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**MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES**  
**LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR**

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
Thursday, January 13, 2022	LS148.1359/US\$1.00	LS150.0759 /US\$1.00

These are indicative rates based on results of daily surveys of foreign exchange market in Monrovia and selected cities of Liberia. These rates are collected from the Central bank, commercial banks, parallel market and the license forex bureaux. The rates are not set by the Central Bank of Liberia.  
Source: Research, Policy and Planning Department, CBL

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# Liberians to march on Washington



# Agriculture boss faces corruption probe

**Christmas season na come!**  
Watch out for lots of goodies from *Y'ello* Santa.



# Continental News

## Nigeria lifts Twitter ban after seven months

Nigeria has lifted its ban on Twitter - seven months after clamping down on the social networking site.

Nigeria's government suspended Twitter last June after the company deleted a tweet by President Muhammadu Buhari about punishing regional secessionists. Authorities accused the social media firm of siding with the secessionists.

But the government said it was reversing the ban after Twitter agreed to conditions including opening a local office in Nigeria.

According to the Nigerian government, Twitter has agreed to:

- Register in Nigeria during the first quarter of 2022

- Appoint a designated country representative

- Comply with tax obligations in Nigeria

- Enrol Nigeria in its portal for direct communications between government officials and Twitter to manage prohibited content

that violates Twitter community rules Act with a respectful acknowledgement of Nigerian laws

Twitter did not say if it had agreed to the government demands but tweeted that it was "pleased" to be restored in the country and was "deeply committed to Nigeria".

The move allows millions of

people in Africa's most populous nation to use the platform again.

Many Nigerians had continued to access the site after the suspension using virtual private networks (VPNs) but most corporate organisations, including many media outfits, had obeyed the government's order.

Analysts believe the ban has cost the Nigerian economy millions of dollars, especially the small businesses which use the platform to reach their customers. The move last year by Nigeria's government sparked an international outcry over freedom of speech.

The social media company's decision to register itself in the country showed it was committed to Nigeria, the country's information technology development agency said. The government had ordered internet providers to block Twitter, alleging it was being used to undermine "Nigeria's corporate existence"

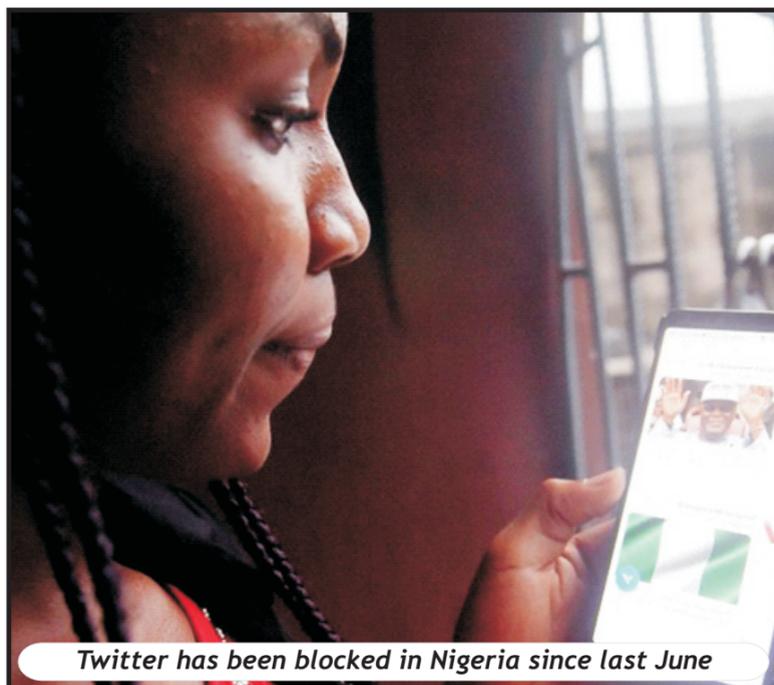
through the spreading of fake news that could potentially have "violent consequences".

This came after Twitter removed President Buhari's post referring to the 1967-70 Nigerian Civil War and to treating "those misbehaving today" in "the language they will understand".

Twitter is popular with many Nigerians, and the platform has been used as a mobilising tool. Activists used it to rally support during protests against police brutality under the hashtag #EndSars, which gained global attention.

Despite the ban many Nigerians continued to tweet and some are now taking time to recognise the VPNs that enabled them to do so.

User Ugegbe tweeted that she didn't want to delete her VPN, as it would feel like a betrayal. BBC



Twitter has been blocked in Nigeria since last June

## Morocco lecturer jailed in sex for grades scandal

A Moroccan university professor accused of giving students good grades in return for sexual favours has been sentenced to two years in prison.

This is the first verdict in a string of high-profile sexual

harassment cases at universities in Morocco.

The economics lecturer at Hassan I University in Settat city was convicted of indecent behaviour, sexual harassment and violence.

Four more academics are due

to appear in court later as part of the scandal.

The story came to light in September through the leaking on social media of messages that are said to have been between the lecturers and students.

The allegations caused anger in Morocco but not surprise - a string of such scandals have tarnished the reputation of Moroccan universities in recent years.

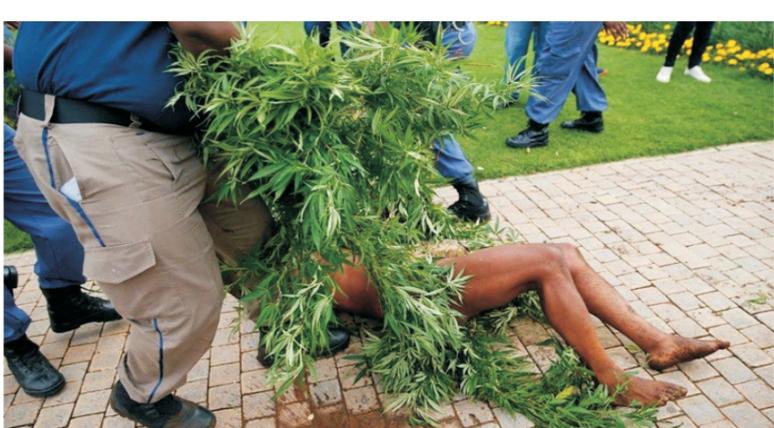
The current case was different in that it was brought to court - most reported incidents do not lead to prosecutions.

Rights groups say this is symptomatic of a society in which sexual violence remains widespread and many women do not feel confident reporting their experiences because of concerns over possible reprisals or the perceived damage to their reputation and that of their family. BBC



University students in Morocco have repeatedly complained of sexual harassment

## Arrests over cannabis plants at president's office



King Khoisan's family are angry about his arrest, local media report

South African police have uprooted several cannabis plants growing near President Cyril Ramaphosa's office in Pretoria.

They belonged to activists from the indigenous Khoisan community, some of whom have camped in the area for three years.

Their leader, who calls himself King Khoisan, clung on to a large cannabis plant as police dragged him away.

"Police... you have declared war," the AFP news agency quotes him as shouting.

"We have been here peacefully. We are coming for you," he continued.

He has since been arrested. He and some fellow activists were detained for "dealing in dagga [cannabis], illegal plantation and cultivation of dagga as well as failure to wear a face mask in public when ordered to do so by a police officer," a statement to AFP said. In 2018,

the group set up camp on the green space outside the president's office, near a giant statue of Nelson Mandela, to campaign for the official recognition of their language.

King Khoisan's wife expressed anger about the incident in an interview with South Africa's IOL news site.

"I am very, very cross," Queen Cynthia said. "The president don't want to come," to talk to them, she said. She told IOL the Khoisan people just want acknowledgement.

People had been using the plants for medical reasons, such as cancer and high blood pressure, she continued. The cannabis had been planted in a vegetable garden.

The personal use of cannabis in private places was decriminalised in South African in 2018.

The Khoisan are South Africa's oldest inhabitants but now form a small minority in the country. BBC

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# EDITORIAL

## 11 women didn't have to die in childbirth

**NEWS THAT** 11 pregnant women in Nimba County died in 2021 during home delivery at various periods is unfortunate and speaks volumes about the health sector in Liberia.

**NIMBA COUNTY HAS** the second highest population next to Montserrado County in Liberia, but access to health seems to be a challenge despite having one of the major referral hospitals (Jackson Fiah Doe Referral Hospital). Access is being undermined by lack of ambulance to respond to emergency cases such as pregnant women in labor pain.

**PREGNANT WOMEN FROM** distant villages and towns are often constrained to give birth at home, a process sometimes characterized by complications, leading to death.

**IT IS UNFORTUNATE** that Liberia, a country that is celebrating 200 years of existence would lack basic logistics in its health system. A resilient health services should be wholistic, transportation inclusive.

**BUT IT APPEARS** that the Weah administration has its priorities misplaced or relegated. While the entire health system is plagued by enormous challenges, the Executive is busy dishing out US\$30,000 to each member of the Legislature for so-called 'Legislative Engagement'. Neglect of the health sector of Liberia is having a serious toll on ordinary citizens who lack financial power to seek medication abroad. On the other hand, government officials usually send their wives and other relatives abroad for medication, while the nation's health system is dysfunctional.

**WHERE CITIZENS ARE** fortunate in reaching out to an ambulance, hospital staff requests for money from sick and impoverished patients, or their relatives to buy fuel in order to respond to emergency calls. If such requests are not met, prolonged delays lead to patients' death. The experiences being discussed are just for Nimba County.

**STORIES IN OTHER** counties across the country are not different, especially in hard-to-reach areas such as Grand Kru, Gbarpolu and Rivergee, among others. Even here in Monrovia, the capital, getting ambulance at late hours is difficult and disappointing.

**RECENTLY IN GBARPOLU**, a raped victim reportedly died of excess bleeding due to lack of ambulance to rush her to hospital. She was kept for two days in her condition while means were being explored to get her to hospital, but unfortunately died.

**THOSE IN LEADERSHIP** and politicians aspiring for power ought to know that security, health, education, and food are cardinal needs of the people. They should not be compromised for any other thing. Doing so is cruelty and wickedness!

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

# COMMENTARY

By Barry Eichengreen

## Submerged by COVID

**B**ERKELEY - The wildfire spread of the Omicron variant adds a new element of uncertainty to the global economy. But when it comes to emerging markets, the consensus view is that these countries' prospects remain bright. J.P. Morgan Global Research expects their collective GDP to grow by 4.6% this year, faster than its 2015-19 trend. S&P Global Ratings is even more bullish, projecting that emerging economies will expand by 4.8%.

Strikingly, these growth figures are virtually identical to the forecasts for 2022 released by the International Monetary Fund in October 2019 - that is, before the pandemic. It has become a popular trope that COVID changes everything - or, rather, everything except the outlook for emerging markets.

In fact, there are multiple reasons for worrying that this consensus is too rosy.

First, emerging economies are now more heavily indebted. Public-debt-to-GDP ratios were already rising before the onset of the pandemic. But now they have reached alarming heights, at more than 60% of GDP.

While no one doubts the wisdom of borrowing to respond to a public-health emergency and economic crisis, these heavy debts pose management problems. Scarce fiscal resources that might otherwise be devoted to health care, education, and infrastructure will have to be diverted to debt service. And the burden will grow heavier as tighter monetary policy by the US Federal Reserve and capital scarcity worldwide put upward pressure on interest rates.

Moreover, public debt is only part of the problem. Since the onset of the pandemic, the debts of households and nonfinancial corporations have risen nearly as rapidly as the debts of public sectors. It is likely that when some of these private debts go bad, the losses will be socialized and end up on government balance sheets.

The second reason to be skeptical of the consensus on emerging markets is that the risk of working in close quarters has spurred accelerated automation in advanced economies. Because the need for close hand-eye coordination previously frustrated such efforts, the traditional route to higher incomes for emerging markets and developing countries has run through the export of labor-intensive manufactures. Although these industries do not require heavy investments or highly skilled labor, they familiarize workers with factory discipline, enable learning by doing, accustom firms to competing on global markets, and generate foreign exchange.

The fear is that these manufactures will soon be produced by robots and 3D printers in the same high-wage countries where they are sold. This prospect reinforces established concerns about "premature deindustrialization" in emerging markets.

Relatedly, the global supply chains so

important to emerging economies experienced major disruptions because of the pandemic, leading firms to source inputs closer to home. Developed-country governments, for their part, have cited shortages and economic-security concerns as justification for creating incentives for firms to onshore more manufacturing production.

For emerging markets, the negative effects are not unlike those of accelerated automation. Many low- and middle-income countries start with simpler assembly tasks before moving into more sophisticated manufacturing operations. These opportunities will be fewer to the extent that advanced economies do more assembly at home.

Mexico may benefit from efforts by US firms to shorten their supply chains. Eastern European economies may benefit from an analogous desire on the part of EU countries. But South Asia, Africa, and Latin America may find themselves cut off.

Above all, there is the impact of COVID-19 on human capital formation. Though negative everywhere, the effects are likely to be especially severe in emerging markets. Few emerging markets possess the high-speed broadband needed for effective distance learning. A slower pace of vaccination will mean continuing school closures and absenteeism. According to an estimate by the World Bank, the share of children in emerging markets and developing countries unable to read and understand a simple text by the age of 10 will increase from 53% to 63% as a result of the pandemic.

The most powerful counterargument is that emerging markets will benefit from a supercharged global economy. Productivity growth in the advanced economies, which had been trending downward for several decades, was strong during the pandemic, especially in the United States. Technological and organizational changes prompted by the pandemic could now sustain that acceleration. Faster growth in developed countries would then create additional demand for emerging-market exports.

At this stage, this argument is purely hypothetical. The recent pickup in advanced-economy productivity growth is entirely attributable to business-cycle factors - most recently to firms using their resources more intensively as economies bounce back from their 2020 lows. In fact, the productivity trend looks much like it did in earlier cyclical recoveries - meaning that there is no evidence of a durable acceleration.

But all is not doom and gloom. In contrast to earlier downturns, central banks and governments in emerging markets have been able to respond in stabilizing ways, reflecting their success at building credibility. So far, the bank failures and financial accidents that historically punctuated such episodes have been few and far between. Vaccine production and administration are ramping up. That said, downward revisions of growth forecasts are almost certainly coming.



## Lord, why so much hatred in our village?

Dear Father:

*Why is it that there are so much hatred and dishonesty in our village? No, seriously Father, the dishonesty, hatred and back biting are too much mehn.*

*You and your friend joined together the next thing they are looking for way to destroy you and take over all because of envy and jealousy. -No wonder our village can't go anywhere.*

*But my son, who na make you vex so and you starting your New Year with this kina vexation?*

*No mehn Father, da na these people-these so-called other group who can together saying they want to remove the Footballer in 2023. They started fighting among themselves small, small and now they are in one of the village courts.*

*They say da orlor man, the old big man from the Shipping place there carried him friend to court. They say he told the people that his friend, the orlor old big man from Coco-Cola Factory da criminal. Him say the man write him name and he na agree. So right now they carried their matter to the village court and everything na scattered. You say what my son?*

*Ah Father, da na fire coming from my mouth oh, neither is popcorn popping. I say the people nachakala the whole thing. The group that wanted to remove the Footballer in 2023 finichakaling. The Talk Ray Man fighting the Short Ray man, the Old Sleepy Papy who supposed to act like the Father and call the young ones together continue to be laying down to his house sleeping as if nothing is happening.*

*Um, but da that one you will mind my son, the man can take any decision for his self sef?*

*I mean Father this is serious. So how people will take us serious na when we can't even agree to be together. If we do, then it is out of pretense.*

*So what really happened na before the orlor man go take him friend to court?*

*Father, from day one the man been behind him friend. Nobody in this village know what between these two people. It just like the old Rooster Man and the Iron Old Lady who couldn't see eyebolt to eyebolt. Sometimes you think it is just common jealousy but it can be bigger than that.*

*So right na, they are in the village court and the Footballer people are just laughing at them, even some of the village people are so shame of them.*

*But you know the main person to be shame of is that sleepy old man who has just refused to show himself as an elderly village man who can bring things under control-even in their own group where one of his members are fighting among themselves, the old just continue to sleep on it. Da the man who want to chop president for our village.*

*Puah, I think your village people should just keep the Footballer there oo, if da he the only person to go against him.*

*Yes, oh Father, because our village will be burning and we call him and he will still be sleeping. Nothing to show that he is in charge small seh.*

*But I want see how far all of them will go Father. Ehn they nachakala everything. I just pray they don't put our little village into trouble again with their greed for power.*

*Anyway, we watching to see how their matter will fini at the Village court. The way Uncle Sam na start putting him mouth inside small, small. It getting interesting by the day.*

*Anyway, Happy New Year Father!*

# O-P-E-D

By Sławomir Sierakowski

## What Kazakhstan Means for Ukraine

*Russia's rapid deployment of troops to help suppress the protests in Kazakhstan comes at an opportune time in the Kremlin's negotiations with the West over Ukraine. But in the longer run, Russian President Vladimir Putin may have lost the sympathies of yet another neighboring post-Soviet country.*

**W**ARSAW - The outcome of the recent eight-hour-long US-Russia talks in Geneva was not reported on the main news broadcast of Russia's state-owned Channel One, a primary propaganda outlet for the Kremlin, until the 11th minute. The first two stories focused on events in Kazakhstan, particularly President Vladimir Putin's virtual consultation with the leaders of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). It seems that Putin wanted to impress Russians in other ways than by issuing an ultimatum to the West as a pretext to invade Ukraine.

Russia's deployment of troops to help quell unrest in Kazakhstan is of a piece with Putin's efforts to reconstitute the Russian empire through intimidation and military force. Putin is aiming to erase 25 years of Western security policy by curtailing the sovereignty of Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, and even the former Soviet republics - Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania - that have already joined NATO. To strengthen his negotiating position, Putin wants to show that Russia has something like its own NATO.

Although the CSTO, a kind of "Warsaw Pact-lite," was founded in the 1990s, the Kremlin has never used it to justify a foreign intervention until now, in the case of Kazakhstan. The CSTO did not intervene when Kyrgyzstan requested Russia's help in 2010, nor when Armenia did so during its recent conflict with Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh.

But the Kremlin now seems to have learned the lessons of the popular uprisings in Belarus and Ukraine over the past decade. To launch joint missions with Belarusian dictator Aleksandr Lukashenko's forces, Putin could simply hide behind the CSTO. Tellingly, the CSTO's "peacekeeping military mission" in Kazakhstan is headed by Russian Colonel-General Andrei Serdyukov, the same man who led the military operations to seize Crimea in 2014, and who then commanded Russian forces in Syria.

Russia's entry into Kazakhstan has certainly gotten the West's attention. Its most important assets are its raw materials (oil, gas, and uranium) and its central placement in China's Belt and Road Initiative, which branches into Iran, Turkey, and Russia. Under Nursultan Nazarbayev, who ruled for three decades until stepping down from the presidency in 2019, Kazakhstan maintained a policy of relative independence vis-à-vis Russia, China, and the United States; now, however, the balance has suddenly shifted.

But it is unclear exactly what the Kremlin hopes to achieve in Kazakhstan. If it tries to take control of the country's resources, it will end up in a confrontation with China, which it cannot afford. Nor can it control the political situation in the country. The protesters, after all, have already achieved their goals of forcing the government's resignation and restoring fuel-price caps (a doubling of prices triggered the unrest).

Nonetheless, after years of the Kremlin standing by and watching as the US and China colonized Kazakhstan economically, those countries now must watch as Russian soldiers help to patrol Kazakh cities. Chevron, ExxonMobil, and European oil companies have fields and installations across Kazakhstan, so the last thing they want is a deeper conflict.

As always with Putin, the domestic audience is a key consideration. Most Russians - including many independent analysts and opposition figures - consider Kazakhstan a part of the "Russkiy mir" ("Russian world"). As with Russian speakers in Ukraine, the assumption is that all Russophones in Kazakhstan are in fact Russians who dream of nothing more than annexation by the motherland. In the 1990s, extreme nationalists, including the Liberal-Democratic Party leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and the writer Aleksander Solzhenitsyn, openly called for northern Kazakhstan to be incorporated into Russia.

Yet many Russian-speaking Kazakhs are not pro-Russian, nor do they want to incorporate their country partly or wholly into Russia. There are Ukrainians and Kazakhs who speak only Russian and do not want that language to be their country's official language. But none of this matters to Putin. He sees the mere existence of a Russian minority - whose size he usually overestimates several times over - as sufficient justification to include a neighboring country in Russia's sphere of influence.

But the Kremlin also has plenty to lose in Kazakhstan. Deploying 2,500 troops may strengthen Russia's influence, but maintaining a military presence will antagonize Kazakhs, just as previous interventions antagonized Ukrainians and Belarusians who used to consider themselves pro-Russian.

That antagonism will have only marginal geopolitical significance in the short and medium term; but in the long term, it could lead to greater independence. After Georgia in 2008, Ukraine in 2014, and Belarus in 2020, Kazakhstan is another chapter in Putin's neo-imperial narrative. But that also makes it another traditionally pro-Russian society that Putin is at risk of losing. Though the intervention is supposed to scare the protesters into submission, it could well have the opposite effect, turning Kazakhs decidedly against Russia.

Russia's military presence in Kazakhstan is an additional source of leverage as Putin pursues his second goal: an unwritten agreement to halt the integration of Ukraine and Georgia into the West. Were it not for Russia's ultimatum regarding NATO membership, the mere demand to withdraw Western support for Ukraine would be radical. But, against this background, Putin's objective seems to be a minimum plan - almost a compromise. And the whole course of events in Kazakhstan and along the Ukrainian border serves this purpose.

If, after eight hours of talks, the Kremlin-controlled media do not thunder that Russia was offended and provoked to an appropriate reaction, then it seems that the outcome was not a pretext for invading Ukraine. The West was supposed to learn from the CSTO's deployment in Kazakhstan that Russia is equal to the US, has its own NATO, and has the ability to expand its influence into large neighboring countries. As Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said: Russia must get something from NATO.

From now on, an agreement to keep Ukraine out of the Alliance is the minimum, not the maximum, that Russia will demand. It might work. After all, while a country's admission to NATO needs to be announced, a decision to keep it out permanently does not.

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- Permis de conduire libérien valide
- Affiliation NASSCORP valide

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- Sens relationnel ;
- Facilité de communication ;
- Aptitude à la discrétion et à la confidentialité ;
- Faire preuve d'initiative ;
- Contrat de travail de droit libérien à temps plein (40 heures par semaine, du Lundi au Vendredi).

### MODALITE DE CANDIDATURE

- Un CV et une Lettre de Motivation sont à déposer à l'ambassade avant le Lundi 17 Janvier 2022 à l'adresse suivante :  
Ambassade de France au Liberia, 98 A, UN Drive Mamba Point, Monrovia, Liberia.
- Ou par email à l'adresse suivante : [dian-dd.diakite@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:dian-dd.diakite@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

Seuls les candidats présélectionnés seront contactés !

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- Excellent teamwork skills

### HOW TO APPLY

Please submit your CV with Covering Letter before Monday, January 17, 2022 at the Embassy of France at the following address: 98A UN Drive, Mamba Point, Monrovia, Liberia or by Email at the following address : [dian-dd.diakite@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:dian-dd.diakite@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted!



## DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT



Sunrise: August 5, 1937 – Sunset: January 9, 2022



*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot - Ecclesiastes 3:1-2*

With profound sadness, grief, and bewilderment that the Johnson, Smith, Browne, Logan and Davis Logan Families announce the death of our mother, grandmother, sister, aunty, cousin, and friend, Mrs. Winifred E. Johnson. She was called home from labor to rest on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 8:30am at her home in New Hope, MN (USA).

She leaves to mourn her siblings - Martina Smith, Anna Johnson Baker, Pinky Johnson. Children - Philipbert S. Browne, Sr., Jah H. Johnson, Wede R. Johnson and Wedeo R. Johnson. Stepchildren - Gertrude R. Logan, Alice Davies and Emmanuel Logan. She is survived by a host of nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great grandchildren and a host of family and friends. We pray that she finds rest in the eternal peace of God and that her memories will always bind us together as a family. We will miss her dearly.

Funeral proceedings for the Late **Winifred E. Johnson** are as follows:

#### USA

On Saturday, February 19, 2022 there will be a Funeral Service over the remains of the late Mrs. Winifred E. Johnson at the Ebenezer Baptist Church on 9200 W. Broadway Ave, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445 (USA). Thereafter, the body will be flown to Liberia on February 20, 2022 for final funeral services and interment.

#### Liberia

On Friday February 25, the Late Winifred E. Johnson will be removed from the Samuel Stryker Funeral Home at 5:00 pm and taken to the First Baptist Church in Oldest Congo Town, Liberia for a moment of **Wake Keeping** from 6:00-9:00 pm.

On Saturday February 26, 2022, **Funeral Service** over the remains of the Late Winifred E. Johnson will be held at the First Baptist Church in Oldest Congo Town, Liberia beginning at 10:00 am. Thereafter, the body will be taken to the City of Marshall, Margibi County Cemetery for **Interment**.

This announcement is signed by Philipbert S. Browne, Sr., Jah H. Johnson, Wede R. Johnson, Archiebald Browne, Gertrude R. Logan and Alice Davies of the Deceased on behalf of the Family.

#### Contact Information:

Philipbert S. Browne, Sr – Son (Liberia) 231886599930

Jah H. Johnson – Son (Liberia) 231777652559

Archie Browne – Grandson (Liberia) 231777581506

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Lawmakers delinquent on job again -Deputy Speaker frowns

By Bridgett Milton

Members of the House of Representatives in the 54th Legislature have returned at the Capitol with their usual lackadaisical and delinquency on the job, barely one week after their annual break, prompting Deputy Speaker Representative J.

days after their annual break. Speaking during the second day sitting of 5th Session of the House of Representatives on Thursday, January 13, 2022, Representative Koffa lamented that it is unfair for his colleagues to not come to work on time. His remarks followed an inquiry by Rivercess County district#2 Representative Bryon W. Zahwea, why for the past two



FonatiKoffa to frown on his colleagues for not reporting for work on time to serve the people.

The 54th Liberian Legislature resumed work this week for its 5th Session but it seems that less than half of the 73-lawmakers is showing up for work, just 14 days in the New Year, and five

session days they have not reported for work in time in accordance with constitutional mandate.

Rep. Zenway noted that most of them have decided and agreed not to come to work in time because in the previous year, they had conducted sessions from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For the past year, this paper observed that members of the House of Representatives went to sessions very lately.

However, Deputy Speaker Cllr. Koffa notes that under their rules, it is very clear that sessions must start at 10:00 am and any lawmaker reporting lately for work violates the status, a habit he terms as disgraceful.

He says there are video footages of the Speaker and few members waiting for the others to come to begin session.

“It’s embarrassing to your colleagues and it is also embarrassing to this Body and what are the people thinking about how you conduct your business?” He asks.

The Deputy Speaker notes that it seems that the only time lawmakers show up in their numbers is when it’s time to receive their benefits. He wonders what benefit is due them when they fail to come to work on time and do the Liberian people work for which they are being paid from the national coffers.

He warns that this should be the last time for lawmakers to fail to show up at 10:00 a.m. for session.

Cllr. Koffa, who presided during Thursday’s session notes that it is very easy for a member to inform the Chief Clerk if he or she will not report for session for whatever reason, but deliberately not showing up is not the right thing to do. -

Editing by Jonathan Browne

## Defense lauds Gray D. Allison high school for outstanding WASSCE performance

The Ministry of National Defense has lauded the administration of the Gray D. Allison High School for her excellent performance in the just ended 2021 WAEC AND WASSCE exams.

The Gray D Allison High is owned and operated by the Ministry of National Defense.

The Ministry said it is impressed with the statistical analysis of the school overall performance which shows that 33 of the 34 senior students that took the WASSCE obtained credits.

The statistics indicates that 13 students got 3 credits, 14 of them got 4 credits, 3 of the students got 5 credits while 3 students got 6 credits, respectively.

At the same time, the Ministry expressed delights over the performance of students Amadou D. Jallah and Philomena M. Williams for being

part of the 96 students of the 40,000 plus students that sat the exams and passed with

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10



## Free Objective Thinkers commend GVL -for contributions made in Southeast Liberia

Civil Society group Free Conscious Independent and Objective Thinkers of Liberia lauds the Management of Golden Veroleum Liberia for its numerous contributions made in Southeastern Liberia, ranging from provision of housing for its workers, free healthcare delivery, education and support to schools in its operational areas, infrastructural development, including payment of community development funds, and other social and economy benefits.

In statement, the chairman of the group, Mr. Morris A.S. Seen, Sr. said during an assessment to checkmate various concession companies in the country, it observed that Golden Veroleum Liberia is living up to its obligations and

that as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility to the community, Free Conscious Independent and Objective Thinkers of Liberia established through its assessment that Golden Veroleum Liberia makes annual contributions to land holding communities in the form of a payment to Community Development Fund.

The CDFis intended for community-based development that has a long and local effect such as infrastructural improvements that benefit the whole community, rather than a mere segment of the community.

Golden Veroleum Liberia has maintained full compliance with statutory requirements such as payment of lawful taxes to the Government of Liberia and ensuring social security protection for its employees,



doing very well for host communities, noting that the assessment is also intended to ascertain or verify reports about the company’s operations in that part of the country.

“We are pleased to note that Golden Veroleum Liberia in an effort to reduce poverty and provide a long-term prosperity for its employees and residents of its concession areas, has put in place a workable welfare system which includes: Sustainable Income and Benefits, Housing, Water, Stable Electricity, Medical Care, Life Insurance Policy, Schools for employee’s dependents, that translates into decent lives and Security”, says the statement.

Meanwhile, it continues

thereby paving the way for a happy life after retirement, according to Mr. Seen.

He says given GVL’s interventions within its concession areas in Southeastern Liberia, and considering its impact on the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development initiated by the government, the Board of Directors of the group has resolved to bestow honors on Golden Veroleum Liberia for its exceptional managerial and administrative practices that drive the company to being an emerging and premier oil palm producer on the African continent and the world at large, in the next few years. -

Press Statement

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## Assessing the Legal merit(s) of the Solicitor General of Liberia's "Clarifications on The Alexander B. Cummings' Case"

By Atty. Isaac W. Jackson, Jr.

### Introduction

On Sunday, January 9, 2022, or thereabouts, Cllr. SaymaSyreniusCephus, Solicitor General ("SG") of Liberia, circulated a communication captioned "Clarifications On The Alexander B. Cummings' Case" in which he sought to explain the role of his office and the entire Ministry of Justice in commencing and prosecuting the ongoing case against Mr. Alexander B. Cummings ("ABC") and others. In his communication, the SG shamelessly denied that "the complaint and the arrest order were initiated by the Government of Liberia".

According to the SG, the Stipendiary Magistrate at the Monrovia Magisterial Court acted in keeping with Section 10.6 of the Criminal Procedure Law in accepting the underlying criminal complaint directly from the private prosecutor (All Liberian Party (ALP) by and through its National Chairman, Mr. Theodore Momo), and decided to commence the criminal proceeding by issuance of the writ of arrest without the involvement of, or any representation by the Ministry of Justice. In particular, the SG asserted that:

1. The Magistrate, "having...arrived at the conclusion there was a probable cause and a sound legal basis to be seized of this matter... proceeded to issue the writ of arrest against Mr. Alexander B. Cummings based on the complaint of the All Liberia Party (ALP)";
2. The Magistrate Court "operates under the judicial branch of the Liberian government", meaning it is independent of the Ministry of Justice;
3. "...for coordination purposes, and as required by law", the Magistrate "alerted the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Justice...about the writ of arrest and the decision to arrest Mr. Cummings."
4. It is therefore "absolutely ludicrous for anyone to suggest that the complaint and the arrest order were initiated by the Government having cited the law extant."

### Analysis

The SG is wrong. His communication is without any basis whatsoever in law, practice and precedence.

Under Liberian law, a crime is committed against the public at large, and the prosecution thereof is, therefore, by the Republic of Liberia. Accordingly, the Republic of Liberia is a necessary and principal party in every criminal proceeding. Every criminal proceeding must therefore (i) be in the name of the Republic; and (ii) be initiated and prosecuted by the Republic.

Rule 23 of the Rules and Regulations for the Governance of the Magistrate and Traffic Courts ("Rules of Magistrate Courts) provide that every warrant of arrest "must be issued in the name of the City or Corporation AND the Republic of Liberia" while Rule 33 of the same Rules of Magistrate Courts reaffirms the exclusive authority of the Ministry of Justice in respect of prosecution in the following language:

*"No lawyer shall be allowed to prosecute in the Magisterial Courts in the name of the State or City Corporation, except by permission of the City Solicitor, who shall first inform the court of his desire to have said lawyer as his assistant."*



As further summarized below, the Liberian Law is very clear as to (i) who is responsible to initiate prosecution; and (ii) when is prosecution commenced:

1. Section 22.2 (b) of the New Executive Law states that "it shall be the duty of the Minister of Justice to...institute all legal proceedings necessary for law enforcement".
2. Section 4.7 of the Criminal Procedure Law of Liberia, captioned "When Prosecution is commenced", states that prosecution shall commence, or "be deemed to have commenced on the occurrence of any of the following, which ever first occurs:
  - (a) The finding of an indictment against the defendant;
  - (b) The issuance of a warrant of arrest, a summons, or notice to appear".
3. The Memorandum of Understanding Between the Liberia National Police and the Prosecution Service Respecting the Conduct of Criminal Investigations and Prosecutions Coordination, signed on December 17, 2011, and still in force, provides that "at no point shall the prosecution commence without a police charge sheet which shall serve as the vehicle for probable cause. The only exception for the filing of a complaint without a police charge is where there is no police presence and the possibility of accessing the police is remote."
4. Section 14.2 states that "Petit larceny and all petty offenses shall be prosecuted by complaint. All other crimes shall be prosecuted by indictment" while Section 14.4 states that "a complaint made orally to a magistrate or justice of the peace shall be reduced to writing on the face of the writ by the clerk of the court" and said "complaint shall be sworn to by the complainant. "
5. Section 1.5(a) of the Criminal Procedure Law defines a "prosecuting attorney" as "the Minister of Justice, Solicitor General, or an Assistant Minister of Justice or other attorney of the Ministry of Justice who assumes the duty of prosecuting a particular case, or the County, Territorial, or District attorney in charge of a prosecution."
6. The practice is that it is the prosecuting attorney who makes the application for the issuance of the warrant of arrest because (i) the warrant of arrest is issued in the name of the state, (ii) the warrant must contain a distinct and intelligible complaint sufficient to sustain the charge(s), and (iii) the issuance of the warrant of arrest serves as the commencement of a criminal case.

The foregoing laws, practices and procedures support the

following conclusions:

1. The Ministry of Justice has exclusive authority to prosecute criminal cases, including to commence or institute all criminal proceedings;
2. The issuance of a warrant or writ of arrest is an executive function that commences prosecution in all cases where indictment is not required;
3. A magisterial court, like all other courts in Liberia, cannot be a party to commencing or instituting a criminal proceeding and subsequently sit as a "neutral referee" to conduct trial of the case;
4. Even if the Magistrate were to do so, the Ministry of Justice would be remiss not to question (i) such usurpation of its authority and (ii) the act of the Magistrate as a breach of Article 3 of the Liberian Constitution, which says "no person holding office in one of these branches shall hold in OR EXERCISE any of the powers assigned to either of the two other branches".
5. A complaint sufficient to support the issuance of a writ of arrest is required to be supported by a sworn affidavit, usually executed by a law enforcement officer or a prosecuting attorney; there is no evidence that the private prosecutors executed a sworn affidavit.
6. There is no Police Charge Sheet because there is no evidence that the police ever investigated this matter.

### Conclusion

The contentions of the SG, as stated in his January 9, 2022 Communication, are factually and legal incorrect. It is the product of a deliberate plan to deceive. The SG knows, or ought to know, about the exclusive authority granted to his office and that of the MOJ regarding prosecution of all alleged crimes. He ought to also be aware that a magistrate, like all judges, cannot exercise executive functions, such as commencing prosecution, or being responsible to assert a party's claim or charge.

\* The author, BSc., LL.B, LL.M, former Liberia's Permanent Representative to the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Also served with Liberia's Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism from 2008 as Assistant and later Deputy Minister for Press & Public Affairs. Jackson defends a political career which arises from his days as a student activist at the University of Liberia

# Français

## Liberia: les vestiges d'un hôtel de luxe comme le symbole d'un passé douloureux

Certains palaces décrépits portent la trace de leur faste aboli. Pas le Ducor, parallélépipède de béton dépouillé de son luxe et de ses fenêtres par une histoire libérienne troublée dont il matérialise les souffrances, ensurplombé de Monrovia.

A son ouverture en 1960, le Ducor était un des premiers hôtels cinq étoiles d'Afrique. Pendant des années, son personnel a satisfait aux exigences d'aristocrates et de dirigeants de ce monde, comme l'ancien empereur éthiopien Haïlé Sélassié.

En 1989, c'est la fermeture au début de la première des deux guerres civiles qui devaient sanglanter le Liberia et faire 250.000 morts de 1989 à 1997, puis de 1999 à 2003.

Les marques physiques témoignent de ces épreuves sonores à Monrovia. Le Ducor, parmi les arbres sur une hauteur de la capitale, conserve une vue imprenable sur l'Atlantique. En contrebas étale le

bidonville de West Point.

Sur 10 niveaux s'étagent des corridors et des chambres fantomatiques à la peinture noircie par les infiltrations, des volées de marches sans garde-corps, des terrasses gagnées par la végétation et traversées par des puits d'ascenseur vides.

L'intense lumière naturelle traverse de part en part la structure, qui pourrait évoquer une usine désaffectée sans la piscine à la céramique turquoise

défraîchie où, selon une anecdote non corroborée par l'AFP, l'ancien dictateur ougandais Idi Amin se baignait sans se départir de son arme.

Dans le bassin stagné une eau verdâtre. Le terrain alentour est devenu un repaire de toxicomanes.

"Cela attriste tout le monde", souffle Ambrose Yebea, fonctionnaire retraité du ministère du Tourisme, qui proposait autrefois des visites de l'hôtel abandonné.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Procès de Cummings : Le tribunal rejette la requête de l'accusation

Le juge du tribunal municipal de Monrovia, Jomah Jallah, a rejeté la requête de l'accusation qui consiste à téléviser le procès de l'opposant Alexander B. Cummings, leader politique du Congrès national alternatif (ANC).

M. Cummings est accusé de faux et usage de faux et association de malfaiteurs.

M. Cummings est poursuivi après que Benoni Urey, un autre opposant, a porté plainte au tribunal municipal

de Monrovia contre lui. Le chef de l'opposition est soupçonné de falsification de l'accord-cadre de la coalition de la principale coalition de l'opposition, à savoir la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP).

Au début du procès de M. Cummings, le parquet avait introduit une requête portant diffusion du procès sur la chaîne de télévision nationale afin que le public sache ce qui se passe au cours de la procédure. L'accusation a fait valoir que leur demande est

conforme au chapitre 3 de la Constitution du Libéria de 1986.

Mais les avocats de M. Cummings s'y sont véhémentement opposés.

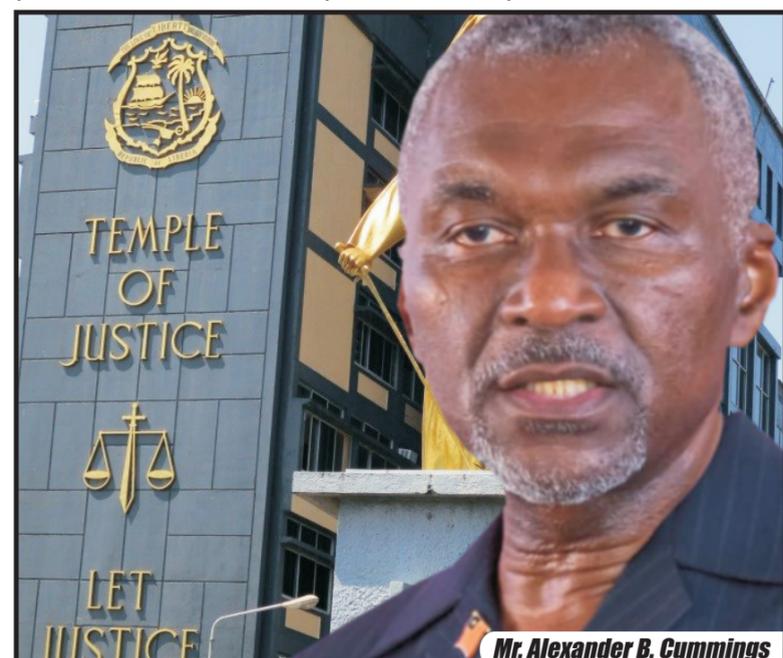
Le Mercredi 12 janvier 2022, le magistrat Jallah a rejeté la requête de l'accusation car, selon lui, elle est contraire à la règle 11 du Canon judiciaire de la République du Libéria.

Selon le magistrat, il est inapproprié pour un juge d'autoriser la diffusion en direct, l'enregistrement électronique ou la prise de photographies du tribunal pendant la procédure.

Conformément à la règle 11 du Canon judiciaire, le magistrat a déclaré que ce serait une erreur irréversible de la part du tribunal d'accéder à la demande de l'accusation.

En outre, le magistrat Jallah a suspendu l'affaire et a ordonné au parquet de présenter au tribunal tous les documents et éléments de preuve pour les poursuites des crimes de contrefaçon et d'association de malfaiteurs contre M. Cummings.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Mr. Alexander B. Cummings

## Éditorial

### Pas besoin d'effusion de sang

Les heurts qui ont éclaté entre les spectateurs qui seraient des partisans du chef de l'opposition, M. Alexander B. Cummings du Congrès national alternatif, et les forces de sécurité le jeudi 6 janvier 2022 au tribunal municipal de Monrovia sont aussi malheureux qu'injustifiés.

Ces actes de violence, qui ont fait au moins trois blessés dans les rangs des forces de l'ordre, n'étaient pas du tout nécessaires, surtout dans cette affaire qui est censée être une procédure judiciaire.

M. Cummings est traîné devant les tribunaux par Benoni W. Urey du All Liberia Party (ALP) pour avoir prétendument modifié le document-cadre de la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP), la plus grande plateforme de l'opposition. C'est donc au tribunal seulement de juger qui a raison ou tort.

Par conséquent, les spectateurs, les partisans et les forces de sécurité n'avaient aucune raison de s'affronter au Temple de la Justice. Peu importe le zèle des partisans, cela ne leur donne pas le droit de recourir à la violence.

Paradoxalement, la violence est survenue à la veille du lancement de la célébration du bicentenaire du Libéria, un événement qui marque les 200 ans d'existence du pays depuis sa fondation par l'American Colonization Society (ACS) en 1822. Avec 200 ans d'existence, la maturité exige que nous apprenions à gérer nos différences avec un degré élevé de tolérance et permettions à la loi de suivre son cours.

Ces violences, qui se sont soldées par une effusion de sang, sont de mauvaise augure autant plus qu'elles interviennent alors qu'on est sur le point de lancer la célébration des 200 ans. La célébration du bicentenaire devrait unir tous les Libériens vers un objectif commun - construire une nation plus prospère que la postérité appréciera.

S'entailer les uns les autres pour des raisons politiques est contre-productif pour la survie de la patrie qui nous lie en tant que peuple. Par conséquent, nous avons honte et condamnons tous ceux qui sont à l'origine des violences de la semaine dernière au tribunal municipal de Monrovia. Ce n'était pas du tout nécessaire.

Après 200 ans, nous, Libériens, devrions faire mieux maintenant, plutôt que de continuer à vivre comme des bêtes et des sauveurs. Enfin, nous l'oublions, nous avons déjà causé beaucoup d'embarras à la sous-région et au reste du monde à cause de nos 14 années de guerre civile sanglante.

Il est temps de guérir et de construire, au lieu de retourner dans le passé horrible. En cette ère du nouveau Coronavirus qui se caractérise par diverses souches, nous devrions avoir honte de nous autodétruire et croire que d'autres pays abandonneront leurs problèmes les plus importants pour remédier au désordre que nous nous créons.

Libériens ! Ne pouvons-nous pas apprendre de nos erreurs ? Comment la violence a-t-elle aidé le pays et amélioré nos vies ? Comment cela a-t-il amélioré nos systèmes d'éducation et de santé ou l'économie ? Jetons un coup d'œil : de l'émeute du riz du 14 avril 1979 au coup d'État militaire du 12 avril 1980 et à l'invasion rebelle du 24 décembre 1989, sommes-nous mieux lotis maintenant qu'avant ? Sûrement pas !

M. Urey a fait la chose la plus honorable en s'adressant au tribunal pour étayer ses allégations, de même que M. Cummings a, en personne, comparu deux fois devant le tribunal pour répondre des accusations portées contre lui et a exprimé sa confiance dans le pouvoir judiciaire pour rendre justice. Il est prudent que toutes les parties fassent preuve de retenue en évitant la violence pour permettre à la loi de suivre son cours.

# Français

## Liberia: les vestiges d'un hôtel de luxe comme

- Cantonnement militaire - Il y avait peut-être des hôtels à Monrovia dans les années 1950, d'où la construction du Ducoren 1960 pour héberger des hommes d'affaires et responsables gouvernementaux, relate-t-il.

Les plans ont été confiés à l'architecte israélien Moshe Mayer. Golda Meir, alors ministre israélienne des Affaires étrangères, et le leader de l'indépendance de la Guinée voisine, Ahmed Sékou Touré, ont assisté à la cérémonie d'ouverture.

Les photos d'époque montrent un bâtiment fastueux, avec des clients sirotant des cocktails au bord de la piscine.

Hébergé au Ducor, le premier président de la Côte d'Ivoire, Félix Houphouët-Boigny, avait été acquis, au point de mandater Moshe Mayer pour faire encore mieux à Abidjan. L'hôtel voire y est toujours en activité.

De nombreux dirigeants africains ont séjourné au Ducor dans les années 1960 et 1970, y compris pendant la conférence de l'Organisation de l'unité africaine à Monrovia en 1979. Un rapport de la Banque mondiale datant de 1975 suggère que le déclin avait déjà commencé.

Après la fermeture en 1989, le Ducor a servi de cantonnement pour les hommes du chef de guerre libérien Charles Taylor pendant le siège de Monrovia en 2003.

L'hôtel a ensuite abrité des squatters, que fit déloger

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, première présidente élue après la guerre.

Elle a lancé des plans de rénovation. En 2011, le gouvernement a confié le Ducor à la Libyan African Investment Company (Laico), une filiale du fonds souverain libyen.

- La guerre comme fatalité -

Le Ducor nouvelle formule devait compter 150 chambres, des restaurants, un centre commercial, un court de tennis et un casino, et créer des emplois, indique un communiqué officiel de l'époque.

Mais une autre guerre a été fatale au projet, celle dans laquelle a sombré la Libye. Le Liberia a alors rompu les liens avec la Libye de Mouammar Kadhafi, et les travaux ont cessé.

"Cela nous a beaucoup choqués", se rappelle Frank Williams, qui dit avoir été l'un des 150 employés de la Laico. "Aujourd'hui, nous n'avons pas d'emploi".

Le sort du Ducor est indéterminé. Ni la présidence libérienne, ni le ministère du Tourisme, ni la Laico n'ont répondu aux sollicitations de l'AFP.

La Laico est sous le coup de sanctions de l'Union européenne en raison de ses liens étroits présumés avec l'ex-régime Kadhafi.

Certains espèrent encore voir renaître le Ducor. Il pourrait attirer des touristes et générer des emplois, espère Ambrose Yebea, le fonctionnaire retraité. "Tous les Libériens sont d'accord là-dessus: ils veulent que l'hôtel soit remis à neuf", assure-t-il.

## Procès de Cummings: Le tribunal

« Ce tribunal dit que l'accusation est par la présente mandatée par cette honorable cour de soumettre au greffier de cette cour tous les éléments de preuve sur lesquels elle s'appuie pour la poursuite de l'affaire pour une transmission ultérieure à la défense dans le délai légal requis par la loi, et il en est ainsi ordonné », a-t-il déclaré.

La décision du tribunal fait suite à une requête des avocats de M. Cummings qui exigeaient de l'accusation la présentation de tous les éléments de preuve au tribunal.

L'équipe de la défense veut que l'accusation soumette l'accord-cadre initial de la CPP qui a été signé par les parties via zoom le 19 mai 2020 et la version révisée qui a été examinée par l'équipe d'avocats et

soumise à la commission électorale nationale par le président de la CPP.

La défense exige également que l'accusation soumette des images, des courriels et des échanges WhatsApp entre M. Urey et la structure de direction interne de la CPP.

La défense veut en outre que l'accusation présente tous les échanges WhatsApp du Conseil consultatif national de la CPP et la copie de l'accord-cadre de la CPP qui a été soumise et reconnue par la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) du Libéria.

Poursuivant leur requête, les avocats de la défense ont demandé au magistrat d'ordonner au parquet de présenter la résolution exécutée par l'ALP, entre autres.

À la suite de la demande présentée par les avocats de la défense, les avocats de l'accusation ont prié le tribunal

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Barry Eichengreen

# Covid-19 : l'immersion

BERKELEY (CALIF.) - Le variant Omicron, qui progresse tel un incendie de forêt, ajoute un nouvel élément d'incertitude à l'économie mondiale. Pourtant, lorsqu'on envisage les marchés émergents, le consensus demeure d'un avenir souriant. Le département de Global Research de la banque J.P. Morgan prévoit que leur PIB, collectivement, enregistrera cette année une croissance de 4,6 %, plus rapide que ne le fut la tendance générale des années 2015-2019. L'agence de notation Standard and Poor's est même plus haussière, puisqu'elle anticipe une croissance des économies émergentes de 4,8 %.

Ces chiffres, et c'est frappant, sont à peu près identiques aux prévisions pour 2022 publiées en 2019 - avant la pandémie - par le Fonds monétaire international. C'est devenu un cliché d'affirmer que le Covid-19 change tout - hormis les perspectives des marchés émergents.

En réalité, de multiples raisons inclinent à penser que ce consensus est trop optimiste.

Tout d'abord, les économies émergentes sont aujourd'hui plus lourdement endettées. Les rapports de la dette publique au PIB augmentaient déjà avant l'apparition de la pandémie, mais ils ont désormais atteint des sommets préoccupants, à plus de 60 % du PIB.

Si personne ne remet en question qu'il fut sage d'emprunter pour répondre à une urgence de santé publique et à la menace d'une crise économique, ces lourdes dettes posent des problèmes de gestion. Les maigres ressources budgétaires qui pourraient sinon être allouées aux soins de santé, à l'éducation et aux infrastructures vont être aspirées par le service de la dette. Et le poids de celle-ci ira croissant à mesure que la Réserve fédérale des États-Unis durcira sa politique monétaire et que se raréfieront les capitaux à l'échelle mondiale, c'est-à-dire qu'augmenteront les pressions à la hausse sur les taux d'intérêt.

La dette publique n'est en outre qu'une partie du problème. Depuis l'apparition de la pandémie, les dettes des ménages et des entreprises non financières ont augmenté presque aussi vite que celles des États. Lorsque ces débiteurs s'avéreront insolvables, il est probable que les pertes seront socialisées et pèseront sur les bilans des finances publiques.

Un autre facteur devrait inciter au scepticisme concernant le consensus sur les marchés émergents : les risques de la promiscuité au travail poussent à l'accélération de l'automatisation dans les économies avancées. Comme la nécessité d'une étroite coordination oculomotrice entravait encore, voici peu, ce type d'évolution, l'exportation des industries manufacturières à forte concentration de main-d'œuvre constituait longtemps la voie traditionnelle d'augmentation des revenus sur les marchés émergents et dans les pays en développement. Si ces industries ne demandent ni de lourds investissements ni une main-d'œuvre hautement qualifiée, elles ont le mérite de familiariser cette dernière avec la discipline de l'usine, de permettre la formation par l'apprentissage, d'acclimater les entreprises à la concurrence sur les marchés mondiaux et de rapporter des devises.

Il est à craindre que ces produits manufacturés soient très bientôt fabriqués par des robots et des imprimantes 3D, dans les pays mêmes où ils sont vendus. Une telle perspective renforce les inquiétudes déjà formées quant à la « désindustrialisation prématurée » des marchés émergents.

Concomitamment, les chaînes d'approvisionnement, dont l'importance pour les économies émergentes est cruciale, connaissent, du fait de la pandémie, des perturbations importantes, qui conduisent les entreprises à rechercher des facteurs de production plus proches. Les gouvernements des pays développés arguent quant à eux de leur sécurité économique pour justifier les incitations qu'ils mettent en place afin de rapatrier une partie de la production manufacturée.

Pour les marchés émergents, les effets négatifs ne sont pas sans ressembler à ceux de l'accélération de l'automatisation. Nombre de pays à revenu faible ou intermédiaire commencent par des tâches d'assemblage simples avant de s'engager dans des opérations de fabrication plus complexes. Les occasions de ce type se raréfieront si les économies développées assemblent plus de biens chez elles.

Le Mexique pourrait tirer profit des efforts consentis par les sociétés aux États-Unis pour contracter leurs chaînes d'approvisionnement. Les pays d'Europe de l'Est pourraient aussi bénéficier d'une dynamique analogue dans les pays de l'Union européenne. Mais l'Asie du Sud, l'Afrique et l'Amérique latine pourraient se trouver évincées.

Et surtout, il faut compter avec les conséquences du Covid-19 sur la formation du capital humain. Si ses effets sont partout négatifs, ils le sont encore plus sur les marchés émergents, où la bande passante à grande vitesse, nécessaire pour dispenser un enseignement à distance correct, est une denrée rare. Le rythme plus lent des vaccinations va se traduire par la prolongation des fermetures de classes dans les établissements d'enseignement et par la multiplication des absences. Selon une estimation de la Banque mondiale, la proportion d'enfants de dix ans ne sachant ni lire ni comprendre un texte simple passera dans les pays en développement de 53 % à 63 % du simple fait de la pandémie.

L'objection la plus convaincante à ces prévisions pessimistes résiderait dans le dopage d'après-crise de l'économie mondiale, qui profiterait aux marchés émergents. La croissance de la productivité dans les économies avancées, qui marquait un ralentissement depuis plusieurs décennies, fut soutenue durant la pandémie, notamment aux États-Unis. Les évolutions technologiques et structurelles induites par la pandémie pourraient désormais entretenir cette accélération. Une croissance plus rapide dans les pays développés créerait ainsi une demande supplémentaire pour les exportations des marchés en développement.

À ce stade, cet argument ne relève que de l'hypothèse. La hausse récente de la productivité dans les économies avancées est entièrement imputable à des facteurs conjoncturels - pour les plus récents d'entre eux à l'utilisation plus intensive de leurs ressources par les entreprises au moment des rebonds qui ont suivi les dépressions enregistrées en 2020. À vrai dire, ces regains de la productivité ressemblent beaucoup à ceux des précédentes reprises liées aux cycles économiques - ce qui signifie qu'il n'est nullement certain que l'accélération se poursuive.

Mais tout n'est pas pour autant lugubre. Au contraire de ce qui s'est passé lors des précédentes récessions, les banques centrales et les gouvernements des marchés émergents ont été capables de stabiliser la situation, ce qui témoigne de leur succès à bâtir leur crédibilité. Jusqu'à présent, les faillites bancaires et les accidents financiers qui ont ponctué dans l'histoire ce type d'épisode ont été rares. La production de vaccins et, conséquemment, les vaccinations s'accroissent. Cela dit, les révisions à la baisse des prévisions de croissance sont probablement inéluctables.

# FEATURE ARTICLE

## Healthcare: Some simple preventive methods

By: Josephine Seekey

In Liberia, Healthcare is a rather tricky. The health care system is mostly poor, with people dying from many preventable diseases, one can't be too careful. very Cardinal and somehow frigate.

Healthcare has to do with the maintenance or improvement of health via the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or cure of disease, illness, injury and other physical and mental impairment in people.

In order to keep our families healthy, especially our children, we should make sure the kids are well fed in our various homes. Awareness should be made on the kind of food our children eat, especially before and after eating regular meal.

Let's first, acknowledge that, it is quite difficult to manage the health of families in developing countries like Liberia. The poverty rates are high, making parents and caregivers to cut corners on many necessary food and health measures. For families with four children and above, things are even harder. Sometimes, it doesn't seem practical. That's a sad truth. However, certain simple steps can help mitigate some of these challenges.

Food: fruits contain much nutritional values for the human body. Fortunately, things like mango, orange, pawpaw, bananas etc. are quite plentiful in Liberia. They have natural sugar, which is good for the body. They are better substitutes for candies and other artificial sweets, which can harm the body over time. Thus, parents should make some conscious effort to add them to their family meals at least once a week. Make it a habit of buying less chocolates, candies, and give the kids fruits.

Parent should give the children the softest and best parts of the food. It is better for them. They need the nutrients more, since their immune systems are not fully developed. It is common for the males to receive the healthiest parts of the fish, chicken, meat- while the children get the legs, head and feet. Adults have developed immune systems, the children don't. parents need to understand how this act affects their children health.

Protein: some foods are richer in proteins than others. For our setting, many common foods, in that category are not that expensive- pea nuts, xxxxx, xxxxx, fish. Adding them in small quantities to our meals can make a huge difference. For example, regardless of how large one's family is, a cup of peanut is still less than LD\$100, but it can be boiled, steamed or parched and a still go around for everyone. If this is done steadily, at least once or twice a week, it can help improve the quantity of proteins in the family diet. Proteins are good for growth, XXXX, xxx, and xxx. Children and adult need it.

Healthcare: good food is one of the basics of good health. If we feed our bodies adequately, we reduce the risk of illnesses tremendously. However, there are other practical things to help keep the family healthy.

Often because of financial constraints, parents don't take their children for medical checkups as regularly as they should. They tend to wait out illnesses until it seems unbearable or physically obvious. By this time, it may be too late. They end up spending more money or worse case, losing that family member. However, it is advisable to observe children keenly, and take them to clinics once they repeatedly complain about some health issue. Since it is not practical to go every time, at least take them when the complains are repeated.

It is also, not advisable to self-medicate. It is common practice to buy drugs and give the children or have people in drug stores to recommend drugs for treatment. Pharmacists are trained for special purposes, they are not medical doctors. Moreover, many of those attending these local drugstores are trainees- nursing or otherwise. The simple truth is, "Prevention is better than cure." Giving our children good, healthy food regularly, and paying attention to their health is preventive, advisable but cheaper in the long run.

Parents should also take their children to hospital or clinic each time they complain about been sick. Whenever the Children tells you that they have malaria and you go to drugs store to buy medicine for them. Take them to see the doctor at the hospital or clinic. The cost of not doing so could be the life of your child or loved one, which is more expensive.

CleanEnvironment: because more people live in slums and other congested areas, this can be difficult to do always. Our communities are not as clean as they should be. This is a national problem. However, at home, we have some control.

By doing simple things as washing dishes- make sure no dirty dishes sleep over. Roaches, rodents and other creatures live on the dirt we make. They don't just eat the food; they lay eggs or defecate in the plates, pans cups, pots etc. (for many hours at night or when we are away and the house is quiet).

When we wake up, we don't often use hot or boiled water to clean the dishes. The germs they leave are hard to die. So, we end up eating food in infested dishes.

Our children should be properly fed and mostly served the best parts. Fruits and vegetables are important for them to eat after their regular meal. Some of the food that our children need are, peanuts, beans, oranges, plums, bonnie etc. to build up their bodies. Paying good attention to our family and children, will make healthcare better in Liberia. Interestingly, this does not have to be expensive, small, regular quantities can do the trick.

Josephine Seekey, MPA Candidate  
University of Liberia Graduate School  
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# Defense lauds Gray

Cont'd from page 6

honors.

Commenting on the performance of the students, the Principal of the Gray D. Allison High School, James E. B. Richardson, II, thanked the Administration of the Ministry of National Defense for its continuous support to the school over the years.

He also lauded the parents of the students for their courage and support that have made it possible for the Gray D. Allison High to be where it is amongst the many Government High Schools within the Republic of Liberia.

Mr. Richardson praised the faculty and the administration for adequately preparing the students for the exams which has yielded such a great result.

According to him, Gray D. Allison

High School in recent times has been the highest performing government-run school in Liberia. He asserted further that during the 2020 WASSCE exams, Gray D. Allison High School was the only government school that has one of its students as part of 26 students that passed with honors.

The Principal of the Gray D. Allison High School further stated that when his team took over the school in 2011, his vision was to build the academic image of school which is successfully being achieved as evident by the performance of his students in the national and regional exams.

Renewing the vision, he vowed to make Gray D. Allison High School the best government-run school in in the country.

### JUDICIAL BRANCH REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



SITTING IN ITS JANUARY TERM A.D. 2022.

BEFORE HIS HONOR .. SCHEAPLOR R. DUNBAR, JUDGE, MONTHLY & PROBATE COURT, MONT. CO. R.L.

IN RE: THE PETITION OF VICTORIA N. THORPE, JOHANS C. THORPE, ROLANDEE D. TOWEH, ABRAHAM DAVIES, ROBERT CLARKE AND RUTH THOMPSON, ALL OF THE COUNTY OF MONTERRADO, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, PETITIONERS, PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR PROBATION AND REGISTRATION OF THE LAST WILL AND DTESTAMENT OF THE LATE ALETHA B. TOWEH..

NOTICE!

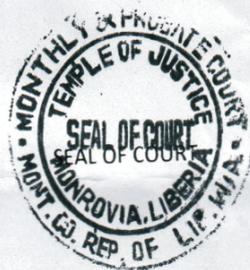
NOTICE!!

NOTICE!!!

THIS IS TO NOTIFY THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE INSTRUMENT PURPORTED TO BE THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THE LATE ALETHA B. TOWEH WAS IN DUE FORM BROUGHT TO THE MONTHLY AND PROBATE COURT FOR MONTERRADO COUNTY AND SAME READ IN OPEN COURT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF LIBERIA ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER A.D. 2021. THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS FURTHER INFORMED THAT IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, ALL PERSONS HAVING LEGAL OR FORMAL OBJECTIONS TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED "PETITION" ARE TO FILE SAME IN THIS HONORABLE COURT THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE AFORESAID COURT ON OR BEFORE THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY A.D. 2022, AT THE HOUR OF 10:00 A.M.

FAILURE TO DO SAME WITHIN THE PERIOD INDICATED HEREINABOVE, WILL LEAVE THIS HONORABLE COURT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO ORDER SAID "PETITION" GRANTED AND LETTERS TESTAMENTARY ISSUED TO THE EXECUTOR(S).

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT  
THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY A.D. 2022



EDWIN S. BOIMAH, SR.  
CLERK, MONTHLY & PROBATE COURT  
MONTERRADO COUNTY, R.L.

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# Liberians to march on Washington

A group of Liberians based in the United States is planning to march on the US capital Washington in a rally to protest against the ongoing trial of Mr. Alexander B. Cummings, political leader of the opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC) on January 27.

The group in an advertisement posted on social media say they are marching against the unprovoked and premeditated attacks on Mr. Cummings by "criminals who

bloc Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) at the Monrovia City Court.

On Monday January 3, 2022, Mr. Urey's ALP filed a complaint before the Monrovia City Court accusing Mr. Cummings of allegedly committing forgery and criminal conspiracy, hours after he announced a pullout from the CPP.

The Court subsequently issued an arrest order against Mr. Cummings on Monday, 3 January 2022.

Mr. Urey who served as CPP's first chairman has for several months alleged that the ANC's

Costa of the Council of Patriots (COP), Costa is said to have quoted excerpts of the message purported to be from US Congressman Chris Smith's Chief of Staff Riva Levinson that the charges against Mr. Cummings are trumped up.

The actual message was said to have emanated from the offices of Congressman Smith's Chief of Staff to Liberia's Ambassador to the US Mr. George Pattern informing him (Amb. Pattern) of an inquiry into the Cummings' trial which suggest that the entire prosecution is based on trumped up charges.

The actual message reads: "Further to our conversation the other day, I have made some inquiries. The prosecution of Alexander Cummings on what appears to be trumped up charges has not been well-received. There is renewed interest in Nathaniel McGill, whom you know from our previous conversations there is a dossier on.

Now Benoni Urey and his daughter Telia have also attracted attention, as has the Solicitor General CyrenniusCephas. I think people are also looking into the judge's record, to see if he has a history of corruption. Just wanted to let you know, based on our relationship. Other than that, I hope you have a good weekend."

According to information received by this paper, upon receipt of the message Amb. Pattern then forwarded same to Minister McGill.

The question as to how the message ended up at Costa is a debate for another day. This paper tried reaching out to Mr. McGill to verify the information but all attempts proved futile.

But in an earlier interview with FrontPage Africa Minister McGill refuted forwarding the message to Henry Costa, but admitted forwarding same to Mr. Benoni Urey, Solicitor General Cllr. CyrenniusCephus and Maritime boss Lenn Eugene Nagbe.

# Agriculture boss faces corruption probe

By Ethel A Tweh

The plenary of the Liberian Senate has forwarded Agriculture Minister Jennie Cooper, to the Liberia Anti Corruption Commission and the General Auditing Commission for investigation on allegations of corruption brought against her by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

An investigative report by the Committee reveals that Minister Cooper gave four contracts to four advisors working in her office for a two-year period, including her brother Zubin Cooper, in direct conflict of interest.

Recipients of the contracts include: Mr. Thomas Gbokie, Agricultural Knowledge Management Advisor, whose annual salary is US\$100,000, with a two-year contract valued US\$ 99,984 under the Small Holder Agriculture Transportation and Agri-

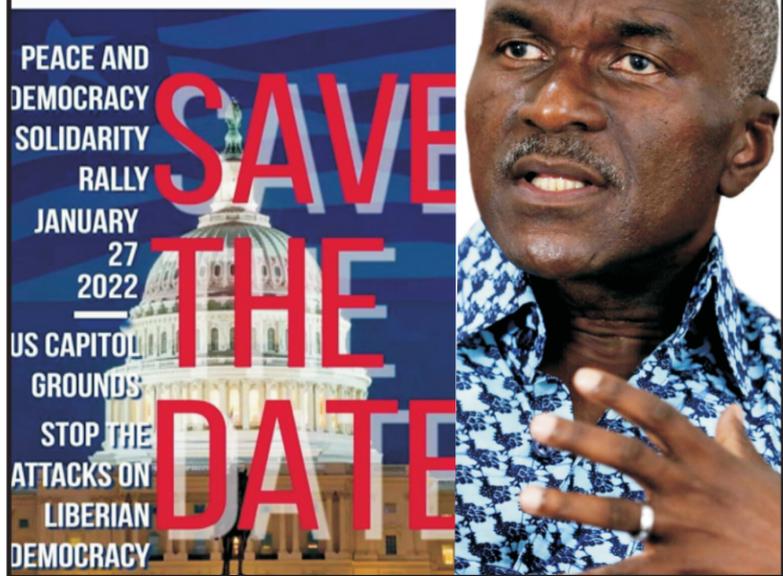
US\$ 60,000 and ran a project valued US\$60,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, respectively.

The Committee also discovered that Mr. Luakena Tolbert is not an employee of the Ministry of Agriculture, but is a signatory to its account.

During the investigation, the Committee discovered that a contract of US\$298,145.42 was awarded to Mr. Momolu Tolbert, CEO of Liberia Cocoa Corporation by Madam Cooper to supply F1 hybrid Cocoa seeds to the Ministry, but on the contrary, he brought in dead seeds other than the F1 Hybrid Cocoa seeds.

FABRAR Liberia is being awarded a contract under the STAR-P project of the Ministry of Agriculture. The Committee also reports that Minister Cooper admitted that she is founder and CEO of FABRAR, but did not have anything to do with the contract though she signed on behalf of

The unprovoked and premeditated attacks on Alexander Cummings by criminals who have evaded justice is an assault on our democracy. We must march on Washington to heighten awareness.



have evaded justice.

They claimed that the trial of Mr. Cummings is an assault on Liberia's democracy. "We must march on Washington to heighten awareness," the post added.

Though the main actors behind the planned rally are not yet known, but they are believed to be supporters of Mr. Cummings of the ANC.

This paper is also gathering from sources within the corridors of the ANC, that there will also be a planned march in Monrovia against the Cummings trial just before the Washington rally.

The ANC political leader is facing forgery and criminal conspiracy charges brought against him by Mr. Benoni Urey of the All Liberian Party (ALP) a former constituent member of the opposition

political leader Mr. Cummings tampered with the CPP framework agreement and unlawfully attached his (Mr. Urey's) signature to a photocopy version of what was purported to be an approved version of the CPP framework agreement by all parties in the CPP.

But after securing a criminal appearance bond to guarantee his release Tuesday, 4 January 2022, Mr. Cummings said the ALP political leader made a big mistake to have gone after him (Cummings).

The planned protest rally in Washington comes days after a US Congressman described the action filed against the Mr. Alexander B. Cummings as 'trumped up charges'.

In a leaked WhatsApp chat room message published on social media by Mr. MulbahYorgbor, ANC's Director of Communication, from Henry



business Revitalization Project that runs from February 15, 2021- February 14, 2023; Mr. Sylvester W. Taylor, Financial Management Advisor with an annual salary of US\$50,000, has a project valued US\$ 99,984 that runs from February 3, 2021 to February 2, 2023 under the Small Holder Agriculture Transportation and Agri-business Revitalization Project. Mr. Zubin Cooper, who is brother of the Agriculture Minister, and is the Communication and Marketing Specialist at the ministry with a yearly salary of US\$100,000, also has a project valued US\$ 99,984 under the Small Holder Agriculture Transportation and Agri-business Revitalization Project with an implementation period of February 15, 2021 to February 14, 2022, and lastly, Mr. Luakena A. Tolbert, Financial Investment and Communication Consultant, who earns a yearly salary of

the Ministry for FABRAR to supply 200 metric tons of rice.

Meanwhile, the Project Management Unit of the Ministry has been without a director for over two years because Madam Cooper has allegedly refused to advertise the position for vetting of a qualified director, instead, she reportedly appointed one AnsuKoneh, who lacks relevant qualifications to run the unit against policy of the Ministry of Agriculture. However, Mr. Konneh allegedly runs and signs all documents on behalf of the PMU without vetting.

Minister Cooper reportedly alleged that 20 vehicles of the Ministry of Agriculture had gone missing without her knowledge. But the Senate Committee also discovered that \$5.5 million Coronavirus Emergency Fund entrusted to her care as Minister, could not be adequately accounted for. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

Starts from back page

## SWAL threatens to

though the facility is meant exclusively for journalists to do their professional work.

Unfortunately, spectators engulfed the area chanting slogans, cheering as well as disrupting the work of journalists, something that led to series of confusion right in front of the Chief Patron of Sports, President George Weah, who immediately left the stadium

with his entourage.

The situation resulted to damage of camera tripods of three reporters, something SWAL condemns in the strongest term and calls for immediate replacement of those media gadgets.

It can be recalled that the Samuel Kanyan Doe Sports Complex in Paynesville was banned by the Confederation of African Football (CAF) for failure

to have some basic stadium requirements and facilities including the media tribune.

Following the ban, the Government, through the Ministry of Youth and Sports made some interventions to correct the wrongs something that brought about introduction of the media tribune. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

# The New Dawn

French Version Inside  
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## SWAL threatens to boycott County Meet finals



SWAL President Kolubah Zayzay

ridiculous and therefore, sends a negative image to the outside world.

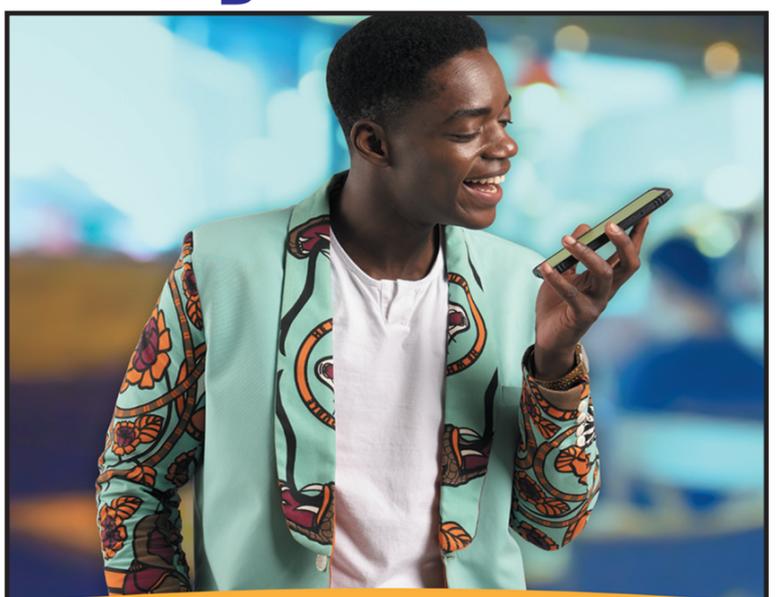
He frowns at organizers of the National County Sports Meet, the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Internal Affairs for failure to assign security inside the media tribune since the quarter final stage of the competition, which according to him, led to repeated attacks and disruptions of sports journalists' professional work.

On three separate occasions on Wednesday during the semi finals game between Grand Bassa and Nimba Counties, spectators assaulted, insulted and attacked sports reporters at the media tribune, while carrying out their professional duties.

The media tribune is directly positioned below the VIP.

But it was on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 overcrowded by spectators

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



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**By Naneka Hoffman**  
The Sports Writers Association of Liberia (SWAL) is threatening to boycott the grand finals of the National County Meet if stringent and practical measures are not put in place to help provide maximum security for its members in the media tribune while carry out their reportorial duties at the

Samuel Kanyon Doe Sports Complex in Paynesville. The SWAL's threat comes in the wake of constant attacks on its members by spectators inside the media tribune while providing media coverage for the tournament. The President of the Association Kolubah Zayzay, says the repeated attacks and violent behavior by spectators against his members is unacceptable and

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