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LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022	L\$153.1466 /US\$1.00	L\$154.9764/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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Continental News

South Africa Sending Fresh Troops to Mozambique to Fight Islamist Insurgents

South Africa is sending fresh troops and armored vehicles to Mozambique's northern Cabo Delgado province as part of efforts to fight Islamic State-connected insurgents.

The deployment is part of the Southern African Development Community's (SADC) military intervention, which started in July last year.

More than 3,000 SADC and Rwandan troops have been

sent to Mozambique to fight against Islamic State-connected insurgents. The conflict has claimed more than three thousand lives and displaced 800,000 people.

The South African National Defense Force's spokesperson Brigadier-General Andries Mahapa says the fresh troops will be deployed soon.

"We are just confirming the mode of transport. It could be air, land or sea. Remember in terms of security we cannot

come out straight to say we are coming through by land or so forth. So that will compromise us. But we are combat ready to deploy," said Mahapa.

The joint force is known as the Southern African Development Community Mission in Mozambique or SAMIM.

Willem Els, security analyst and counter terrorism trainer from the Institute of Security Studies, says to this

point South Africa has mainly sent special forces to Mozambique.

He says that will change with the latest deployment.

"They now are sending in some mechanized infantry, they sending in some parabats. They sending in some of your path finder troops as well as well as some of the special forces so it is a more balanced sort of contingent that is moving in to go and stabilize the situation even further," he said.

Other SADC members with forces in Mozambique include Botswana, Lesotho, Angola, and Zambia. Rwanda deployed a separate force on the invitation of Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi. It's believed Rwanda is being backed by the French government as French energy company TotalEnergies SE has a huge gas concession in Cabo Delgado. Els says the multiplicity of forces can make things complicated.

"You have the SAMIM forces deployed, then you have the

Mozambican forces deployed along with them, then you have the Rwandan forces you know your chances of friendly fire are quite high if you have an area operation that overflows, etc. So fortunately, that has not happened as yet and we also notice that some real effort has been put in, in terms of SAMIM and the Rwandan forces to better coordinate and cooperate in terms of their operations," said Els. Asked whether the force has been successful, military spokesman Mahapa had this to say.

"The force under the current situation they are doing fairly well. Remember that it is not only South Africans. So we are as SAMIM forces there are successes that we are achieving. The insurgents are withdrawing. We are gaining ground," he said.

Els says besides the military intervention efforts must also be made to make the people of northern Mozambique feel like they are being taken care of by their government. Otherwise, he says, they're ripe for recruitment by the insurgents.



A military convoy of South Africa National Defense Forces patrols in Pemba

Police in Central African Republic Arrest 4 French Soldiers

Police in the Central African Republic have detained four French soldiers who are with the United Nations peacekeeping mission in the country (MINUSCA). The arrests sparked false rumors that France had attempted to assassinate the C.A.R.'s president.

The French military

personnel were arrested Monday at the airport in Bangui.

The four men were in the security escort of French general Stephane Marchenior, the U.N. peacekeeping mission chief of staff.

Marchenior was at the airport for a time Monday before C.A.R. President Faustin Archange Touadera was due to return from a trip to Belgium. After

Marchenior departed, the four soldiers were arrested. President Touadera's plane landed a half-hour following the arrests.

The soldiers remained in custody Tuesday, and police have not given a reason for their arrest.

However, pictures of the French soldiers, their U.N. identifications and their military equipment have flooded social media accounts across Africa, along with a message accusing France of attempting to assassinate Touadera.

A Central African website known for its ties with Russian interests in Bangui was among the sites posting the allegations. The French Embassy in Bangui and the U.N. mission in the C.A.R. condemned what they called a "misinformation campaign." The U.N. statement said: "MINUSCA regrets this incident and condemns its instrumentalization on social



US Lawmakers Condemn Russian Incursion into Eastern Ukraine

U.S. lawmakers stepped up calls Tuesday for sanctions against Russia, urging the Biden administration to act swiftly to penalize Russian President Vladimir Putin for recognizing the occupied regions of Donetsk and Luhansk in eastern Ukraine as independent states.

Despite significant bipartisan unity for deterring Russian aggression in Ukraine, Democrats and Republicans have struggled to agree on how to sequence sanctions to discourage and penalize Putin for incursions into the independent eastern European nation.

But Putin's televised national speech Monday characterizing Ukraine as historically part of Russia and "never a true nation" drew swift condemnation from top U.S. lawmakers. "Vladimir

Putin's illegal recognition of the self-proclaimed Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics is an act of unprovoked aggression and a brazen violation of international law," Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Menendez said in a statement.

"This illegal recognition is an attack on Ukraine's sovereignty. To be clear, if any additional Russian troops or proxy forces cross into Donbas, the Biden administration and our European allies must not hesitate in imposing crushing sanctions," Menendez continued.

People wait to cross from pro-Russian separatists' controlled territory to Ukrainian government controlled areas in Stanytsia Luhanska, the only crossing point open daily, in the Luhansk region, eastern Ukraine, Feb. 22, 2022.

media in an attempt to manipulate public opinion. It firmly rejects the accusations of attack against state

security." C.A.R. authorities have refused to comment on the incident.

EDITORIAL

Too disappointing Chairman Boakai

NO PATRIOTIC LIBERIAN HAD ever thought that former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai, captain of the Collaborating Police Parties (CPP) would have jumped the boat while it sails in troubled waters, abandoning CPP supporters and sympathizers in a state of hopelessness and neglect. It is so sad for the elderly statesman of the land.

IT CAME AS A SHOCKWAVE to many that barely four months into his 2-year chairmanship of the CPP, the former VP and standard bearer of the Unity Party would call it a quit just as he was expected to take the Collaboration to elections next year.

MR. BOAKAI CITED AMONG others, ceaseless internal wranglings in the CPP under his watch that he said distracted the four constituent parties (UP, ALP, ANC and LP) from their responsibilities to the Liberian people, coupled with pressure from his own UP that pushed to give up his duty.

BUT A SENIOR MEMBER OF THE UP publicly disagreed. Former Senator John Ballout described the decision by his standard bearer as an emotional error and hoped that Chairman Boakai can re-visit the decision and go back to the Collaboration.

MR. BALLOUT NOTED THAT arguments presented by his standard bearer clearly contradict efforts made over the period to unite the CPP, and that Mr. Boakai only catalogued a plethora of problems but failed to provide solutions.

SO, WHERE DOES THIS leadership that the UP-standard bearer so desperately wants to provide for the entire country is to be tested if he cannot take four parties to elections?

Boakai's exit out of the Collaboration has surrendered the CPP to the ruling CDC even before the political battle can start in 2023.

A GENERAL THAT FAILS TO MOBILIZE his troops and take charge is unfit to lead and therefore, cannot be entrusted with the duties of state. Chairman Boakai's action clearly proved so.

IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, LEADERS of the CPP were convinced that remaining in their separate ways to face incumbent President George Manneh Weah at the ballot box in 2023 would not achieve the desire result hence, the need to unite as a formidable opposition bloc under the CPP.

NOW CHAIRMAN BOAKAI HAS thrown the bathtub away with the baby, leaving the opposition parties scattered and weak to put a strong fight against President Weah something, that he has already acknowledged but yet tells Liberians that hope is coming. But like former Senator Ballout, we too disagree. A scatter opposition cannot deliver hope for the future that it cannot nurture now.

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COMMENTARY

By Antara Haldar

COVID Goes to Court

CAMBRIDGE - The coronavirus is everywhere: in the air, on surfaces, in our respiratory tracts, and, over the past week, at the US Supreme Court. On January 10, key elements of US President Joe Biden's controversial "vaccine-or-test" mandate provisionally went into force, requiring that all workers at companies with more than 100 employees be vaccinated or tested regularly for COVID-19. With roughly 84 million Americans affected by the mandate, all eyes were on the Supreme Court, which on January 13 struck down the measure.

With the support of a massive body of scientific evidence, the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) argued in favor of the mandate, emphasizing that workers "face a grave danger ... in the workplace." But the National Federation of Independent Businesses and 27 states (all Republican-controlled) contended that the vaccine is an "invasive, irrevocable, forced medical procedure" that should not be imposed en masse.

Although the technical question before the Court was whether OSHA has legitimate authority to enforce the mandate, the justices also considered whether COVID-19 does indeed pose a threat distinctive to the workplace. Yet, with only 62% of Americans vaccinated, the stakes were - and are - much bigger than these questions imply. At issue is whether the 38% of Americans who refuse to get the vaccine should be permitted to imperil the majority's ability to earn a livelihood without facing unnecessary risks to their safety. And even this broader framing still doesn't address the risks imposed by the unvaccinated on health-care workers, parents, separated families, patients in need of non-COVID-related treatments, and all the children whose development has been disrupted or derailed.

Despite the unprecedentedly rapid development of effective vaccines, the pandemic has entered its third year and is still raging, owing to mask hesitancy, global vaccine apartheid, and, crucially, vaccine refusal. Its persistence is due not to a failure of science but to a failure of our other institutions, starting with the rule of law.

Specifically, a dubious legal theory is to blame. Many legal scholars continue to take pride in a highly formal interpretation of the rule of law as something that is resolutely neutral and amoral, even as it fails spectacularly in helping us confront the most urgent challenges of the day. The pandemic is a paradigmatic case: We are stuck with a dithering legal system that stands by and watches as the toll of preventable deaths continues to rise, and whose moral authority and relevance are increasingly at risk as a result.

The problem lies in a conception of law that is rooted largely in legal positivism, the leading school of jurisprudential thought, whose most stringent interpretation argues that law derives its authority from "pedigree" (where it comes from) irrespective of morality (whether the law is "good" or "bad"). In reality, however, this amounts to an excuse not to commit to an account of collective welfare and instead defer to individual choice.

Even if this perspective was acceptable in the midst of a surging pandemic, it would be deeply flawed. The rule of law is an intricately intertwined, mutually reinforcing combination of formal rules and social norms. It lives in, and

functions through, its participants' collective moral consciousness. The role of courts, then, is not merely to apply formal rules but also to shape social norms and, when necessary, act as a society's conscience. A close analogy would be a parent exercising her judgment by intervening in a sibling squabble.

This is not to suggest that "the law is what the judge ate for breakfast." Rather, scholarly research in law and psychology, and breakthroughs in the cognitive sciences, show that law is a fundamentally social institution, and that individuals respond powerfully to cues provided by institutions of authority (what psychologists call "evoking"), particularly when the cues embody a strong moral position.

The positivist position fundamentally misses this point. It ignores the fact that the historically warring nations of Europe have been stitched together within a largely integrated bloc through the jurisprudence of the EU Court of Justice. Similarly, the Indian Supreme Court's 2018 landmark judgment decriminalizing homosexuality has played a significant role in changing norms in that country.

The US Supreme Court had a chance both to do the right thing and to make history, by helping to end this protracted - and increasingly preventable - pandemic and enriching the rule of law in the process. The United States - and indeed the world - needed a decision with the moral force of *Brown v. Board of Education*, not more of the grubby cynicism that we saw in *Trump v. Hawaii* (the "Muslim ban" case).

The Court could, and should, have taken a stand on vaccines, especially considering that it has already been doing so with respect to the "right to life" in other contexts. Fetuses are, for example, far more ambiguous instances of "life" than the workers affected by the mandate, who are clearly moral agents. And the Court has ruled against the choice to end even one's own life in the context of euthanasia.

Legal judgments are about trade-offs, and in this case there was a clear choice between collective safety or a misguided notion of personal freedom (as the philosopher Peter Singer has argued). While large employers like Citigroup and United Airlines have gone so far as to impose a "no jab, no job" policy, the OSHA mandate took a much more moderate approach to creating a secure work environment.

Moreover, even if the case before the Court had not been open and shut, the common good ought to have been the tie breaker. But instead, the court's vote was for individual liberty at all costs: the core, if hidden, value of legal positivism. The circus surrounding Novak Djokovic, the anti-vaccine tennis star who was recently detained by Australian border agents, is just a microcosm of the confusion that will now be unleashed by the decision striking down Biden's workplace mandate. With hospitalization rates breaking records and the US death toll approaching one million, the Court has missed a major opportunity to exercise guardianship over a divided polity, and to assert its relevance and moral authority.

Antara Haldar is University Lecturer in Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Cambridge.

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OPINION

By Melvyn B. Krauss

The ECB's Savvy Gradualism

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.

Melvyn B. Krauss is Professor Emeritus of Economics at New York University.

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OPINION

By Jayati Ghosh

The Price Increases that Matter for the Poor

NEW DELHI - The question of how best to control inflation is back on the economic policy agenda, and opinion is divided about how to address it. The mainstream view emphasizes the need for tighter monetary policies and regards higher interest rates and reduced liquidity provision as justified, even if they dampen the fragile economic recovery now underway in many countries. Others argue that today's inflation is transitory, reflecting temporary supply bottlenecks and labor-market shifts, and will soon correct itself.

In rich countries, policymakers still rely mainly on macroeconomic tools to tackle inflation. But one set of price increases is different from the others: food-price inflation. Not only does this phenomenon have a much greater direct impact on people's lives, especially in developing economies; it also reflects more complex causes, and addressing it effectively requires a completely different set of strategies. Unfortunately, governments are not discussing them sufficiently.

This neglect is deeply troubling. At the end of 2021, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) food price index was at its highest level in a decade and close to its previous peak of June 2011, when many were warning of a global food crisis. Moreover, last year's increase was sudden: from 2015 to 2020, food prices had been relatively low and stable, but soared by an average of 28% in 2021.

Much of this surge was driven by cereals, with maize and wheat prices increasing by 44% and 31%, respectively. But prices of other food items also shot up: prices for vegetable oil hit a record high during the year, sugar was up by 38%, and price increases for meat and dairy products, though lower, were still in the double digits.

Food-price inflation currently exceeds the increase in the overall price index, and is even more alarming given the significant decline in workers' wage incomes during the COVID-19 pandemic - especially in low- and middle-income countries. This lethal combination of more expensive food and lower incomes is fueling catastrophic increases in hunger and malnutrition.

There are many possible reasons for the spike in food prices. Some are systemic. Supply-chain problems - especially regarding transportation - have been a major factor driving price increases for a wide range of commodities. Thus, grain prices rose rapidly in 2021, despite record global output of nearly 2.8 billion tons.

Energy prices also are important in determining the cost of producing and transporting food. The large increase in oil prices in 2021 obviously affected the food prices faced by consumers.

In addition, more frequent extreme weather events make crop output more volatile and reduce yields. Some have argued that prices of agricultural commodities as disparate as Brazilian coffee, Belgian potatoes, and Canadian yellow peas (now widely used by the food industry to produce plant-based meat substitutes) rose sharply last year after weather events induced by climate change undermined output.

In March 2021, the FAO warned that increasingly frequent climate-related disasters were affecting agricultural supplies. Droughts are the single greatest threat, accounting for more than one-third of crop and livestock losses in low- and lower-middle-income countries. But floods, storms, pests, diseases, and wildfires have also become more intense and widespread, as was evident last year.

We can expect much more climate-related pressure on food production in the coming years, with developing regions in Asia and Africa likely to be hit hardest. The threats to food production from climate risk underscore the need for greater international cooperation to tackle global warming and its consequences. Sadly, such collaboration seems unlikely.

But some of the other factors contributing to food price increases are the direct result of policy and regulatory changes. These include the significant increase in stockpiling by governments and consumers, driven by fears that new waves of the COVID-19 pandemic will put further pressure on food supplies. The expectation of future food price increases then becomes self-fulfilling, owing to higher current demand.

Last November, the FAO estimated that the global food import bill in 2021 would be the highest ever, at more than \$1.75 trillion, a 14% increase from 2020 and 12% higher than the FAO's forecast just a few months earlier. This is bad news for lower-income economies, which may have more pressing food import requirements than other countries but could be squeezed out of global markets because of increased demand.

The other important factor is financial speculation in food markets, which has recently experienced a revival. Food commodities became an asset class after financial deregulation in the United States in the early 2000s, and there is significant evidence that this played a major role in the destabilizing food-price volatility of 2007-09. In recent years, these commodities had become less attractive to investors, but that changed during the pandemic.

Despite high volatility, long positions in major food commodity markets were significant and positive for most of 2021, suggesting that financial investors were expecting prices to increase. The volume of such investments grew substantially last year, enabled by persistent regulatory loopholes and the availability of cheap credit to financial institutions.

Unlike some of the more systemic forces affecting food supply and prices in the medium term, policymakers could easily address the issues of stockpiling and speculation. But that requires governments to accept that these are problems, and to muster the will to address them. Until they do, food-price inflation will continue to hit the world's poor the hardest.

Jayati Ghosh, Executive Secretary of International Development Economics Associates, is Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a member of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation.

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Specific Procurement Notice

Request for Bids - Goods

Country: Liberia

Name of Project: Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa (HISWA) Project

Contract Title: Procurement of Assorted Equipment and Classroom Furniture for University of Liberia

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: 6577-LR / D583-LR

RFB Reference No.: LR-LISGIS-223124-GO-RFB

1. The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa (HISWA) Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Supply of assorted equipment and classroom furniture for University of Liberia.
2. The Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for supply and installation of assorted quantities of computers, computer tables, chairs, air conditioners, antivirus, etc. at the University of Liberia's Fendell Campus.
3. Bidding will be conducted through national competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" dated July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from LISGIS, Gbillely M. Roberts, II – mambog2005@gmail.com and inspect the bidding document during office hours 0900 to 1700 GMT Mondays to Fridays at the address given below.
5. The bidding document in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **US\$100.00** to **ECOBANK A/C #: 6101744972, Name: HISWA/LISGIS**. The method of payment will be cash deposit. Hard Copy of the bidding document will be issued upon receipt of the original deposit slip and the written letter of application.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 11:00 a.m. 29th March 2022. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below at 11:00 a.m. 29th March 2022.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a 'Bid-Security'.
8. The address referred to above is:

LISGIS Procurement Unit, Ground Floor, Administrative Building
 Gbillely M. Roberts, II – **Procurement Specialist**
 Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa (HISWA) Project
 Executive Mansion Grounds, LISGIS Compound, Capitol Hill,
 Monrovia, Liberia
 Cell: 231-886845546 / 777012360
 E-Mail: mambog2005@gmail.com

Specific Procurement Notice

Request for Bids - Goods

Country: Liberia

Name of Project: Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa (HISWA) Project

Contract Title: Supply and installation of 5kw Solar Plant for 15 LISGIS County Offices

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: 6577-LR / D583-LR

RFB Reference No.: LR-LISGIS-222754-CW-RFB

1. The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa (HISWA) Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Supply and installation of 5kw solar plant for 15 LISGIS County Offices.
2. The Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for supply and installation of 5kw solar plant for 15 LISGIS county offices.
3. Bidding will be conducted through national competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" dated July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from LISGIS, Gbillely M. Roberts, II – mambog2005@gmail.com and inspect the bidding document during office hours 0900 to 1700 GMT Mondays to Fridays at the address given below.
5. The bidding document in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **US\$100.00** to **ECOBANK A/C #: 6101744972, Name: HISWA/LISGIS**. The method of payment will be cash deposit. Hard Copy of the bidding document will be issued upon receipt of the original deposit slip and the written letter of application.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 12:00 noon on 29th March 2022. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below at 12:00 noon on 29th March 2022.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a 'Bid-Security'.
8. The address referred to above is:

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Violent storms destroy over 50 homes in Bong

By Titus Yekeryan, Bong County

Violent storm has destroyed more than 50 houses in Zota district, Bong County, leaving hundreds of residents homeless as they wander in frustration for shelters.

The storm on Monday evening, February 22, 2022 also reportedly left several persons injured.

In a local town called Global Village, some Liberian returnees reside, more than 10 of their houses were

unroofed as a result of the disaster.

In Naanah, a Liberian border town with Guinea, four other persons sustained injuries after the storm broke a portion of their house. Nearly 70 percent of the five-bedroom structure crumbled on occupants inside.

One of the victims suffered a broken leg while others sustained cuts and survived pains on the backs and neck respectively.

Speaking to the NewDawn on Tuesday, February 23, villagers appealed to the National

Disaster Management Team and the Liberia National Red Cross Society to speedily intervene.

“We’re calling on the Red Cross and other government agencies or goodwill individuals to help us”, pleads Jerry Flomo, one of the victims.

He says they have no other alternative but to sleep in open places and with friends in the town.

Nancy Kollie, a widow with four children, lost her house in the disaster, and is now in dire need of assistance.

Madam Kollie is frustrated about the situation and laments that she has no hope of relocating her family due to the lack of finance.

Speaking in tears to this paper she appeals, “I really want help, whosoever listening or reading what I am saying, please come and help me for humanity sake. My children and I are frustrated due to the lack of sleeping place. Last night, we all slept at the town hall but tonight I don’t even know where we will go because the town hall is leaking seriously.” *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Supreme Court backs Senate

-for ratification of BAO CHICO deal

By Ethel A Tweh

The Supreme Court of Liberia has ruled that the Liberian Senate is not in violation of Article 34d(l) of the 1986 Constitution in ratifying the BAO CHICO mineral development agreement.

Article 34d(l) of the Constitution states: “all revenue bills, whether subsidies, charges, imports, and other financial bills, shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills...”

The Supreme Court in its ruling indicated that said Bill is a financial bill and not a revenue bill, as being contested by members of the House of Representatives.

It may be recalled that the Liberian Senate took the House of Representatives to the Supreme Court for the “wrongful” interpretation of Article 34d (l), of the Liberian Constitution of 1986.

The Senate’s decision was prompted by a communication from the House of Representatives that the process leading to ratification of the BAO CHICO

Mineral Development Agreement violated said Article.

The BAO CHICO agreement is for the extraction of iron ore, to be operated under a Class A mining license for an initial term of twenty-five years within a total area of 87.4km2 in Gbarpolu County.

The company’s investment is in the tune of US\$500 million, aimed at improving the country’s economy, creating job opportunities and scholarships for citizens as part of its support to the Government’s Pro-Poor

Agenda for Prosperity and Development.

According to the Government of Liberia, the BAO CHICO deal, is expected to bring in an annual social contribution of US\$300,000 and, after five years, escalate to US\$500,000 until the end of the term.

Therefore, an additional US\$10,000 is expected for Gbarpolu County as General Education Funding, while US\$50,000 will be provided annually as Scientific Reserves Fund. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Conservation International, communities unite to protect coastal ecosystem in Bassa

Conservation International - Liberia (CI-L) in collaboration with local partners has signed three agreements which are intended to serve as community incentives to protect and sustainably manage natural capital in coastal ecosystems in Barcoline community, Grand Bassa County.

A release from CI-Liberia says the agreements was signed recently between representatives of Conservation International and leaders of three Barcoline towns namely; Bleewein, Sarwein and Nyangba affixing their signatures to consummate the deal which will, among other things, protect the vast Mangrove vegetation in the areas as well

commitment of participating communities. By this, CI-L will provide tangible items including sustainable fishing gears, farming tools and village saving loans, among other essential benefits to the communities.

Former hunters will also receive training to become frontline conservationists with opportunity to receive a monthly salary.

The current agreements with the three local communities dates back to April 2021. Having recognized the importance of the mangrove and coastal ecosystems of Barcoline, CI-L with funding from Global Environment Facility (GEF), through the Natural Capital Accounting Project, conducted feasibility assessment with three communities to assess the viability of renewing conservation agreements with the targeted areas.



as sea turtles and their nesting.

Through the Natural Capital Accounting Project (NCA), the conservation agreement is a model ecosystem-management approach that includes resource users in the management of natural resources.

The release says the agreement seeks to protect and sustainably manage mangrove and coastal forest ecosystems surrounding Barcoline community, by reducing forest cover loss and threat to marine species (sea turtles).

It will also provide sustainable improved livelihood options for the communities in return for verified conservation action.

Under the agreement, CI-L is expected to deliver a package of social benefits as an incentive to boost

During the design and negotiation of the Conservation Agreement, according to CI-L, the organization’s principle of Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC) were applied, and as such the need to fully implement the agreement amidst efforts to protect biodiversity was strongly emphasized by Mr. Peter G. Mulbah, Country Director, CI-Liberia.

“Conservation agreements cannot solve all of your problems in the community, what it does is that it further motivates you and gives you additional tools that can help you manage, monitor and improve your livelihood,” Mr. Mulbah remarks.

He notes that the activities as enshrined in the agreement varies from community-to-community, emphasizing that the various initiatives are what

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

U.S. Congressional delegation visits Providence Island, Providence Baptist Church to Commemorate Historic U.S.-Liberian ties

The U.S. Congressional delegation to Liberia led by Representative Gregory W. Meeks, Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, on Monday Feb. 21, visited Providence Island and Providence Baptist Church to commemorate the historic relationship between the United States and Liberia.

Representative Meeks, who represents a congressional district in New York, was joined by Representatives Ami Bera of California, Ilhan Omar of Minnesota, Joyce Beatty of Ohio, G.K. Butterfield of North Carolina, Brenda

history by walking in the footsteps of those first American immigrants and tossing flowers into the Mesurado River as a symbol of remembrance. Members of the delegation spoke about the power of just being physically on the island and the potential it has as to become a global tourist destination.

After Providence Island, the delegation visited Providence Baptist Church, one of the three historic Liberian churches founded by the American immigrants and the location of the signing of the Liberian Declaration of Independence on July 26, 1847. Rev. Dr. Samuel Reeves, the senior pastor of Providence Baptist Church, led a program that included the two

documents, "It is breathtaking to think how old and sacred these documents are."

Chairman Meeks spoke passionately about the impression being able to visit Providence Island and Providence Baptist Church was having on the delegation, "The role that Liberia has played in history.

Those that began the slave trade never dreamt that a group of individuals that they had taken to America in slavery... That 88 of them would fight for their freedom and run away from slavery in America to start a country right here ... And so the connections that we have...



Lawrence of Michigan, and Troy Carter of Louisiana.

The delegation is also visiting Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, and Tanzania during their trip.

The first Black American immigrants who arrived in the land that is now the Republic of Liberia first settled on Providence Island, then called Dozoa, 200 years ago. Led by Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism guide Ambrose Wiagbe and the Historical Society of Liberia's Dr. Bill Allen, the delegation toured the historical landmark. They took the opportunity to commemorate the bicentennial anniversary of this seminal event in Liberian

other historic churches - First Presbyterian Church and First United Methodist Church - representatives from the Inter-religious Council of Liberia, a reading of the names of the American immigrants who departed New York City for West Africa on the Elizabeth in 1820, and a stirring rendition of the African American spiritual song "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" by Rev. Laura Pritchard.

The National Archives of Liberia, led by Director General Emmanuel Lomax, displayed the original 1847 Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of Liberia within the church as well.

Ambassador Michael McCarthy was moved by the presence of the historic

the oceans that used to divide us... do not divide us anymore. And it was led by those 88 people coming and working with those that were indigenous to this land, coming together."

During their visit, the U.S. Congressional delegation also met with President George Weah and the Cabinet at the Executive Mansion, joined a roundtable of civil society organizations and government oversight offices to gain a perspective on key challenges related to transparency and accountability in Liberia, and engaged with their Liberian congressional counterparts at a reception hosted by Ambassador McCarthy.

Liberia needs committed, visionary leaders

-Pastor Brown

By Lewis S. Teh

The senior pastor of the Restoration Church of All Nation in Kakata Margibi County Bobby Brown says, Liberia

from one to another that's a landmark achievement that we're proud of as a people."

But Pastor Brown stresses that there's so much that needs to be done as a country in order to arrive, pointing to challenges such as lack of roads and other



needs a visionary and committed leader to transform the country.

"No leadership succeed without an articulated vision, ascribing to leadership one must come with a vision, and be able to set goal", he says.

Pastor Brown continues that anyone ascribing to leadership must also be able to mobilize and check behind those goals, and make the people feel a part of the vision or goal, adding with that, one will feel the inclination of what they are doing.

Speaking recently at souvenir program marking the first induction ceremony of the Thumbs Up Community leadership in Caldwell, Montserrado county electoral district #15, he said setting goals and having articulated vision as well as being committed to those goals and vision is something that anyone wanting to be a good leader can work with.

Commenting on the Bicentennial Celebration, he notes that Liberia has a lot to celebrate, adding that after 200 years, the country was able to put behind thought of senseless war.

"We're no longer hearing gun sounds, we no longer at each other's throats, we no longer depending on the international Community for assistance, we have in a place a governance structure, and we can also celebrate that we have democratic elections the turning over of government

infrastructure, among others.

"Even though this government is trying her best but they need to set their priorities, and those priorities must be seen in the way they cast the national budget", he adds.

At the same time the clergyman says it's incumbent upon every citizen to contribute to the development of Liberia in whatever way they can, saying politicking shouldn't divide the nation, rather, Liberians should love one another and unite.

"I believe ardently one of the reasons people suffer mediocrity in various institutions and governance structure is as the result of having few leaders and too little leadership, he says and notes that the last two decades of the country's contemporary history witnessed a massive brain drain.

According to the Pastor Brown, now Liberia doesn't need brains as much as Liberians need hearts, "we need energy, we need vision, commitment, and passion at every level of our government and corporate institutions and within each of us."

He reminds the newly inducted leadership that it's vision that ignites the fire of passion, adding that if vision is the source of leadership, passion then is its power.

The touch-talking clergyman further that leadership is about mobilizing people by painting a vision for the future in which

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

Français

Le Libéria est sur la voie de la reprise, selon des membres du Congrès américain

Une délégation du gouvernement américain composée de sept membres du Congrès en visite au Libéria a félicité le président George M. Weah pour les progrès réalisés par le Libéria sous sa direction.

Le chef de la délégation, le membre du Congrès de New York Gregory Meeks, qui

est également président de la commission des relations extérieures de la Chambre des représentants des États-Unis, a déclaré que le Libéria est sur la voie de reprise et de développement après des années de guerre.

"Nous venons en reconnaissance des 200 ans d'existence du Libéria alors que vous commémorez le

bicentenaire et nous nous engageons à travailler avec vous pour assurer des progrès continus dans le développement et la démocratie du pays", a déclaré le président Meeks.

Présentant des cadeaux d'honneur au président, le président du comité des relations extérieures de la Chambre des représentants des États-Unis, Meeks, a également félicité le Chef de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Bility menace Nyonblee, Dillion et d'autres d'expulsion

Le Président controversé du Liberty Party, Musa Hassan Bility, a menacé d'expulser les sénateurs Nyonblee Kangar-Lawrence, Abraham Darios Dillon et d'autres responsables dits délinquants s'ils refusent de s'acquitter de leurs obligations envers le parti.

L'avertissement de Bility intervient des semaines après que le tribunal municipal de Monrovia a rejeté l'allégation de faux portée contre lui et son secrétaire général Martin Kollah par deux membres du parti.

Le président controversé du LP a déclaré lundi aux journalistes dans la cour du Temple de la justice que les fonctionnaires avaient bénéficié de délais de grâce jusqu'en mars 2022, pour régler leurs obligations financières ou être expulsés avec effet immédiat pour leur désobéissance et leur manque de respect envers la loi et les normes.

Au moins 16 responsables du parti du Liberty Party (LP), dont les sénateurs leaders politiques Karngar Lawrence, Dillon et Steve Zargo, ont été suspendus du parti en décembre pour défaut de

paiement de leurs cotisations.

Dans une lettre qui date du 6 décembre 2021, signée par M. Bility, le président national du parti, et adressée à la sénatrice Karnga-Lawrence, le LP a dit que son chef politique et d'autres hauts responsables n'étaient pas en règle vis-à-vis des obligations du parti telles que définies par l'article IX du règlement intérieur du LP.

Cependant, Bility a déclaré qu'un délai de grâce avait été

accordé aux fonctionnaires suspendus pour régler leurs handicaps financiers, mais qu'ils risquaient d'être expulsés du parti s'ils ne respectaient pas leur obligation.

Il a cependant noté que le parti avait décidé de prolonger le délai de grâce de Karnga-Lawrence et Dillion pour leur permettre d'avoir

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Éditorial

Le Président Boakai nous a trop déçus

Aucun Libérien patriote n'aurait jamais pensé que l'ancien vice-président Joseph Nyumah Boakai, capitaine de la Collaboration des Partis politiques (CPP), aurait sauté du bateau pendant que ce dernier traverse des eaux troubles, abandonnant les partisans et les sympathisants de la CPP dans un état de désespoir et de négligence.

Beaucoup ont été choqués par le fait que l'ancien vice-président et porte-drapeau du Parti de l'unité, à peine quatre mois après le début de sa présidence de 2 ans à la tête de la CPP, se retire de la coalition alors qu'on s'attendait à ce qu'il conduise la dite coalition aux prochaines élections.

M. Boakai a cité entre autres, les querelles internes incessantes au sein de la CPP sous sa direction qui, selon lui, ont détourné les quatre partis membres de leurs responsabilités envers le peuple libérien. A cela, il faut ajouter la pression de son propre parti.

Un haut responsable du parti a même fait part de son opposition à son geste. L'ancien sénateur John Ballout a décrit la décision de son porte-drapeau comme une erreur émotionnelle et espère que le président Boakai pourra revenir sur sa décision et réunir la Collaboration.

M. Ballout estime que les arguments présentés par son porte-drapeau contredisent clairement les efforts qui visent à unir la CPP, et que M. Boakai n'a fait que cataloguer une pléthore de problèmes mais, il n'a pas apporté de solutions.

Alors, où ce leadership que le leader politique de l'UP veut si désespérément proposer au pays doit-il être testé, s'il est incapable de conduire quatre partis aux élections ?

La sortie de Boakai de la Collaboration a livré la CPP aux mains du parti au pouvoir avant même que la bataille politique ne puisse commencer en 2023.

Un général qui ne parvient pas à mobiliser ses troupes et à prendre en charge ses hommes ne peut pas diriger convenablement. On ne doit par conséquent lui confier la magistrature suprême de l'État.

Dans un premier temps, les dirigeants de la CPP étaient convaincus qu'affronter le président sortant George Manneh Weah aux urnes à 2023 en rangs dispersés serait une peine perdue d'autant plus qu'il serait quasi impossible d'avoir les résultats souhaités, d'où la nécessité de s'unir en un formidable bloc d'opposition.

Maintenant, le président Boakai a jeté la baignoire avec le bébé, tout en dispersant et affaiblissant les partis d'opposition qui doivent pourtant mener une lutte acharnée contre le président Weah, tout en faisant croire aux Libériens qu'il y a encore de l'espoir. Mais comme l'ancien sénateur Ballout, nous aussi ne sommes pas d'accord. L'opposition dispersée ne peut pas donner d'espoir.

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Français

Le Libéria est sur la voie de la reprise, selon

l'État du Libéria pour son « travail acharné et ses réalisations capables de faire avancer le Libéria et tout le peuple ».

S'exprimant également, la présidente du Congressional Black Caucus, Joyce Beatty, a réaffirmé le soutien de la délégation au Libéria, notant que le caucus est complètement derrière le Libéria qui célèbre le bicentenaire.

Pour sa part, le représentant George K. Buterfield de Caroline du Nord a averti le président Weah de ne pas être dérangé par des informations qui divisent et de continuer de diriger le pays.

Plus tôt, le président Weah a souhaité la bienvenue à la délégation du Congrès américain au Libéria et l'a

remerciée pour la reconnaissance accordée au pays alors qu'il commémore le bicentenaire.

Weah a rappelé les liens historiques solides entre les États-Unis et le Libéria et a exhorté les deux pays à poursuivre leurs engagements.

"Nous sommes toujours disposés et prêts à travailler avec les États-Unis à tous les niveaux du gouvernement", a déclaré le président Weah.

Le président a ensuite apporté des réponses aux questions soulevées par les membres de la délégation, allant des élections générales et présidentielles de 2023, à l'égalité des sexes et à la participation, aux entreprises et aux investissements et à la justice pour les victimes de la guerre civile libérienne.

Bility menace Nyonblee,

suffisamment d'espace et de temps pour régler leur paiement, mais ils pourraient être expulsés s'ils ne se conforment pas aux exigences jusqu'à la date limite de mars.

« Je leur donne d'ici mars pour s'acquitter de leur obligation et s'ils ne le font pas, ils seront expulsés du parti. Respecter leur obligation est la loi et nous ne pouvons pas négocier la loi parce que la loi est la loi et qu'ils doivent faire ce qui est juste vis-à-vis de la loi.

Pour la paix que vous me demandez, la seule chose dans l'intérêt du parti est la loi et non l'individu et ils doivent revenir à la loi et s'assurer que la bonne chose est faite. Nous ne les supplions pas, mais leur disons simplement parce qu'ils ont d'ici mars, sinon ils seront expulsés du parti », a

déclaré Bility.

Il a également mentionné la récente décision prise par la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) de reconnaître le règlement intérieur de 2021 du Liberty Party et sa direction comme légitimes.

«Le sénateur Nyonblee Kangar-Lawrence et Dillon sont toujours du mauvais côté et ils n'ont jamais gagné, par conséquent, personne ne devrait avoir pitié d'eux car la loi est la loi. Nous veillerons à ce que ce parti soit un endroit formidable pour tous », a déclaré Bility.

Il a indiqué que le Liberty Party est une institutions et non une propriété personnelle de qui que ce soit. Il s'est également engagé à corriger les erreurs du parti et à s'assurer que son programme de développement s'exprime partout et que le peuple ait confiance dans le parti et sa direction.

Mali: l'expert onusien Alioune Tine dénonce «un climat délétère» après sa visite dans le pays

L'expert indépendant des Nations unies pour les droits de l'homme au Mali a fait, ce mardi 22 février 2022, le bilan de sa visite dans le pays. Entre le 7 et le 18 février, le Sénégalais Alioune Tine s'est rendu à Mopti et à Tombouctou, il a rencontré les autorités de transition, mais aussi des acteurs politiques et de la société civile. Ses conclusions oscillent entre un enthousiasme encourageant et des constats alarmants.

Alioune Tine a commencé par se réjouir d'une baisse de 27% des atteintes aux droits humains au dernier trimestre, qui sont passés de 594 à 433 cas recensés. On parle là des violences attribuables à tous les acteurs, groupes terroristes jihadistes inclus. Ce qui se traduit par une diminution de 13% du nombre de déplacés internes, passés de 400 000 à 350 000 environ entre septembre et décembre derniers.

C'était avant les derniers combats et déplacements signalés depuis le début de l'année à Niono, dans le centre, ou plus récemment à Tessit, dans le Nord. « Les autorités actuelles veulent des résultats, ils veulent se bâtir une légitimité, et on sent une sur-motivation », note Alioune Tine avec enthousiasme.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Hans-Werner Sinn

L'énergie nucléaire verte

MUNICH - Avec sa « taxonomie des activités durables » établie en 2020, l'Union européenne a trouvé un moyen d'utiliser la Banque centrale européenne pour orienter les marchés financiers en subventionnant directement les dépenses engagées dans des projets d'investissements « verts ». Les responsables politiques, notamment parmi les partis écologistes des pays germanophones, n'ont pas manqué pour applaudir à cette stratégie. Les voilà consternés d'apprendre que la Commission européenne, cédant aux pressions de la France, prévoit désormais l'intégration dans la taxonomie de l'énergie nucléaire.

Les Verts européens d'aujourd'hui, qui se sont autrefois forgés en animant le mouvement antinucléaire, n'auraient pu imaginer que la source d'énergie honnie eût un jour non seulement accédé à la respectabilité, mais fût associée à leur propre étiquette écologiste. Pire humiliation eût été difficile.

Mais considérer l'énergie nucléaire comme une forme d'énergie verte n'est pas seulement question d'idéologie. D'immenses sommes d'argent sont en jeu, car la BCE offrira aux banques des conditions de refinancement particulièrement attractives dès lors qu'elles utiliseront comme nantissement des obligations vertes européennes. La BCE a également fait savoir qu'elle est de plus en plus encline à acheter massivement des obligations vertes, créant de ce fait une nouvelle hiérarchie des taux d'intérêt au sein des marchés financiers. Dès lors que les objectifs d'investissements favorables à l'environnement bénéficient de taux d'intérêt de plus en plus bas, des parts significatives de l'épargne des Européens - accumulée au fil des générations - sont détournées d'autres secteurs de l'économie vers des projets classés verts.

Du point de vue d'un économiste, c'est assez décevant. Nous assistons à une réorientation massive du capital - le facteur de production non humain le plus important dans une économie de marché - sur un mode qui enfreint délibérément le principe de la neutralité de la répartition, l'un des axiomes fondamentaux de la théorie économique.

L'économie des externalités environnementales est simple. Si le but est d'internaliser dans le marché les externalités négatives - objectif louable -, on doit y parvenir en recourant à un mécanisme direct de fixation des prix, comme une taxe carbone ou un système d'échange des quotas d'émissions. En revanche, toucher au taux d'intérêt - c'est-à-dire au prix du capital -, c'est ouvrir la porte à toutes sortes de distorsions coûteuses dans l'allocation de ce capital, car celui-ci, en tant que facteur de production, y compris des entreprises vertes, n'entretient qu'une relation complémentaire très lâche avec la protection de l'environnement. La méthode européenne actuelle s'apparente donc à une politique non ciblée.

Le traité de Maastricht n'autorise pas la BCE à mener une politique économique et environnementale ; les responsables monétaires sont au contraire tenus d'obtenir une autorisation expresse et une extension de leurs attributions, laquelle requiert l'assentiment unanime de tous les pays de l'Union en l'espèce

d'un amendement au traité. Une telle clause aurait dû garantir que le principe de neutralité de la répartition fût maintenu. Mais, comme il arrive si souvent, les responsables politiques de l'UE ont recouru à une habileté juridique pour éviter que le traité ne fût formellement modifié.

Toute inquiétude juridique et économique mise à part quant à la manipulation des taux d'intérêt par la BCE, la perspective de voir l'énergie nucléaire accéder à la classe écologique est une bonne nouvelle, par ailleurs parfaitement justifiée, si l'on considère que les centrales nucléaires n'émettent pas de CO₂. Et si l'on se rapporte à l'agenda climatique en général, les femmes et les hommes politiques des partis écologistes ont commis une lourde erreur en diabolisant l'énergie nucléaire, ce qu'a compris le reste du monde.

Car la grande transition de l'énergie nucléaire vers les sources éoliennes ou solaires ne concerne finalement que l'Allemagne et quelques autres pays, à la suite de divers accidents ayant retenu l'attention des médias. On prévoit à nouveau de construire des centrales nucléaires, et l'on en bâtit aussi, dans le monde entier : cinquante-sept sont en cours de construction, 97 sont en projet et 325 centrales supplémentaires sont à l'étude.

La Suède, qui fut le premier pays à envisager sérieusement de se passer complètement d'énergie nucléaire, après l'accident survenu dans la centrale de Three Mile Island, à Harrisburg, en Pennsylvanie, a maintenu en service presque toutes ses centrales, et a depuis longtemps renoncé à sortir du nucléaire. De même, le Japon, malgré l'accident de Fukushima, en 2011, donne à nouveau la priorité à l'énergie nucléaire, après un examen de sécurité et la modernisation de ses centrales.

Plus prometteuses encore sont les recherches en cours sur de nouveaux types de centrales fonctionnant au thorium ou permettant d'éviter le problème du stockage des déchets grâce à des assemblages de combustibles issus de combustibles usés. Ces nouveaux réacteurs sont intrinsèquement plus sûrs que ceux des anciennes centrales.

Dans le contexte mondial du XXI^e siècle, l'Allemagne est ainsi devenue le conducteur en sens inverse sur l'Autobahn. Il n'est guère étonnant que les Verts soient divisés. La plupart d'entre eux n'ont toujours pas digéré la pilule radioactive, mais certains des membres du parti écologiste, les plus avisés, se réjouissent secrètement que l'énergie nucléaire, qui n'émet pas de CO₂, constitue une solution de remplacement, disponible et bon marché, aux énergies fossiles. Avec sa production ajustable, l'énergie nucléaire est indispensable pour gérer les périodes où un défaut persistant d'ensoleillement ou de vent menace la continuité de l'alimentation en électricité. Et le lus drôle, c'est que les Verts allemands peuvent sauver la face en se contentant de rejeter la responsabilité de cette évolution sur les Français.

Traduit de l'anglais par François Boisivon

Hans-Werner Sinn, professeur émérite d'économie à l'université de Munich, ancien président de l'Institut ifo de Munich, est membre du conseil économique du ministère allemand de l'économie, et l'auteur notamment de *The Euro Trap: On Bursting Bubbles, Budgets, and Beliefs* (Oxford University Press, 2014 - non traduit).

Start from page 6

members of the communities decided upon to support conservation.

"It means that you have expressed the willingness to support conservation within your communities and we are now looking up to you to turn that commitment and willingness into action and that action will be demonstrated through the implementation of these activities," Mulbah emphasizes.

He calls for the inclusion of all, particularly women in the process, believing that the addition of more women

Conservation International, communities

will help enhance the implementation of the agreement, protect the village saving loan as well as the generation of ideas that will make the process more effective.

Earlier, NCA Project Manager/CI-Liberia, Emmanuel T. Olatunji who provided an overview of the Conservation Agreement encouraged community members to own the process and emphasized that CI-L remains committed to reaching its part of the bargaining.

He says the NCA project which runs for five years will witness the signing of additional

Conservation Agreements with the various communities every year, emphasizing, however, the need for community ledgers to ensure that they comply fully with their portion of the agreement.

Having signed previous Conservation Agreements with towns in the Barcoline community, the locals themselves have spoken kindly and about how effective the interventions of CI-L have helped to elevate the benefits and importance of conservation within their communities. Press Release

Start from page 7

they see a role for themselves, and a future of which they all wanting to be a part.

"Leadership is not a mantle automatically bestowed with a job title, although many think it is. position or prominence is not to be confused with leadership, adding leadership is more than anything else, it is about influencing, mobilizing people behind a cause."

Meanwhile, making remarks on behalf of the outgoing leadership Elder Milton Barloh urged the

Liberia needs committed,

incoming leadership to identify its priority areas for achievement.

"Whenever you are given the opportunity to serve, you must first identify your priorities in order to reach your goal", Elder Barloh adds.

He discloses that since 1971, this was the first legitimate leadership that the Thumps Up community have had, rallying all constituents to work along with the new leadership.

Chairman-elect Mr. G. Alphonso Saydee says his top priority is to tackle healthcare, sanitation and waste management.

"We have come with a vision,

innovation, and a sense of direction to improve the livelihood of our people by making healthcare, and sanitation our foremost priorities", Mr. Saydee assures residents.

Those elected and subsequently inducted over the weekend are Mr. G. Alphonso Saydee, Chairman; Mr. Morris H. Barclay Co-chair; Roosevelt S. Varney, Secretary General; Kwita Dunbar, financial secretary, Gbessay Z. Massaquoi, Treasure, and Patricia Varkpeh Chaplain, respectively. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Missing toddler found dead in Nimba

-as reports of ritualistic activities rise there

By Thomas Domah/
Nimba County

A two-year-old old baby, who reportedly went missing last Thursday in Flumpa, electoral district#8, Nimba County has been discovered dead with body parts missing in a bush in Lao Zainpa town, the same district.

The New Dawn gathers that little Faith Gborbain's body was found in a bush about an hour and thirty minutes' walk away from the house where she was alongside her mother and other family members.

Police in Ganta, Nimba County have launched an investigation into the incident.

Speaking to reporters, the father of the deceased said he is currently in Sanniquellie, the provincial city, attending the Nimba County Community College, while her daughter was with her mother and other people in Lao Zainpa town when the incident occurred.

The child's remains were

found in a bush between Lao Zainpa and Gbahn in district#8.

There has been an increase of ritualistic practices in Nimba, particularly in districts 4,5,6,7,8 and 9, respectively that have reportedly caused school-going children to drop out of school due to insecurity.

Angry residents who called on community radio stations in

the county complained about the wave of suspected ritualistic activities in various in districts during preparations for elections, which they condemned.

"We send our children to school for the future but some fools will want to kill them because of power", they lamented.



Warlord, failed politicians not on my ticket

-Says Dr. Cassell

Opposition People's Liberation Party (PLP) political leader Dr. Daniel E. Cassell says he will not align with failed, recycled politicians and warlords who have traumatized Liberians.

Dr. Cassell who hails from votes - rich Lofa County, also brushed away a suggestion by some callers on the radio show Monday, 21 February 2022 for him to abandon his presidential quest in favor of his kinsman, former Liberian Vice President, now Unity Party political leader Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

"About warlord running on

President Weah and his Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) party are seeking a second six - year term in 2023.

The political field already seems crowded with presidential aspirants ahead of the pools, and efforts by some segments of the opposition to form a united force against the ruling party have failed early due to their own internal fight for power and control.

Dr. Cassell stated that he will not align with recycled or failed politicians who have used and abused the people over the years.

Explaining his commitments as he seeks the presidency, Dr. Cassell said he is for women,



our party ticket, you know, I haven't had this experience, you know. So should we determine or find out that there's a warlord running on our party ticket, then it's going to be reviewed by the GPC and a decision is going to be made," he said.

"Because if it's a known warlord that actually traumatized our people, we're not going to have him being reflected in the image of our party. You know, that is plain and simple," Dr. Cassell continued.

Cassell is among several Liberians in the opposition community that are seeking to battle with President George Manneh Weah for the nation's highest seat during the elections due next year.

students, the youth, the disabled individuals in Liberia and the marginalized.

"I continue to make contributions, you know, across a wide spectrum ... within our society to empower our people and it's the opportunity to extend these things on the national level. That I'm asking for," said Dr. Cassell.

According to him, the issue that Liberia is plagued with requires a systemic change, noting that it's why he is into the race for the presidency.

Responding to a caller who asked why Dr. Cassell is not running for the Senate instead of the presidency, Dr. Cassell said his mission is about the liberation of Liberia, adding that it is not limited to any one county.

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Weah pardons 500 inmates, including Samukai

President George Weah has granted executive clemency to 500 inmates including convicted former Defense Minister Browne Samukai suspending his two years jail sentence.

In a proclamation read Tuesday Feb. 22, 2022, by State and Presidential Affairs Minister Nathaniel F. McGill, President Weah instructed the Ministry of Justice to pardon the five (500) hundred

sentenced for a crime.

As to whether the president's order suspending the two (2) years prison sentence imposed on Mr. Browne J. Samukai, would restore him to his senatorial seat is not clear.

Samukai's conviction was upheld by the Supreme Court with the proviso that he (Brownie J. Saukai) will work with the Ministry of Justice to enter a stipulation for the full settlement of the Armed Forces of Liberia money.

by him vacant following the Court's order for his arrest and imprisonment.

The Senate had already directed the National Elections Commission or NEC to hold election to fill the vacant seat within 90 days.

Meanwhile, Weah in his proclamation also directed the Minister of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) to make full payment of the outstanding balance of the AFL money, while Mr. Samukai



inmates where applicable.

The proclamation only apply to those who committed misdemeanor and capital offenses but does not include rapists and armed robbers.

The President's decision is in pursuant to Article 59 of the 1986 Constitution which vests in him the power and authority to grant reprieves, suspend fines, sentences and pardon anyone convicted and

On Jan. 27, 2022, the Supreme Court revoked the suspension of the two years jail sentence of for failing to comply with its earlier mandate and judgment in which he and his former two deputies were ordered to pay 50 percent of the judgment sum in the amount of US\$573,828.15 within the period of six months.

Last week, the plenary of the Liberian Senate declared the Lofa County Senatorial seat won

is going through the Stipulation Payment Agreement.

The Minister of State also noted that President Weah has further directed the Minister of Justice and Attorney-General to submit to his Office a list of persons to be pardoned during ongoing celebration of country's bicentennial, while calling for reconcile among the people.

Starts from Back page

establishment twice in the space of one year.

He thinks this was enough indication that this formula - a united CPP - is working and it should be kept that way because the team that has won all of your victories you don't change it when going to the final.

"To break away from that is to reduce our chances; to unite the CPP is to increase our chances. Simple Mathematics that can be translated even into political science," said Ballout.

Ballout described as "the happiest gift" to the government even before Christmas, the CPP's decision

Difficult to dialogue later

to turn over Cummings for prosecution.

"Look at what's happening now, how far it has gone. You sent Alexander Cummings to the government. You've given Alexander Cummings to the government on a civil platter," said Mr. Ballout.

He admitted that Cummings has been difficult and has turned down a suggestion to run as vice to former Liberian Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

However, he said instead of walking out of the CPP, Mr. Boakai needed to try to fix the CPP because it is an organ that he needs to support him in the first round of the elections.

He said they have tried to find

so many ways in establishing who's going to be the CPP standard bearer and it was difficult for them to agree to any of the available options, but to think that Boakai can go without anybody is a big mistake.

He believes that the Unity Party is going back to where it was in 2017, saying it was alone - it had the All Liberian Party (ALP), and half of the Liberty Party, and that's where it is today.

"If you go with your CPP, the CPP that made that miracle happen in Montserrado twice, you don't need to be a rocket scientist to understand that," he said.

VP Taylor excepts to FGM suspension

By: Kruah Thompson

Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor, a strong campaigner of women's right and empowerment excepts to the three years suspension on female genital mutilation (FGM) here, calling for construction of traditional schools to teach young girls and boys about traditional values.

She maintains that if Liberia must continue to exist and if Liberians want their traditions to be transferred from one generation to another, a key strategy is to operate traditional schools across the country.

Speaking in Monrovia at the official launch of an Anti-SGBV national call center and announcement of three years moratorium on female genital mutilation (FGM) characterized by the handing

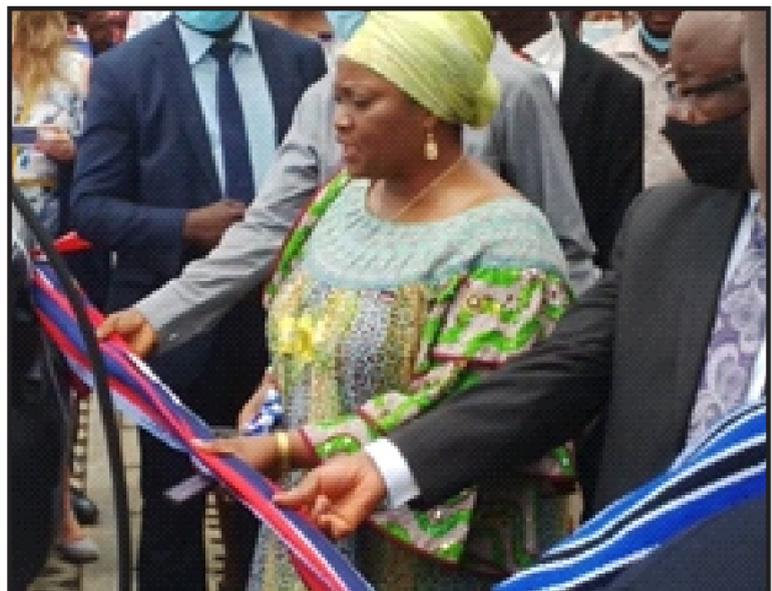
County and the traditions of the people of Lofa. Mrs. Taylor's parents hailed from both counties.

"Because of FGM being a part of our tradition, my mother didn't go to the Sande and Poro societies, she didn't send me either and I am surely not going to send my children." She notes.

According to the VP, if the necessary changes are made, she would want her children to go to these schools to learn the concept of what it is to be a fully empowered traditional daughter.

"We must create traditional schools that we can put our traditional women who are knowledgeable about these things to teach our Liberian daughters what they should be learning."

Also speaking, the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection Wilhelmina Saydee



over of 15 motorbikes and four (4) vehicles to the Anti-SGBV task force, Vice President Taylor stressed that if this strategy is implemented, it will leave a serious mark on all of the hope and aspirations that the FGM roadmap document carries.

According to the Vice President, FGM plays a major part in traditional practices in Liberia, so it has created a different kind of focus on the way Liberians see their traditions.

Madam Taylor continues that as a traditional child woman herself she hopes that someday, Female Genital Mutilation will be rooted out from the traditions so that her daughter or granddaughter would have an opportunity to attend traditional school and learn about the traditions of the Kpelleh tribe in Bong

Tarr recalls that in September 2021 when the nation began to experience high increase in sexual and gender base violence issues, President George Weah formulated a task force to create awareness in the country especially against rape.

Minister Tarr details that the task force consisted of 85 to 90 persons from the cabinet that the President asked to put hands around the Ministry of Gender in finding ways to fight gender issues.

She says for this purpose President Weah has provided 15 motorbikes and four vehicles to help in the fight against SGBV practices in Liberia.

The Gender boss says the work of the task force is to curtail increment of rape cases and to define a new solution to tackling FGM and trafficking.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

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Difficult to dialogue later

-Ballout's view on CPP crisis

bloc "has been the greatest threat to the CDC government."

The standard bearer of the former ruling Unity Party (UP) recently announced that he was pulling out his party from the CPP, months after another constituent party, All Liberian Party (ALP) of businessman Benoni Urey, did the same.

Liberty Party (LP), another CPP constituent party is divided in two factions, one in support of Cummings and his Alternative National Congress (ANC) and the other faction loyal to Senator Nyonblee Kargna - Lawrence.

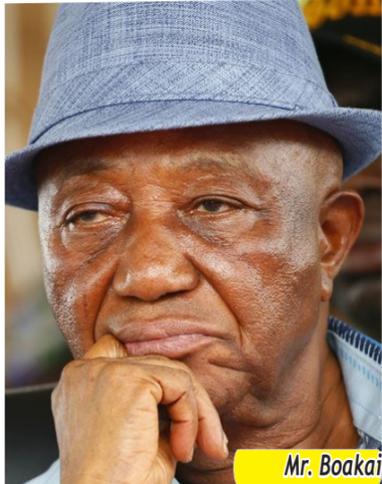
According to Ballout, the CPP got involved in the elections in Montserrado County, once considered the CDC stronghold, and won against the CDC twice.

Ballout noted that this could not have happened easily in the county and the CDC government could not understand what kind of political machinery would come and defeat the ruling

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



Mr. Cummings



Mr. Boakai

Former Maryland County Senator John Ballout says the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) has thrown away a golden opportunity by its failure to address internal hatred which has become difficult to dialogue later, antagonism that broke up the once formidable opposition bloc and turning over Mr. Alexander B. Cummings to the government for trial. "Now Alexander Cummings is going with his

ANC, a whole lot of them have been in court, you are not strengthening the love, you're deepening the hate, you're deepening the suspicion, the antagonism. You're making it worse, you're making [it] even more difficult to dialogue later," Mr. Ballout said Tuesday, 22 February 2022 on local broadcaster OK FM.

He argued that the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) government has been waiting for an opportunity to disintegrate the CPP because this opposition



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