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DATE	BUYING	SELLING
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These are indicative rates based on results of daily surveys of foreign exchange market in Monrovia and selected cities of Liberia. These rates are collected from the Central bank, commercial banks, parallel market and the license forex bureaux. The rates are not set by the Central Bank of Liberia.  
Source: Research, Policy and Planning Department, CBL.

# The New Dawn

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VOL. 12 NO. 066 TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022 PRICE LD\$40.00

# Attorney General demands update on Cummings' trial



Justice Min. Dean & Solicitor Gen. Cephus



UP Standard Bearer Joseph Boakai

# NEC reaffirms decision to stop UP

**-But UP runs to Supreme Court**

**What are we doing today?**





# Continental News

## New Kenyan Play Targets Gender-Based Violence

Kenya saw a jump in cases of gender-based violence (GBV) during its COVID-19 lockdowns, which heightened social and financial stress. To address the problem, Kenyan authorities are turning to the dramatic arts.

At the Kenya's National Theatre in Nairobi, some 65 young people are putting their acting skills to use, as part of Kenya's latest strategy to educate the public about the evils of gender-based violence. Titled "A Little Girls Worth," the one-hour play by Kenyan playwrights Derrick Waswa and Tommah Sheriff, is a new production co-sponsored by the Ministry for Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs. It tells a story of how despite their extraordinary contribution in society, women suffer disproportionately.

Derrick Waswa, the play's director, said the goal is to sensitize the public on violence against women, which he said stems from cultural beliefs that a woman is part of a man's possessions. "Basically people are



A policeman stands guard while members of the civil society chant slogans as they demonstrate against gender-based violence to mark International Women's Day in downtown Nairobi

blaming the violence and not looking at the cause. What we are trying to explain is that the African cultural nature has made women to be submissive. From the bible, you are told to submit to your husband as it is to the Lord, and in this African set up where a man has to pay dowry for you, it means they are technically purchasing you," he said. A February 2022 report by the Kenya Federation of Female Lawyers (FIDA Kenya) shows that cases of gender-based violence rose sharply during the pandemic, to the point where

they made up nearly half the cases reported to the federation.

Authorities attribute the rise in these cases to the pandemic and the economic losses it caused.

The play premiered this month with a three-night run to audiences of 350 at the National Theatre.

Audience members like Samson Osoro expressed hope that the dramatic arts will help change men's mindset.

"This play will go a long way to also sensitize especially the

men, who may be so unwelcome or harsh to our ladies, to know that ladies are also very important as men are. As a father I would really wish for my daughter to be treated in a better way than during the time of our mother and grandmother," he said.

Njeri Migwi is the founder of Usikimye, an organization working to end sexual and gender-based violence in Kenya. The group's name means "speak up" in Swahili.

Migwai told VOA that programs such as door to

door campaigns will reach more people, but said the play is a step in the right direction. "Art imitates life and so for the government to use that as a means of educating... one of the things that I have been very passionate about is calling the government to start educating people about the importance of them being aware of GBV and how to acknowledge one of the forms. So the government putting up the effort to put out a play is amazing," said Migwai. No further dates are set, but youth affairs authorities are hoping to show the play in social halls across the country. VOA

## Sudan Group Says Renewed Tribal Clashes Kill 168 in Darfur



A Sudanese aid group says that tribal clashes on Sunday between Arabs and non-Arabs in the war-ravaged Darfur region have killed 168 people.

Adam Regal, spokesman for the General Coordination for Refugees and Displaced in Darfur, says fighting in the Kreinik area of West Darfur province also wounded 98 others.

He says the clashes first erupted Thursday with the killing of two people by an unknown assailant in Kreinik, around 30 kilometers (18 miles) east of Genena, the provincial capital of West Darfur.

He says the militias known as janjaweed attacked the area early Sunday with heavy weapons and burned down and looted houses in the area.

that PC Kareem was disappointed but understood. She took the period of unpaid leave. "Although permission for the leave was granted - she was told not to take part in any further auditions,

The clashes eventually reached Genena, where militias and armed groups attacked wounded people while they were being treated at the city's main hospital, according to Salah Saleh, a doctor and former medical director at the hospital.

Authorities have deployed more troops to the region since the fighting on Thursday left eight dead and at least 16 others wounded.

Sudan's Darfur region has seen bouts of deadly clashes between rival tribes in recent months as the country remains mired in a wider crisis following last year's coup, when top generals overthrew a civilian-led government.

The October coup has upended the country's fragile path to democracy after a popular uprising led the military to overthrow longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir in April 2019. VOA

interviews or shows, the hearing was told.

On 30 June, PC Kareem texted Deputy Assistant Commissioner Matt Twist and later called him to say that she had travelled to Lagos to take part in the show. BBC

## PC Khafilat Kareem went on Nigerian Big Brother 'to promote Met'

A police officer appeared on the Nigerian Big Brother as she wanted to "promote the Met Police" globally, a misconduct tribunal heard. Hours before going on the show, PC Khafilat Kareem called one of the Met's most senior officers asking him to reverse an order for her not to do so.

She lasted 77 days in the Big Brother Naija house before being evicted.

The Met said she went on the programme "without authority". The force is carrying out a misconduct hearing.

At the hearing at the Empress Building in west London on Monday, PC Kareem admitted she took and surrendered her laptop to the show's organisers.

But she denied allegations of breaching standards in respect of "orders and instructions" and "discreditable conduct". PC Kareem also denied an allegation she failed to declare a

business interest in relation to publicity and promotion of the TV show. PC Kareem, who has over 1.4m followers on Instagram, asked for unpaid leave in 2019 to appear on the show as she saw it as "as a chance to promote the Met on an international basis", the panel was told.

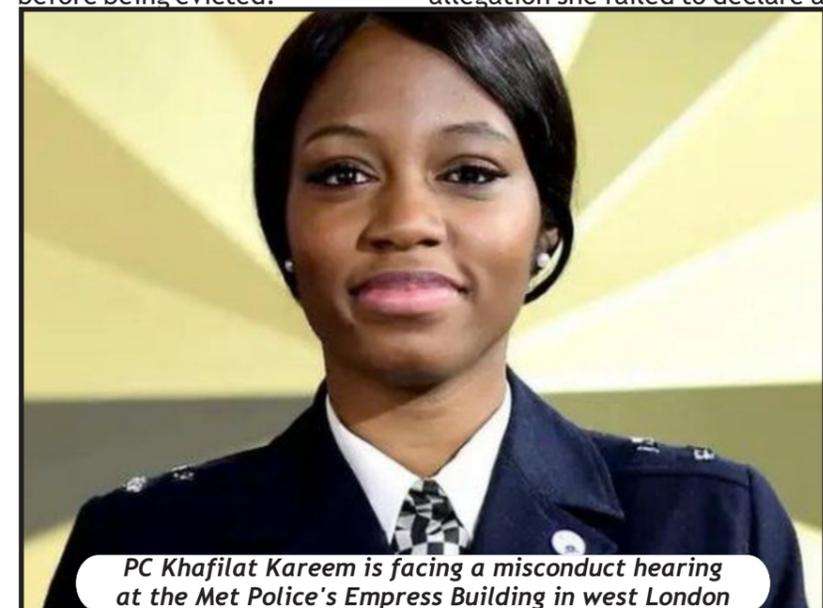
However, line managers felt it was not within the best interests of the officer or the force.

Anne Studd QC, for the Met Police, told the tribunal: "Having seen the UK episodes of the show, concerns were raised." But, PC Kareem said Naija was not like the UK version. She saw it as a chance to promote the Met on an international basis.

"Looking at the website and information provided, Ch Supt Jason Gwillim concluded it was not in the best interests of the Met or the officer and it would put her in a compromising situation.

"He explained the rationale and stressed she was not to take part in the show.

"Gwillim's impression was



PC Khafilat Kareem is facing a misconduct hearing at the Met Police's Empress Building in west London

# EDITORIAL

## Director John Tiah Nagbe should resign

**THE DIRECTOR OF** the National Identification Registry (NIR) John Tiah Nagbe should clear his desk immediately and leave office to enable him focus on his senatorial bid for Maryland County.

**IT IS NOT** only disappointing but highly disgusting that Director Nagbe, who heads a crucial institution such as the National Identification Registration that certifies citizenship thru identification in readiness to participate in elections and other activities, recently abandoned his job in Monrovia and went to his native Maryland County in the southeast to pre-campaign for the senate.

**UNARGUABLY, IT IS** his constitutional right as a Liberian citizen to contest for any public office. However, occupying the office of Director of the N.I.R and campaigning for an elected position, using salary from taxpayers, vehicles, gasoline and other amenities from the State is a conflict-of-interest issue. Besides, it is unfair to other would-be aspirants in the county.

**DIRECTOR NAGBE SHOULD** realize that being a member of the ruling Congress for Democratic Change does not give him right to breach the law.

**THE N.I.R BOSS** recently defied deplorable roads leading to the southeast and arrived in Maryland on Saturday, April 16, to a rousing welcome from citizens and supporters.

**“MARYLANDERS, YOU** have seen what have come to you in those years, if you will stay here and elect some of these same people to power, who have not done anything for the county, blame yourselves.

**LET ME SAY** to you my fellow Marylanders, if we want to still enjoy this great opportunity as southeasterners, let us support all CDC candidates come 2023”, he told citizens.

**ELECTIONS ARE BARELY** 17 months away, and the work of the National Identification Registration is crucial to registering eligible voters and candidates, and for Director Nagbe to turn his back on all of these to go pre-campaigning is a serious disservice both to the State and Liberians generally.

**WE KNOW FOR** ruling CDCians, this does not mean anything, as long as it is aimed at perpetuating themselves in power. But such poor administrative judgement or decision could cause serious problem at the N.I.R., if it hasn't already.

**NAGBE AND ALL** officials currently in government should never take the Liberian people for a ride. Liberians are not stupid. They are watching the quality of leadership being provided by the current administration.

**ABANDONING THE JOB** for which he is being paid and well-taken care of to go pre-campaign is an affront to the State and taxpayers. He should step down immediately to give way to a more serious-minded person for the job.

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# COMMENTARY

By Dambisa Moyo

## Accelerating Global Britain

**L**ONDON - Skeptics have long argued that the United Kingdom is past its peak and trading largely on former glories. They point to the country's middling rankings in the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment education scores, the fact that only one British firm, HSBC, is among the world's 50 largest public corporations, compared to Germany's four, and the likelihood that Brexit will ultimately erode, rather than boost, Britain's global standing.

But I disagree with this judgment. After all, the UK is one of only a handful of countries to have produced an effective COVID-19 vaccine in record time. It remains at the forefront of shaping the global green-energy transition, and it was the first major economy to enact legislation requiring it to end its contribution to global warming by 2050. Moreover, the UK retains its traditional strengths of language, location and time zone, strong universities, and deep financial markets, and it remains a standard-bearer for the rule of law.

When the UK hosts the upcoming G7 summit in Cornwall, political and business leaders will want to see how well aligned the country is with the three issues that, collectively, will upend global commerce and catalyze economic growth in the coming decades: engagement with China, technological innovation, and clean energy.

With respect to China, Britain has considerable scope to increase bilateral trade. UK exports to China in 2019 were £30.7 billion (\$43.5 billion), little more than one-third of Germany's total of \$110 billion. In fact, 2020 was the fifth successive year in which China was Germany's largest trading partner.

Britain thus urgently needs to expand its trade and investment links with China, which is set to dominate the global economy. China is already the largest trading partner and foreign direct investor for many developed and developing countries, and it is now the largest lender to emerging-market economies - bigger than the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the Paris Club of sovereign creditors.

Of course, human-rights concerns and ideological differences pose an ethical challenge for Britain when dealing with China. But stepping away from engagement with the Chinese political class would limit the UK's ability to influence the regime in Beijing and risk setting back the British economy.

In terms of technology, Britain's role in developing the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine underscores its strengths in medical science innovation - as evidenced by a thriving biotech and life sciences sector. And yet the UK has yet to develop a technology company of global stature and renown, and recent stock-market activity has sent mixed messages to investors. The initial public offerings of food-delivery company Deliveroo and semiconductor technology firm Alphawave were challenged: both companies' share prices fell sharply on their first day of trading and remained below their launch price weeks later.

But the UK is well positioned to benefit from investments and advances in emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence,

that will undoubtedly transform education and health care in the coming years. Moreover, the country has real opportunities to help allies plug technological gaps - not least in semiconductors, where America's share of global output has fallen from 37% in 1990 to just 12% today.

To realize its potential as a science superpower, the UK needs a technology hub that can rival Silicon Valley in its dynamism. That will require aggressively and deliberately building an ecosystem of talent and collaboration across data science, technology, and public policy.

For example, the Oxford-Cambridge arc already supports two million jobs and adds £110 billion to the UK economy each year. But to rise to the next level, this region must become a vibrant environment for innovation, and be far more visible to leading global investors. This is particularly important given that global foreign direct investment had fallen for three consecutive years (2016-18) even before plummeting 42% in the annus pandemicus of 2020.

On energy, the UK has been a global front-runner in mitigating climate risk through carbon sequestration and capture, and setting a net-zero greenhouse-gas emissions target. And it has an important opportunity to bolster its credentials as an environmental and green-energy leader when it hosts the United Nations COP26 climate summit this autumn.

Crucially, the UK has a chance to shift the discourse so that the green transition is not only about limiting the economic downside but also about maximizing the upside. In particular, government support for larger-scale investments in solar, wind, hydrogen, biofuels, hydropower, geothermal energy, Generation IV nuclear reactors, and new battery technologies would yield massive returns.

If Britain is to lead in the energy transition, new technologies, and engagement with China, it must overcome several obstacles. Above all, the currently fragmented "Global Britain" agenda needs to reflect much closer cooperation between the public and private sectors, and become clearer about how to track execution and measure success.

The UK has a strong hand to play. But playing it well will require greater political vision. British leaders should set in motion a grand scheme that creates a long-term legacy - in the spirit of the Manhattan Project during World War II to develop the first nuclear weapons, or the US government's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, which enabled the subsequent development of Silicon Valley.

As the world emerges from the pandemic, the UK, as host to two major international summits this year, will find itself in the global spotlight. It must capitalize on this unique opportunity and seek to reposition itself for the twenty-first century.

Dambisa Moyo, an international economist, is the author of four New York Times bestselling books, including *Edge of Chaos: Why Democracy Is Failing to Deliver Economic Growth - and How to Fix It*.



By Shang-Jin Wei

# How Will the Digital Renminbi Change China?

**N**EW YORK - While many central banks are still investigating the possibility of issuing a digital currency, China has rolled out a digital currency via a series of pilot programs since last year. The eRMB (my term as opposed to the more awkward official DC/EP) by itself will not help the renminbi to challenge the US dollar's global dominance. Its true significance instead lies in its potential to alter the balance between China's technology giants and traditional majority state-owned banks, thus indirectly enhancing the banks' international competitiveness.

The pilot programs employ a two-tier structure with "controlled anonymity." The People's Bank of China (PBOC, the central bank) issues eRMB to an authorized group of large state-owned banks and other selected financial institutions, which then make the money available to households and firms - the digital currency's ultimate users. Unlike with some other central-bank digital currencies under discussion, Chinese households and companies would not have an eRMB account directly at the central bank, thus distancing the PBOC from any glitches that might occur.

The authorized institutions see only a portion of the digital footprints of individuals or firms - for example, when they deposit or withdraw funds using eRMB - and are not supposed to keep the information longer than needed. That's the "anonymity" part of "controlled anonymity." The "controlled" part, however, is that the PBOC sees the entire history of the movement of a given eRMB unit, and can choose whether or not to use or share the information. Both the two-tier system and controlled anonymity are likely to be central features of any eventual national program.

In the pilot schemes, eRMB were distributed to randomly chosen individuals via free digital gifts. At the full-scale launch, the government will have several tools at its disposal to encourage wider use. For example, it could pay the salaries of government and state-owned firms' employees - some 15% of the workforce - and public-sector pensions in eRMB. Government procurement programs, transfers to low-income households, and subsidies to firms also can be carried out in the new currency. In addition, the government could require citizens to pay a progressively higher proportion of income taxes and other public-sector fees in eRMB.

How significant will the digital renminbi be? By replacing China's physical notes and coins, the eRMB will save the PBOC the costs of printing and circulating new currency and regularly replacing a portion of existing notes, which currently amount to billions of renminbi a year. While these savings are socially useful, they are unlikely to be large relative to China's government budget or GDP.

Nor will the eRMB completely stamp out illegal transactions in China's underground economy, because criminals will doubtlessly settle deals using alternative means such as dollar or euro bills, gold chains, or valuable artwork. (More than half of all physical US dollar bills, especially \$100 dollar bills, circulate outside the United States, often aiding the underground economy in other countries.)

A far more significant consequence of the eRMB that Chinese officials have not publicly discussed is its potential to alter the balance of power between China's banks and Big Tech firms.

The rise of digital conglomerates such as Ant Group, JD.com, and Baidu has created significant value for Chinese households and firms. Households can access a large array of mutual-fund products through digital financial supermarkets with a level of convenience unavailable even to Americans, while millions of small entrepreneurs unable to obtain bank loans have secured funding without having to post a collateral.

The ability to make such loans reflects Big Tech's advantage in observing not only the revenue growth of an online business, but also "soft information" such as customer reviews of the firm's products and services, and product return rates. Such data - which typically is not available to banks - allows Big Tech to generate high-quality credit scores. Big data also enable Big Tech firms to process credit applications, distribute loans, and collect repayment much more cheaply and quickly than banks.

Regulators within and outside China have become increasingly worried that Big Tech firms could abuse these advantages. Traditional banks, which have been losing market share to the digital giants in both money management and lending, are probably cheering the regulators on as they take a tougher stance.

Under controlled anonymity for the eRMB, the PBOC will gain a similar ability to monitor what is otherwise invisible to banks. Although the PBOC would still lack other information such as customer reviews, its data on growth of revenues and expenses would in some ways be better than Big Tech's, because it would include an economy-wide history of transactions. This may allow the PBOC to estimate potential borrowers' creditworthiness and to share these new credit scores with banks at low or no cost, enabling them to make uncollateralized loans too, which could reduce or even eliminate Big Tech's information advantage.

The eventual international use of the eRMB will depend on a number of factors. As China's global trade and financial importance grows, more transactions will be settled in renminbi. Chinese state-owned firms could insist on settling a portion of their international transactions in renminbi, while the PBOC could sign more swap agreements involving the currency. But Chinese capital controls, as well as the relatively small amount of liquid renminbi-denominated assets that can be bought and sold by international investors, will limit the currency's international uptake. Reforms in these areas, on the other hand, can promote its adoption.

US policy also will play a role. The US authorities could, for example, discourage American financial institutions from using the renminbi. Ironically, frequent US financial sanctions that exploit the dollar's privileged global position could promote the emergence of alternatives to the greenback, including the renminbi.

The eRMB on its own will not advance the renminbi's internationalization. Its main impact is likely to be a rebalancing of power between the banks and the Big Techs at home.

Shang-Jin Wei, a former chief economist at the Asian Development Bank, is Professor of Finance and Economics at Columbia Business School and Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.

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

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

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

### 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. Gallor  
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 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 Kobbai 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

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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



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE  
MONTERRADO COUNTY, R. L.

Cllr. Willie D. Barclay, Jr./Deponent

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# U.S. recognizes Jeety's assistance to Central Prison



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# DPPL protests against "Weah 2023" solar light

By Lewis S. Teh

The opposition Democratic People Party of Liberia or DPPL says its attention has been drawn to the planting of solar panel poles at street corners and other areas with inscriptions "Weah 2023."

DPPL Political Leader Rev. David Kaimu noted that this is a violation of the election laws of the Republic of

serious election violations.

At the same time, he said the party is also troubled by alleged activities of some Liberian NGOs recruiting fellow Liberians from the United States, Asia and Europe, coaching them to tell falsehood about the involvement of some citizens during the civil war here.

Rev. Kaimu told reporters over the weekend in a news

I want to call on the Government of Liberia to launch an investigation into the activities of certain NGOs owned and operated by some Liberian citizens in Liberia and outside of the country. We have followed these NGOs and their foreign counterparts whose strategy for raising money has been to tell lies on fellow Liberians and foreign nationals", he said.

He noted that those NGOs have lied on and implicated some personalities in the Diaspora, including Michael Desadleer, a Belgium-American, Gibril Massaquoi, Moses Thomas, Alieu Kosia, Moses Wright, and Alexander Zinnah.

He said people have been victimized by the hired operatives of these NGOs, adding that in many instances, those NGOs recruit false witnesses, and after thoroughly coaching them into what lies to tell, released them to implicate their victims into various war crimes without any proper evidence to prove their allegations.

He specifically accused the Global Justice Research Liberia, operated by Hassan Sekou Bility, Civitas Maxima in Switzerland, owned by Alain Werner, a Swiss Lawyer, Center for Justice and Accountability in California, USA, owned by Carmen Chung, an American Lawyer, Kathy Roberts, an American

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

# ECOWAS hosts regional experts' meeting on disability inclusion in West Africa



ECOWAS Commission through the Directorate of Humanitarian and Social Affairs hosted a regional experts' meeting on disability inclusion in West Africa from the 20 to 22nd April 2022 in Abuja, Nigeria.

The meeting is a follow-up on a regional study aimed at reviewing the compliance of Member States laws and policies with international and regional instruments on disability inclusion.

The disability inclusion experts from government institutions and National Associations of Persons with Disabilities of the 12 ECOWAS Member States, and Development Partners attended the meeting.

The ECOWAS Commissioner for Social Affairs and Gender, Dr. Siga Fatima Jagne delivered the welcome address to the participants at the three-day meeting aimed at validating and adopting the key findings of the Study Report and the Plan of Action on Disability Inclusion in West Africa.

She urged the experts to use the opportunity provided by the meeting to review and make valuable inputs to the Report of the Regional Study and Action Plan on Disability Inclusion in West Africa.

The Honorable Minister for of the defense counselors said, their action to file a motion for new trial is because the jury's verdict was materially contrary to the weight of the evidence adduced during trial.

He argued that none of the prosecution witnesses testified to the facts that would lead a reasonable mind to conclude as to the operation of criminal motive by the defendant.

According to the Motion for New Trial dated 25 April 2022, Section 2.1 of the Criminal Procedure Law of Liberia requires proof beyond reasonable doubt.

But the motion claimed that the verdict is contrary to the weight of the evidence especially where prosecution's witness testimonies are inconsistent and contradictory.

Women Affairs and Social Development of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dame Pauline Tallen, delivered the keynote address and opened the meeting.

The Honorable Minister in her remarks stated that to ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities, the Government of Nigeria created the National Commission of Persons with Disabilities.

She added that policies and plans to ensure all sectors of national life include persons with disabilities were developed so that no one is left behind.

"It is interesting to note that during the activities embarked upon to cushion the effects of COVID-19, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria directed that an additional 5% of all interventions be reserved for persons with disabilities" she further added.

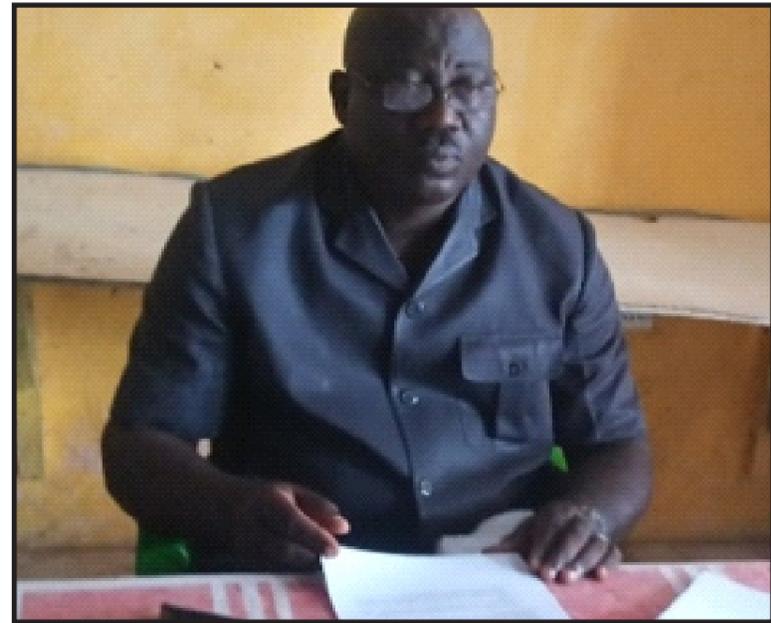
She commended the ECOWAS Commission for the efforts to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities as a core consideration of policies and programmes across the region through the Regional Action Plan on Disability Inclusion. The validation of the Regional Action Plan was interactive and results driven. At the end of the three day meeting, the key findings of the Regional Study and the

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

The defense lawyers also prayed the court for a New Trial and for the court to set aside the erroneous jury verdict. For their part, Prosecution lawyers did not resist the Motion that was filed by defense counsels, but requested the court for time to look at the Motion depending on the time they received it.

Cllr. Wesseh A. Wesseh alleged that the motive to have filed another Motion for New Trial by lawyers representing the defendant after the Judge had scheduled the sentence for 25 April was intended to delay the Pre-sentence.

After the presentation by both parties, Judge Willie granted the Motion for New Trial filed by the defense lawyers and scheduled the argument for 26 April 2022 at 9:45 AM.



Liberia, as it is not yet time for political campaign in the country.

"We call on the National Elections Commission to ask the owner of the poles to remove the inscription that suggests it is time to campaign in Liberia; we even suggest that a penalty is levied for this act", Rev. Kaimu said, cautioning that such activities could lead to

conference that the activities of those NGOs have caused serious embarrassment for several Liberians currently residing in the United States, Asia and Europe, so he wants the Government of Liberia to suspend operational permits of those NGOs allegedly involved in order to launch full investigation into the situation.

# Lawyers want retrial of human trafficker

By Lincoln G. Peters

Defense lawyers are seeking a retrial of defendant Retina Capehart who was recently found guilty of trafficking Liberians to Oman, claiming that the jury panel's unanimous guilty verdict against their client on

Tuesday, 19 April 2022 was materially contrary to the weight of the evidence.

The defense counsels for defendant Retina, also known as Aisha Kelleh, have filed a Motion for New Trial before Judge Roosevelt Z. Willie at the Criminal Court "A," Temple of Justice in Monrovia.

A jury panel of 12 persons found defendant Capehart guilty of Trafficking in Person after lengthy deliberation on the issue. It followed final arguments between her lawyer, Cllr. Sennay Carlor and State lawyer Cllr. Wesseh A. Wesseh. The court had reserved her sentencing for Monday, 25 April at 10 a.m. pending a comprehensive report from the Probation Office at the Ministry of Justice regarding her character.

The jurors' unanimous guilty verdict was brought against defendant Capehart, one of the perpetrators responsible for trafficking over seven Liberian girls to Oman. The defendant faced trial here after being charged with Trafficking In-Person by the Liberia National Police (LNP) and forwarded to court.

Speaking at a pre-sentence trial Monday, 25 April 2022, Atty. Alphonso G. Woiwar, one



# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Young Liberian poet releases 'Scary Dreams'

By Naneka Hoffman

Liberian Poet Lekpele M. Nyamalon says his latest work, Scary Dreams is an anthology of the Liberian Civil Wars.

Mr. Nyamalon disclosed that he was born in 1983 after the bloody military coup of the People's Redemption Council, and six years later on

reflection of the past to know how far the nation has come.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with the New Dawn over the weekend at iCampus in Monrovia, Mr. Nyamalon explained that the book is conversational through story-telling, allowing readers to share

become great again, which is why he titled the book "Scary Dreams."

The young Liberian writer detailed that Scary Dreams is all about the conflicts of April 12, 1980; the April 14, 1979 Rice Riot; the November 12, 1985 Abortive Invasion; the December 24, 1989 Rebel Invasion and the April 6, 1996 clashes between rebels loyalty to jailed former President Charles Ghankay Taylor and rebels of the late ULIMO-J leader Roosevelt Johnson on Camp Johnson Road, respectively.

He said the books are on sale for 10 United States Dollars, and hopes that Liberians collectively would not forget about their past in order to heal from it.

According to him, the way not to forget is to remember these stories, not to be bitter about them, but to avoid the circle of violence that has destroyed them for so long in order to build a path of reconciliation which would help in stopping people from returning to the past of tribalism, ethnicity, violence and abuse.

He noted that book is a general reflection of all the things they've gone through as a people.

"Because we don't reflect on these stories, we are more likely to repeat them", he added. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

December 24, 1989 came the rebel invasion by the National Patriotic Front Liberia, so he grew up in the crisis period.

According to him, the book of poems leads readers on a journey of these experiences, as he lived and grew up through conflicts, and adding that this is how he looks at present day Liberia hence, Scary Dreams is more important than ever as it's a

their personal experiences of the civil war - what they went through and how their experiences could lead to both personal and national healing.

He said Scary Dreams is his second book and the first was "Yearnings of a Traveler."

He expressed optimism that Liberians can rise from these terrifying dreams and



Mr. Lekpele M. Nyamalon

## DPPL protests against

Starts from page 6

lawyer, and Nushin Sakarati an American lawyer, respectively. "It has come to our notice that Mr. Hassan Sekou Bility, a journalist is the notorious of these, as he is in the constant habit of recruiting false witnesses from Europe, and America. these witnesses make statements in court trials in the presence of war crimes investigators" Rev. Kaimu added.

He said the DPPL is concerned that those very NGOs that are allegedly accusing institutions and individuals are the ones recruiting, coaching, and paying witnesses to testify against those accused.

He stressed that this is wrong and the Government of Liberia should intervene to stop those NGOs involved.

He recalled that a woman (name withheld) who now lives in the United States that he said was recruited and coached into lying on a popular Liberian

musician Michael Davis AKA Sundaygar Dearboy.

According to Rev. Kaimu, a little boy was recruited to lie that Sundaygar Dearboy participated in the Liberian Civil War and committed heinous war crimes.

"This allegation has embarrassed Sundaygar Dearboy, and we in Liberia and especially in Grand Bassa County call on the government to investigate Hassan Sekou Bility and his NGO.

We call on the Liberian government to set up a team of Liberian

investigators to investigate allegations made by Hassan Sekou Bility and his NGO, and partners who accused Liberians who have never participated in any war(s) in this Country."

According to him, it is this team that lied on Agnes Reeves Taylor and caused the British Metropolitan Police to order her arrest. Mrs. Taylor was subsequently released and she came to Liberia.

## ECOWAS hosts regional experts'

Starts from page 6

Regional Action Plan on Disability Inclusion in West Africa were validated and adopted by the experts. The experts committed to fully support the implementation of the action plan to ensure a better as well as quality standard of living for persons with disabilities across the region. On a final note, the

experts expressed their appreciation to the ECOWAS Commission for the laudable initiative of elaborating a Regional Action Plan on Disability Inclusion and to the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities, Nigeria for the warm reception and hospitality extended to all participants.

## Gender Minister welcomes Weah's call for second autopsy

By Kruah Thompson

The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection says it welcomes President George Manneh Weah's call for a second autopsy to be conducted on the remains of the late Princess Cooper.

Minister Williametta E. Saydee-Tarr believes that a second autopsy by a family-designated Pathologist as stated by President Weah will help improve public confidence and serve as a relief for family of the deceased.

Minister Saydee-Tarr also

welcomes the autopsy report of the late Melvin Togba and calls on the Liberia National Police to bring to closure through a full-scale investigation of the circumstances surrounding his unnatural death as enshrined in the report.

President Weah made the call on Monday, April 18th, 2022 through a press release published on the executive mansion website. According to the release, the President's decision was signified to lend support to the bereaved family, in their quest to bring closure to the circumstances surrounding the death of their loved one along with concerns raised by some citizens with the initial autopsy.

President Weah said in the release that government will fund the conduct of the second autopsy and called on the family to designate a pathologist of their choice, who possesses the requisite credentials and qualifications.



Minister Williametta E. Saydee-Tarr



At the same time, the President directed the Minister of Justice Frank Musa Dean, to avail the remains of the late Princess Cooper for the conduct of a second autopsy.

In the directive, President Weah urged Minister Dean to ensure that all civil society, political and other interest groups and individuals who have been involved with advocacy in the case to cooperate with the family and send the name of a

designated qualified pathologist to the government in the soonest possible time for the conduct of the second autopsy.

The President however, called on the public to learn to respect Liberian professionals, reminding that the pathologists, who carried out the initial autopsy were trained to international standards by the Government of Liberia with support from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

# Français

## Affaire UP : La CPP salue la décision de la NEC

Les partis membres restants de la Collaboration des Partis politiques (CPP) ont salué la décision de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) de référer le Parti de l'unité à la Cour suprême qui va décider s'il peut ou non présenter un candidat à Lofa.

Dans un communiqué publié ce week-end, le leader politique de l'Alternative

National Congress (ANC), M. Alexander B. Cummings, qui est désormais président par défaut de la CPP, a déclaré que la décision représente une victoire importante pour la Coalition et le peuple libérien.

« Même à ce niveau de considération, et conscient que la décision fait maintenant l'objet d'un appel, elle représente toujours une victoire importante pour la Collaboration des partis politiques (PPC) et

pour le peuple libérien », a-t-il dit.

« Nous ne pouvons pas refaire les mêmes choses encore et encore, et toujours espérer obtenir un résultat différent. Il est temps de changer afin que les dirigeants se tiennent aux normes les plus élevées de responsabilité, et nous agissons pour préserver l'état de droit », a déclaré Cummings.

« Il était impossible qu'on ne puisse détecter le mensonge raconté à la NEC comme quoi le Parti de l'unité (UP) et le Parti de tous les Libériens (ALP) "n'ont pas signé" l'accord-cadre de la CPP, d'où ils ne peuvent être liés par ses dispositions, ou encore le document-cadre était un produit de fraude », a-t-il ajouté.

« Si la CPP avait gardé le silence et n'avait pas agit ce mensonge serait pris comme du vrai aussi bien par la NEC que par le peuple libérien. Pourtant nous sommes convaincus que c'est du faux et même ceux qui ont fait de telles affirmations savaient

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## Éditorial

### Le réalisateur John Tiah Nagbe devrait démissionner

Le directeur général du National Identification Registry (NIR), John Tiah Nagbe, devrait quitter ses fonctions pour se concentrer sur sa candidature à l'élection sénatoriale du comté de Maryland.

C'est non seulement décevant, mais aussi très dégoûtant que le directeur Nagbe, qui dirige une institution cruciale telle que le registre national d'identification, qui certifie la citoyenneté par l'identification en vue de participer aux élections et à d'autres activités, ait récemment abandonné son travail à Monrovia et se soit rendu dans son Maryland natal, au sud-est, pour faire campagne.

Oui, c'est vrai que c'est son droit constitutionnel en tant que citoyen libérien de se présenter à n'importe quelle fonction publique. Cependant, le fait d'occuper le poste de directeur du N.I.R et faire campagne pour un poste électif, en utilisant les fonds des contribuables, les véhicules, l'essence et d'autres commodités de l'État constitue un conflit d'intérêts. De plus, c'est de l'injustice à l'égard des autres aspirants potentiels du comté.

Que le directeur Nagbe comprenne qu'être membre du Congrès pour le changement démocratique ne lui donne pas le droit d'enfreindre la loi.

Le patron du N.I.R a récemment défilé les routes déplorables menant au sud-est et est arrivé dans le Maryland le samedi 16 avril et fait l'objet d'un accueil chaleureux de la part des citoyens et des partisans.

«Marylanders, vous avez vu ce qui vous est arrivé ces années-là, si vous restez ici et élisez certaines de ces mêmes personnes au pouvoir, qui n'ont rien fait pour le comté, ce sera de votre faute.

Permettez-moi de vous dire, mes compatriotes du Maryland, si nous voulons toujours profiter de cette grande opportunité en tant que sud-est, soutenons tous les candidats du CDC en 2023 », a-t-il déclaré.

Les élections auront lieu dans 17 mois, et le rôle du registre national d'identification est crucial pour l'opération d'enregistrement des électeurs et des candidats éligibles. Le fait que le directeur Nagbe tourne le dos à tout cela pour aller faire campagne risque de causer un grave préjudice aussi bien à l'État et qu'aux Libériens en général.

Nous savons que pour les militants du parti au pouvoir, cela n'est pas bien grave, à partir du moment où cela permettra au parti de se perpétuer au pouvoir.

Pourtant une décision administrative aussi médiocre que celle-ci risque de causer de graves problèmes au N.I.R., si ce n'est déjà fait.

Nagbe et tous les responsables du régime ne peuvent embarquer le peuple libérien, au grand jamais. Les Libériens ne sont pas dupes. Ils sont en train d'évaluer la qualité du leadership que pourvoit l'administration actuelle.

Abandonner le travail pour lequel on est payé et bien entretenu pour aller faire campagne est un affront à l'égard de l'État et des contribuables. Il doit démissionner immédiatement pour céder la place à une personne plus sérieuse pour le poste.



## Plusieurs menaces pourraient entraver la lutte contre le paludisme en Afrique

Ce lundi 25 avril est la journée mondiale de lutte contre le paludisme. Une maladie qui continue de tuer massivement. 630 000 personnes, essentiellement des enfants vivant en Afrique, ont succombé à la maladie en 2020. Le nombre de cas, lui, est d'environ 240 millions. De nombreux outils existent pour lutter contre le paludisme, et la palette continue de s'étoffer. Mais dans le même temps, des menaces pourraient entraver la lutte sur le continent africain.

Les armes pour lutter contre le paludisme ne sont pas encore suffisamment déployées : moustiquaires imprégnées d'insecticide, répulsifs, traitements préventifs pour les femmes enceintes et les enfants, médicaments curatifs. Un premier vaccin, destiné aux enfants, testé dans 3 pays et efficace à 30%, devrait bientôt rejoindre cet arsenal et devrait être plus largement déployé. Bref, une combinaison d'outils existe, et la palette continue de s'étoffer. Même si la recherche reste largement sous-financée, des innovations ont été mises au point, notamment dans le domaine de la lutte contre les moustiques vecteurs du paludisme.

« Il y a des nouveautés en ce

qui concerne les moustiquaires imprégnées. On fait maintenant des combinaisons d'insecticides pour certaines moustiquaires avec différences classes chimiques, explique le docteur Pascal Ringwald coordinateur du département paludisme au sein de l'OMS. Cela permet de lutter contre la résistance aux insecticides, et d'augmenter l'efficacité. Dès qu'il y aura l'autorisation, ça pourra être mis en place. Ensuite, il y a les appâts sucrés ciblés pour les moustiques. Ce sont des appâts qu'on accroche à une certaine

hauteur pour que les enfants ne puissent pas y accéder. C'est accroché sur l'extérieur des maisons, à peu-près à 1.8 mètre. Le fait qu'il y ait du sucre attire les moustiques. Et comme il y a aussi des insecticides, ça tue aussi les moustiques. On attend toujours l'autorisation. C'est testé au Mali, en Zambie et au Kenya. Ce sont des choses assez novatrices. C'est surtout pour les vecteurs à l'extérieur, on a beaucoup de mal à tuer les

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



# Français

## Affaire UP : La CPP salue

que c'étaient du faux ».

« L'Alternative National Congress (ANC) et le Liberty Party (LP) ont donc été contraints de défier publiquement l'UP et l'ALP, ce que nous aurions normalement décidé de ne pas faire », a ajouté Cummings.

Cummings a déclaré que la CPP est « soucieuse de ne pas approfondir la méfiance et la désunion au sein de l'opposition, ce qui ne profitera qu'au président Weah, dont l'administration a irrémédiablement déçu le peuple libérien ».

Il a déclaré que la CPP reste « convaincue que c'est ainsi que nous construirons le nouvel avenir de notre pays que nous recherchons - un avenir d'engagement envers l'état de droit, et loin de la corruption politique et du vol en cours qui tourmentent notre pays depuis bien trop longtemps. »

Se félicitant davantage de la décision, il a loué la bravoure dont ont fait preuve les dirigeants du Liberty Party et de l'ANC pour mettre à nu le mensonge de l'UP et de l'ALP.

« Nous ne craignons pas de contester qui que ce soit pour avoir une chance de diriger notre peuple. Les Libériens doivent décider librement et équitablement qui devrait les diriger. C'est ainsi que la démocratie devrait fonctionner. Nous nous battons donc sans relâche pour que cela se produise », a indiqué le communiqué. ; « Mais nous avons aussi un devoir de leadership, qui ne peut nous permettre d'être complices du mensonge fait

## Plusieurs menaces pourraient entraver

moustiques. Pour ceux qui rentrent, on peut imprégner les murs des maisons, mais ceux à l'extérieur posent un certain problème. »

Mais malgré ces innovations, plusieurs menaces pourraient grandement entraver la lutte sur le continent africain. Première menace : la résistance aux médicaments antipaludiques à base d'artémisinine. Plusieurs combinaisons de molécules existent, très efficaces. Or depuis peu, des parasites partiellement résistants à l'artémisinine ont été détectés au Rwanda, en Ouganda et dans la Corne de l'Afrique. Lutter contre ces parasites résistants et leur extension est crucial.

« Les premiers cas ont été trouvés au Rwanda, ensuite, on en a trouvé en Ouganda, puis dans la corne de l'Afrique, explique le docteur Pascal Ringwald. Cette résistance a

au peuple libérien et du non respect de ses promesses pour des raisons politiques ».

« Moi, Alexander B. Cummings, je n'ai pas besoin d'accéder au pouvoir par le déshonneur ou la tromperie. Plus important encore, je n'ai pas besoin de diriger notre peuple si ce n'est pour changer de manière significative notre pays en unissant tout notre peuple, en mettant fin au vol des fonctionnaires, en offrant des opportunités pour que tous les Libériens aient une chance de réussir dans leur propre pays, et en refaisant de notre société une société plus juste, équitable, sûre et prospère ».

Le 24 mars 2022, trois jours après le début du dépôt des dossiers de candidature à l'élection sénatoriale partielle du comté de Lofa, la CPP, par l'intermédiaire de l'ANC et du LP, a déposé une plainte auprès de la NEC comme quoi l'ALP et l'UP ont violé l'accord-cadre de la CPP. L'ANC et le LP ont affirmé que l'UP et l'ALP n'ont pas respecté la procédure de retrait d'un parti membre de la CPP.

L'ANC et le LP, supposant que l'ALP et l'UP se sont retirés de la CPP, a invoqué l'article 8.5 (2) de l'accord-cadre de la CPP qui interdit à un ancien parti membre de présenter un candidat en son nom propre à une élection.

Mais l'UP et l'ALP ont fait valoir qu'ils ne sont pas liés par l'accord-cadre de la CPP déposé auprès de la NEC car il s'agit d'un produit de fraude et que l'article 17 de la Constitution libérienne leur donne le droit de se dissocier de la CPP.

Ils ont également déposé une demande au bureau d'audience de rejeter la plainte pour des motifs de compétence.

émérgé en Afrique. Elle n'a pas été importée comme certains chercheurs l'avaient prédit de la région du Mékong vers l'Afrique, mais elle a émergé spontanément en Afrique. L'OMS est en train de développer avec les partenaires une stratégie pour éviter l'extension de cette résistance aux pays voisins. Pour éviter d'autres émergences, il faudra une meilleure régulation de l'utilisation des médicaments, les médicaments de mauvaise qualité. Il faudra être attentif à la manière dont les médicaments sont utilisés. Il faudra vraiment qu'on travaille beaucoup avec les pays pour s'assurer qu'ils suivent bien les recommandations de l'OMS, d'un point de vue du traitement, d'un point de vue de la prévention, d'un point de vue lutte anti vectorielle. On est en train de développer une stratégie qui va encore prendre quelques mois pour le continent, et après, il faudra le mettre en place pour les différents pays pour limiter

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Dambisa Moyo

## Accélérer le rythme mondial de la Grande-Bretagne

LONDRES - Les sceptiques soutiennent depuis longtemps que le Royaume-Uni a dépassé son acmé et que ce pays tire bien souvent profit de sa gloire passée. Ils soulignent le classement intermédiaire du pays dans le Programme international pour le suivi des acquis des élèves de l'OCDE, le fait qu'une seule entreprise britannique, HSBC, figure parmi les 50 plus grandes sociétés publiques du monde par rapport aux quatre entreprises allemandes, et la probabilité que le Brexit ne finisse par déclasser la position mondiale de la Grande-Bretagne.

Mais je ne suis pas d'accord avec cette opinion. Après tout, le Royaume-Uni est l'un des seuls pays à avoir produit un vaccin efficace contre la COVID-19 en un temps record. Il reste à l'avant-garde de la transition mondiale vers les énergies vertes et a été la première grande économie à adopter une législation visant à mettre un terme à sa contribution au réchauffement climatique d'ici 2050. En outre, le Royaume-Uni conserve ses points forts habituels, aussi bien en matière de langue, de situation géographique et de fuseau horaire, de ses universités renommées et de ses marchés financiers bien implantés. Sans oublier son rôle de porte-étendard de l'État de droit.

Lorsque le Royaume-Uni accueillera le prochain sommet du G7 en Cornouailles, les dirigeants du monde politique et des affaires voudront voir à quel point le pays est en phase avec les trois questions qui, collectivement, vont bouleverser le commerce mondial et catalyser la croissance économique dans les prochaines décennies : coopération avec la Chine, innovation technologique et énergie propre.

En ce qui concerne la Chine, la Grande-Bretagne dispose d'une marge considérable pour accroître le commerce bilatéral. En 2019, les exportations britanniques vers la Chine se sont élevées à 30,7 milliards de livres sterling (43,5 milliards de dollars), soit un peu plus du tiers du total de 110 milliards de dollars de l'Allemagne. En fait, 2020 a été la cinquième année consécutive au cours de laquelle la Chine a été le plus grand partenaire commercial de l'Allemagne.

La Grande-Bretagne a donc un besoin urgent d'élargir ses relations commerciales et d'investissement vis-à-vis de la Chine, qui devraient dominer l'économie mondiale. La Chine est déjà le plus grand partenaire commercial et investisseur direct international pour de nombreux pays développés et en développement, et elle est maintenant le plus gros prêteur pour les économies émergentes - plus gros que le Fonds monétaire international, la Banque mondiale et le Club de Paris des créanciers souverains.

Bien sûr, les préoccupations relatives aux droits de l'homme et aux différences idéologiques constituent un défi éthique pour la Grande-Bretagne lorsqu'elle traite avec la Chine. Mais se tenir à l'écart de la classe politique chinoise limiterait la capacité du Royaume-Uni à influencer le régime de Pékin et risquerait de faire reculer l'économie britannique.

En termes de technologie, le rôle de la Grande-Bretagne dans le développement du vaccin COVID-19 d'Oxford-AstraZeneca souligne ses atouts d'innovation en médecine - comme en témoigne le secteur florissant de la biotechnologie et des sciences de la vie. Et pourtant le Royaume-Uni n'a pas encore développé une entreprise technologique de renommée mondiale, et la récente activité boursière envoie des messages mitigés aux investisseurs. Les introductions en bourse de la société de livraison de produits alimentaires Deliveroo et de la société de technologie de semi-conducteurs Alphawave ont essuyé leurs premiers revers : les cours des actions des deux sociétés ont chuté fortement à leur premier jour de négociation et sont restés en dessous de leur prix de lancement plusieurs semaines après.

Mais le Royaume-Uni est bien placé pour bénéficier des investissements et des avancées dans les technologies émergentes, comme l'intelligence artificielle, qui vont sans aucun doute transformer l'éducation et la santé dans les années à venir. En outre, le pays a de réelles occasions d'épauler ses alliés pour les aider à combler leurs lacunes technologiques - notamment dans les semi-conducteurs, où la part de l'Amérique dans la production mondiale a chuté de 37 % en 1990 à seulement 12 % à l'heure actuelle.

Pour réaliser son potentiel de superpuissance scientifique, le Royaume-Uni aura besoin d'un pôle technologique capable de rivaliser avec le dynamisme de la Silicon Valley. Cela exigera de manière agressive et délibérée la construction d'un écosystème de talents et de collaboration dans les domaines de la science des données, de la technologie et des politiques publiques.

Par exemple, l'arc Oxford-Cambridge soutient déjà deux millions d'emplois et ajoute 110 milliards de livres sterling à l'économie britannique chaque année. Mais pour passer au niveau supérieur, cette région doit devenir un habitat dynamique pour l'innovation et être beaucoup plus visible pour les principaux investisseurs mondiaux. Cet aspect va prendre toute son importance dans la mesure où les investissements directs internationaux dans le monde ont chuté durant trois années consécutives (2016-18) avant de chuter de 42 % durant l'annus pandemics de 2020.

En ce qui concerne l'énergie, le Royaume-Uni a été un précurseur mondial dans l'atténuation des risques climatiques par le captage et le stockage du carbone et dans la définition d'un objectif de neutralité carbone en matière d'émissions de gaz à effet de serre. Le pays aura également une occasion importante de renforcer ses compétences en tant que chef de file en matière d'environnement et d'énergies vertes en accueillant cet automne le Sommet COP26 des Nations Unies sur le climat.

Surtout, le Royaume-Uni a une chance de changer le discours de sorte que la transition verte ne consiste pas seulement à limiter les répercussions économiques négatives, mais également à tirer le meilleur profit des répercussions positives. En particulier, le soutien des pouvoirs publics aux investissements à plus grande échelle dans les énergies solaire et éolienne, l'hydrogène, les biocarburants, l'hydroélectricité, l'énergie géothermique, les réacteurs nucléaires de Génération IV et les nouvelles technologies de batteries vont produire d'énormes résultats.

Si la Grande-Bretagne entend prendre la tête de la transition énergétique, des nouvelles technologies et de la coopération avec la Chine, elle devra surmonter plusieurs obstacles. Par-dessus tout, le programme actuellement fragmenté de « Global Britain » doit refléter une coopération beaucoup plus étroite entre les secteurs public et privé et rendre plus claire sa méthode de suivi et d'évaluation de ses réussites.

Le Royaume-Uni a toutes les cartes en main. Mais pour bien jouer cette main, le pays aura besoin d'une vision politique plus large. Les dirigeants britanniques doivent mettre en branle un grand projet qui crée un héritage à long terme - dans l'esprit du Projet Manhattan au cours de la Seconde Guerre mondiale pour développer les premières armes nucléaires, ou de l'Agence des projets de recherche avancée en matière de défense du gouvernement américain (DARPA), qui a permis le développement ultérieur de la Silicon Valley.

Alors que le monde est en train de sortir de la pandémie, le Royaume-Uni, qui accueillera cette année deux grands sommets internationaux, va se trouver sous les feux de l'actualité. Ce pays doit tirer parti de cette occasion unique et chercher à se repositionner pour le XXIe siècle.

Dambisa Moyo, économiste internationale. Elle a publié quatre livres à succès au New York Times, dont *Edge of chaos: Why Democracy Is Failing to Deliver Economic Growth - and How to Fix It*.

# LIBERIANS DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

Liberia’s Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor retires in September this year as he turns 75, the retirement age for anyone who heads the Supreme Court, the final arbiter of justice in the country.

The New Dawn randomly asked several residents of Monrovia to rate the Chief Justice’s performance over the years, as he finally exits after serving two administrations.



**Emmanuel Gonotee**

“The Justice System under Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor in my mind, I

think he’s doing well; the Justice System, I must admit, has challenges, but I think they are trying their best to ensure that Justice is dispensed to the public. I am not saying that 100 percent the Justice System is correct right. I acknowledge that there are some challenges confronting the System that I know. But amidst the challenges, in my opinion, they are making significant progress.”



**Jackson George**

“Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor is very much instrumental since he became Chief Justice, and for his retirement, I think it’s a big blow to the government and the people of Liberia because now, I do not see any competent person that will represent the Justice Ministry to dispense Justice out to the public, so it is big blow and right now, I think there is no possible replacement for Chief Justice Francis Korkpor because he has been instrumental in making sure Justice is dispensed irrespective of your position.”



**Nyanforh D. Nyanforh**

“The Justice System under the Weah-led government actually is a messy one. I have not seen anybody given equal Justice since this government took power. I am from the ANC and we have been following a lot of cases from the ANC or from the CPP, particularly from the ANC where I have my Political Leader Alexander Cummings, who have been accused falsely, and since then the Solicitor-General, who is the persecutor and senior lawyer for the government has refused, after he said he has tons of evidence, he has refused to provide those pieces of evidence against Mr. Cummings that he (Cummings) altered the

CPP framework document. To our utmost surprise, when he was given a week to bring the evidence, he said instead, that Mr. Cummings should provide evidence against himself; even though I am not a lawyer - a practitioner, but what I do know is nowhere in the law I think that happens that you the accused will be given the responsibility to bring proof, because the burden of proof lies on the accused, not on the person that has been accused. For now, I have not seen any person that can replace Chief Justice Francis Korkpor. I am not saying that there is no competent person, but that lies also in the preview of the Government or the Executive, because the President is the one that does the appointment about who to go in that position. For now, I have not seen anybody because I know it will not be something that will be in the interest of the Liberian people; it will not be a lawyer that will seek the interest of the Liberian people, as it been happening in front of our watchful eyes.”



**Baccus Incredible Saydee Jr.**

“For me, the Justice System I must admit, is not too strong because some of our brothers and sisters are in jail and they have not been tried and convicted, but they are just there in South Beach and the prison is getting over crowded under his leadership, so I will say it is not really good.”



**Robert T. Harrison alias 'Political Zlatical'**

“Firstly, let me appreciate Chief Justice Korkpor for his leadership in serving the country at the Justice System but, I think under his regime there are a lot of challenges - the Justice System at the time and even currently has not

been really strong in the country; there are many cases at the Justice Ministry under Chief Justice Francis Korkpor’s watchful eyes that were not adjudged rightfully, people died mysteriously in this country and justice did not prevail under his regime. The ordinary people never have Justice. The Justice System under Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor is not ok; thank God he is reaching his retirement, because he is not doing well. It is under Francis S. Korkpor that

Lebanese people can say our Justice System and lawmakers are in their pockets, and he is not doing well for our country. He made the international community to degrade our Justice System. The Constitution gives the President the authority to appoint the Chief Justice but, it doesn’t give him the right to dismiss, so I pray the indulgence of the President to look for a sincere and competent Liberian to serve that position.”

# Attorney General demands update on Cummings' trial

Liberia's Minister of Justice and Attorney General Cllr. Frank Musa Dean has instructed Solicitor General Cllr. Sayma Syrenius Cephus to furnish his (Minister Dean's) office with the proper evidence which provides the basis for the prosecution of opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC) political leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings and other defendants.

Mr. Cummings is currently facing criminal trial at the Monrovia City Court 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. But he has always denied any

However, Liberia's Solicitor-General Counselor Sayma Syrenius Cephus, who is leading government prosecution of the Presumptive Standard Bearer of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP), Mr. Alexander Benedict Cummings and two other leaders of the Alternative National Congress, allegedly confesses here that the complaint against the three accused, were initially "quashed" only to be reimposed by his boss, the Minister of Justice, Cllr. Frank Musa Dean.

Mr. Cummings is also Political Leader of the ANC, a constituent party of the CPP.

"It was the Justice Minister, Cllr. Frank Musa Dean, who ordered the re-issuance of the writ of arrest after it was initially quashed", S.G. Cephus is quoted as saying, maintaining that "He is the only person who can order the matter to be dismissed."

In a live broadcast interview of Mr. Cummings on SPOON radio, Sunday, April 24, in which he threatened "consequences and

Instead, Boakai has reportedly asked that he be deposed at home.

However, Defense lawyers strongly object and are demanding that Boakai, being in country and able to testify, having written the National Elections Commission, making the same bogus and false claims against Cummings, be served and made to appear and testify in court other than his home.

In Sunday's SPOON interview, Cummings also insisted on the appearance of Boakai in court, insisting that it is his "constitutional and human rights to confront his accusers."

The Judge of the Magisterial Court, Jomah Jallah, was expected to rule on the appearance of Boakai on Monday, April 25. Over the past four months of the trial, only one witness has been produced by the Government Prosecution.

Last week, Solicitor General Cephus requested the court to subpoena over 30 witnesses to testify in the ongoing "forgery and criminal conspiracy" trial, which has raised public concerns about deliberate attempt by state prosecutors to delay and baffle the trial.

After promising "preponderance of evidence in the possession of state prosecutors to convict Cummings and others, Government Prosecution Team at the onset of the trial changed its public position and moved the court to compel the accused to provide the prosecution with evidence to prosecute them.

This strange practice was then followed by what the Defense called "prosecutorial misconduct" after State Prosecution admitted to "inadvertently" extracting several pieces of documentary evidence which could disprove the Prosecution's charges and exonerate the defendants.

Meanwhile, the Presumptive Standard Bearer of the CPP, Cummings has urged the Liberian Judiciary to act in protection of its public reputation and integrity.

Citing recent utterances of the Solicitor General that the litigation has been decided and the trial was only to offer Cummings "due process", the ANC Political Leader called for an end to the abuse of the Judiciary by the political branches, adding: "This undermines the rule of law, smears the international image of the country and risks the economic recovery especially when too many Liberians are suffering worsening economic hardships and conditions."

At the same time, Cummings assures his supporters and the Liberian people that he will be on the ballot in 2023, promising to "work as hard as possible to democratically end the failed and corrupt leadership of President George Weah.

# NEC reaffirms decision to stop UP



By Lincoln G. Peters

The full Board of Commissioners of the National Elections Commission (NEC) has reaffirmed a decision taken by its hearing officer to stop Unity Party from contesting the Lofa by-election until Liberia's Supreme Court can make a determination. The Board on Monday, 25 April 2022, denied and dismissed UP's bill of exception filed after the hearing officer prohibited the NEC last week from taking any further action in the case as to whether or not to allow UP field a candidate in the Lofa By-election.

The NEC Board's decision followed a ruling handed last week by the commission's Hearing Officer Atty. Fomba A.M. Swaray prohibiting the electoral house from taking any further action in the case until the Supreme Court decides.

The National Elections Commission recently referred the Unity Party before the Supreme Court, as the electoral body remained undecided on whether or not to block UP and All Liberian Party (ALP) from fielding senatorial candidates in Lofa County.

Reading the full Board of Commissioners' decision, clerk A. Wallace Kamara, said that Article 79 of the Liberian Constitution requires each registered political party to file its constitution and rules with the NEC, and requires that the submitted constitution and rules must conform to the provision of the Liberian Constitution.

Moreover, he noted, Section 8.5 of the New Election Law requires political parties seeking to form an alliance to submit the terms and conditions of their governing document to

the NEC.

He continued that they agreed with the hearing officer that the framers of the Liberian Constitution and Election Law did not require political parties to submit their governing document to the NEC simply as a mere formality.

According to him, the Liberian Constitution, as well as the New Election Law of Liberia each grants the NEC exclusive authority to conduct public election and the NEC is the forum of first instance when a challenge is made to the ability or qualification of a political party to field a candidate in a public election.

Clerk Kamara disclosed that with respect to the appellant's argument that this matter should have been dismissed, the NEC Board of Commissioners said ALP has a criminal case of forgery and conspiracy pending before it undetermined. He noted that unlike proceedings in the Civil Law Court where it may take up to twenty plus days from the filing of a complaint for pleading to rest and up to sixty days to perfect an appeal, election matters, especially regarding a by-election, are time-bound and must be completed in a specified time frame.

Mr. Kamara explained that appellant did not cite any authority and they have not found any that designates another forum of first impression to hear a challenge to a political party ability or qualification to field a candidate in a pending public election, saying that they hold that the hearing officers did not err based upon Article 65 of the Liberian Constitution.

He said that mere allegation of fraud or impropriety is not sufficient for the NEC to act on an individual or party's claim of fraud.

After listening to the Board of Commissioners' ruling, the lead lawyer representing the All Liberian Party and the former ruling Unity Party Cllr. J. Johnny Momoh took exception to the ruling and announced an appeal



Justice Min. Dean & Solicitor Gen. Cephus

wrongdoing.

Cllr. Dean is quoted in the Justice Ministry statement as citing Section 22.2 of the Executive Law which provides that it shall be the duty of the Minister of Justice to procure the proper evidence for, and conduct, prosecute or defend all suits and proceedings in the courts in which the Republic of Liberia or any officer thereof, as to such officer, is a party or may be interested.

Cllr. Dean suggested, according to the communication, that he is under obligation to ensure that the purpose of prosecution is not to taint, harass, grandstand, punish or convict.

Instead, he said it is to pursue the truth, adding that in the instant case, the Writ against Mr. Cummings and others was never quashed and, therefore, could not have been reinstated by his office.

repercussions for the false accusations and conspiracy to smear his hard-earned reputation", the Solicitor General texted the talkshow hosts to inform Cummings that the writ which ordered his arrest was initially quashed only to be reordered by the Justice Minister and Attorney General.

Cllr. Cephus writes: "I am only a Prosecutor who is acting under his control and supervision, but he's afraid to take a firm decision and believes that I will unilaterally abandon the case so that he can use it against me to the government."

The ANC Political Leader has persistently maintained his innocence and described the charges and trial as a political persecution and witch-hunt to smear him and deny his challenge against the aged and ailing Former Vice President Joseph Boakai, and President Weah for the right to contest in the 2023 Presidential Elections.

Meanwhile, Former VP Boakai, who was touted by the Solicitor General as government's state witness, has reportedly dodged being served a subpoena to testify at the ongoing trial.

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# Bountou Sylla makes history in Women's League



By: Naneka Hoffman

Determine Girls FC's Guinean forward Bountou Sylla, goes down in the annals of Liberian football as the first Guinean player to score 56 goals in a single season in the Orange Women's league.

Sylla, who made massive headway in the league, was at her best again on Saturday, scoring twice to help her club win the Petro Trade Cup

against Ambassador FC. The Guinean registered a brace as Determine Girls FC beat Ambassador FC 4-2 to win a cash prize of One Million Liberian Dollars after snatching the Petro Trade Cup in the female category.

Sylla has become the most talked-about Guinean female footballer here and has gone on to break Angeline Kieh 42 goals' record and set her own

record. She becomes the first Guinean player to win both women's league titles and Petro Trade Cup, winning league back-to-back. She is the second Guinean to win the Petro Trade Cup after Kadiatu Sylla of EarthAngels.

The speedy forward has spent two seasons in the Liberian League and has gone on to win 2 League Titles, 1 Petro Trade Cup, and 1 Top Scorer award as well.

*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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