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DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, MARCH 08, 2022	L\$153.2163 /US\$1.00	L\$154.9696 /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.

**The New Dawn** French Version Inside  
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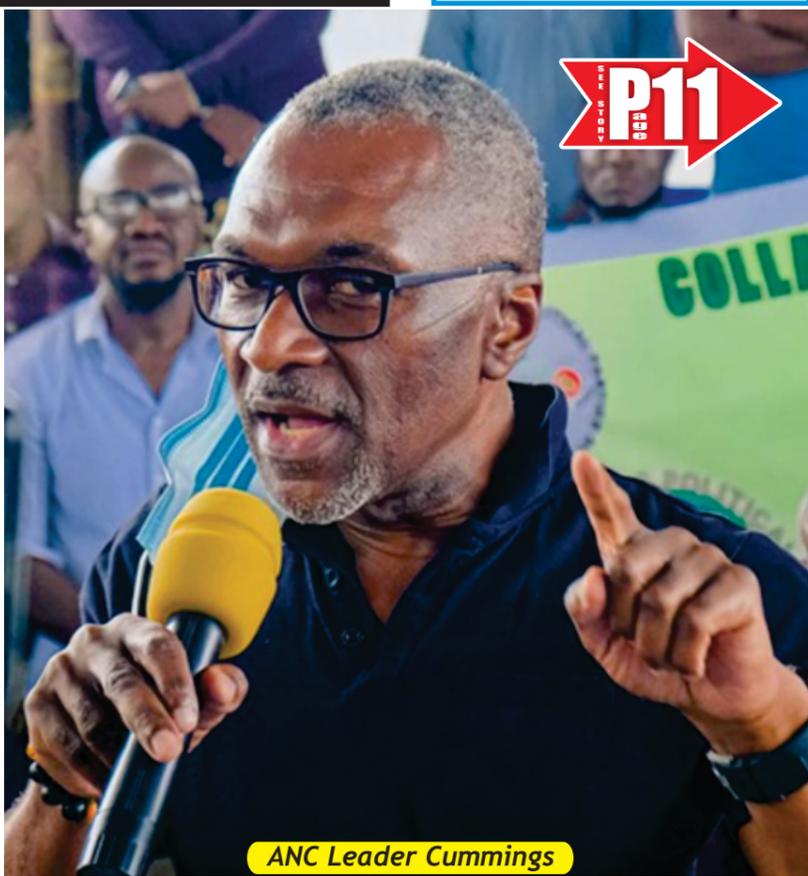
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VOL. 12 NO. 034 TUESDAY, MARCH 08, 2022 PRICE LD\$40.00

# ANC lawyers seek to discredit state witness



# Embrace responsible leadership, patriotism

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# Continental News

## Deadly protest at Uganda school TV football ban

**A** Ugandan student was shot dead on Sunday when security forces dispersed a school protest over the screening of an English Premier League football match.

High school pupils threw stones at the school buildings after they were banned from watching the match between Manchester City and Manchester United.

The boy, 19, died when a bullet hit him after he

climbed a tree to get out of the way, the headmaster told the BBC.

Some 1,000 pupils were sent home as the boarding school was shut for two weeks.

Gulu Central High School headmaster Awani Jimi was audibly upset when he spoke to the BBC by telephone from northern Uganda.

He said the dead pupil had only been at the school for six weeks after joining from another establishment. He described him as "polite, gentle and hard-

working".

Explaining the circumstances that led to the shooting, he said the match coincided with the time the students were supposed to go for their evening revision.

Mr Jimi said the school would usually show football matches that are played earlier - those with kick-off times between 14:00-18:00 local time (11:00-15:00 GMT) - because at 19:30 students are supposed to be doing their revision.

But this angered the students and teachers and security guards tried to calm them down, local media report.

The situation became tense when a local police officer fired tear gas and called for support from a local army post.

Commenting on the security forces, Mr Jimi said: "I feel their reaction was a little above and over the situation."

One eyewitness told the Ugandan Radio Network that she rescued five female students from the unrest.

Mr Jimi stressed that in the 30 years since it opened, the

school had never experienced such an incident: "Our school is a very peaceful school and we have never had that kind of problem before."

Following a security meeting with the district commissioner for Gulu, the school management decided to temporarily shut the school for two weeks and send the students home to their

families.

School students in neighbouring Kenya frequently stage violent protests over issues such as bad food or ill treatment by teachers.

Last month, a former student aged 18 was jailed for setting her school on fire because she wanted a transfer to another school. Ten fellow students died. BBC

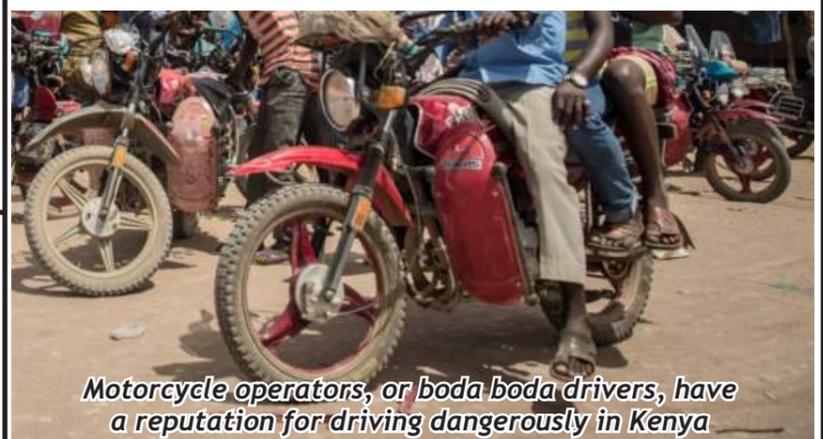
## Motorcycle assault video sparks Kenyan manhunt

**P**olice in Kenya have launched a manhunt for motorcycle riders caught on camera assaulting a female driver in Nairobi.

In the disturbing video, the woman is screaming and struggling to push off the hands of men who were trying to undress her while others ordered that she be removed

uproar in the country. Kenyans online have demanded action with activists accusing the government of allowing lawlessness to thrive among the motorcycle riders.

A huge number ride recklessly and whenever one of them is involved in a traffic accident they are known to show up at the scene in large



Motorcycle operators, or boda boda drivers, have a reputation for driving dangerously in Kenya

from inside the car.

The rowdy gang stripped the woman half-naked.

It is alleged that there was an accident involving the woman's car and a motorcycle operator, or boda boda rider, as they are known in Kenya.

The video has caused an

numbers, hooting, harassing motorists and threatening to lynch car drivers.

In 2020, a group of motorcycle riders were caught on camera attacking a driver on Thika Superhighway after he reportedly hit their colleague. BBC



Heavy Duty Polar Mohr Paper Cutter



Around one thousand Ugandan pupils were sent home on Monday after a school in Gulu closed following fatal shooting

## Four killed in Ivory Coast building collapse

**A**t least four people have died and 30 injured when a four-storey building collapsed in the district of Cocody in Abidjan, Ivory Coast's biggest city.

The incident took place around half-past midnight on Monday, the fire department said.

A search operation is ongoing within the security perimeter established at the site.

Despite rescuers' efforts, witnesses say some people are still trapped in the rubble.

The 28-apartment building was inaugurated only two years ago but some of its tenants say big cracks were visible in the construction.

Authorities say an investigation will be opened.

The Minister of Construction, Housing and Urban Planning, Bruno Nabagne Kone, has visited the site.

After expressing his condolences, he commented on Twitter that these accidents were preventable if people were more responsible.

He added his ministry will continue to demolish dangerous constructions.

Another building collapsed a

week ago in another Abidjan district, Treichville, killing seven people.

A year ago, the minister deplored that most of the constructions carried out in Abidjan did not have a building permit. BBC



Rescuers are searching for survivors

# EDITORIAL

## Nimba people deserve better

Senator Prince Johnson continues to hold the people of Nimba hostage for his selfish political interests, consistently denying them of opportunity to make independent choices at the ballot box.

He had repeatedly presented himself to his kinsmen as their liberator, for killing President Samuel Kanyon Doe and therefore, he is the only messiah that they should hail! No one else.

The Doe regime had hunted the Nimba people and PYJ prides himself as liberator of his kinsmen, a position that he uses during elections to get their votes.

Using strategy such as threat of the people of Nimba being left vulnerable if they do not re-elect him, PYJ has stayed in the Liberian Senate for the past 18 years and wants to get another nine years to become the longest serving senator in the history of Liberia, at the expense of participatory democracy.

He even goes to the extent of taking candidates for the presidency to Nimba, lifting their hands and telling citizens to vote his choice in return for development that never comes or promises of jobs that are never fulfilled.

As a result, a silent disenchantment is brewing among the people of Nimba against this self-imposed “god-father” and “liberator” that has become a demigod in their lives.

Last year, group of Nimba youth from the county voiced their frustrations publicly for being kept in hostage by Senator Johnson with campaign promises that are yet to be fulfilled.

They want to come out of such deceptive influence and be allowed to think for themselves other than having a greedy politician controlling their thoughts for selfish motives.

Senator PYJ’s 18 years at the Senate has produced nothing but divisive politics in Nimba, leaving the vote-rich county divided on tribal lines. This should not continue for any longer, and citizens are standing up.

We encourage such resilience from the people of Nimba to restore competitive democratic elections in the county than being constantly under the deceptive influence of one man who thinks he has monopoly over leadership.

**The New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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

# COMMENTARY

By Daniel J. Arbess

## New Thinking for a New Cancer Moonshot

**N**EW YORK - US President Joe Biden’s recently announced goal of reducing America’s cancer death rate by half in the next 25 years, with its encouraging emphasis on early detection and prevention, sounds bold. But we can do even more to tackle the disease - and faster.

That is because scientific advances over the past decade have given us the tools to move from fighting cancerous tumors to identifying and intercepting the biological mechanisms that cause them. The problem is that prevention and wellness are not yet reimbursed in a health-care system designed to manage symptoms. We therefore need a new cancer moonshot to adapt our mindsets and institutions to the new science, as we did after the COVID-19 pandemic erupted.

For over a century, clinicians have been trained to define and treat conditions they can see, which is why they classify tumors according to where in the body they are found. But what if the damage causing the tumor occurs somewhere else?

The reason cancers frequently return after resection, radiation, and chemotherapy might be that tumors are not the fundamental problem. Rather, they are the terminal symptoms of a so-called genetic insult, which triggers a cascade of cellular dysfunction that progresses for months or years before tumors appear. We have learned this in recent years by decoding the human genome and progressively understanding the function of different genes, specifically the effect of their mistranscription on proteins and other key elements of cellular chemistry.

These tools allow us to “see” the causes of cancers at their molecular point of impact. The process starts with genetic damage, which is sometimes “germline,” or inherited, and sometimes triggered by “epigenetics” such as environmental toxins, an unhealthy diet, or other lifestyle choices. Both types of damage are further influenced by age, ethnicity, and other factors, all of which comprise an individual’s biological constitution, or deep phenotype.

Cancers emerge when our native immune system fails. Genetic mutations occur for everyone millions of times every day, and our immune system addresses them. The question is why some people experience an uncontrolled proliferation of mutated cells.

While every person’s immune response is affected by their unique deep phenotype, we know that aging is a factor. The immune system has evolved over billions of years, and has its own pace of adapting to the rapidly emerging new toxins and lifestyles of industrial and post-industrial societies. This suggests that, as we age, we accumulate more genetic insults and therefore a greater risk of cancer and other biological conditions.

Modern technologies, by enabling us to focus

on an individual patient’s molecular history, provide an opportunity to write the definitive chapter of the war on cancer. The goal should be to understand how the disease uniquely emerges in each patient’s biological constitution, and how deep phenotypical characteristics change it.

This is possible today because new objective measurement tools enable scientists to track people’s biological makeup far earlier and more accurately than they could by relying on scans. For example, biosensors can capture a patient’s experience outside the physical boundaries of health-care institutions. And artificial intelligence can detect signs of trouble by longitudinally observing vast and diverse biological data emerging from modern sequencing and imaging technologies.

The fact that cancer evolves and expresses itself differently in each individual case has enormous implications for the process of approving new therapies. Today, this involves long, slow trials involving large cohorts of patients with similar end-stage symptoms. But in the new phase of the war on cancer, we will build solutions from single successful outcomes to broader populations that share key deep-phenotype characteristics.

The health-care system is not adapting quickly enough - yet. One encouraging outcome of the COVID-19 pandemic is that the US Food and Drug Administration, the regulatory gatekeeper of evolving science, has shown greater willingness to accelerate new approaches. And big pharmaceutical firms are realizing that they don’t necessarily need new drugs, but instead a better understanding of what is happening to patients, and targeted combinations of interventions addressing each individual’s biology. Researchers and clinicians will catch up when insurance companies and national programs eventually start paying for deep-phenotype testing and analysis.

The pandemic demonstrated that new technologies can help to solve big health problems fast. Specifically, we know that the human immune system can be programmed and stimulated to attack potentially harmful molecular changes long before they cascade into visible symptoms.

Likewise, we must now reinvent how we detect cancer. If we can target aberrant microscopic processes, we can intercept them. And if we can intercept them, we can eventually preempt and prevent them, thus extending people’s healthy life span. That would transform our current system of symptom management into real health care - for cancer and many other unsolved health challenges.

Daniel J. Arbess, CEO of Xerion Investments and founder of Xerion Precision Biosciences, is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on the boards of Cancer Expert Now and the Global Virus Network.

# University of Liberia

Monrovia, Liberia

West Africa

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Institute for Population Studies, University of Liberia (UL) is pleased to remind partners and heads of public institutions that it has commenced a new phase of its one-year (two academic semesters) training program for a certificate in Statistics.

The academic training program began on Monday, March 7, 2022 and will run up to December 16, 2022.

Classes meet at 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Mondays through Fridays at the Institute for Population Studies.

Participating institutions are hereby reminded to forward the names of mid-level staff to benefit from this training opportunity.

The Certificate in Statistics (CEST) Program was organized in 1980. It was designed and suited to meet sectoral needs for middle-level statisticians who will efficiently collect and analyze statistical data for socio-economic development and decision-making.

Candidates are sponsored by a grant provided by the World Bank to the Government of Liberia.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

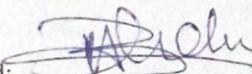
Thomas G. Karyah  
Director, UL Relations

March 5, 2022

### REF: Publication for change of name

I, **Augustine B. Tucker** have authorized the publication of change of name from the above-mentioned name to **Augustine B. Adekoya** a resident of Pennsylvania USA.

Kindly see legal documents to the avail publication.

Signed:   
Contact (s) +1-2679945867



Name: Augustine B. Adekoya  
DOB: August 7, 1978  
POB: Kakata  
ADD: 1405 Veteran Hwy Bristol PA 19007 APT K-1  
NAT: Liberian  
CONTRACT: +1-2679945867

### Starts from Back page

George also alleged that this is not Barry's first car accident in which a victim has died.

He alleged that this life-taking accident is Barry's 'source of power' to increase his wealth.

"My brother is just 26 years old and he lost his life in such a manner without doing anything good," George lamented. "This man, Mr. Barry, it's not his first time killing in this area. This is how he makes his wealth increase. We are calling on the government to investigate this case," George said.

Also speaking, Varney Passaway, an eyewitness, explained how they were sitting on the road and saw Mr. Barry coming from the car parking lot, speeding heavily.

## Police fire teargas

Mr. Passaway explained that Barry hit the deceased against the wall, causing serious bodily injuries.

"We took him (victim Quayee) to the hospital after Mr. Barry hit him... Mr. Barry came out from the car [and] did not touch him, but left the car and walked. But some people say he went to report himself at the police station," explained Mr. Passaway. Stanley Mensah, a friend of the deceased, also told this paper that they were very shocked hearing about the death of their friend because they were all together during the previous night.

He said Quayee had gone on the road to visit someone when he was hit and killed by Barry.

"We, his friends, threw rocks because of how Mr. Barry behaved to our friend after killing him. Mr. Barry killed our friend and left his body down and walked," said Mensah.

He said they wanted to destroy Barry's home, but it was protected by the police.

Mensah said the angry friends of the late Quayee decided to calm down after they were assured that Barry would go through police investigation.



MANO RIVER UNION  
UNION DU FLEUVE MANO



# MANO RIVER UNION

STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY

AS WOMEN CELEBRATE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN DAY 2022

Women are increasingly being recognized as more vulnerable to climate change impacts than men, as they constitute the majority of the world's poor and are more dependent on the natural resources which climate change threatens the most.

However, women and girls are effective and powerful leaders and change-makers for climate adaptation and mitigation. They are involved in sustainability initiatives around the world, and their participation and leadership results in more effective climate action.

It is against this background that we continue to examine the opportunities, as well as the challenges, to empower women and girls to have a voice and be equal players in decision-making processes related to women's economic development and growth. This is essential for sustainable development and greater gender equality; without which a sustainable and equal future, remains a dream and a far cry.

Today, as we celebrate women and girls across the world, we are requesting our leaders in the MRU sub region in particular, and the world at large, to put their seal of acceptance on a gender equal world, a world free of bias, stereotypes and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where our rich natural habitats are preserved. A world where diversity and differences are valued and celebrated.

Gender Equality is not a women's issue, it is a business issue which is clearly a building block for economies and communities to thrive, for protection of our environment and for stronger advocacy and commitment to climate change action. Together we can make the world a better, healthier and wealthier place, and together we can achieve a world of gender equality.

The Mano River Union Secretariat proudly stands in solidarity with women around the world on this day; and most especially the women in the MRU sub-region to celebrate international women's day (IWD).

IWD is a global awareness day where we highlight and showcase the achievements that women have made in the cultural, political, and socioeconomic spheres on a pedestal to serve as a pointer for global peace and solidarity. It is also an opportunity to bring into the public space, the work still to be done and what we can do to create a more gender-equal world.

An equal world is an enabled world where each person is responsible for their own words, thoughts and deeds. We can choose to stand up against stereotypes, break bias, broaden perceptions, improve situations and celebrate women's achievements. Collectively, each one of us can help create a gender-equal world.

The IWD theme for this year is "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow", recognizing the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are leading the charge to better their families,, the societies and the countries in the areas of agriculture and increased food production, and on climate change adaptation, healthcare and women struggle in the fight against the Covid 19 pandemic, the cause of justice and peace, mitigation and response, amongst the other daunting societal obligations to build a more sustainable future for all.

Advancing gender equality in the context of the climate crisis and disaster risk reduction is one of the greatest global challenges of the 21st century. The issues of climate change and sustainability have had and will continue to have, severe and lasting impacts on our environment, economic and social development, with the most vulnerable and marginalized experiencing the deepest impacts.



## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-22-00006
- ISSUANCE DATE:** March 3, 2022
- CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** March 24, 2022, 11:59 pm Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia
- POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov
- POSITION TITLE:** Project Management Specialist (WASH)
- MARKET VALUE:** USD \$40,344 -64,550 FSN- 11  
In accordance with AIDAR Appendix J and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.
- PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.
- PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia.
- ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.
- SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access.
- STATEMENT OF DUTIES**

### 1. Basic Function of Position

The Project Management Specialist – Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), the “Specialist” leads efforts to strengthen water, sanitation and hygiene programming in line with USAID’s Global Water Strategy and the Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS). The Specialist leads the design, development, and management of WASH related programs and activities for improving WASH indicators towards improved maternal and child health outcomes. WASH activities primarily target improved access and quality of water supply and sanitation services and increased adoption of improved hygiene behaviors to prevent water-borne diseases. The Specialist will guide the identification, development and management of technical strategies and activities in the area of WASH and within programs relating to health service delivery, health systems strengthening, and community-based strategies towards improved health outcomes. S/he may also contribute to efforts to improve WASH-related indicators in the context of humanitarian emergency relief, resilience-building and stabilization, food security and governance. The Specialist provides strategic and technical leadership in the design and implementation of WASH activities in the cooperating country.

The Specialist serves as a senior-level resource providing strategic and technical guidance in the design, procurement, management, and evaluation of cooperating country WASH programs. S/he will provide technical leadership and inputs related to WASH and contribute to the incorporation of WASH activities or indicators in other health-related programs. The Specialist has an understanding of global health and WASH issues, as well as the entire USAID/U.S. Government (USG) health portfolio and serves as an Agreement Officer’s Representative/Contracting Officer’s Representative (AOR/COR) or Activity Manager for selected programs/projects/activities. As an AOR/COR, the Specialist monitors program performance, progress, and compliance with USG policies, identifies implementation achievements as well as problems in performance, and initiates appropriate actions in consultation with his/her supervisor, other Health and Economic Growth Office staff, and/or the Deputy and Office Director, as appropriate.

The Specialist will represent USAID on technical working groups, coordination panels, and in other multi-donor stakeholder groups, building alliances with development partners, and providing essential communication and liaison within USAID offices and with other USG agencies. The Specialist also facilitates collaborative working relationships with high-level decision makers, as well as technical staff, in the Ministry of Health and/or Water, with USAID/Washington counterparts, with other government entities, and with other donors, development partners and non-governmental organizations working in the health sector. The Specialist delivers analytical and technical assistance services to other bilateral/multilateral agencies, cooperating country governments and civil society organizations in developing and implementing policies and programs based on WASH best practices and innovations.

The Specialist is a key member of the Health Office, WASH Team. The jobholder reports to the WASH Systems Advisor and has no formal supervisory responsibility.

### 2. Major Duties and Responsibilities

#### Program Management Technical and Strategic Leadership

- Serve as a technical advisor in the design, operationalization and execution of the cooperating country’s USAID funded activities and strategies for WASH, providing high level technical guidance and inputs in close coordination with the Mission, the cooperating country Government, and other development partners.
- Provide strategic and technical guidance and input on WASH activities and ensure that activities are appropriately integrated with Health Office and larger Mission activities in collaboration with counterparts in the Ministry of Health and/or Water and to other national stakeholders to advance USAID and USG strategic objectives related to WASH interventions.
- Work closely with other staff in the Health Office and across the Mission to optimize opportunities for cross-sectoral integration and leveraging of resources across the different program components while meeting requirements for correct attribution to funding Directives.
- Identify potential synergies and linkages between USAID program activities, relevant cooperating country government and other donor programs, and private sector activities, providing ongoing technical assistance to implementing partners, ensuring an interdisciplinary approach across USAID Health Office activities.
- Provide technical leadership in quality and performance improvement, working with key stakeholders and implementing partners to improve the quality of WASH outcomes by applying evidence-based guidelines, best practices/ approaches, and tools.
- Through literature review, research, and regular communication with local and international stakeholders, stay abreast of emerging developments in the national and global WASH landscape, and advise accordingly on how policies, strategies, and technical guidelines can most effectively be incorporated to enable the Mission to enhance USAID’s approaches.
- Effectively communicate and demonstrate technical expertise in interagency technical working groups to ensure USAID strategic priorities are represented, including participation in routine interagency technical discussions.

#### Project Management

- Lead and contribute to the design and management of new USAID programs in WASH, prepare relevant activity procurement documents, including Requests for Application (RFAs), Requests for Proposal (RFPs), and/or scopes of work for multi-year programs.
- Participate in evaluation of proposals/applications, and activity start-up including preparation of analyses and documentation required to obligate funds and initiate and/or continue strategies.
- Serve as Contracting or Agreement Officer’s Representative (COR/AOR) or Activity Manager for the Mission’s WASH activities, including:
  - reviewing and approving annual IP work plans, budgets, reports, vouchers, and other program/project tools and facilitating IP relationships and coordinating with local stakeholders (e.g. other IPs, cooperating-country government counterparts, non-governmental organizations, other donors, etc.)
  - maintaining a schedule for and conducting regular site visits to review program implementation, compliance with USG WASH requirements and policies and meet with beneficiaries, and based on the information collected during such visits, adjusting or recommending adjustments to programs/projects/activities as appropriate.
  - overseeing IP compliance with bilateral government agreements, and with performance expectations;
  - ensuring IPs are in compliance with all relevant USAID regulations, procedures and Directive requirements, communicating regularly with IPs regarding USAID rules and regulations as well as their obligations to USAID; and,
  - taking a lead role in the preparation of the strategic and operational planning processes such as the USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategy and USAID Operational Plan
- Ensure that sub-partners (sub-awards and sub-contracts) are given appropriate monitoring and oversight by Prime IPs.

#### Project Monitoring and Evaluation

- In collaboration with Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning colleagues participate in the development of innovative monitoring and evaluation approaches and tools to support measuring the impact and outcomes of WASH-related health activities.
- Contribute to data quality assessments to ensure the quality and reliability of program data
- Monitor project activities and reports and make recommendations to resolve implementation obstacles to ensure judicious and correct use of USG funds.
- Contribute to and participate in WASH-related program evaluations to document and provide recommendations for scaling up proven best practices
- Collect and analyze data needed for management, administration and evaluation of USAID’s WASH programs.

#### Representation and Reporting

- Provide technical expertise in the preparation of key annual and mid-term planning and reporting documents including the Congressional Budget Justifications, Technical Notifications, Quarterly, Semi-Annual and Annual Progress Reports and other ad hoc requests for information.
- Lead the preparation of reports and responses to a wide range of requirements including responding to requests for information from USAID/Washington and Congress.
- Promote information sharing by ensuring that USAID successes, best practices and approaches are shared widely with cooperating-country officials, private sector, civil society and other donors.
- Represent USAID at designated national, regional and international meetings that relate to WASH interventions, including regular participation in national level technical working groups, professional associations, and related committees.
- Represent USAID as needed at designated national, regional and international meetings that relate to USAID WASH interventions and strategies
- Prepare briefing papers, presentations and assist with site preparations for visits by delegations of high-level USG officials.
- Establish strategic working relationships with cooperating country partners, development partners, civil society organizations, faith-based organizations, private sector health counterparts, and professional associations to enhance regular and timely sharing of information on WASH-related issues, including changes in key policies, and legal and

regulatory environments that could affect the implementation of USAID programs.

- Supervision controls:** The Specialist will report to the WASH Systems Advisor in the Health Office in USAID. S/he is expected to work independently in carrying out responsibilities. S/he is expected to develop annual work objectives in consultation with her/his supervisor. The supervisor makes assignments in terms of overall objectives and resources available. Completed work is reviewed in terms of achievement of program/project/activity goals, effectiveness in meeting cooperating country and USAID objectives, and integration with other initiatives in the Office and Mission portfolio. Some technical direction may come from other professionals in the Office; in general, however, the Specialist will be expected to exercise considerable autonomy and best judgment in discharging the duties of the assignment.
- Supervisory Relationship:** This position has no supervisory responsibilities

## 12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

## II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Education:** Bachelor’s Degree or local equivalent from an accredited institution in Medicine, Public Health, Health, Social Work, International Development, Social or Behavioral Sciences, Epidemiology, Biology, Nursing, Infectious Disease, Organizational Development, Political Science or Business Administration
- Prior Work Experience:** A minimum of five (5) years of progressively responsible, professional experience in public or private sector health or water, sanitation, or hygiene-related fields. Of that experience, at least one (1) year working with or for bilateral or multilateral donors/stakeholders such as USAID, the World Bank, the Global Fund, UN agencies, or national-level public or private sector projects and ensuring compliance with U.S. Government rules and regulations. Increasingly responsible experience in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of WASH-related health activities in developing countries and/or in generalized community health systems.
- Work/Residency Permits:** Applicants must have valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia.
- Language Proficiency:** Level IV fluency in English and in the appropriate cooperating country business language, both written and spoken, is required. Language competence may be tested.

## III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

The Evaluation Factors listed below will be the basis for evaluating and ranking applicants for the position. Applicants will be scored based on the documentation submitted within the application. Applicants must submit a supplemental document outlining their responses to the evaluation factor(s) in order to be considered.

### 1. Selection Process

After the closing date for receipt of applications, a committee will convene to review applications that meet the minimum requirements and evaluate them in accordance with the evaluation criteria. As part of the selection process, the most qualified candidates will be invited to an interview which will consist of both an oral and written evaluation. Reference checks will be made only for applicants considered as finalists. The applicant’s references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities.

### 2. Evaluation Factors

Those applicants who meet the minimum education and experience qualifications will be evaluated based on the content of their application as well as on the applicant’s writing, presentation, and communication skills. Applicants should include their name and the announcement number at the top of each additional page. Failure to specifically address the Evaluation Factors will result in the applicant not receiving full credit for pertinent experience.

**FACTOR #1: Understanding of the WASH Sector in Liberia :** Describe in 500 words or less, the overall political, economic, and health context of the WASH sector in Liberia. What are the major challenges, and what needs to be improved?

**FACTOR #2: Experience in the WASH Sector:** Describe in 500 words or less your experience managing projects in the WASH Sector. This should include managing relationships and coordination with the government and other key stakeholders. Give specific examples of the results you achieved.

**FACTOR #3: Conflict Resolution:** Describe in 500 words or less specific instances when you have resolved conflicts during project implementation. What was your approach and what was the result?

### 3. Basis of Rating

Applicants determined to be competitively ranked will also be evaluated on their interview performance and satisfactory professional reference checks. The Applicant Rating System is as follows:

Evaluation Factors 40 points

Factor #1 15 points

Factor #2 15 points

Factor #3 10 points

Written Evaluation 10 points.

Candidates selected for an interview will be given a 50 minute written exercise. The purpose is to evaluate the candidate’s approach to problems, critical thinking ability and the ability to put thoughts on paper in a cogent manner.

Interview Performance 50 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate’s:

- Knowledge of and experience in the WASH sector
- Ability to design, implement, and manage WASH activities
- Ability to effectively conduct monitoring and evaluation
- Ability to communicate clearly
- Ability to manage multiple competing priorities and meet deadlines

Total Possible Points 100 points

## IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line VA-669-22-00006 – Project Management Specialist (WASH) LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

Applicants may submit an application prior to the closing date and time specified in Section I, item 3 mentioned above unless revised.

Qualified applicants must submit the following documents or their applications will not be considered for this position:

- A current curriculum vitae (CV) or resume, not to exceed 3 pages.
- A minimum of three (3) professional references with telephone and email contacts, who are not family members or relatives, with working telephone and email contacts. The applicant’s references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities. At least one reference provided should be a current or former supervisor.
- A supplemental document with a written response to the Evaluation Factors.

Candidates who are applying for this position must fully meet the education requirement (graduated and degree and/or diploma already received) as specified. At the time of applications, candidates must also meet in full the work experience requirement. There is no exception to these requirements.

Short-listed candidates may be requested to provide educational documents such as transcripts for degrees, diplomas, certificates, and other pertinent documents as needed.

Any attachments provided via email must be compatible with Microsoft Word or PDF and not zipped. Note that attachments to email must not exceed 25 MB. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Agency retains the right to cancel or amend the solicitation and associated actions at any stage of the recruitment process.

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MRU extends solidarity message to women around the world

The Mano River Union Secretariat says it proudly stands in solidarity with women around the world on this day; and most especially the women in the MRU sub-region to

be done and what we can do to create a more gender-equal world.

An equal world is an enabled world where each person is responsible for their own words, thoughts and deeds. We can

world, who are leading the charge to better their families, the societies and the countries in the areas of agriculture and increased food production, and on climate change adaptation, healthcare and women struggle in the fight against the Covid 19 pandemic, the cause of justice and peace, mitigation and response, amongst the other daunting societal obligations to build a more sustainable future for all.

The MRU noted that advancing gender equality in the context of the climate crisis and disaster risk reduction is one of the greatest global challenges of the 21st century. The issues of climate change and sustainability have had and will continue to have, severe and lasting impacts on our environment, economic and social development, with the most vulnerable and marginalized experiencing the deepest impacts.

It observed that Women are increasingly being recognized as more vulnerable to climate change impacts than men, as they constitute the majority of the world's poor and are more dependent on the natural resources which climate

change threatens the most.

MRU, however, stated that women and girls are effective and powerful leaders and change-makers for climate adaptation and mitigation. "They are involved in sustainability initiatives around the world, and their participation and leadership results in more effective climate action," the statement added.

"It is against this background that we continue to examine the opportunities, as well as the challenges, to empower women and girls to have a voice and be equal players in decision-making processes related to women's economic development and growth. This is essential for sustainable development and greater gender equality; without which a sustainable and equal future, remains a dream and a far cry.

Today, as we celebrate women and girls across the world, we are requesting our leaders in the MRU sub region in particular, and the world at large, to put their seal of acceptance on a gender equal world, a world free of bias, stereotypes and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where our rich natural habitats are preserved. A world where diversity and differences are valued and celebrated.

Gender Equality is not a women's issue, it is a business issue which is clearly a building block for economies and communities to thrive, for protection of our environment and for stronger advocacy and commitment to climate change action. Together we can make the world a better, healthier and wealthier place, and together we can achieve a world of gender equality." The MRU statement concluded.



celebrate international women's day (IWD).

IWD is a global awareness day where we highlight and showcase the achievements that women have made in the cultural, political, and socioeconomic spheres on a pedestal to serve as a pointer for global peace and solidarity. It is also an opportunity to bring into the public space, the work still to

choose to stand up against stereotypes, break bias, broaden perceptions, improve situations and celebrate women's achievements. Collectively, each one of us can help create a gender-equal world.

The IWD theme for this year is "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow", recognizing the contribution of women and girls around the

# RHRAP takes justice awareness to Margibi, Bong

In promotion of fundamental human rights, democratic values and rule of law in Liberia, the Rural Human Rights Activists Programme (RHRAP) continues its engagement with community residents of Margibi and Bong counties, enhancing the knowledge of traditional, community and religious

leaders about the Criminal Justice System in the country.

RHRAP recently organized a two-day workshop each for community and religious leaders in both counties.

Each workshop brought together 30 participants. The Margibi workshop was held at the Kakata Red Cross Building, while the Gbarnga workshop was held at the YMCA Compound in Gbarnga City, respectively.

The training focused on the Criminal Justice Highway, starting from arrest -court-prison and parole. The Margibi training was facilitated by Sabistine

Guyon, Stipendiary Magistrate, Bodinway, Firestone, Margibi County; while the Gbarnga session was facilitated by Atty. James Saybay, a prominent human rights lawyer.

The exercise is intended to enhance capacity of community residents at various levels to enable them to contribute to the promotion and protection of

fundamental human rights, rule of law and democratic principles within their various communities.

This project titled "Strengthening Democracy and Respect for Fundamental Human Rights of Prisoners in Liberia" is being implemented by RHRAP in partnership with Serving Humanity, Education



# ECOWAS wants Member States improve living conditions



By Lewis S Teh

The Speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament Dr. Sidie Mohammed Tunis calls on ECOWAS Member States to improve the livelihood and living conditions of their citizens in the region.

Dr. Tunis says to improve the lives of citizens of Member States, a framework document must be drafted to clearly define where ECOWAS stands in the region.

"It is my greatest pleasure to welcome everyone to ECOWAS first parliamentary seminar in 2022, we are aware that to improve the quality of lives of people in our region to the level of our counterparts in the developed world, a framework that defines clearly where we

are now as a region and where we want to be by 2050 must be developed", Dr. Tunis says here in Monrovia.

He continues that the vision in this context means creating multiple development strategies and integrated approaches for reaching goals, noting that is why ECOWAS authorities and governments adopted Vision 2050 at a community ordinary session held in Abuja, Nigeria quite recently.

He explains the vision includes community of people integrated in a peaceful and prosperous region with strong institutions that respect fundamental freedom and work for inclusive and sustainable development.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

and Development (SHED) as project lead with funding from the European Union (EU).

The project also provides legal representations for prolonged pretrial detainees at

the Kakata and Bodinway Prisons in Margibi, Gbarnga Prison in Bong County and the Sanniquellie Prison in Nimba County. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Wednesday, March 9th Is "Decoration Day"

President George Manneh Weah has by Proclamation, declared Wednesday, March 9, 2022 as "Decoration Day" and is to be observed

nation's past heroes and heroines, who have lived and died in the interest of their country, thereby keeping alive their deeds and invaluable contributions rendered to society and the State.

Assistant Minister for Children and Social Protection, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Republic of Liberia providing the memorial message to the state. Meanwhile, President Weah has ordered that the National Ensign be flown at Half-Staff from all public buildings, Military Camps and private residences from 6 o'clock ante meridian to 6 o'clock post meridian consistent with the prescribed COVID-19 health protocols.

The Ministry of Education being cognizant of the day, agrees to observe this occasion, through specially planned programs to further raise awareness amongst the population on the deeds and contributions of great men and women and their loved ones, through a parade by students, government officials, staff of the Ministry of Education, etc., to the graves of the late President William V.S. Tubman, the state cenotaph of the pioneers and an educator, at the Centennial Memorial Pavilion on Ashmun Street, as well as a procession to Warren Street to the grave of the late President Daniel B. Warner and onto the Palm Grove Cemetery on Center Street to the graves of the late Presidents Joseph Jenkins Roberts and *Williams R. Tolbert*.



throughout the Republic as a National Holiday.

According to a Foreign Ministry release, the President's Proclamation is in consonance with an Act of the National Legislature approved on October 24, 1916 which declared the Second Wednesday of March in each year to be known as "Decoration Day" and to be observed as a National Holiday. A Foreign Ministry Release says the observance is in recognition of the

The Proclamation calls upon all ministries, agencies, local and international organizations and the general public to join the Ministry of Education to organize and execute appropriate programs to make the day meaningful.

The release further states that an indoor program commemorating the day, will be held at the Providence Baptist Church on Broad and Ashmun Streets commencing at ten o'clock ante meridian with Hon. Maminah Gorlon Carr Gaye,

## Starts from page 6

Dr. Tunis stresses that the vision is accompanied by peace and prosperity for all Member States to make significant efforts in improving lives of people in the region.

Meanwhile, Liberia's Minister of Commerce and Industry Mawine Diggs, who proxy for President George Weah at the seminar here, challenged the regional parliament to develop a framework document that will make meaningful impact across the region.

Minister Diggs says the seminar in Monrovia seeks to ensure the Parliament is clearly integrated in the formulation of the next development agenda of the regional body under the Vision 2050.

# ECOWAS wants Member States

She says the Parliament has already rendered its opinion on the draft vision adapted by the Authorities and Heads of State and Governments, adding that the seminar therefore provides another opportunity for members to further understand the vision and contribute positively towards its realization.

According to her, the ECOWAS Vision 2050 has been crafted with the intent to consolidate progress made and transform ECOWAS from a community of States to a community of people fully integrated in a peaceful and prosperous region with strong institutions that respect fundamental freedom and work for inclusive sustainable development.

Minister Diggs: "The vision

2050 documents represent a framework that is expected to make a huge impact around the region and it's expected to address policymakers as well adopt a program in a secure, stable and peaceful region."

The ECOWAS parliamentary seminar is taking place in Monrovia at the time the region is battling series of military takeovers in neighboring countries across the region.

At the end of the session, it's expected that the regional body will adopt a framework document to address pressing issues confronting the region and work towards improving the livelihood and well-being of citizens in Member States.

*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

# Climate crisis threatens food security for women and girls Liberia

Women and girls, especially in rural communities, continue to face the brunt of the climate crisis that exacerbates pre-existing inequalities, jeopardizes their food security and feeds instability and migration, warns the United Nations World Food Programme on International Women's Day.

International Women's Day 2022 focuses on "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow" recognizing the contribution of women and girls around the world who play a crucial role in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Women and girls often lack appropriate access to early warning and disaster information, financial services and participation in community decision-making and resource allocation. Such inequalities undermine the ability of women to prepare for, cope with and recover from climate shocks

counterparts.

The JP RWEE provided capacity-building training for 14,762 beneficiaries (13,074 women and 1,688 men) in food processing and storage, using innovative, productivity-enhancing, and culturally sensitive technologies for strengthening women and men beneficiaries' productive capacities including the use of agricultural technologies, improved crop planting, harvesting, preservation and packaging, nutrition sensitive, and climate-smart agriculture.

In Luwein, Grand Bassa County, climate-smart agriculture and VSLA (village savings and loan associations) schemes are innovative, productive ventures that the Wellekama Rural Women Group are turning to as sustainable sources of livelihoods. "We're standing just like women now. We're not waiting for men to support us. We're sending our children to school and



*Chairwoman of the Wellekama Rural Women Group in Luwein, Grand Bassa County, Yatta Binta harvesting rice that was sown just three months prior thanks to capacity-building training and support from the JP-RWEE programme. Photo Credit: WFP/Vannette Tolbert*

and stresses.

"Women are the bedrock of food security and yet are hardest hit by climate shocks and food insecurity," said WFP's Assistant Executive Director, Valerie Guarnieri. "A sustainable future is only possible when women and girls have what they need to adapt to the changing climate."

In Liberia, the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women (JP-RWEE) project is the flagship joint UN effort for the transformation of the lives of rural women.

Through the application of results-based programmatic approaches that enhance synergies, create opportunities, and promote income generation, food security, and relative self-reliance, WFP, FAO, and UNWOMEN help to transform the lives of rural women and a handful of their male

providing food in the houses," said the group Chairlady, Yatta Binta.

The programme has enhanced the group's capacity to adapt and be more resilient to climate change by providing technical support in setting up irrigation systems in the swamps where flooding had once been a problem during seasons of heavy rains and lack of water during prolonged periods of very high temperatures.

The cooperative also received pest control chemicals and benefitted from training on how to properly layout their plots during cultivation as well as how to process, package, and store their yields in a warehouse that was recently built just minutes from their farm.

"We are working seriously, this year we planted bitter balls, pepper, potatoes, okras, and eddoes or food and sold the surplus.

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# Français

## Les sénateurs Nyonblee et Dillon et d'autres responsables expulsés du Parti de la Liberté

Le comité exécutif du Liberty Party (LP) a annoncé la destitution de plusieurs responsables, dont les sénateurs Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence et Darius Dillon qui étaient respectivement leader politique et vice-président des affaires politiques et législatives du parti.

Les autres démis de leurs fonctions sont M. Debar Allen, président du Conseil consultatif national / représentant du CNA auprès de la NEC, Jacob Smith, Daniel Sando, vice-président pour la presse et les affaires publiques, George Gaybue, président du comté, comté de Grand Bassa, Eugene Tarr, secrétaire du comté de Grand Bassa, Agatius Coker, vice-

président pour les services auxiliaires, Romeo Coker, président du comté de Montserrado et August Fredericks, vice-président pour les affaires interpartis du comité exécutif national.

Les autres sont le sénateur Steve Zargo, les représentants Jonathan Kaipay et Hans Barchue qui

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## Éditorial

### Les gens de Nimba méritent mieux

Le sénateur Prince Johnson continue de tenir les habitants de Nimba en otage pour ses intérêts politiques égoïstes, leur refusant systématiquement la possibilité de faire des choix indépendants dans les urnes.

Prince Johnson s'est toujours fait passer pour le libérateur des habitants de Nimba pour avoir tué le président Samuel Kanyon Doe. Il estime qu'il est le seul Messie, celui que tout le monde doit saluer. Pas un autre.

Le régime Doe traquait les gens de Nimba. PYJ s'est ainsi présenté comme le libérateur de ses proches, une position qu'il utilise lors des élections pour obtenir leurs votes.

Faisant comprendre aux habitants de Nimba qu'ils risquent d'être en danger s'ils ne le réélisent pas, PYJ est resté Sénateur au cours des 18 dernières années et veut obtenir encore neuf ans supplémentaires au détriment de la démocratie participative.

Il va même jusqu'à amener des candidats à la présidence à Nimba, à lever la main et à dire aux citoyens de voter son choix en échange d'un développement qui ne vient jamais ou de promesses d'emplois qui ne sont jamais tenues.

En conséquence, un désenchantement silencieux se prépare parmi les habitants de Nimba contre ce « parrain » et « libérateur » auto-déclaré qui est devenu pour eux un demi-dieu.

L'année dernière, des jeunes du comté Nimba ont exprimé publiquement leur frustration, estimant qu'ils sont devenus l'otage du sénateur Johnson qui fait des promesses qu'il ne tient jamais.

Ils ne veulent plus être sous l'influence trompeuse de quelque politicien que ce soit. Ils veulent penser librement.

Les 18 années au cours desquelles M. Prince Johnson a été sénateur n'ont produit qu'une politique de division dans le comté de Nimba. Cela ne devrait plus durer car les citoyens commencent à se lever.

Nous encourageons les habitants de Nimba à continuer de résister pour restaurer des élections démocratiques compétitives dans le comté et de ne pas être constamment sous l'influence trompeuse d'un homme qui pense avoir le monopole du leadership.

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## Mali : les habitants de Mondoro assurent leur soutien à l'armée face aux terroristes

Au Mali, deux jours après l'attaque du camp militaire de Mondoro dans le centre-est du pays, les habitants originaires de la localité se sont réunis ce dimanche à Bamako. Les ressortissants de la zone affichent leur soutien aux forces armées maliennes, condamnent cette attaque terroriste et s'inquiètent d'une possible crise humanitaire.

Au centre de la cour d'un groupe scolaire de Bamako, le drapeau vert-or-rouge du

Mali est en berne. Devant une salle, des dizaines de personnes réunies à l'appel de l'association des jeunes de Mondoro ont la mine grave. Soumaila Morba est membre de l'organisation.

« Nous, nous soutenons l'armée nuit et jour, dit-elle. L'armée, c'est nous. Là où je vous parle, les populations sont inquiètes. Et vraiment, nous sommes désolés. C'est une désolation parce que les autorités n'ont pas pu répondre à temps. On aurait souhaité qu'ils puissent faire une contre-

attaque avant qu'on nous attaque. »

Pour Oumar Ongoiba, secrétaire général de l'association, son village d'origine est coupé du monde. Une situation qu'il qualifie d'« embargo » et pour faire face au jihadisme, il réclame un sursaut général : « L'une des recommandations phares des terroristes, c'est d'exiger de la population de se désolidariser de l'armée en place à Mondoro. Et notre regroupement d'aujourd'hui, c'était de faire barrage à cette requête des groupes armés. »

Pour lui, l'action militaire doit être accompagnée du retour du réseau téléphonique et d'actions de développement. « C'est une course contre la montre et d'ici l'hivernage, nous souhaitons que la situation soit réglée à Mondoro pour que les gens puissent cultiver, pour que les gens puissent faire l'élevage, pour que les gens puissent faire paître leurs animaux. »

Du fait de l'insécurité depuis trois ans, les terres



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# Français

## Les sénateurs Nyonblee et Dillon et d'autres

étaient membres du caucus législatif, Prince Toles, vice-président pour la mobilisation, Augustine Nyormui, secrétaire du comté, Montserrado, et McCarthy Weh et Prescilla Cooper, membres éminents du comité.

Le Comité Exécutif national a annoncé sa décision le samedi 5 mars, après des mois de menaces de procéder à l'expulsion d'un certain nombre de membres du parti pour non paiement des cotisations.

Dans un communiqué publié le week-end dernier, le parti a également indiqué qu'il prévoyait de tenir une convention nationale spéciale pour revoir ses relations avec la Congrès nationale alternative et la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP).

On peut rappeler que dans une lettre datée du 6 décembre 2021, signée par M. Bility, le président national du parti, et adressée au sénateur Karnga-Lawrence, le LP a rappelé à son leader politique qu'elle et d'autres hauts responsables du parti n'étaient pas en règle vis-à-vis de leurs obligations et paiements tels que définis par l'article IX de la Constitution du parti de la liberté.

L'article IX du LP stipule : "Les personnes acceptées en tant que membres du parti doivent payer une cotisation mensuelle fixée de temps à autre par le comité exécutif... Les membres en règle sont des membres dont... les cotisations sont entièrement à jour... Les membres qui ne sont pas en règle ne seront pas autorisés à occuper un poste au sein du parti, et si un tel membre occupe un poste au sein du parti, élu ou nommé, il ou elle sera suspendu(e) de ses fonctions par le comité exécutif, jusqu'à ce qu'il / elle ait repris le statut de membre en règle. Si après trois (3) mois, un tel membre est toujours en défaut, il sera définitivement démis de ses fonctions et pourra également être expulsé de ses fonctions.

Les 16 fonctionnaires ont

eu quatre-vingt-dix (90) jours pour remédier à leurs lacunes, comme l'exige la Constitution, et les en ont informés. « Le délai de quatre-vingt-dix jours est expiré et, à ce jour, les fonctionnaires suspendus n'ont pas remédié aux manquements. Ainsi, le bureau exécutif a démis les dirigeants suspendus du parti conformément à la Constitution », a déclaré le parti dans son communiqué.

Dans leur communiqué de presse signé par Martin Kollah et approuvé par Musa Hassan Bility, respectivement secrétaire général national et président national, le parti a ajouté qu'il réexaminait l'accord qu'il avait conclu avec l'ANC l'année dernière dans laquelle il avait approuvé le porte-drapeau et le chef politique du parti, Alexander B. Cummings comme son choix pour être le candidat unique de la CPP lors des élections 2023, mais depuis lors, l'accord n'a pas été consommé avec succès.

« Lors de sa convention nationale spéciale (SNC) de 2021, le LP a décidé d'approuver la candidature d'Alexander B. Cummings, porte-drapeau du Congrès national alternatif (ANC), en tant que porte-drapeau de la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP), sous réserve d'exécution d'un protocole d'accord (MOU) entre le LP et l'ANC décrivant les accords conclus et présentés au SNC pour approbation. À ce jour, nous n'avons pas été en mesure de mener à bien l'accord, en exécutant le protocole d'accord, et nous sommes tenus de faire rapport au SNC, dont le mandat découle », a déclaré le parti.

À la fin de sa convention nationale spéciale tenue à Ganta, dans le comté de Nimba en décembre 2021, le président Bility, tout en annonçant le résultat du rassemblement qui comprenait la suspension des sénateurs Lawrence, Dillon, Zargo, Kaipay et d'autres, a révélé que le LP avait décidé d'approuver la candidature de Cummings comme candidat de la CPP. L'idéal était que LP travaille avec l'équipe Cummings grâce à une collaboration étroite et une campagne vigoureuse et qu'un accord formel soit signé pour répondre aux demandes avancées par le LP.

## Mali : les habitants de Mondoro assurent

sont en jachères dans la région selon l'association des jeunes pour le développement de Mondoro. L'organisation affirme qu'une centaine de femmes et d'enfants ont quitté le village par d'être frappé par la famine.

Selon un bilan officiel toujours provisoire, 47 jihadistes, dont plusieurs chefs, ont été « neutralisés ». 27 militaires ont été tués et trente-trois militaires ont été blessés, dont 21 grièvement. Le ratissage de la zone est toujours en cours.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Daniel J. Arbess

## Un nouveau plan ambitieux de lutte contre le cancer

**N**EW YORK - L'objectif récemment annoncé du président américain Joe Biden est audacieux : il entend réduire de moitié le taux de mortalité du cancer d'ici les 25 prochaines années, en insistant de façon encourageante sur la détection et la prévention précoces. Mais nous pouvons faire encore davantage pour lutter contre la maladie - et plus vite.

C'est parce que les progrès scientifiques de la dernière décennie nous fournissent les outils nécessaires pour passer de la lutte contre les tumeurs cancéreuses, à l'identification et à l'interception des mécanismes biologiques qui les causent. Le problème est que la prévention et le bien-être ne sont pas encore remboursés par un système de soins de santé conçu pour gérer les symptômes. Nous avons donc besoin d'un nouveau plan ambitieux pour adapter nos mentalités et nos institutions à la nouvelle science, comme nous l'avons fait après l'éruption de la pandémie de COVID-19.

Depuis plus d'un siècle, les cliniciens sont formés à définir et traiter les maladies qu'ils peuvent voir, c'est pourquoi ils classent les tumeurs en fonction de l'endroit où elles se trouvent dans le corps. Mais que se passe-t-il si les dégâts à l'origine de la tumeur se produisent ailleurs ?

La raison pour laquelle les cancers reviennent fréquemment après la résection, la radiothérapie et la chimiothérapie, c'est que les tumeurs ne sont pas le problème fondamental. Ce sont plutôt les symptômes terminaux d'une agression génétique, qui déclenche un dysfonctionnement cellulaire en chaîne progressant durant des mois ou des années avant l'apparition des tumeurs. Nous l'avons appris ces dernières années en décodant le génome humain et en comprenant progressivement la fonction de différents gènes, en particulier l'effet de leur erreur de transcription sur les protéines et sur d'autres éléments clés de la chimie cellulaire.

Ces outils nous permettent de « voir » les causes des cancers à leur point d'impact moléculaire. Le processus commence par des dégâts génétiques, qui sont parfois « germinaux » ou hérités ; ou parfois déclenchés par transmission « épigénétique » comme les toxines environnementales, par un régime alimentaire malsain ou par d'autres choix de mode de vie. Ces deux types de dégâts sont davantage influencés par l'âge, l'origine ethnique et d'autres facteurs, qui comprennent tous la constitution biologique d'un individu, son phénotype profond.

Les cancers apparaissent lorsque notre système immunitaire natif échoue. Les mutations génétiques se produisent pour tout le monde des millions de fois par jour et notre système immunitaire s'y attaque. La question est de savoir pourquoi certaines personnes subissent une prolifération incontrôlée de cellules mutantes.

Bien que la réponse immunitaire de chaque personne soit affectée par son phénotype profond unique, nous savons que le vieillissement est un facteur. Le système immunitaire a évolué pendant des milliards d'années et a son propre rythme d'adaptation aux nouvelles toxines et aux modes de vie issus des sociétés industrielles et post-industrielles. Cela suggère qu'à mesure que nous vieillissons, nous accumulons davantage d'agressions génétiques et donc un plus grand risque de cancer et d'autres maladies biologiques.

Les technologies modernes, en nous permettant de nous concentrer sur l'histoire moléculaire d'un patient donné, nous offrent l'occasion d'écrire le chapitre final de la lutte contre le cancer. Le but devrait être de comprendre comment la maladie émerge de manière unique dans la constitution biologique de chaque patient et comment les caractéristiques phénotypiques profondes la modifient.

Cela est possible aujourd'hui parce que de nouveaux outils de mesure objective permettent aux scientifiques de suivre la composition biologique des individus de façon bien plus précoce et plus précise qu'en se basant sur des scanographies. Par exemple, les biocapteurs peuvent détecter l'expérience d'un patient en dehors des limites physiques des établissements de santé. Et l'intelligence artificielle peut détecter des signes de problèmes en observant longitudinalement des données biologiques vastes et diverses issues des technologies modernes de séquençage et d'imagerie.

Le fait que le cancer évolue et s'exprime différemment dans chaque cas individuel a d'énormes implications pour le processus d'approbation de nouvelles thérapies. Aujourd'hui, cela implique des essais longs et lents impliquant de grandes cohortes de patients présentant des symptômes finaux similaires. Mais dans la nouvelle phase de la lutte contre le cancer, nous construisons des solutions allant de résultats positifs uniques à des populations plus vastes qui partagent des caractéristiques au niveau du phénotype profond.

Le système de santé ne s'adapte pas assez rapidement - pour l'instant. Un des résultats encourageants de la pandémie de COVID-19 est que la Food and Drug Administration des États-Unis, le contrôleur réglementaire de l'innovation scientifique, a montré une plus grande volonté d'accélérer de nouvelles approches. En outre, les grandes sociétés pharmaceutiques réalisent qu'elles n'ont pas nécessairement besoin de nouveaux médicaments, mais plutôt d'une meilleure compréhension de ce qui se passe chez les patients, ainsi que de combinaisons ciblées d'interventions visant la biologie de chaque individu. Les chercheurs et les cliniciens rattraperont leur retard lorsque les compagnies d'assurance et les programmes nationaux commenceront à payer pour des tests et des analyses de phénotypes profonds.

La pandémie a démontré que les nouvelles technologies peuvent aider à résoudre les grands problèmes de santé rapidement. Plus précisément, nous savons que le système immunitaire humain peut être programmé et stimulé pour attaquer les changements moléculaires potentiellement nocifs, longtemps avant qu'ils ne se manifestent en symptômes visibles.

De même, nous devons à présent réinventer la façon dont nous détectons le cancer. Si nous pouvons cibler des processus microscopiques aberrants, nous sommes alors à même de les intercepter. Et si nous pouvons les intercepter, nous pouvons finalement les anticiper et les prévenir et donc prolonger ainsi la durée de vie saine des gens. Cela pourrait transformer notre système actuel de gestion des symptômes en services de santé réels - contre le cancer et de nombreux autres problèmes de santé non résolus.

Daniel J. Arbess, PDG de Xerion Investments et fondateur de Xerion Precision Biosciences, membre du Council on Foreign Relations. Il siège au conseil d'administration de Cancer Expert Now et de Global Virus Network.

# LIBERIANS

# DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

Constant power outage in Monrovia and parts adjacent has left many residents upset. The Liberia Electricity Corporation has failed to distribute electricity to homes, not to speak of regular supply or availability of electricity.

In this random sample, The New Dawn asks some residents how they think the government should address the problem of lack of electricity that is impeding business operation and creating insecurity in communities. Many residents think government should privatize the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) for effective services as compiled below.



Mustapha K. Metger

"I will appeal to this Pro-Poor Agenda For Prosperity and Development (PAPD) Government to privatize LEC so that investors can come and take the entity like the way cellphone companies are engaged in, like Orange Liberia, Lonestar cell MTN and

L i b e r i a Telecommunications Corporation (Libtelcom) which we have in Liberia. So, privatize LEC, because this is all about maximizing profits. You that maximize more will try to do more investment in various communities like currently where I live in District #9, if only a company can just take District #9 LEC problem that will be fine. Currently, generator owners that run generators from 6 to 6 let's assume they pay US\$40 per month; we know that their time will not go because the man is getting something from there. So, we're begging this government, let them privatize LEC so at least our electricity problem will be solved and we can graduate from darkness to light."



Wayawolo S. Molon

"I work with a desktop that has to do with desktop publishing; without current, no work can be

done. I think that government should privatize the industry, where other people will come to invest, because

it looks like government cannot shoulder electricity bills of this country."



Varlee Kanneh

"I think government should outsource LEC or privatize LEC for company to come and see how best they can upgrade LEC. I think government do not have technical and financial capacities to run LEC, so they should privatize LEC as it is done in Nimba County and other places."

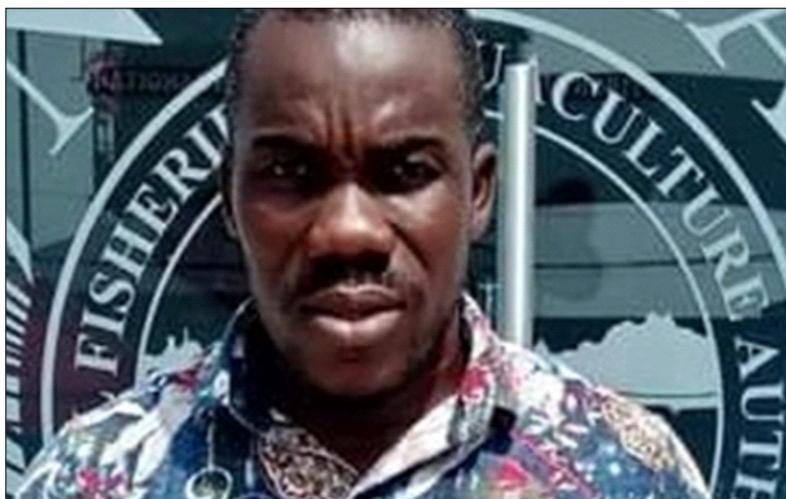


Adama Jah

"I am a tailor. The work we are doing has to do with LEC. We are using machines that use current to design

costumers' clothes, we cannot depend on generator because gasoline prices are not stable." Let government

try to invest in LEC, maybe it is money because a case in time we saw stable LEC and as time passed, LEC stayed a w a y . My recommendation: Let the government invest more money into LEC. Let LEC stop delaying us when we go for Meters because LEC always complains about Power Theft. Let's agreed that Liberia does not have good infrastructure, but those having good homes, if they distribute Meters to them, I believe that there will be no power theft."



Abdul Kanneh

"My recommendation to the government is to privatize the power issue in our country by putting it in the hands of private individuals so that they can be held responsible. But with the current age-old situation we can never get any solution. My best is to privatize power issue in the country."

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# ANC lawyers seek to discredit state witness

Defense Lawyers in the trial involving the Alternative National Congress (ANC) are seeking to discredit the state witness Theodore Momo that he lied under oath about the alteration of the then Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) framework document.

ANC political leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings is on trial for criminal charges based on accusations by his fellow opposition leader Mr. Benoni Urey and the All Liberian Party (ALP) that he and his ANC allegedly tampered with the framework agreement of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) and attached his (Urey's) signature to a photocopy version.

Last week, witness Momo alleged in court that the CPP framework document was altered and that the ANC Political Leader had admitted to the claim by All Liberian Party (ALP).

ANC Defense Lawyers on Monday, March 7, took on witness Theodore Momo in a major cross examination of his

testimony in court. Defense Lawyers questioned witness Momo whether the CPP framework document was signed through Zoom or signed physically with "wet pen" by Political leaders of the four constituent parties.



Witness Momo said the four Political leaders signed through social media, Zoom at separate locations, in spite of concerns amongst them about the need for clarity, revision and validation of the CPP framework document.

Witness Momo said Senator Lawrence signed the CPP framework document for the Liberty Party in Grand Bassa

County, Mr. Benoni Urey signed the document for the ALP at his corporate office in Monrovia, Mr. Joseph Boakai signed the document for the Unity Party at his resident office in Paynesville, while the Political Leader Mr. Alexander Cummings signed for

the ANC at his residence in Monrovia.

Cross examination of the first state witness Momo was interspersed with series of objections by State Prosecutors led by the Solicitor General that the Defense Lawyers questions were intended to entrap their witness, who has testified in the last three days of trial.

## Embrace responsible leadership, patriotism

By Jonathan Browne

The Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Nathaniel F. McGill says responsible leadership and patriotism are two cardinal ingredients for national service.

Addressing the 2021-2022 graduating class of the Dolokelen Gboveh High School in Gbarnga, Bong County last week, Minister McGill defined responsible leadership as a leadership

that is responsible to the needs of the people, the community and the nation, adding that it is people-centered.

He says the interest of the people must be at the heart of a responsible leader, and he or she must lead by example.

Quoting an American Author Robert Greenleaf, he says the leader must be a servant of the people and in order to serve responsibly, there are guiding principles that should be followed, such as listening,

empathy, healing, awareness, persuasion, conceptualization, foresight, stewardship, and commitment to people's growth.

"Listen to your people. Be sensitive to their needs. Heal divisions. Be constantly aware of the needs of your people. Put yourself in the shoes of people. Do not be quick to judge others. You do not know their circumstances. You do not know what your classmates are going through. You do not know their home condition. Use kind words to persuade people to see your point of view. Conceive good ideas. Have foresight to understand the circumstances of people you disagree with. Lead your people. Be always committed to the growth of people", he explains.

The Dolokelen Gboveh High School is the only public high school in Gbarnga, Bong County.

Quoting also from the book, Long Walk to Freedom by late freedom fighter and former South African President Nelson Mandela, Minister McGill continues that 'a leader...is like a

shepherd. He stays behind the flock, letting the nimblest go out ahead, whereupon the others follow, not realizing that all along they are being directed from behind.'

He further quotes President Mandela as reminding that 'It is so easy to break down and destroy. The heroes are those who make peace and build.'

"Liberia needs peacemakers and builders not people who misuse their talent by trying to bring others down. Thus, the politics of division and hatred is not a good trait for national leadership, or student leadership. Liberia must be united in purpose under a responsible leadership. And thank God, Liberia is under the responsible leadership of President Dr. George Manneh Weah", he points out.

On the second guiding principle patriotism, he tells the graduates that love for country is the foundation that all Liberians must build upon, quoting a renowned professor of philosophy Stephen Nathanson as categorizing patriotism into four main parts:

- 1) a special affection towards one's country;
- 2) defining himself or herself through his or her country;
- 3) being interested in country's welfare; and
- 4) sacrificing for the sake of country's welfare.

"How do you show love for country? Your country must come first in all you do. What this means is that in order for you to love your country, you must love your family and your friends. Love means respect and to show kindness. A patriot is not selfish. He or she puts the needs of his country above [self] but more importantly supports the development of the country by being a responsible citizen. What are the characteristics of being a responsible citizen? Obey the laws of the Republic of Liberia, respect your family and listen to the instruction of your teachers and professors. Do not follow the crowd. Be your own man or woman. Listen to your conscience", Minister McGill urges.

He maintains that Liberia needs patriots in order for the country to attain greatness, prosperity and a strong democracy, saying "We need all to support our country's development agenda. How can we do that? By using our

God given talents to work in the interest of our country."

He stresses that patriotism will require students to learn and acquire more skills, support community development, engage with positive people who are working in the interest of the people, and avoid being misled by empty rhetoric from failed politicians, who have no examples of success.

"For if these politicians were patriotic, Liberia would be a much better country. They would have done more to improve the standards of living of Liberians than the state we find ourselves. They do not have the answers. They had their time to perform and they did so poorly", he argues.

However, he notes that patriotism does not mean that Liberians should pretend that Liberia has all of a sudden transformed into a land of milk and honey.

"We must do more to uplift our people. But we must do so with love for each other, no matter our personal politics or the party we support. We are Liberians first. Our party affiliation should not identify us as individuals. We must be identified with this glorious land of liberty. We must do all we can to ensure that we live together in peace and harmony. Demonstrate the willingness to sacrifice for our country. Support the efforts of our government to build a truly great nation", McGill rallies.

He says Liberians need to do more to feed ourselves instead of depending on food imports as well improving educational standards in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, adding "That is why we are here today, to encourage you to continue this journey to improve yourselves so you can be part of the nation building process. We need more farmers; more teachers; more scientists; more doctors; more plumbers; electricians, brick layers, masons, more of every profession; information technology; yes, we need every profession."

The Minister of State for Presidential Affairs had earlier launched a 30 million Liberian dollar scholarship drive in Bong County and also presented a check of 2 million Liberian dollars as an initial contribution in pursuit of that objective.

He reveals that more plans are underway to help struggling Liberian students, and that no politician will stop this endeavor.



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# Police fire teargas in Clara Town



FlashBack: Riot Police in action

By Lincoln G. Peters

Riot officers from the Liberia National Police (LNP) fired tear gas canisters in Clara Town on Sunday, 6 March 2022, to prevent an angry crowd from vandalizing the properties of a Fulani businessman identified as Alhaji Barry who allegedly killed a community dweller in a car accident.

Victim Diego Quayee met his untimely death early Sunday morning between 7:00AM and

8:00AM when suspect Barry was driving out of a parking lot and hit the deceased.

The vehicle hit victim Quayee against a wall, causing him to suffer severe injuries leading to his death.

Family members of the 26 years old victim are demanding justice over the killing of their son in the car accident.

The victim died after the vehicle being operated by suspect Barry ran into the deceased in Clara Town.

The incident prompted anger

in the community as young people went on the rampage over the death of their friend, victim Quayee. Riot police were deployed immediately and succeeded in restoring calm.

Residents of the community were angry that the vehicle operator Mr. Barry had been involved in similar accidents in the past which they claimed had led to deaths.

Community dwellers said this is the third time Barry has killed a person with his car in an accident.

Angry crowd threw stones at Mr. Barry's home, but police intervened swiftly and prevented them from destroying his properties.

Barry is known to run businesses in two of the high rising storey buildings in the community.

Speaking in an interview with this paper, Mr. George Quayee, an elder brother of the deceased, launched an appeal for the Government to make sure that the family gets justice.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 4

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