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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2022	L\$152.4762 /US\$1.00	L\$154.1894US\$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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Samukai's senatorial journey ends

-as NEC sets May 10th for fresh by-election in Lofa

ANC wants SG Cephus, others investigated

-For allegedly tampering with evidence



What are we doing today?





Continental News

Cameroon Sends Senior Officials to Get Protesting Teachers to Return to Classrooms

Cameroon has sent government ministers and governors to convince disgruntled teachers to return to classrooms and teach. The teachers have been protesting for a month, demanding better pay and the payment of salary arrears, some dating back 10 years.

Cameroon officials say opposition politicians and what the government calls irresponsible civil society groups are encouraging protesting teachers to continue to defy state authority.

The government says several dozen politicians and civil society groups are asking children to not go to school and teachers not to teach until the government provides all their needs.

Cameroonian teachers have been protesting for a month, demanding better pay and working conditions.

Eleven political parties, including the Social Democratic Front, the Union of Cameroon People and the Cameroon Peoples Party, have asked the government to find satisfactory and definitive answers to the

teachers' demands. They said the protest is legitimate.

The government has asked senior state officials including governors and ministers to convince teachers to return to classrooms and teach.

Nalova Lyonga, Cameroon's minister of secondary education, says Cameroonian President Paul Biya promised to pay teachers' outstanding transportation fares and salary arrears gradually starting this month.

"Teachers, please come back. Don't go to the streets. There is no need to go to the streets because the head of state is listening. We are going to make

the teachers proud. We have to do that, so let me get my teachers back," she said.

Lyonga said many teachers refuse to return to the classrooms but did not say how many.

The teachers say about 80,000 of them are owed a total of about \$200 million.

Biya this month ordered the payment of \$4 million in back pay for striking teachers who graded exams. Teachers dismissed the amount as insufficient.

Cameroon also promised to pay \$34 million this month and said the rest of the

transportation fares will be paid gradually. While some teachers returned to work, others again said the money is largely insufficient.

Eloundou Patrice, a spokesperson for OTS, a teachers' pressure group spearheading the protest, says when a similar protest was held in 2017, Cameroon's government said Biya ordered the payment of salary arrears. Eloundou says one month of salary arrears for some teachers was paid, and when the protest was called off, the government stopped settling

the debts to teachers. He says he does not trust Biya and his government.

The government continues to claim it will improve the living and working conditions of teachers by providing their needs gradually.

Teachers say some of them are owed up to 10 years of salary arrears. They also asked for the monthly salaries of primary school teachers to be increased from about \$150 to at least \$400 and those of secondary school teachers to be increased from about \$400 to at least \$800. VOA



Cameroon's minister of secondary education, Nalova Lyonga, speaks to the media after encouraging protesting teachers to return to school

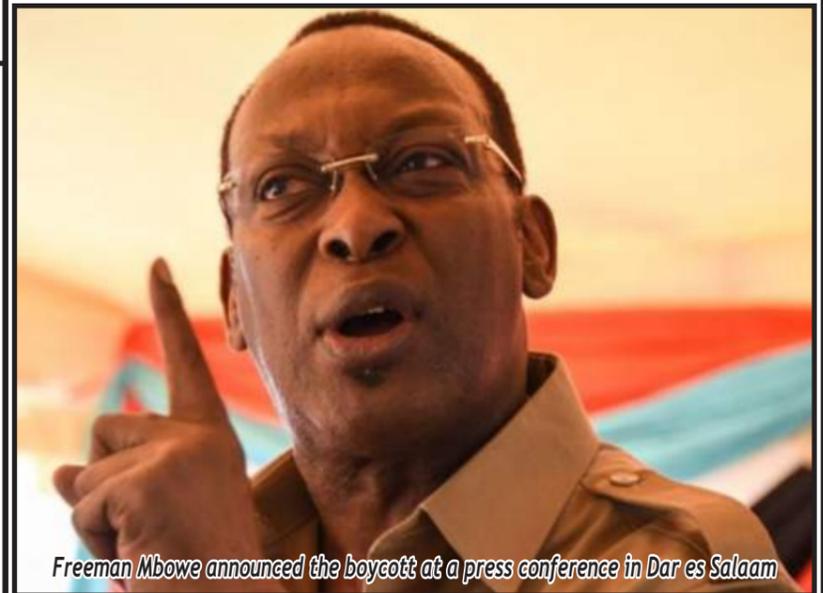
Tanzania opposition boycotts reconciliation talks

Tanzania's main opposition party Chadema is boycotting a planned national dialogue because the agenda does not include talks about a new constitution.

Freeman Mbowe, Chadema's chairman, was recently held on terror charges for eight months and announced the

But Mr Mbowe says that the planned cross-party talks are merely an attempt to scuttle Chadema's push for a new Tanzanian constitution, and wants the president to include a truth and justice process in the talks.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has struck a reconciliatory note with the



Freeman Mbowe announced the boycott at a press conference in Dar es Salaam

boycott on Friday at his first press briefing since his release.

The meetings are being organised by Tanzania's Centre for Democracy - a non-religious, non-partisan organisation that includes all the major political parties in Tanzania.

opposition since taking over last year after the sudden death of her predecessor John Magufuli.

After Mr Mbowe's release earlier this month, he met President Samia but details of the meeting have not been made public. BBC

Egypt Displays Recently Discovered Ancient Tombs in Saqqara

Egypt displayed recently discovered, well-decorated ancient tombs on Saturday at a Pharaonic necropolis just outside of the capital, Cairo.

The five tombs were unearthed earlier this month and date back to the Old Kingdom - a period spanning roughly from around 2700 BC

to 2200 B.C., as well as to the First Intermediate Period, which lasted for over a century after the Old Kingdom collapsed, according to the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities.

Mostafa Waziri, secretary-general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, said Egyptian archeologists started excavating the site in September. The

tombs, he said, were for senior officials including regional rulers and palace supervisors in ancient Egypt.

"All of those five tombs are well-painted, well-decorated. Excavations did not stop. We are planning to continue our excavations. We believe that we can find more tombs in this area," he told reporters at the site.

The tombs were found near the Step Pyramid of Djoser, in the Saqqara Necropolis, 24 kilometers southwest of Cairo.

Footage shared on the ministry's social media pages showed burial shafts leading to the tombs. Walls were decorated with hieroglyphic inscriptions and images of sacred animals and after-life items used by ancient Egyptians.

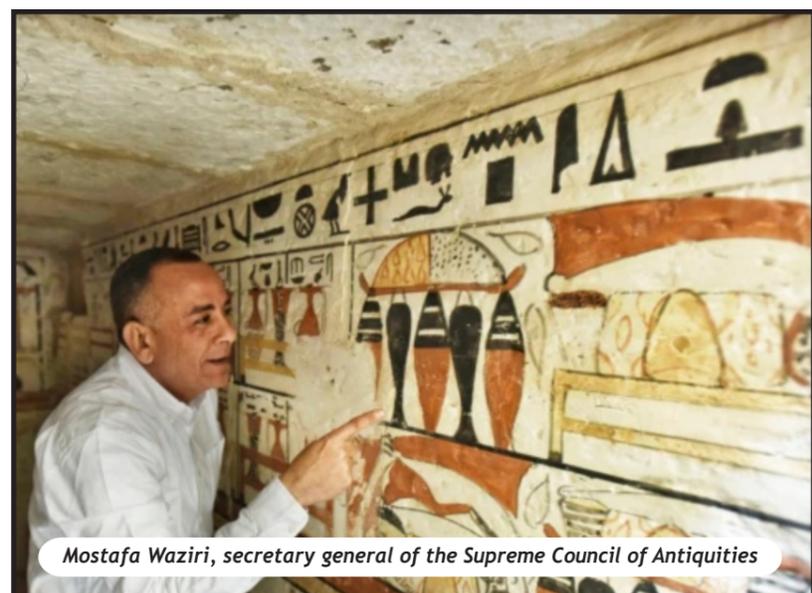
The Saqqara site is part of a sprawling necropolis at Egypt's ancient capital of Memphis that includes the

famed Giza Pyramids as well as smaller pyramids at Abu Sir, Dahshur and Abu Ruwaysh. The ruins of Memphis were designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in the 1970s.

In recent years, Egypt has heavily promoted new archaeological finds to international media and

diplomats in the hope of attracting more tourists to the country.

The vital tourism sector, a major source of foreign currency for Egypt, suffered from years of political turmoil and violence that followed a 2011 uprising that toppled autocrat Hosni Mubarak. VOA



Mostafa Waziri, secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities

EDITORIAL

Ambassador McCarthy means no harm for Liberia

BARRAGE OF REACTIONS, some in newspapers and others on live talk shows that greeted United States Ambassador Michael McCarthy's criticism about the untidiness of Monrovia and comments of abandonment or lack of donor support by authority at the Monrovia City Corporation are too unfortunate.

SOME TALK SHOW HOSTS think the United States Ambassador is meddling in Liberia's internal affairs by disagreeing with assertions coming from the City Government but we beg to differ, because members of the Diplomatic Community here are an intricate part of the Liberian society. What affects our capital in terms of lack of proper disposal of garbage similarly has impact on their activities and wellbeing in Liberia.

SPECIFICALLY, AMBASSADOR McCarthy said in an O-PED that he wrote Tuesday, March 15, 2022 to commemorate the 200th birth anniversary of Liberia's first President Joseph Jenkins Roberts (celebrated annually as a National Holiday) that what would the late President have to say about the current state of affairs of the country that he brought to nationhood, now engulfed with systemic corruption, bad governance and leadership failure, among others.

HE THEN TOOK ON comment made at celebration of Monrovia Day last month when a senior official lamented that unlike his previous three years in office, "no donor or external partner is funding the recurrent cost of solid waste collection and disposal", which the Ambassador notes the official was implying that he was abandoned by the international community and wonders is there a more basic local government responsibility than the collection and proper disposal of garbage?

SADLY, THE U.S. ENVOY received sharp criticisms from multiple sources, some directly questioning U.S. Government's support to Liberia and how funds intended for development are managed under the United States Agency for International Development or USAID, with unkind comments.

AS LIBERIA'S HISTORIC and traditional partner, United States Ambassadors accredited near this capital are duty-bound to draw Liberian government authorities' attention whenever things are not going rightly. And this is exactly what Amb. McCarthy did in his O-PED, which did not deserve the tone of reactions meted at him and the Government of United States policy on bilateral aid.

WE LIBERIANS TALK before we think. Have we forgotten so soon sacrifices the United States has made and continues to make to uplift Liberians from poverty delapidating health conditions? The relative peace that Liberia enjoys today was delivered thru U.S. taxpayers' money, collaborating with the United Nations, ECOWAS and the African Union.

TRUTH OF THE MATTER is, Ambassador Michael McCarthy is not the first foreign diplomat in Liberia to speak against the appalling sanitary condition of Monrovia. Last year, the Head of the EU Mission to Monrovia, described Monrovia as the "dirtiest city ever" he has seen in Africa.

AS LIBERIANS, WE should look in the mirror to see the realities confronting this nation and honestly make strides in tackling them instead of condemning healthy criticisms that are meant for our good.

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

COMMENTARY

By Raghuram Rajan

Economic Weapons of Mass Destruction

CHICAGO - War is horrific, no matter how it is waged. Nevertheless, Russia's unprovoked attack on Ukraine, with its scenes of Ukrainian civilians being murdered or driven from their homes, undoubtedly had to be opposed. In addition to supplying Ukraine with military weapons, governments around the world have deployed economic weapons against Russia. While Russia, an economic midget relative to its military power, may still lash out by expanding the range of military weapons it uses and the territories it targets, it is a risk the world had to take.

Compared to Russia's indiscriminate bombing, economic weapons will not kill people as quickly, create as much visible destruction, or inspire as much fear. Nonetheless, the unprecedented economic weapons that have been deployed against Russia will be unquestionably painful.

The strictures on Russia's central bank have already contributed to the ruble's collapse, and new limitations on cross-border payments and financing have had an immediate impact, weakening confidence in Russian banks. Though trade sanctions (restricting exports of key inputs such as airplane parts to Russia, as well as purchases from Russia) and the exodus of multinational corporations from Russia will have a less immediate effect, they will reduce economic growth and increase unemployment significantly over time. If these measures are not reversed, they will eventually translate into lower living standards, poorer health, and more deaths in Russia.

That we have come to this point reflects a widespread political breakdown. Too many powerful countries are now being led by authoritarian rulers whose reliance on nationalism makes them less willing to compromise internationally and who face few domestic constraints on their behavior. If Russian President Vladimir Putin's aggression were to go unpunished, more international provocations like his war in Ukraine would become inevitable.

Equally problematic is the breakdown of the international order. The United Nations Security Council cannot legitimately act against any of its permanent veto-wielding members (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States). The organization's impotence translates into impunity for strongmen who flout international norms. Moreover, even if the UN could approve a military response, the will to confront a determined nuclear power militarily would probably be lacking. Economic weapons, made possible by global integration, offer a way to bypass a paralyzed global governance system. They allow other powers an effective (that is, painful) but civilized way to respond to aggression and barbarity.

But the risks that these weapons can create must not be underplayed. When fully unleashed, sanctions, too, are weapons of mass destruction. They may not topple buildings or collapse bridges, but they destroy firms, financial institutions, livelihoods, and even lives. Like military WMDs, they inflict pain indiscriminately, striking both the culpable and the innocent. And if they are used too widely, they could reverse the process of globalization that has allowed the modern world to prosper.

There are several related concerns here. For starters, the seemingly bloodless nature of economic weapons, and the lack of norms governing them, could result in their overuse. This is not merely speculative. The US still maintains harsh sanctions against Cuba even though there are far worse regimes in the world; and China recently sanctioned Australian exports, apparently in retaliation for Australia's demand for a full inquiry into the origins of COVID-19. Equally worrisome is the growing public pressure on

corporations to stop doing business in certain countries. These demands can lead to sanctions being broadened beyond what policymakers intended. It is not impossible to imagine a country being subjected to economic warfare because of its government's position on, say, abortion or climate change.

A widespread fear of indiscriminate sanctions would lead to more defensive behavior. Following the action taken against Russia's central bank, China, India, and many other countries will worry that their own foreign-exchange holdings (of advanced-economy debt) may prove unusable if a few countries decide to freeze their assets. With few other assets possessing the liquidity of dollar or euro reserves, countries will start limiting activities that necessitate reserve holdings, such as cross-border corporate borrowing.

More countries also might start exploring collective alternatives to the SWIFT financial messaging network, potentially leading to fragmentation of the global payments system. And private firms might become even warier of mediating investment or trade between countries that do not share political and social values.

There could also be more zero-sum strategic behavior, with countries developing new countermeasures to economic weapons. For example, a country might invite foreign banks into its market with the ulterior motive of someday holding their assets and capital hostage. Conversely, countries may limit where their banks can operate, in order to reduce their vulnerability to such threats. Inevitably, economic interactions between countries will shrink.

While economic weapons have helped the world bypass a paralyzed global governance system in response to Russia's war of aggression, they also highlight the need for new safeguards in the future. Otherwise, we risk creating an economically balkanized and poorer world.

In particular, because economic weapons are too powerful to leave in the hands of any one country, their use should be subject to a minimal consensus requirement. Insofar as sanctions are more effective when more countries participate, this mechanism may already be inbuilt. Yet the threat of secondary sanctions can force otherwise unwilling countries to cooperate. The requirement therefore should be based on voluntary consensus - and the more destructive the economic weapon, the broader the required consensus should be.

Likewise, there should be a gradation of weapon use. Moves against the assets of aggressor-country elites should have the highest priority and lowest consensus requirements. Advanced economies should facilitate this by no longer turning a blind eye to the proceeds of tax evasion, corruption, and theft from elsewhere that are parked in their jurisdictions. Conversely, because moves to debase an aggressor's currency or undermine its financial system can turn middle-class liberals and reformers into angry nationalists, they should be taken with more deliberation and maximal consensus.

Advanced economies will be understandably reluctant to place constraints on their own newly discovered powers. But they should recognize that a balkanized global economy would hurt everyone. Moreover, holding talks on "economic arms control" could be a first step toward fixing the broken global order. Peaceful coexistence is always better than war, no matter how it is waged.

Raghuram G. Rajan, former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, is Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the author, most recently, of The Third Pillar: How Markets and the State Leave the Community Behind (Penguin, 2020).

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O-PED

By Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg

Lose-Lose Trade Sanctions

NEW HAVEN - One of the strongest arguments for free trade is that it promotes peace between participating countries. There is an undeniable correlation between the two, even if it is not always clear whether peace is a pre-condition for the free movement of goods and services, or whether commerce creates the economic incentives for all participants to maintain peace.

Back in 2016, as anti-China rhetoric in the United States grew increasingly shrill, one could not help but feel that we were on the verge of a new cold war. During Donald Trump's presidency, the tensions boiled over into something unprecedented in recent history: the weaponization of trade during peacetime.

Recent research shows that the US-China trade war has had substantial economic costs. But the political costs may be even worse. International cooperation has broken down, multilateral institutions have been disempowered, and the world has entered an era of increasing polarization - both within and across countries. The best hopes for the future have seemed to lie in regional blocs and alliances, auguring a new, more fractured form of globalization.

There are striking parallels between the current era and the 1930s, when the United Kingdom's dramatic shift toward protectionism set off a global chain reaction. Economic historians have argued that this change not only contributed to the decline of international trade in the interwar period, but also made trade more bilateral and regional. Many observers at the time worried that international rivalries would be exacerbated. They were right: we now refer to this era as the pre-belligerence period ahead of World War II.

A trade war in the 1930s was the harbinger of a military war, and the events leading up to Russia's invasion of Ukraine fit this paradigm. The war in Ukraine will inevitably lead to a further unraveling of globalization; but it is as much a result of the breakdown of international cooperation as it is a cause.

Would Russian President Vladimir Putin have pursued his war without the assurance of a lifeline from China? And would China have given Putin a greenlight and risked a further deterioration of its relationship with the West if it had not been relentlessly vilified by American and (to a lesser extent) European politicians? There can be little doubt that Western policies toward China over the last decade have left that country in a position where it has little international goodwill left to lose. If China is destined to be the villain in Western political narratives, it may as well do what it thinks is in its best immediate interests.

As the war in Ukraine unfolds, trade policy is being weaponized further as part of the new sanctions regime against Russia. The explicit objective is to cut off Russia from international markets, isolate it economically, and ... then what? Imposing sanctions on the aggressor may make one feel morally superior - especially when such measures entail real economic costs for the countries that impose them - but that doesn't mean they will bring an end to the war.

Trade sanctions have a long history. The West has used similar measures against Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Venezuela, and Afghanistan. In each case, sanctions hurt the people in the countries they targeted but showed little sign of limiting the power or changing the behavior of the countries' political leaders.

The sanctions against Russia will certainly cause hardship there, impoverishing an emerging middle class that could become a force for reform. If the goal is to topple Putin, history suggests that this is unlikely to happen in the near term. Putin's domestic position may even be strengthened as Russia's disenfranchised middle class turns inward and embraces nationalism, as has happened in Western democracies over the past decade. More broadly, sanctions are likely to strengthen the Russia-China alliance, deepen global polarization, and hammer the last nail into the coffin of multilateralism.

The weaponization of trade will also have costs for the wider world, owing to Russia's importance in energy and food markets. The economic consequences of various scenarios are difficult to predict, because the reallocation of trade flows and the resulting price movements will depend not only on market forces but also on political decisions. Still, one thing is certain: as with the trade war between the US and China, there will be political as well as economic costs. Concessions to current pariah countries (such as Iran or Venezuela) may be inevitable; and even then, the trade sanctions may end up being self-defeating.

Another certainty is that weaponizing trade will not end the conflict. Western leaders must recognize this and double down on diplomacy. Russia needs a face-saving way out. One question that is rarely considered fully in the West is why Russia invaded Ukraine. Certainly, it is about more than one power-hungry autocrat's delusional ambitions (the standard line in the US). Miscalculation on both sides contributed to the escalation of conflict: Ukraine believed that NATO and EU membership were feasible in the short run and that it could count on the Alliance's military support; Russia, extrapolating from its largely bloodless annexation of Crimea in 2014, underestimated Ukrainian resistance. Finding some common ground might seem impossible at the moment. But a negotiated solution is probably the only way to avoid a long-term disaster that would destabilize the entire region, if not the world.

The weaponization of trade is a convenient way for governments to deflect attention from real problems like the economic fallout from the pandemic, widespread demoralization and reluctance among workers, spiraling mental-health crises, and rising debt levels. There are no easy remedies to these problems. So, why bother with them when you can direct people's attention to graphic images showing the plight of those who have it worse? Ultimately, the biggest winners of the war in Ukraine may be self-interested politicians around the world who have found a convenient way to avoid dealing with problems at home.

Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg, a former World Bank Group chief economist and editor-in-chief of the American Economic Review, is Professor of Economics at Yale University.

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OPINION

By Arvind Subramanian and Josh Felman

India's Size Illusion

PROVIDENCE - Russia's invasion of Ukraine has upended the liberal international order, forcing India to reassess its security and economic strategies. The government's decisions will be shaped by its assessment of the country's military and economic strengths, but it should resist the temptation to equate them with India's size.

True, India's economy is undeniably large. According to the International Monetary Fund, India is the world's third-largest economy in purchasing-power-parity terms, with a GDP of \$10 trillion, behind China (\$27 trillion) and the United States (\$23 trillion). At market exchange rates, its GDP of \$3 trillion makes it the sixth-largest economy, behind the US, China, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

But India's economic size has not translated into commensurate military strength. Part of the problem is simple geography. Bismarck supposedly said that the US is bordered on two sides by weak neighbors and on two sides by fish. India, however, does not enjoy such splendid isolation. Ever since independence, it has been confronted on its Western frontier by Pakistan, a highly armed, chronically hostile, and often military-ruled neighbor.

More recently, India's northern neighbor, China, also has become aggressive, repudiating the territorial status quo, occupying contested land in the Himalayas, reclaiming territory in the east, and building up a large military presence along India's borders. So, India may have fish for neighbors along its long peninsular coast, but on land it faces major security challenges on two fronts.

Despite these challenges and its sizable economy, India has struggled to generate adequate military resources. Defense expenditure is notoriously difficult to estimate, especially for China and Pakistan, which have opaque political systems. But annual combined defense spending by India's two adversaries is likely to be three times the \$70-75 billion that India spends. And the effective gap is probably even larger, because India's politically driven emphasis on military manpower has crowded out spending on military technology. In short, India may have a large economy, but dangerous geography and domestic politics have left it militarily vulnerable.

Then there is the question of market size. As Pennsylvania State University's Shoumitro Chatterjee and one of us (Subramanian) have shown, India's middle-class market for consumption is much smaller than the \$3 trillion headline GDP number suggests, because many people have limited purchasing power while a smaller number of well-off people tend to save a lot. In fact, the effective size of India's consumer market is less than \$1 trillion, far smaller than China's and even smaller relative to the potential world export market of nearly \$30 trillion.

But you wouldn't know it from India's current economic strategy. As we have pointed out elsewhere, India has actually turned inward in the past few years, increasing tariffs, subsidizing favored firms, and staying out of regional integration agreements in Asia, the most dynamic part of the world economy.

Strikingly, this inward turn was not the result of economic failure. Since the 1990s, when trade was liberalized, India's economy has grown by an average of 6.5% per year, propelled by a 13% average annual increase in exports of goods and services in dollar terms, a rate surpassed by only China and Vietnam. But this success has proved to be an orphan, abandoned in favor of a tried-and-tested policy that (in more extreme form) failed miserably for three decades after 1950.

One possible explanation for the government's decision is that it has succumbed to the illusion of size. It has repeatedly claimed that India's economic promise is based on the "3Ds": democracy, demography, and demand. And it has concluded that domestic and foreign investors can be lured into tapping this ever-elusive demand through subsidies and protection.

The temptation of size is also evident in the security domain, where India has refused to condemn explicitly Russia's invasion of Ukraine, despite the humanitarian tragedy it has unleashed. This has created an awkward irony: Democratic India has implicitly aligned itself with an authoritarian axis, two of whose members, China and Pakistan, are hostile neighbors. But India has calculated that, because it is indispensable to addressing the rise of China, its stance toward the Russia-Ukraine conflict will have no serious consequences for its relations with the West.

In reality, however, India's response to Russia's invasion is more a reflection of weakness than an expression of independence. If India were truly free to choose, it would uphold the inviolability of territorial sovereignty, especially that of weaker countries.

Finding a way out of this unenviable situation will require considerable effort. Most obviously, India will need to depend less on Russia for arms supplies. Russia itself will be too damaged to, and too dependent on China to be willing, to remain a reliable, trustworthy supplier. More subtly, it will need to augment its defense resources by encouraging faster economic growth and maximizing the value of military spending. The latter will entail addressing key shortcomings such as the inefficiency of domestic defense manufacturing, the paralysis of procurement decision-making since the scandals of the 1980s, and the imbalance in resource allocation that favors personnel over sophisticated hardware.

On the economic front, India should look beyond its borders and set its sights on the global market - and recent developments are creating an exceptional opportunity for it to do so. The Russia-Ukraine war will heighten investors' sensitivity to the nature of the political regimes in countries where they operate, which will intensify existing pressures to shift production out of China. India is uniquely positioned to grasp this opportunity, if the country would only pivot to seize it.

India needs to accept, and act in line with, its current status as a middling power. Over time, rapid and sustained economic growth could make India the major power it aspires to be. Until then, it must look past the illusion of size and reconcile itself with strategic realities.

Arvind Subramanian is a senior fellow at Brown University and a distinguished non-resident fellow at the Center for Global Development. Josh Felman is Director of JH Consulting.

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COMMENT

Guy de Selliers Chair of
Ivanhoe Liberia and HPX Group

Guy de Selliers, Chair of Ivanhoe Liberia and HPX Group companies, comments on Liberia's proposed third amendment to the Mineral Development Agreement

Guy de Selliers, Chair of Ivanhoe Liberia and HPX Group companies, writes on Liberia's proposed third amendment to the Mineral Development Agreement with ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML):

We are as delighted as all Liberians to see commitments by international mining firms expanding their operations in the country, including commitments by ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML). We fully agree about the benefits and importance to Liberia of the AML expansion. However, would it not be even better for Liberia if two major projects could be implemented at the same time instead of just one? Would it not be better for Liberia to triple the capacity of the existing railroad from AML's planned 15 million to at least 45 million tons per year?

To have an additional 600 million US dollars of investment in infrastructure on top of AML's proposed 200 million for port and rail refurbishment? To create another 500 jobs and to generate millions of additional revenues every year for the local communities and for the National Government? This is what my company, Ivanhoe Liberia/HPX, are proposing—but our commitment could be derailed by legislation currently under consideration.

The National Legislature of Liberia is currently reviewing the third amendment to the Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) with AML after both the House and the Senate recommended changes to the MDA. However, ratifying this MDA as it currently stands without the proposed recommendations, gives an exclusivity right to AML for many years to come, preventing other users from being able to invest and use the railroad. This would make it impossible for Ivanhoe Liberia/HPX to proceed with our project, depriving Liberia of much-needed investment. The National Legislature acknowledges this very issue within the MDA. In December 2021 a Joint Committee of the House concluded that this MDA would give AML a "complete monopoly" over the Yekepa-Buchanan railway and port.

Why does AML want to make it difficult or nearly impossible for others to invest and use the railroad when it would ultimately be beneficial for AML and for Liberia to share costs among many users? Why does AML want to deprive Liberia from the benefits of a major and immediate expansion of the Yekepa-Buchanan infrastructure corridor, which would make it one of the largest in West Africa? We simply do not understand.

We have proposed to the Government of Liberia that it should strongly consider engaging with AML and other potential users, including us, to agree terms for a fair and non-discriminatory multiuser access agreement which would allow the expansion investments to start immediately. We have been ready to do this for many months and AML has refused to engage. The ball is now in AML's court. It is up to AML to explain to the Liberian people why they are willing to deprive them of such necessary and valuable additional infrastructure investment.

About HPX

HPX is a privately-owned, U.S.-domiciled mineral exploration and development company.

Ivanhoe Liberia Limited is a Liberian registered mining company and wholly-owned independent subsidiary of HPX. For further information, please visit www.ivanhoeliberia.com

SMFG is a Guinean incorporated mining company. For further information, please visit www.smfg.com



First Lady Weah warns of effects of climate change

By Kruah Thompson

The First Lady of Liberia CLAR MARIE WEAH says Climate Change is one of the major threats to Liberia's development, quoting the Climate Change Focus Person for Liberia.

Madam Weah made the disclosure on Thursday, March 17, 2022 while speaking via Zoom at the Liberia's Side-Event of the United Nations' 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 66) held at the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Ministerial Complex in Congo Town, outside Monrovia.



According to the First Lady, women are dominant users of natural resources such as land and water at the household level in Liberia, hence any impact of climate change will impact their lives significantly.

However, she noted that the Focal Point for Liberia also states the need to ensure a climate change adaptation planning in the country that addresses the gender imbalance between men and women, boys and girls.

"As I have traveled across Liberia, I see that many women and girls now have to walk further from their homes to fetch water because the usual nearby creeks and wells are dried up due to the effects of climate change. This also affects their livelihood because they fish in the creeks for fish and set their baskets to catch shrimps", the First Lady further notes.

She adds that their farms and gardens are affected due to the lack of water which gives less agricultural yielding and threatens food security, stressing, "We must indeed work together to mitigate these harmful effects of climate change."

However, Madam Weah reveals that her office has made several interventions specifically, seeking to achieve gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

"Last year, through the Office of the First Lady of the Republic of Liberia and the Clar Hope Foundation, we encouraged our women - fishmongers to become dynamic by purchasing land and constructing a facility in the New Kru Town area on Bushrod Island for the preservation (smoking and drying) of fish which will further increase supplies on the domestic market and empower our women economically.

We also launched a program on menstrual hygiene where we provided sanitary napkins and kits to girls across

Liberia, teaching girls about menstrual hygiene and giving them a certain level of empowerment in their lives.

Just a few days ago on International Women's Day, the United Nations World Food Program warned that 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. Liberia must and will continue to do something about this."

Earlier, the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection Mrs. Williametta E. Saydee-Tarr says the

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal intergovernmental body that is strictly dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Minister Tarr continues that as head of Liberia's Delegation on the sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66) she remains a strong advocate in promoting gender equality at the societal level and leads on monitoring and reviewing progress and challenges in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, amongst other gender related issues.

She adds that annually, delegation from member states of the United Nations, mostly women, participate in meetings to design new strategies that will build networks and formulate ideas about ways to fight inequalities and work towards women empowerment globally.

She says this takes place at the UN Headquarters in New York but due to the emergence of COVID-19, there are restrictions on accessing premises of the UN Headquarters, thereby leading member states to host their side events virtually.

Meanwhile the county director for UN Woman in Liberia lauds the panelists for their meaningful discussion, adding that all that was raised during the panel discussion is important for Liberia.

According to her, climate change is affecting everyone in the country and Liberians should look at it both globally and internally in finding solutions.

"The only way to fight climate change and the challenges that woman face is to take action towards ending climate change", the UN Women country director underscores. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

ECOWAS ends 2nd AWBA Joint Congress

-A Call for Vital Actions to Stimulate Sustainable Development and Growth in the sub-region

The 2nd ECOWAS AWBA Joint Congress initiated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and

emerging negative challenges of climate change, the congress decried the situation in which corporate entities make abnormal profit and prosper at

policies, in order to change the narrative of the sub-region.

They recognized the strong positive relationship between the character of political leaders, good governance and the pace of economic development as a keen factor in achieving holistic development. The delegates want citizens of the sub-region to become more socially active by playing greater role in the recruitment process of their political leaders through the exercise of their franchise.

The communique called for political leaders to brace up to the reality of change both in terms of their attitude toward the practice of good governance, resource utilization and preservation of the environment and challenged citizens to take on the responsibility of holding their leaders to account. Noting "where there are no consequences for poor leadership, bad governance will thrive".

On the issue of transparency and accountability, the delegates mentioned the need for open, transparent and accountable leadership as imperatives for sustainable development and regional prosperity.

"To avoid the possible emergence of the tragedy of the commons, the congress invites political and corporate leaders to embrace the ideal of good governance, take

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the Association of Accountancy Bodies in West Africa (ABWA) in collaboration with the Liberian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (LICPA) Friday March 19, 2022 ended with a call for vital actions to be taken to stimulate sustainable development and growth with the aim to attain prosperity in the West African region.

In a communique, the congress delegates acknowledged the global trend towards sustainability and the need for leaders and resource managers to place the survival of people and planet above the drive for profit. While noting the

expense of society. This they said, has the ability to compromise the future generations in meeting their own needs.

It highlights the poor state of development of the West African sub-region despite its abundant natural and human resource endowments linking the said situation to the failure of leaders to leverage the unexplored huge potential of the sub-region to achieve its growth and development.

The congress communique urged the current political leaders to recommit themselves to the ideals of economic nationalism, service for the common good and the promotion of people-oriented public

International partners should endeavor to increase logistical support to the NDMA as disaster prevention, response, and recovery require a lot of

logistical inputs.

The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) initiative supports the Government's plans to

VP Taylor dedicates NDMA Regional office

Liberia's Vice President Jewel Howard-Taylor, on Friday, March 18, 2022, officially dedicated the National Disaster Management Agency's first regional office in Gbarnga, Central Liberia.

VP Howard-Taylor speaking at the Program held in Gbarnga City made a passionate plea for International partners to increase support to NDMA if disaster risk reduction must be tackled across the country.

VP Howard-Taylor committed that while the Government will continue to fulfill its part of any intervention plan,



EPA averts danger

The Government of Liberia through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with support from national security apparatus have averted an imminent danger at the Port of Buchanan by repatriating a consignment of 293 bags of contaminated ammonium nitrate to Turkey, its origin.

It can be recalled that on March 6, 2022, that the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia (EPA) alerted the various national security apparatus about the presence of a mixture of AMMONIUM NITRATE and Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) at the port of Buchanan,

following a communication sent from the Executive Director Prof. Wilson K. Tarphe after receiving cogent reports from the Agency's field offices that a vessel docked at the port contained hazardous waste.

The EPA alarmed that the mixture of the substances was very hazardous to human health and also posed great risk to the environment and needed the swift intervention of all relevant security apparatus.

"Today, the EPA is happy to announce that after weeks of tireless engagements, the Ship MV EKMEN was escorted out of Liberian territorial waters. At departure time (18:00 hrs), the



Grand Bassa County on board vessel EKMEN.

According to an EPA release, the alert was made based on confirmation notice the EPA received from Bea Mountain Mining Corporation (BMMC)

Ship contained 293 bags of contaminated ammonium nitrate. This rejected consignment is being repatriated to the country of

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

decentralize disaster risk reduction activities in Liberia.

While dedicating the facility according to a Press Release from the office of the Vice President, VP Howard-Taylor reechoed President George M. Weah's support to NDMA and the quest to reduce the risk and impact people suffered when exposed to disaster risk.

She then lauded NDMA for considering decentralizing its activities across the country with the principal objective to enhance its work.

However, the Liberian first female Vice President signaled that it would be impossible for the NDMA to singlehandedly achieve its mandate in the absence of other institutions of Government relevant to its work, adding "strong collaboration is needed in all aspects."

The occasion was graced by local and international partners, civil society institutions, Counties' Superintendents, and community leaders.

Speaking earlier, the Executive Director of the

NDMA, Professor Henry O. Williams, expressed his Institution's gratitude to the Government of Liberia for the support given to the Agency while also commending local partners for the improvement in coordination.

Mr. Williams particularly thanked the International partners, explicitly pointing to UNDP, for their financial and technical assistance to the NDMA, which he noted has enabled the Agency to achieve a lot in the last four years.

He identified training of staff, the setting up of the National Early Warning and Emergency Operating Center, the development of the National Multi-Hazard and Contingency Plan, the Gender Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the National DRR Strategy as some of the policy initiatives that the Government and International Partners are supporting.

According to the NDMA boss, the decentralization of NDMA's activities will enhance the work of the Agency and help reduce the risk and impact of disasters.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Comptrollers and Accountants across spending entities climax training on IPSAS integration

Comptrollers and Accountants across spending entities over the weekend climax a two days training on the new change of Financial Reporting International Public Sector Accounting Standard (IPSAS) 2003 to 2017 IPSAS integration in the port city of Buchanan, Grand Bassa county.

The days' event took place in the port city of Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, and it was held with the theme:

The training seeks to improve efficiency among Comptrollers and Accountants on the new change of IPSAS 2003 to IPSAS 2017 for sound financial reporting through the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMIS) free balance platform across Ministries and Agencies.

Making remarks at the closing sections, the Director for Fiscal Audit Unit, Steve Joe-Joe, a proxy on behalf of Hon. Janka A. Kowo thanked and appreciates comptrollers and accountants for their time and efforts to

refresher training because financial reporting is a critical component of accounting function" he added.

The department will continue training and refresher your mind because capacity building is key. "as we do our part, we hope you go to your respective offices and continue to practice what you have learn" says Joe-Joe.

Migrating from IPSAS 2003 to 2017, the process of reporting remains the same because accounting standard will change over time. It is our duties at the Ministry of Finance to take and lead the accounting function by given you the require knowledge and skills for standard reporting.

During the consultation process, we selected individuals from offices who will lead various ministries activities in developing and delivering upon what we are offering today. "so as you go out, you can undertake and conduct training in your respective ministries so that the knowledge can be disseminated" he added.

Reporting Accountants James M. Barbu and Timale K. Zizivily in separate remarks explained how Accountants and Comptrollers from spending entities should focus on the new changes of IPSAS 2003 to 2017 IPSAS.

complete such exercise.

According to Joe-Joe, the comptrollers and accountant department remain robust to build more capacity in financial reporting across the counties. "we will continue to undertake this engagement to give you



"Preparing Financial Statements; Referencing the Legal basis".

It was organized by the Comptrollers and Accountant General Department, with support from UNDP, AfDB, EU, and SIDA.

Call to decentralize land services

MAP Liberia Land Platform has concluded a major National Land Conference in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, during which participants called on stakeholders through a GBEHZOHN Declaration to prioritize coordination and decentralization of land services, improve facilitation of the formalization processes and to continue providing funding support to the land sector.

The conference was held from 1 - 3 March 2022, aimed at assessing progress made on the implementation of the 2018 Land Rights Act of Liberia.

During the conference, stakeholders in the land and agriculture sectors from across Liberia convened in the City of Buchanan, Grand Bassa County to review progress made thus far in the implementation of Liberia's Land Rights Act.

The National Land Conference which brought together 344 participants (121 females and 223 males) including international guests from other sister Africa countries, Europe and the United States, was held under the theme: Celebrating three

into law of a new Land Rights Act in October, 2018. Following enactment of the new law, the Liberia Land Authority (LLA), working together with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), other government authorities, policy makers and



years of Liberia's Land Rights Act.

Liberia embraced the signing

international partners, has initiated some good steps towards implementation of

Marketers blame Police for frequent road accidents



By Lincoln G. Peters

Several marketers in Duala Market blame the Traffic Division of the Liberia National Police for the uncontrollable wave of accident-related deaths across the country due to its alleged failure to properly inspect and arrest motorcyclists and vehicles that constantly breach traffic rules.

The market women complain that many vehicles and motorbikes plying the streets are not road-worthy, but are allowed by traffic police for little or nothing, endangering the public.

They call on the Police through its traffic division to be more robust in the inspection of faulty motorbikes and vehicles across the country in order to save lives.

They note that there are too many deaths as a result of road accidents, only because operators neglect in servicing their cars and bikes.

The marketers lament that the situation is saddening

because often people are killed in accident by bikes and vehicles that don't have view mirrors and good breaks, something they describe as serious emergency that needs to be mitigated.

Speaking in an interview with this paper on Thursday, March 17, 2022, a female marketer Madam Joan P. Yormie, said the Liberia National Police through its traffic division is responsible for the wave of accident-related deaths because it has failed to properly inspect vehicles and bikes plying the streets and punish those caught in violating the traffic law.

"Do you know that a traffic police officer will see a motorcyclist that has no break, helmet, view mirror, riding in Sinkor and they will take little or nothing from that person and allow them go free, knowing fully well they are death traps?" Madam Yormie explained.

She notes that many people have lost their lives in Duala Market because of unworthy and unsafe motorbikes, while the Police look without taking action.

the law.

Among the early achievements are the development of an Implementation Strategy and standardized messages for disseminating the Act, drafting regulations and guidelines, undertaking of pilots of community land formalization schemes and capacity building training programs for some actors in the land sector - mainly from the government and CSOs, as well as developing systems and processes for land administration and management.

While there are some progress made thus far through collective efforts, it is also important to note that implementation of the LRA has been plagued by a range of challenges. These challenges are linked to the practical, legal, institutional and

procedural aspects of the actual implementation of the LRA on one hand, and also based on deeply rooted traditional and customary practices on the other hand. Within the context of widespread food and land tenure insecurity in the existence of our history, the enactment of the LRA and the initial progress are only the first steps of a long and complex process at hand.

Based upon that, the MAP Liberia Land Platform, a land sector coordinating platform in Liberia, co-convened by the government and CSOs, organized the major Land Conference to take stock of the successes achieved so far in the implementation of the law, analyze and highlight challenges, identify opportunities and generate recommendations and

Français

L'ambassadeur McCarthy fait don de photographies historiques au Musée national du Libéria

L'ambassadeur Michael McCarthy, au nom du gouvernement des États-Unis, a présenté le 17 mars 2022 20 photographies historiques au Musée national du Libéria.

Les photographies ont été prises par Charles Allmon, l'un des premiers éditeurs photo de National Geographic qui a également travaillé comme superviseur pour la plantation Firestone dans les années 1940. Ces photographies ont été offertes au musée par le Dr. John C. Yoder, politologue et historien à l'Université Whitworth de Spokane, Washington, États-Unis.

Le gouvernement libérien, Firestone et les forces armées des États-Unis ont collaboré au cours des années 1940 pour améliorer certains aspects de l'infrastructure du Libéria afin d'augmenter la production de caoutchouc du Libéria, de soutenir les forces alliées pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale et d'attirer des investissements

extérieurs dans l'exploitation minière et forestière.

Cet effort était conforme à la politique de la porte ouverte du président Tubman, aux intérêts commerciaux de Firestone et aux préoccupations stratégiques américaines concernant la demande de caoutchouc rendue nécessaire par la guerre.

Présentant les photographies, l'ambassadeur McCarthy a déclaré que les États-Unis et le Libéria ont un riche passé, y compris diverses communautés,

cultures et traditions, dont beaucoup remontent à des milliers d'années avant la fondation de nos nations modernes.

« Surtout, ce don n'aurait pas été possible sans l'aide du Dr. John C. Yoder. Dr. Yoder, en 2019, a enseigné et donné des conférences à l'Institut Joseph S. Gaunnu de l'Université de Cuttington pour la paix et la résolution des conflits au Libéria en tant que spécialiste

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Des dizaines de réfugiés ivoiriens accueillis par le HCR après onze années passées au Libéria

Pekan Barrage, Côte d'Ivoire, 14 mars 2022 (UNHCR) - La Représentante de l'Agence des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés en Côte d'Ivoire, Madame Angèle Djohossou, a accueilli des dizaines de réfugiés ivoiriens à la frontière avec le Libéria après onze ans passés au Libéria.

« Soyez les bienvenus ! Akwaba ! Nous sommes ravis de vous revoir chez vous », a déclaré Madame Angèle Djohossou aux 145 rapatriés qui sont revenus le 10 mars

par la route depuis les camps et les communautés du Libéria via la ville frontalière ivoirienne de Pekan Barrage.

La Représentante était accompagnée à la frontière par certaines autorités locales ivoiriennes, le DAARA (Service d'Aide et d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides) et d'autres partenaires.

Les deux conflits internes ivoiriens de 2002-2007 et 2011-2012 ont chacun entraîné des déplacements massifs de civils à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur du pays. Lors de la première crise ivoirienne (2002-2007), environ

750 000 personnes ont été déplacées de force, dont 50 000 réfugiés qui ont fui vers le Libéria, la Guinée et le Mali. De décembre 2010 à fin février 2011, des violences post-électorales ont éclaté, déplaçant un autre demi-million d'Ivoiriens, dont 290 000 réfugiés, qui ont la plupart fui vers le Libéria. Une troisième vague de déplacements s'est produite de la mi-2020 au début de 2021, lorsque 33 970 Ivoiriens ont fui en prévision des violences potentielles associées aux élections présidentielles du 31 octobre 2020 et aux élections législatives du 6 mars 2021.

Compte tenu de l'amélioration de la situation sécuritaire en Côte d'Ivoire depuis avril 2011, la Représentante a remercié les réfugiés d'avoir décidé de rentrer chez eux, notant qu'une cessation générale du statut de réfugié pour les réfugiés ivoiriens qui ont fui le pays en raison des crises politiques passées prend effet le 30 juin 2022.

« Tous les réfugiés qui sont revenus avec ce convoi

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Éditorial

L'ambassadeur McCarthy ne veut pas du mal au Libéria

Il est malheureux que l'ambassadeur des États-Unis Michael McCarthy ait été la cible de propos durs, certains dans les journaux et d'autres dans lors d'émissions de débats en direct, pour avoir attiré l'attention sur le fait que la ville de Monrovia est très sale et contredit les autorités de Monrovia City Corporation qui disent que la ville de Monrovia a été abandonnée et ne bénéficie plus de soutiens financiers de la part des partenaires étrangers.

Certains animateurs des débats télévisés pensent pas que l'ambassadeur des États-Unis se mêle aux affaires intérieures du Libéria en tentant de contredire les autorités de la ville. Mais nous ne sommes pas d'accord, car les membres du corps diplomatique ici font partie intégrante de la société libérienne. Ce qui affecte notre capitale en termes de manque d'élimination appropriée et d'ordures a également un impact sur leurs activités et leur bien-être au Libéria.

Plus précisément, l'ambassadeur McCarthy a déclaré dans un O-PED qu'il avait écrit le mardi 15 mars 2022 pour commémorer le 200e anniversaire du premier président du Libéria, Joseph Jenkins Roberts (célébré chaque année comme une fête nationale), « qu'aurait dit le défunt président à propos de l'état actuel du pays qui est maintenant englouti par la corruption systémique, la gouvernance du barreau et l'échec du leadership, entre autres ? »

Il a ensuite repris un commentaire fait lors de la célébration de la Journée de Monrovia le mois dernier lorsqu'un haut fonctionnaire a regretté que, contrairement à ses trois années précédentes au pouvoir, "aucun donateur ou partenaire externe ne finance les coûts récurrents de la collecte et de l'élimination des déchets solides". Ce fonctionnaire estimait que la ville avait été abandonnée par la communauté internationale. L'ambassadeur s'est ainsi demandé de savoir s'il y a une responsabilité plus fondamentale d'une mairie locale que de rendre sa ville propre.

Malheureusement, le diplomate américain a automatiquement été la cible de vives critiques de plusieurs sources, certaines mettant en cause le manque de soutien des États-Unis au gouvernement du Libéria et la manière dont les fonds destinés au développement sont gérés par l'Agence américaine pour le développement international ou l'USAID.

En tant que partenaire historique et traditionnel du Libéria, les ambassadeurs des États-Unis accrédités près de cette capitale sont tenus d'attirer l'attention des autorités gouvernementales libériennes chaque fois que les choses ne vont pas correctement. Et c'est exactement ce que M. McCarthy a fait dans son O-PED.

Nous, Libériens, parlons avant de penser. Avons-nous oublié si tôt les sacrifices que les États-Unis ont faits et continuent de faire pour sortir les Libériens des conditions de santé désagréables et de la pauvreté ? Il a fallu que les États-Unis mettent à disposition l'argent de ses contribuables, en collaboration avec les Nations Unies, la CEDEAO et l'Union Africaine pour que nous jouissions aujourd'hui d'une paix relative.

En vérité, l'ambassadeur Michael McCarthy n'est pas le premier diplomate étranger au Libéria à dénoncer l'état sanitaire épouvantable de Monrovia. L'année dernière, le chef de la mission de l'UE à Monrovia a décrit Monrovia comme la « ville la plus sale » de toutes les villes qu'il a vues en Afrique.

En tant que Libériens, nous devrions nous regarder dans le miroir pour voir les réalités auxquelles cette nation est confrontée et faire honnêtement des progrès pour y faire face au lieu de condamner les critiques saines qui sont destinées à notre bien.

Français

L'ambassadeur McCarthy fait

Fulbright - un programme d'échange d'universitaires parrainé par le Département d'État des États-Unis. C'était le Dr. Yoder qui a rencontré Charles Allmon et a reçu sa collection photographique en 2010. Les photographies originales sont conservées à l'Université de l'Indiana dans le cadre de sa vaste collection de documents libériens », a déclaré l'ambassadeur McCarthy.

Il a souligné l'importance des musées nationaux qui sont des pièces maîtresses naturelles de la stratégie touristique du pays et peuvent être de puissants attraits pour les touristes nationaux et internationaux.

L'ambassadeur McCarthy : « les États-Unis espèrent continuer à soutenir les efforts du Libéria pour préserver votre histoire et votre culture nationales, en travaillant en partenariat avec le gouvernement et

d'autres parties prenantes. Le Fonds de l'ambassadeur pour la présentation culturelle, un concours de subventions basé sur le mérite pour notre administré par le Département d'État, est le principal véhicule pour une telle activité. Nous avons actuellement un projet axé sur la préservation et la protection de Providence Island ».

Le gouvernement du Libéria était représenté lors de la cérémonie de donation par le ministre de l'Information Ledgerhood Rennie, la ministre adjointe de la Culture Margret Cooper-Frank, la directrice par intérim du Musée national Kollie Kennedy, le sous-ministre des Services techniques Boakai Fofana et le ministre adjoint de l'Administration Jurah Sanoe.

En outre, Don Darden, le directeur général de Firestone Liberia, et Richard Falla ont tous deux assisté, représentant l'important lien historique entre Harbel, Firestone et le Liberia.

Des dizaines de réfugiés

étaient au Libéria depuis 11 ans. Aujourd'hui, nous sommes heureux de rentrer chez nous et de reconstruire nos vies », a déclaré le porte-parole du groupe, Douei Guei. Chaque rapatrié a reçu 305 000 francs CFA et un transport secondaire le même jour.

Le HCR travaille également dans diverses communautés à la réintégration des rapatriés. Au cours de sa visite de trois jours dans l'ouest du pays, la Représentante a visité des abris et des activités génératrices de revenus à Bably Vaya, où certains

rapatriés ont exprimé leur gratitude pour le soutien du HCR. Un groupe de femmes a exprimé sa joie d'avoir bénéficié d'un salon de coiffure qui leur permet de prendre soin d'elles-mêmes.

Depuis 2011, le HCR, en collaboration avec ses partenaires, a facilité le rapatriement volontaire de 104 627 réfugiés ivoiriens, dont déjà près de 7 000 depuis janvier de cette année.

Pour plus d'informations, s'adresser à Sulaiman Momodu, Administrateur responsable de la communication, HCR Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Olivia Yacé: Miss Monde Afrique, la naissance d'une étoile

Miss Côte d'Ivoire, Olivia Yacé, couronnée 2e Dauphine Miss Monde et Miss Monde Afrique 2022, est à l'affiche de la rubrique "Citoyen à l'Honneur" du portail du gouvernement ivoirien, une initiative du Centre d'information et de communication gouvernementale (CICG) pour valoriser les Champions nationaux.

L'Oliviamana s'empare du Gouvernement ivoirien qui rend hommage à Yacé Olivia. En effet, l'Etat de

Côte d'Ivoire, depuis quelques mois, a entrepris la célébration hebdomadaire, sur son portail Facebook officiel, de ses citoyens qui se font distinguer dans leur domaine d'activité.

Après Pr Mireille Dosso, la microbiologiste en chef, la semaine dernière, c'est la "bichette de Yamoussoukro" Olivia Yacé, auréolée 2ème Dauphine au prestigieux concours Miss World 2022, qui a été mise à l'honneur cette semaine.

Ci dessous l'intégralité de l'hymne de cette célébration de l'Etat ivoirien séduit par l'Oliviamania.

COMMENTAIRE

par Raghuram Rajan

Les sanctions économiques, une arme de destruction massive

CHICAGO - Chaque jour nous voyons les images de civils ukrainiens tués ou chassés de chez eux. Une guerre, de quelque manière qu'elle se mène, constitue une horreur. Néanmoins il fallait s'opposer à l'agression injustifiée de la Russie contre l'Ukraine. En plus des livraisons d'armes à l'Ukraine, nombreux sont les pays à utiliser l'arme économique contre la Russie. Nain économique relativement à sa puissance militaire, celle-ci peut continuer son offensive en élargissant l'étendue des moyens militaires qu'elle met en œuvre et les territoires qu'elle cible.

En comparaison des bombardements aveugles, l'arme économique ne tue pas aussi rapidement, ne crée pas de destructions aussi visibles et n'inspire pas autant la peur. Pourtant son déploiement sans précédent contre la Russie aura indubitablement des conséquences douloureuses.

Les sanctions appliquées à la banque centrale russe ont déjà contribué à l'effondrement du rouble et la récente limitation des échanges financiers transfrontaliers ont eu un effet immédiat et porté un coup au fonctionnement des banques russes. Les sanctions commerciales (la limitation des achats de produits venant de Russie et l'interdiction de lui livrer des biens cruciaux comme les pièces de rechange nécessaires à l'aéronautique) et l'exode des multinationales hors de Russie ont un effet immédiat moindre, mais elles impacteront la croissance économique du pays et augmenteront le chômage. Si ces sanctions sont maintenues, elles porteront atteinte au niveau de vie et la santé de la population russe et pousseront à la hausse son taux de mortalité.

Le fait d'en être arrivé à ce point traduit un effondrement politique généralisé. Trop de pays puissants ont aujourd'hui à leur tête des dirigeants autoritaires qui répriment les critiques sur le plan intérieur et s'appuient sur le nationalisme pour refuser des compromis au niveau international. Si l'agression à laquelle se livre Vladimir Poutine restait impunie, on peut s'attendre à une multiplication de ce type de comportement ailleurs dans le monde.

L'effondrement de l'ordre international est tout aussi problématique. Le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU ne peut sanctionner ses membres permanents (la Chine, la France, la Russie, le Royaume-Uni et les USA), car ils disposent du droit de veto. L'impuissance de l'ONU conduit à l'impunité des dirigeants des grandes puissances qui bafouent les règles internationales. Et même si l'ONU pouvait donner son feu vert à une action armée, la volonté d'engager des moyens militaires contre une Etat déterminé détenteur de l'arme nucléaire ferait probablement défaut.

Rendu possible par l'intégration mondiale, le recours à l'arme économique permet de court-circuiter un système de gouvernance mondiale inopérant. Il représente un moyen efficace (autrement dit, douloureux) mais civilisé de répondre à l'agression et à la barbarie.

Mais il ne faut pas sous-estimer les risques que cette arme peut engendrer. Utilisées à plein, les sanctions sont aussi des armes de destruction massive. Elles ne font peut-être pas s'écrouler des immeubles ou s'effondrer des ponts, mais détruisent des entreprises, des institutions financières, des moyens de subsistance - voire même des vies. Comme les autres armes de destruction massives, elles infligent des souffrances sans distinction, frappant aussi bien les coupables que les innocents. Utilisées sans limite, elles pourraient inverser le processus de mondialisation grâce auquel le monde moderne a prospéré.

L'arme économique soulève plusieurs questions. L'absence apparente d'effusion de sang lors de sa mise en œuvre et l'absence de normes pour régir son emploi pourraient entraîner une utilisation excessive. Il ne s'agit pas d'une simple spéculation. Les USA maintiennent toujours des sanctions économiques sévères contre Cuba, alors qu'il existe des régimes bien pires dans le monde ; quant à la Chine, elle a récemment pris des sanctions à l'encontre des exportations australiennes, en représailles semble-t-il à la demande australienne d'une enquête approfondie sur l'origine du COVID-19.

La pression croissante de l'opinion publique sur certaines entreprises pour qu'elles cessent leur activité dans certains pays est tout aussi inquiétante. Elle peut conduire à un élargissement des sanctions au-delà de ce que les décideurs politiques avaient prévu. On peut imaginer qu'un pays devienne la cible de sanctions économique en raison de la position de son gouvernement sur l'avortement ou le réchauffement climatique.

La peur généralisée de sanctions indiscriminées pourrait conduire à une attitude défensive. Au vu des mesures prises à l'encontre de la banque centrale russe, la Chine, l'Inde et nombre d'autres pays peuvent craindre que quelques Etats décident de geler leurs actifs en devises (sous forme de dette des pays avancés). Comme peu d'autres actifs possèdent la liquidité des réserves en dollars ou en euros, ces pays pourraient limiter les activités qui nécessitent la détention de réserves (par exemple les emprunts transfrontaliers des entreprises).

Un nombre croissant de pays pourrait chercher une alternative collective au réseau de messagerie financière SWIFT, entraînant une fragmentation du système de paiement mondial. Et les entreprises privées pourraient devenir encore plus réticentes à servir de médiateur pour les investissements ou le commerce entre pays qui ne partagent pas les mêmes valeurs politiques ou sociales.

Sanctions et contre-sanctions, on pourrait voir se développer de plus en plus de jeux stratégiques à somme nulle. Ainsi un pays pourrait inviter des banques étrangères sur son marché avec l'arrière-pensée de prendre un jour en otage leurs actifs et leurs capitaux. A l'inverse, un Etat pourrait interdire à ses banques d'opérer dans certains pays afin de réduire leur vulnérabilité à de telles menaces. Tout cela conduirait à une diminution des échanges économiques et commerciaux internationaux.

L'utilisation à grande échelle de l'arme économique a permis de contourner un système de gouvernance mondiale paralysé en réponse à la guerre d'agression menée par la Russie. Elle met aussi en évidence la nécessité de mettre en place de nouveaux garde-fous. Sinon, nous risquons d'aller vers un monde balkanisé sur le plan économique - et moins prospère.

Notamment parce que l'arme économique est trop puissante pour l'abandonner entre les mains d'un seul pays, quel qu'il soit, son utilisation devrait faire l'objet d'un minimum de consensus. Ce mécanisme existe déjà, dans la mesure où l'efficacité des sanctions économiques croît avec le nombre de pays qui les appliquent. Pourtant, la menace de sanctions secondaires prises à leur encontre pourrait contraindre des pays qui ne le souhaitent pas, à y participer. Le consensus requis devrait donc être volontaire - et il devrait être d'autant plus large que les dégâts causés par l'arme économique sont potentiellement massifs.

De même, le déploiement de l'arme économique devrait être graduel. S'en prendre aux biens des élites du pays agresseur devrait être la première des priorités et nécessiter le consensus minimum. Les pays riches devraient agir en ce sens en ne fermant plus les yeux sur l'évasion fiscale, la corruption et les biens volés situés sous leur juridiction. D'un autre côté, les mesures destinées à affaiblir la monnaie de l'agresseur ou à affaiblir son système financier risquent de transformer les classes moyennes libérales et les réformateurs en nationalistes agressifs. De ce fait, elles devraient exiger beaucoup de réflexion et se baser sur le consensus le plus large possible.

Les pays avancés seront sans doute réticents à encadrer le pouvoir nouveau qu'elles se découvrent. Mais ils doivent reconnaître qu'une économie mondiale balkanisée serait désavantageuse pour tous. Entamer des discussions sur le contrôle de l'arme économique pourrait être un premier pas vers un meilleur ordre mondial. La coexistence pacifique est toujours préférable à la guerre, de quelque manière qu'elle soit menée.

Traduit de l'anglais par Patrice Horovitz

Raghuram G. Rajan a été gouverneur de la Banque centrale indienne. Il est actuellement professeur de finance à la Booth School of Business de l'université de Chicago. Son dernier livre s'intitule *The Third Pillar: How Markets and the State Leave the Community Behind* (Penguin, 2020).

Starts from page 6

ECOWAS ends 2nd

communiqué noted.

On the subject of illicit financial outflows and money laundering, the congress recommends that nations in the sub-region to continue to collaborate and collectively evolve strategies that will halt the pillage of their scarce resources and foreign exchange reserves especially through illicit financial outflows and sharp practices.

The communiqué urged countries of the sub-region to leverage the huge resources of the global Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Inter-Governmental Action Against Money Laundering (GIABA) and other international agencies to reinforce their anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing strategies. And want governments of the sub-region to include the expertise of professional accountants in their respective countries to fight against these societal vices.

They also called for a collaborative effort between ECOWAS, ABWA and the African

Union to tackle illicit financial flows as a crucial driver to achieving Africa's financial independence as envisaged by the Africa Vision 2063.

The congress participants urged various governments in the sub-region to increase the productivity of their domestic resources, stir up trade and macroeconomic stability in order to eliminate poverty and inequality, vices which promote insecurity and inhibit investments.

They further urged professional accountants, as experts in share valuation and capital market practices, to facilitate inter-capital market cooperation so that they can finance huge capital-intensive projects in the sub-region. "We urged West African countries to leverage the instrumentality of African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to accelerate the pace of growth of their capital markets to strive to be active players in AfCFTA in order to reap the associated benefits".

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LP issues citation

national circumstances or emergency as may be beyond the authority of the NEC.

"WHEREAS Article VIII, Section 2, of the Liberty Party (LP) Constitution provides that, the NEC, in collaboration with the Political Leader, shall appoint a Special National Convention Planning Committee which shall adopt the rules and procedures of the Special National Convention, to be approved by the NEC

"WHEREAS Article VIII, Section 3, of the Liberty Party (LP) Constitution provides that, the Standard Bearer/Political Leader or Chairperson, who called the Special National Convention, shall preside over the meeting; and

"WHEREAS, it has now become necessary to bring certain matters before the constitutionally authorized body for resolution and approval, including making revisions to the Party's Constitution and Bylaws and resolving some uncertainties as to the direction of the Party that cannot be resolved by the NEC, and the position of Political Leader is now vacant as a result of suspension and

removal from office of the former Political Leader, Sen. Nyonblee Karnga Lawrence

NOW THEREFORE, I, Musa Hassan Bility, National Chairman of Liberty Party, by the authority vested in me by the Party's Constitution, and upon approval by the National Executive Committee in line with constitutional mandate, do hereby issue this Citation to a Special National Convention on April 23, 2022 for the following purposes: 1) To deliver and deliberate on the National Chairman's State of the Party Address; 2) To review the resolution reached for LP to not feature a Standard Bearer in the 2023 Presidential and General Elections, in lights of the current status of the LP-ANC MOU and the CPP, determine actions and resolutions arising, and determine the Party's position as it relates to the 2023 Presidential and General Elections; and 3) To make amendments to specific provisions of the Liberty Party Constitution," the Musa Hassan Bility-signed Citation stated emphatically.

Starts from page 6

EPA averts danger

origin, Turkey.

The EPA expresses its appreciation to the Coast Guard of the Armed Forces of Liberia for ensuring that the vessel left

Liberia's waters and is now headed to the next Port of Call in Abidjan," the release said.

Liberia being as party to the Basel Convention and European Union (EC) regulations

1013/2006 and 1418/2007 as amended by regulation (EC) 733/2014 and remains obligated to ensure all enforcement.

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Call to decentralize

commitments for way forward.

Planning and execution of the conference were done by its National Organizing Committee (NOC) and Technical Organizing Committee (TOC). The NOC comprised the Liberia Land Authority (LLA), the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), the College of Agriculture and Forestry of the University of Liberia and the MAP Liberia Platform secretariat.

The NOC provided overall policy direction to the National Land Conference and worked jointly with the various structures of the conference. While the TOC which comprised the 8 thematic

groups supported by a Logistic Committee, Media Committee and Organizing Secretariat which guided the content aspect of the conference.

On the first day of the conference, official kick off formalities including welcome remarks and overview of the historic land conference, greetings and solidarity messages from key agencies and personalities, and delivering of the Keynote

address by Hon. Vincent Willie of Grand Bassa County, Chairman on the House Committee on Land, Mines, Energy, Natural Resources and Environment. Before the keynote address, greetings and solidarity messages were delivered by the following personalities/institutions: Neil Scott, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Liberia; Ms. Mehnaz Ajmal Paracha, FAO Country Representative; Madame Vera Kellen, Program Manager, Delegation of the European Union to Liberia; and Excellency Michael A. McCarthy, Ambassador of the United States of America to Liberia.

Others were Urban Siosiom, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to Liberia; Ralph Timmermann, Ambassador of the Republic of Germany to Liberia; Mr. Kofi Ireland, United Nations Women in Liberia; Mr. Khwima Nthara, World Bank Country Manager to Liberia; Mr. Nathaniel B. Walker, Acting Resident Representative of ECOWAS Commission in Liberia (through a proxy: Madam Irene Wallace); and Mr. Raymond Samndong, Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Reporting Officer, The Tenure Facility.

There were also some breakout sessions and High Level

Plenary Discussions on Customary Land Formalization followed by questions, answers and discussions.

On day two of the conference, a number of presentations were made including: presentation of an assessment report: a case Study on Rural Women Land Rights in Liberia - Women in cohabitation and presumptive marriages, presentation of a Policy Brief on Women and Youth Land Rights, Formal Presentation of Certificates for completion of Community Self Identification (CSI) to communities, Formal Launch of the USAID funded Project - the Land Management Activity, learning Lessons from regional and international experiences & frameworks to support land reform in Liberia.

And on the third and final day of the conference, an eight count resolution - THE GBEHZOHN DECLARATION was presented by the conference delegates, officially read by Madam Muna Kieh of the Women NGO Secretariat of Liberia - WONGOSOL. She is also a member of the Women and Youth Thematic Working group under the MAP Liberia Land Platform.

LAA contracts NAS for services at RIA

By Ethel Tweh

The Liberia Airport Authority (LAA) has awarded an exclusive ten-year ground handling management contract to the National Aviation Services to provide comprehensive ground handling services at the Roberts International Airport in Margibi County, Liberia.

The contract covers passenger handling, ramp services and lost luggage handling for all airlines operating to and from the airport. These airlines include Air France - KLM, Ethiopian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Air Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya Airways, Royal Air Maroc and ASKY Airlines.

The Chairperson of the LAA board, Musa Shannon, says the partnership with NAS will greatly improve technical and professional capacities at the Roberts International Airport and allow the LAA to provide a world-class experience in airport services while taking a major step forward in the aviation industry.

NAS is currently the largest ground handler in Africa with presence in over 50 airports across the continent, including Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Rwanda, DRC, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Mozambique. Globally, the company operates in more than 60 airports across Africa, the

Middle East, South Asia and Europe.

Their broader portfolio of services includes airport technologies, lounge management, meet and assist at airports as well as training.

Hassan El-Houry, Group CEO of NAS in response notes, "We are excited to be expanding our long-standing relationship with the Liberia Airports Authority and remain grateful for their continued trust in NAS. As a part of our operations in the country, we remain committed to enhancing and upgrading both systems and processes at the Roberts International Airport to bring it on par with international levels. We have also started investing in the required infrastructure, equipment and staff training to adhere to the highest standards of quality and service excellence."

With more than 10,000 employees, NAS serves over 100 customers including seven out of the world's top ten international airlines. NAS is one of the first ground handlers in the world to be IATA Safety Audit for Ground Operations (ISAGO) certified and holds ISO, EMS, RA3 and OHSAS certifications.

"With our strong presence in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia, most airlines are aware of the quality-of-service NAS offers as well as our focus on safety and security".

Samukai's senatorial journey ends

By Lincoln G. Peters

Former defense minister and senator-elect J. Brownie Samuka's quest to represent the people of Lofa in the Liberian Senate is aborted here as the National Elections Commission through its chairperson Cllr. Davidetta Brown-Lansanah mandates the elections magistrate for upper and lower Lofa County to conduct fresh by-election for the county on May 10, 2022, while registration of aspirants ends April 1, 2022.

Mr. Samukai won the Lofa senatorial seat during the December 8, 2021 Special Senatorial Election, but was subsequently indicted along with two others, tried and convicted on five counts, including

comply with the court's mandate.

But President George Manneh Weah recently asked the High Court to suspend the two-year sentence to enable Samukai and others reconstitute the among of over US\$1 million.

Notwithstanding, reading the insurant of writ of election to the magistrates of Lofa County, Madam Brown-Lansanah said the mandate is in keeping with Article 37 of the 1986 Constitution of Liberia and also in response to a letter received from the Liberian Senate on February 16, 2022, notifying the NEC of a vacant set in the senate from Lofa County.

Whereas, Article 37 of the Constitution states "In the existence of a vacancy in the Legislature caused by death, resignation, and explosion or otherwise, the presiding officers shall in 30 days notify the NEC thereof. The NEC shall, in not later than 90 days thereafter cause a by-election to be held."

"Whereas in keeping with the

"Finally, I do hereby direct that the last day for nomination of aspirants by registered political parties, alliances, coalition or independent aspirants for the said by-election shall end April 1, 2022 at 5:00pm and for so this shall constitute your legal and sufficient authority", Chairperson Brown-Lansannah continues.

Receiving the election writ to conduct by-election in Lofa County, the senior magistrate of the county, Amos W. Kamara assures that both Upper and Lower Lofa County are again ready and prepared to execute the mandate of the chairperson and members of the board of commissioners of NEC to conduct the by-election.

"We want to assure you that your mandate will be executed and implemented as instructed. We will conduct free, fair and transparent election within the timeframe and guideline given to us as instructed", Magistrate Kamara vows.

Despite his victory at the poll

ANC wants SG Cephus, others investigated



Lawyers representing leaders of the Alternative National Congress (ANC) have requested a criminal investigation against state prosecutors led by the Solicitor General Cyrenius Cephus.

The lawyers claimed that state prosecutors extracted several portions of text messages and exchanges submitted as evidence in the trial centering on the alleged alteration of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) framework document.

ANC defense lawyers complained in court on Friday, March 18 that prosecutors led by Solicitor-General Cephus, with criminal intent, extracted several portions of the social media exchanges and text messages amongst CPP Political Leaders that are critical and would disprove the charges level against their clients (ANC officials).

The Defense Lawyers made specific reference to social media text messages and exchanges amongst the officials between July 2-19, 2021.

Defense Lawyers said the specific text messages amongst the CPP Political Leaders, extracted and removed by state Prosecutors are critical evidence that will established,

that allegation of altering the CPP framework document, was bogus and that charges were fabricated mainly to tarnish the good reputation of the ANC Political Leader, Mr. Alexander B. Cummings.

Evidence produced and submitted by State Prosecutors in the trial case at the Monrovia City Court are based mainly on social media exchanges and text messages, accusing the ANC Political Leader, Mr. Cummings, the National Chairman Daniel Naaten and Secretary General Aloysius Toe of altering the CPP framework document.

State prosecutors' first state witness, Theodore Momo, Chairman of the All Liberian Party of Mr. Benoni Urey, is currently undergoing cross examination by ANC defense lawyers.

ANC Defense Lawyers are seeking to discredit the state witness that he lied under oath about the alteration of the CPP framework document.

Meanwhile, the Court presided over by Magistrate Jomah Jallah noted and seemingly granted the request by the ANC defense lawyers for a criminal investigation against state Prosecutors, accused of tampering with evidence, significant to the final determination of the case.



theft of property, criminal conspiracy, economic sabotage, among others for misapplication of soldiers' pension fund, totaling US\$1,147,656.35.

He was accordingly mandated by the criminal court to pay 50 percent of the amount or face two years imprisonment, which he failed meet up with. The Supreme Court of Liberia subsequently ordered Samukai and co-defendants incarceration for two years for failure to

command of Article 37, I on behalf of the board of commissioners command you to issue election writ to the assigned election magistrate of Lower and Upper Lofa County to conduct a senatorial by-election in their respective assigned area", the NEC boss instructed.

She mandates that said election shall be held on May 10, 2022 from 8:am to 6:00Pm and that the magistrates shall satisfy to her by endorsement upon this mandate at the close of counting votes as to the form and manner they execute the mandate.

in December 2020, Samukai had encountered hurdles in taking his seat in the senate, particularly after the Supreme Court of Liberia halted his certification by the NEC, becoming the first Liberian politician in recent history to win election but barred from being seated over criminal conviction.

He served as minister of defense during the entire two terms of ex-President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, first elected female president in Africa.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

JUDICIAL BRANCH REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CIVIL LAW COURT, MONT. CO. R.L.

BEFORE HIS HONOR: J. KENNEDY PEABODY, RESIDENT CIRCUIT JUDGE

THE PETITION OF AMANDA ZINNAH PETITIONER, BY AND THRU HER LEGAL COUNSEL PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR A DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME IN FAVOR OF PETITIONER TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND REFERRED TO AS "AMANDA NIMELY."

COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME - 00008784

The Petitioner by and thru her legal Counsel filed a Petition before this Court requesting this Honorable Court to order the Change of her name from Amanda Zinnah to Amanda Nimely.

During the hearing, the Petitioner testified that the Change of her name requesting this Honorable Court is intended to reflect her true father's name. After conducting the necessary interrogations required by law in these proceedings, the Court observed that the intention is just and legal and that there is no objection to the change of name proposed by her.

That the Petitioner having shown with justification and satisfaction that she was born on June 16, 1994, in the City of Monrovia, Republic of Liberia, and that she was born unto the union of Mr. Steven Nimely of the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, Liberia and Madam Lorpu Mulbah, USA, and that the Change of her name will substantially promote her interest in all of the understandings and help to establish her just identity more firmly and that she has met all legal requirements for the Change of her name in this jurisdiction.

The Petition having been heard, same is hereby ordered granted and we now render that the name Amanda Zinnah be changed to Amanda Nimely, beginning this 17th Day of September, A.D. 2021. That all documents signed by the Petitioner herein prior to this decree remain valid.

THIS DECREE shall be registered in the Office of the Registrar of DEEDS and other Official Documentations within (10) days from this date and also be published twice in any recognized Newspaper operating in the Republic of Liberia within twenty(20) days from this date. AND IT IS HEREBY SO ORDERED.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THIS HONORABLE COURT, THIS 17th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D. 2021.

COURT SEAL:

J. KENNEDY PEABODY
RESIDENT CIRCUIT JUDGE, PRESIDING
SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW COURT

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LP issues citation for special National Convention



Chairman Bility

pursuant to Article VIII (Sections 1, 2 and 3) of the Constitution of Liberty Party which provides that on the vote of two -third of the membership of the National Executive Committee(NEC) with official information to the Standard Bearer/Political Leader, the NEC may convene a Special National Convention for the reasons set forth in the said Article such as when there exists uncertainty or dispute in the party as to the direction of the party, when the party loses a presidential election, when the party loses two consecutive by-elections and there are issues in the party that cannot be resolved by the NEC.

The citation gave other reasons as Election of new national officers (with the exception of the Standard Bearer, who shall be elected by the National Convention, revision of the constitution and by-laws, the party's platform and issuance of guidelines to address such

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

The opposition Liberty Party has issued citation for a special national convention planned for April 23, 2022 to consider major decisions which would affect the party ahead of 2023.

The convention will see deliberations on the National Chairman's State of the Party Address, review the resolution reached for LP to not feature a Standard Bearer in the 2023 Presidential and

General Elections, in the light of the current status of the LP-ANC MOU and the CPP, determine actions and resolutions arising, and determine the Party's position as it relates to the 2023 Presidential and General Elections and to make amendments to specific provisions of the Liberty Party Constitution.

In the citation signed by the national chairman of the party, Mr. Musa Hassan Bility, the special national convention is in

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