

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

 DATE
 BUYING
 SELLING

 MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022
 L\$151.2691 /US\$1.00
 L\$153.0281US\$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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**VOL. 12 NO. 060** 

**MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022** 

**PRICE LD\$40.00** 



# Princess Cooper's autopsy report ready

Will Boakai face Cummings?



What are we doing today?





#### outh Africa's floodravaged east was hit by more rain Saturday after the deadliest storm to strike the country in living memory killed nearly 400

# Continental News

## More Rain Falls in South Africa's Flood-ravaged Southeast

(KZN) province, where Durban is located off the Indian Ocean coast, were on high alert.

Recovery operations and humanitarian relief were underway in the city of 3.5

homesteads, especially from the rural areas," Shawn Herbst of the first responder company Netcare 911 told AFP.

"There is still damage taking place, especially with the rain we are experiencing today," he added.

This weekend's rainfall will not be "as hectic as it was in the past few days," according to Puseletso Mofokeng, South Africa Weather Service forecaster.

But with soil being oversaturated with water, more flooding is expected.Despite the light rains falling on the city, a local premiership league football match between AmaZulu and Maritzburg United went ahead at the 2010 World Cup Moses Mabhida Stadium Saturday.

But a Currie Cup rugby match between local team, the Sharks, and the Bulls from Pretoria, scheduled for the city was canceled Friday as a mark of respect for victims of the flooding.

Troops, police and volunteers are leading the search and rescue operation.

Residents of Mariannhill,

desperate for news of their missing relatives were relieved at the sight of rescuers, but the dread of fresh rains lingered.

"We have the rescue team finally ... reach here, but seeing the rain that is coming back, they are going to be disrupted," said Dumisani Kanyile after recovery teams failed to find any of the 10 members of one family missing in the Durban district.

Mesuli Shandu, 20, a close relative of the family, was

still in a state of disbelief "that a massive number of people died in one day, including babies."

"When I came, I thought it was a dream, maybe someone would pinch me and say it was a dream, just wake up." But "I see all the rescuers and the dogs searching for their bodies. "Six days after the floods first struck, hope of finding survivors is fading, and Durban emergency medical services representative Robert McKenzie said the response was now focused on recovery and humanitarian relief. VOA



people and left tens of thousands homeless.

Floodwaters engulfed parts of the southeastern coastal city of Durban this week ripping apart roads, destroying hospitals and sweeping away homes and those trapped inside.

Emergency services in the southeastern KwaZulu-Natal

million, which would normally have been teeming with Easter holiday-makers this weekend.

The death toll rose Saturday to 398 while 27 people were still reported missing, the government said in a statement. More than 40,000 have been rendered homeless.

"Sadly there are still bodies being recovered from

# No morning call to prayer for Rwanda's Muslims



uslims marking the holy month of Ramadan in Rwanda are not being summoned by early morning calls to prayer, and may never be again.

Last month the authorities banned the use of loudspeakers on mosques in the early hours of the day, saying they violated noise pollution laws that forbid noise over 55 decibels in the day and 45 decibels at night in residential areas.

"The decision violated our rights to practise our faith," says 55-year-old Zaina Mukamabano who lives in the capital city, Kigali. She says it's the first time in her life that there's been no call to

prayer, or "adhan" as it is called in Arabic, in the mornings during Ramadan.

The practice of attaching loudspeakers to the minarets on mosques began in Asia in the 1930s and spread across the globe. Five calls are made per day, to summon the faithful for their five daily prayers.

Rwandan authorities say that residents had complained about the earliest call to prayer which happens between 04:30 and 04:49 and lasts about two or three minutes.

"We are not happy... during Ramadan it is adhan which tells us that it is time to start fasting, and not all Muslims in Rwanda have alarm clocks," says another resident, Nuhu Bihibindi. BBC

their desire to help.

Local media said that Italy had offered to help and that it is expected to send a naval vessel specialized in dealing with marine disasters.

On Saturday, Tunisian authorities opened an investigation into the ship's sinking, which the environment ministry said was caused by bad weather.

It said barriers would be set up to limit the spread of the fuel and cordon off the ship, before suctioning the spillage.

The coast of the southern city of Gabes has suffered major pollution for years, with environmental organizations saying industrial plants in the area have been dumping waste directly into the sea. VOA

## Tunisia Says Countries Offer Help to Tackle Impact of Fuel Ship's Sinking

ome countries have offered to help ┛Tunisia prevent damage to the environment after a merchant ship carrying up to one thousand tons of oil sank off the coast of Gabes, the Tunisian defense ministry said on

Sunday.

The ship heading from Equatorial Guinea to Malta sank on Friday and the Tunisian navy rescued all seven crew

The vessel carried between 750 tons and one thousand tons of fuel and sent a distress call seven miles away from Gabes to which the Tunisian navy responded, officials said.

The defense ministry said in statement sent to Reuters that to control the environmental damage the Tunisian navy will work with countries that have expressed



## **EDITORIAL**

## National Aids Commission | lied on the media

A GLOBAL FUND Investigative Report debunks claim by the Program Manager for the National Aids Control Program at the Ministry of Health that four payments totaling US\$23,285 were made to the Liberian media for radio advertisement, public relations and events in February 2019.

GLOBAL FUND ESTABLISHES that all four payments exhibit evidence of fraudulent practices, including conflict of interest, as shareholder also served as Director of Communications at the Ministry of Health.

IT NOTES IN March 2020, a MoH Internal Audit review found that awarding the contract constituted a conflict of interest, as there was no Request for Quotations and evidence of a competitive bidding process, noting that only two contained quotations from other bidders, which were dated after contract was signed with entities that did not physically

THE FINDINGS ARE just a tip of the iceberg of how institutions here, both public and private siphon funds budgeted for media activities, subjecting media houses and the Liberian press generally to poverty thus, forcing them out of business.

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS, NGOS, government ministries and agencies annually budget funds for publicity activities that never reach the media, but they give performance reports that said monies were expended on the media.

DIVERTING AND MISAPPROPRIATING media funds is tantamount to suffocating the Liberian media to death, which is pure wickedness. Yet these same entities expect the media to cover their publicity-seeking programs and activities.

SOME CRUEL INSTITUTIONS even go further by placing advertisements in the media without making payment even after services are provided, leaving struggling media entities in debts and inability to pay taxes, staff, rental and other commitments.

OFTEN, THE MEDIA is referred to as watchdog and Fourth Estate, but treatments meted are deliberately meant to undermine its potency both professionally and financially.

IN THE CASE involving the National Aids Control Program, Global Fund further reveals that additional 19 payments were made purportedly for advertisements

TOTALING US\$32,918 WITHOUT any evidence of scripts or audio files of the radio messages developed, or adverts delivered to radio stations, or aired, noting that such lack of evidence of delivery of services was also noted by MoH internal audit.

THIS IS NOT only criminal, but discourages donors from supporting major development programs that directly benefit ordinary Liberians, particularly critical health issue such as HIV and Aids.

IT IS NOT only saddening, but a big disgrace that both the NACP and the Ministry of Health, that should tread on accountability and transparency in handling donors' funds are caught right-handed in corruption and broad day theft | against the media that these institutions rely on to propagate their programs and policies.



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www.thenewdawnliberia.com

By Raghuram G. Rajan

## The End of Free-Lunch Economics

difficult proposition politically, especially in went to the top one-fifth of earners. democracies. It is always easier for elected leaders to indulge their constituents immediately, Of course, the program may have saved some firms are still in office. Moreover, those who bear the pain caused by a policy are not necessarily those who will gain from it.

That is why today's more advanced economies created mechanisms that allow them to make hard choices when necessary. Chief among these are independent central banks and mandated limits on budget deficits. Importantly, political parties reached a consensus to establish and back these mechanisms irrespective of their own immediate political priorities. One reason why many emerging markets have swung from crisis to crisis is that they failed to achieve such consensus. But recent history shows that developed economies, too, are becoming less tolerant of pain, perhaps because their own political consensus has eroded.

Financial markets have become volatile once again, owing to fears that the US Federal Reserve will have to tighten its monetary policy significantly to control inflation. But many investors still hope that the Fed will go easy if asset prices start to fall substantially. If the Fed harder to normalize financial conditions in the future.

Investors' hope that the Fed will prolong the party is not baseless. In late 1996, Fed Chair Alan Greenspan warned of financial markets' "irrational exuberance." But the markets shrugged off the warning and were proved correct. Perhaps chastened by the harsh political reaction to Greenspan's speech, the Fed did nothing. And when the stock market eventually crashed in 2000, the Fed cut rates, ensuring that the recession was

In a testimony to the congressional Joint Economic Committee the previous year, Greenspan argued that while the Fed could not prevent "the inevitable economic hangover" from an assetprice boom, it could "mitigate the fallout when it occurs and, hopefully, ease the transition to the next expansion." The Fed thus assured traders and bankers that if they collectively gambled on similar assets, it would not limit the upside, but it would limit the downside if their bets turned bad. Subsequent Fed interventions have entrenched such beliefs, making it even harder for the Fed to might be harder to achieve.

Fiscal policy is also guilty of peddling supposedly painless economic measures. Most would agree that the pandemic created a need for targeted unemployment benefits, for example) to shield the hardest-hit households. But, in the event, the spending was anything but targeted. The US Congress passed multi-trillion-dollar bills offering something for everyone.

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), for example, provided \$800 billion in grants (effectively) for small businesses across the board. A new study from MIT's David Autor and his colleagues estimates that the program helped preserve 2-3 million job-years of employment over 14 months, at a stupendous cost of \$170,000-\$257,000 per job-year. Worse, only 23-34% of this the Community Behind (Penguin, 2020). money went directly to workers who would

HICAGO - Smart economic policymaking otherwise have lost their jobs. The balance went to invariably requires trading off some pain creditors, business owners, and shareholders. All ◆today for greater future gains. But this is a told, an estimated three-quarters of PPP benefits

on the hope that the bill will not arrive while they that otherwise would have collapsed. But at what cost? While capitalists anticipate profits, they also sign up for possible failure. Moreover, many small businesses are tiny operations without much organizational capital. If a small bakery had to close, the economic fallout would have been mitigated by the enhanced unemployment insurance. And if it had a loyal clientele, it could restart after the pandemic, perhaps with a little help from a bank.

> The standard line is that the unconstrained spending was driven by a sense that unprecedented times called for unprecedented measures. In fact, it was the response to the 2008 global financial crisis that broke the previous consensus for more prudent policies. Lasting public resentment that Wall Street had been helped more than Main Street motivated politicians in both major parties to spend with abandon when the pandemic hit. But targeted unemployment benefits were associated with the Democrats, leaving Republicans seeking wins for their own constituencies. Who better to support than small businesses?

proves them right, it will become that much While political fractures were driving up untargeted spending, budget hawks were nowhere to be found: Their voices had been steadily drowned out by economists. In addition to the cranks who show up periodically to advocate ostensibly free lunches through money-financed spending, a growing chorus of mainstream economists had been arguing that prevailing low interest rates gave developed countries significantly more room to expand fiscal deficits. Politicians who were eager to justify their policies ignored these economists' caveats - that spending had to be sensible, and that interest rates had to stay low. Only the headline message mattered, and anyone suggesting otherwise was dismissed as a hair-shirt fanatic.

> Historically, it has been the Fed's job to take away the monetary punch bowl before the party gets frenzied, and Congress's job to be prudent about fiscal deficits and debt. But the Fed's desire to spare the market from pain has driven more risktaking, and reinforced expectations of further interventions. The Fed's actions have also added to the pressure on Congress to do its bit for Main Street, which in turn has led to inflation and a belief that the Fed will back off from raising rates.

rein in financial markets with modest moves. And All of this makes a return to the previous consensus now that much more tightening and consequent more difficult. When the Fed does raise rates pain may be needed, a consensus in favor of it significantly, the government's costs of servicing the debt from past spending will limit future spending, including on policies to reduce inequality (which has fueled political fragmentation), combat future emergencies, and tackle climate change.

spending (through extended, generous Every economy has a limited reservoir of policy credibility and resources, which are best used to mitigate genuine economic distress, not to shield those who can bear some pain. If everyone wants a free lunch, the bill eventually will be paid by those least able to afford it. Emerging-market economies have had to learn this the hard way. Developed countries may have to learn it again.

> 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

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..RESIDENT CIRCUIT JUDGE BEFORE HIS HONOR: J. KENNEDY PEABODY...... IN RE: Nelson Philip Charles Taylor of Congo Town, Monrovia,

.....PLAINTIFF Republic of Liberia... Anfree N. Bartuah Taylor; also of Congo Town, Monrovia,

DIVORCE FOR INCOMPATIBILITY OF TEMPER

#### SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

#### WRIT OF SUMMONS

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

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMONS THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S)/RESPON-DENT(S) IN THE ABOVE CAPTIONED CASE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL ALW COURT FOR MONTSERRADO 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)/PETITONER(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 24TH 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  $24^{ ext{TH}}$  DAY OF FEBRUARY, A. D. 2022, AS TO THE MANNER/FORM OF ITS SERVICE.

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

COURT'S SEAL:

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

Victor G. Gailor ASSISTANT CLERK, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW COURT, MONTSERRADO COUNTY, R. L.

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

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

Nelson Philip Charles Taylor of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.....

**ACTION OF DIVORCE** INCOMPATIBILITY OF

TEMPER

**VERSUS** Anfree N. Bartuah-Taylor also of Congo Town, Monrovia,

#### 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:

- That the Plaintiff and the Defendant were joined together in the bond of Holy Matrimony on the 11th day of May, A. D. 2019 at the St. Peter Lutheran Church on 14th Street in Sinkor in the City of Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.
- 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.
- 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.
- That the Plaintiff has kept his marital vows inviolate and has faithfully lived up to his side of their marital contract.
- 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 CIRCUMSTAMCES, 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 Koboi Johnson, Sr. COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW/SR. PARTNER

Willie D. Barclay, Jr COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

Dated this 14 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 MONTSERRADO COUNTY)

Nelson Philip Charles Taylor of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia......PLAINTIFF

ACTION OF DIVORCE ) FOR
) INCOMPATIBILITY OF

**VERSUS** Anfree N. Bartuah-Taylor also of Congo Town, Monrovia, Republic of Liberia......DEFENDANT )

#### **PLAINTIFF'S AFFIDAVIT**

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFROE ME, a duly qualified and commissioned Justice of the Peace for and in Montserrado 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 DAY OF FEBRUARY, A. D. 2022

JUSTICEOP THE PEACE MONTSERRADO COUNTY, R. L.

#### \$ 4.00 Revenue Stamp Affixed on the Original

## Palm a priority crop to spur growth

-Govt. launches 5-year Strategy and Action Plan

he Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) has launched the National Oil Palm Strategy and Action Plan (NOPSAP), identifying oil palm as one of the priority crops to spur agricultural growth and development under Pillar II of its Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD).

The Ministry of Agriculture on Thursday, April 14, 2022 officially launched the five-year strategy and action plan on oil palm production in the country at Corina Hotel in Sinkor, Monrovia.

Agriculture Minister, Jeanine M. Cooper, at the launch said the initiative is important but stressed a need for the establishment of an oil palm development

She praised the Liberian palm oil as being the second agriculture export with high quality acceptable worldwide.

Madam Cooper encouraged partners in the oil palm sector to use the Action Plan to develop the sector and boost Liberia's oil palm industry.

She said with the five-year oil palm strategy, she believes affected communities would now have a clear roadmap to benefits necessitated by social corporate responsibility of companies in the operating areas.

"This strategy will go a long-way in developing our palm oil sector and providing unity in the affected communities," the Minister added.

She stressed that the strategy will help in the commercialization of palm oil in



large quantity.

At the same time, Mr. Galah Toto, Lead Coordinator of the National Oil Palm Strategy said the plan is intended to access finance for sustainable palm oil development in the country, amongst

"This plan seeks to place the oil palm sector for strategic development," Mr. Toto explained.

Moreover, the Swedish Embassy's representative at the launch, Mr. Jenkins Flahwor, promised the Embassy's commitment to work with the MOA in areas that are of priority to the country.

Mr. Flahwor indicated that the Swedish Embassy has a 5-year strategic plan covering biodiversity, climate change, amongst others, and as such, there would be areas in the National Oil Palm Strategy that could be supported by the Government of Sweden.

ACTION OF DEBT

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA ) IN THE COMMERCIAL COURT OF LIBERIA, MONTSERRADO COUNTY) SITTING IN ITS JULY TERM, A. D. 2021,

BEFORE HER HONOR: EVA MAPPY MORGAN......CHIEF JUDGE BEFORE HIS HONOR: CHAN CHAN PAEGAR.......ASSOCIATE JUDGE BEFORE HIS HONOR: OTHELLO S. PAYMAN, I.....ASSOCIATE JUDGE

Guaranty Trust Bank (Liberia) Limited by and thru its Managing Director, Mr. Ikenna Anekwe of the City of Monrovia, Liberia

#### VERSUS

Baba Frozen Food, Inc. represented by its Chief Executive Officer, 

AND

#### PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs in the above cause of action prays court to hold the herein named Defendants liable to Plaintiff, and for reasons showeth the following to wit:

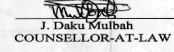
- That Plaintiff, Guaranty Trust Bank Liberia Limited, is a financial institution organized and existing under the Laws of the Republic of Liberia who by resolution of its Board of Directors was authorized to institute legal action against the delinquent customers of the bank. Attached are copies of the bank's Articles of Incorporation, Certificate of Business Registration and Board Resolution marked as Exhibit P/1 in bulk.
- That the 1st Defendant, Baba Frozen Food Inc. is a business entity operating under the laws of the Republic of Liberia and the 2<sup>ND</sup> Defendant, Tanuj Pandya, is its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who arranged for several loan facilities at various dates amounting to ----- on agreed terms and conditions and executed several instruments including a Personal Guarantee from 2<sup>nd</sup> Defendant to secure the loan. Attached as Exhibit P/2 in bulk are the loan agreements and collateral instruments.
- That the Defendants have defaulted on the payment of the loans secured from the Plaintiff, overdrawn balance of US\$3,752.62 on its account No. 0102422/002/0001/000 despite repeated demands and now Plaintiff's lawyer fees of US\$8,443.59 for the institution of this debt action that brings the total indebtedness of the Defendants to US\$177,315.46. Attached as **Exhibit P/3** in bulk are the statements of account, demand letter and debt collection agreement.

WHEREFORE AND IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, Plaintiff prays your honor to render judgment against the defendants as follows:

- That the Defendants are liable to the Plaintiff in the sum of US\$177,315.46(One Hundred Seventy Seven Thousand Three Hundred Fifteen United States Dollars and Forty Cents); plus legal interest of 6% per annum,
- 2. Rule all costs and expenses of this proceedings against the Defendants and grant unto the Plaintiff any and all relief equitable and just under the given circumstance.

Respectfully submitted, the Plaintiff by and thru its legal counsel the Lex Group Liberia LLC, Opposite Dominion Christian Fellowship Center Congo Town, Montserrado County, Liberia





Dated this 24 day of July A.D. 2021.

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Child dies of overdose at Peace Hope Clinic JFK refutes report of death -Mother alleges

By Kruah Thompson

he family of late AC Nagbeh, 21-monthold child, has accused authority of the Peace Hope Clinic in Paynesville Township of wrong application of medications Liberian Dollars.

She said the nurse she met on duty whose name was not disclosed, hung drape over her daughter, and she responded well.

"The next day before discharging us, another nurse, who was on duty called as Jallah Kollie informed them that her child was overdosed with inappropriate medication - "Quinine".

The father of the child, Mr. Emmanuel Willie, added that his daughter was taken to the Peace Hope Clinic after noticing that she was suffering from fever and diarrhea.

"The first nurse who was on shift, a black fellow, administered a drape with glucose and my child responded well; she even asked for soft drink which I provided her and started playing around with us", he narrated.

Mr. Willie, who is Police officer, continued that he received a call the following day from his wife that the clinic was discharging them, as their daughter was responding

"I went home and I met my daughter lying weak and hopeless. When I confronted the mother, she said we came home healthier but the last drape given to her was mixed with Quinine and I told the nurse it was not good for her but, she bitterly argued and said she knew what she was doing", Mr. Willie added.

He noted that the female Nurse Helena gave his wife a tablet and said to them it's intended to put the child to

When contacted, the Proprietor of the Peace Hope Clinic Dr. Joseph Boakai, confirmed the incident and apologized to the family for their negligence. He however, declined to comment further. Editing by Jonathan Browne



that lead to the death of their daughter, while she was being treated at the clinic.

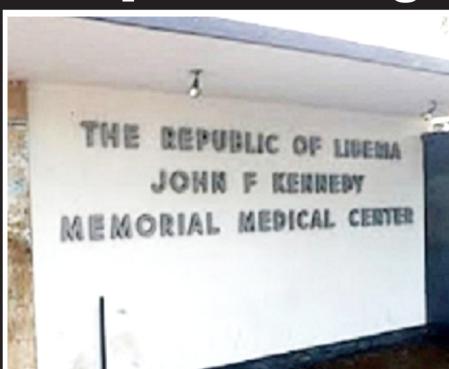
Speaking to reporters, the mother of the deceased, Madam Martha Flomo, narrated that a nurse at the clinic only identified as Helena, misapplied a Quinine dose in a drape despite informing her that the child usually reacted negatively to the administration.

Madam Flomo explained that she took her daughter to the Peace Hope Clinic for the first time on Thursday April 7, 2022 for a check, while she was suffering from illness and the clinic charged her 11,000 Helena came to our ward to provide medical services, placed a drape over my baby and said she was applying Quinine treatment into it. I said to her my baby's medical history can't accept such treatment but she forced the Quinine in the drape", she further explained in tears.

She said after discharging them, a few hours later, her baby behaved unusually and subsequently passed off.

Madam Flomo noted that prior to her child's death, she urgently rushed the late AC Nagbe to a nearby clinic in Pipeline Community, Paynesville where they live,

# over power outage



he Management of the government - run John Fitzgerald Kennedy Medical Center (JFK) has refuted social media reports referencing alleged power outage at the Medical Center on Thursday, 14 April 2022, leading to the deaths of several patients.

According to a press release from JFK, the Management of the Medical Center wishes to clarify that said information is completely false and irresponsibly misleading.

"There was absolutely no power outage at the Medical Center for the past 24hrs due to stable power from the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC)," the release noted.

The Chief Medical Officer Jerry Brown said despite the challenges of not receiving stable power from the national grid for over three months, the Medical Center has spent over US\$100,000.00 on Diesel Fuel to

maintain stable power in direct support of patient care.

Additionally, he said the Medical Center also has three functional standby generators for the purpose of sustaining stable power supply at the facility in any instance where there is a power outage from LEC.

The Management of the JFKMC strongly warned individuals and media outlets that are habitually spreading false and misleading information about the JFK Medical Center to desist immediately or risk legal actions.

It reaffirms its commitment to make the JFK Medical Center "The Hospital of Choice" and encourages the public to positively contribute to this quest through constructive engagements.

Over the weekend, social media was flooded with information that several patients who were receiving treatment at JFK on Thursday, 14 April 2022, lost their lives due to power cuts.

By Kruah Thompson

he Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism has generally

accepted and welcomed the U.S. State Department 2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, particularly in Liberia.

The U.S. State

Department Report published APRIL 12, 2022 characterizes Liberia as a country with credible reports of security officers particularly the Police arbitrarily arresting, dragging, and detaining people, while pointing to repression of freedom of the press, violence, intimidation and threats again journalists along with increased corruption in government.

> The 2021 Human Rights Report also notes lack of independence of the judiciary here, while highlighting disappearances, torture, and other cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatments, amid harsh and life-threatening prison conditions.

> Liberia's Information Minister Ledgerhood Rennie says government accepts and takes responsibility for everything the report outlines, and for this reason, they keep making demonstrated strive to

addressing them.

He notes that the report also illustrates progress that has been made in terms of talking about and directing issues that confront Liberians.

However, commenting on arbitrarily arrest, as outlined by the report, Minister Rennie says no one is arbitrarily arresting people in Liberia, but claims the U.S. State Department fails to understand that this has been the process of the rule of law in Liberia.

He continues that the government is committed to fighting corruption, which is why the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission in the last few months has put new legislation before the National Legislature to give it teeth or power to go after people found wanted in the discharge of their public office and duty.

The Information boss continues that the General

Auditing Commission has a new Auditor General, who is conducting an intensive audit on various government ministries and agencies. "Those reports will be made public once they are concluded." He adds.

When quizzed on the overcrowdings of the central prison, he says government is fighting to address the situation but they cannot do it alone, so they are looking toward their international partners for help, saying "The government needs between 610 million United States Dollars to build a brand-new prison center."

Meanwhile, Minister Rennie says government is not turning a blind eye on the issues raised by the U.S. State Department "but as you know, sometimes, turtle wants the box, but its hands are short, therefore, when time is right the issues will be tackled." Editing by Jonathan Browne



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

APRIL 18

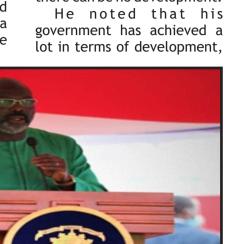
### MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Sports Park a dream fulfilled

#### -President Weah

By: Naneka Hoffman

hief Patron of Sports President George ▶Manneh Weah describes the official launch of the newly constructed Invincible Sports Park as a special day in his life, because the development of Liberia. he has dedicated all of his efforts in ensuring Liberians have unbroken peace, stressing that without peace, there can be no development.



it provided another opportunity for him to realize his dreams and aspirations for the happiness and well-being of Liberians.

Performing the formal dedication on Friday, April 15, 2022 in Monrovia President Weah noted that the land which had been used as Practice Pitch over many years by Invincible Eleven (I.E.) has been transformed into a beautiful state- of- the -art facility.

President Weah said since he was elected in 2017 to lead

and many significant projects have now been completed, while others are nearing completion.

President said the site of the Invincible Sports Park played another important and very meaningful role in the Nation's history, when it served for many years as a place where hundreds of Liberian women, dressed in white gathered during the civil crisis and prayed for peace, adding "They were here as Prayer Warriors for our Nation, in the heat and in and sitting in the sand, with no shelter from the elements."

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Mr. Weah continued that the public park is a promise kept, to improve the country's urban and civil spaces.

President Weah dedicated the Invincible Sports Park Friday in an elaborate ceremony attended by scores of high-power dignitaries, including government officials and African football legends.

The facility will be used for multipurpose, containing a soccer pitch, basketball and tennis courts, children's playground and place for relaxation, among others.

Earlier, the President of the Liberia Football Association Mustapha Raji, thanked the Chief Patron of Sports for the vision that led to the development and dedication of the Invincible Sports Park.

Mr. Raji noted that President Weah has started the pathway for growth and has sent the signal to ministers of government that "Yes! the King has not forgotten about his kingdom."

Meanwhile, the dedication ceremony was graced by Vice President Jewel Howard-Taylor, Speaker Bhofal Chambers, Senate President Pro-Tempore Albert T. Chie, Members of the 54th Legislature, Dean and Members of the Cabinet; the Doyen and Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, and presidents, chairpersons, and members of youth and student groups, among others. **Editing** by Jonathan Browne

## GoL, Dev't Partners sign MOU to Strengthen **Development Cooperation for Aid Effectiveness**



Government of Liberia and development partners have signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen Development Cooperation for aid effectiveness.

It follows a joint resolution that was approved during the action dialogue on March 16, 2022 at the ministerial complex in the oldest Congo.

In a special statement at the signing held on Thursday, April 14, 2022, at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, the Minister of Finance and Development Planning Hon. Samuel D. Tweah Jr., said the government is excited that together with development partners, they can turn a new page in aid coordination.

Hon. Tweah thanked the World Bank and other development partners for the level of cooperation and partnership toward aid coordination and effectiveness.

"Let me thank the deputy minister for Economic Management and the entire team for the level of work done so far for establishing the project dashboard" Thanks also to development partners for the results we are having in terms of coordination and the better quality and personality that are present here today.

The Liberian Finance Minister termed the MOU as a "humongous" step in the

#### CONT'D ON PAGE 11

Bility's LP faction wants the NEC to interpret Section 8.5 of the controversial framework document of the crumbled Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) in his quest to prevent Unity Party and the All Liberian Party (ALP) from fielding candidates in their own names in the Lofa bye-election and other future elections.

Bility believes that a clause within the controversial CPP framework document would disqualify UP and ALP from fielding candidates in the Lofa bye - election after withdrawing their memberships from the CPP.

Bility and Mr. Alexader B. Cummings's Alternative National Congress (ANC) have argued before the NEC that a party withdrawing from the CPP prior to the next presidential, legislative and local elections shall not field candidates in its name.

LP and ANC said they are invoking Section 8.5 (2) of the CPP framework document and requesting that the commission reject and deny any application from the ALP and UP to field candidates in their respective names in any election until the end of 2023 election, including six months after the agreed contractual life of the CPP.

But UP insists that it is not a signatory to the controversial CPP framework document submitted to the Elections

Commission by embattled Chairman Bility and the Alternative National Congress.

ANC political leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings is currently facing criminal trial after being accused by All Liberian Party political leader Benoni Urey of allegedly tampering with the CPP framework document and illegally attaching his (Urey's) signature to a photocopy version. Cummings has always denied any wrongdoing.

However, Senator Karnga -Lawrence told journalists that for the NEC to hear a case that says you cannot disassociate, contrary to constitutional requirement, is completely wrong.

Senator Karnga-Lawrence indicated that the Constitution of Liberia provides for the freedom to associate and to disassociate, adding that any attempt to prevent anybody from doing that is against their constitutional right.

"We will make sure that we restore this country. What we need to do to restore the sanctity of this country and the hope of the younger generation goes beyond our personal feelings," Senator Karnga-Lawrence noted.

Senator Karnga-Lawrence said they have made up their minds and have decided to fight collectively for the restoration of Liberia, stating that no amount of insults, chaos, fight, lies and misrepresentation will ever stop them from fighting for the restoration of the country.

## **Complete nonsense ca**

#### -Senator Karnga - Lawrence terms CPP case at NEC

Liberia President George Weah

By Lincoln G. Peters

rand Bassa County Senator and Liberty Party (LP) political leader, Nyonblee Kanrga-Lawrence has termed as nonsense the undergoing hearing at the National Elections Commission (NEC) in which Mr. Musa Bility and a faction of LP are asking the commission to exclude Unity Party's (UP's) candidate from

the Lofa senatorial bye -



Speaking in an interview with journalists Saturday, 16 April 2022 at the Unity Party headquarters in Central Monrovia, Madam Karnga -Lawrence claimed that the case is marred by serious manipulation, arguing that it does not make any sense because nobody should violate the constitutional right of the other person.

"The case at the National Elections [Commission] does not make any sense. You are all human beings and nobody can violate your constitutional right ... I just do not know why they are even having a case. However, that shows that there is a manipulation," said Madam Karnga - Lawrence.

"To see that there is a fear for the level of work that we are about to do, some of the cases and issues that we have to go through make no sense. However, we are not going to give up," she added.

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## School monitoring is a challenge

#### -Education Minister Sonii

By Kruah Thompson

he Minister of Education, Professor D. Ansu Sonii, concedes here that school monitoring has actually been a major challenge for the ministry.

government has purchased brand new vehicles with a lifespan of not less than 12 years each, to be distributed among assistant ministers and County Education Officers (CEO) for effective monitoring and supervision of educational activities in their



However, he says the challenge is not only with his ministry, but cuts across all government ministries in the country.

Addressing the Ministry of Information's weekly press briefing Thursday, April 14, 2022, Minister Sonii explained: "Many time people speak of monitoring and supervision. It cuts across the whole government, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Youth and Sports and all other ministries in the country, the monitoring aspects of our work has been a challenge."

He discloses that to strengthen the supervisory side of the ministry,

various places of assignment.

These vehicles, the Minister says will enable them to supervise educational activities at their various places of assignment, which will help ease the work that they do.

He adds that because of challenges in the education sector, the ministry has redistributed all 15 counties among assistant ministers and they will pair with county education officers (CEOs) to control all other activities in rural areas.

Minister Sonii notes that with this kind of supervision in place, information gathered from the field will be different, "and things will work out just fine."

"With this kind of supervision, the ministry will know the necessary steps to take when these things happen."

He maintains that with assistant ministers working in line with county education officers, that alone will give some level of transparency to information coming from the field, adding "This time, the proper actions will be taken to address the situation of schools that keep violating MOE guidelines.'

He stresses that the only step needed to make this happen is to build the capacity of all 124 district education offices, adding that the ministry has already built the capacity of 30 CEOs with 94 still waiting to be capacitated.

"We can get something for 30 of them, but we still have more number that needs to be capacitated because moving between the counties is tough."

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education reveals that over 60,000 school-going children across Liberia are out of school due to lack of secondary schools in their respective communities, cities, towns, and villages.

Minister Sonii says the lack of secondary schools in several parts of Liberia has caused many children to be involved with riding commercial motorbikes and Tricycles, serving as breadwinners for their families.

However, he says despite current economic challenges, government through the Ministry of Education is about to employ 200 female counselors to provide counseling in government-run high schools across the country.

## **Initiative launches Bee Competition**



ayeh Initiative, a local humanitarian group in collaboration with the Monrovia City Corporation Youth Affairs Unit has launched the Third Edition of the National Spelling Bee Competition in Monrovia.

Chief Executive Officer of Yayeh Initiative Ambassador Yayehsorie Jalloh, said the Ministry of Education has accredited her organization to conduct this year's National Spelling Bee Competition.

Speaking during the launch over the weekend in Monrovia, Ambassador Jalloh quoted these wise words from the late South African President Nelson Mandela that "Education is the great engine of personal development, it is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mineworker can become the head of the mind, that a child of a farmworker can become the president of a great nation; it is what we make out of what we have, not what we're given, that separates one person from another."

She indicated that since 2018 as Miss AMEU, she has set up a team that is involved with humanitarian endeavors. establishing relationship with orphanages and mental homes as well as donating relevant logistics, food, clothes, and paying school fees, among others.

She explained that Yayeh Initiative and partners host the National Spelling Bee Competition to benefit schools across Montserrado County every year, but this year's program has been extended to five additional counties that will bring together stu8dents to compete in spelling.

"As a non-profit institution, proceeds of this event are used to sponsor students in schools which include, giving scholarship, books, laptops, phones and cash prizes", Ambassador Jalloh added.

She noted that the program is designed to develop children's confidence, presentation and cognitive skills positively in shaping their attitudes for life as well as enabling them to attain

"Our target for this year is to work with 300 schools; we will have one representative per school, making it three hundred students in total to contest at the preliminary rounds, out of the 300 students, two hundred and eighty-eight students will drop and twelve will contest at the grand final where our team will confirm the best three winners of the Liberia National Spelling Bee Competition," she explained.

She reflected that few years ago, the Coronavirus mitigated children learning capacity and there are still some global economic setbacks, noting that these are still creating a lot of challenges for parents and societies across the globe.

Ambassador Jalloh added that the Spelling Bee Competition has also been created to fill in these corridors to enable children to improve their literacy, learning key social skills and developing attitudes towards life.

#### h Minnesota, Brooklyn Center Mayor n an effort to establish a and discussed with States during the civil conflict at a tender age and became the

**Deputy Defense Minister holds discussion** 

meaningful relationship and partnership with key leaders in the US, Liberia's Deputy Minister of Defense for Operations, Mr. Prince K. Vincent, on 15 April 2022, met Minnesota, Brooklyn Center

Mayor Elliott, who originally was born in Liberia, immigrated to the United

Mayor Mike Elliott.

opportunities for Liberians. Mr. Vincent spoke about the Veterans Transition Program, an initiative that focuses on developing sustainable, lifelong agricultural skills for current and future veterans as a means to provide supplemental nutritional food to Liberia.

Twin Cities suburb's first Black

Deputy Defense Chief discussed

developing sustainable

programs that provide longevity

and future growth

During the meeting, the

Mayor.

The Minister also highlighted the significance of initiating vocational training programs, such as, Computer Literacy Program, in Junior and Senior High Schools throughout Liberia.

For his part, the already rising Liberian-American elected official, Mayor Elliott, commended the Deputy Minister for his dedication and passion, adding that, "Economic safety is the foundation of any secured community."

Mayor Elliott further maintained that, "The most

secure communities that thrive

are the communities that are economically thriving."

In his final statement, Mayor pledged his full participation towards the development of Liberia and promised to network with crucial partners and other stakeholders in order to logistically support the ongoing developmental process in Liberia.



# H'rançais Boakai témoignera

APRIL 18

ancien viceprésident Joseph N. ∎Boakai est le prochain à témoigner lors du procès pénal en cours du leader politique de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC), Alexander B. Cummings.

A la demande du procureur, M. Boakai a été sommé par le magistrat

Jomah Jallah du tribunal municipal de Monrovia de comparaître le 19 avril 2022 pour témoigner en tant que deuxième témoin à charge.

Sa convocation intervient à la fin du contre-interrogatoire du premier témoin à charge Theodore Momo par les avocats de la défense, selon lesquels les réponses données par celui-ci ne montraient qu'il y a eu la

document-cadre de la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP).

L'équipe d'avocats de la CPP constituée par les quatre dirigeants politiques de la coalition politique, dirigée par le conseiller Benedict Sannoh, avait examiné le document-cadre en question avant d'être soumis à la Commission électorale nationale (NEC).

Pour l'avocat principal de l'ANC, le conseiller Abrahim Sillah, le contreinterrogatoire du témoin Momo qui s'est étendu sur près d'un mois a établi qu'en tant que membres du Conseil consultatif national de la CPP, ce dernier et les autres responsables étaient bel et bien au courant du processus et de chaque message et conversation que publiait le chef politique de l'ANC, M. Alexander Cummings, sur les réseaux sociaux, en tant que président de la coalition.

Le premier témoin Momo





# L'UP met plus de

ancien viceprésident du Libéria, ■Joseph Nyumah Boakai, a intensifié la pression sur la Commission électorale nationale (NEC). lui demandant d'inclure le candidat de son Parti de l'unité (UP) sur la liste des candidats à l'élection sénatoriale partielle de Lofa, avertissant qu'il ne permettra plus que l'on manque de respect à un fils ou une fille du comté de Lofa ou qu'on lui prive de ses droits.

M. Boakai, lors d'une conférence de presse à Paynesville le jeudi 14 avril 2022, a dénoncé une tentative d'empêcher l'ancien parti au pouvoir de présenter des candidats à l'élection sénatoriale partielle de Lofa et à l'élection présidentielle de 2023.

« Permettez-moi également de préciser que le tort que nous nous battons pour corriger à Lofa ne peut être pas non plus accepté dans aucune autre subdivision politique du Libéria », a dit M. Boakai lors de la conférence de presse à sa résidence de Rehab.

M. Boakai s'est plaint que le nom de M. Galakpai W. Kortimai, candidat de son parti, ne figure pas la liste provisoire des candidats à l'élection sénatoriale partielle du comté de Lofa, publiée par la NEC, sous la direction de Mme Davidetta Browne-Lassana.

« Le Parti de l'unité est surpris de constater que le nom de son candidat Galakpai W. Kortimai ne figure pas parmi ceux qui sont reconnus comme candidats provisoires, en dépit du fait qu'il ait rempli toutes les conditions prévues par les lois et la Constitution du Libéria concernant les élections », at-il déploré.

Mais Boakai a dit espérer que le nom de son candidat va figurer sur la liste finale des candidats que publiera la commission électorale. Il a appelé la NEC à faire ce qui est bien et honorable dans l'intérêt de la paix et de la quiétude sociale.

« En tant que votre chef et porteur de flambeau, je suis suffisamment préparé et je ferai tout ce qui est en mon pouvoir pour qu'on ne

#### CONT'D ON PAGE 9



# Éditorial

## La Commission nationale du sida prise en flagrant délit

UN RAPPORT D'ENQUÊTE du Fonds mondial réfute l'affirmation

du responsable du programme national de lutte contre le sida du ministère de la Santé qui état d'un montant total de 23 285 USD qui aurait été versé aux médias libériens pour des spots publicitaires, des relations publiques et des événements en février 2019.

LE FONDS MONDIAL a établi que le versement en question constitue en soi la preuve des pratiques frauduleuses et des conflits d'intérêts, car l'actionnaire a également occupé le poste de directeur des communications au ministère de la Santé.

EN MARS 2020, selon un rapport, un examen de l'audit interne du ministère de la Santé a révélé que l'attribution du contrat constituait un conflit d'intérêts, car il n'y avait pas de demande de devis et de preuve d'un processus d'appel d'offres. Il n'y avait que deux devis qui appartenaient à d'autres soumissionnaires, mais qui étaient datés après la signature du contrat avec des entités qui n'existaient pas physiquement.

LES RÉSULTATS NE sont qu'un bout de l'iceberg de la façon dont les institutions ici, tant publiques que privées, siphonnent les fonds budgétisés pour les activités médiatiques, soumettant les médias et la presse libérienne en général à la pauvreté, les forçant ainsi à faire faillite.

LES INSTITUTIONS PRIVÉES, les ONG, les ministères et les agences gouvernementales budgétisent chaque année des fonds pour des activités publicitaires qui n'atteignent jamais les médias, mais ils fournissent des rapports de performance indiquant que des fonds ont été dépensés pour les médias.

DÉTOURNER LES FONDS des médias revient à étouffer à mort les médias libériens, ce qui est une pure méchanceté. Pourtant, ces mêmes entités s'attendent à ce que les médias couvrent leurs programmes et activités publicitaires.

CERTAINES INSTITUTIONS CRUELLES vont même plus loin en plaçant des publicités dans les médias sans effectuer de paiement même après que les services ont été fournis, laissant les entités médiatiques en difficulté endettées et incapables de payer les impôts, le personnel, la location et d'autres engagements.

SOUVENT, LES MÉDIAS sont qualifiés de chien de garde et de quatrième pouvoir, mais les traitements infligés visent délibérément à saper sa puissance à la fois professionnellement et financièrement.

DANS L'AFFAIRE concernant le programme national de lutte contre le sida, le Fonds mondial révèle en outre que 19 paiements supplémentaires ont été effectués prétendument pour des publicités totalisant 32 918 dollars américains sans aucune preuve de scripts ou de fichiers audio des messages radio développés, ou de publicités livrées aux stations de radio, ou diffusées. Heureusement que ce manque de preuves de la prestation de services a également été noté par l'audit interne du ministère de la Santé.

EN PLUS DU fait que cela constitue un acte criminel, il décourage les donateurs. Ils pourraient ne plus soutenir les grands programmes de développement qui profitent directement aux Libériens ordinaires, en particulier les problèmes de santé critiques tels que le VIH et le sida.

COMME CELA EST triste! C'est même aussi grandement honteux quand le NACP et le ministère de la Santé, qui devraient respecter la responsabilité et la transparence dans la gestion des fonds des donateurs, sont pris en flagrant délit de corruption et de vol au jour le jour contre les médias sur lesquels ces institutions s'appuient pour propager leurs programmes et politiques.

## APRIL 18 www.thenewdawnliberia.com Français

Boakai témoignera Commentaire

est le président national du All Liberian Party de Benoni Urey qui, avec l'ancien viceprésident du Parti de l'unité Joseph Boakai, accuse l'ANC d'avoir modifié le documentcadre de la plateforme de l'opposition.

Des responsables de l'ANC, dont le leader politique Cummings, le viceprésident national Daniel Naatehn et le secrétaire général Aloysius Toe, sont jugés pour avoir

prétendument altéré le document-cadre de l'Alliance politique des principaux partis de l'opposition.

Mais ces responsables se sont inscrits en faux et nié avec véhémence les accusations portées contre eux, les qualifiant de fausses, de politiquement motivées et du fruit d'un complot entre le Parti de Benoni Urey et le pouvoir.

Le procès dure depuis plus de trois mois au tribunal municipal de Monrovia.

manque à nouveau de respect à un citoyen de Lofa ou qu'on lui prive de ses droits lors de cette élection sénatoriale partielle de Lofa », a-t-il déclaré.

Le Liberty Party présidé par M. Musa Bility et l'Alternative National Congress (ANC) ont saisi la Commission Electorale Nationale au nom de la Collaboration des Partis Politiques de l'opposition (CPP) pour empêcher l'Unity Party (UP, ancien parti au pouvoir) et l'All Liberian Party (ALP) de présenter des candidats à l'élection sénatoriale partielle de Lofa.

Bility et l'ANC pensent qu'un article du documentcadre controversé de la CPP empêcherait l'UP et l'ALP de présenter des candidats aux élections partielles de Lofa en dépit du fait qu'ils se soient déjà retirés de l'Alliance politique. A noter que l'UP affirme ne pas être signataire du documentcadre en question.

Le leader politique de l'ANC, M. Alexander B. Cummings, est actuellement jugé après avoir été accusé par le leader politique de l'ALP, Benoni Urey, d'avoir prétendument falsifié le document-cadre de la CPP et illégalement apposé sa signature. Mais Cummings, lui, a toujours nié tout acte

et lui prive de ses droits légitimes et constitutionnels de présenter un candidat en tant que parti politique agréé, des centaines de milliers d'électeurs libériens se verront empêchés de participer à la sénatoriale partielle de Lofa.

Il s'est dit convaincu qu'aucun Libérien ne sera privé de ses droits et par la suite exposé à des réalités qui pourraient avoir des problèmes de sécurité nationale. Il a également dit soupçonner qu'on veuille retarder l'autorisation complète de son candidat dans le cadre d'un plan délibéré visant à retarder sa campagne et à donner aux autres un avantage

« Permettez-moi de souligner à nouveau que le Parti de l'unité et les habitants de Lofa en ont assez et ne continueront pas à accepter d'être insultés, que le régime Weah leur manque de respect et leur prive de leurs droits », a mis en garde Boakai.

« Ne vous méprenez pas. La position que nous avons prise lorsqu'on a privé les citoyens de Lofa de leur droit dans le cadre de l'affaire du sénateur élu Brownie Samukai n'était pas une faiblesse », a-t-il averti.

« Faisons tout ensemble pour maintenir la paix au Libéria », at-il exhorté. « Nous prenons bonne note de la raison invoquée par la NEC et nous suivons donc de très près et de manière critique les activités des audiences en cours au siège de la

## répréhensible. M. Boakia a averti que si la NEC. » NEC exclut le Parti de l'unité FSE TPrinting

## Les dangers d'une aide tout azimut

HICAGO - Toute décision économique suppose de trouver l'équilibre entre les difficultés qu'elle ▶ peut engendrer à court terme et ses avantages à long terme. Mais cela peut-être problématique sur le plan politique, notamment dans les démocraties. Il est toujours plus facile pour un élu de prendre des décisions immédiatement favorables à ses électeurs, en espérant que la facture à payer par ces derniers n'arrivera pas durant son mandat. En outre, ceux qui payent le prix d'une politique économique ne sont pas toujours ceux qui en tirent bénéficient.

C'est ce qui a poussé les pays les plus avancés à concevoir des mécanismes qui leur permettent de faire des choix difficiles quand il le faut. A titre d'exemple important, on peut citer les banques centrales indépendantes et les limites imposées aux déficits budgétaires. Et surtout, les partis politiques sont parvenus à un consensus visant à créer et soutenir ces mécanismes, indépendamment de leurs propres priorités à court terme. Si nombre de pays émergents basculent d'une crise à l'autre, c'est notamment du fait de l'absence d'un tel consensus. Mais l'histoire récente montre que c'est peut-être parce que leur propre consensus politique s'est érodé que la population des pays développés est de moins en moins disposée à accepter l'austérité.

Craignant que la Réserve fédérale américaine ne doive resserrer sensiblement sa politique monétaire pour maîtriser l'inflation, les marchés financiers sont redevenus volatils. Néanmoins, de nombreux investisseurs espèrent encore que la Fed procédera par étape si le prix des actifs se met à chuter. Dans ce cas, il sera encore plus difficile de normaliser la situation financière.

Les investisseurs espèrent non sans raison que la Fed ne renoncera pas dans l'immédiat à sa politique de relâchement monétaire. Fin 1996, le président de la Fed, Alan Greenspan, avait mis en garde contre "l'exubérance irrationnelle" des marchés financiers. Mais les marchés ont ignoré cet avertissement et ils ont eu raison. Peut-être surprise par la violence de la réaction politique au discours de Greenspan, la Fed n'a rien fait. Et lorsque la Bourse s'est finalement effondrée en 2000, la Fed a réduit ses taux pour éviter d'aggraver la récession.

Lors d'un témoignage devant la Commission économique mixte du Congrès en 1999, Greenspan avait déclaré que si la Fed ne pouvait éviter "l'inévitable gueule de bois économique" liée au boom du prix des actifs, elle pouvait atténuer ses conséquences et sans doute faciliter la transition vers la prochaine phase d'expansion. La banque centrale américaine a donc adressé un message aux traders et aux banquiers : s'ils pariaient collectivement sur des actifs similaires, elle ne limiterait pas leur hausse, mais seulement leur baisse en cas de retournement de situation. Les interventions ultérieures de la Fed ont ancré ce genre d'idées, rendant encore plus difficile la maîtrise des marchés financiers par des mesures de petite envergure. Et maintenant qu'un resserrement monétaire plus marqué pourrait s'avérer nécessaire, du fait des problèmes qu'il va susciter, un consensus en sa faveur pourrait être plus difficile à atteindre.

La politique budgétaire laisse sans doute à penser que les mesures d'aide n'auront pas de répercussions négatives. La majorité de l'opinion publique reconnaît que la pandémie a rendu nécessaire des dépenses de soutien ciblées (par exemple la prolongation de la durée des allocations chômage) pour protéger les ménages les plus durement touchés. Or les dépenses étaient tout sauf ciblées. Le Congrès américain a adopté des projets de loi de plusieurs milliers de milliards de dollars proposant une aide indiscriminée.

Ainsi l'ensemble des petites entreprises a reçu une aide de 800 milliards de dollars dans le cadre du programme d'aide aux petites entreprises (PPP, Paycheck Protection Program). Selon une nouvelle étude de David Autor du MIT et de ses collègues, ce programme a permis de sauvegarder 2 à 3 millions d'emplois en 14 mois pour le coût exorbitant de 170 000 à 257 000 dollars par emploi. Pire, seulement 23 à 34 % du budget de ce programme est allé directement aux travailleurs qui auraient autrement perdu leur emploi. Le reste est allé aux créanciers, aux propriétaires d'entreprises et aux actionnaires. Au total, 20% des salariés les mieux payés auraient touché 75% de l'aide.

Certes, des entreprises qui sans cela auraient fait faillite ont sans doute été sauvées grâce à ce programme ; mais à quel prix? Les capitalistes anticipent des profits, mais ils envisagent aussi l'échec. En outre, de nombreuses petites entreprises fonctionnent à une échelle minuscule, sans grand capital organisationnel. Si une petite boulangerie devait mettre la clé sous la porte, une meilleure indemnité chômage pouvait en atténuer les conséquences économiques. Et si elle avait une clientèle fidèle, elle pouvait envisager de redémarrer après la pandémie, peutêtre avec le coup de pouce d'une banque.

L'idée était qu'une situation sans précédent appelle des mesures sans précédent, ce qui justifiait des dépenses illimitées. En réalité, c'était la réponse à la crise financière de 2008 qui a brisé le consensus qui existait en faveur de mesures plus prudentes. Le ressentiment persistant de l'opinion publique à l'égard du secteur financier qui a été davantage aidé que les autres, a incité les dirigeants des deux grands partis américains à dépenser sans compter lorsque la pandémie a frappé. Mais les allocations de chômage ciblées étaient associées aux démocrates, tandis que les républicains cherchaient à avantager leur propre électorat. Alors quoi de mieux que de soutenir les petites entreprises?

Alors que les fractures politiques entraînaient une augmentation des dépenses non ciblées, les partisans de la rigueur étaient introuvables : les économistes n'ont eu de cesse d'étouffer leurs voix. Outre les excentriques qui préconisent périodiquement une aide soi-disant sans contrepartie au moyen de l'endettement, de plus en plus d'économistes classiques soulignaient que les faibles taux d'intérêt en vigueur donnaient une marge de manœuvre nettement plus importante aux pays développés pour accroître leur déficit budgétaire. Ils ajoutaient cependant que si les taux d'intérêt devaient rester bas, les dépenses devaient être raisonnables. Désireux de justifier leur choix, les dirigeants politiques ont ignoré cette mise en garde. Pour eux, seul comptait le début du message - ne pas s'en tenir là relevait à leurs yeux du masochisme.

Dans le passé, la Fed mettait fin à son soutien monétaire avant que la situation ne dérape, et le Congrès mettait les freins en matière de déficit budgétaire et d'endettement. Mais le désir de la Fed d'épargner des difficultés sur les marchés a suscité davantage de prises de risque et renforcé l'attente de nouvelles interventions. La politique de la Fed a également eu pour conséquence un renforcement de la pression sur le Congrès pour qu'il adopte des mesures en faveur des entreprises et des ménages. C'est ce qui a conduit à l'inflation et à la conviction que la Fed ne relèvera

Tout cela rend plus difficile un retour au consensus précédent. Quand la Fed pousse ses taux d'intérêt à la hausse, le coût du service de la dette pour les dépenses précédemment engagées par l'Etat limite ses dépenses futures - notamment celles destinées à réduire les inégalités (qui alimentent les tensions sociales), à réagir aux situations d'urgence et à lutter contre le réchauffement climatique.

La crédibilité d'une politique économique, quelle qu'elle soit, a ses limites, et il en est de même des ressources dont dispose un pays. Aussi vaut-il mieux les utiliser pour aider les gens les plus en difficulté, et non pour protéger ceux qui ont les moyens de s'en sortir par eux-mêmes. Si tout le monde veut bénéficier d'une aide, ce sont les plus faibles qui en payeront le prix. Les pays émergents en ont déjà fait l'expérience, ce sera peut-être maintenant au tour des pays développés.

Traduit de l'anglais par Patrice Horovitz

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## ARTICLE ARTICLE

## Elections 2023 Will Be About Weah/CDC Six Years In Power

## - Love For Country and Hope for Change Failed The People

do not know if comprehension or purposeful collective amnesia is an issue here but let me make this abundantly clear, ELECTIONS 2023 WILL BE ABOUT PRESIDENT WEAH AND CDC RECORD IN POWER and NOTHING ELSE. Though my compatriots from the CDC, celebrate and enjoy privatizing the benefits of winning an election but struggle daily to pass the buck to the excluded opposition and past governments for current public policy failures, bad personnel choices, and botched governance. Folks, take off your blinders, the opposition was not voted in 2017, it was the CDC, and it is President Weah and his CDC that govern our country. THE PEOPLE KNOW THIS VERY WELL. Sometimes the rubbishes, lies, and deceits many of our ruling party brethren spew daily in different fora in the name of politics and or strategy, are mostly condescending, obnoxious, nonsensical, irritating, nauseating, and insensitive. I do not know who pays these folks to write and speak such infantile gutter stuff in the name of propaganda and strategy. No matter how you dress the goat, a goat is a goat - it bleats!

So let me endeavor to enlighten my willfully blind friends on the CDC/government side since they assume that all of us who disagree with government policy choices hate the President. WE LOVE THE PRESIDENT BUT SIMPLY DISAGREE WITH MANY OF

HIS POLICIES! You all can imagine that if Weah was not the president, many of us would have little or no reason to disagree with him so strongly on policy grounds because he would not have life-changing decisions to make concerning millions of his compatriots. I am sure that the waste they feed our presidents daily to mask their dismal performances in their respective roles can sometimes be overwhelming and or overbearing. But what they are not reminding the president of is that when they were in opposition and disagreed with the UP and made careers out of insulting President Sirleaf daily (that's how the Koijees, Morlus, Grays, and others cut their teeth in CDC), they didn't HATE the president (or at least nobody considered their very disrespectful and provocative dissent, hate), they were doing the opposition business. Now it should be different. Twisted logic from feeble minds!!! CDC will account for its stewardship for the 6 years and no amount of attempt at shifting blame will help. These are some of the issues the people are already settled on:

1. When people die mysteriously and there are no conclusive investigative reports or the perpetrators are not brought to book, while the police make repeated rash statements incident after incident, it is fair to imagine that our government is clueless, careless, and even complicit because our collective security is the responsibility of the government and not any imaginary opposition that wields no coercive state power and has no access to the national coffers. It is beyond imprudent to think that the opposition can be blamed for the government's inaction or incompetence on the matter of unsolved crimes.

Further, no one beyond the cool-aid drinkers and their patrons will hold any opposition responsible for alleged unsolved murders, rapes, armed robbers, carjacking, and broad day thievery in the public sector or against private peaceful citizens. Government must provide a sense of security and redress for victims. The people cannot all be expected to sit supinely when nothing is done about their sorrows. Frustration may boil over, and when it does, the government's solution, as it is now, should not be to flog the people or arrest them. Government should provide answers. So, this rubbish you all spew daily when you blame everyone else but you for your failures in the name of politics is unhelpful to your cause and counterproductive to your benefactors. You all stop fooling each other and try to solve the problems or at least make an honest attempt. No one expects you to wave a magic wand at the problem, but at the very least, we expect that you will be sincere and give your best efforts. Be honest and accept failures the same way you maximize marginal progress. You are not writing politics or doing politics here when you take responsibility for nothing as governors of the country. And if people are paying you for the incessant junk you write daily, then we should book an appointment for those people with the

2. When the dim Chinese street lights you celebrated like you had established an endowment fund to secure the future of coming generations can hardly come on because you refuse to appreciate that power supply was a binding constraint and therefore solar-powered lights were the viable option, the people will not blame the opposition for spending stupid millions simply because, as you claimed, UP only setup the

Psychiatrist ... necessary!

By: Racassius Jedekan Weah

HFO plant on Bushrod Island, and rehabilitated the Mt. Coffee instead of rebuilding a new hydro. The people know the reason your Chinese Christmas lights can barely come or come on so intermittently, is you and the quality of your decision over the five years, or lack thereof. In five years, you have failed to show a better way on many fronts so the question will be WHAT HAVE YOU DONE DIFFERENTLY CDC, besides whining and passing the blame for your lack of innovation and investing the meager resources in critical sectors. Instead of accepting that you have been incompetent in ways, accepting the error of your policies, and recalibrating, you have remained stubborn and naïvely arrogant in your failure to your detriment. You delude yourselves into thinking the opposition that you have sidelined can be held responsible for your glaring governance failures simply because you say so. Yes, the" sycamorian" who feed off your every delusion, and cling to your every fakery, will believe you - I mean, continue to believe you -- but the size of your ardent believers and or "worshipers" is dwindling because they are enduring the most pain from your glaring failures ... can't you see?

3. Don't you think that the people know when they have been disproportionately harmonized to the extent



that their irregular salaries can hardly take "papa home," to quote Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Do you think they will hold the opposition responsible for this when they know that recurring expenditure, including the public sector wage bill, increased under your watch while their disposable income decreased? The people are feeling the effect of your ill-advised policy in their pockets.

4. Don't you know that the people understand that the dim Chinese lights you installed in county capitals and the latter-day scholarships you are offering after 4 years in power to students of some counties are all but a charade and electioneering ploy that addresses no bread-and-butter issues? Can't you tell that unless you dig your head out of the sand and change course on both the policy and personnel front, and it might already be too late to do this, the going will get tougher and your words will no longer be soothing, but will become an irritant as they may have already?

5. Don't' you know that when the people voted on the fabled abstract notion of LOVE FOR COUNTRY, they gambled and expected that their lot would change and not just the lot of the small inner circle? Beyond overcrowding the public sector with mostly incompetent and ill-prepared party hacks, how many private-sector jobs have you created. How have you helped the informal employment sector when the business climate has not been enhanced to attract FDI so that the benefits of the employment derivative activities generated by such FDI will trickle down to the small businessman?. In five years, which major international investor that was not already here or on the verge of beginning operations here in Liberia, have you attracted to this country you LOVE?

attracted to this country you LOVE?

6. Don't you know that the people will not hold the opposition responsible for news about scandal after scandal and public swindles but your government, which has struggled to explain these allegations or address them to satisfactory ends, whether true or not. Do you not know that the people have not gotten the proper explanation for the \$25M mob up or suck-up, if you will, and the Covid-19

US\$25 Million relief which hardly 10% of the population received? Do you not know that if nothing is done about Bali Island, the coastal highway, and the many promises, the people will see them as broken promises and hold the CDC government responsible and not the opposition? Don't you know that your PAPD will be used as a baseline to query your performance in terms of percentage delivered? Watch!!!

7. Don't you know that the people will be annoyed when the hospitals are without necessary drugs and supplies, but your government, through the Minister of State, can afford to donate \$100,000 to ULAA and promise an additional \$300,000 in annual budgetary support to a people who sustained this economy via their remittances in the difficult years? Don't you think it will be perfectly rational and appropriate that the people consider your government priorities to be upside down and not the opposition? What informs the kind of thinking that led to this donation and the commitment of future resources by a sitting minister of a government that is struggling to meet revenue targets? I should like to read some budget performance reports if there are any.

8. Don't you know when the community roads are constructed irregularly to signal favoritism, the people understand that the government is not altruistic,

authentic, organized, and methodical in its approach. Check the number of roads that were skipped from SKD Stadium going to wherever the community road work stopped on the RIA highway, and you will understand that neighborhoods are frustrated that the so-called bad road medicine has not cured their bad roads.

9. Don't you know that the people understand that the Somalia drive road (Japan Highway), ELWA to Redlight, the proposed overpass to the Ministerial Complex, the Ganta to Yekepa roads were all negotiated and funds committed before you took over; and if possible the ELWA to RIA road, which is under construction or just starting, everything else you have dedicated and celebrated is reaping where you have not sowed without giving deserved credits?

10. Don't you know that the people understand that the TRANSCO CLSG or WAPP project that you are highly indebted to was negotiated and consummated before you took over to continue the implementation; and that with your over \$9M in debt, they can hardly see the light beaming? Don't you know that whether it is CLSG or LEC, the problem remains regarding transmission and

the problem remains regarding transmission and distribution of the power generated - what innovation have you brought to this long-standing issue? Oh, I forgot, just blame it on Ellen and her UP government and fold your hands. What if Ellen and her UP government had done as you are doing when they took over a broken country- whining and blaming your predecessor for everything instead of giving it your best efforts, where would our country be by now?

11. Don't you know that when you politicized paying WAEC fees and making university tuition-free, the people expected better, but are now being gradually subjected to the payment of all kinds of fees that will ultimately amount to the same tuition you claimed to have absorbed because you can either not pay the universities the amount you promised on time or that by your policy, you have deprived the universities of operational funds they used to generate. The people (students, in particular) know it is not the opposition, but the ones who "LOVE" the country that is causing this hardship for them.

Don't you know that when traveling to Liberia is becoming difficult and might become quite expensive for lack of competition because airlines are pulling out not only because they can't do enough business in Liberia (not an attractive travel destination for leisure or business), but mainly because services at the RIA are getting worse below reasonable standards - incompetent management that can't keep the lights on but find pleasure in complaining about buying two 45 thousand dollars generators, employees hustling everyone by the time they step out, particularly at baggage claims; a mundane Covid-19 testing process that is a colossal waste of time and a rip-off, and an airport that can barely keep the lights on during the night such that it has begun power rationing. Which serious airport does that? The people know it is not the opposition that is making a landing at the RIA dangerous, but the government led by the ones who LOVE the country. I am told that our beloved president even had to endure this nightmare when he came back from Dubai.

To be continued...

## Princess Cooper's autopsy report to be released today

By Lincoln G. Peters

he Liberia National Police (LNP) has disclosed that autopsy reports of the late Princess Cooper and Melvin Togbah will be released today, 18 April 2022 at a special press briefing to be held at the Ministry of Information. disease or injury.

The release further explained that the process was conducted with the sole purpose of establishing causes of death after the two deceased Liberians were discovered lying unconscious under mysterious circumstances.

"Members of the public, including civil society actors, media, well-wishers and sympathizers are all asked to

"The Police [are] yet to establish any foul play in the death surrounding the 25-year-old Princess Cooper, whose lifeless body was discovered in a pool of blood in the compound of Fawar Construction Material Store at ELWA Junction in Paynesville", Mr. Carter says.

But speaking in an interview with this paper over the



The police have extended an invitation to the public to form part of the audience.

In a statement signed by police Spokesperson Mr. H. Moses Carter, the police said the autopsy of the late Princess Cooper and Melvin Togbah were performed by two Liberian - trained pathologists, Dr. Benedict K. Kolee and Dr. Zoebon B. Kpadeh on Thursday, 31 March 2022 at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital in Sinkor

An autopsy is a surgical procedure that consists of thorough examination of a corpse by dissection to determine the cause, mode, and manner of death or to evaluate any

follow the Minister of Information Special Press briefing at 11:am April 18, 2022 or [tune in] to ELBC and other online platforms," the police statement concluded.

Twenty-five - year - old Princess Cooper was discovered dead in the fence surrounding the Fawaz Construction Materials Store at ELWA Junction on Thursday, 24 March 2022.

The deceased, according to an eyewitness was a caterer, makeup artist and resident of Tweh Farm Community on Bushrod Island in District #16, Montserrado County.

The spokesperson of the Liberia National Police Moses Carter earlier disclosed that following an examination conducted on the lifeless body of Princess Cooper, Police had not established any foul play into the death of the young lady.

weekend, a spokesperson of the Family of the late Princess Cooper, Prince Momo said that the Liberia National Police has not extended any invitation to them to form part of the release of the autopsy report of their daughter, Princess Cooper.

"We have not received any invitation from the LNP for us to form part of the report that will be released on Monday. Yes, it's true that we did not form part of the autopsy report when they were conducting it because we said and maintained that those that did the report [did] not have the qualification," he said.

"Another issue is, the crime scene investigation was also destroyed because the police did not carry out any investigation at that place but rather Moses Carter, police spokesman, said no foul play," Mr. Momo lamented.

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strengthening of aid management coordination between the Government of Liberia and Development partners.

"I'm excited that together we are turning a new page in aid coordination. Alignment and coordination are essential in aid management. As a government, we have a huge constraint with the private sector, and there's a need to expand the private sector, because when you look at what we are doing, it is about job creation" Minister Tweah explained.

The country's fiscal chief disclosed that the team can use more coordination to achieve better results to enhance efficiency. The project dashboard will communicate and show the real impact across the country. It will have the opportunity to zoom in on any district, any geography location in the country to understand what is the pool of resources and what program and impact they are making.

"Today also shows a clear representation of the donor community in the country because the donor

politically-motivated", while his

supporters and partisans of the ANC have termed the trial a "political witch-hunt and persecution" intended to smear Cummings, dampen his momentum and exclude him from participating in the 2023 Presidential Elections.

At the time of the issuance of the writ of arrest for Cummings by the government, Boakai was the Rotational Chair of the CPP, and has been repeated publicly touted as the star witness for the government by the Solicitor-General who is leading the prosecution in the Monrovia City Magisterial Court.

Last week, Magistrate Jomah Jallah granted state lawyers' request to have Mr. Boakai appear to testify for the State against the ANC Political Leader, its National Chairman Daniel Naateeh and Secretary General, Counselor Aloysius Toe.

But according to media reports, Boakai is preventing the court officers from serving a Writ of Subpoena Duces Testificadum on him.

The reports claimed over the weekend that the Former Vice President made himself impossible to be reached with instructions to his securities not to allow the sheriff enter his Rehab residence. This is after the Solicitor-General publicly announced that Boakai will appear in court on Tuesday,

**GoL, Dev't Partners** 

community has always been in the country. There has not been any donor relationship that has embraced and accepted and held the entire process of aid coordination than the team I am seeing here" he added.

For his part, Niels Scott, UN Resident Coordinator expressed delight with progress made in government aid management coordination processes. He praised the country for being one of the first on the continent to have an effective aid management policy.

He disclosed that the strengthening development cooperation with the government of Liberia is a "major step" forward in the quality of aid coordination in the country.

"We want to see results, impacts and improvement in the lives of Liberians. The Liberian project Dashboard is an excellent practical coordination, and puts Liberia a step forward in excellent aid management" UN Resident Coordinator Scott said.

Also speaking was the World Bank Country Manager, DR. Khwima Nthara, who stated that the signing marks a big and great milestone in the history of development cooperation between all development partners and the government of Liberia.

April 19, as the "Star Witness of the government".

The SG's announcement followed Magistrate Jomah Jallah's grant of State Prosecutors request to have Mr. Boakai appear to testify for the State against the ANC Political Leader, its National Chairman Daniel Naateeh and Secretary General, Counselor Aloysius Toe.

The CPP document in question is currently the subject of legitimation before the National Elections Commission as a faction of the LP led by embattled Chairman Musa Bility and the ANC tried to invoke sections of the document to prevent the ALP and the UP from fielding candidates in the upcoming Lofa by-election.

The UP and the ALP have both announced withdrawals from the CPP and are challenging this provision as "violating its constitutional right to associate or refuse to associate as provided for under Article 17 of the Liberian Constitution."

But the CPP of the ANC and the Liberty Party are counter arguing that the UP and the ALP cannot be forced to remain with the CPP but having agreeably enjoined with them in a legally enforceable contract which the Framework Agreement represents, Article 25 of the Liberian Constitution therefore obligates the four parties and forbids any impairment of the enforcement of the contractual obligations upon them.

Boakai is the second witness for the State, but his decision to appear and testify remains uncertain, and a defining moment in the ongoing trial.

## **Will Boakai face Cummings?**

o u b t s a r e emerging over the willingness of former Vice President Joseph Boakai to testify as state witness in the ongoing trial of the political leader of the Alternative National Congress (ANC) Mr. Alexander Cummings on allegations of forgery.

Cummings and two other officials of the ANC are currently being trial for forgery and criminal conspiracy at the Monrovia City Court based on allegation by Benoni Urey's All Liberian Party (ALP) a former

constituent member of the deformed opposition bloc Collaborating Political Parties

(CPP).

Cummings has denied the charges calling them "false and





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# PAL wants NPA boss settle media debts



he Publishers Association of Liberia is calling on the managing Director of the National Port Authority-NPA, Bill Twehway, to settle financial obligations to media institutions to avoid sever consequences.

The NPA boss has refused to settle his indebtedness to a number of media houses for over three years, after performing legitimate media related services for the port despite several promises

made and discussions held with it.

PAL sees the action of the NPA management as a deliberate attempt to strangulate and further increase hardship on the media. The NPA owes substantial amount to the media, with its Public Relations Director lying to the media through his teeth.

PAL believes the delay in settling media payments could lead to souring the already cordial relations between the government and the media.

"We think the attitude of Mr. Twehway is deliberate and an affront to the already struggling media landscape. We cannot do legitimate work for his entity and time to pay, you and your team start to play games with the media. This is unacceptable," Mr. Othello Garblah, president of PAL said.

PAL is therefore demanding in the strongest term for NPA boss to settle all media debts or else it would take any legal and professional action for the betterment of the media.

Some of the payments have lasted over three years and NPA has admitted to owning a number of media houses.

"We do not want to have any indirect confrontation with the government due to the inability or refusal to pay media debts. We are calling on the president, George Weah to prevail on his appointed official to settle these payments. You cannot tell me that NPA is broke and unable to pay its obligations," Mr. Garblah further said.



