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**CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA**  
**MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES**  
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DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, MAY 09, 2022	L\$150.2403 /US\$1.00	L\$151.9074/US\$1.00

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

# The New Dawn

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NEC chairperson Madam Davidetta Brown-Lansanah

**Lofa by-election postponed indefinitely**  
**-NEC blames Bility, ANC, UP case**

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# Continental News

## Growing African Mangrove Forests Aim to Combat Climate Woes

In a bid to protect coastal communities from climate change and encourage investment, African nations are increasingly turning to mangrove restoration projects, with Mozambique becoming the latest addition to the growing list of countries with large scale mangrove initiatives.

Mozambique follows efforts across the continent – including in Kenya, Madagascar, Gambia and Senegal – and is touted as the world's largest coastal or marine ecosystem carbon storage project. Known as blue carbon, carbon captured by these ecosystems can sequester, or remove, carbon dioxide from the atmosphere at a faster rate than forests, despite being smaller in size.

Mozambique's mangrove restoration project – announced in February alongside its UAE-based partner Blue Forest Solutions – hopes to turn 185,000 hectares (457,100 acres) in the central Zambezia and southern Sofala provinces into a forest which could



People plant mangroves during a community exercise to restore their habitat in Mtwapa, on the Indian Ocean coast of Kenya

capture up to 500,000 tons of carbon dioxide, according to project leaders.

"Blue carbon can be utilized not only to sequester tons of carbon dioxide but to also improve the lives of coastal communities," Vahid Fotuhi, the Chief Executive officer of Blue Forest, told the Associated Press. "There are around one million hectares of mangroves forests in Africa. Collectively they're able to sequester more carbon dioxide than the total annual emissions of a country like Croatia or Bolivia." He added

these projects would create green jobs and promote biodiversity.

Africa's major mangrove forests have been decimated in recent decades due to logging, fish farming, coastal development, and pollution, leading to increased blue carbon emissions and greater exposure of vulnerable coastal communities to flooding and other threats to livelihood. But the continent's growing attention on mangrove restoration can be attributed in part to the

successful Mikoko Pamoja project, initiated in 2013 in Kenya's Gazi Bay, which protected 117 hectares (289 acres) of mangrove forest and replanted 4,000 trees annually, spurring other countries to also address their damaged coastal land and recreate its success.

Mikoko Pamoja, Swahili for 'mangroves together', centered its efforts around protecting the small communities in Gazi and Makongeni villages from coastal erosion, loss of fish and climate change. It was dubbed the "world's first blue carbon project" and earned the community of just 6,000

global fame, accolades, carbon cash and greater living standards.

"Mikoko Pamoja has led to development of projects in the community, including installation of water," Iddi Bomani, the village chairperson of the Gazi community, said. "Everyone has water available in their houses."

"It especially leads to improved livelihoods through job creation when done by communities," Laitani Suleiman, a committee member of the Mikoko Pamoja, added.

Several other projects have come to fruition since. In Senegal, 79 million replanted mangrove trees are projected to store 500,000 tons of carbon over the next 20 years. VOA

## Nigeria bank governor hedges on presidential bid



Godwin Emefiele has been Nigeria's top banker since 2014

Godwin Emefiele, Nigeria's central bank governor, says he has yet to take a decision on whether to run for the country's presidency next year.

It follows news on Friday that he was seeking the ticket of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) party to succeed President Muhammadu Buhari, who is serving his second and final term.

In a tweet the 60-year-old economist has explained that the nomination forms for his candidacy were bought on his behalf by a group of his supporters.

It costs 100m naira (about \$240,000, £195,000) to purchase the APC's nomination

papers.

Mr Emefiele said it was a serious decision to take and he would make it over the coming days - and would buy his own forms if he did go ahead.

It is unprecedented for a serving central bank governor to join the presidential race and news of Mr Emefiele's apparent bid has sparked outrage.

Many are questioning whether rules have been broken, demanding that civil servants resign before seeking any political office.

Nigeria's main political parties are expected to hold their primaries later this month to meet the election commission's dateline of 3 June for the submission of their candidates for the February 2023 election. BBC

## Cameroon Celebrates World Red Cross Day Calling for Better Collaboration with Red Cross Workers

World Red Cross Day, May 8, has been observed in Cameroon with hundreds of Red Cross workers in towns and villages across the central African state asking for greater recognition and protection by their communities. The humanitarian workers say although they have not reported deaths, Red Cross workers are often victims of

battery, Boko Haram terrorism, and separatist violence.

Hundreds of people, including beneficiaries of Red Cross services, humanitarian workers and government officials, assembled at the Yaoundé-headquartered Cameroon Red Cross Society to celebrate the 2022 World Red Cross Day.

Among them was Aliou Alim, a Red Cross volunteer who has worked in the northern town of Banyo, on Cameroon's border

with Nigeria.

Alim said in March he and seven colleagues were taken captive by people they were encouraging to take COVID-19 vaccines in Banyo. He said they were freed after local government officials explained to their captors that Red Cross workers are out to save lives.

Alim said every Cameroonian should be informed that the Red Cross serves humanity. He says besides protecting Red Cross workers, protagonists in conflict zones and civilians should respect and protect the Red Cross emblem, bearing in mind that humanitarian workers are there to rescue people in need and save lives.

Alim said many people along Cameroon's border with Nigeria do not know the importance of Red Cross workers and very often refuse to collaborate with them. He said there is a misconception that the Red Cross emblem signifies adherence to a Western occult group trying to



A Red Cross worker takes roll call in one of the many buses planned for the return home of Central African Republic refugees in Gado, Cameroon

recruit Cameroonian followers.

The Red Cross says such allegations are unfounded and spread by people who are ignorant of Red Cross activities.

The government says Red Cross workers have been of

great help saving lives in the central African state's trouble spots. The government says the Red Cross has provided humanitarian assistance to several thousand of the 750,000 people fleeing the separatist crisis in the country's English-speaking western regions. VOA

# EDITORIAL

## Grand Mufti Sumaworo's warning deserves attention

RECENTLY, THE GRAND Mufti of Liberia Sheikh Abubakar Sumaworo warned the Weah administration not to allow jihadists mainly from Shia Muslims to establish mosque or school in Liberia.

**"WE ARE HEARING** that the jihad regime is about to spread in some parts of Africa, and with the information we gathered so far is that wherever they reach, they can establish the jihad war, school, including Mosque and these could subsequently lead to terrorism", the Muslim Cleric further cautioned.

**ACCORDING TO HIM**, jihadists are a sect of Muslims, who travel from one country to another, causing confusion among other Muslims, and added that they are often linked to terrorist groups hence, the Government of Liberia should not allow them into the country to establish mosque or school.

IF THE WEAH administration has been paying deaf ears to warnings coming from the public, it should take this one with full attention. The warning by the Grand Mufti should be treated with all seriousness it deserves, because jihadist activities in West Africa are widespread and devastating with huge human costs.

FROM NIGERIA, MALI, Burkina Faso to next door neighbor Ivory Coast, jihadist groups have rained and continue to rain terror on unarmed civilians with unimaginable consequences.

RECENTLY, THE AUTHORITIES here deported two staff of the Turkish Light International School in Monrovia for alleged terroristic activities, which left the population panicking.

GRAND MUFTI SUMAWORO is a serious cleric that commands huge followers in the country. He would not have sounded the caution to the government if he had not sensed something. Government should take cue and be on the alert.

LIBERIA WITH POROUS borders is vulnerable to unsuspected activities. Often, reports of illegal migrants from Burkina Faso crossing into the country allegedly for farming purposes have saturated the media here.

WITH MUSLIMS REPEATED request to government to legislate end of the Holy Month of Ramanda as public holiday, it is possible that jihadists could exploit the situation to cry suppression and attract sympathy from outside.

THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD put its security forces on full alert in the wake of the warning and previous action at the Turkish Light International School, because where there is smoke, fire could likely follow.

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# COMMENTARY

By Jayati Ghosh

## Next Steps for a People's Vaccine

NEW DELHI - The Biden administration's decision to stop opposing a proposed COVID-19 waiver of certain intellectual-property rights under World Trade Organization rules is a welcome move. The US Trade Representative acknowledges that "the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic call for extraordinary measures." While affirming that it "believes strongly in intellectual property protections," the Biden administration, "in service of ending this pandemic, supports the waiver of those protections for COVID-19 vaccines." Already, the US decision may be persuading other rich-country holdouts in Europe and elsewhere to follow suit.

While the rapid development of COVID-19 vaccines was a truly impressive achievement, it has been tarnished by constraints on global vaccine supply and the related inequities in distribution. As of May 4, less than 8% of the world's population had received even one dose of any COVID-19 vaccine, while just ten rich countries accounted for 80% of all vaccinations. The reason is not just that rich countries have been buying up all available doses; it is also that there simply have not been enough doses to go around.

But this scarcity itself is largely artificial. Vaccine production has been limited by pharmaceutical companies' refusal to share knowledge and technology. Though the companies producing the approved vaccines have benefited from public subsidies and publicly funded research, they nonetheless have taken advantage of patent protections to maintain a monopoly, limiting production to their own factories and a select few other companies to whom they have granted licenses.

These patents are enshrined and enforced internationally through the WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), which allows for action to be taken against countries that provide compulsory licenses allowing "someone else to produce a patented product or process without the consent of the patent owner." It is this threat of legal action that led a majority of WTO members to propose a temporary waiver for COVID-19 drugs, vaccines, diagnostics, and other technologies needed to fight the pandemic. And yet, even this minor step has been blocked in the WTO TRIPS Council, because (mostly) rich countries have been prioritizing big pharmaceutical companies' interests over global health.

A waiver has become all the more urgent with the coronavirus on the rampage across South America and India, where a near-complete breakdown of overstretched health services is resulting in a catastrophic loss of life. Worse, the rapid spread of the virus has already given rise to dangerous new variants. We absolutely must vaccinate as many people as possible before vaccine-resistant variants emerge.

Temporarily waiving IP rights is essential, but it is only the first step. A waiver agreement would address the previously insurmountable legal side of the problem. But much more will need to be done to make a "People's Vaccine" universally available as soon as possible.

The next step is to push for concrete measures

to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and technology. From Canada to Bangladesh, many potential vaccine producers with the required facilities have so far been denied the licenses and technical know-how to proceed. Not a single pharmaceutical company has joined the World Health Organization's voluntary facility for sharing technology, the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP).

Governments in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere, having given large subsidies to develop the approved vaccines, can and should pressure the companies to share the knowledge that public money helped provide. We know this can be done, because the Biden administration has already persuaded Johnson & Johnson to share its technology with Merck to boost domestic production of its single-dose vaccine. Surely the other companies that have benefited from public support could be pressured to do the same with producers around the world.

In the meantime, the TRIPS waiver could increase vaccine production in other ways as well. Moderna, which relied almost completely on US government funding, has already declared that it will not enforce its patent. But its mRNA vaccine uses some knowledge that it has licensed (and paid for) from other companies, which could in turn sue any other producer using the same technology.

The TRIPS waiver would eliminate this possibility, allowing production to be scaled up rapidly. With Moderna now indicating that it will produce three billion doses in 2022 alone, the mRNA vaccines are apparently quite amenable to expanded production. They are also said to be easily adapted to account for new variants.

The case for public production of such vaccines is clear. "For less than the US government spends on the COVID-19 response daily," notes the health advocacy organization PrEP4All, "it can build a facility to produce enough mRNA vaccine manufacturing capacity to vaccinate the entire world in one year, with each dose costing only \$2."

The case for public production becomes even stronger when one considers that private vaccine producers have little financial incentive to meet current global needs. Once the pandemic is contained, the demand for vaccines is likely to revert to much lower "normal" levels. To win the race against the virus, we must build and deploy public manufacturing capacities in the US and other countries. And when COVID-19 is brought to heel, these facilities should be maintained for future pandemics.

The world desperately needs the TRIPS waiver and stronger measures to ensure the transfer of knowledge and technology to produce COVID-19 vaccines. But we also need to start preparing for equally exceptional circumstances in the future. The knowledge on which our health and prosperity depend must be both publicly funded and publicly disseminated.

*Jayati Ghosh, Executive Secretary of International Development Economics Associates, is Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a member of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation.*



The Government of Liberia has received loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for the following positions. This Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services is for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP).



The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.



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**Request for Expressions of Interest**

**Date:** April 18, 2022

**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Senior Procurement Specialist**

**REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288661-CS-INDV  
**Project ID.:** P169718  
**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Senior Procurement Specialist** has been published.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Senior Procurement Specialist** who will work in close consultation with the Project Coordinator (PC) and the **Procurement Specialist** of the PMU, other departments and stakeholders, to ensure that all procurement activities under the project are carried out efficiently and in accordance with the guidelines and policies of the Project Management Framework and Financing Agreement. S/he shall be responsible to develop and update procurement strategy for various project activities and the development and publishing of the periodic procurement plans adopting the appropriate procurement method and approaches to maximize the effectiveness of the procurement process.

The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service are indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attach photocopies of relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of Individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr) and [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below by hand, mail, courier or email on or before **May 16, 2022 at 4:30 pm:**

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Hon. James J. Reynolds  
Assistant Minister Planning & Programming  
Ministry of Public Works  
South Lynch Street  
1000 Monrovia, Liberia  
Tel: 0777-004004 / 0880523691  
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**Request for Expressions of Interest**

**Date:** April 18, 2022

**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Environmental Specialist**

**REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288618-CS-INDV  
**Project ID.:** P169718  
**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Environmental Specialist** has been published.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Environmental Specialist** who shall work closely with the Social Safeguards & Gender Specialist to design and implement relevant environmental and social documents and tools according to the Environmental and Social legal and regulatory frameworks of Liberia, as well as the to the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and its Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) policies and safeguards under this project. S/he shall be primarily responsible to ensure adequate environmental policies and programs are adopted and implemented through the project cycle in tandem with all the Environmental and Social Mitigation Framework policies of the donors and stakeholders of the project. The Specialist shall also ensure that the project complies and fully implements all the environmental obligations and guidelines developed for this project and support the engineers of the PMU engaged in all elements of the project to address, during the designs and execution stages, issues of environmental concerns including promotion of an eco-system-based design approach that supports conservation of natural systems, climate resilient and sustainable infrastructure. S/he shall also be responsible to ensure regular review, monitoring and updating of the ESCP by all stakeholders of the project and ensure the project obtains all the necessary E&S permits and authorizations for its implementation.

The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service is indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attach photocopies of relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of Individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr), [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

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**Request for Expressions of Interest**

**Date:** April 18, 2022

**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Social Safeguards & Gender Specialist**

**REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288656-CS-INDV  
**Project ID.:** P169718  
**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Social Safeguards & Gender Specialist** has been published.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Social Safeguards & Gender Specialist** shall work closely with the Environmental Specialist to design and implement social safeguards and other standards including gender inclusion activities. Other responsibilities shall be to advise on mitigation measures for risks related to sexual exploitation and Sexual Harassment & Abuse and ensure improvement where necessary as well as ensuring the prioritization of gender issues including female participation and representation and inclusion of other vulnerable groups including people with disability. S/he shall be primarily responsible to ensure the adoption, adherence and implementation of adequate safeguards measures throughout the project cycle and in tandem with all the Environmental and Social legal and regulatory frameworks of Liberia, as well as the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), the Gender Action Plan (GAP) and the Labor Management Plan (LMP) of the project. The Specialist shall also ensure that the project complies and fully implements all the social obligations and guidelines developed for this project with The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service are indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attach photocopies of relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of Individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr) and [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

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**Request for Expressions of Interest**

**Date:** April 18, 2022

**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Communications & Community Engagement Specialist**

**REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288659-CS-INDV  
**Project ID.:** P169718  
**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Communications & Community Engagement Specialist**.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Communications & Community Engagement Specialist** who shall work in close consultation with and report to the Project Coordinator of the PMU and carry out the communication and knowledge management activities of the project with an aim to strengthen the awareness and acceptance of project interventions in communities, municipalities and townships, raise awareness and information sharing among general population using innovative and most suitable communication tools. The Communications and Community Engagement Specialist shall also engage in daily collaboration with community leaders, local and national government officials as well as PMU colleagues for the sharing, promoting and sensitization of project activities and achievements.

The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service are indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

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**Request for Expressions of Interest****Date:** April 18, 2022**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Civil Engineer****REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288665-CS-INDV**Project ID.:** P169718**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Civil Engineer** has been published.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Civil Engineer** who shall assist the Lead Project Engineer with responsibilities of scheduling, planning, forecasting, resourcing, and managing technical activities to ensure project accuracy and quality. The Civil Engineer shall perform task assigned to him/her by the Lead Project Engineer related to the engineering and technical disciplines of ongoing projects. The Civil Engineer reports to the Project Coordinator (PC) through the Lead Project Engineer.

The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service are indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attach photocopies of relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of Individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr), [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below by hand, mail, courier or email on or before **May 16, 2022 at 4:30 pm:**

Attn: Ministry of Public Works  
Hon. James J. Reynolds  
Assistant Minister Planning & Programming  
Ministry of Public Works  
South Lynch Street  
1000 Monrovia, Liberia  
Tel: 0777-004004 / 0880523691  
E-mail: [jjreynolds@mpw.gov.lr](mailto:jjreynolds@mpw.gov.lr) / [tmaxsr@yahoo.com](mailto:tmaxsr@yahoo.com)



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA  
**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
P. O. BOX 9011  
SOUTH, LYNCH STREET  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

**Request for Expressions of Interest****Date:** April 18, 2022**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Junior ICT/Digital Communications Specialist****REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288666-CS-INDV**Project ID.:** P169718**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Junior ICT/Digital Communications Specialist** has been published.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

- The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Junior ICT/Digital Communications Specialist** who shall work closely with the Project Coordinator to provide ICT support and maintenance during the implementation of the project. S/he shall be responsible for all ICT equipment, software and internet services maintenance and management of the ICT facilities of the PMU and provide regular maintenance and updating services. In addition, the Specialist will support teams with various applications related to their work needs associated with GIS and data management, as well as in terms of online communications of project activities and results. The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service is indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attached relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr), [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

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MONROVIA, LIBERIA

**Request for Expressions of Interest****Date:** April 18, 2022**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Lead Civil Engineer / Hydraulic Engineer****REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288664-CS-INDV**Project ID.:** P169718**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Lead Civil Engineer / Hydraulic Engineer**

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Lead Civil Engineer / Deputy Head of the PMU** to assist with the scheduling, planning, forecasting, resourcing, and managing technical activities to ensure project accuracy and quality. The **Lead Project Engineer** will be particularly responsible for the engineering and technical disciplines of all project activities and will establish inspection criteria and monitoring for the proper implementation of all the elements of the project for the Project Management Unit. He shall assist the Project Coordinator in the management of the PMU and reports to the Project Coordinator.

The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service are indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attach photocopies of relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of Individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr), [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

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MONROVIA, LIBERIA

**Request for Expressions of Interest****Date:** April 18, 2022**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Procurement Specialist****REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288662-CS-INDV**Project ID.:** P169718**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Procurement Specialist** has been published.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Procurement Specialist** who shall work in close consultation with the **Senior Procurement Specialist** of the PMU, other departments and stakeholders to ensure that all procurement activities under the project are carried out efficiently and in accordance with the guidelines and policies of the Project Management Framework and Financing Agreement. The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service is indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attached relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr), [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

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**Request for Expressions of Interest**

**Date:** April 18, 2022

**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Project Coordinator / Head of PMU**  
**REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288612 -CS-INDV  
**Project ID.:** P169718  
**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received a loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Project Coordinator / Head of PMU** has been published.

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

- The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Project Coordinator / Head of PMU** who shall be particularly responsible for supervising, planning, coordinating and implementing all the activities of the Project Management Unit. S/He shall lead in the full implementation of the project and shall report directly to the Deputy Minister for Technical Services of the Ministry of Public Works. Additionally, s/he shall supervise, plan and coordinate the overall project activities; prepare the annual work plan; manage PMU staff and oversee the day-to-day activities of the PMU related to procurement, project monitoring and evaluation, financial management, progress and financial reporting, of the project. The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service is indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attached relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc. This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr), [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

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**Request for Expressions of Interest**

**Date:** April 18, 2022

**Name of Assignment:** Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) – **Finance Officer.**

**REOI Reference No.:** LR-MPW-288663 -CS-INDV  
**Project ID.:** P169718  
**Country:** Liberia

Dear Sir/ Madam:

The Government of Liberia has received loan and grant facilities from the International Development Association /World Bank and the French Development Agency (AFD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of these facilities to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Expression of Interest for Individual Consultancy Services for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP)- **Finance Officer.**

The Liberia Urban Resilience Project (LURP) is led by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and financed by the World Bank (WB) and the French Development Agency (AFD). The proposed development objective is to increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in underserved neighborhoods and to improve urban infrastructure planning and management in Liberia.

The scope of service for this position requires an experienced consultant to be the **Finance Officer** who shall be responsible for the daily financial operations of the project including the review, development and execution of the full project budget in close consultation with the Project Coordinator. S/he shall assist the Project Coordinator in providing full project accounting and financial management of all project funds in line with the guidelines and regulations of the partners and stakeholders of this project. The Project Finance Officer will work closely with the Project Financial Management Unit (PFMU) on all accounting and financial management issues.

The duration of this service will be for **12 months** but renewable on an annual basis for a period up to six (6) years based upon satisfactory performance, project needs and available budget. Further details of this service are indicated in the attached Term of Reference. (TOR).

The Ministry of Public Works now invites eligible interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing this service. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the TOR including copies of their CV, attach photocopies of relevant applicable certificates/documents, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the recruitment of Individual Consultant procurement/method contained in the World Bank Regulation for IPF Borrowers July 2016, Revised November 2017, August 2018, and November 2020, and the procedures described herein. The scope required is described in detail in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). Copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be downloaded at [www.emasion.gov.lr](http://www.emasion.gov.lr), [www.mpw.gov.lr](http://www.mpw.gov.lr) and [iumpw.org](http://iumpw.org).

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# Nigerian airline operators to shut down operations amidst high cost of jet fuel -Sympathise with passengers



Airline operators in Nigerian have announced an imminent shut down of operations due to an increase in the price of jet fuel.

In a statement issued by the operators, they said it was with great sense of responsibility that they had embarked on downsizing their services.

“It is with a great sense of responsibility and patriotism that the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON) have carried on deploying and subsidizing their services to our highly esteemed Nigerian flying public in the last four months despite the steady and astronomical hike in the price of JetA1 and other operating costs. Overtime, aviation fuel price (JetA1) has risen from N190 per litre to N700 currently. No airline in the world can absorb this kind of sudden shock from such an astronomical rise over a short period. While aviation fuel worldwide is said to cost about 40% of an airline’s operating cost globally, the present hike has shut up Nigeria’s operating cost to about 95%,” the operators said.

The operators explained that airlines have engaged the Federal Government of Nigeria and oil marketers concerning the rise in the cost of aviation fuel but appears not much has changed.

“In the face of this, airlines have engaged the Federal Government, the National Assembly, NNPC and Oil Marketers with the view to bringing the cost of JetA1 down which has currently made the unit cost per seat for a one hour flight in Nigeria today to an average of N120,000. The latter cannot be fully passed to passengers who are already experiencing a lot of difficulties. While AON appreciates the efforts of the current government under the leadership of President Muhammadu Buhari to ensure air transport in Nigeria grows, unfortunately, the cost of aviation fuel has continued to rise unabated thereby creating huge pressure on the sustainability of operations and financial viability of the airlines. This is unsustainable and the airlines can no longer absorb the pressure.

To this end therefore, the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON) hereby wishes to regrettably inform the general public that member airlines will discontinue operations nationwide with effect from Monday May 9, 2022 until further notice. AON uses this medium to humbly state that we regret any inconveniences this very difficult decision might cause and appeal to travellers to kindly reconsider their travel itinerary and make alternative arrangements,” the AON statement concluded.

**JUDICIAL BRANCH**  
**REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

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

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

THE PETITION OF BINTU F. KROMAH, PETITIONER, BY AND THRU HER LEGAL COUNSEL, PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR A DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME IN FAVOR OF PETITIONER TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND REFERRED TO AS “ROMELLE BINTU FREEMAN.”

**COURT’S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME 00008956**

THE PETITIONER BY AND THRU HER LEGAL COUNSEL FILED A PETITION BEFORE THIS COURT REQUESTING THIS HONORABLE COURT TO ORDER THE CHANGE OF HER NAME FROM BINTU F. KROMAH TO “ROMELLE BINTU FREEMAN.”

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

That the Petitioner having shown with justification and satisfaction that she was born on the 16<sup>th</sup> Day of November, A. D. 1982, in Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, and that she was born unto the union of Mr. Morris Freeman (deceased) and Madam Malina Sirleaf all of the County of Montserrado, Republic of Liberia; and that the Change of her name will substantially promote her interest in all of the understandings and help to establish her just identity more firmly and that she has met all legal requirements for the Change of her name in this jurisdiction.

The Petition having been heard, same is hereby ordered granted and we now render that the name Bintu F. Kromah be changed to “Romelle Bintu Freeman” beginning this 28<sup>th</sup> Day of April, A.D. 2022. That all documents signed by the Petitioner herein prior to this decree remain valid.

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

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THIS HONORABLE COURT, THIS 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, A.D. 2022.

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

REGISTERED ACCORDING TO LAW  
 LEGAL INSTRUMENTS CENTER FOR NATIONAL ARCHIVES  
 VOLUME 05-2022 PAGE(S) 00008956

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN LEGALLY REGISTERED AND FILED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES ON THIS DATE: MAY 04, 2022 AT 11:00 AM (PM) A.

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## 'Trigger of violence'

### -Ex-Foreign Minister terms Lofa by-election

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia's former Foreign Affairs Minister, Madam Olubanke King - Akerele says the entire situation surrounding the Lofa County senatorial by-election is a trigger of violence, warning that Liberia is sitting on a time bomb that is likely to explode anytime.

The ex-Foreign Minister

Elections Commission (NEC) decided to exclude former ruling Unity Party (UP) and All Liberian Party (ALP) from the conduct of the election based on a request by Liberty Party embattled chairman Musa Bility.

The Unity Party has since challenged the commission's decision at the Supreme Court and the case is awaiting the court's determination.

election has been greeted with threats by Unity Party political leader Joseph Nyumah Boakai and his party officials that the election will not go ahead without their candidate's participation.

However, Madam King - Akerele called on Liberians to be very, very careful about the process of what may or may not be happening in terms of the decision from Lofa.

She warned that Librarians must not take it lightly because what is going on is a trigger of violence and the citizenry must be careful and mindful for the nation's sake.

She noted that everyone has a role to play and to be concerned about the nation.

"We hope and pray that Chief Justice of Liberia Francis Korkpor and the entire Supreme Court will make the right decision because we cannot go backward and we are headed backward," said Madam King - Akerele.

"I am making this statement and if anybody wants to do anything to me, you can do it. If I'm the next person to be killed, you will kill me. But I'm saying my concern is the peace of this nation," she continued.

She encouraged Liberians to join her and the Women Situation Room to prevent this instead of waiting for 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

"I am a patriot and [have] nothing to do with politics, hope you understand me. All of you must see the interest of this nation at heart. You hear the important role the Women Situation Room plays in bringing peace and stability to Sierra Leone and so let's do the same here. This is what I have to say," she concluded.

Over the weekend, the NEC announced an indefinite suspension of the conduct of the Lofa by-election, which was due to be held on Tuesday, 10 May 2022, citing the ongoing case at the Supreme Court.

Mr. Bility had asked the NEC to prevent UP and ALP from fielding candidates in the Lofa by - election because of their withdrawals from the disintegrated Collaborating Political Parties (CPP).

The attempted exclusion of UP and ALP from the planned conduct of the by -

called on all Liberians to be concerned about their nation, urging all hands to work and prevent the time bomb from exploding.

"What is happening in Lofa is what we call [a] trigger of violence. We are sitting on a time bomb as a nation, hope you understand me," Madam King - Akerele said at the weekend during the end of the Angie Brooks International Center's dialogue for local authorities.

The planned senatorial by - election in Lofa County has been rocked by political tension, as the National

## Don't threaten the peace of Lofa

### -Iman Kamara warns VP Boakai

By Lewis S. Teh

A prominent son of Lofa County and head of the National Disabled Muslims of Liberia Ahaji Bonda Kamara has condemned recent threat Unity Party Standard Bearer, former Vice President Joseph N. Boakai that there would be no by-election in Lofa County if UP candidate isn't on the ballot.

Speaking to Prime FM via mobile Ahaji Kamara, who is also an Iman, said people should stop treating Lofa County as their personal farm by inciting others to disrupt the peace of the county.

"Lofa County is not a pocket for anyone to put their hands in and take whatever they want to do", Iman Kamara said.

He said Lofa is blessed evidenced by the number of citizens from the county who are hold key positions in the Weah administration, noting that adding that any attempt by past and current leaders to cause confusion in the county

would be firmly resisted.

He named CDC Chairman Mulbah K. Morlu, Chief of Protocol to President Weah, Ms. Finda Bondo, Controller General Janka Koiwo, and Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson T. Koijee, among others, who he noted, are sons and daughters of Lofa County so, ex-Vice President Boakai should rethink before issuing threats that could jeopardize the peace of the county.

"We can't have all these prominent individuals from our county working in this government and at the same time undermine the very government with threatening statements. I think the former Vice President is in error and he must retract his statements", Iman Kamara added.

He said no single individual is bigger than the county so, no one citizens has the right to threaten the peace of the county, noting that all tribes in Lofa are peaceful people, and the county does not want anyone to say without this, there won't be election, which is not good and should be condemned.

Court of Liberia.

In a press release, secretary general Andrews Peters calls on all NPP partisans to remain calm as everything legally possible is being done to protect the constitution and bye-laws of the National Patriotic Party, which is a member of the three-party ruling Coalition for Democratic Change.

The Board of Commissioners of the National Elections Commission upholds its Hearing Officer's ruling, affirming that the tenures of Chairman James Biney and other elected officers of the National Patriotic Party (NPP) have expired.

On November 30, 2020, several aggrieved partisans of the NPP filed a complaint with the National Elections Commission that the tenures of Chairman James P. Biney and all of those elected at the NPP's February 2016 convention had expired and, as such, were without authority to steer the affairs of the party.

The NEC Hearing Office conducted an investigation and rendered a ruling in favor of the complainants, to which embattled Chairman Biney and others excepted and took appeal before the Board of Commissioners.

Following a review of the matter by the Board of Commissioners, the NEC, on Friday, May 6, 2022, announced the following as its final determination of the case:

That with the tenures of Chairman James P. Biney and other partisans elected at the NPP's February 16 convention either to serve for four or six

years having expired, the said partisans (Biney and others) are without authority to steer the affairs of the NPP, and that an interim Convention Coordinating Committee, comprising seven persons, be set up to take the party to its 7th Biennial Convention where the outgoing Biney leadership shall make a report of its stewardship.

The NEC Board's ruling also states that within five days of the date of this ruling, the two sides (complainants and the Biney leadership) shall each designate and submit to the Political Affairs Section of the NEC, names of three persons to serve on the said interim Convention Coordinating Committee, and that the chairperson of the interim Convention Coordinating Committee to be agreed upon by the two sides shall not be any of the named individuals in the case.

The Board further maintains that in the event that the complainants and the outgoing Biney leadership cannot agree on a person to serve as chairperson of the interim Convention Coordinating Committee, the Political Affairs Section of the NEC will submit a list of three eminent Liberians from which both sides will agree on one person to serve as chairperson, and that after the said submission of the list by NEC, and the two parties cannot still agree on a chairperson, the Commission will designate a neutral person, association, or group to take the NPP to its 7th Biennial Convention. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

## NPP objects to NEC's decision

The National Patriotic Party says it objects to suggestion by the Board of Commissioners of the National Elections Commission to appoint a neutral person or body to take the party to convention.

The NPP in a press statement issued Sunday, 08 May 8, 2022, describes the NEC's decision to have outgoing Chairman James Biney appoint three names and the aggrieved party to submit three names among which to pick an individual to take the party to convention, as unconstitutional and a smart attempt by the Board of Commissioners to suspend the Party's constitution in

order to satisfy a certain individual, who desire is to control the party as a private entity.

In a release, the NPP

discloses that lawyers representing the Party have announced an exception to the Board's ruling and are appealing to the Supreme



# Français

## Affaire tripatouillage des textes de la CPP : Une firme étrangère pour mener des enquêtes

Le leader politique de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC), M. Alexander B. Cummings, a engagé une société britannique pour mener une enquête indépendante et internationale sur les allégations de falsification du document-cadre de la Collaboration des Partis Politiques (CPP).

M. Cummings et deux autres responsables de l'ANC sont actuellement jugés par

le tribunal municipal de Monrovia pour avoir prétendument falsifié le document-cadre de la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP), une coalition politique de l'opposition. Ils ont été traduits en justice par le All Liberian Party ("ALP"), un parti politique d'opposition membre de la coalition.

La Commission électorale nationale (NEC) a présenté ce qui semble être la copie originale du document au tribunal le mardi 4 mai.

M. Benoni W. Urey et M. Theodore Momo, respectivement leader politique et président national d'ALP, accusent l'ANC d'avoir falsifié le document-cadre de la CPP avant ou après son dépôt auprès de la Commission électorale Nationale (NEC) du Libéria.

Mais M. Cummings nie vigoureusement les accusations portées contre lui. Il a ainsi commandé cette enquête indépendante pour fournir une évaluation objective des allégations formulées par l'ALP et le gouvernement du Libéria. Tout au long de sa carrière en entreprise, et en politique, tant à l'intérieur du pays qu'à l'étranger, et de ses récents engagements politiques au Libéria, M. Cummings s'est toujours engagé à respecter les normes élevées d'intégrité, d'honnêteté, de probité et de transparence. Ces allégations risquent donc de remettre en question et de saper ses valeurs.

« Cette enquête est une réponse aux préoccupations dont ont fait part des amis, des partenaires et des

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Côte d'Ivoire : Amadou Soumahoro, président de l'Assemblée nationale, est mort

Cette figure de la politique ivoirienne est décédée ce samedi à l'âge de 68 ans, selon un communiqué du président de la République Alassane Ouattara. L'état de santé de l'homme politique s'est fragilisé ces derniers mois, l'obligeant à confier les rênes de l'Assemblée à un intérim.

Le mal qui le rongait a fini par avoir raison de lui. Depuis son élection à la tête de l'Assemblée nationale en 2019, Amadou Soumahoro rencontrait des problèmes de santé et avait multiplié les déplacements à l'étranger pour se soigner, notamment en Turquie. Une maladie qui n'a jamais été officiellement dévoilée par les autorités.

L'occupant du perchoir avait fait son retour à Abidjan fin mars, mais son absence à l'ouverture de la session parlementaire le mois suivant ne présageait rien de bon sur son état de santé, rappelle notre correspondant à Abidjan, Sidy Yansané.

Agé de 68 ans, Amadou

Soumahoro faisait partie des hommes de confiance du président Alassane Ouattara. Cofondateur du parti au pouvoir RDR, aujourd'hui rebaptisé RHDP, il a grandement contribué à l'implantation de la formation politique dans le nord du pays.

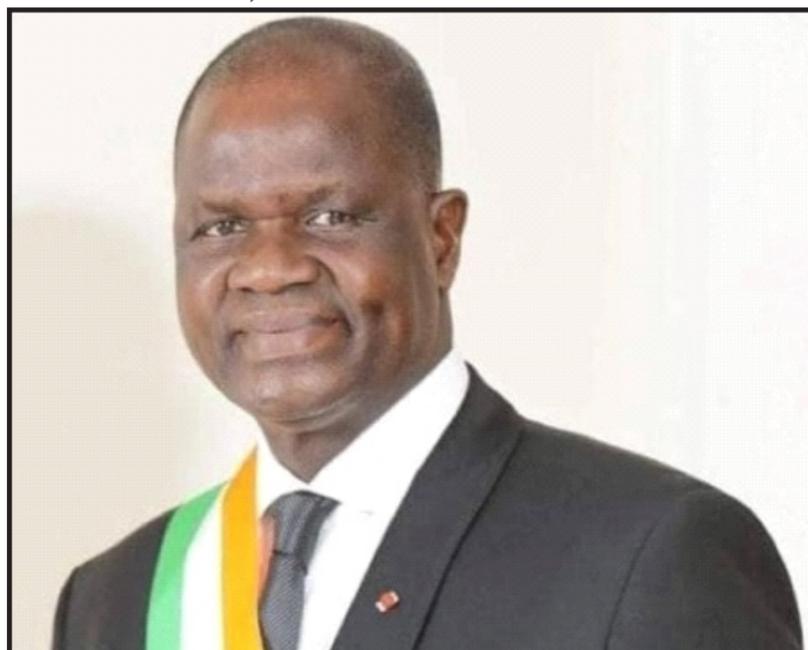
De nombreux hommages

Amadou Soumahoro laisse derrière lui près de 40 ans de vie politique et d'implication à tous les niveaux. Les hommages sont donc très nombreux. Sur les réseaux sociaux, Alassane

Ouattara a rapidement rendu « hommage à grand homme d'État », « un valeureux fils » de la Côte d'Ivoire et ajoute perdre « un fidèle compagnon et un ami loyal et dévoué ».

Pour le journaliste et écrivain Venance Konan, c'est un « animal politique » qui vient de disparaître. « C'est avec beaucoup de tristesse que toute la Côte d'Ivoire a appris cela. Cela

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Éditorial

### Ne prenez pas la mise en garde du Grand Mufti à la légère

Récemment, le grand mufti du Libéria, le cheikh Abubakar Sumaworo, a mis en garde l'administration Weah contre l'autorisation des djihadistes, principalement des musulmans chiites, d'établir des mosquées et des écoles au Libéria.

« Nous entendons dire que le régime du jihad est sur le point de se répandre dans certaines parties de l'Afrique, et avec les informations que nous avons recueillies jusqu'à présent, c'est que partout où ils arrivent, ils peuvent établir la guerre du jihad, l'école, y compris des mosquées et ceux-ci pourraient par la suite conduire au terrorisme », a encore averti le religieux musulman.

Selon lui, les djihadistes sont une secte de musulmans, qui voyagent d'un pays à l'autre, semant la confusion parmi les autres musulmans. Il a ajouté qu'ils sont souvent liés à des groupes terroristes, par conséquent, le gouvernement du Libéria ne devrait pas les autoriser à entrer dans le pays pour établir des mosquée et des écoles.

Si l'administration Weah à toujours fait la sourde oreille aux avertissements du public, elle doit prendre celui-ci avec beaucoup de précaution. L'avertissement du Grand Mufti doit être traité avec tout le sérieux qu'il mérite, car les activités djihadistes en Afrique de l'Ouest sont généralisées et dévastatrices, avec des pertes énormes en vies humaines.

Du Nigeria au Mali en passant par le Burkina Faso et la Côte d'Ivoire voisine, des groupes djihadistes ont semé et continuent de semer la terreur sur des civils non armés avec des conséquences inimaginables.

Récemment, les autorités ici ont expulsé deux membres du personnel de la Turkish Light International School de Monrovia pour des activités terroristes présumées, ce qui a semé la panique au milieu de la population.

Le Grand Mufti Sumaworo est un religieux sérieux qui commande beaucoup de fidèles dans le pays. Il n'aurait pas averti le gouvernement s'il n'avait pas senti quelque chose. Le gouvernement devrait prendre cela au sérieux et être en alerte maximale.

Le Libéria dispose des frontières poreuses et moins sécurisées. Il est donc vulnérable aux activités terroristes. On parle souvent des immigrants Burkinabè illégaux qui entrent dans le pays prétendument pour faire l'agriculture.

Avec la demande répétée des musulmans au gouvernement de faire de la fin du mois sacré de Ramanda un jour férié, il est possible que les djihadistes exploitent la situation pour crier à la répression et attirer la sympathie de l'extérieur.

Le gouvernement devrait mettre ses forces de sécurité en alerte totale à la suite de l'avertissement et des actions précédentes à l'école internationale Turkish Light, car là où il y a de la fumée, il y a probablement un incendie.

# Français

## Affaire tripatouillage des textes

collègues, mais, surtout, au désir de M. Cummings d'être minutieusement examiné par le biais d'enquêtes publiques, privées et de toutes formes pour prouver son innocence et sa plus haute moralité. Les conclusions de cette enquête seront donc partagées de manière transparente avec le public libérien et ses partenaires internationaux », a déclaré un communiqué de presse publié par l'ANC.

Mme Blair, une éminente avocate des droits de l'homme, dirigera une équipe conjointe composée d'experts expérimentés de son cabinet d'avocats international, Omnia Strategy LLP, et de la célèbre société d'enquêtes et de renseignement basée à Londres, Alaco Limited.

Omnia est un cabinet d'avocats international fondé en 2011 par Cherie Blair CBE, QC. Omnia est spécialisée dans le règlement et la prévention des litiges sur mesure dans le monde entier, grâce à son approche unique, combinant expertise juridique et expérience dans les domaines de la politique, des affaires et des communications. Les gouvernements, les entreprises et les clients privés font confiance à Omnia pour fournir des conseils juridiques et stratégiques sur un large éventail de questions, notamment l'arbitrage international, les entreprises et les droits de l'homme, le droit international public et la résolution de problèmes moins conventionnels.

Fondée en 2002, Alaco est une société de veille économique et d'investigation de premier plan, basée à Londres et opérant dans le monde entier pour le compte de ses clients sur des questions transactionnelles et

contentieuses. Pour soutenir ses clients, le personnel multilingue d'Alaco s'appuie sur son expérience dans divers domaines, tels que le droit, le gouvernement, le journalisme, les services financiers et la diplomatie.

M. Cummings a demandé à Mme Blair "d'enquêter de manière indépendante, objective et approfondie sur les allégations de falsification du document-cadre de la CPP et de présenter ses conclusions sans crainte ni faveur".

Alexander B. Cummings a déclaré : « Mon opposition à la corruption, à l'incompétence et à la mauvaise gestion de l'administration du président George Manneh Weah est bien connue. Mon message de changement réel dans la direction du pays et d'espoir en un avenir meilleur prend de l'ampleur, alors que les Libériens demandent des comptes à son gouvernement défaillant. Les accusations inventées de toutes pièces et fausses sont politiquement motivées pour salir ma réputation et saper ma candidature, au pays et à l'étranger. C'est aussi une militarisation des tribunaux, un gaspillage de ressources publiques et un stratagème pour faire réélire un président désavoué en affaiblissant son plus redoutable challenger ou en refusant sa participation aux élections. Nous ne permettrons pas que cela se produise. Les Libériens sont prêts pour le changement, et nous sommes prêts à fournir le leadership changé, avec les normes élevées de transparence et de responsabilité dont le Libéria a désespérément besoin.

Cherie Blair CBE, QC a déclaré : « Nous avons le privilège de nous engager dans cet important exercice de recherche de la vérité, d'évaluer de manière indépendante la véracité des allégations et d'aller au fond de cette question sensible.

## Côte d'Ivoire : Amadou Soumahoro

créé un vide au niveau de l'entourage du président et au niveau du sommet de l'État. Il était brillant, intelligent. Il avait parfois son côté un peu éléphant dans un magasin de porcelaine, mais c'était un homme fin, un animal politique », confie Venance Konan.

Malade, Amadou Soumahoro n'a pas pu s'affirmer totalement à la présidence de l'Assemblée nationale. Maire de Séguéla, député, ministre, il était au cœur de la machine, estime

l'analyste politique Sylvain N'Guessan. « C'est un sentiment de tristesse largement partagé par les uns et les autres. Ces 30 dernières années de vie, d'animation, de participation aux réunions, aux différentes rencontres, il était au cœur de la machine. Il a toujours été d'ailleurs très proche de monsieur Ouattara, membre fondateur du RDR [Rassemblement des Républicains], au PDCI [Parti démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire], membre du bureau politique, député, maire... Il était au cœur de l'appareil. »

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Jayati Ghosh

## Les prochaines étapes d'un vaccin pour le peuple

**N**EW DELHI - La décision de l'administration Biden de cesser de s'opposer à une proposition de levée de certains droits de propriété intellectuelle sur la COVID-19 en vertu des règles de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce est une excellente avancée. La Représentante américaine au Commerce reconnaît que « les circonstances extraordinaires de la pandémie de COVID-19 appellent à prendre des mesures extraordinaires ». Tout en affirmant « croire fermement en la protection de la propriété intellectuelle », l'administration Biden, « dans le but de mettre fin à cette pandémie, soutient la levée de ces protections sur les vaccins contre la COVID-19 ». D'ores et déjà, la décision des États-Unis pourrait persuader d'autres pays riches réticents en Europe et ailleurs de prendre le même type de mesures.

Bien que le développement rapide de vaccins contre la COVID-19 soit un succès véritablement impressionnant, il a été terni par les contraintes qui pèsent sur l'offre mondiale de vaccins et les inégalités qui en découlent en termes de distribution. Le 4 mai, moins de 8 % de la population mondiale avait reçu une seule dose de vaccin contre la COVID-19, alors que seulement dix pays riches représentaient 80 % de toutes les vaccinations. La raison n'est pas seulement que les pays riches ont acheté toutes les doses disponibles, mais surtout qu'il n'y a tout simplement pas assez de doses pour tout le monde.

Mais cette rareté en elle-même est en grande partie artificielle. La production de vaccins est limitée par le refus des sociétés pharmaceutiques de partager leurs connaissances et leurs technologies. Bien que les sociétés qui produisent les vaccins approuvés aient bénéficié de subventions publiques et de recherches financées par l'État, elles ont néanmoins profité des protections des brevets pour maintenir un monopole, en limitant ainsi la production à leurs propres usines et à quelques autres entreprises à qui elles ont accordé des licences.

Ces brevets sont consacrés et appliqués internationalement par l'Accord sur les aspects des droits de propriété intellectuelle qui touchent au commerce (ADPIC) de l'OMC, qui permet de prendre des mesures contre les pays qui fournissent des licences obligatoires permettant à « quelqu'un d'autre de produire un produit ou un processus breveté sans le consentement du titulaire du brevet ». C'est cette menace d'action en justice qui a conduit une majorité de membres de l'OMC à proposer une dérogation temporaire pour les médicaments, vaccins, diagnostics et autres technologies COVID-19 nécessaires dans la lutte contre la pandémie. Pourtant, même cette mesure mineure a été bloquée par le Conseil des ADPIC de l'OMC, parce que (principalement) les pays riches ont donné la priorité aux intérêts des grandes sociétés pharmaceutiques par rapport à la santé mondiale.

Une levée des droits est devenue d'autant plus urgente que le coronavirus fait des ravages en Amérique du Sud et en Inde, où une saturation quasi complète des services de santé surchargés entraîne des pertes catastrophiques de vies humaines. Pire encore, la propagation rapide du virus a déjà donné lieu à de nouveaux variants dangereux. Nous devons absolument vacciner autant de personnes que possible avant que n'apparaissent des variants résistants au vaccin.

Il est essentiel de renoncer temporairement aux droits de propriété intellectuelle, mais ce n'est que la première étape. Un accord de levée du droit de propriété abordera le côté juridique, jadis insurmontable, du problème. Mais il faudra faire beaucoup plus pour rendre un « vaccin pour le peuple » universellement accessible dès que possible.

La prochaine étape consiste à promouvoir des mesures concrètes visant à faciliter le transfert des connaissances et des technologies. Du Canada au Bangladesh, de nombreux producteurs potentiels de vaccins ayant des installations adaptées se sont vu refuser jusqu'à présent les licences et le savoir-faire technique pour aller de l'avant. Aucune société pharmaceutique n'a rejoint le fonds de partage de technologies de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé, le COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP).

Les gouvernements des États-Unis, d'Europe et d'ailleurs, qui ont accordé d'importantes subventions au développement de vaccins approuvés, peuvent et doivent faire pression sur les entreprises pour qu'elles partagent les connaissances que les fonds publics ont contribué à fournir. Nous savons que cela est possible, parce que l'administration Biden a déjà persuadé Johnson & Johnson de partager sa technologie avec Merck pour stimuler la production nationale de son vaccin à dose unique. Il est certain que les autres entreprises qui ont bénéficié du soutien public pourraient être contraintes de faire de même avec les producteurs du monde entier.

Entre-temps, la levée de l'Accord sur les ADPIC pourrait également faire augmenter la production de vaccins par d'autres moyens. Moderna, qui a presque entièrement compté sur le financement du gouvernement américain, a déjà déclaré qu'il ne ferait pas appliquer son brevet. Mais son vaccin à ARNm utilise des connaissances qu'il a déposées (et payées) à d'autres sociétés, qui pourraient à leur tour poursuivre en justice tout autre producteur utilisant la même technologie.

La levée à l'Accord sur les ADPIC éliminerait cette possibilité, ce qui permettrait d'augmenter rapidement la production. Alors que Moderna indique à présent qu'il produira trois milliards de doses rien qu'en 2022, les vaccins à ARNm ont apparemment toutes les chances d'augmenter la production. On dit également qu'ils sont faciles à modifier pour tenir compte de nouveaux variants.

Les arguments en faveur de la production publique de vaccins de ce genre sont clairs. « Pour moins que ce que le gouvernement américain dépense quotidiennement pour la réponse à la COVID-19, note l'organisation de défense de la santé PrEP4All, il est capable de bâtir une installation permettant de produire suffisamment de capacités de fabrication de vaccins à ARNm pour vacciner le monde entier en un an, chaque dose ne coûtant que 2 \$ ».

Les arguments en faveur de la production publique acquièrent encore davantage de poids lorsque l'on considère que les producteurs privés de vaccins n'ont que peu d'incitations financières à répondre aux besoins mondiaux actuels. Une fois la pandémie contenue, la demande de vaccins devrait revenir à des niveaux « normaux » beaucoup plus bas. Pour gagner la course contre le virus, nous devons construire et déployer des capacités de production publique aux États-Unis et dans d'autres pays. Et lorsque la COVID-19 sera mise au pas, ces installations devraient être entretenues en prévision des futures pandémies.

Le monde a désespérément besoin de la renonciation à l'Accord sur les ADPIC et de mesures plus fortes pour assurer le transfert des connaissances et de technologie nécessaires à la production des vaccins contre la COVID-19. Mais nous devons également commencer à nous préparer à des circonstances tout aussi exceptionnelles à l'avenir. Les connaissances dont notre santé et notre prospérité dépendent doivent être financées par l'État et diffusées par l'État.

Jayati Ghosh, Secrétaire exécutive de International Development Economics Associates, professeur d'économie à University of Massachusetts Amherst, membre de The Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation - (ICRICT).

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Shia Muslims condemn Grand Mufti Sumaworo's claim

By Lewis S. Teh

Shia Muslims in Liberia have condemned the Grand Mufti of Liberia Sheikh Abubakar Sumaworo, for recently warning the Government of Liberia not to allow Muslims from Shia-Islam to operate mosque or

He said Grand Mufti Sumaworo should have used his Ramadan sermon to preach message of peace, unity and reconciliation rather than attacking Shia Muslims.

"We have come to clarify the falsehood spread by the grand Mufti; like every other

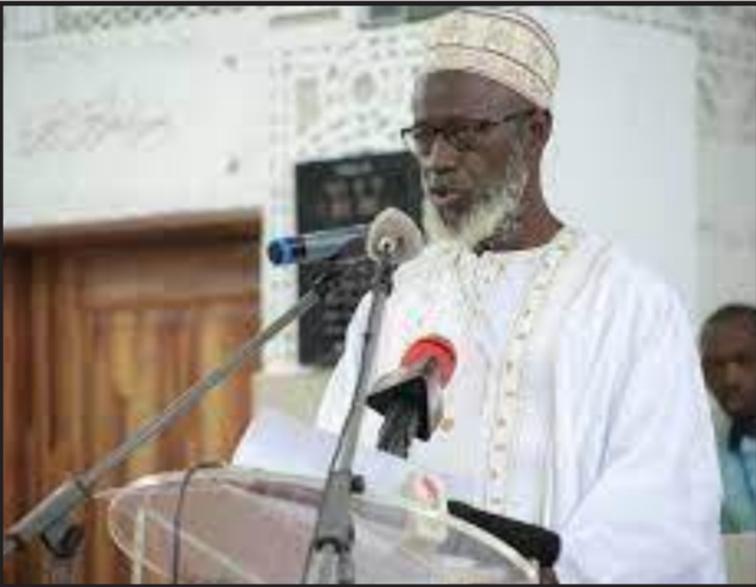
He termed as uncontrollable lies, the allegation by Sheikh Abubakar Sumaworo, adding that Shia Muslims are Liberians who are contributing to peace, stability and development of the country, evidenced by construction and operation of schools, mosques, including hand pumps and providing scholarship to orphans.

Meanwhile, the Liberia Council of Churches has commended the Muslims Council of Liberia for successfully fasting during the observance of the holy month of Ramadan.

LCC President Bishop Dr.Kortu Brown congratulated the Muslim community for fasting and praying for the betterment of the country.

Bishop Brown extended the gratitude here in Monrovia via mobile when he spoke to Prime FM and noted the National Muslims Council and the Liberia Council of Churches are in partnership for peace, for recognition of peaceful coexistence and religious harmony.

"It's against this backdrop that I want to extend on behalf of the LCC, a profound appreciation to them for the tireless efforts they continue to demonstrate in the maintenance of the peace of this country", Bishop Brown said. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



school here, because of their affiliation with terrorism and confusion.

But in a news conference held subsequently in Gardnersville, the administrative secretary of the Shai Muslims Abdullah Rodgers said the

statement by the Grand Mufti is far from the truth, and only intended to cause confusion within the Muslim community in Liberia and other parts of the world.

Muslim, we have various forms and manners of worship, however, we serve the same God, and have the same prophet Mohammed. We have the same book which is our holy Quoran. Islam is a peaceful religion, and Shia Muslims have lived peacefully with our brothers and sisters here in Liberia throughout for the past seventeen years without any form of hostility", Rodgers explained.

## Bong County gets modern safe home this month

By Lincoln G. Peters

A United States based-Liberian humanitarian, and Executive Director of Women of Grace Charity International Liberia, Amb. Felicia Garlo along with her co-workers, is expected to break ground for the construction of a modern safe home and school in Gbatal,

Bong County this year. Madam Garlo explained in an exclusive interview with this paper via telephone over the weekend from the U.S. that the project is aimed at preventing teenage financial beneficiaries of her organization from being exposed and abused sexually.

According to Amb. Garlo,

the decision to construct the modern safe home and school was triggered by the unfortunate news of a 13-year-old brilliant female student who is a financial beneficiary of the humanitarian organization's scholarship program.

The girl was reported to have gotten impregnated this same year, leaving her dreams and aspirations in serious darkness.

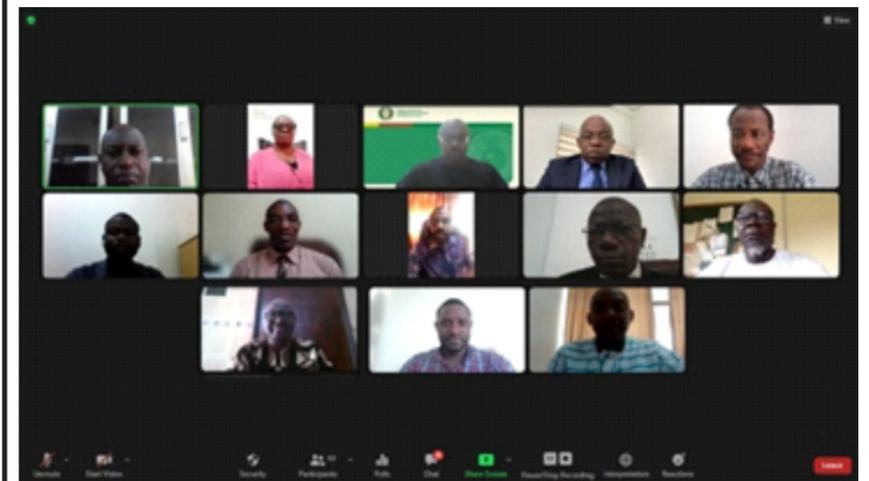
"My son listen to me, because this has caused too many people to lose opportunities in our country, mostly females, and it's bad for them and our country," said Amb. Garlo.

"However, this safe home along with its own school will be in a compound or fence and children along with their activities will be highly monitored by those that [are] working with us," said Amb. Garlo.

She narrated that the organization will have a huge



## ECOWAS experts meet to consider draft offer on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)



The ECOWAS Commission has ended the Seventh (7th) Regional Meeting on the draft ECOWAS Offer on the Trade in Services Protocol under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Opening the meeting, the Director of Bilateral, Regional and Multilateral Trade at the Ministry of Trade & Industry of the Republic of Ghana, Mr. Mickson OPOKU, expressed appreciation to the ECOWAS Commission for its support in building the capacity of Member States to effectively negotiate the Trade in Services.

He underscored the critical role of the services sector to the development of both national and regional economies, and enjoined participants to work hard to finalize their Offers taking into account expectations of their respective countries and the overall objectives of the region.

On behalf of Mr. Tèi KONZI, ECOWAS Commissioner for Trade, Customs & Free Movement, Mr. Kolawole SOFOLA, Acting Director of Trade, highlighted the support provided by the ECOWAS Commission to its Member States, such as technical assistance and capacity building, to ensure their draft Offers in the five (5) priority Sectors on Trade in Services are in line with the negotiations modalities as well as ensuring that the regional acquis is preserved.

Mr. Desiree LOUMOU, Senior Expert - Trade in Services at the AfCFTA Secretariat, on behalf of

Mrs. Emily MBURU, Director of Trade in Services at the AfCFTA Secretariat, commended the ECOWAS Commission and its Member States for their active participation in the negotiation process, and for submitting their Initial Offers in the five (5) priority Sectors on Trade in Services. He reiterated the commitment of the AfCFTA Secretariat to support African Union (AU) Member States including ECOWAS in the finalisation of their Offers.

The 7th Regional meeting reviewed the draft ECOWAS Offer for the AfCFTA Trade in Services negotiations and held bilateral sessions between ECOWAS Commission and Member States to address the various technical issues to ensure they are compliant with agreed modalities and guidelines of the AfCFTA negotiations, as well as consider requests from third parties.

The meeting was attended by Trade in Services Experts from ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania; Officials from the ECOWAS and WAEMU Commissions; and representatives from the AfCFTA Secretariat.

Forty-two (42) African countries are now State Parties to the Agreement on the AfCFTA. Forty (40) State and Seven (7) non-State Parties have submitted their Offers. The five (5) Trade in Services priority sectors are Business Services; Communication Services; Financial Services; Tourism and Travel-Related Services; and Transport Services.

capacity to cater or host over four hundred underprivileged children, particularly females from Bong, Central Monrovia and other surrounding counties.

"This place will host over four hundred children from Bong, Margibi, Montserrado, Bassa, Nimba and other counties that are nearby. We want our girls to be saved and protected from sexual violence, unwanted pregnancy or baby by chance, and early marriage so that they can actualize their true potentials," said Amb. Garlo.

She said she is prepared to help protect their future because they are the future leaders of the country.

Amb. Garlo noted that Liberia is seriously economically challenged and as such, many children between the ages of 1-17 years old are mostly supported and living with a single parent, mostly females, or mothers who cannot afford to meet their basic needs.

She indicated that these are the situations that have claimed her organization's attention to help underprivileged children and single parents with their children's schooling.

# Lofa by-election postponed indefinitely

By Lincoln G. Peters

The National Elections Commission (NEC) on Friday, 6 May 2022 announced the indefinite postponement of the conduct of the much talked about Lofa County senatorial By-election, citing an ongoing case at Liberia's Supreme Court as the reason.

NEC chairperson Madam Davidetta Brown-Lansanah told a press conference at the commission's headquarters in Sinkor that the by-election's postponement is due to the ongoing legal dispute between the disintegrated Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) on one hand,

withdrawals from the CPP.

The NEC's full Board of Commissioners on Monday, 25 April 2022, reaffirmed a decision taken by its hearing officer to stop Unity Party from contesting the Lofa by-election until Liberia's Supreme Court can decide. The Unity Party has since taken the matter to the Supreme Court.

Originally made up of four opposition parties - UP, Alternative National Congress (ANC), ALP and LP - the CPP later broke apart, leaving only ANC and a faction of LP as allies following bitter internal conflicts.

The CPP's fall came in the wake of allegations that ANC political leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings and his party had allegedly altered the CPP framework document.

However, Mr. Bility believes that a clause within the CPP

that the Commission has already communicated this position to the Legislature, given that any extension of the By-election date beyond the ninety - day constitutional provision will require further legal mandate.

"Once received, the Commission will communicate a new date for the By-election to the people of Lofa and the Liberian People in general following the final disposition by the Honorable Supreme Court of Liberia of the appeal related to the said 2022 Lofa County Senatorial By-election," Madam Brown-Lansanah explained.

Meanwhile, she called on all citizens of Lofa County and interested stakeholders in the Lofa County Senatorial by-election to remain calm and peaceful as the legal process unfolds.

The NEC boss also used the

# ANC launches U\$ 2 Million Fund Drive



ANC Political Leader Mr. Cummings

The Alternative National Congress (ANC) Global, on Saturday, May 7, officially launched a U\$2 million fund drive as support for the Presidential bid of its Standard Bearer, Mr. Alexander Cummings, in the General and Presidential elections slated for October 2023.

Mr. Cummings, also the presumptive Standard Bearer of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP), is the leading opposition candidate against incumbent President George Weah of the Congress for Democratic Change.

The fund drive expected to continue through the next 15 months, both in the United States and Liberia raised over U\$216,500 on May 7, at an impressive joint ceremony both at the ANC headquarters in Monrovia and virtual for all Liberian Diaspora.

It was attended by an array

of Lawmakers including Montserrado County Representative Yekeh Kolumbah, ANC Party stalwarts, and hundreds of supporters and sympathizers.

ANC Standard Bearer and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Cummings kicked off the fund drive, with appeal to partisans worldwide to support the ANC rescue mission for Liberia from the inept administration of President Weah.

In the four years plus term of President Weah, the economy has performed poorly, leading to drastic cuts in civil servants' salaries, high unemployment rate, extreme poverty, and widespread unprecedented corruption in every sector of government including the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary. Mr. Cummings said it was unacceptable with the country's enormous natural resources, including gold, diamond, rubber, iron ore and timber, vast majority of Liberians are living in abject poverty, while a few at the top live in wealth.



and the All Liberian Party (ALP) and Unity Party (UP) on the other hand.

Madam Brown-Lansanah explained that with the current legal matter still at the Supreme Court to decide the matter, the Commission has determined that it will not be feasible to conduct the Lofa County Senatorial By-election on 10 May 2022 as earlier planned.

The CPP, through embattled Liberty Party (LP) chairman Musa Bility, had requested the NEC to prevent UP and ALP from fielding candidates in their own names in the Lofa by - election and by extension, the 2023 presidential and legislative elections, on the basis of their

framework document would prevent UP and ALP from fielding candidates in Lofa after their withdrawals from the opposition bloc.

The National Election Commission on 16 February 2022 received from the Liberian Senate a communication notifying the electoral house of a vacancy in the Liberian Senate for a seat for Lofa County.

In keeping with Article 37 of the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia, the NEC has 90 days from the date of receipt of the notification to cause the by-election to be held.

The NEC had scheduled the 2022 Lofa County Senatorial By-election for 10 May 2022, but the case before the Supreme Court would not permit the commission to go ahead with its planned election date of 10 May.

The NEC chairperson indicated

opportunity to express sadness and regret over the alleged mysterious disappearance of the commission's logistic officer in Grand Gedeh County, Mr. Alfred T. Dunner, terming the situation as unfortunate.

"On a sad note, unrelated to the Lofa County By-election, the NEC has learned with disbelief the unfortunate incident of the mysterious disappearance of its Logistics Officer in Grand Gedeh County, Mr. Alfred T. Dunner," said Madam Brown - Lansanah.

She narrated that the incident has been reported to the Liberia National Police, and the Commission will continue to make follow ups on the process of the investigation.

"In the meantime, we call on all Liberians to keep Mr. Dunner and his family in our prayers for his safe return," the NEC chairperson concluded.

## Starts from back page

her way as we speak." However, Sherman reveals the minor was at the Ministry of Gender but the Police allegedly took legal custody of her, adding "She's now in a safe space with the Liberian National Police (LNP) which I cannot disclose

## Deputy Gender boss entangles

to the media because she's being protected from the public and Mr. Aliue, who she has been accused." The Deputy Gender Boss however says she's in consultation with her lawyer and anytime soon she will take legal action against Mr. Saye Maye Cole. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

### Survey Notice

#### To Whom It May Concern

April 30, 2022

Dear, Sir/Madam:

The general public is hereby notified that the undersigned registered licensed surveyor has been duly authorized by Mr. Henry Smith Jr. Jacob and Eric Barboun the Administrators of the late Wleh and Kpakrme Estate to conduct a Re-Survey of a parcel of land containing one point two Five (1.25) Lots of land.

The property or land to be survey is situated and lying in Boy's Town, Lower Margibi, County. Said survey will commence on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 1:00 PM .

This notice should claim the following persons or properties owners:

1. Community Chairman
2. To Whom it May Concern

Signed: *[Signature]*  
Mr. Kempson S. Murray Sr.  
Regd. License Surveyor  
Lic. # 014  
Contact: 0777750002/0886514399

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## Deputy Gender boss entangles in rape case at Children's Village



Dep. Gender Min. Lydia Mai Sherman

By Kruah Thompson

Deputy Gender Minister for Children and Social Protection Lydia Mai Sherman, clarifies that she has no involvement in the recent rape case at SOS Children's Village in Liberia, disclosing that the ministry is doing everything in its power to contact the Ministry of Justice to speedily investigate and bring to trial

Mr. Augustine Alieu, former country director of the SOS children's Village for allegedly raping a 15 years old minor at the village.

Deputy Minister Sherman narrates that on May 5th, 2022, a Liberian citizen known as Saye Maye Cole, appeared on OK Morning Rush hosted by OK FM 99.5 and alleged she (Deputy Minister Sherman) is compromising the case on grounds that she is the

fiancee of suspect Augustine Alieu, and because of that she (Sherman) has failed to play her role as a minister in protecting the 15 years old survivor.

She adds that Mr. Saye Maye Cole also accused her of taking the alleged rape survivor to a local cottage but later it was discovered that the minor was in fact, taken to her older sister for care without the knowledge of the Village.

Speaking to the New Dawn over the week, Minister Sherman said she doesn't know from where Mr. Saye Maye Cole is getting his information, but as far as she's concerned, she had been straightly ethical and professional in abiding by the rule of law while working with the Liberia National Police to ascertain outcome of the investigation.

According to her, the Police and the Gender Ministry are still obtaining evidence on the case and for this reason, she cannot disclose the whereabouts of the victim, saying There's no harm in her way as we speak."

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