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Source: Research, Policy and Planning Department, CBL.

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# Continental News

## More than 160 missing after Nigeria train attack

Some 168 people are still missing in Nigeria after a deadly attack on a busy train last week, the state rail company says. It is not clear how many of the 168 have been kidnapped for ransom - some may have gone home without telling the authorities. Gunmen blew up a section of track between the capital, Abuja, and the northern city of Kaduna last Monday. During the ordeal at least eight passengers were killed.

One survivor has told the BBC how a decision to change carriage could have saved his life, and the lives of his family. "I am happy that I am alive and well," he said on condition of anonymity.

"But I feel so sad for those killed and the injured - it could have been me," said the man, who almost missed the train altogether but ran with his wife and two children to catch it just in time.

Once on board, the family walked from one carriage to another after fellow passengers had said they were occupying the wrong seats. They had been sitting

in coach 17, which was one of those attacked, but moved to coach 12.

"We heard a loud explosion at about 19:45 - it shook the train and then the train ground to a halt," he said.

Suddenly there was the sound of gunfire coming from different directions as the attackers apparently surrounded the train.

"I gathered my family and we laid on the floor of the train as we saw other passengers doing," he continued.

"After some time, it seemed

the gunmen forced their way into the coaches because we heard people barking orders at passengers in other coaches. There were some gunshots inside the coaches as well.

"People were ordered out of the coaches and led into the bush. Nobody entered our coach," the survivor said.

"My decision to change coach saved my life and my family."

Monday's attack has not been claimed by any group.

But the governor of Kaduna state suspects it was the work of Boko Haram Islamists teaming up with a kidnapping gang, and said that rescue operations were under way, while ruling out paying any ransoms.

There were 362 registered passengers on board the train when it was raided, however the Nigerian Railway Corporation has not said whether the 168 people believed to be missing are all customers or if some train staff are among them. It was initially reported there were 970 passengers on board - the reason for the discrepancy is not clear. Reuters news agency quotes relatives of some of the missing as saying suspected bandits had contacted them to tell them they were holding their loved ones. Such gangs have become rife in north-west Nigeria, and Kaduna state is considered the epicentre. Earlier this month, there were reports that Kaduna's airport was attacked.

In the last 24 months in Nigeria alone, armed gangs have killed hundreds of people and forced thousands to flee their homes. With roadside kidnappings all too common between Abuja and Kaduna, the train service appeared to be the only safe and affordable option left.

But to the frustration of Nigerians this was the second attack by armed gangs on this same stretch of railway in six months. "Nigerians are finally convinced nowhere is safe," said journalist and security watcher Chris Paul Otaigbe. "Many would now prefer staying at home or within their neighbourhoods," he said, adding that businesses relying on the steady flow of

people between north-western Nigeria and Abuja would suffer most. Despite promises to make Nigeria's train network safer following the attack in October, little progress seems to have been made.

"I am devastated and I honestly don't know what to tell Nigerians any more," Transport Minister Rotimi Amaechi said after last week's attack. "The process of procuring the integrated security surveillance and monitoring solution has been tedious. If the processes were shortened, we would have saved lives."

There were about 18 policemen on board Monday's train, he told the BBC, but they were outgunned and eventually ran out of ammunition. In the future military aircraft will escort passenger trains between Kaduna and Abuja once repair work on the 190km (120-mile) track is complete, according to Mr Amaechi.

But he denies that the failure to protect passengers lives is a symptom of Nigeria's wider security failures.

"You cannot say Nigeria is a failing state," Mr Amaechi said. "If you want to deal with insecurity, you must first and foremost deal with poverty."

Nigerian commentator Farooq Kperogi for one is not convinced, saying the "tragic" train attack showed "the absence of even a pretence to government in Nigeria". Meanwhile public affairs analyst Charles Ughele accuses the Nigerian authorities of a "dereliction" of their duties, comparing their leadership unfavourably with that of Ukraine's embattled President Volodymyr Zelensky.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari has even been urged to resign by opposition politician Kassim Afegbua of the Peoples Democratic Party, who said he was "utterly ashamed" by what he considered to be government inaction. BBC



At least eight people were killed in the attack a week ago

## Fire Sweeps Northern Somalia Market; 28 Injured

A huge fire engulfed the main market in the city of Hargeisa in northern Somalia Saturday, injuring at least 28 people and destroying hundreds of businesses, city authorities and witnesses said.

According to witnesses the overnight inferno started where old warehouses are located in the sprawling Waheen market, a vibrant business center in the city.

"The fire started from an old warehouse department and winds spread it rapidly through the market, razing multistory buildings, tea shops, groceries, restaurants, electronics stores and a meat market," Sayid Karama, a witness told VOA Somali.

Images posted on social media showed the entire market area covered by huge flames sending columns of black smoke above the city, located in the

country's Somaliland region.

During a visit to the marketplace, Somaliland President Muse Bihi Abdi said 28 people, nine of them women, were injured, and that no loss of life had been reported.

Officials said those injured were mainly traders attempting to salvage some of their wares from the burning stalls.

The cause of the fire, which some market traders blame on an electrical fault, remains unclear.

Hargeisa's mayor, Abdikarim Ahmed Mooge, who visited the burned-out market, said that the market's narrow streets and hundreds of traders, who stormed to the scene hampered efforts to immediately contain the fire by the city's small brigade of firefighters.

"This place was the economic center of Hargeisa and even though the firefighters did their best to contain the fire, the market is destroyed, and this city has never witnessed such a massive calamity," said

Mooge. "We share the pain with the traders in Hargeisa, those who lost property in the blaze. We must show the world that we are persevered because of a belief -- a belief that out of the ashes of such an inferno, a new recovery could be born."

Several store owners who spoke to VOA reported a huge loss of property due to the fire. Somaliland authorities said a committee has been organized to assess the financial damage.

"My government would be releasing 1 million U.S dollars to help with the emergency response to the disaster," President Bihi said. VOA



An aerial view shows the aftermath of a fire that broke out at Waheen market in Hargeisa, Somaliland

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# EDITORIAL

## Fight drug addiction before youth empowerment

THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT seeming lack of willpower to vigorously fight drug addiction that is destroying thousands of young Liberians clearly contradicts President George Manneh Weah's professed love for youths of Liberia.

PRESIDENT WEAH SAYS he holds youth so dearly to his heart, not only because they represent the future of Liberia, which he is committed to improving, but also because the country's young people do have explicit confidence and trust in him to transform the State. Launching the USAID-sponsored Youth Empowerment Program at the Monrovia City Hall on Thursday, March 31, 2022, Mr. Weah said that he has had a special place in his heart for the youth of Liberia.

BUT THE PRESIDENT'S expressed love for the youth of Liberia and the reality on the ground are totally different, as thousands of youths, if not tens of thousands, across the country are losing their lives to narcotics under his watch.

THE ISSUE OF drug abuse has become so endemic in our society to an extent that substances are being sold on school campuses! Can you imagine, the learning environment that should be a place for transformation, is gradually becoming breeding ground for addicted youths. That's the magnitude of the situation facing the future of our dear country.

THIS IS NOT about political speeches, it is something that should prick our consciences as Liberians, especially national leaders. Through lip service or sheer neglect, we are breeding a generation of young people that would lack the capacity to take up future responsibility, given their current social habits.

COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE entire country are infested with ghettos that are involved in the sale of dangerous drugs, and even some of our security officers go there and become partakers with no regard whatsoever about their duty to protect lives and property.

PRESIDENT WEAH WOULD truly demonstration his love for young people by empowering the Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency, the Police and other national security apparatus to raid communities of ghettos and save our youths from self-destructing.

"MY GOVERNMENT REMAINS committed to giving all youth the opportunity to develop their potentials so that they will be able to compete in an enabling environment in this ever-changing world. To you, our young generation, I promise to prepare and empower you so that you can take your rightful place in Liberia", the President said.

BUT IF THE empowerment project that is designed to directly benefit 21,000 youths in Montserrado, Grand Bassa and Lofa counties for five years is to make any significant impact, it should include rehabilitation program to transform beneficiaries into productive citizens after the exercise.

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

# COMMENTARY

By Juan Manuel Santos

## Peacemaking After the Pandemic

**B**OGOTÁ - In Paradise Lost, the English poet John Milton encapsulates a fundamental truth about the struggle to end a violent conflict and establish a sustainable peace:

"Who overcomes by force,  
Hath overcome but half his foe."

This insight was crucial to my own understanding of how to chart a way to end Colombia's long and costly civil war, and it is acutely relevant to our shared global challenges today.

To build peace, leaders need to foster hope and anchor policies in empathy, solidarity, and a long-term vision of the common good. This is precisely the approach we must take now to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic and build a more resilient world that can better withstand future shocks and crises.

Humanity's collective experience of COVID-19 has reminded us all how precious, fragile, and intertwined life can be. Each person's existence on this planet is inextricably connected with that of our brothers, sisters, and neighbors, as well as with our forebears and unborn generations. As we begin to map a post-pandemic recovery, recognizing our shared destiny makes it critical that we draw inspiration from the legacy of previous successful leaders.

In this regard, there is no better model than Nelson Mandela, a man of infinite courage and determination who defied a particularly evil system of racial oppression and became the greatest peacemaker of his generation. Mandela endured nearly three decades of imprisonment, led his people to freedom, and built a resilient, multiracial democracy in South Africa that endures to this day.

Mandela's abiding humility and his iron faith in democracy helped lay the foundations of modern South Africa. These qualities also resonated globally, because Mandela always placed the African National Congress's liberation struggle in the context of the wider international fight against colonialism, racism, and discrimination.

This affirmation of our common humanity lay at the heart of Mandela's decision to found The Elders, the group of independent global leaders of which I am a member. In his speech at the organization's launch in Johannesburg in July 2007, Mandela charged the group with a specific mandate: "Support courage where there is fear, foster agreement where there is conflict, and inspire hope where there is despair."

Today more than ever, we must recommit to this approach in the face of the pandemic, as well as even greater existential threats such as climate change and nuclear

weapons. We urgently need an explicit recognition by global leaders that solidarity matters, and that they must act decisively to defend and rejuvenate multilateralism.

This ambition and sense of hope is essential. One sobering example of its absence is the underwhelming collective reaction to the March 2020 call by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres for a "global ceasefire" in response to COVID-19. True, Guterres's appeal was compelling, and the UN estimated that warring parties in 11 countries had heeded it by early April last year. But the UN Security Council took more than three months to pass a resolution endorsing Guterres's appeal. And too many conflicts continued unabated throughout 2020 and still rage today.

The toll on human life, particularly among unarmed civilians, has been devastating. By mid-2020, violent conflicts had contributed to a rise in the number of forcibly displaced people, to nearly 80 million. And by the end of the year, almost 100 million people faced severe food insecurity as a result of conflict - up from 77 million in 2019.

This is a damning indictment of collective failure, especially by the Security Council's five permanent members. But we must understand the Council's near-paralysis in the wider context of the many global leadership failures laid bare by COVID-19. These include insufficient coordination and information-sharing to contain the pandemic, inadequate collaboration by the G20 to protect the global economy, a dearth of financial assistance to support the Global South, and the moral catastrophe of "vaccine apartheid."

Contemplating this litany of challenges and disappointments, it is easy to be overwhelmed by pessimism. But resigning ourselves to failure is not only an indulgence of the world's privileged, who do not have to endure the pain and loss of war, but also a betrayal of its victims. Hope persists, and so must our determination.

As for me, I am hopeful and determined that we will recover from the pandemic in a way that affirms the words of my compatriot, the great writer and Nobel laureate Gabriel García Márquez: "Neither floods nor plagues, famines nor cataclysms, nor even the eternal wars of century upon century, have been able to subdue the persistent advantage of life over death." In that spirit, we must then get on with the life-affirming task of building peace.

*Juan Manuel Santos, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, is a former president of Colombia (2010-18), a visiting professor at the Department of International Development at the University of Oxford, and a member of The Elders.*



## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-22-00007

2. **ISSUANCE DATE:** April 4, 2022

3. **CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** April 25, 2022, 11:59 pm Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia

4. **POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

5. **POSITION TITLE:** Project Management Specialist (Private Sector Engagement)

6. **MARKET VALUE:** USD \$ 35,104 – 56,160 FSN- 10

In accordance with AIDAR Appendix J and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.

7. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.

8. **PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia.

9. **ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.

10. **SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access.

### 11. STATEMENT OF DUTIES

#### Basic Function of Position

The Project Management Specialist (PSE) will provide strategic, technical, project management, and program/administrative aspects of the USAID/Liberia PSE Activity. S/He will support the strengthening of critical links between the Health Office programs, the Ministry of Health, private sector stakeholders as well as between the Health and Economic Growth teams. S/He will have the opportunity to help strengthen private sector relationships that address key health challenges, as well as guide the private sector portfolio of the Health Office to achieve better health outcomes. The Project Management Specialist (PSE) will manage and implement the PSE portfolio of the Health Office. Thus, a strong understanding of and experience working with the private sector is critical.

The Project Management Specialist (PSE) position sits within the health system strengthening (HSS) sub-team of the Health Office and will closely collaborate with the Health and Economic Growth Offices. Supervision and technical oversight will be provided by the Health System Strengthening Team Lead.

#### Major Duties and Responsibilities

##### Project Management

40%

- In collaboration with appropriate stakeholders, develops scopes of work and work plans that clearly identify short- and long-range achievable, sustainable strategies and activities for improving PSE in the USAID health office
- Identifies and/or provides technical assistance expertise required for field activities, visits or other events; prepare scopes of work, provide operational support, and review reports for quality.
- Participates in the development of work plans, technical reports, training materials, and other project products
- Formulate, maintain, and update administrative forms, reports, files and other documentation required by the USG and GOL.
- Under direct supervision of the HSS Team Lead, confers with other members of the HSS Sub-team as well as across the Health Office, with other donors, stakeholders and implementing partners to provide technical support for PSE activities, particularly in the following areas:
- Capacity building of GOL and civil society partners at identified national, county, and local levels
- Monitoring programs' progress in implementing tasks in accordance with implementation plans and other agreements.
- Initiating and/or coordinating project assessments, reviews, and evaluations to ascertain project success and cost effectiveness, including implications for future financing.
- Functioning as Contract/Agreement Officer's Representative (C/AOR) or Mission designated activity manager for selected PSE awards within the HSS portfolio

##### Technical Guidance

40%

- Provides technical assistance to the USAID/Liberia's Health Team activities and its implementing partners (including the MOH) with a focus on private health sector enabling environment, access to quality priority health services, capacity building and financial protection for the poor
- Provides technical leadership and program guidance to the USAID/Liberia Health Office particularly related to the private sector
- Provide technical assistance to cross-cutting USG activities with a focus on private sector engagement.
- Keep abreast of current developments in public health literature, reports, international guidelines and standards and best practices as it relates to PSE and provide recommendations in developing innovative approaches to designing, implementing, and evaluating PSE related programs in Liberia
- Provide technical support on the program design and implementation of private sector engagement activities.

##### Leadership and Management

20%

- Works in close collaboration with key stakeholders to achieve the goals, objectives and results of the USG and Government of Liberia (GOL) priorities related to PSE
- Advises Health Office Senior Management on technical as well as strategic and donor coordination issues with the GOL and within the USG.
- Represents the USG on various PSE technical working groups and technical discussions on issues related to health financing, supply chain, service delivery, and other private health sector system strengthening activities.
- **Supervision controls:** The Project Management Specialist (PSE) is directly supervised by the Health Systems Strengthening Team Lead
- **Supervisory Relationship:** Position has no direct supervisory responsibilities.

### 12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

## II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

1. **Education:** Minimum of bachelor's degree in business, public administration, international health, public health, health management or related field is required.
2. **Prior Work Experience:** Minimum of four (4) years of relevant technical experience in public health and private sector development programs with demonstrated experience working collaboratively with managerial and technical counterparts and other stakeholders in Liberia is required.
3. **Post Entry Training:** Agency-specific training and C/AOR or Project Management required post-entry.
4. **Language Proficiency** (List both English and host country language(s) proficiency requirements by level (II, III, IV) sp/rd/wr: Level 4/4 (fluent) spoken and written English language ability required.

### 5. Job Knowledge:

- Current knowledge of private sector engagement issues and partnerships
- In-depth knowledge of the Liberian health care system and structures (public and private) including familiarity with Ministry of Health policies, program priorities and regulations.
- Working knowledge of overall administrative requirements that include budgeting and fiscal management in support of contracts/cooperative agreements/grants/purchase requisitions.
- A working knowledge of USG PSE programs, strategies, methods, processes and techniques used to plan, develop, implement and evaluate results of support is an added advantage

### 6. Skills and Abilities:

- Excellent oral and written communications skills for effective and sustainable working relationships with national and international working partners.
- Leadership skills to lead results-driven project teams and workgroups.
- Ability to analyze, understand and discuss new program design, management and implementation approaches
- Ability to exercise considerable ingenuity and tact in applying guidelines to unique and different settings.
- Intermediate user level of word processing, spreadsheets and databases
- Skills in interpretation of program monitoring and evaluation data and ability to produce results within tight deadlines

## III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

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

### 1. Selection Process

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

### 2. Evaluation Factors

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

#### EVALUATION FACTOR #1

**Understanding of, and experience with the Private Health Sector of Liberia:** Describe in 600 words or less the private health sector in Liberia, including its contribution to health care delivery and major challenges and opportunities. Discuss experiences you have that are relevant to addressing some of the major challenges faced by the private health sector.

### 3. Basis of Rating

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

Evaluation Factors	Points
Factor 1:	30 points
Interview Performance:	70 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's ability to:

- Demonstrate that he/she can perform the roles and responsibilities described above for the position.
- Work effectively in a team
- Communicate effectively
- Manage relationships and coordinate with the key stakeholders

Total Possible Points 100 points

## IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-669-22-00007 – Project Management Specialist (Private Sector Engagement) LiberiaHR@usaid.gov**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Republic of Liberia

### MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

P.O Box 10-9016 Intersection of  
Broad and Mechlin Streets  
Monrovia, Liberia

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR

SHORT TERM E-GP AWARENESS STAFF

NAME OF PROJECT: Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project, II

Assignment Title: Twenty-Five (25) Short-Term Staff to Support Awareness and sensitization activities on E-GP implementation to beef up awareness capacity of the E-GP Project

Financing Agreement reference: 2100155034068

Project ID No.: P-LR-K00-014 Reference No. IPFMRP II/C/IC/1.1.12-AfDB

Issue Date: March 30, 2022

End Date: April 13, 2022

#### 1. Background

The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the African Development Bank towards the cost of the Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project Phase II, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to cover eligible payment under the contract for the hiring of short-term E-Government Procurement implementation awareness staff.

As part of the on-going public procurement reform program achievements which improved competition and increased value for money, the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC) intends to conduct multi-track nationwide awareness to educate stakeholders and the general public on the procurement, installation, and deployment of the e-GP system, including its benefits to the national government and the country.

#### 2. Rationale

The rationale for this assignment is to hire twenty-five (25) external staff on a short-term basis to bolster the existing efforts of the Commission. The assignment will last for a period of three months

and the staff will be responsible to educate the general public on the procurement, installation, and deployment of the e-GP system, including its benefits to the national government and the country.

#### 3. Objective of the Assignment

The objective of the Assignment is to ensure an increase in information conveyance to stakeholders and the general public on the e-GP project implementation, and forge partnership with relevant stakeholders to aid with the information dissemination mechanism of PPCC.

#### 4. Scope of the Assignment

The scope of the assignment is to create awareness on the E-GP Implementation, in the fifteen (15) political subdivisions of Liberia. It will be carried out through the following means:

- Create awareness during town hall fora or meetings across the country with key stakeholders and citizens;
- Airing of dramas and jingles on radio stations in all counties;
- Street and theatre shows, Parades; and,
- Awareness materials distribution

#### 5. Deliverables

In addition to the foregoing, the individuals along with the Commission's staff shall deliver the following outputs for the assignment within the corresponding timeline:

- Conduct of town hall meetings in all counties at least once every two weeks
- Airing of dramas and jingles on radio stations in all counties (four times a week)
- Conduct of Street and Road Shows, Parades etc.
- Awareness and Momentum building through awareness materials distribution in all fifteen counties.

#### 6. Qualification and Experience Requirement

Interested individuals must meet the following Minimum Qualifications Requirements:

- v Experience in public procurement, media relations, public administration, training or education. Knowledge of E-procurement and World Bank

Procurement procedures will be an added advantage.

v Must have at least a first degree in any of the social science disciplines; graduate diploma or degree is an added advantage

v Must be fluent in speaking and writing English

v Self-starter and able to develop and implement programs with minimal supervision.

v Excellent interpersonal and persuasive skills;

v Ability to work with and build teams.

v Observant, analytical and pay particular attention to details.

v Working knowledge of MS Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint).

#### 7. Duration of the Assignment

The assignment is expected to take three (3) months after signing of the contract.

#### 8. Number of Staff

A total of twenty-five (25) staff will be hired under this arrangement.

#### 9. Duty Station

All staff hired under this arrangement will be stationed in Monrovia. The assignment will require frequent travels to all the fifteen counties of Liberia.

#### 10. Institutional Arrangement

Staff recruited under this project shall work under the supervision of Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC) and be subject to rudimentary Human Resource Policies whilst the assignment is active.

#### 11. Facilities to be provided by the PPCC

The PPCC will provide the following facilities:

- i. Access to all necessary information and stakeholders to facilitate the assignment
- ii. Office space
- iii. Essential office furniture
- iv. Essential miscellaneous office equipment
- v. Access to Internet, and network resources, where necessary
- vi. The consultant will use her/his personal Laptop.

#### 12. How to apply

Further information and the detailed TOR can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. from 0900 to 1700 hours (GMT), Mondays through Fridays.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Ministry of Finance & Development Planning (MFDP) now invites eligible individuals to express interest in providing the services by submitting a list of similar assignments performed with references and submitting Curriculum Vitae (CVs) and copies of academic credentials, demonstrating experience in performing similar assignments

with references and showing responsiveness to the qualification requirements outlined in this REOI. Eligibility criteria and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016, Revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"). Consultants will be selected using the Individual Consultant Selection (ICS) Method set out in the Procurement Policy Framework referenced above.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form or by email to the address below on or before 13th April, 2022 @ 1700 hours (GMT) and indicate in the Email subject line or on the outer envelope "Short-Term E-GP Awareness Staff"

The Address referred above is:

The Acting Project Manager

Project Management Unit (PMU), Ground Floor Annex

Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP)

P.O Box 109013 - Intersection of Broad and Mechlin Streets

1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia

Phone: +231 881154787 E-Mail: vfofana@mfdp.gov.lr and copied to jmentroe@liftliberia.gov.lr

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## SUP protests untidiness at UL

By Lewis S Teh

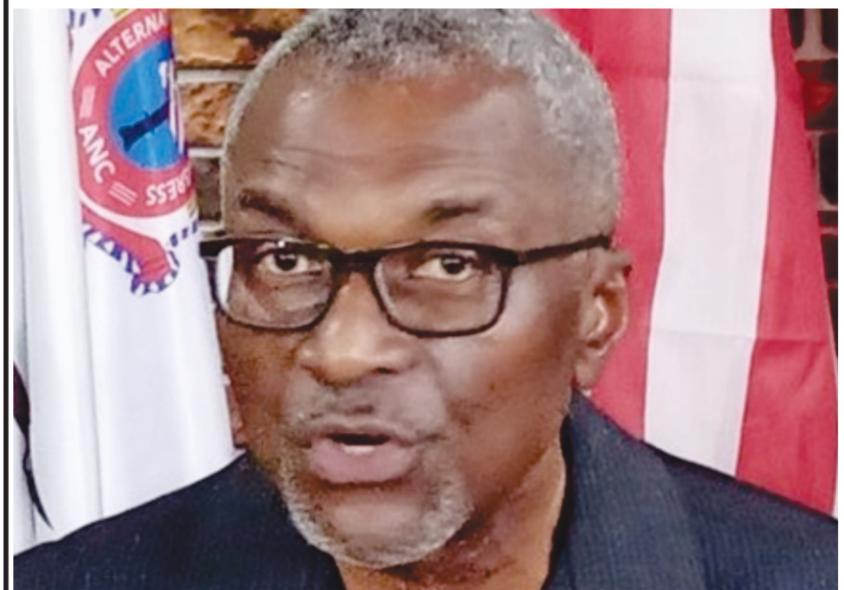
The campus-based Students Unification Party (SUP) at the state-run University of Liberia threatens to stage another protest against what it terms Administration's failure to renovate the University two campuses, as earlier promised. SUP in a news conference held on Monday, April 4, 2022 on the University of Liberia's main

university campuses, SUP launched a 'fix the university campaign' an endeavor it says is geared towards pressuring the university authority and government to ensure the nation's premier institution of education is renovated to an appreciable standard.

Student Kanneh recalls that on October 1, 2021, Administration signed a MoU with both the students and the faculty association,

weeks now since Dr. Nelson made the public pronouncement, but there is no sign of renovation taking place at both campuses, something, the SUP leader describes as not only unfortunate but also disconcertingly embarrassing and deceitful on the part of government and the University Authority for not fulfilling their promises as was contained in the October 1, 2021 MoU.

## Cummings extends Ramadan greetings to Muslims



The leader of the opposition Alternative National Congress Mr. Alexander B. Cummings extends sincere compliments and greetings to the Muslim community in Liberia as they go through the Holy Month of Ramadan, offering prayers and sacrificing for Allah's merciful blessings upon families, and people of Liberia.

In a special statement here, Mr. Cummings praises Almighty Allah and notes that it is a great honor to identify and recognize the celebration of the Month of Ramadan by Muslims worldwide.

"Liberia, a secular state, believes in the basic principles of religious freedom and tolerance. We are committed to the peaceful coexistence of all Liberians for the purpose of

national unity and growth", the ANC leader says.

He notes that Muslims in Liberia have, through the past years, proven to be committed and devoted to their faith, no matter what the conditions of the day might be, saying "We are quite aware that many of you are going through significant challenges to observe your month of fast and prayers, especially, in the face of these challenging times."

Mr. Cummings then prays that Almighty Allah strengthens all Muslims you they go through the month of Ramadan and bestows his blessings on the country.

A devote Christian himself, the ANC Leader is an ardent supporter of religious tolerance and diversity. He is also noted for identifying with Muslims during Ramanda thru sharing of food and gifts. *Story by Jonathan Browne*



campus on Capitol Hill, reiterated call to have the two campuses renovated, adding that its call is an uncompromising demand to the administration of UL President, Dr. Julius S. Nelson.

The group's chairman Mustapha N. Kanneh, recalls that last academic semester, given the deplorable and wretched nature of the

saying "Additionally, on March 24, 2022, we listened to Rev. Nelson, President of the University of Liberia, at the Ministry of Information Regular Press Briefings publicly announcing the receipt of US\$4.7 million from the Government of Liberia to carry on renovations at the university."

He says it is nearly two

"Notwithstanding, SUP promises unspecified actions against the Rev. Nelson-led administration at the University of Liberia and commits to resist any attempt to reopen the school without carrying out renovation to improve the learning environment. SUP maintains that the university would not afford to resume schooling in

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

## Johnson Street residents protest against mob killing

By Lincoln G. Peters

Several residents of Johnson Street in Central Monrovia staged a peaceful protest on Monday, 4 April 2022 at the headquarters of the Liberia National Police (LNP) in demand of justice for one Kolubah Marshall who was allegedly murdered on 12 March this year in Vai Town.

The deceased was also a resident of Johnson Street. The protesters alleged that he was killed by an angry mob in Vai Town following an argument and tussle between him and a bike rider.

Marshall was allegedly accused by the motorcyclist of trying to steal his (motorcyclist's) bike.

The protesters wore black and held placards at the police headquarters with various inscriptions, some of



famous Liberian Hippo star Takun J, "they lie to us." Those who knew the late Kolubah Marshall, 32, said he was a father of two kids and a junior student at the University of Liberia, who was studying Economics as his major and Sociology, as a minor.

They said Marshall sold broken tiles on Johnson Street

to make a living.

Speaking in an interview with judicial reporters at the entrance of the police headquarters, Prince Saydee, alias Sapu "J," said that they have gathered to demand justice from the Government of Liberia through the LNP over the death of their colleague. He said since the incident, police have refused to release their investigative report and bring those suspected of carrying out the act to book. According to him, the late Kulbah received a call informing him that somebody was selling broken tiles, after which he made his way to Vai Town to buy them.

Saydee explained that the late Kulbah gave a motorcyclist his fare and had requested for his change, but the motorcyclist allegedly refused to do so, claiming that the deceased had no change for the amount paid.

"They ended up in serious

argument. While they were arguing, those who were selling along the road said that the guy wanted to take his friend's bike. That's how the group came around along with all those motorbike riders that are in the Vai Town area; they jumped on Kulbah and beat him," said Mr. Saydee.

"He ran in the Lebanese man's store, the group ran for him there ... and brought him outside and killed him," Saydee explained. Addressing the protesters, Deputy Police Inspector General, Marvin Sackor said the Liberian National Police has investigated and charged three persons in connection with the crime. Col. Sackor told the protesters that those charged are due to be forwarded to court Tuesday, 5 April 2022, adding that they will make sure that justice is served. He however called on the protesters to be peaceful and patient, adding that criminal investigation is not a one-day thing.

Starts from back page

# Tension wires electrocute

humorous. "Every time we're together, he made us laughed throughout the day because he won't stop telling us stories."

Miss Tete Togba, fiancée of the deceased, narrates that on Saturday morning, they both woke up from bed and the deceased asked her to prepare water to bath before going to work.

She continues that after bathing, the deceased ate and went to work but while at work, he called her to come to the work place.

"When I got there, he asked me to carry the meat he bought to cook pepper soup for him, that which I did", she bursts in tears.

"But to my surprise, after I finished cooking the food, I decided to visit the tailor shop because I had clothes there that I should've worn for our program on Sunday", Tete adds.

She says while at the tailor shop, information suddenly came that one of the painters of the mosque got electrocuted.

"So, I got shocked because my heart ran directly to Emmanuel because he told me at the time, he was giving me the meat that I shouldn't call him because he was going on top of the mosque to paint", she recollects.

Tete: "Upon hearing the information, I immediately called his numbers; the phone rang but no answer and I even tried to get at the scene but it was difficult to see the person because of the population during the time. After few hours, when I

called back, it was the President of the Nimbains residing in Maryland that answered the phone to inform me that it was 'E-man' who got electrocuted."

The deceased's fiancée discloses that their relationship had lasted for some time but they were not fortunate to have a child, but adds that she was told he left four children in Nimba county.

The deceased, according to sources, was born and reared in Nimba but came to Maryland county because of job purpose.

Meanwhile, the Liberia National Police have immediately dispatched a team of investigators that comprises health workers, community leaders, local authority to verify the actual cause of death.

Preliminary investigation and examination conducted by both the Police and 15-man jurors confirmed subsequently that the late Emmanuel Vaye was electrocuted by tension wires of the Liberia Electricity Corporation, while painting the top of the mosque.

The deceased's body was taken from the scene immediately due to fear of angry citizens stoning the mosque.

The Police are currently interrogating heads of the Muslim community about the contract reached with the victim prior to his death. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Starts from page 6

# SUP protests untidiness at UL

an environment that lacks needed facilities and equipment to complement education", Kanneh says.

He insists that students will not return to a university that is ragged and ruined in its material conditions, and lacks electricity and pipe-borne water facilities, among others.

"Students will not return to a university that lacks modern science laboratories, that lacks modern libraries stocked with good and contemporary books for research", he vows.

However, responding to criticism about unpainted buildings on the UL two campuses recently, Dr. Nelson blamed the situation on previous administrations of the institution, that he said has existed for decades.

At the same time Chairman Kanneh condemns what he calls constant brutalization of peaceful university students by the CDC-led Government, categorically condemning alleged brutal and violent aggression continuously meted against peaceful university students, especially militants of SUP that he claims are masterminded by Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson T. Kojjee.

"We want to call on the Independent Commission on Human Rights, ECOWAS, European Union, U.S. Embassy, Swedish Embassy, AU, and other human rights institutions to fully be informed of the heinous human rights violations being carried out against peaceful students by Jefferson T. Koifée and other adherents of the CDC regime."

According to SUP, the unfortunate incident that took place last week Thursday, March 31, 2022, on the UL Main campus at the "Homegoing and Honoring Program" of fallen Professor and statesman Dr. Amos Sawyer, where members of the Student Unification Party and other well-meaning citizens were brutalized and offices vandalized in a well-coordinated barbaric attack was masterminded and orchestrated by Mayor Kojjee.

Kanneh continues that the incident that occurred at Dr. Sawyer's memorial service was just another ugly episode in the Student Unification Party, that was meant to deny the party from giving a powerful revolutionary tribute to the fallen statesman that would have been unfavorable for the Mayor and the CDC government.

According to SUP, on March 26, 2022, at a special program held in honor of the late Dr. Sawyer by the 'Progressive Community', they made it clear that the CDC regime has failed on its promises.

"SUP wants to assure Mayor Kojjee and the CDC that SUP as a progressive institution has sufficient evidence in our possession to push charges for criminal actions and human rights violations and will pursue this matter to a logical and judicial conclusion", Kanneh says and adds that when that time comes, they will take the witness stand to make sure that the CDC youth league chair along with his accomplices are brought to justice in line with legality. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA ) IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW COURT FOR MONTERRADO MONTERRADO COUNTY) MONTERRADO COUNTY, SITTING IN ITS MARCH TERM, A. D. 2022.

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

IN RE: Nelson Philip Charles Taylor of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.....PLAINTIFF  
VERSUS  
Anfree N. Bartuah Taylor; also of Congo Town, Monrovia, R. L.....DEFENDANT } DIVORCE FOR INCOMPATIBILITY OF TEMPER

### SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

### WRIT OF SUMMONS

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA; TO: THE SHERIFF FOR MONTERRADO COUNTY, OR HIS\HER DEPUTY:

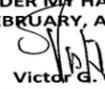
GREETINGS:  
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMONS THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S)/RESPONDENT(S) IN THE ABOVE CAPTIONED CASE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL ALW COURT FOR MONTERRADO COUNTY, SITTING IN ITS MARCH TERM A.D. 2022, ON THE THIRD MONDAY IN MARCH, A.D. 2022, AT THE HOUR OF 10:00 A.M., TO ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT/PETITION/ OF THE ABOVE NAMED PLAINTIFF(S)/PETITIONER(S); THAT UPON HIS/HER/THEIR FAILURE, JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE RENDERED AGAINST HIM/HER/THEM.

YOU ARE FURTHER COMMANDED TO NOTIFY THE SAID DEFENDENT(S)\RESPONDENT(S) TO FILE HIS\HER\THEIR FORMAL APPEARANCE AND \OR ANSWER IN MY OFFICE ON\OR BEFORE THE 24<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, A.D. 2022.

MEANWHILE, YOU WILL MAKE YOUR RETURNS ON THE BACK OF THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THIS WRIT OF SUMMONS ON/OR BEFORE THE 24<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, A. D. 2022, AS TO THE MANNER/FORM OF ITS SERVICE.

### AND HAVE YOU THERE THIS WRIT OF SUMMONS.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT, THIS 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, A.D. 2022.

COURT'S SEAL:   
Victor G. Gailor  
ASSISTANT CLERK, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
CIVIL LAW COURT, MONTERRADO COUNTY, R. L.

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA ) IN THE CIVIL LAW COURT, THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, MONTERRADO COUNTY) MONTERRADO COUNTY, SITTING IN ITS MARCH TERM, A. D. 2021.

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

Nelson Philip Charles Taylor of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.....PLAINTIFF ) ACTION OF DIVORCE FOR INCOMPATIBILITY OF TEMPER  
VERSUS )  
Anfree N. Bartuah-Taylor also of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.....DEFENDANT )

### PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

AND NOW COMES PLAINTIFF, in the above entitled Cause of Action and Complains of the Defendant in the following manner and form as showeth to wit:

1. That the Plaintiff and the Defendant were joined together in the bond of Holy Matrimony on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, A. D. 2019 at the St. Peter Lutheran Church on 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Sinkor in the City of Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.
2. That they (Plaintiff and Defendant) lived together in tolerable peace and happiness as husband and wife until sometime in July, 2020 when the Defendant became unmindful of her marital vows and covenants; and without any justification or excuse, became extremely quarrelsome and pugnacious to the extent that the Plaintiff can no longer continue this relationship and has therefore decided, after some somber reflection, to institute this Action of Divorce to end this marriage.
3. That the Plaintiff has done everything humanly possible for his wife to change her unacceptable behavior and attitude towards him as her husband in an attempt to save their marriage to no avail and has painfully realized that it would be in the best interest of both Plaintiff and Defendant to annul and dissolve this marriage.
4. That the Plaintiff has kept his marital vows inviolate and has faithfully lived up to his side of their marital contract.
5. That should this marital bond continue, Plaintiff's life will be extremely uncomfortable as Defendant has proven her flagrant and total disregard for their marriage.

WHEREFORE AND IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES, Plaintiff has instituted this suit and prays judgment against the Defendant, annulling and dissolving the Contract of Holy Matrimony which now subsists between the Plaintiff and the Defendant; and declare them two separate and distinct persons, both in law and in equity, as though no such Contract ever existed between them. Plaintiff further prays Your Honor and this Honorable Court to grant unto Plaintiff such other and further relief(s) as justice and justice and equity demand within the pale of the law; and so prays.

Respectfully Submitted, Plaintiff by and thru His Legal Counsel:  
Century Law Offices  
Ashmun & Mechlin Streets  
Monrovia, Liberia

  
Lavela Kobji Johnson, Sr.  
COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW/SR. PARTNER

  
Willie D. Barclay, Jr.  
COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, A. D. 2022

\$ 5.00 Revenue Stamp Affixed of the Original

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA ) IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR AND MONTERRADO COUNTY) MONTERRADO COUNTY

Nelson Philip Charles Taylor of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.....PLAINTIFF ) ACTION OF DIVORCE FOR INCOMPATIBILITY OF TEMPER  
VERSUS )  
Anfree N. Bartuah-Taylor also of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.....DEFENDANT )

### PLAINTIFF'S AFFIDAVIT

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, a duly qualified and commissioned Justice of the Peace for and in Monterrado County, Republic of Liberia at my Office in the City of Monrovia, Willie D. Barclay, Jr., Counsellor-At-Law and one of counsels for the Plaintiff in the above entitled Cause of Action, and made OATH according to law that all and singular the averments of both law and facts as set forth and contained in the annexed Complaint are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief and as to those matters of information he verily believes them to be true and correct.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME, THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, A. D. 2022

  
Cllr. Willie D. Barclay, Jr./Deponent

\$ 4.00 Revenue Stamp Affixed on the Original

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# Français

## Il s'appelait Amos Claudius Sawyer...

Le président du premier gouvernement intérimaire du pays, décédé le 16 février à Baltimore (États-Unis), sera inhumé ce 2 avril à Monrovia. L'ancien Premier ministre guinéen, Kabiné Komara, lui rend hommage.

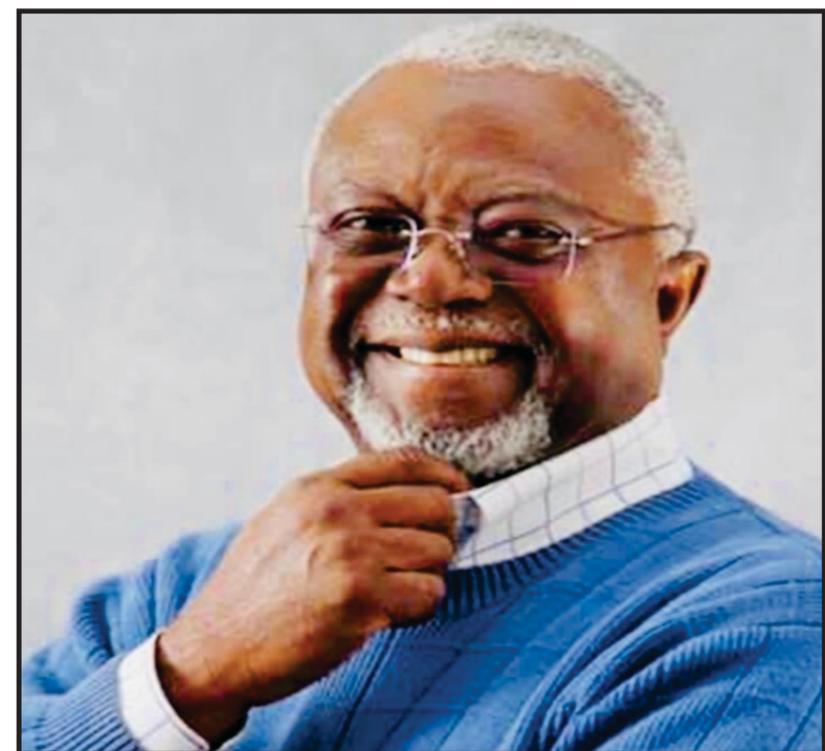
Le Liberia et l'Afrique porteront en terre ce 2 avril 2022 à Monrovia un des fils les plus remarquables de notre continent. Je veux nommer mon frère et ami Dr Amos Sawyer, ancien président du gouvernement intérimaire du Liberia durant la période 1990-

1993. Il eut la lourde responsabilité de diriger cet exécutif intérimaire d'union nationale après l'assassinat de Samuel Doe dans des conditions atroces, qu'il ne sied plus de rappeler.

Sa vision, son charisme et surtout son abnégation ont permis à son pays de faire l'économie de tant d'autres tragédies. Cet homme d'État hors pair, affable, presque effacé, n'est malheureusement pas très connu en Afrique francophone. C'est pourquoi je me fais le devoir de lui dédier cette tribune, afin de vulgariser un tant soit peu le rôle essentiel qu'il a joué pendant toute sa vie pour la promotion de la paix, de la justice et de la bonne gouvernance au Liberia et en Afrique.

Imperturbable et vertueux  
Notre première rencontre remonte à seulement dix ans. C'était à Bissau, lorsque lui et moi avons été choisis par la Communauté des États

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Burkina : le Premier ministre présente à l'Assemblée nationale la feuille de route de la transition

Au Burkina Faso, un mois après la formation de son équipe, le Premier ministre Albert Ouedraogo présente sa feuille de route aux membres de l'Assemblée législative de transition. Il a expliqué comment son gouvernement compte venir à bout de l'insécurité et récupérer les parties du territoire occupées par les groupes armés. Faisant le diagnostic de la situation nationale, le Premier ministre Albert Ouedraogo souligne qu'au contexte sécuritaire et humanitaire difficile s'ajoutait la crise sanitaire liée au Covid-19.

Pour faire face à ces difficultés, le chef du gouvernement annonce comme priorités dans sa feuille de route, la lutte contre le terrorisme et la restauration de l'intégrité du territoire. Cela passe par la réorganisation au sein du commandement des forces armées, le renforcement des effectifs à travers des recrutements, le rappel des militaires retraités et le renforcement des partenariats.

Le Premier ministre Albert

Ouedraogo souligne que le gouvernement a opté pour la diversification des partenaires stratégiques du Burkina Faso dans le respect de l'indépendance et de l'intégrité du territoire. Au niveau de la refondation de l'État et de l'amélioration de la gouvernance publique, le chef du gouvernement annonce la suspension des recrutements sur mesures nouvelles, en attendant une relecture des textes. Il promet de mettre en avant la promotion des compétences techniques. Sur le plan politique, Albert Ouedraogo promet un

nouveau cadre juridique relatif à la création, au financement des partis politiques et au plafonnement des dépenses de campagne, ce qui, selon le chef du gouvernement, permettra de lutter contre la corruption électorale et le blanchiment d'argent en période électorale. Pour finir, il a annoncé des mesures prioritaires dans le cadre du processus de réconciliation nationale. Il a cité, entre autres, l'accélération du traitement des dossiers pendents en justice



## Éditorial

### Il faut combattre la toxicomanie avant de procéder à l'autonomisation des jeunes

Le manque de volonté politique du gouvernement libérien dans la lutte contre la toxicomanie qui détruit des milliers de jeunes Libériens contredit clairement l'amour déclaré du président George Manneh Weah pour les jeunes du Libéria.

Le président Weah ne cesse de dire que les jeunes lui tiennent à son cœur, non seulement parce qu'ils représentent l'avenir du Libéria qu'il s'est engagé à améliorer, mais aussi parce que les jeunes du pays ont une confiance explicite en lui pour transformer l'État.

Lors du lancement du programme d'autonomisation des jeunes parrainé par l'USAID à l'hôtel de ville de Monrovia le jeudi 31 mars 2022, M. Weah a déclaré que la jeunesse du Libéria a une place spéciale dans son cœur.

Mais l'amour exprimé par le président pour la jeunesse du Libéria et la réalité sur le terrain sont totalement en contradiction, car des milliers de jeunes, voire des dizaines de milliers, perdent leur vie à cause des stupéfiants à travers le pays.

Le problème de la toxicomanie est devenu tellement endémique dans notre société qu'on vend des substances dans les cours d'école ! Imaginez-vous, les lieux d'apprentissage qui devraient être des lieux de transformation, deviennent peu à peu un vivier de jeunes toxicomanes.

Il ne suffit pas de tenir des discours politiques. Que cela signale nos consciences en tant que Libériens, en particulier en tant que dirigeants nationaux. Par pure négligence, nous sommes en train d'élever une génération de jeunes qui n'aura pas la capacité d'assumer des responsabilités futures, compte tenu de leurs habitudes sociales actuelles.

Toutes les communautés sont infestées de ghettos où l'on vend des drogues dangereuses, et même certains de nos agents de sécurité s'y rendent pour en consommer sans aucune considération pour leur devoir de protéger les vies et les biens.

Le président Weah démontrerait vraiment son amour pour les jeunes s'il habilitait l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue, la police et d'autres appareils de sécurité nationale, de sorte à éliminer les ghettos dans les communautés et sauver nos jeunes de l'autodestruction.

« Mon gouvernement semble être décidé quant à donner à tous les jeunes la possibilité de développer leur potentiel afin qu'ils puissent être compétitifs, en créant un environnement propice dans un monde en constante évolution. À vous, notre jeune génération, je promets de vous préparer et de vous responsabiliser afin que vous puissiez prendre la place qui vous revient au Libéria », a déclaré le président.

Mais pour que le projet d'autonomisation qui est conçu pour bénéficier directement à 21 000 jeunes dans les comtés de Montserrado, Grand Bassa et Lofa pendant cinq ans ait un impact significatif, il faut y inclure un programme de réhabilitation pour transformer les bénéficiaires en citoyens productifs après l'exercice.

# Français

## Il s'appelait Amos

d'Afrique de l'Ouest (Cedeao) pour superviser l'élection présidentielle de ce pays coutumier des contestations électorales suivies parfois de soubresauts sanglants. Dr Sawyer était le chef de la mission et moi le vice-président. C'était la toute première fois que j'exerçais une telle mission.

Je fus littéralement conquis par le grand sens politique avec lequel il arrivait à atténuer les ardeurs des envoyés des différentes organisations multilatérales et bilatérales (lusophone, francophone, américaine, européenne et autres) qui se comportaient en infailibles connaisseurs des réalités bissau-guinéennes, alors que beaucoup n'avaient que leur propre agenda. Il me prenait souvent en aparté pour me faire découvrir les tentatives de manipulations, et m'exhortait à ce que nous n'ayons à l'esprit que le seul intérêt du pays.

Derrière sa mine bon enfant et son sourire qui arrondissait son visage, se cachait la carrure d'un homme imperturbable et vertueux à tous égards. Ainsi, à son initiative, nous eûmes une réunion cruciale avec José Ramos-Horta, ancien président du Timor oriental et prix Nobel de la paix, alors chef du Bureau intégré des Nations unies en Guinée-Bissau. L'objectif était de ramener d'abord les intervenants extérieurs à faire preuve de retenue, puis les ténors des partis politiques à la décence dans leurs propos et gestes. Résultat : le premier tour se termina le 13 avril 2014, et nous fûmes invités à revenir pour superviser le deuxième tour de l'élection, qui déboucha le 28 mai 2014, sur l'élection du président José Mario Vas. Sortie de crise

Depuis, une relation assidue s'est établie entre nous. Nous avons eu par la suite la très délicate mission de superviser l'élection présidentielle du Togo en avril 2015. Moi, président de la mission de l'Union africaine (UA) et lui, de celle de la Cedeao. Bien qu'il soit de cinq ans mon aîné, il me laissait la délicate mission de coordonner les initiatives au nom de toutes les missions, au motif que nous étions en pays francophone. Il y avait alors au Togo une profonde méfiance entre le pouvoir et l'opposition, convaincue que le gouvernement avait mis en place des stratagèmes pour « voler » leur victoire. Jusqu'à

la veille des élections, les partis d'opposition exigeaient des changements profonds dans le système de centralisation des votes afin que cela soit remonté au niveau de la Commission nationale indépendante.

Avec beaucoup d'entregent, nous avons réuni l'ensemble des protagonistes autour d'une même table pour trouver une sortie de crise et se rendre aux élections le lendemain matin à 7 h. La réunion commença à 22 h sous ma présidence, avec à ma droite le président Amos Sawyer. Vers 3 h du matin, sans solution en vue, nous nous acheminons vers un échec aux conséquences incalculables pour le Togo. Sawyer me conseilla alors une salvatrice pause, suivie de coups de fils et de divers conciliabules. Finalement, à 4 h 30 du matin, nous sommes parvenus à un accord que nous nous efforçâmes de mettre immédiatement sur papier et de la faire signer par les parties en présence. C'est ainsi que le Togo a pu pacifiquement voter le 15 avril 2015.

Dans l'arène de la bonne gouvernance

Amos Sawyer était aussi connu par son courage et sa détermination. Après de brillantes études en sciences politiques à la Northwestern University de Chicago, sanctionnées par un doctorat, il n'hésita pas retourner dans son pays en 1971 pour enseigner les sciences politiques à l'université de Monrovia, mais aussi pour animer des cercles pour la vraie citoyenneté.

Premier Libérien à oser se présenter comme candidat à la mairie de Monrovia, en 1979, contre un candidat issu de la puissante aristocratie des Afro-américains, il fonda en 1983 le Parti du peuple libérien (LPP). Il n'hésitait pas à descendre dans l'arène des idées par de publications riches sur la paix et la bonne gouvernance dans son pays et en Afrique.

L'un de ses livres les plus célèbres, intitulé *The Emergence of Autocracy in Liberia: Tragedy and Challenge (1992)*, alertait ses compatriotes sur la gestion patrimoniale du pouvoir comme source de comportements dictatoriaux. C'est ce courage et ce charisme qui lui valurent d'être choisi comme président du premier gouvernement intérimaire, lors de l'historique réunion organisée à Banjul, en novembre 1990, par la Cedeao pour stopper la descente aux enfers de son pays.

Par la suite, lorsque Ellen Johnson Sirleaf fût élue présidente du Liberia, Amos Claudius Sawyer dirigea la « Good Governance Commission », dans ce pays loin d'être un champion en la matière.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Juan Manuel Santos

# Faire la paix après la pandémie

**B**OGOTÁ - Dans une formule lapidaire de son ouvrage *Le Paradis perdu*, le poète anglais John Milton énonce une vérité fondamentale sur les efforts visant à mettre fin à un conflit violent en vue d'établir une paix durable :

« Qui vainc par la force,  
Ne vainc son ennemi qu'à moitié. »

Cette idée a joué un rôle central pour trouver un moyen de mettre fin à la longue et coûteuse guerre civile en Colombie. En outre, elle est parfaitement transposable dans le champ des défis mondiaux communs que nous traversons actuellement.

Pour établir la paix, les dirigeants doivent encourager l'espoir et ancrer les politiques dans l'empathie, dans la solidarité et dans une vision à long terme du bien commun. C'est précisément l'approche que nous devons adopter à présent pour surmonter la pandémie de COVID-19 et pour construire un monde plus résilient, capable de mieux résister aux chocs et aux crises à venir.

L'expérience collective de l'humanité durant la COVID-19 nous rappelle à quel point nos vies peuvent être précieuses, fragiles et étroitement liées les unes aux autres. L'existence de chaque personne sur cette planète est inextricablement liée à celle de nos frères, de nos sœurs et de nos voisins, ainsi qu'à celle de nos ancêtres et des générations futures. À l'heure où nous commençons à planifier une relance post-pandémie, notre capacité à reconnaître notre destin commun nous intime de nous inspirer de l'héritage des réussites des dirigeants qui nous ont précédé.

À cet égard, il n'y a pas de meilleur modèle que Nelson Mandela, un homme au courage et à la détermination sans faille, qui a défié un système particulièrement néfaste de l'oppression raciale et qui est devenu le plus grand conciliateur de sa génération. Mandela a enduré près de trois décennies d'emprisonnement, a conduit son peuple vers la liberté et a construit en Afrique du Sud une démocratie résiliente et multiraciale qui a perduré jusqu'à ce jour.

L'humilité inébranlable de Mandela et sa foi inflexible en la démocratie ont contribué à jeter les bases de l'Afrique du Sud moderne. Ces qualités ont également trouvé un écho à l'échelle mondiale, en ce que Mandela a toujours placé la lutte pour la libération du Congrès national africain dans le contexte de la lutte internationale plus large contre le colonialisme, le racisme et la discrimination.

Cette affirmation de notre humanité commune est au cœur de la décision de Mandela de fonder « The Elders », le groupe de dirigeants mondiaux indépendants auquel j'appartiens. Dans son discours lors du lancement de l'organisation à Johannesburg en juillet 2007, Mandela a chargé le groupe d'un mandat spécifique : « Défendre le courage face à la peur, encourager la concorde face au conflit et inspirer l'espoir face au désespoir. »

Aujourd'hui plus que jamais, nous devons renouveler cette approche face à la pandémie, ainsi que face à des menaces existentielles encore plus graves comme le changement climatique et les armes nucléaires. Il est urgent que les dirigeants mondiaux reconnaissent explicitement l'importance de la solidarité, ainsi que leur devoir d'agir de manière décisive pour défendre et rajeunir le multilatéralisme.

Cette ambition et ce sens de l'espoir sont essentiels. Un exemple frappant de son absence est la réaction collective décevante à l'appel lancé en mars 2020 par le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies António Guterres en faveur d'un « cessez-le-feu mondial » en réponse à la COVID-19. Il est vrai que l'appel de Guterres fut convaincant et l'ONU a estimé que les parties belligérantes de 11 pays en ont tenu compte au début du mois d'avril de l'année passée. Mais le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU a mis plus de trois mois à adopter une résolution approuvant l'appel de Guterres. Et trop de conflits se sont poursuivis sans relâche tout au long de l'année 2020 et font encore rage aujourd'hui.

Le nombre de morts, en particulier parmi les civils non armés, a été dévastateur. À la mi-2020, les conflits violents ont contribué à une augmentation du nombre de personnes déplacées de force, qui s'élève à près de 80 millions. Et à la fin de l'année, près de 100 millions de personnes ont subi une grave insécurité alimentaire à la suite d'un conflit, contre 77 millions en 2019.

C'est une mise en cause sérieuse de notre échec collectif, en particulier de celui des cinq membres permanents du Conseil de sécurité. Mais nous devons comprendre la quasi-paralysie du Conseil dans le contexte plus large des nombreux échecs mondiaux de leadership que la COVID-19 a révélés. Il s'agit notamment d'une coordination et d'un partage insuffisants d'informations en vue de contenir la pandémie, d'une collaboration inadaptée du G20 pour protéger l'économie mondiale, d'une pénurie d'aide financière pour soutenir la moitié Sud de la planète et de la catastrophe morale de « l'apartheid vaccinal ».

Face à cette litanie de défis et de déceptions, il est facile de se laisser gagner par le pessimisme. Mais se résigner à l'échec n'est pas seulement un aveu de complaisance des privilégiés du monde qui n'ont pas à supporter la douleur et les pertes de la guerre, mais également une trahison envers ses victimes. L'espoir persiste - tout comme notre détermination doit également persister.

Quant à moi, j'espère et je suis déterminé à ce que nous nous relevions de la pandémie de manière à affirmer les paroles de mon compatriote, le grand écrivain et prix Nobel Gabriel García Márquez : « Ni les inondations, ni les fléaux, ni les famines, ni les cataclysmes, ni même les guerres éternelles de siècle en siècle n'ont pu surpasser l'avantage tenace de la vie sur la mort. » Dans le même esprit, nous devons alors persister dans cette tâche porteuse de vie qui consiste à faire la paix.

*Juan Manuel Santos, prix Nobel de la paix, ancien président de la Colombie (2010-18), professeur invité au Département du développement international de l'Université d'Oxford et membre du groupe « The Elders » (Les Anciens).*

# LIBERIANS DEBATE

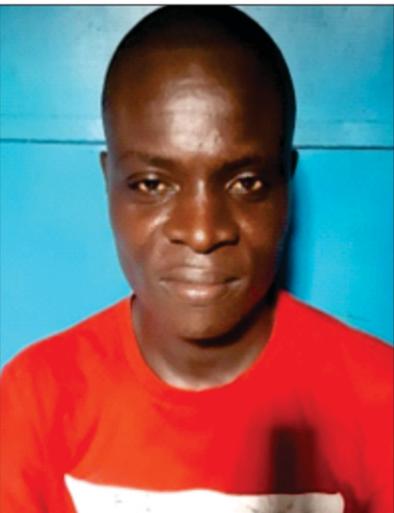
By Naneka Hoffman

Former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai recently joined a new opposition bloc after he pulled out of the Collaborating Political Parties. But public reaction on Amb. Boakai's decision is mixed, as the NEW DAWN uncovers in this random sampling compiled below.



**David Quayae Nagbe**  
"I Think it is a very good thing for Joseph N. Boakai to join a new opposition bloc, considering the fact that Amb. Boakai thought that it was important to have joined the CPP to put together forces so as to bring an end to the CDC criminal and corrupt management of the country but some of the forces in the CPP did not see it expedient. When they presided over the CPP, he (Boakai) was very considering. He was willing at any point in time to attend CPP functions and meetings but by the time he took over the leadership, they were not willing. The CPP operates based on veto

situation so, if a member is not part of any meeting, many decisions cannot be reached. So, on that account, Amb. Boakai saw the need that they were unwilling and he decided to leave and has equally established a group of like minds that they can collaborate to ensuring the dream to retire President Weah. I think Amb. Boakai is that option, that alternative, that person that Liberians see to be the man that can take them to prosperity. The Liberian people are suffering in the face of the poor management of the country, characterized by corruption, bad governance, injustices being perpetrated against peaceful citizens, lawlessness taken over the country, mysterious deaths, secret killings, low water, electricity and all these issues, are major challenges being experienced by the Liberian people so, they are willing. The only option to settle these major economic issues is when Amb. Boakai comes to the table with the experience, qualification and ability to move the country forward and his team comprised of group of people who have tested technical capacity to delivering prosperity and business services that will help our people to leave from poverty."



**Abraham Political Modric Saytue**  
"Ambassador Boakia miscalculated by joining a new opposition bloc. I think they have no vision; they have no plan because he was in collaboration and have a framework document and signed a collaboration. But instead of staying with the collaboration, he failed to unite the collaboration and he left from there to join a new bloc. I think it is a

miscalculation from the former Vice President. He will not make it to the election come 2023 because he failed to unite the CPP and brought confusion. Amb. Boakai says he has all the qualifications and wants to be President. He failed to unite the CPP and now has joined a new opposition bloc. I think it's a miscalculation, he has no leadership ability. I think he wants to carry another confusion in that bloc. My you, opposition political parties in Liberia are there to checkmate government, that's why they are governments in waiting. They are the next alternatives after President George Weah's second term, but since they failed to unite the CCP, they have joined another bloc. The former Vice President has no idea when it comes to Leadership."



**Amos Ticker**  
"No political party wins an election in this country without having another political party on board because when you bring the people on board, it also shows you how to work and they are going to show you your problems and when you have taken power, if you do not know your problems, you will not be able to do what you are going there for. It is a very good step for Amb. Boakai

joining a new opposition bloc and that is it. It is so early, it will also show that they came with their real minds and we will examine them and we will know what they are coming for, because for example, you see Alexander Cummings, we never run behind people. People run behind the jobs because they feel that we are the biggest political party and when you join the biggest political party, we will tell you the elephant that we killed and how we're going to give you a piece to eat. You will not tell us how to give you. We will tell you how we want to give you, if you take it, that's it."



**Brutu B. Clutiah**  
"This is a democratic society we are in and as usual, democracy gives every individual right in terms of establishing an institution or making a participation so, I think from that backdrop, it is his right and we hope come 2023, there should be an easy democratic process. When you look at it clearly, you will realize that what others are saying, they may be right because taken into consideration his position as well as his level of experience in the public sector. What he

was expected to have done was to have ensured that the internal wrangling in the CPP be settled but to our outmost surprise, Amb. Boakai did not speak to anything; if people say so, I believe they are right because the behavior he demonstrated, actually speaks volume to the lack of leadership attribute. I feel that he cannot make it because if only he was with the CPP, taken into consideration the CPP is more than one institution, being with the CPP it could have increased his strength in terms of the number but now leaving the CPP and standing alone as Unity Party actually decreases his strength and to go to election requires numbers."



**Hassan Bility**  
"Amb. Boakai is already making the

mark, this coming 2023 election, I see many reasons why he should be elected President. The failing of the government makes Amb. Joseph N. Boakai a new candidate for leadership because he who preaches equity should come

with clean hands. He will make it good that is not an argument, we got no argument on whether Amb. Boakai can make it or not, but I know within myself that Amb. Boakai can make it and he will make it come 2023."

# Liberia, World Bank sign US\$40m loan

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Government of Liberia and the World Bank have signed a US\$40 million loan and grant for the implementation of the Liberia Investment, Finance and Trade Project (LIFT-P), aimed at improving support of Liberia's private and financial sectors, and enhancing sustainable trade access to finance.

Government ministries and agencies including Finance, Commerce, the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL), the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) and the National Investment Commission (NIC) signed on behalf of Liberia on Monday, 4 April 2022. The signing ceremony was held in the Conference Hall of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry at the renamed Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf

International Development Association 9 on February 2022 approved a credit and an added grant Liberia for the implementation of the project.

The project aims to improve the investment climate, expand sustainable trade and access to finance, and increase the efficiency of trade in Liberia.

It also incorporates features that seek to address the identified gap between men and women with respect to the participation in economic activities in the country, especially around different constraints and performance between women - owned and men - owned funds.

Through the signing of the Liberia Investment, Finance and Trade Project, the Government of Liberia will create a one-stop-shop for business registration and licensing and automate the process so that it becomes easy to start a business in Liberia.

The Government of Liberia will again through the project simplify and automate the

Mr. Tweah noted that the project has deliverables, targets and they have to stay consistent in delivering on those targets. "The Monitoring and Project Management Unit has a lot of work to do because this is an intangible thing and one of the difficulties of it, people do not feel the impact immediately. Therefore, we have to make deliberate efforts to force them to feel the impact and that means the project has to work," he said.

Also speaking, World Bank Country Manager Dr. Khwima Nthara described the project as a game changer for Liberia because the country is open for business and it will be the investor's destination of choice.

Dr. Nthara said by facilitating private sector investment, the project will contribute towards the creation of more and better jobs. "I like to say during such ceremonies, the Executive branch of government has done its part in mobilizing the simple sustainable amount of resources that will transform the lives of

# State Lawyers baffling Cummings' trial

-Defense Lawyers say

Defense Lawyers lash out at State Prosecutors here, accusing them of baffling the trial of opposition leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings with unmerited and unreasonable requests that are far removed from

request by state prosecutors is unnecessary and viewed same as personal vindictive against Mr. Cummings, while Co-defendants Naatehn and Toe are mere victims of circumstances.

State Prosecutors on Monday, April 4, filed a bill of information, requesting ANC Defense Lawyers to provide in addition to Mr.



ANC Political Leader Mr. Cummings

the substantive issues of the "forgery and criminal conspiracy" case brought against their client.

Defendant Cummings is Political Leader of the opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC). He is being tried along with his party Chairman Daniel F. Naatehn and Secretary General Aloysius Toe.

Defense Lawyers made specific reference to a Bill of Information filed in court by lead prosecutor, Solicitor General Syrenius Cephus, requesting Mr. Cummings to produce his Passport with an American visa, as the sole proof that he did travel to the United States and also, to a vague request to subpoena a so-called service provider to produce Whatsapp messages amongst CPP Political Leaders.

However, Defense Lawyers argue that Whatsapp messages are end to end encrypted, with no third-party access, while there is no law that requires a defendant requesting voluntary leave from a trial to produce American passport with American visa to establish that s/he did travel to the United States.

They maintain that in keeping with law, they have provided State Prosecutors with Mr. Cummings' flight and ticket numbers, itenary of departure, duration of stay and return to Liberia therefore, it is unthinkable to additionally request their client to produce Whatsapp messages, considering its encrypted technology.

Lawyers representing Mr. Cummings further argue that the fact that their client has since returned and appeared in court, the

Cummings' travel information, his Passport with American visa to prove that he traveled to the United States and returned to Liberia before or on March 25, 2022. But the Defense suspects ulterior motives in State Lawyers' request for Cummings' passport with American visa, noting that the charges are politically motivated. Accordingly, Defense lawyers have requested the Monrovia City Court presided over by Magistrate Jomah Jallah to dismiss and deny the State Prosecutors' request for Cummings' passport with American visa and proceed with the trial of the case.

Meanwhile, the court has reserved ruling on the matter.

ANC Political Leader, Mr. Alexander B. Cummings and his Vice National Chairman Daniel Naatehn and Secretary General Aloysius Toe are facing trial for alleged alteration of the than Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) framework document. ANC authorities have vehemently rejected and denied the charges, describing them as bogus and politically motivated, as part of conspiracies between the All Liberian Party of Benoni Urey and the ruling CDC with ulterior motives.

State prosecutors' first state witness, Theodore Momo, Chairman of the All Liberian Party of Mr. Benoni Urey, is still undergoing cross examination by ANC defense lawyers. Defense Lawyers have described his testimony as lies and are seeking to establish that witness Momo lied under oath about the alteration of the CPP framework document.

Additionally, it is confirmed that State Lawyers submitted evidence of WhatsApp messages in which the deleted messages that would help prove Messrs Cummings, Nathen, and Toe's innocence. State Lawyers have since submitted the full set of text messages to the court. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Min. Samuel Tweah

Dr. Khwima Nthara

Ministerial Complex in Congo Town.

The signing ceremony brought together top government officials and officials of the World Bank including its Country Manager Dr. Khwima Nthara, who signed for his entity.

Liberia's Finance Minister Samue D. Tweah, Jr., Commerce and Industry Minister Mawine Diggs, and Deputy Central Bank Governor for Economic Policy Dr. Musa Dukuly, signed for the Government of Liberia.

Following several months of engagement and high level policy meeting between staff of the Word Bank and the Government of Liberia, the Board of Executive Directors of the

process of exporting and importing goods by creating a national single window for trade and establish a new National Electronic Payment Switch System that will connect and improve the efficiency of various elements of the financial system including commercial banks, micro-finance banks, and mobile money agents.

Speaking at the signing ceremony Finance Minister Samuel D. Tweah, Jr., expressed excitement and appreciation to the World Bank of Liberia through the Country Manager Dr. Khwima Nthara for the signing ceremony, adding that it's a great relief to the country.

According to Minister Tweah, the impact of the project will be felt in terms of its monitoring and evaluation, saying they are key because this is where they are going to spend a lot of their energy in implementation.

Liberians and it's now up to the Legislature to ratify the financing agreement as soon as possible so that implementation can begin," he said.

Commerce Minister Madam Mawine Diggs thanked the World Bank for the project, noting that the government looks forward to further enhancing partnership with the World Bank as they take a step forward to the next stages of the project. "Today is a manifestation that we have gone beyond not just that commitment to taking essential steps to making the lives of our people better following the massive disruption to trade and economy as the result of the COVID-19," she said. "The LIFT-P and other projects implemented by this Ministry will complement the government's economic recovery program and policy aimed at promoting SME," Minister Diggs noted.

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# Tension wires electrocute 39-year-old painter



Victim Emmanuel Vaye after his electrocution

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland county

A 39-year-old man, Emmanuel Vaye, has been electrocuted by high tension wire while painting the top of a Mosque in Maryland County, southeast Liberia. The incident occurred on Saturday, April 2, 2022.

The deceased was a local painter and resident of Zone#3, Pleebo, Electoral

District#2, Maryland County. Narrating the ordeal, a bystander only identified as Jai, explains that the deceased was contracted by members of the Muslim Community in the district to paint a Mosque in order to give it a facelift as they observe the Holy Month of Ramadan. He notes that the late Vaye had begun the contract for about three days before meeting his untimely

death early Saturday while painting.

Jai continues that while the deceased was painting below the Mosque early that morning, electrical power from the Liberia Electricity Cooperation (LEC) had gone off.

"So, when he was through with the down part of the mosque, he had gone on top of the building to complete the painting, but while at the top of the building which is very close to the tension wire, the current came on with force and by then, Emmanuel was already close to the tension wire", he narrates.

Jai says the only thing we saw while looking from down is that Emmanuel was struggling to balance but the force from the power drew him to the tension wire and he got electrocuted.

"He was one of my closest friends. I was so surprised to have witnessed his demise because we all were together during the morning hours" he laments.

The victim has been described as someone who was friendly, good and hardworking and

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