait été un désastre de ma part en tant que présidente de la NEC. Cela aurait été irresponsable de ma part de ne pas avoir connaissance de ce budget. Notez que mon bureau s'oppose à cela », a ajouté la patronne de la NEC.

Sa note de service met également en cause la compétence du commissaire Floyd O. Sayor.

Extraits du mémorandum qui date du 8 décembre 2021 et adressé au commissaire Floyd O. Sayor, ci-dessous :

« Je porte à votre attention les lacunes dans votre gestion de l'administration du Comité directeur 2023.

1. Absence ou négligence apparente de la documentation des réunions de votre comité, y compris le manque de procès-verbaux et de présence et de rapports pour être informé et informer adéquatement le Conseil des commissaires (OC) avant la mise en œuvre des propositions qui sont venues par le biais du processus budgétaire de 2023.

2. Jusqu'à présent, mon bureau n'a eu aucune connaissance ou information limitée sur la constitution ou non d'un groupe de travail et quels sont leurs termes de référence (TDR) ou leurs tâches spécifiques.

3. Généralement, il manque un mécanisme de signalement avec la livraison intermittente et ponctuelle de certains documents sur l'enregistrement biométrique des électeurs, etc.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Elsa Fornero

La bonne recette pour réformer les retraites

TURIN - La réforme des retraites est une tâche ingrate mais nécessaire. Les retraites sont un sujet difficile et émotionnel qui affecte chaque citoyen. Changer la façon dont elles sont calculées ou le moment auquel les travailleurs peuvent prendre leur retraite implique de négocier un ensemble complexe de règles, d'habitudes et de droits, que les beaux modèles académiques ne capturent pas.

Dans les pays dotés de systèmes de retraite nationaux, le pilier principal est généralement inscrit dans la loi et géré par l'État. D'autres sources de revenus de retraite proviennent des fonds de pension professionnels et des investissements individuels, qui dépendent du marché mais sont soumis à des organismes de réglementation, tels que l'Autorité européenne des assurances et des pensions professionnelles.

Même si l'État ne fournit pas l'ensemble des revenus de retraite, les gouvernements ont de bonnes raisons de s'impliquer dans les efforts de réforme. Après tout, ce n'est pas seulement l'efficacité qui est en jeu dans la fourniture des retraites, et la capacité du marché de l'assurance à protéger les personnes âgées est limitée. De plus, compter uniquement sur le marché pour accompagner les seniors risque d'augmenter la pauvreté.

Les programmes de protection sociale du vingtième siècle ont été créés en tenant compte de ces considérations. Malgré de profondes mutations démographiques et économiques, elles n'en sont pas moins d'actualité.

Le pilier des retraites publiques est généralement financé sur la base d'un système par répartition (pay-as-you-go), qui dépend d'un contrat intergénérationnel. La population active paie des cotisations de sécurité sociale via les impôts sur le revenu à l'organisme public de retraite, qui verse cet argent plus ou moins immédiatement sous forme de rentes à la population retraitée.

Contrairement aux programmes d'assurance privés, le système par répartition ne repose pas sur des réserves financières, mais sur le contrat social prévoyant que ceux qui travaillent paient pour les retraités, et que les jeunes et les futures générations feront de même pour ceux qui travaillent actuellement. L'État, et non le marché, peut « garantir » ce contrat en arrimant les retraites futures à des formules mathématiques, prenant en compte l'intégralité du flux de cotisations futures et un taux de rendement qui correspond au taux de croissance des revenus du travail.

Le financement des programmes de retraite par des entités privées a parfois été présenté comme une meilleure option que le système public par répartition. Cette approche suppose que le taux d'intérêt sera plus élevé que le taux de croissance économique, de sorte que le revenu de retraite - pour le même volume de cotisations - sera plus élevé. Mais, dans les pays d'Amérique latine et d'Europe de l'Est où ce type de réforme radicale a été introduit, cela n'a pas été un succès. Dans certains cas, un revirement de politique douloureux a été nécessaire.

Aujourd'hui, un système mixte qui combine à la fois des options publiques et privées est devenu plus courant. Cependant, même dans un système mixte, des réformes sont nécessaires pour s'assurer que les retraites soient à la fois viables et adéquates. De plus, une surveillance attentive est également nécessaire pour réduire ou éliminer les distorsions possibles dans le système. Il s'agit notamment de l'imposition implicite du travail effectué au-delà des conditions minimales pour accéder à la retraite, et la possibilité que les travailleurs les plus riches en

bénéficient plus que les plus pauvres, en raison de la faible corrélation entre cotisations et pensions dans les formules à prestations définies.

Le principal défi auquel sont confrontés les systèmes par répartition est la nécessité de s'adapter aux changements démographiques et économiques structurels majeurs. À mesure que les populations vieillissent, que les taux de fécondité diminuent et que les flux migratoires stagnent, le contrat intergénérationnel qui constitue le fondement des systèmes par répartition devient difficile à maintenir.

Au cours des 25 dernières années, la réforme des retraites en Europe s'est concentrée sur des changements qui augmentent l'âge effectif de la retraite, égalisent les règles de retraite entre les hommes et les femmes et renforcent la corrélation entre cotisations individuelles et allocations. L'adoption d'un certain type de formule à cotisations définies permet d'adapter les retraites aux cotisations individuelles des travailleurs sans avoir à capitaliser sur les marchés financiers. Dans ce type de programme, la prestation initiale d'un travailleur à la retraite et son indexation ultérieure sont déterminées en appliquant au capital notionnel accumulé un taux d'actualisation qui tient compte de la longévité attendue.

Dans une bonne réforme, le système de retraite ne peut être séparé du marché du travail et de l'économie. Des marchés du travail dynamiques et inclusifs qui permettent aux travailleurs de trouver plus facilement un emploi et aux employeurs d'embaucher sont la meilleure condition préalable à des systèmes de retraite adéquats. Les politiques d'amélioration de l'emploi à long terme telles que l'apprentissage et le recyclage tout au long de la vie doivent faire l'objet d'une priorité plus élevée et de davantage de ressources.

Les réformes doivent également garantir que les retraites publiques favorisent la solidarité sociale, pour éviter que les personnes défavorisées sur le marché du travail ne se retrouvent en difficulté à la retraite. La solidarité peut prendre la forme de cotisations notionnelles financées par l'impôt destinées aux travailleurs occupant des emplois dangereux, aux chômeurs ou aux travailleurs qui fournissent des soins de longue durée à des proches.

La croissance économique reste la principale variable déterminant l'adéquation et la durabilité d'un système public par répartition. Une croissance à des taux appropriés crée des emplois supplémentaires, réduit le chômage, encourage la participation au marché du travail et augmente la probabilité que les citoyens d'âge actif (20-65 ans) aient un emploi.

Mais les réformes des retraites ne sont jamais simplement une question technique qui peut être solutionnée au moyen de solutions technocratiques. Parce qu'elles affectent la richesse, les attentes et les projets de vie, ces réformes sont politiques. Elles doivent être approuvées par les institutions gouvernementales et soutenues par le public. Sans soutien populaire, toute réforme court le risque d'être soit formellement renversée, soit pratiquement contournée.

Pour augmenter la probabilité qu'une réforme réussisse, les travailleurs doivent avoir une compréhension de leur patrimoine retraite. Ils doivent être conscients de leurs opportunités d'investissement et de leurs options de retraite afin de faire des choix judicieux et d'éviter les déceptions, comme des prestations de retraite insuffisantes.

Les travailleurs doivent également comprendre la justification de base de la réforme des retraites. Les gouvernements doivent expliquer comment ils pensent réduire les déséquilibres générationnels, renforcer la viabilité financière du programme de retraite et limiter

NEC Floyd unleashes "dogs" (Pt2)

Just at the time the National Elections Commission (NEC) Chairperson Davidetta Browne-Lansanah is still challenging the Liberia Anti-Corruptions Commission (LACC) investigative report in Court, sources have hinted this paper that two commissioners have begun battling for the top seat.

One of the two commissioners battling to take over from Madam Davidetta Brown-Lansanah should her dismissal request go through is Mr. Floyd O. Saylor, the Commissioner at the center of the US\$2.8 million excess in the NEC budget memo.

Mr. Floyd Saylor has told the Frontpage Africa newspaper here that the memo was Davidetta Brown-Lansanah trying to bring him down with her instead of leaving as she has been asked to.

Commissioner Floyd Saylor oversees the NEC data Center and was very instrumental in the acquisition of the Thermometers which he negotiated with the Tuma Company before drawing in his boss who is now facing conflict of interest charges.

Sources within the corridors of NEC told this paper that the actual amount of US\$182,000, was requested by Floyd Saylor as one with oversight over the NEC Data Center.

Floyd Saylor's connection with Tuma was flagged in the initial report by the Daily Observer, although it was alleged that he owe the company, a claim he truthfully denied.

According to the paper, Floyd Saylor, declined to speak on the transaction and rather chose to exonerate himself.

"I am not here to speak to the details pertaining to the transaction on the modern facial recognition and temperature testing machines, but what I have to say is that I have no link in ownership to Tuma Enterprises," Saylor was quoted by the Observer as saying.

He narrated to the paper "that being an IT expert and with his wealth of knowledge and experience as well as his long-standing service at the NEC, dating as far back as 2004, he has lots of connections with IT professionals and businesses in the country.

"I know the law. Under no condition, I will do it. I don't have any interest in owning an IT Company now. Maybe in the future, when I am no longer at NEC, I may own one

because I have to live by my education."

Saylor was head of the IT department at NEC when Jerome Kokoya was chairman of NEC and he spearheaded all data management activities all through 2017 and even before then.

During his tenure as head of the NEC data center, Floyd Saylor was accused by disputing political parties of manipulating the voters roll, which led to a Supreme Court ruling that it should be cleaned before the conduct of the run-off elections.

Last week in an attempt to hit at his embattled boss, Floyd Saylor hired a group of individuals with questionable character to put up his defense.

His hired guns, the Civil Society Network of Liberia reputed for writing press releases in defense of alleged corrupt government officials for hangouts did not only try to pull the NEC down further but also attempted to discredit the New

Madam Davidetta Browne-Lansanah at the center, as the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) bashes on the electoral body in what appears to be a selective corruption fight.

In their write up in defense of Floyd Saylor, the so-called hire civil society group describe the New Dawn publication as false and misleading but yet went ahead to admit the existence of the internal memo.

The group though lacks credible individuals claimed it conducted an investigation which cleared Floyd of any allegation level against him by the chairperson of the Elections Commission and therefore rendered the publication false and misleading.

What New Dawn wrote

The paper published that according to the memo from the embattled Chairman of

and logistics, etc." said Madam Browne-Lansanah.

"Besides," she continued "there was no prior discussion or agreement / decision by the board to undertake such an extensive venture in 2022-23, which increased the budget by 2.8 million."

Madam Browne-Lansanah argued that not having knowledge of such line item in the budget would have made her appear irresponsible before the budget committee had she been grilled on it.

"Not having knowledge about this 4 line item and going into defense of the 2022 budget would have been a disaster on my part as chair of the NEC. This would have been irresponsible on my part not having knowledge of this budget. Note that my office takes exception to this event," the NEC boss added

Her memo also insinuates incompetence on the part of her co-commissioner.

Excerpts of the memorandum dated December 8, 2021 and addressed to Commissioner Floyd O. Saylor, below:

"I bring to your attention gaps in your handling of the administration of the 2023 Steering Committee.

1. Apparent lack of or neglect of documentation from your committee meetings, including lack of minutes and attendance and reports to be briefed and to adequately inform the Board of Commissioners (OC) prior to the implementation of proposals which have come by way of the 2023 budget process.

2. So far there has been

no/ limited knowledge or information to my office on whether or not Task Force were constituted or not and what are their specific Terms of Reference (TOR) or tasks.

3. Generally, a reporting mechanism is lacking with intermittent and ad hoc delivery of some documents on Biometric Voter Registration, etc.

4. Generally, there is not a systematic call (agenda, date, and time) for meetings as none have reached my office.

5. I am yet to see a fully researched and documented recruitment plan for temporary electoral workers (Temporary staff)

During the current and most recent (1-8 December 2021) Review of the 2022 budget for defense, it was observed an insertion of some 2,809,510.00 was made for live monitoring and tracking systems, for vehicles, bikes, casual laborers, canoes carrying Election materials with no reference to my office, let alone other sections, including operations and logistics, etc. Besides, there was no prior discussion or agreement / decision by the board to undertake such an extensive venture in 2022-23, which increased the budget by 2.8 million. Not having knowledge about this 4 line item and going into defense of the 2022 budget would have been a disaster on my part as chair of the NEC. This would have been irresponsible on my part not having knowledge of this budget. Note that my office takes exception to this event.

I believe you as Chairman of the 2023 Steering Committee will bring my office to up to speed on the achievements and documentations as indicated going forward.-Writes Othello B. Garblah



Dawn.

The New Dawn newspaper on Tuesday December 28, 2021 published an article entitled "Revealed" in which the paper quoted a leaked internal memo from the NEC Chairperson Davidetta Browne-Lansanah to Commissioner Floyd not only accusing him of sexing up the Commission's budget by US\$2.8 million but also to an extend of ineptitude.

Although Floyd Saylor declined to speak to this paper following multiple calls and messages on both his mobile number and WhatsApp, on Wednesday December 29, 2021, the so-called civil society group which has little or no legal existence and business registration were allegedly hired to do for him a damage control and while at the same time defaming the paper and NEC.

Prior to Floyd's US\$2.8 Million allegation, NEC had been embroiled with a conflict of interest saga with its chair

NEC Madam Davidetta Browne-Lansanah, about US\$2. Million was allegedly placed in the NEC 2022-2023 election budget by Commissioner Floyd O. Saylor, Chairman of the 2023 Elections Steering Committee without prior discussion.

Commissioner Floyd O. Saylor is alleged to have manipulated the NEC's 2022-2023 electoral budget inserting the said amount without actually saying exactly what the amount would be expended for.

"During the current and most recent (1-8 December 2021) Review of the 2022 budget for defense, it was observed an insertion of some 2,809,510.00 was made for live monitoring and tracking systems, for vehicles, bikes, casual laborers, canoes carrying Election materials with no reference to my office, let alone other sections, including operations

African Juniors

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African continent.

Aside from cash prizes and medals, the winners of the open and girls' championships earn the right to participate in the next World Junior Chess Championships. In the open championship, the top three players earn trophies and medals titles, while the first-placed player additionally earns a norm towards the Grandmaster title. In the girls'

championship, the top player after tiebreaks earns the Woman International Master title, while the first-placed player additionally earns a norm towards the Woman Grandmaster title.

The 2021 African Junior Chess Championships registered 18 players in the Open Section (9 Liberians) and 10 players in the Girls Section (7 Liberians).

ALP pulls out of CPP

Just as it has been predicted, the All Liberian Party (ALP) of businessman turned politician Benoni Urey has announced that it is pulling out of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) arrangement.

Mr. Benoni Urey was the first to chair the CPP leading to the compilation of the collaborations' Framework Agreement which he later

mandated its National Chairman and Political Leader Benoni Urey to effect an immediate withdrawal of the party from the CPP arrangement.

The CPP until this announcement consists of the former ruling Unity Party (UP), Liberty Party (LP), Alternative National Congress (ANC) and the aforementioned ALP.

The party statement said its Executive Committee decision to

The ALP stated that the decision came at the end of a long period of intense deliberation concerning the original purpose and intent, political interest and viability of the ALP's participation in the CPP, Executive Committee in its December 23, 2021 extraordinary sitting voted in majority to pull out of the CPP.

Additionally, the party stated that its Executive Committee also decided that the ALP will seek legal action for the unlawful attachment of its leader's signature to a file (with the national Elections Commission) July 14, 2020 photocopy version of what was purported to be an approved (by all parties of the CPP) framework agreement.

It said as part of the process of pulling out of the CPP, the Executive Committee of the ALP cautioned the leadership of the party to exhaust all legal procedures in a timely manner as it effectuates the withdrawal process.

Furthermore, the party noted that its National Executive Committee plans to reconvene to chart and carve a new roadmap for the ALP's future engagement with other likeminded parties in an effort to evolve a robust, united pragmatic, symbiosis and national interest centered relationship to confront the 2023 general and Presidential elections.

The EC meeting was concluded by the setting up of a resolution committee to document the decision and mandate of the EC.



claimed was tampered with by the ANC political leader.

ANC has contested the allegation and has repeatedly called on former Vice President Joseph N. Boakai, current chairman of the CPP to publish the investigative finding but to no avail.

In a statement dated December 30, the National Executive Committee of the ALP noted that it has

withdraw the from the CPP was made as a result of a comprehensive review of the party's participation in the CPP, the uncertainties about the political future of the collaboration, the lack of strong will to implement the findings of the CPP Framework Agreement investigative committee's findings of the alteration of the CPP framework document among others.

LCC proposes 'political

Cont'd from page 7

Brown, the delay by the Government of Liberia through the Supreme Court of Liberia to bring this matter to a close after approximately a year is not a good sign for the peace and stability of the country.

The Water in the Desert pastor furthered that it's now time for "political conciliation" to settle the Lofa saga.

He said the entire "disability" issue brought up by the Supreme Court of Liberia to stop the certification of Mr. Samukai is largely a political question that needs political conciliation to end the case for the people to have a

representation and for the National Elections Commission (NEC) to have space for 2023.

"We should free up the space for 2023 and strengthen our democracy and build skills in conflict resolution to move ahead. The Lofa situation needs political conciliation because it's overdue," he indicated.

"The recent by-election conducted, NEC had timely conducted all their legal matters and addressed all those concerns in timely manner and we welcome it, but more of that needs to be done mostly in Lofa's case," Bishop Brown continued.--

Edited by Winston W. Parley

Program to prepare

(WGWYPS) with funding from the UN Office in West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), and is facilitated by UNDP Liberia. Other partner organizations are FAWE, FIJAL, IYED, SEARCH, Sisters Hand, WONGOSOL, and Young Peace Ambassadors.

Speaking during the program launch, Liberia's Representative to the Working Group, MeimaSirleafKarneh, said the Working Group is an organization of civil society groups under the Office of the UN Secretary-General's Representative to West Africa that actively engages Ministries of Gender and national parliaments in the region. The Working Group is active in 16 counties in the ECOWAS region.

Deputy Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Madam Alice Johnson Howard urged young women to come to the fore and take advantage of initiatives aimed at empowering women to get involved in politics because they hold the future.

"As part of the inclusive governance envisioned under the sustainable development goals, the UN is committed to supporting initiatives that help bring women at all levels of governance and development. We need the voices and contributions of women to achieve the SDGs Agenda 2030," said UNDP's Deputy Resident Representative ThabaniMabodoko.-Press release

Starts from back page

LNBA debunks

Administration.

It noted that both the GOL and the LNBA felt it was an honor for Liberia to host lawyers of the African Continent for the first time in the history of the LNBA. Predicated upon these discussions and due to the short notice given the LNBA, the AfBA delegation and the LNBA leadership met with Vice President Jewel Howard-Taylor who was the first senior official that met with the AfBA delegation and pledged the GOL fullest support for the successful hosting of the conference. VP Howard Taylor made the initial commitment of making the Ministerial Complex available for the holding of the event.

The LNBA said that in the preparation leading up to the event, the Government of Liberia made a commitment to contribute Fifty Thousand

United States Dollars (\$50,000USD) which was not a personal request by Cllr. TiawanGongloe, President of the LNBA, to Min. Nathaniel McGill, but rather it was to the Government of Liberia.

The LNBA said the 2019 Conference was hailed as the best AfBA Conference in recent years, for which the LNBA and the Government received commendation and accolades at home and abroad for the fine partnership and collaboration which made the event a big success.

The LNBA in its release further clarified that in further show of support for the event, President George Weah extended an invitation for the conference delegates to have a dinner at his condominiums near his ForkleKrohn Prayer Chapel.

The LNBA further maintained that under no circumstance will the Bar ever ask Minister McGill as an individual to provide

US\$50,000.00 or to give personal support to the LNBA and neither was such request ever made to him and never will such a request ever be made to him.

The LNBA noted that it wishes to make it emphatically clear that it will never fan for handout from government officials including Min. Nathaniel McGill.

The LNBA said that the contribution received in 2019 was a fulfillment of a commitment by the Government and people of Liberia to contribute to the hosting of the AfBA Conference.

The Bar said it is constrained to correct the misinformation spewed out in the public domain by Min. McGill in his quest to gain personal gratification at the expense of the LNBA. The LNBA said resources of the

Government are not the individual funds of Min. McGill, except this is the impression he is creating, in which case it is a

cause for concern that Government resources have being personalized by Min. McGill.

LNBA debunks McGill's claims



LNBA Pres. Cllr. Sylvester Rennie

The Liberian National Bar Association (LNBA) has refuted claims by Minister of State and Presidential Affairs Nathaniel F. McGill that he provided funding for LNBA's 2019 African Bar Association (AfBA) conference in Monrovia. In his reaction to call by the immediate past President

of LNBA Cllr. TiawanGongloe that he (McGill) be sanctioned by the United States Government for his alleged involvement in "pay for play politics, McGill claimed that Cllr. Gongloe begged him for money to support his African Bar Association program in Liberia and other activities that he (Gongloe) didn't include in his sanction advocacy against him. But in a release issued over

the weekend by the leadership of the LNBA, it says Minister McGill totally misrepresented the facts during his live interview on Spoon TV on Tuesday, December 28, 202, when he asserted the Bar Association benefitted from his personal financial contribution to host the 2019 AfBA Conference in Monrovia.

The LNBA explained that at no time did the leadership of the LNBA ever make a request to Mr. McGill seeking his personal financial support or gesture to hold the AfBA conference in October 2019.

The LNBA further explained that when the AfBA made the request in August of 2019 for the annual conference to be hosted in Liberia in October of the same year after Egypt had declined to host same earlier in July, both the Government of Liberia (GOL) and the LNBA were excited and saw the request as a great opportunity to showcase the country under the George Weah

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The New Dawn

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