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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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# UP warns of political uncertainties

**—Petitions US Embassy, other foreign missions**

# Sanction Weah and his officials



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# Continental News

## Somali President, Prime Minister Quarrel Over Election Security



Somali military soldiers loyal to Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble patrol outside the Aden Adde International Airport

Somalia's election process faced new delays Wednesday as the president and prime minister clashed publicly over election security procedures ahead of a planned parliamentary leadership vote in the capital.

Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble issued a statement authorizing African Union forces to take control of security at the fortified airport compound where the vote was to take place.

"I have authorized ATMIS (African Union Transition Mission in Somalia) peacekeepers to immediately take over the security of the air force hangar as we complete the election of the parliamentary leadership and prepare for presidential elections next month," he said.

Just two hours later, President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed fired back, saying the national security election committee, which is chaired by General Abdi Hassan Hajar, Somalia's police commander, will oversee venue security.

The "ATMIS mission supports the national armed forces by collaborating with the Somali police force, which has the lead in the security of the elections," Mohamed said in a statement.

By early afternoon, few lawmakers had shown up for the vote and a postponement seemed likely. For safety reasons, some of Somalia's parliamentary proceedings take place inside a former air force hangar at Aden Adde International Airport. The modified hangar, known as Afisyone, or "the tent," will host the vote for speakership of the

influential 275-member lower chamber. It will also host upcoming presidential elections, which have yet to be scheduled.

In Somalia's parliamentary elections, which started in 2021, thousands of clan elders selected 275 members of parliament for the lower house, while senators for the upper house were elected by five different state-level legislatures. Both chambers of Somalia's bicameral parliament then elect the next president.

Although the elections of most lawmakers have been settled, a dispute has emerged over the election of 16 lawmakers representing Gedo, an administrative region within restive Jubaland in southern Somalia.

Citing security concerns, Somalia's election committee moved the venue for the parliamentary vote to resolve the disputed seats from the capital of the Gedo region, Garbaharey, to the Gedo town of El Wak. The move was endorsed by Roble, but supporters of the president

rejected the move and selected 16 MPs of their own to offset the 16 chosen in El Wak.

Somalia's interim House Speaker Abdisalan Dhaban'ad and Roble want the 16 MPs elected in El Wak to participate in the speakership and presidential elections. But President Mohamed said lawmakers elected in the Gedo region's "parallel" elections should not participate until an agreement is reached.

Scuffles and a shooting preceded Tuesday's disagreement over who would provide security for the upcoming votes. House Speaker Dhaban'ad reported that police commander General Hajar denied him the opportunity to swear in the El Wak MPs at the tent on Monday. VOA

## Mounting concern about police brutality in Kenya



Cases of police brutality and enforced disappearances are on a steady increase in Kenya, according to a joint report by Amnesty International Kenya and 16 local NGOs.

The report found 189 cases of police killings, as well as at least 30 people who have gone missing in police custody.

"We're noticing a significant increase since 2020, and the numbers are steadily going up," said the executive director of Amnesty International Kenya, Irūngū Houghton.

"The new trend we've noticed is the enforced abduction and disappearances of suspected criminals, terrorists, or just everyday civilians. Some of them have been found dead in Yala river or in Siaya county among other places," he added.

In response, a Kenyan with outbreaks in 2018 and in 2020.

Genetic testing has shown that the current outbreak

government spokesperson said they are committed to abide by the rule of law and ensure that human rights are protected. One woman, Anne Wanjiku Kariuki, who is pregnant with her third child, said the last time she saw her husband, he was being dragged through their home by suspected police officers in plain clothes.

They were searching for something but refused to tell her what it was. Her husband managed to mutter "I'm being arrested" before he was taken away. He hasn't been seen since.

"It's been a month and two weeks since they took him. The children are asking where he is and why he was arrested. I don't know what to do, or how to feel, I'm constantly wondering whether he is alive or not," she said.

Humans rights activist David Kuria said that regional police officers have denied involvement in his disappearance. BBC

was a new "spillover event," meaning it was transmitted from infected animals rather than linked to previous events. VOA

## WHO: Congo Starts Ebola Vaccinations to Stem Outbreak in Northwest

The Democratic Republic of Congo has kicked off Ebola vaccinations to stem an outbreak in the northwest city of Mbandaka, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday.

Two people are known to have died so far in the city of over one million inhabitants where people live in close proximity to road, water and air links to the capital

Kinshasa.

The first death occurred on April 21 and the second on Tuesday, marking the central African country's 14th Ebola outbreak.

Around 200 doses of the rVSV-ZEBOV Ebola vaccine have been shipped to Mbandaka from the eastern city of Goma, with more to be delivered in coming days, the WHO said in a statement.

So far 233 contacts have been identified and are being monitored, it added.

Three vaccination teams are on the ground and will focus on reaching all people at high risk.

"With effective vaccines at hand and the experience of the Democratic Republic of the Congo health workers in Ebola response, we can quickly change the course of this outbreak for the better," WHO Africa Director Matshidiso Moeti said in the statement.

Congo's equatorial forests are a natural reservoir for the Ebola virus, which was discovered near the Ebola River in northern Congo in 1976.

The country has seen 13 previous Ebola outbreaks, including one in 2018-2020 in the east that killed nearly 2,300 people, the second highest toll recorded in the history of the hemorrhagic fever.

The most recent ended in December in the east and caused six deaths. Mbandaka, the capital of Equateur province, has also contended



A young woman reacts as a health worker injects her with the Ebola vaccine, in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo



# EDITORIAL

## Weah's solar light politics

WHILE OVER A million Monrovia residents are without electricity and pipe borne water, rendering them vulnerable to criminals and other deviants, President George Manneh Weah seems busy with early campaign ahead of 2023 elections, erecting solar panel lights with campaign slogan "Weah 2023" in few communities here and there, much to the fury of critics.

MANY BELIEVE THE action clearly demonstrates President Weah's obsession with winning a second term in office than addressing long-existing managerial and technical lapses at the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) that is creating serious insecurity issues across the capital and its suburbs.

BESIDES, THE "WEAH 2023" solar panel activity is nothing but pre-campaigning which is in breach of the election law of Liberia. Those leading this campaign on behalf of the President should be called to book by the National Elections Commission to desist immediately.

RATHER THAN TOUTING his personal horn, President Weah should direct his attention to most important issue of ensuring that the Liberia Electricity Corporation execute its statutory function of delivering electricity to the more than 2 million population of Monrovia and rest of the country. Liberia runs an 88-Megawatt hydropower Plant but distribution of electricity across the country remains a serious challenge for the government.

THE LEC HAS been found wanting in every capacity, ranging from poor managerial skills, theft, bribery, compromise, ineptitude and inefficiency, among others. This is a serious embarrassment not only for the government, but the entire country.

DOES PRESIDENT WEAH realize that international partners, including the United States, European Union, Japan and others that contributed to purchasing a new turbine for the Mount Coffee Hydro Plant are regrettably disappointed in our inability to properly manage the facility?

SINCE ITS INSTALLATION and subsequent inauguration under the previous administration up to the present government, the LEC has been unable to efficiently distribute power, which has crippled the economy.

IN JANUARY, SENATE President Pro-Tempore Albert Chie revealed here that the Government of Liberia was indebted to the West African Power Pool from neighboring Ivory Coast, totaling US\$9m and added that due to the debt, Ivory Coast is reneging to send power to Liberia.

WE BELIEVE THESE are urgent issues that the Weah administration should address, instead of politicizing a crucial service like electricity. Supporters and sympathizers of the President who think the solar light politics is the way to proceed, are doing him and the Liberian people a serious disservice.

THIS IS UNSUSTAINABLE and President Weah knows very well, but he tries to take Liberians for granted by prioritizing his personal quest to get re-elected than the people. Immediately after taken office in 2018 amid high expectations from Liberians, Mr. Weah rather embarked on reconstructing his private residence in Sinkor, Monrovia and constructing 10 additional duplexes opposite Baptist Seminary along the Robertsfield Highway in Paynesville. Many had thought that he would have hit the ground running with his economic plan for the country.

WITH BARELY ONE year to ending his first term, the President should be seen exerting sincere effort in solving the electricity problem that is crippling the economy and the entire country instead of prioritizing his personal interest at the expense of the people he leads.

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# COMMENTARY

By Josep Borrell and  
Werner Hoyer

## Decarbonization Is Now a Strategic Imperative

**B**RUSSELS - Russia's invasion of Ukraine has forced the European Union to accelerate the pace of our energy and climate policy. Since the Kremlin has increasingly used energy as a tool for political influence, we must deprive it of its leverage by radically reducing our dependence on fossil-fuel imports from Russia.

The geopolitical rationale for doing so overlaps with the imperative to tackle climate change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report on mitigation underscores the urgency of that task. Total greenhouse-gas emissions must peak by 2025 if we are to avoid a catastrophic increase in global temperatures. Moreover, the economy-wide shift to clean energy must be managed carefully to account for the inevitable social and economic consequences; it must be a "just transition."

The EU and the European Investment Bank have a vital role to play in this transition. Investments in renewables, energy efficiency, and innovative technologies such as green hydrogen are important tools for dealing with Russia's aggression and helping to save the planet from dependence on fossil fuels. Every euro we spend on the energy transition at home is a euro we keep out of the hands of an authoritarian power that wages aggressive war. Every euro we spend on clean energy enhances our freedom to make our own decisions. Every euro we spend helping our international partners accelerate their own decarbonization strategies is an investment in resilience and in the fight against climate change.

Since Russia's invasion on February 24, the EU has been accelerating its energy transition plans to help end Europe's reliance on Russian fossil-fuel imports as soon as possible. Although this will not happen overnight, the incentives to do so are now greater than ever. We can achieve energy independence by improving efficiency, diversifying supplies, and ramping up renewables. This process requires a mobilization at all levels - from supranational bodies down to households and individuals.

There are two important caveats to consider. First, the search for alternative suppliers of natural gas - critical as it is in the short term - must not lock us into a new long-term dependence that requires heavy investments in fossil-fuel infrastructure. That would be costly, catastrophic for the planet, and ultimately unnecessary, given the more climate-conscious options that are available.

Second, we must not trade one bottleneck for another by swapping our over-dependence on fossil fuels for over-dependency on raw materials needed for the green transition. These resources are heavily concentrated in just a handful of countries,

not all of which hold the same values and interests as the EU. Strengthening the EU's strategic autonomy and resilience must remain a key objective of the transition.

Europe cannot do this alone. Winning the battle against climate change and standing up to Russian aggression are global challenges that demand a global response. Russian President Vladimir Putin's war has strengthened the strategic rationale for all countries to reduce their fossil-fuel imports and invest more in climate-friendly energy solutions.

That is why the EU is actively engaged in climate diplomacy. We want to encourage others to raise their climate ambitions, and we have committed considerable resources to working with partner countries so that they, too, can move to a resilient net-zero-emissions economy. Through the European Green Deal and the EU's new Global Gateway initiative, EU institutions and member states are mobilizing up to €300 billion (\$325 billion) of investment in green and digital infrastructure to address the climate, biodiversity, and energy crises.

Moreover, the EIB has pledged to support €1 trillion of investment in climate action and environmental sustainability by 2030. Through its new development arm, EIB Global, the bank is working with partners around the world to mobilize finance for energy efficiency, renewables, and electricity grid projects.

Working as part of the EU's joint effort under Team Europe, the EIB's support for a clean-energy future ranges from investing in solar power in Senegal to financing more energy-efficient kindergartens in Armenia. The bank has also helped forge a Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa; provided backing for the India-based International Solar Alliance, which supports solar power development across 105 tropical countries; and signed on to an integrated water management and flood prevention scheme in Argentina.

The EU stands ready to support the global community in ending its dependency on fossil fuels. Russia's war on Ukraine is not a reason to delay investments in climate action. On the contrary, more green investment will give us more strategic autonomy. Decarbonization has become a geopolitical imperative. We call on our global partners in government and across international financial institutions to join us in accelerating finance for clean energy. By pursuing climate neutrality, we can also achieve energy security.

*Josep Borrell, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, is Vice President of the European Commission for a Stronger Europe in the World. Werner Hoyer is President of the European Investment Bank.*

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O-PEDBy Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg

Forget the Vaccine Patent Waiver

NEW HAVEN - The surge of COVID-19 cases and deaths in India shows that the pandemic is far from over. While most developing countries in Asia and Africa managed to keep their death tolls low over the past year, it is only a matter of time before the new, more contagious variants that have emerged in India and elsewhere spread to countries that seemed to have their infections under control. Absent a miracle - such as a mutation that renders the virus less lethal - only universal vaccination can end this cycle of misery.

With that goal in mind, a global movement has emerged to demand a World Trade Organization waiver of patent protections for COVID-19 vaccines (as well as treatments and diagnostics). But patent protections are not the primary cause of the vaccine-supply bottleneck. If anything, a waiver might divert scarce materials from vaccine production facilities that are already up and running, not to mention discourage investments in pharmaceuticals to ward off future pandemics.

Intellectual-property protection for pharmaceuticals has a long, uncomfortable history, especially in developing countries. When the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) was signed in 1995, an overwhelming majority of economists - including those strongly in favor of free trade - condemned it. They objected to an agreement that obliges all WTO member states to recognize and enforce patents in all fields of technology, including pharmaceuticals. While the case for general patent protection has a strong foundation in economic principles, there is no rationale for harmonizing patent protection across rich and poor countries.

As I argued in 2010, the pharmaceutical industry at the time was losing only a tiny sliver of its profits from patent infringements in developing countries. And worse, IP enforcement could result in lost or delayed access to life-saving medicines in countries that would no longer be able to produce or import generic versions of patented drugs.

Against this historical backdrop, the demand for a COVID-19 patent waiver is understandable. The problem is that the underlying issues have changed fundamentally. As a recent World Bank working paper by Ruchir Agarwal and Tristan Reed finds, “production capacity for vaccines does not appear to be the binding constraint” in global procurement.

After all, there are now at least ten COVID-19 vaccines with a demonstrated efficacy above 50% (the threshold set by the US Federal Drug Administration in its June 30, 2020, “guidance for industry”). Though efficacy varies across vaccines and variants tested, all of the vaccines being administered provide significant protection against hospitalization and death. Moreover, the ten companies producing them have production targets for 2021 that would be sufficient to vaccinate 93% of the world population.

What’s the issue, then? According to Agarwal and Reed, it is that companies are reluctant to activate their existing production capacity without pre-purchase commitments. There is currently a large gap between the number of doses that could be produced and the number that have been pre-ordered. And, as one would expect, this gap is unevenly distributed. High-income countries have ordered more doses than they need and thus will end up with a surplus, whereas lower-income countries are far behind in pre-purchasing vaccines.

Under these circumstances, efforts to increase capacity by relaxing patent protections would do nothing to accelerate vaccinations in lower-income countries. A far more promising strategy is to help lower-income countries purchase vaccines, while channeling surplus doses from richer countries to wherever they are needed most.

To a large extent, this strategy is already being implemented, thanks to the efforts of the COVAX Advanced Market Commitment facility, together with concessional loans by multilateral institutions such as the World Bank, and regional initiatives such as the one being led by the African Union. Remarkably, Agarwal and Reed show that the COVAX AMC facility and the AU initiative already have ensured that most African countries have ordered enough vaccines to cover at least 50% of their populations.

Still, three critical challenges remain. First, closing the pre-purchase gap of 350 million vaccines will requires an additional \$4 billion - a trivial cost relative to the potential benefit of achieving worldwide immunity. Providing this support, either through additional funding for the COVAX AMC facility or by sending surplus vaccines to developing countries as soon as possible, should not be too difficult or costly for high-income countries to manage.

Second, the World Bank needs to relax its conditions for extending loans for vaccine pre-purchases. Currently, such loans can be used only for vaccines approved by three stringent regulatory authorities (SRAs) in three different regions. Among these are Japan and certain Western countries, which naturally prioritize approval of vaccines intended for their own populations. They have little incentive to grant emergency-use authorization to alternative vaccines that have shown high efficacy in Phase 3 clinical trials, such as Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin (India), and Gamaleya’s Sputnik V (Russia), and Sinovac Biotech’s CoronaVac (China). Extending the list of national regulators classified as SRAs would go a long way toward increasing lending for vaccine purchases.

Finally, existing vaccine manufacturers will be unable to meet their production targets if vaccine nationalism gives rise to export restrictions on critical inputs and raw materials. We saw such behavior early in the pandemic with respect to personal protective equipment, but the resulting export restrictions proved short-lived. One hopes the same will be true for vaccines. International cooperation and coordination will be crucial in the coming months.

There are many ways for advanced economies to assist poorer countries in vaccinating their populations as soon as possible. But relaxing patent protections - however appealing the idea may be in other contexts - is not one of them. The focus should be on providing additional funding and less restrictive lending for pre-ordering vaccines, and on funneling surpluses from high-income countries to the rest of the world.

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

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OPINIONBy Raghuram G. Rajan

Regulating the Crypto Wild West

A well-functioning financial system is a key component of any successful economy. Without efficient payments and broadly accessible financial services, people cannot engage easily in commerce, save for a rainy day, invest in new innovations and business models, or insure against risk. But precisely because the financial sector is so central, developments within it are highly consequential. If the digital revolution has shown us anything, it is that one seemingly minor innovation can upend or even eliminate entire industries.

The promise of financial technology (fintech) is that it will enable even faster, less costly commerce (including across international borders), improve the allocation of capital toward productive investments, and make financial services even more efficient and accessible, not least to the world’s 1.7 billion unbanked or underbanked people. But technological innovation is not inherently “good” or “bad.” Some changes yield broad benefits for society, but others may benefit the few at the expense of the many, and most will bring a mix of benefits, costs, and complications.

The rapid growth of digital assets is a case in point. Though there are many scams, there are also many opportunities, and the countries that can harness these new technologies effectively may stand to gain a competitive edge. How should governments - and democratic electorates - weigh the risks and rewards? Raghuram G. Rajan, a former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, recently offered his views on this and related questions for Project Syndicate’s “Finance 3.0” event.

Project Syndicate: Do cryptocurrencies need more regulation than traditional financial instruments?

Raghuram G. Rajan: Well, cryptocurrencies serve many purposes, but let’s focus on just a few. For starters, they are an investment vehicle for a lot of people. Any investment vehicle requires a certain amount of regulation to exclude fly-by-night operators who will take your money and run. This is especially important when you have more than 6,000 different cryptocurrencies, and when you have a lot of people who have issued tokens, cryptocurrencies, versions of the same kind of digital asset, and so forth. Who knows whether they are legitimate or not? Answering that basic question requires a certain amount of regulation, by at least requiring that everyone register to show that they are on the up and up.

A second issue concerns instruments that could pose a risk to the financial system. For example, the issuer of a “stablecoin” basically says, “I’m going to take your money. Whenever you want to redeem your token or your crypto, you will get that money back.” This is the same kind of promise that a bank makes with your deposits. For it to work, you as a depositor need to be fairly confident that the money will be there - or that the bank can access that money if necessary to pay you back - even if everybody else comes for their money, too.

A stablecoin thus has “run risk,” which is one of the reasons why traditional banks are regulated. If everybody thinks everybody else is coming for their money, they will want their money, too. Any institution that says “you’ll get your money back” therefore must be required to show that it can raise enough liquidity to keep that promise.

There are also other “normal banking” reasons for regulating cryptocurrencies and the companies that issue them. Are you becoming a vehicle that people can use to make illegal payments? Are you yourself making payments to entities that might be illegal? Are illegal entities - the mafia, drug dealers - big players in your payment system?

One concern that regulatory authorities should bear in mind is that regulation shouldn’t become a stamp of approval. The message shouldn’t be, “Because we have regulated these things, their value is now certified. Go ahead and invest.” If you are a regulator, I don’t think you want to put that kind of stamp on crypto at this point - not until we better understand the nature of the beast.

PS: What sort of regulation is most appropriate for cryptocurrencies?

RR: At the very least, you should be required to register when you want to issue any token, providing some description of what you’re going to do with the money, where it is going to be lodged, and what access investors will have to that money in the future. That would be a minimal level of regulation.

Beyond that, I think it depends a lot on the quantum that is being issued, as well as on how long investors must keep their money there. Some of this activity falls under the remit of a securities regulator like the Securities and Exchange Commission in the United States, and some of it is liquidity or solvency regulation.

For banking regulators thinking about stablecoins, the main concern is whether the issuer has enough access to liquidity. Moreover, there are regulations governing who is allowed to participate, such as “know-your-customer” norms. Do you know who is using your service, whom they are sending money to, and where it’s going. Regulation is needed to address all of these questions.

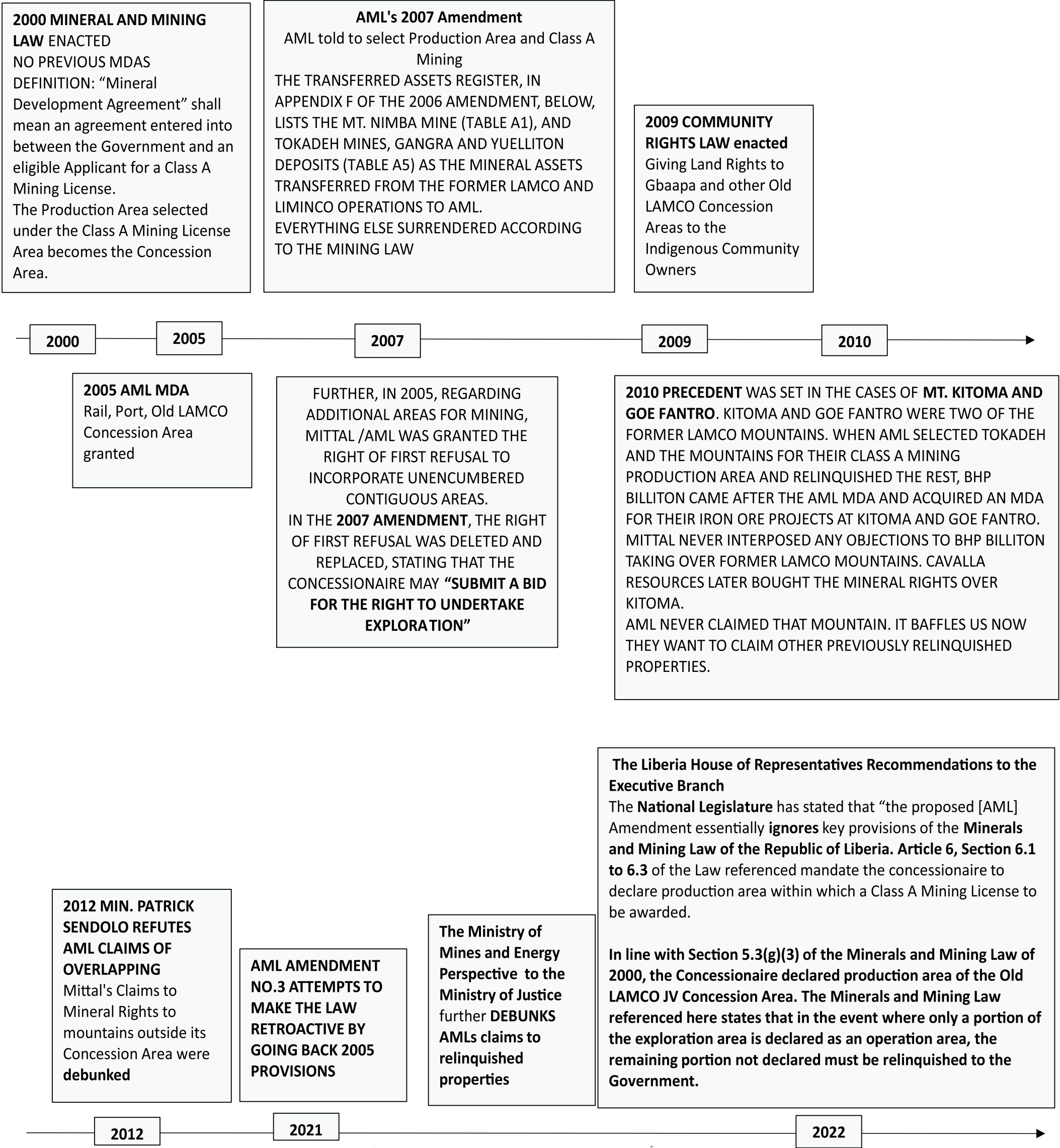
PS: Do cryptocurrencies present a challenge that regulators haven’t seen before, or do they represent more of the same?

RR: Regulators have seen many of these issues before, but there are new challenges as well. Can your cryptocurrency be hacked? Are there security procedures to protect not just the asset itself but also the exchanges that use it? Can wallets be raided? What about user data? Who collects that information, and how is it stored? What kind of privacy should crypto users be able to expect? Many of these data and cybersecurity challenges are new. While similar issues obviously show up in different forms within the existing financial system, they become much more acute with digital assets.

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# AML MDA TIMELINE



## Section 3. Other Minerals; Contiguous Areas

*If the CONCESSIONAIRE or any other Person discovers Minerals other than Iron Ore within the Concession Area, the CONCESSIONAIRE shall be given the opportunity to undertake Exploration and, as appropriate, Development and Production with respect to such other Minerals in accordance with applicable Law (including Section 6.7(c) of the Minerals and Mining Law).*

*If the CONCESSIONAIRE or any other Person discovers potentially exploitable Iron Ore resources in unencumbered contiguous areas adjacent to the Concession Area the CONCESSIONAIRE may, in accordance with applicable Law, submit to the GOVERNMENT a bid for the right to undertake Exploration and, as appropriate, Development and Production with respect to such Iron Ore.*

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Interested companies are invited to send an email to [Mohamed.Elkhaldi@apmterminals.com](mailto:Mohamed.Elkhaldi@apmterminals.com) acknowledging their interest and submitting the following documents for initial evaluation not later than May 2, 2022 @5:00 PM Liberia time.

A complete set of Bidding documents will be sent to the email address of service providers who will be pre-qualified to submit bids. Pre-qualified service provider will also have the opportunity to conduct a site visit at our Terminal.

Interested firms must provide the following:

- Company Profile inclusive of (services, branches, Mgmt. team and shareholders) and ownership structure of the company.
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- Revenue and financials of the last 3 years.

All required pre-qualification documents must be submitted via email no later than 5:00 PM on or before May 2, 2022. EOI must be submitted to

[Mohamed.Elkhaldi@apmterminals.com](mailto:Mohamed.Elkhaldi@apmterminals.com) and [procurement.liberia@apmterminals.com](mailto:procurement.liberia@apmterminals.com).

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# “How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!” (2 Samuel 1:27)

By: Isaac W. Jackson, Jr.

**L**ike many Christians, I believe that the Holy Bible conveys objective and fundamental truths. And so, this passage from the Holy Bible came to mind as I saw a handful of Unity Party (UP) leaders and partisans parade in “protest”. Notably absent was the UP Standard Bearer, Former Vice President Joseph Nyuma Boakai and his two sons, both of whom are employed by the government at Maritime and Social Security. Understandably, Boakai’s last public appearance at a UP Presser bespoke of an aged and unhealthy elder.

At 80 years, and fitted with a pacemaker, Boakai can be forgiven for his inability to lead the UP “Protest”. But Boakai cannot be forgiven for misleading the UP into a place of such political embarrassment so that the once-mighty party has to be begging foreign embassies and missions to rescue it from its own follies. The UP as an institution and its partisans deserve better leadership from Boakai. After more than half a century in public service, if Boakai cannot lead the UP into public respect and consideration; what is the value of his “leadership experience” the UP wishes the Liberian people to believe Boakai possessed.

Touted by the vaunted UP propaganda machinery as “experienced”, the octogenarian politician has shown no such character and trait. Of the UP leadership of the Liberian Government in which he was second-in-command, Boakai describes it as a period of “squandered opportunities”. Showing no capacity to reconcile with his boss, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who named him to her ticket, Boakai ran against the successes of the UP and lost massively to George Weah in 14 out of Liberia’s 15 counties.

With his stranglehold of the party, he maneuvered a relative and stooge into the Chairmanship and took the UP into a collaboration in which they agreed to a democratic

primary to choose their Standard Bearer, and that they would remain enjoined at the hips until Weah is defeated in 2023. While presiding over the CPP, the four-party collaboration, Boakai announced the withdrawal of the UP, and claimed the group to which he had wedded the UP for nearly two years was “a product of fraud”.

In the face of the challenge by two other members of the CPP, as if withdrawn from reality, Boakai would publicly bluster that the laws would not be applied to him or the UP. In fact, it did. In Lofa County, from which Boakai and the UP hail, consistent with the Framework Agreement of the CPP, Boakai and the UP are not permitted to field a candidate in the May 10 Senatorial By-election. Hence, a few party faithfuls are taking to the streets and running to a number of foreign embassies and missions begging for some intervention, if not intrusion, to save Boakai and the UP.

UP does not need the interventions of foreign embassies and missions to rescue it. The party needs its faithfuls to rescue it from its Standard Bearer who has clearly been left behind by changing times and circumstances. Boakai may have been a ‘good’ second fiddler. Even then, he called himself a “parked car”. Attempts by the mighty UP to move the “parked car” from the comforts of the garage and onto the challenging race track has only left the UP floundering and falling. Some cars are best left in garages and showrooms, just like some people are followers and should not be burdened with the duties of leading.

Leadership is the difference between how high a country or a party may rise, or how low they can fall. As it ‘protested’ it was painful to see how far the once-mighty UP has fallen under Boakai.

*The author, Bsc., LL.B, LL.M, former Liberia’s Permanent Representative to the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Also served with Liberia’s Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism from 2008 as Assistant and later Deputy Minister for Press & Public Affairs. Jackson defends a political career which arises from his days as a student activist at the University of Liberia.*



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Nyonblee's LP faction memorializes Cllr. Brumskine's 71st birth anniversary

By Lincoln G. Peters

A faction of the opposition Liberty Party (LP) loyal to the political leader and Grand Bassa County Senator Nyonblee Karnga - Lawrence

Liberty Party says it was birthed from the belly of the Church.

At the program, special prayers were offered for the family of the late Cllr. Brumskine and the party so as to ensure that they are united

the story will change for the better," said Sen. Karnga - Lawrence.

"However, as we are here today in loving memory of our late leader and mentor, we wish him and happy heavenly birthday," Sen. Karnga - Lawrence continued.

The Grand Bassa County Senator explained that she came to the Liberty Party through a conversation with the late Cllr. Brumskine, who was then the party's political leader.

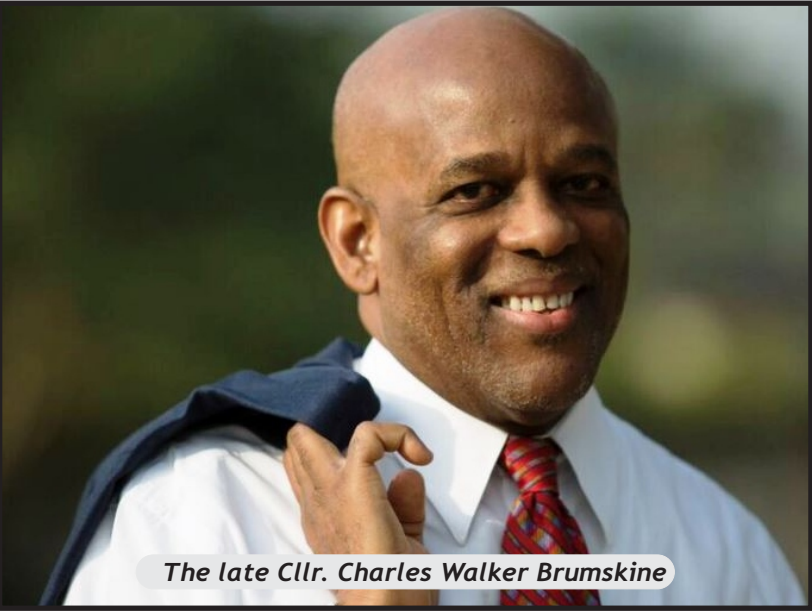
She said she believed that Cllr. Brumskine could have become one of Liberia's best presidents [if elected], but unfortunately, it did not happen.

However, Madam Karnga - Lawrence stated that the party is here, ready, willing and still standing to continue the task of the late Cllr. Brumskine.

For her part, Cllr. Charlyne M. Brumskine, daughter of the late Cllr. Brumskine, described the gathering as a moment of celebration, saying she was happy for the love and care her family continues to get from the LP family.

"Thank you all for standing with the family. Today we will celebrate because my late father was a man of smiles and he really used to love jokes. This is not about us but his people," said Cllr. Brumskine.

"Thanks to LP for being truthful and standing with my father. Finally, I love you all. I would have loved to be here throughout but I am going in the County where several are currently," Cllr. Brumskine concluded.



The late Cllr. Charles Walker Brumskine

has celebrated the 71st birth anniversary of LP founding political leader, the late Cllr. Charles Walker Brumskine.

The celebration was held on Wednesday, 27 April 2022 at the party's Old Road office.

A small number of LP partisans turned out for the celebration.

Liberty Party is divided in two factions between the political leader Sen. Karnga - Lawrence and the embattled chair Mr. Musa Bility.

Both of them have announced the expulsion of the other from the party.

The celebration was graced by several preachers who were recognized as founding members of the Liberty Party.

and hold together to continue the legacy of their founding father, Cllr. Brumskine.

Remarking at the program, Liberty Party political leader Senator Karnga - Lawrence expressed thanks and appreciation to all partisans and friends for coming and remembering the birth anniversary of their late political leader.

According to Senator Karnga - Lawrence, with the team work and commitment that all continue to show, the Liberty Party will never fall and the legacy of Cllr. Brumskine will stand.

"Liberty Party will never fall. This party will not die. Liberty Party will be strong and I can assure you all that

# Red Cross celebrates 'Safety and Health at Work'

As Liberia joins this year's celebration of World Day at work for Safety and Health at work, the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) calls for stronger investment in Workplace First Aid to reduce deaths and injuries at work and ensure employees' safety.

The annual World Day for Safety and Health at work, which is being celebrated today, Thursday, April 28, 2022, promotes prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally. It is an awareness-raising campaign intended to focus internationally on the magnitude of the problem and how promoting and creating a safety and health culture can help reduce the number of work-related deaths and injuries.

A press release issued here by LNRCS Secretary General Mr. Gregory T. Blamoh stresses

a to act together to building a positive safety and health culture, adding that the Liberian Red Cross remains committed to its work.

Mr. Blamoh explains that the LNRCS through its Workplace First Aid business has trained over 380 persons in emergency live-saving First Aid for over 60 institutions; adding that they

have deployed more than 1500-kits. He says the Red Cross is prepared and ready to deliver more training and kits to improve safety at the workplace.

He stresses that First Aid is important as an initial response in providing effective and swift care that can reduce the impact of injury and improve chances of survival. Therefore, the goal



Staff demonstrates First Aid application at workplace

# FEJAL ends training on gender-sensitive reporting



By Lewis S. Teh

With support from the United Nations Women, the Female Journalist Association of Liberia or FEJAL in collaboration with the European Union spotlight initiative and the Government of Liberia has conducted phase two of the Gender Sensitive Reporting Refresher Training for over 150 Liberian journalists in Montserrado and Grand Cape Mount counties.

Speaking at the start of the workshop Tuesday, April 26, at iCampus in central Monrovia, FEJAL President Mrs. Siatta Scott Johnson said the endeavor is to support media engagement, advocacy and end violence against women and girls.

She said journalists should focus on reporting issues that affect women and girls in society, including children, and that phase two of the UN Women spotlight initiative project calls for the training of journalists in five hot spot counties.

She said it is also intended to widen knowledge of journalists in the five hotspot counties, including Lofa, Montserrado, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh and Nimba counties.

Madam Johnson noted that are gaps in reporting gender-sensitive issues in the country hence, the need for a refresher training that will enable the media to get out and fill those gaps.

The program analyst for UN Women Liberia Dhogba Mabande said the United Nations has been sponsoring series of programs and they are currently building upon what was learnt, and to review the gaps that have been identified in order to build on them.

He said the role of the media is significant to the growth and development of any nation, including addressing challenges that are around social norms.

"The role of the media is significant in shifting public perception about women and men therefore, it's important to avoid reporting any on issue that limits and jeopardizes females", Mr. Mabande said.

He challenged media practitioners to implement knowledge acquired, adding that the training should help media practitioners to depict the world in a more gender-sensitive and gender-responsive manner thus, contributing to more inclusive and equal society.

"We at UN Women supporting this initiative wish to see a world or an environment where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and that's why we as an institution, support gender equality and empowerment of women and girls."

He said the spotlight initiative is aimed at addressing some of the ills that confront women and girls adding, "We call upon the media to ensure that they reach out to raise awareness on these issues especially, those who have been marginalized and abused."

Also speaking at the one-day training Press Union of Liberia Secretary General Musa B. Kanneh said the media plays a pivotal role in reporting domestic violence, rape and other forms of violence that are meted against women and girls in the country.

He said highlighting issues that affect women and girls is critical and at such, the media should prioritize gender-sensitive reporting, something he noted, will help in minimizing violence that are carried out against women. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

is to assist employees in strengthening Society's ability to provide emergency assistance.

Mr. Blamoh continues that the International Labor Organization's Global Launch of the World Day focuses on "Building a preventative safety and Health Culture through effective social dialogue", and calls on employees to ensure that the working environment is safe and healthy for all employees.

Meanwhile, the LNRCS boss emphasizes that Safety is one of the most important issues that are often ignored the most, adding that their safety is in their own hands and they must do everything they can to stay safe.

"Let us celebrate the occasion of World Safety Day with everyone around us by reminding them to never compromise or ignore safety", he concluded.



# Français

## L'UP sera vaincu à la Cour suprême », parie M. Bility

Le président du Parti de la liberté (LP), Musa Bility, a prédit une défaite pour l'ancien parti au pouvoir, le Parti de l'unité (UP), au procès en appel devant la Cour suprême du Libéria, où il a l'intention de défier la décision de la Commission électorale nationale, qui l'empêche de présenter un candidat à l'élection sénatoriale du comté de Lofa.

M. Bility pense que la Cour suprême confirmera la décision de la NEC et empêchera le Parti de l'unité et le Parti de tous les Libériens (ALP) de présenter un candidat en leur nom aux élections partielles du comté de Lofa et aux élections présidentielles et législatives de 2023.

Le lundi 25 avril 2022, l'ensemble du Conseil des commissaires de la Commission électorale nationale a réaffirmé

la décision prise par son conseiller-auditeur d'empêcher le Parti de l'unité de contester l'élection partielle de Lofa jusqu'à ce que la Cour suprême du Libéria puisse prendre une décision.

Le Conseil a rejeté l'appel de l'UP après que l'agent d'audience a interdit la semaine dernière à la NEC de procéder à toute autre action relative à la question de savoir s'il faut ou non autoriser l'UP à présenter un candidat à l'élection partielle de Lofa.

S'exprimant lors d'une interview avec des journalistes au siège de la Commission électorale nationale à Sinkor à la suite de la décision du Conseil, M. Bility a déclaré qu'ils battraient toujours l'ALP et l'UP.

Bility a dit que la loi est la loi et que les gens devraient apprendre à respecter la loi. Selon lui, ceux qui pensent qu'il a influencé la décision de la NEC font une grosse erreur.

« Oui, ils ont raison car ces décisions sont influencées par la loi. Je n'ai jamais

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## Abus du pouvoir : Le ministre de la justice et le Solliciteur General entraînés au Sénat

Le sénateur de Gbarpolu, Daniel Naateeh, a écrit au Sénat libérien pour se plaindre des autorités du ministère de la Justice qu'il accuse d'abus du pouvoir et de comportement contraire à l'éthique.

Le sénateur Naateeh, également président national de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC), et son leader politique, M. Alexander Cummings, et le secrétaire général, Me Aloysius Toe, sont jugé depuis quatre mois au tribunal municipal de Monrovia, au Temple de la Justice, pour modification présumée des statuts et règlement intérieur de la Collaboration des Partis Politiques de l'opposition (CPP), une plateforme de l'opposition.

Le procès est né d'une simple allégation du All Liberian Party de M. Benoni Urey et du Parti de l'unité qui accusent les trois responsables de l'ANC de faux et d'association de malfaiteurs.

Le sénateur Naateeh, dans sa plainte, s'est dit victime de conduite contraire à l'éthique, d'abus du pouvoir de la part

des fonctionnaires du ministère de la Justice.

Le sénateur Naateeh a fait référence au solliciteur général, Me Sayma Syrennius Cephus qui a révélé à travers un message qu'il a adressé à l'animateur d'une émission un complot du ministre de la Justice Frank Musah Dean contre lui. Lequel complot consiste à l'arrêter et l'inculper, avec les autres accusés, de "faux et d'association de malfaiteurs".

Le solliciteur général a déclaré qu'il avait déconseillé le procès et

avait « annulé » un acte d'accusation et un mandat d'arrêt qui a été relancé par la suite par le ministre de la Justice.

Le ministre de la Justice Dean, cependant, dans un communiqué de presse du 25 avril, a rejeté la demande du solliciteur général Cephus et lui a plutôt demandé de fournir à son bureau (le ministre) toutes les "preuves

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## Éditorial

### Panneaux solaires Weah 2023

Alors que plus d'un million d'habitants sont privés d'électricité et d'eau courante à Monrovia, le président George Manneh Weah semble occupé par une campagne précoce en vue des élections de 2023, érigeant des panneaux solaires intitulés "Weah 2023" dans quelques communautés, au grand dam du peuple qui a l'air furieux.

Beaucoup pensent que cette action démontre clairement l'obsession du président Weah de remporter un second mandat et son manque d'intérêt pour l'amélioration des services de la Compagnie Libérienne d'Electricité (LEC) qui créent de graves problèmes d'insécurité dans la capitale et sa banlieue.

En outre, les panneaux solaires "Weah 2023" ne sont rien d'autre qu'une campagne en violation de la loi électorale du Libéria. La Commission électorale nationale devrait sommer ceux qui mènent cette campagne au nom du Président d'arrêter immédiatement.

Au lieu de vanter personnellement ses mérites, le président Weah devrait se pencher sur la question la plus importante, à savoir faire en sorte que la Compagnie Libérienne d'Electricité exécute sa fonction statutaire, c'est-à-dire fournir de l'électricité aux habitants du pays. Le Libéria exploite une centrale hydroélectrique de 88 mégawatts, mais la distribution d'électricité à travers le pays reste un défi sérieux pour le gouvernement.

La LEC s'est montrée impuissante à tous les niveaux. Elle est gangrenée par la corruption, l'incompétence, l'inefficacité, entre autres. Elle est devenue une honte nationale aussi bien pour le gouvernement que pour le pays tout entier.

Le président Weah se rend-il compte que les partenaires internationaux, dont les États-Unis, l'Union européenne, le Japon et d'autres, qui ont contribué à l'achat d'une nouvelle turbine pour la centrale hydroélectrique de Mount Coffee, sont malheureusement déçus de notre incapacité à gérer correctement l'équipement?

La LEC, depuis l'inauguration du nouveau barrage, n'a pas été en mesure de distribuer efficacement l'électricité, ce qui a paralysé l'économie.

En janvier, le président du Sénat Albert Chie a révélé ici que le gouvernement du Libéria devait un total de 9 millions de dollars américains au pool énergétique ouest-africain de la Côte d'Ivoire voisine. Il a ajouté qu'en raison de la dette, la Côte d'Ivoire avait cessé d'envoyer de l'électricité au Libéria.

Nous pensons que ce sont là des problèmes urgents auxquels l'administration Weah devrait s'attaquer, au lieu de politiser un service crucial comme l'électricité. Les partisans et les supporters du président qui pensent que planter des poteaux électriques solaires est la solution, ne font pas du bien au peuple libérien.

Ce n'est pas une mesure durable, et le président Weah le sait très bien, mais il essaie de tenir les Libériens pour acquis en donnant la priorité à des intérêts personnels dont son élection, au lieu de penser au peuple. Immédiatement après sa prise de fonction en 2018, en dépit des attentes élevées des Libériens, M. Weah s'est lancé dans la reconstruction de sa résidence privée à Sinkor, Monrovia, et a procédé à la construction de 10 duplex supplémentaires en face du séminaire baptiste le long de l'autoroute Robertsfield à Paynesville. Beaucoup pensaient qu'il aurait lancé son plan économique pour le pays.

À un an à peine de la fin de son premier mandat, le président devrait faire des efforts sincères pour résoudre le problème de l'électricité qui paralyse l'économie et l'ensemble du pays, au lieu de donner la priorité à son intérêt personnel au détriment des personnes qu'il dirige.



# Français

## L'UP sera vaincu à la Cour

prédéterminé mais c'est une question de droit et maintenant s'ils disent qu'ils vont à la Cour suprême, voyons voir parce que c'est la fin », a déclaré Bility.

« De plus, aucun d'entre nous n'obtient un point au-delà de la Cour suprême. En attendant, nous pouvons dire que c'est une question de droit et nous avons la loi de

notre côté, par conséquent, nous sommes optimistes quant à la victoire », a-t-il dit.

Répondant aux critiques selon lesquelles il a gâté la CPP, M. Bility a déclaré qu'il n'était pas celui qui avait quitté la CPP, ni celui qui avait qualifié le leader politique de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC) M. Alexander B. Cummings de criminel et l'a traduit en justice.

## Abus du pouvoir : Le ministre

appropriées qui constituent la base de la poursuite de M. Cummings et d'autres, » conformément à l'article 22.2 du code pénal.

"La demande du ministre intervient quatre mois après le début de l'affaire devant le tribunal. Ironiquement, contrairement à l'affirmation du solliciteur général d'annuler l'affaire faute de preuves appropriées, il s'est attribué les pouvoirs de procureur, de juge et de juré, rendant un verdict de culpabilité et me décrivant ainsi que d'autres comme des criminels lors de multiples apparitions dans les médias, a déclaré le sénateur Naateeh dans sa plainte.

Il a déclaré que les actions du ministre de la Justice et du solliciteur général vont à l'encontre de l'objectif sous-jacent des poursuites pénales, portent atteinte à l'intégrité du système judiciaire et risquent de plonger la démocratie en difficulté du

Libéria dans une incertitude et un chaos accru.

Le sénateur de Gbarpolu a déclaré que les actions des responsables du ministère de la Justice sont également malveillantes et visent à jeter le discrédit sur sa personne et à entraver l'exercice sans faille de ses fonctions de sénateur.

Le sénateur Naateeh a déclaré que le procès pénal donne une impression peu recommandable que le gouvernement est en guerre contre lui-même et dénigre davantage l'image du pays au niveau international.

En conséquence, il a demandé que le Sénat libérien convoque les deux hauts fonctionnaires du ministère de la Justice pour qu'ils comparaissent et expliquent leurs actions et donnent les raisons pour lesquelles cet organe et le peuple libérien devraient continuer à avoir confiance en leur capacité à s'acquitter correctement et impartialement de leurs fonctions et responsabilités.

## Le Mali accuse l'armée française d'espionnage et de subversion

Le porte-parole du gouvernement malien, le colonel Abdoulaye Maïga, a publié mardi 26 avril un communiqué de presse accusant l'armée française d'espionnage et de subversion. Depuis le début de l'année, le gouvernement de transition a constaté plus de 50 cas délibérés de violation de l'espace aérien malien, notamment par les forces armées françaises.

« Tout survol de l'espace aérien malien est subordonné à l'obtention d'une autorisation délivrée par l'Armée de l'air », explique le colonel Abdoulaye Maïga. Mais selon les autorités maliennes, cette règle est régulièrement enfreinte. Elles déplorent notamment des falsifications de documents de vol, des atterrissages d'hélicoptères dans des localités hors aérodromes et des vols d'avion ou de drones de renseignement, pour « mener des activités considérées comme de l'espionnage. »

Et c'est de cela, précisément, qu'elles accusent l'armée française. Le 21 avril, elle a diffusé des vidéos tournées la veille par un drone, au-dessus de la base de Gossi récemment transférée à l'armée malienne. Ces images montrent, selon l'état-major français, des mercenaires russes, en train d'enterrer des corps et de filmer afin de faire accuser la France de crimes de guerre.

« Les forces françaises se sont rendues coupables de subversion en publiant de fausses images montées de toute pièce », explique le porte-parole du gouvernement malien. Les autorités maliennes ont quant à elles déclaré la semaine dernière avoir découvert un charnier près du camp de Gossi. Mardi, le procureur de la République a annoncé l'ouverture d'une enquête.

Selon une autorité militaire française, Gossi ne figure pas dans la zone d'interdiction temporaire de survol, mise en place par l'armée malienne le 13 janvier.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Josep Borrell et Werner Hoyer

## Décarboner nos économies est désormais un impératif stratégique

**B**RUXELLES - L'invasion de l'Ukraine par la Russie contraint l'Union européenne à accélérer sa politique énergétique et climatique. Le Kremlin se sert de plus en plus souvent de l'énergie pour peser politiquement. Il faut donc que nous le privions de ce moyen d'influence en réduisant drastiquement notre dépendance vis-à-vis des combustibles fossiles provenant de Russie.

Les motivations géopolitiques qui guident ce choix rejoignent la nécessité impérieuse de lutter contre le changement climatique. Le dernier rapport du Groupe d'experts intergouvernemental sur l'évolution du climat, qui porte sur les mesures d'atténuation, souligne l'urgence d'une telle réorientation. Les émissions mondiales de gaz à effet de serre doivent cesser d'augmenter au plus tard en 2025 si nous voulons éviter une élévation catastrophique des températures. La transition de l'ensemble de l'économie vers les énergies propres doit, en outre, prendre en compte ses inévitables conséquences socio-économiques; il faut que ce soit une «transition juste».

L'UE et la Banque européenne d'investissement (BEI) ont un rôle essentiel à jouer à cet égard. Les investissements dans les énergies renouvelables, l'efficacité énergétique et les technologies innovantes, telles que l'hydrogène vert, aident à faire face à l'agression russe, tout en contribuant à sauver la planète de sa dépendance vis-à-vis des énergies fossiles. Chaque euro dépensé en faveur de la transition énergétique dans l'Union est un euro qui ne tombera pas dans l'escarcelle d'un pouvoir autoritaire menant une guerre agressive. Chaque euro que nous dépensons dans des énergies propres nous rend plus libres de prendre nos propres décisions. Chaque euro que nous dépensons pour aider nos partenaires internationaux à accélérer leur stratégie de décarbonation est un euro investi dans la résilience et la lutte contre le changement climatique.

Depuis l'invasion russe du 24 février, l'UE accélère sa transition énergétique, dans le but d'aider l'Europe à mettre un terme au plus vite à sa dépendance à l'égard des combustibles fossiles russes. Cela ne se fera pas du jour au lendemain, mais jamais les incitations à agir de la sorte n'auront été aussi grandes. Il est possible de parvenir à l'indépendance énergétique en améliorant l'efficacité, en diversifiant nos sources d'approvisionnement et en faisant monter en puissance les énergies renouvelables. Un tel processus nécessite une mobilisation à tous les niveaux, depuis les instances supranationales jusqu'aux ménages et aux particuliers.

Deux écueils importants doivent être pris en compte. Premièrement, la quête de fournisseurs de remplacement pour notre approvisionnement en gaz naturel, aussi importante soit-elle à court terme, ne doit pas nous enfermer dans une nouvelle dépendance à long terme du fait de lourds investissements dans des infrastructures liées aux combustibles fossiles. Ce serait à la fois coûteux, catastrophique pour la planète et, en définitive, inutile, compte tenu des options plus soucieuses des questions climatiques dont nous disposons.

Deuxièmement, nous ne devons pas remplacer un goulet d'étranglement par un autre en troquant notre dépendance excessive vis-à-vis des énergies fossiles contre une dépendance excessive à l'égard des matières premières nécessaires à la

transition écologique. Ces ressources sont elles aussi fortement concentrées dans une poignée de pays dont tous ne partagent pas les valeurs et les intérêts de l'UE. Le renforcement de l'autonomie stratégique et de la résilience de l'UE doit demeurer un objectif majeur de la transition.

L'Europe ne peut faire cavalier seul. Remporter la victoire contre le changement climatique et faire pièce à l'agression russe sont des défis de nature internationale qui exigent une réaction internationale. La guerre menée par le président russe Vladimir Poutine a eu pour effet de renforcer la motivation stratégique de tous les pays à réduire leurs importations de combustibles fossiles et à investir davantage dans des énergies respectueuses du climat.

C'est pourquoi la diplomatie climatique est au cœur de l'action extérieure de l'UE. Nous entendons encourager d'autres pays à relever leurs ambitions en matière de climat et consacrons des ressources importantes pour aider nos partenaires à se doter eux aussi d'une économie résiliente et neutre vis-à-vis du climat. Par l'intermédiaire du pacte vert pour l'Europe et de la nouvelle initiative «Global Gateway» de l'UE, les institutions et les États membres de l'UE mobilisent jusqu'à € 300 milliards (\$ 325 milliards) d'investissements dans des infrastructures vertes et numériques pour faire face aux crises en matière de climat, de biodiversité et d'énergie.

Qui plus est, la BEI a promis d'investir € 1 000 milliards dans l'action pour le climat et la viabilité environnementale d'ici à 2030. Par le truchement de sa nouvelle branche spécialisée dans le développement, BEI Monde, la banque s'emploie avec ses partenaires du monde entier à mobiliser des fonds en faveur de projets liés à l'efficacité énergétique, aux énergies renouvelables et aux réseaux électriques.

La contribution apportée par la BEI à un avenir énergétique propre s'inscrit dans le cadre de l'effort commun de l'UE au sein de l'« Equipe Europe ». Il se décline en de nombreuses actions allant d'investissements dans l'énergie solaire au Sénégal au financement de crèches à faible consommation d'énergie en Arménie. La banque a aussi aidé à forger un «partenariat pour une transition énergétique juste» avec l'Afrique du Sud, fourni un appui à l'Alliance solaire internationale, basée en Inde, qui soutient le développement de l'énergie solaire dans 105 pays tropicaux, ou encore signé un programme intégré de gestion de l'eau et de prévention des inondations en Argentine.

L'UE est décidée à aider la communauté mondiale à mettre un terme à sa dépendance à l'égard des énergies fossiles. La guerre menée par la Russie contre l'Ukraine ne saurait retarder notre action pour le climat. Au contraire, l'augmentation des investissements verts nous confèrera une plus grande autonomie stratégique. La décarbonation de notre économie est désormais devenue un impératif géopolitique. Nous appelons nos partenaires des gouvernements du monde entier et des institutions financières internationales à se joindre à nous pour accélérer le financement des énergies propres. En visant la neutralité climatique, nous renforçons aussi la sécurité énergétique.

*Josep Borrell est le haut représentant de l'Union pour les affaires étrangères et la politique de sécurité et vice-président de la Commission européenne. Werner Hoyer est président de la Banque européenne d'investissement.*



LIBERIANS

DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

Autopsy conducted by the Government of Liberia on the remains of the late Princess Cooper, revealed that she died of TB, but family of the deceased disagreed, leading President George Manneh Weah to call for a second autopsy, this time, by the family. The late Prince Cooper died mysteriously in the fence hosting the Fawaz Construction Materials Store at ELWA Junction on Thursday, March 24, 2022.

The New Dawn asked some Monrovia residents whether they expect the second autopsy result to be different from that of the government’s, as compiled below.



**Moses Sheraton Kyne**

“My condolence to the bereaved family but as the government came up with the previous autopsy result and the late Princess Cooper’s family felt dissatisfied, so the President deemed it necessary to satisfy the family and the public. They decided to start another autopsy that the

family needed by bringing pathologists of their own. According to the previous pathologist, the late Princess Cooper died of TB and that any other pathologists that will come, will give the same report. So, I am just hoping and praying that the pathologists that will come, their result should be in line with the previous pathologists’ and if it’s not the same, then we will have some contradictions which will be very embarrassing. We are praying and hoping that the family will accept whatsoever autopsy result that will come from the pathologists so we can move ahead as a country.”



**Eric Paye**

“Well, as for me, I don’t believe that Princess Cooper died from TB because the government didn’t get report from any medical practitioners, family members or her boyfriend on concern that Prince Cooper was

suffering from TB before her death. So, how would Princess Cooper died from TB and her body was found in the street? So, I am expecting different result and the family will be expecting different result because if they are not expecting different result, they would not have expressed dissatisfaction about the previous autopsy result from government pathologist. We want to know what killed Princess Cooper because you can’t tell me that TB killed her with marks on her body.”



Alexander S. Teah

“Pathologists are people who study that particular field and that is their field, so even though we understand human in nature, we will want to do things bad or things messed up but, we believe that they will come up with the same previous autopsy report from the first Pathologist. So, I don’t expect different result seriously because I believe in the pathologist that did the work.”



Mohammed Z. Manobah

“Yes, if even the same result came out, there is something that will be added because the way in which her death occurred it was not a normal death. So, I Mohammed, I want a neutral person to come and do the autopsy so we can get the clear understanding because the government has been painted black already. Other people say that there was no foul play on her body. I will expect different result because someone can’t die from TB with wounds on the body, so the cause of the wound we want to know who are those responsible for her death.”



Samuel Freeman

“No, I don’t accept the to be aware of it. pathologist’s result that But the both parties Princess Cooper died from are not aware of it. TB because if Princess had The pathologists died from TB, the family just came up with or her boyfriend was going their own result and

that kind of result is strange to me. She did not die at her house, but in the street. How will they just find somebody in the street then they gave information like that, it was very wrong. Yes, I expect different result because the family will be there with their pathologists for the autopsy, observing if the result is true or false, because now the country we are in is not safe for anyone.”



# UP warns of political uncertainties

By Bridgett Milton

The chairman of the opposition Unity Party (UP) Mr. Amin Modad has warned of the resultant political convulsions and political uncertainties which can prove injurious to Liberia's peace and security if the National Elections Commission (NEC) is not stopped from implementing its "reckless and mischievous ploy" to prohibit his party from fielding candidates in the coming elections.

"If NEC is not quickly stopped from implementing its reckless and mischievous ploy, we are afraid of the resultant political convulsions and political uncertainties which can prove injurious to Liberia's peace and security," Mr. Modad said Wednesday, 27 April 2022

by the NEC's Hearing Officer which stops the Unity Party from fielding a candidate in the Lofa County senatorial by - election until Liberia's Supreme Court can make determination on issues the UP raised before the commission.

The case at hand was filed with the NEC by a faction of the opposition Liberty Party (LP) which is chaired by Mr. Musa Bility, requesting the NEC to prevent UP and ALP from fielding candidates in the Lofa senatorial by - election.

Bility believes that a clause within the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) would prevent the UP and ALP from fielding candidates in their own names in the Lofa senatorial by - election and the 2023 presidential and legislative elections after their withdrawals from the CPP.

The UP and ALP said they alerted the NEC that the CPP framework documents filed with the commission were different from what they had signed and approved, accusing Mr. Alexander

early warning of the stifling and consequent failure of Liberia's democracy which the international community has helped to protect and sustain with substantial financial and technical resources.

According to Modad, over the past months, the National Elections Commission (NEC) has shown an incremental lack of transparency in its dealing with the Unity Party.

"This is not an isolated action by the NEC but a part of well-planned enterprise to target and eliminate the Unity Party and its Standard Bearer from the 2023 elections as opinion polls conducted throughout the country by media institutions show that the party presents present real change of reclaiming power in the 2023 election," Modad said.

He he said the very poor performance by the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) in the 2020 mid-term



in a petition to foreign missions here.

The UP took to the streets of Monrovia Wednesday to petition the United States Embassy and other diplomatic missions including the European Union, the United Nations and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), complaining of alleged government's political maneuvering to eliminate competition in 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

The former ruling party also drew the foreign missions' attention to an ongoing election case that it fears is intended to deny it from fielding a candidate in the pending Lofa County senatorial by - election.

The Board of the National Elections Commission (NEC) this week affirmed a decision

B. Cummings and his Alternative National Congress (ANC) of allegedly tampering with the documents.

Mr. Cummings and some ANC executives are facing a criminal trial at the Monrovia City Court on account of this allegation, though he has always denied any wrong doing.

However, the NEC has backed the decision of its hearing officer to stop the UP and ALP from fielding candidates in Lofa, leaving the parties to announce that they will appeal to the Supreme Court against the decision of the electoral house.

Reading the party's petition Wednesday, Unity Party Chairman Amin Modad called the attention of the international community to what he claimed to be an ongoing "political maneuvering" intended to eliminate competition in the 2023 presidential and legislative elections by excluding viable political opposition.

Modad alleged that such dangerous maneuvering presents

senatorial and other by- elections proved just how the government has become unpopular with the people.

Notwithstanding, Mr. Modad indicated that six of the eight signatories to the CPP framework document including three of the four CPP political leaders alerted the NEC that the CPP framework documents filed with the NEC was different than what they had signed and approved.

He argued that this was one of the reasons that the UP and the ALP withdrew from the alliance. But lamented that the NEC insists on holding the parties to the terms of the document without any interest in establishing the veracity of their claims.

The Unity Party noted that what the NEC and the Government are trying to achieve equates to a ban of the Unity Party and the All Liberian Party as a penalty for exercising their constitutional rights to or not to associate, even though such rights are guaranteed by Article 17 of the 1986 Constitution.

# Sanction Weah and his officials



By Lincoln G. Peters

Former ruling CDC member and ex-senatorial candidate Shiekh Al-Moustapha Kouyateh, has urged the International Community to immediately sanction President George Manneh Weah and his officials for alleged corruption, human rights violation and abuse of state power.

According to him, President Weah has now become Liberia's principal architect of corruption but did not provide documentation to substantiate his claim.

Mr. Kouyateh said the President and his officials continue to steal from the country, thereby inflicting more suffering and hardship on the Liberian people, something, he stressed that they should pay for, as it contrary to Mr. Weah's expressed commitments to tackle corruption.

Addressing a press conference Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at his office in Monrovia, Mr. Kouyateh noted since President Weah and his officials took power, they have been acquiring unexplained wealth at the detriment of ordinary citizens, a situation he claimed has left the Liberian populate in complete hopelessness.

The Liberian politician, who parted company with President Weah's ruling Congress for \Democratic Change about two years ago, said nobody seems to give attention to fighting corruption because the President himself, who should champion the call for corruption, is badly corrupt.

"President Weah, unfortunately, has become

Liberia principal architect of corruption. However, when President Weah was a legislator in Montserrado County and faced a child support issue, he claimed that he could only afford to pay \$US160 since he had two other children to maintain and his salary was not much to sustain him and his family. Since he made that pronouncement and looking at what he has acquired from the Liberian people as President, it shows that he is corrupt and needs to be sanctioned", Mr. Kuoyateh stressed.

According to him, Mr. Weah had less than US\$ 50, 000 in his bank account during the 2017 Presidential election, but he erected duplexes in less than a year after taking office and now lives and dreams in luxury, while majority of Liberians suffers in abject poverty.

He continued that people in government have been accused of corruption and nothing is being done by the President only because he (Mr. Weah) too is corrupt.

"Liberia was listed among the worst performing nations in the fight against corruption in Transparency International Corruption Perception index (CPI) for 2021. Liberia was also placed 136th out of 180 nations with a score of 29. We want the President to take action against corruption and if he continued to fail to do so, we want the international community to sanction him and his officials that are damaging our country. There is a need for transparency and accountability.

Shiekh Kuoyateh's against widespread corruption the Weah administration is not the first, as there has been outcry in the international community particularly from the Government of the United States to fight in Liberia. The U.S. stressed that only Liberians can redeem their country from pillage. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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## House, Executive meet

the writ in a matter the Representative believes is a misdemeanor which should not have warranted such a writ.

Meanwhile, the Liberian Government says it wants to make it categorically clear that it is not in the business of taking away the lives of its citizens, needlessly to talk about a well-known

public servant.

"It is worth noting that politics in the country has long gone past the ugly days of violent reprisals. The government continues to receive international plaudits for its democratic credentials, consolidation of the country's peace, and respect for the rule of law, political pluralism and tolerance," the statement concluded.





## House, Executive meet over Lawmaker's death threat claim



Rep. Rustonlyn Suakoko Dennis

and Tourism, Ledgerhood J. Rennie and the Police Inspector General Colonel Patrick Sudue among others.

In a statement issued by the Minister of Information Ledgerhood Rennie, the meeting concluded that the claims by Rep. Dennis were based mainly on hearsay with no substantive proof that could warrant a full-scale investigation by the Ministry of Justice.

The state said despite hearing that the claims were based on heresay, an offer of Special Police Protection was made as an overture to allay the fears of the Representative.

It was also agreed that the Minister of Justice, who headed the Executive Branch's delegation, look into the Paynesville Magisterial Court's Writ of Arrest issued against the District Four Representative in a private matter involving her and a lady she identified as Cyrtus Dahn.

The Minister is asked to advise the leadership of the House of Representatives on the legality of

Cabinet was held to look into the claims on Wednesday.

The meeting chaired by Speaker Bhofal Chambers included Deputy Speaker J. Fonati Koffa and other ranking members of the House of Representatives.

The Executive Branch was represented by the Minister of Justice, Cllr Frank Musah Dean, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Williametta Piso Saydee Tarr, Minister of Information, Cultural Affairs

The House of Representative and the Executive Branch of Government met on Wednesday to discuss claim of death threat made by Montserrado County District Four Representative, Rustonlyn Suakoko Dennis.

Rep. Dennis claimed that the government is after her life and that she feels unsafe.

A conference meeting involving the leadership of the House of Representatives and select members of the

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