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

# The New Dawn

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# Continental News

## South Africa's Ramaphosa: Russia Sanctions Hurt 'Bystander' Countries

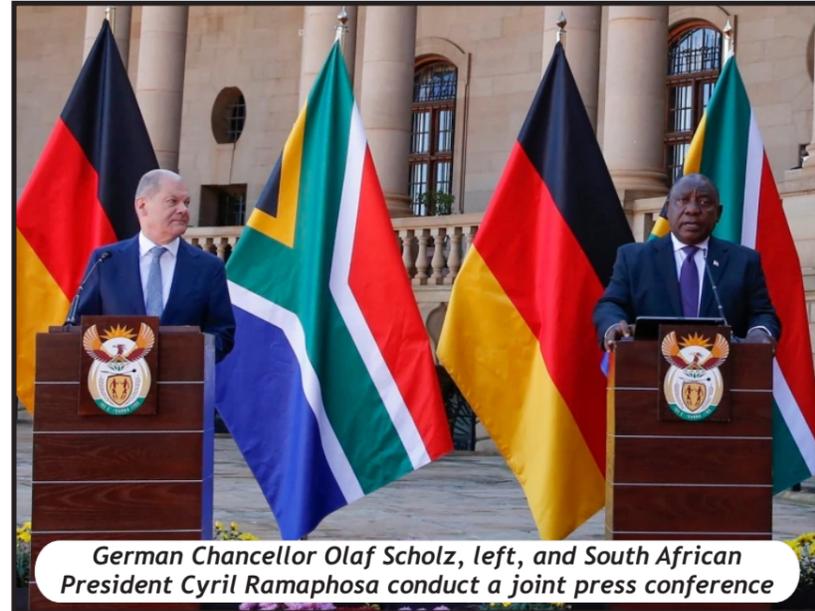
South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa said on Tuesday that "bystander countries" were suffering due to sanctions against Russia and called for talks as the African Union (AU) prepared a mission to foster dialog between Moscow and Kyiv.

Ramaphosa spoke as German Chancellor Olaf Scholz visited South Africa on the final leg of a trip to the continent that aimed in part to rally diplomatic support for Ukraine.

South Africa has close historical ties to Moscow due to the Soviet Union's support for the anti-apartheid struggle. It abstained from a United Nations vote denouncing the invasion of Ukraine and has resisted calls to condemn Russia.

The European Union has aggressively pursued sanctions and a severing of economic ties in a bid to punish Moscow for its military operations in Ukraine, a strategy which Ramaphosa said was causing collateral damage.

"Even those countries that are either bystanders or not part of the conflict are also



German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, left, and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa conduct a joint press conference

going to suffer from the sanctions that have been imposed against Russia," he said during a news conference in Pretoria.

Africa, which has already seen millions pushed into extreme poverty by the pandemic, has been hit hard by rising food costs caused in part by disruptions linked to the war.

Russia and Ukraine account for nearly a third of global wheat and barley, and two-thirds of the world's exports of sunflower oil used for cooking. The conflict has damaged Ukraine's ports and agricultural infrastructure and that is likely to limit its

agricultural production for years.

In an interview with German broadcaster Deutsche Welle earlier on Tuesday, Scholz called on countries to increase oil and gas supply to curb global energy price increases.

Standing beside Ramaphosa, Scholz said he was pleased to have the opportunity to discuss South Africa's position on the war but underlined that what he called an attempt by Russia to alter international borders by force was unacceptable.

"Mr. President, I think it is

important that we continue these discussions intensively," he said. "We are very concerned about the outcome of the war for Africa."

Senegal's President Macky Sall – the current chairman of Africa's top political bloc, the AU – said on Sunday he was preparing to visit Kyiv and Moscow to foster peace.

Ramaphosa, who has been invited to attend the G-7

summit being hosted by Germany next month, said the only way to resolve the war is through dialog and Africa "does have a role to play because it has access to both leaders (of Ukraine and Russia). The European Union has aggressively pursued sanctions and a severing of economic ties in a bid to punish Moscow for its military operations in Ukraine, a strategy which Ramaphosa said was causing collateral damage. VOA

## Gambians await justice plan for Jammeh victims



Nearly 400 eyewitnesses gave harrowing details about human rights abuses under Jammeh's rule

The Gambia's attorney general and the justice minister will on Wednesday unveil plans on how the country will implement recommendations of a commission of inquiry that investigated human rights abuses under former President Yahya Jammeh.

The commission's report held the former Gambian leader responsible for almost all the alleged rights violations and recommended that he be prosecuted.

The release of the government white paper will be a significant step towards ensuring justice for victims of rights abuses during the 22-year rule under Mr Jammeh.

At the Truth Reconciliation

and Reparations Commission hearings, nearly 400 witnesses gave chilling accounts of alleged state-sponsored torture, rape and forced disappearances.

The commission submitted its report to the government in November after more than two years of work.

It found that Mr Jammeh and his hit squad known as the Junglers allegedly killed over 240 Gambians and other nationals including nearly 60 West African migrants in 2005.

Victims and their families are keen to see Mr Jammeh brought to justice.

He has been in exile in Equatorial Guinea since the current President Adama Barrow defeated him in the 2016 elections. BBC

## Somalia Prime Minister Suspends Foreign Minister Abdisaid Muse

Somalia's prime minister has suspended his foreign affairs minister over allegations that he authorized an illegal shipment of charcoal to Oman. The Somali government banned charcoal exports a decade ago to prevent deforestation and the funding of conflicts. However, analysts say the shipment was not the real reason for the suspension.

The suspension of Foreign Affairs Minister Abdisaid Muse is equivalent to a dismissal and came after he authorized a ship to leave Somalia carrying a load of charcoal. The shipment violates Somalia's laws preventing charcoal exports.

However, Muse's suspension was long expected because Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble is expected to be replaced by incoming Somali

President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud.

Isak Farhan, deputy director of Somali Public Agenda, a research group based in Mogadishu, notes that Muse was close to outgoing Somali President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo, and had ignored letters from the prime minister, including one that fired African Union Special Envoy to Somalia Francisco Madera.

Isak says the suspension could be seen as a result of poor cooperation between the minister of foreign affairs and the prime minister. He says, we know that minister was the national security adviser to the outgoing president, and with the confidence of the president, he was later appointed foreign minister. Apparently, he says, the minister did not report to the prime minister and did not listen to his suggestions.

Isak says the export of charcoal is a highly sensitive issue in Somalia because makers of charcoal cut down trees and cause damage to the environment.

He says, it is illegal to export and log coal in Somalia because it



Somalia's Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdisaid Muse Ali arrives for an EU Africa summit

contributes to land degradation, drought, and famine. Somalia is semi-arid, he says, so logging forests will exacerbate desertification.

Hassan Sheikh, a professor who teaches at Somalia's universities, says Muse's action sends a bad signal.

He says, I find it

particularly regrettable that some people are still involved with logging trees in Somalia, let alone a government official, such as the foreign minister, to permit a ship to carry charcoal to Oman. He says that will certainly encourage those who were discouraged to continue logging the trees. VOA

# EDITORIAL

## Grand Cape Mount County deserves urgent attention

**REPORT OF AN** alleged pollution of the Mafa River in Grand Cape Mount County, western Liberia, resulting in the death of fishes and other species deserves urgent and thorough investigation to avert a potential human catastrophic.

**ALREADY, REPORT SAYS** a dog that ate some of the dead species from the pollution, subsequently died in the county, while the Mafa River, used by communities to fetch water for cooking and drinking, has become a no-go-zone area.

**MEDIA REPORTS EMERGED** here early Tuesday this week that over 10 communities had been affected by chemicals allegedly leaked from plant operated by Bea Mountain Mining Corporation (BMMC) into the Mafa River, but the company in a release issued Tuesday, May 24, said there has been no discharge from its plant, and that there is no abnormal condition there.

**WHAT IS AUTHENTIC** however, is that something is amiss in the county that poses serious threats to both human lives and the environment.

**THIS SHOULD CLAIM** the immediate attention of all stakeholders, including national government in order to arrest the situation before it goes off hand.

**WE CALL ON** the Environmental Protection Agency that the company says it has contacted to conduct sample test of water from the Mafa River in order to establish cause of death of animal species that has left citizens panicking.

**THE EPA, UNDER** the watch of Professor Wilson K. Tarpeh, as Director, should leave no stone unturned in scientifically getting to the bottom of the current threats in Grand Cape Mount County in order to allay all fears. We are hearing reports that some citizens are leaving their villages for safety.

**THE GOVERNMENT AND** the concession company should leave no room for suspicions, as we believe the pollution did not come from the sky. There is a source and it must be established so that citizens can once more live in peace.

**THE GOVERNMENT IS** under obligation to protect its citizens no matter where they live, and it should act in ways that demonstrate such commitment by being proactive.

**THE SOONER FINDINGS** are established about the river pollution in Grand Cape Mount County, which is a major tourism site, the better it would be not only for citizens there, but the entire country.

# COMMENTARY

By Werner Hoyer

## Climate Consensus in the Middle East

**LUXEMBOURG** - This week, I met a teenager in Ramallah named Miriam, who shared how much she has benefited from one of the 450 solar-powered schools that the European Investment Bank has financed in the West Bank. Speaking in perfect English, Miriam was fully aware of the challenges her region faces because of climate change. But she was also full of optimism and extraordinarily articulate in explaining why the Middle East needs to do more to harvest sunshine, one of the few clean-energy resources that it enjoys in abundance.

The following day, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett reminded me that the EIB helped finance four of Israel's six desalination plants, including one that will be the world's largest when it becomes operational in 2023. He joked that almost two-thirds of the water in our glasses came from those EIB-backed projects. In a region with a growing population, Israelis know that water scarcity can easily lead to new conflicts. They want to develop greater desalination capacity so that they can potentially trade water for clean energy.

Changing rainfall patterns, water scarcity, and increasingly frequent and intense extreme weather events - including heatwaves and wildfires - affect Israelis and Palestinians equally, and the need to address the problem appears to be one of the few issues on which both parties agree. This was confirmed to me in talks with Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh. In a context of conflict, where most policies are viewed as zero-sum, climate projects are an exception.

In a speech this past February, Israeli President Isaac Herzog pointed to the intensification of extreme weather events as a wake-up call for the region. "For anyone who does not understand what this means, let me explain: this spells a genuine catastrophe," he warned. "The climate crisis is a crisis for the whole world, and we in the Middle East must understand it chiefly at the regional level, because its implications will be dramatic."

Herzog then called for a regional partnership to create a "renewable Middle East." His vision would include the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and Israel's "Palestinian neighbors." Yet while the Palestinian Authority has advanced some climate policies, it will take massive investment for these ideas to translate into large-scale yields of clean water

from the Gaza Central Desalination Plant and solar energy in the West Bank.

These landmark mitigation and adaptation projects will be needed to manage the humanitarian, environmental, and economic issues caused by climate change. Having returned to Luxembourg from my visit to the region, it is clearer to me than ever that we need to bank on the current "climate consensus" to build momentum behind the kind of transformational climate projects envisaged in the European Green Deal. While making Europe carbon neutral by 2050, such investments can also help to foster stability and improve economic conditions in the Middle East.

My belief in the transformational power of smart climate investments has grown only stronger with time. Over the past few years, the EIB has become the world's largest multilateral financier of climate projects, with commitments to support at least €1 trillion (\$1.05 trillion) of investment this decade. However, in a region as complex as the Middle East, it will take more than just finance to make many of these projects happen. We will need much more cooperation among countries and key external stakeholders such as the United States and the European Union.

The EIB's new Jerusalem-based Representation for the West Bank and Gaza, which opened this month, can help foster such cooperation. It will develop partnerships and stronger cooperation in the West Bank and Gaza while also supporting transformational cross-border climate projects across the region. As such, it will be instrumental for the EU's climate diplomacy in the Middle East.

We aim to complement and scale up, from a European perspective, what US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry has started with his diplomatic push for Middle Eastern countries to phase in renewable energy. That means financing the development of large-scale renewable energy and water cooperation in the region and building an even stronger climate consensus.

I am convinced that if climate diplomacy is backed by high-quality, innovative projects of regional significance, it can open up promising new avenues to pursue stability, growth, and peace in the Middle East. It's time to give climate finance a chance.

Werner Hoyer is President of the European Investment Bank.

# Losing Rights in America

**C**AMBRIDGE - It used to be that who you were at birth defined who you were for the rest of your life: slave or owner, emperor or subject, aristocrat or serf, man or woman, black or white. But, over time, moral revolutions have chipped away at the idea that we simply inherit our identities.

Today, most people in the Western world recognize that choice lies at the core of selfhood. We can be born in poverty and still become presidents. We can be childless career women. Our moral progress is enshrined in rights that enable us to strive to be whoever we want to be - or to live openly as who we truly are, with the same protections as everyone else. However, the leaked US Supreme Court draft majority opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* now threatens to take us back to the dark ages of biological determinism.

Written by Justice Samuel Alito, and confirmed to be authentic by Chief Justice John Roberts, the draft opinion would strike down *Roe v. Wade*, the half-century-old ruling that recognized a constitutional right to abortion. Four Republican-appointed justices - Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett - are understood to be voting with Alito. The three Democrat-appointed justices - Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan - are said to be at work on dissenting opinions. Roberts's current position is unknown. Adding insult to injury, on May 11, the Women's Health Protection Act - an attempt to codify the right to abortion through legislation - was defeated in the Senate after all Republicans and one Democrat voted unanimously against it.

Reversing *Roe* would allow the states to decide how to regulate abortion. At least 13 states are expected to ban the procedure immediately, with Louisiana discussing a bill that would even classify abortion as homicide. As such, the opinion would likely result in an explosion of unsafe and potentially life-threatening abortions. The moral implications are as bad as the legal and health consequences.

At a purely technical level, Alito's draft decision is an affront not just to women's rights but to the rule of law. In describing *Roe* as "egregiously wrong from the start," he contravenes the established legal principle of *stare decisis*, according to which courts are bound by precedent. Alito's self-proclaimed conservatism ought to have precluded such a radical break from legal tradition. In economic and other contexts, legal conservatives emphasize the importance of law as a source of consistency and predictability.

Alito's central argument appears to be that abortion is not mentioned in the US Constitution. But, of course, neither are contraception, interracial marriage, or LGBTQ rights. His opinion thus threatens to sweep away a broad array of hard-won rights. By describing *Roe* as not "objectively, deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition," he aims to erase the contributions of generations of American feminists who campaigned for women's reproductive rights. Millions of women who have based their life plans on 50 years of established jurisprudence now stand on a precipice of uncertainty.

Alito's arguments seem forced, both in terms of a highly restrictive "originalist" interpretation of the Constitution and in terms of cultural norms. Gallup's polling shows that around half believe it should be legal under all circumstances.

What is Alito really driving at? This is not about the so-called "right to life," a principle that legal conservatives defend only selectively - abandoning it, for example, in the case of vaccine mandates or capital punishment. Rather, eliminating constitutional protections for abortion is about reinforcing the Napoleonic notion that women are "mere machines to make children," and that their physiology should be exploited to maintain a particular social order. When women lose control of their bodies, they lose control of their lives. This is the ultimate motive driving conservatives to buck both legal form and public opinion.

Since sex has disproportionately different implications for women than it does for men, the effect of reversing *Roe* would be to place an unconscionable burden - physically, financially, psychologically, and socially - on only one of the two parties in a shared act. That constitutes discrimination even in the case of consensual sex, and it opens the door to grotesque miscarriages of justice in the absence of exceptions for rape and incest.

The twentieth-century sexual revolution wasn't about "free love"; it was about freedom. Women enjoy full agency for the first time in history (as illustrated by the unprecedented number of firsts for women in recent years), owing largely to the separation of sex from procreation resulting from access to effective contraception and safe abortion. Despite persistent inequalities (in wages, for example), women in the United States and around the world have made staggering social progress in recent generations. *Dobbs* now threatens to set American women back generations, not to mention adding to the \$100 billion tab that current abortion restrictions already cost the US economy.

Accepting that women are more than just fertility machines not only stripped away old stigmas and stereotypes; it also served as a segue to a broader social revolution. Many groups have since pushed beyond the bounds of biological determinism. In the wake of women's emancipation came LGBTQ rights, disability rights, legal recognition of alternative family structures, and calls to recognize rights for "nonhuman persons."

This progress, too, is now in jeopardy. As Alito's draft opinion in *Dobbs* makes clear, if you are female - and possibly if you are gay or nonbinary - the current Supreme Court may have more respect for your rights before you are born than after, when you are viewed as too much of a threat.

Legal conservatives offer an important lesson for their progressive counterparts: emotional appeals and constant vigilance can bring about radical change. To paraphrase Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, if we were lulled to sleep by a formal legal safeguard of our rights, now we must wake up and defend our moral victories.

*Antara Haldar is Associate Professor of Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Cambridge.*



PETRA RESOURCES  
-INCORPORATED-



## Notice of Intent

### Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)

#### BEA Mountain Mining Corporation: Weajue Underground Mine Project

The general public and all concerned or interested parties are hereby informed that BEA Mountain Mining Corporation (BMMC) is preparing an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Weajue Underground Mine Project, located in the Grand Cape Mount County in western Liberia.

Bea Mountain Mining Corporation (BMMC), a company registered in Liberia, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Avesoro Resources Inc. (Avesoro). BMMC hold a Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) with the Republic of Liberia which was acquired in 2001 and renewed in 2013. The MDA property covers an area of approximately 535 km<sup>2</sup>.

BMMC plans to develop the Weajue Resource Area by means of establishing an underground mine and associated Waste Rock Dump (WRD) and haul road situated to the north of the license area which is approximately 35 km north-east of the New Liberty Gold Mine (NLGM). The new approximately 4,8 km haul road will be established to connect the Weajue mine to the existing Nablama haul road. All ore mined at the Weajue underground mine will be processed at NLGM, making use of the existing plant and associated infrastructure.

The Project requires environmental authorisation in terms of the Environmental Protection and Management Law (EPML) for the underground mine development and associated infrastructure. The ESIA to be undertaken will be aligned with the requirements of Liberia's environmental legislative framework, as well as the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standards, Equator Principles and other associated International Best Practice Guidelines and Standards, as per the lender's requirements.

As part of the process of identifying potential environmental and social impacts that may result from activities of this development process, BMMC and the appointed consultants will request and receive inputs from the public, including interested and affected parties at the national and local levels. All persons having views, comments or concerns regarding the proposed project are encouraged to contact the appointed consultants as follows:

Petra Resources Inc.

Monrovia, Liberia

E-mail: [info@petraliberia.com](mailto:info@petraliberia.com)

Tel: 0778 616 555/ 0881 616 555

Your participation or input in this assessment exercise will be highly appreciated in order to guide decision relevant to the proposed project.



## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-22-000010
- ISSUANCE DATE:** May 23, 2022
- CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** June 7, 2022, 11:59 pm Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia
- POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at [LiberiaHR@usaid.gov](mailto:LiberiaHR@usaid.gov)
- POSITION TITLE:** Project Management Assistant (Budget)
- MARKET VALUE:** USD \$27,502 – \$44,008 FSN- 9  
In accordance with **AIDAR Appendix J** and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.
- PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.
- PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia.
- ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.
- SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access.
- STATEMENT OF DUTIES**

### Basic Function of Position

The Economic Growth Program-Budget Management Specialist will provide operational support to ensure that the Economic Growth Office (EGO) is responsive to all Agency programming and budgeting requirements by maintaining oversight of programming cycles, initiating and coordinating data gathering, analysis, and preparation of EGO program and financial reports in a timely manner. The Program-Budget Management Specialist will coordinate all EGO program procurement actions, working closely with the USAID/Liberia Office of Acquisition and Assistance (OAA) Office, the Program and Project Development (PPD) Office, and the Office of Financial Management (OFM). The Program-Budget Specialist will also provide advisory support by staying abreast of Agency and Mission programming and budgeting protocols, procedures and tools, and alerting and supporting the EGO management and Agreement Office's Representatives or Contracting Officers Representatives (AORs/CORs) of the operational budget planning process. Global Acquisition and Assistance System (GLAAS) actions, and preparation of all budgetary reporting. In an advisory capacity, the Program-Budget Management Specialist will additionally take the lead in periodically monitoring the EGO compliance with the fiscal terms and conditions of Implementation Letters, contracts and assistance agreements, and assist the EGO in mitigating any risks and implementing corrective actions that need to be addressed. The Program-Budget Management Specialist will also perform programmatic and administrative support functions for the Economic Growth Office including leading on team compliance with accruals, program monitoring, and evaluation requirements, document tracking and organization, staffing and program budgeting, and basic financial analysis for technical sectors (i.e., natural resource management, agriculture and food security, infrastructure and energy, and economic policy).

### Major Duties and Responsibilities

USAID/Liberia's economic growth activities provide the framework for the incumbent's specific duties and responsibilities. The incumbent is expected to fulfill the following duties and responsibilities:

#### A. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, PROCUREMENT AND BUDGETING (40%)

- As the Economic Growth Office's Program-Budget Specialist, s/he, in close coordination with the PPD, OFM and OAA, helps assure effective budget management operations. S/he coordinates and maintains EGO annual budgets, prepares and maintains accurate and up-to-date EGO procurement and financial spend plans and prepares various EGO budget reports. S/he is responsible for tracking the EGO program, budget, and procurement actions, as well as financial plans (current obligations, sub-obligations, pipeline accruals, and future planned funding and program actions). S/he serves as a focal point for all procurement requests and GLAAS actions for the technical office. S/he works with EGO team members to address any adverse pipeline issues.
- Works closely with AORs, CORs, and other requesters to ensure that GLAAS actions are correctly executed; the approval memos are properly developed and cleared with all supporting and required documentation completed, including approval memos, program descriptions and scopes of work, selection of instrument memos, forward funding analysis worksheets, pre-obligation checklists, environmental compliance documents, independent government cost estimates (IGCEs), and other required documents.
- Maintains financial spreadsheets on EGO activities for each grant/contract, including obligations, earmarks, commitments, disbursements, pipelines, etc., and produces reports (including Phoenix reports) on the financial status of activities as required by the EGO Director and/or Mission management.
- Assists AORs/CORs in monitoring the financial performance of contractors/grantees and maintains a financial report tracking system for accruals, obligations, commitments, and mortgages on all EGO activities. Recommends administrative approvals or brings to the notice of the AOR/CORs any discrepancy which does not appear appropriate. Prepares reports on funding availability and recommends funding utilization by budget code.
- Coordinates budget, reporting, and other needed implementation documentation tasks with the PPD, and OAA and provides financial quality control for the EGO.
- Assists EGO AOR/CORs in the review of GLAAS actions, purchase orders, budget, accruals, and other tasks related to budget monitoring and procurement.
- Participates in the review of project proposals, work plans, new activity designs, and semi-annual portfolio reviews.
- Serves as the primary point of contact for EGO with OFM and PPD.

#### B. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT (35%)

- Leads on the coordination of the EGO's contributions to the Mission Operational Plan (OP), Mission Performance Plan and Report (PPR), and by tracking the completion and clearance of specific narratives and technical team contributions and coordinating with PPD on the completion of these documents. S/he coordinates the flow of work and distribution of assignments for completion of key elements of these documents.
- Manages EGO's unsolicited proposal process, including tracking incoming proposals, engaging appropriate EGO staff to review the proposal, coordinating office comments, and collaborating with the Program Office to respond to the applicant.
- Coordinates office-wide training, meetings, retreats, portfolio performance, and financial reviews, and special events.
- Plays a coordination role on the management of interagency briefers and clearance documents.
- Manages and maintains the EGO Activity List and Spend Plan.
- Provides oversight of field coordination workshops/events to strengthen collaboration between USG and other donor-funded activities in assigned programs.
- Establishes and maintains working files on EGO programs including maintenance of administrative files and programmatic records in ASIST.

#### C. OFFICE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION (25%)

- Maintains the EGO's official records (including but not limited to working files, official documentation, correspondence, electronic public folders, and general subject files) according to USAID policies and procedures.
- Logs and circulates all incoming mail, reports, and memoranda.
- Prepares for meetings with host government counterparts, and other development partners. This task would include, but not be limited to: arranging logistics such as transportation requests, agenda preparation, arranging security clearance for visitors to the USAID Mission, and escorting visitors.
- Assists with the drafting and editing of correspondence and reports (e.g. activity briefing documents, talking points, etc.).
- Serves as the primary administrative point of contact between the EGO and the Executive Office. As such, duties would include but not be limited to: making logistical arrangements (e.g. country clearance, travel authorization requests, visa applications) for Temporary Duty (TDY) officers and Economic Growth Office staff.
- Manages the orientation of new arrivals to the Economic Growth team, including arranging orientation schedules, collecting and updating briefing book materials, setting up meetings and conference calls, and leading the cultural orientation sessions for all incoming USDHs.
- In consultation with the various support and technical offices, manages TDYer logistics support, which includes concurrence cables, clearance transfers, lodging, and transportation, etc. as appropriate.
- Makes appointments and travel arrangements for EGO staff, prepares country clearance cables and secures clearances and signatures on documents and cables.
- Serves as a WebTA timekeeper for the EGO staff and provides updates and training to team members on the WebTA time and attendance system. Also, provides expert technical assistance to the EG Team on USAID administrative systems, including E2, OpenNet, and Google Suite. S/he will also serve as the subject matter expert (SME) for the Global Acquisition and Assistance System (GLAAS), providing guidance and technical support to the EG office as needed.
- Edits and formats reports and correspondence originating from the Economic Growth Office and manages the clearance process for approval.
- Serves as the Economic Growth Office's point of contact for searching, retrieving, and distributing copies of official office files.
- Performs other EGO-related duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Economic Growth Office Director or designee.
- Organizes, maintains, and updates routine official hard copy files of EGO Assistance Agreements, Agreements, Contracts, Correspondence, Program Design Documents, Administrative Documents,
- Maintains, organizes, and manages EGO shared drive and Google drives and serves as the primary point of contact on EGO content and contributions to the Mission intranet and knowledge management design and implementation team.

- Drafts replies to routine correspondence, and prepares and types office documentation, such as letters and memoranda as required
- Screens and distributes incoming mail and faxes for EGO staff. Reviews outgoing correspondence for proper address, routing, attachments and conformance with Agency formatting procedures and special instructions, etc., prior to dispatch.
- Develops and updates PowerPoint presentations and briefing materials on EGO programs.
- Answers telephone calls and provides answers to queries from the general public and/or NGOs about EGO programs in Liberia, referring technical queries to technical specialists or office management for detailed information.
- Requests maintenance of EGO equipment and furnishings via the automated work order systems.
- Requests office equipment, supplies, and services for the Economic Growth Office
- Maintains an office stock of supplies and tracks their usage to ensure adequate supplies are used properly and readily available.

**Supervision Controls:** Supervision not anticipated for this position

**Supervisory Relationship:** The EG Program-Budget Management Specialist is directly supervised by the US Direct Hire Economic Growth Office Director. The incumbent must be able to work independently to accomplish assigned tasks with minimal input or involvement of the supervisor

## 12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

## III. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Education:** Minimum of college/University studies in business or program management, finance, accounting, human resources, international development is required.
- Prior Work Experience:** A minimum of 5 years in progressively responsible administration, program management, budget management or administration finance, accounting, human resources, international development is required.
- Post Entry Training:** Limited post-entry training to update technical and programmatic skills will be provided on a periodic basis. Training will include COR/AOR certification and USAID-specific program and financial management training. Extensive on-the-job orientation will focus on USAID-specific policies and procedures
- Language Proficiency:** Level IV, fluent written and oral proficiency in English is required.
- Job Knowledge:** A thorough knowledge and understanding of professional accounting principles, theories, practices and terminology as well as the principles and accepted practices of governmental and business financial accounting budgeting and reporting are required. S/he must have a good understanding and knowledge of monitoring and evaluation principles and integration into project implementation. Good knowledge of the concepts, principles, and practices employed in the management of development projects is desired, as well as a general understanding of Liberia's economic, political, social, and cultural environment and the role international assistance plays in addressing development objectives. The incumbent must be a self-starter with little or no supervision required in the areas specified above.
- Skills and Abilities:** The incumbent must have strong interpersonal skills and be able to establish and maintain productive and collaborative work relations with Mission colleagues, other development partners, and the general public. S/he must possess practical and analytical skills necessary to translate data or information into concrete actions for sustained development impact and results, excellent command of computer skills including knowledge on major office software and internet applications

## III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

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

### 1. Selection Process

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

### 2. Evaluation Factors

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

#### FACTOR #1: Describe your experience working with USAID or donor-funded programs.

In 500 words or less, describe your experience and role in managing or implementing USAID or donor-funded development programs, particularly your experience with Economic Growth related sectors including private sector initiatives, infrastructure and construction, agriculture, or natural resource management initiatives. Your description should highlight your experience or involvement in planning, procuring and managing awards.

#### FACTOR #2: Budget Management Experience:

In 500 words or less, describe your experience in budget planning and management processes or procedures, describe your role and any specialized training or experience.

#### FACTOR #3: Monitoring and Evaluation Experience:

In 500 words or less, describe your role and experience in managing, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on donor funded activities and programs. Please describe your knowledge and experience with activity monitoring and evaluation plans, program management plans, and any experience in developing development strategies or project designs.

#### FACTOR #4: Teamwork and Office Experience:

In 500 words or less, please describe your experience working on a team of diverse technical specialists and staff from different cultural backgrounds. Please describe your strengths in working on a team and supporting a well functioning office.

## 3. Basis of Rating

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

Evaluation Factors 40 points

Factor #1	10 points
Factor #2	10 points
Factor #3	10 points
Factor #4	10 points

Interview Performance 60 points

Interview questions will provide the candidate the ability to:

- Describe their experience and qualifications related to budget and project performance management and monitoring.
- Communicate Effectively.

Total Possible Points 100 points

## IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-669-22-000010– Project Management Assistant (Budget)** [LiberiaHR@usaid.gov](mailto:LiberiaHR@usaid.gov).

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

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

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

Candidates who are applying for this position must fully meet the education requirement (graduated and degree and/or diploma already received) as specified. Candidates must also meet the full work experience requirement and demonstrate in their application that they are an eligible offeror as required in I.9 above. There is no exception to these requirements.

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

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

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

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

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# No path for justice

## Princess Cooper's family demand her remains

By Lincoln G. Peters

The family members of the late Princess Cooper are demanding the government to release to them the corpse of the deceased for a befitting burial, lamenting that they see a fruitless journey and no path for justice for the deceased.

The bereaved family said at a press conference Wednesday, 25 May 2022 that they have realized that there are difficulties, constraints and unfairness in threading the path to justice in Liberia.

"We can say that there is

claiming that the woman died of TB.

The bereaved family, like some members of the public, rejected the government report, and the family suddenly announced that it was opting to have its own pathologists conduct an independent autopsy of the remains.

Dr. Momo pointed out that the family successfully contacted pathologists out of the country whom they considered to be independent.

However, he said a total of five forensic pathologists resisted without purpose for

beloved daughter Ms. Princess Cooper for burial.

According to Dr. Momo, they have made many efforts towards this process ranging from sending formal communications to the Ministry of Justice, followed by boycotting the autopsy.

He said all of their communications and actions were never recognized by the Justice Ministry and the Government of Liberia at large.

"That we witnessed and yet to have tangible reasons for which the crime scene was totally exposed and furthermore never protected for a certain period due to the critical occurrence of this mysterious death of our beloved Daughter/Sister, bright future Leader and a national asset," Dr. Momo lamented.

He raised concerns against the lack of willingness by the government to have brought in all residents within the FAWAZ Compound alongside some nearby residents of the crime scene surroundings as well as eyewitnesses.

He believed that they would have been strategically questioned and use the evidence gathered from them to be compared with the confirmed visible assessments gathered from the crime scene, "that is if there was any proper assessment done at all."

Dr. Momo noted that there were few individuals captured as persons of interest, but only certain personalities were exposed to the public both via mentioning their names and publishing an in-house investigation video with one of the listed persons of interest allegedly left out as an unidentified Lebanese.

Momo said the public is yet to be informed as to why the alleged Lebanese was captured and what was gathered during the investigation with him.

# VP Taylor upset about increasing gender-based violence



Liberia's Vice President, Jewel Howard-Taylor, expresses concern about increase wave of gender-based violence throughout the country, and the rest of the world.

She notes that children as young as six and up to 12 years, are the latest targets of sexual and gender-based violence here, noting that in some cases, boys are not spared.

Vice President Taylor raised the concern while addressing the start of a five-day workshop organized by the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Center of Ghana in collaboration with the Catholic Relief Services and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, respectively in Monrovia on Monday.

"In recent times," she went on, "there are lots of reports of boys are really being raped and so this situation is very critical", she observes.

According to her, sexual and gender-based violence affects the mental capacity of anybody, who is abused thereby, depriving them of the best opportunities they wanted to be.

Madam Taylor laments that this is something that brings shame to victims, rather than the perpetrators, who will continue to cause one violence after another from community to another.

"In Liberia and across the West African region, you will find a very old man having a young girl as old as 13 or 14 in public places, describing the girl as his young thing."

"It is something that is accepted and we turn blind eyes on these incidents which portray that sexual based violence is very damaging at many levels"

"Regrettably," she adds, "most of the people including mothers turn a blind eye, looking at only physical violence abuses



no path for justice in Liberia. With what we have gone through, we can now confirm this road to obtaining justice [will] be a rocky path. Therefore, we the family have seen this as a fruitless journey, "family spokesperson Dr. Abel Momo said in tears in Logan Town Wednesday.

The late Princess Cooper was found dead in February this year in the FAWAZ Building Material Store around the ELWA Junction in Paynesville.

The government pathologists reported that there was no foul play,

three weeks, all of whom cited insecurity and then declined the process.

"With that, we have come to the realization that indeed there are difficulties, constraints, unfairness in threading the path to justice within our nation," said Dr. Momo.

He told journalists that in an effort of bringing to closure their grief and bereavement, and to foster peace of mind, they have requested via a formal communication written to the Government of Liberia through the Justice Minister, Cllr. Frank Musa Dean to take delivery of the body of their

sectors.

"Our focus at CENTAL is to see a corruption free society, but we alone can't do it by ourselves because the fight against corruption requires a broad stakeholders' engagement for the good of the society," said Cllr. Warner at a local hotel in Sinkor Tuesday, 24 May 2022.

Cllr. Warner's comment came when CENTAL convened a one - day open expenditure dialogue that brought together diverse stakeholders, including ordinary citizens, development partners, policy makers, youths, women groups and the civil society.

In a special remark, Cllr. Warner said corruption undermines the growth and development of any country.

He suggested that CENTAL's decision to have brought various stakeholders together was for them to share knowledge and make inputs on issues including public resources.

Cllr. Warner extended gratitude to the government institutions that were represented, particularly the General Auditing Commission (GAC), among others.

He further thanked CENTAL's

development partners, including the Swedish government, through the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and other partners who have supported CENTAL.

Warner said the institution's work wouldn't have been successful in its research and field trip without the support it receives.

He said it takes long to improve government, and as such, the impact might not be felt at the dialogue.

However, Cllr. Warner noted that there is tremendous progress being made by CENTAL.

For her part, the Program Officer for Democracy and Human Rights at the Swedish Embassy, Ms. Nikolina Stalhand, said transparency and accountability are important preconditions for inclusive development in Liberia.

"The Embassy of Sweden and SIDA are very much committed to the fight against corruption and to promote good governance," she assured.

Here in Liberia, she said CENTAL plays a key role in holding government accountable, thereby encouraging citizens to demand what is right and take action against corruption.

# Corruption fight requires broad stakeholders' engagement

—Cllr. Warner

By Lewis S Teh

The Dean at the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law, University of Liberia (UL) and Board Chair for the Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL), Cllr. T. Negbalee Warner, says the fight against corruption in Liberia requires a broad stakeholders' engagement across all



# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Liberia to tap into China's revolution reforms policy

By Lincoln G. Peters

The People's Republic of China through its Embassy accredited near Monrovia on Wednesday, 25 May 2022 conducted a one-day intensive and interactive lecture series on the secret and enlightenment of the "China reform and opening-up policy" with several ministers, directors of various government ministries and agencies in Liberia.

The intensive and interactive dialogue lecture series was implemented under the auspices of the "Ambassadorial" lecture series of the Chinese Embassy in Liberia.

The initiative aimed at narrating the challenges, success, strategy and progress that China underwent during its reform process, and how Liberia can learn and implement the strategy.

The program brought together Tanneh Brunson, Deputy Minister for Budget and Economic Management, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Vaifee Tulay, Deputy Minister for Fiscal Affairs, Finance, Madam Yaba Thompson, Assistant Minister for International Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and several other government

Ministers and agencies.

Making a powerpoint presentation on the successful experience and enlightenment of China's reform and opening-up policy, Chinese Amb. to Liberia Ren Yisheng said if Liberia will experience reform, the government should first adhere to the centralized and unified leadership of the Party over

determined to reform. From Deng Xiaoping to Xi Jinping, party leaders have all talked about reforms with a clear-cut

"The China reform was in four stages. The first stage was from 1978 to 1992, clarifying the reform goal of establishing a socialist market economic system," he narrated.

"The second stage was



reform.

He said the fundamental reason for the success of reform and opening-up lies in the leadership of the Party.

Firstly, he explained, party leaders have been

from the 14th National Congress of the CPC in 1992 to the 16th National Congress of the CPC in 2002, initially establishing the socialist market economic system framework," the Chinese

Envoy noted.

He said the third stage was from the 16th National Congress of the CPC in 2002 to the 18th National Congress of the CPC in 2012, deepening the reform of the economic system and continuously improving the socialist market economic

system.

He continued that since the 18th National Congress of the CPC in 2012, China's reform has entered a new stage, and the overall goal of comprehensively deepening the reform has been proposed, but the focus is still on the reform of the economic system.

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receivables in Table 3 of the financial statements, we were unable to satisfy ourselves as to the existence, completeness, and collectability of the account receivables", the Commission revealed.

It also noted that for the period under audit, the NRF Management did not disclose in the financial statements, commitments to contractors totaling US\$6,100,508.38, adding that said outstanding commitment is an obligation against the total cash balance of US\$12,936,639.00 brought forward as at 30th June 2020.

"There is a restriction of US\$6,100,508.38 brought forward on the closing cash balance reported in the financial statements. Our opinion is not qualified in respect of the above matters."

But in response, the Manager of the NRF, Boniface D. Satu says he accepts responsibility for the integrity of the financial statements, the financial information they contain and their compliance with provisions of the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act of 2009.

GAC also stressed that the NRF Management is responsible for maintenance of effective control measures and compliance with laws and regulations.

The GAC explained that

western region counties of Grand Cape Mount, Gbarpolu and Bomi, converged in the City of Tubmanburg, Bomi County on May 23, 2022.

The declaration said the delegates have explored the concept and approach of multi-stakeholder partnership as a good way for addressing complex situations such as land governance and responsible agricultural investment in Liberia.

It noted that they have gone through a number of fundamental training and meetings to understanding how multi-stakeholders' processes and partnerships work.

It stated that the delegates have particularly gained some understanding of MAP processes and contents relative to land governance and responsible agricultural investment (RAI) in Liberia; and that they have developed a regional organogram by themselves as a framework to host the MAP Platform in the western region

## Petroleum importers'

management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) Cash Basis, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether as a result of fraud or error.

The General Auditing Commission has conducted an audit of the National Road Fund for the Period July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.

"In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing its ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concerns and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so," GAC said.

Liberia's Auditor General P. Garswa Jackson, Sr., wrote in his report dated 11 March 2022 to the Manager of the National Road Fund Mr. Boniface D. Satu, saying that the NRF Management is responsible for overseeing the Project's financial reporting process.

On the other hand, AG Jackson noted that the objectives of the General Auditing Commission.

of Liberia.

According to the declaration, the delegates have understood the different layers and structures of the MAP Liberia Land Platform; and established clear connections between the western region MAP and the national secretariat in terms of communication, coordination and reporting.

It detailed that the delegates have understood that transparent communication and open dialogue among MAP stakeholders and actors are key to building trust and maintaining relationship; and that they have welcomed and appreciated efforts by the MAP Secretariat to have the Platform decentralized beginning with the western region.

They have expressed gratitude to all the MAP sponsors and supporters as well as international development partners including donors, bilateral and multilateral institutions, and international NGOs supporting the land sector.

## Western Region MAP Platform officially launched

On Monday, 23 May 2022, stakeholders from the three counties in western Liberia - Grand Cape Mount, Gbarpolu and Bomi - convened in the city of Tubmanburg - Bomi County, to officially launch the Multi-Actor Platform on Land Governance and Responsible Agricultural Investment, the MAP Liberia Land Platform.

The Western Region MAP is now the first of three regional structures (Western,

South-Eastern and North-Central) envisioned to be established under the decentralization approach of the MAP.

The launching forum brought together 30 participants comprising representatives of agencies of government, academia and research institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector and local communities.

Following deliberations, delegates at the regional

forum took some key decisions in consideration of how the regional MAP would function.

Those decisions include: defining clear thematic areas and developing terms of references, reviewing and adopting the organizational structure of the regional MAP, defining tenures of leadership (for regional conveners and county facilitators) as well as outlining and agreeing upon clearly defined channels of communication and mode of coordination - at the regional level and with the national secretariat.

The forum ended with an official declaration to launch the western region MAP. Ms. Jenneh Kemokai, Chairperson of Civil Society in Grand Cape Mount County read the 10 counts declaration for the delegates.

She commenced the reading of declaration saying the delegates to the Regional MAP Forum, comprising of representatives of local government, the private sector, academia and research institutions, and communities from the three



# Français

## Le procès de Cummings est une chasse à l'oie sauvage, selon des enquêteurs britanniques

Omnia et Alaco Limited, deux grandes sociétés d'intelligence économique et d'enquête engagées par le chef de l'opposition, M. Alexander B. Cummings, pour enquêter sur le bien-fondé de sa poursuite judiciaire dont il fait l'objet de la part de l'Etat du Libéria, ont publié conjointement des conclusions, expliquant que les preuves qui prétendent étayer les accusations portées contre M. Cummings

"ne sont tout simplement pas conséquentes".

Ces allégations découlent d'un différend interne au sein de la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP), une alliance d'opposition formée par quatre partis politiques de l'opposition Libérien, dont le Congrès national alternatif de M. Cummings, le All Liberian Party (ALP), le Liberty Party (LP) et le Unity Party (UP).

L'ALP qui a porté plainte contre le chef de l'ANC en justice après avoir quitté l'alliance

politique, a fait valoir que M. Cummings et deux autres cadres de son parti ont falsifié les textes qui étaient censés régir la CPP avant de les déposer auprès de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC).

Mais M. Cummings et ses coaccusés nient avec véhémence les allégations de faux et de complot criminel.

En publiant les conclusions de l'enquête conjointe via une présentation virtuelle le mardi 24 mai 2022 depuis le Royaume-Uni, M. Gordon Rainey, chef d'Alaco Limited, a dit qu'à la suite d'un examen complet des preuves qui sont censés établir les faits, Alaco et Omnia ont conclu que ces allégations portées contre M. Cummings et deux de ses fonctionnaires sont entièrement sans fondement.

"Nous pensons donc que cette allégation déposée contre M. Cummings et son équipe est totalement sans fondement et c'est ce que l'enquête a révélé", a ajouté M. Rainey.

Selon lui, l'enquête médico-légale indépendante conjointe spéciale a établi

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## Accusé d'avoir offert une cabane luxueuse à sa femme comme cadeau d'anniversaire, le ministre McGill nie

Le ministre d'État Nathaniel McGill a secoué la tête et fait un signe de la main en tentant de nier la dernière allégation selon laquelle il aurait offert une cabane luxueuse à sa femme comme cadeau d'anniversaire.

Ses actions ont été nombreuses, pas seulement des explications pour apporter de la clarté, mais pourquoi cela doit toujours être lui.

Il s'agit d'une belle petite cabane tapissée de vert avec des tôles de toiture vertes soutenues par des piliers peints en blanc située à quelques mètres au-dessus de la rivière Farmington à Marshall.

À l'entrée de la cabane à palabres se trouve le numéro 36, et inscrit sur la porte de l'entrée principale de la cabane à palabres est "VIM" qui est l'initiale de sa femme-Mme, Vivian Innis McGill.

Cette cabane à palabres, aujourd'hui au centre d'une polémique, est située au

bord d'un lot de terrain sous-développé clôturé dans un mur blanc.

L'allégation

Des médias en ligne ont dit que la cabane à palabres illustrée dans cet article est un palais, en fait un complexe surplombant la rivière Farmington à Marshall. Le rapport alléguait en outre qu'il avait été spécifiquement construit par McGill comme

cadeau d'anniversaire de sa femme qui célébrait son 36e anniversaire.

Extraits du rapport: "Malgré les défis que traverse le pays où il n'y a aucun vaccin dans les hôpitaux du pays pour les nouveau-nés, pendant que les hôpitaux publics sont obligés de fermer en raison du manque d'équipements", M. McGill,

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Éditorial

### Nous saluons l'adoption du projet de loi sur la double nationalité

Enfin, la Chambre des représentants et le Sénat libérien ont adopté le projet de loi sur la double nationalité qui permettra aux Libériens de l'étranger, qui détiennent la citoyenneté de leur pays d'accueil, de conserver leur citoyenneté libérienne.

Le projet de loi en question vise à modifier la partie 3, chapitre 20, sections 20.1, 20.31.30.51 et 20.52 et le chapitre 22, sections 20.2, 20.3 et 20.4 de la loi sur les étrangers et la nationalité du Libéria pour prévoir la double nationalité.

Nous pensons que la décision des membres du parlement libérien est une bonne nouvelle pour les Libériens, aussi bien pour ceux qui sont au pays que pour ceux qui vivent à l'étranger, car cette loi donnera aux Libériens de l'étranger l'occasion de s'engager et de s'impliquer davantage aux activités de développement de leur pays d'origine.

Ce projet de loi aurait dû être adopté lors de l'élection sénatoriale spéciale du 8 décembre 2020, mais le débat a été si fortement politisé qu'il a été rejeté avec d'autres propositions clés telle que la réduction de la durée des mandats présidentiel, le Sénatorial et législatif, entre autres.

Le Libéria est l'un des rares pays de Afrique de l'Ouest à s'octroyer à la double nationalité.

Dans toute la région, les commentateurs affirment que les avantages de la double nationalité l'emportent largement sur les lois en vigueur qui avaient placé un fossé entre les Libériens du pays et les Libériens de la diaspora qui détiennent la citoyenneté de pays étrangers.

Ce changement de cœur et de pensée va sûrement stimuler la croissance par le biais des activités économiques et promouvoir un développement rapide jamais vu depuis les 200 ans d'existence du pays.

C'est pourquoi nous félicitons les hommes et les femmes de la Chambre des représentants et du Sénat libérien d'être parvenus à une pensée commune pour adopter le projet de loi sur la double nationalité pour l'amélioration future de la patrie.

Nous, Libériens, sommes un seul peuple, quelle que soit la partie du monde dans laquelle nous nous trouvons. Le même lien qui nous distingue fièrement en tant que Libériens du reste du monde ne devrait pas être détruit par des lois écrites par l'homme dont le motif est de nous diviser.

Des individus qui adoptent le changement de temps en temps sont non seulement clairvoyants, mais sages et progressistes. Seules les nations progressistes avancent, et avec cette décision unique du parlement libérien, nous pouvons dire avec certitude que le Libéria est prêt à aller de l'avant.

# Français

## Le procès de Cummings

que l'enquête de la CPP n'avait pas pris en compte les preuves clés, montrant l'examen et l'approbation complets des documents-cadres par toutes les parties à l'accord.

Pour sa part, Mme Cherie Blair, épouse de l'ex-Premier ministre britannique Tony Blair, a déclaré que les conclusions de l'enquête conjointe n'examinaient pas les processus en cours au tribunal pour le moment, clarifiant "Ce que nous examinons, c'est le rapport du comité d'enquête et la décision du ministère public de renvoyer l'affaire devant le tribunal ».

Elle fait valoir que le rapport d'enquête ne fournit pas une base appropriée pour des poursuites et que les procureurs ne se comportent pas de manière à ce qu'un véritable procès se déroule.

« Notre enquête a montré que les plaintes initiales contre M. Cummings et la soi-disant enquête de la CPP sont sans espoir. Les preuves ne s'accumulent tout simplement pas », a dit Mme Blair.

Elle a décrit toute l'affaire au mieux comme une chasse à l'oiseau sauvage et au pire comme une chasse aux sorcières, ajoutant "Je ne doute pas que les tribunaux libériens veilleront à ce que justice soit faite".

Dans le cadre du rapport indépendant intitulé « The Framework of Political Prosecution : The Case of Alexander B. Cummings », révèle comment le comité d'enquête de la CPP n'a pas pris en compte les preuves clés montrant l'examen et l'approbation complets du document-cadre par toutes les parties à l'accord.

« Inexplicablement, c'était bien que son propre président ait participé à ce processus de négociation et d'approbation du texte. Cela soulève de sérieuses questions sur la motivation et la compétence du comité », poursuit le rapport.

En réponse, M. Cummings a déclaré que les conclusions du rapport sont concluantes: "Avec le caractère sans fondement des accusations portées contre moi maintenant dévoilé, la vérité - qu'il s'agissait d'une tentative politisée de porter atteinte à mon intégrité et de faire dérailler notre mouvement pour un changement réel - peut prévaloir. »

Le chef de l'ANC soutient qu'il est toujours resté ferme et calme lorsque le gouvernement a violé ses droits nationaux, mais qu'il ne pouvait pas rester calme alors que le procès orchestré par le gouvernement, qui, selon lui, a été une atteinte aux droits démocratiques de tous les Libériens et aux valeurs de la communauté démocratique internationale.

## Accusé d'avoir offert une cabane

comme un homme insensible, est allé jusqu'à "surprendre sa femme avec un cadeau d'une terrasse à la pointe de la technologie construite au milieu de la rivière Farmington à Marshall avec un domaine de plusieurs millions de dollars nommé et dénommé "VIM ISLAND" lors de son 36e anniversaire, affirmant que VIM est l'acronyme de Vivian Innis McGill pour la construction d'un complexe privé coûtant des millions de dollars.

Alors, quelle était l'explication de McGill ?

McGill, après avoir secoué la tête et fait signe avec ses mains, a déclaré que le rapport affirmant qu'il avait construit un complexe hôtelier de plusieurs millions de dollars pour sa femme comme cadeau d'anniversaire n'était tout simplement pas vrai. Il a fait valoir que la propriété en question qui est une hutte à palabre a été construite par sa femme Vivian.

McGill a évalué le coût de

la propriété en question à 25 000 dollars américains, ce qui, selon lui, était purement financé par sa femme et qu'il n'avait aucun rôle à jouer dans sa construction.

Il a expliqué que ce qui était si malhonnête dans cette allégation, c'est le fait que quelqu'un évalue réellement la cabane comme une propriété de plusieurs millions de dollars. Pour lui, cela en dit long sur la mesure dans laquelle les gens sont prêts à calomnier les autres.

Il a invité ce journal à aller visiter la propriété et voir si elle représente les allégations faites et les insinuations lancées dans le public.

Que fait Mme McGill ?

Vivian Innis McGill a travaillé avec le système des Nations Unies sur quelques projets en tant que praticienne du développement.

Ses travaux et activités se sont concentrés sur la vie des femmes, des enfants, des jeunes défavorisés et des personnes extrêmement pauvres.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Werner Hoyer

## Consensus climatique au Moyen-Orient

LUXEMBOURG - À Ramallah, la semaine dernière, j'ai parlé avec une adolescente nommée Miriam, qui souhaitait faire savoir combien lui a été utile l'une des 450 écoles alimentées en électricité par l'énergie solaire que la Banque européenne d'investissement a financées en Cisjordanie. S'exprimant dans un anglais parfait, Miriam était tout à fait consciente des défis posés par le changement climatique à la région. Mais elle était aussi pleine d'optimisme, et extraordinairement éloquente lorsqu'elle expliquait pourquoi le Moyen-Orient a besoin d'en faire plus pour capter les rayons du soleil, l'une des rares sources d'énergie propre dont il dispose en abondance.

Le lendemain, le Premier ministre israélien, Naftali Bennett, me rappelait que la BEI avait contribué à financer quatre des six usines de désalinisation d'Israël, dont celle qui, lorsqu'elle deviendra opérationnelle, en 2023, sera la plus importante au monde. Ce qu'il illustra d'une métaphore plaisante : presque les deux tiers de nos verres d'eau provenaient de projets soutenus par la BEI. Dans une région où la population croît, les Israéliens savent que des pénuries d'eau pourraient facilement déboucher sur de nouveaux conflits. Ils souhaitent développer des capacités de désalinisation plus importantes, afin d'être en mesure d'échanger de l'eau contre de l'énergie propre.

Les régimes de précipitation perturbés, les pénuries d'eau, et les événements météorologiques extrêmes de plus en plus fréquents - notamment les vagues de chaleur et les incendies - touchent aussi bien les Israéliens que les Palestiniens, et la nécessité de s'attaquer au problème semble l'une des rares questions sur lesquelles les deux parties sont d'accord. C'est ce que m'ont confirmé mes conversations avec le Premier ministre de l'Autorité palestinienne, Mohammad Shtayeh. Dans un contexte de conflit, alors que presque toutes les mesures sont considérées comme profitant aux uns dans la mesure où elles nuisent aux autres, les projets liés au climat sont une exception.

Lors d'un discours au mois de février, le président israélien, Isaac Herzog, faisait observer que l'intensification des épisodes d'extrême chaleur constituait pour la région un avertissement. « S'il en est qui ne comprennent pas ce que cela signifie, laissez-moi leur expliquer : cela s'appelle une catastrophe, une authentique catastrophe », a-t-il lancé. « La crise climatique touche le monde entier, et nous autres, au Moyen-Orient, devons d'abord la comprendre au niveau régional, car ses conséquences seront terribles. »

Herzog s'est alors fait l'avocat d'un partenariat régional pour la création d'un « Moyen-Orient renouvelable ». Le projet

comprendrait les Émirats arabes unis, l'Égypte, la Jordanie, Bahreïn, le Maroc, l'Arabie saoudite et les « voisins palestiniens » d'Israël. Néanmoins, si l'Autorité palestinienne a donné une impulsion à des mesures en faveur du climat, il faudra des investissements considérables pour que ces idées se traduisent par des collectes à grande échelle d'eau potable provenant de l'usine centrale de désalinisation de Gaza et d'énergie solaire provenant de Cisjordanie.

Ces grands projets d'atténuation du changement climatique et d'adaptation à ses conséquences seront nécessaires pour gérer les problèmes humanitaires, environnementaux et économiques qu'il va poser. De retour au Luxembourg après ma visite dans la région, il m'apparaît plus clairement que jamais qu'il nous faut miser sur le « consensus climatique » pour profiter de la dynamique qui a lancé les projets de transformation en faveur du climat conçus au titre du Pacte vert pour l'Europe. Ces investissements, qui permettront à l'Europe d'atteindre la neutralité carbone d'ici 2050, peuvent aussi contribuer à renforcer la stabilité au Moyen-Orient et à y améliorer la situation économique.

Ma foi dans le pouvoir de transformation que peuvent avoir des investissements climatiques adaptés n'a fait que s'affermir avec le temps. Au cours de ces dernières années, la BEI est devenue le premier financeur multilatéral de la planète pour les projets en faveur du climat, et s'est engagée pour au moins 1 000 milliards d'euros (1 050 milliards de dollars) d'investissements sur cette décennie. Néanmoins, dans une région aussi complexe que le Moyen-Orient, il faudra plus que des financements pour faire aboutir ces projets. Nous aurons besoin d'une coopération renforcée entre les pays concernés et avec des parties prenantes extérieures comme les États-Unis et l'Union européenne.

La nouvelle représentation de la BEI pour la Cisjordanie et Gaza, installée à Jérusalem, qui a ouvert ses portes de mois-ci, peut contribuer à dynamiser ces efforts communs. Elle développera des partenariats et une coopération plus solide en Cisjordanie et à Gaza, tout en soutenant des projets transfrontaliers dans la région, qui ont vocation à transformer les choses. Ainsi sera-t-elle un élément clé de la diplomatie climatique de l'Union au Moyen-Orient.

Notre objectif est de contribuer à amplifier, dans une perspective européenne, ce que John Kerry, l'envoyé spécial du président des États-Unis pour le climat, a entrepris avec sa campagne diplomatique en faveur de la mise en place progressive d'une capacité de production d'énergie renouvelable. Cela signifie le financement du développement à grande échelle des renouvelables, la coopération hydrique dans la région et la construction d'un consensus climatique encore plus solide.

Je suis convaincu que si la diplomatie climatique

# LIBERIANS

# DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

President George Manneh Weah is seeking a second term in 2023. While some Liberians think he deserves a second term, others say not much has been achieved since Mr. Weah came to power in 2018, pointing to massive corruption that has claimed attention of the international community and growing insecurity across the country, among others.

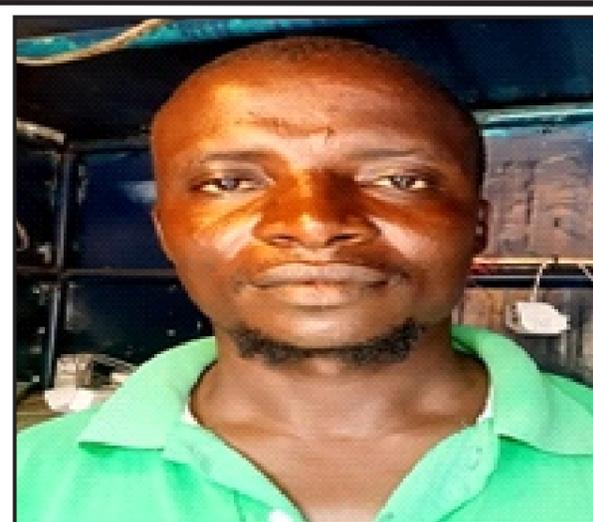
In this random interview, the New Dawn asks some Monrovia residents whether the Weah administration deserves another six years term or it should exit the Executive Mansion after 2023, as compiled below.



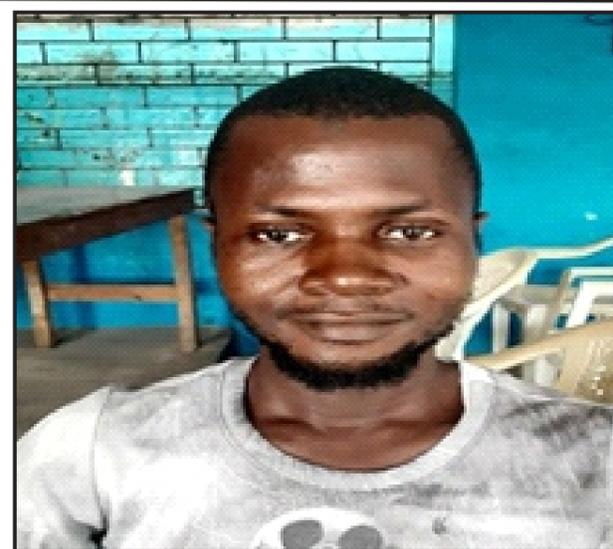
Joseph Yarsiah

“No, President Weah should not be given a second term because the economic system in the country is very bad; lack of job, no improvement and I’m not seeing anything moving in the country. We need somebody that will lift up the country now.”

“I don’t support President Weah’s second term bid, because since George Weah became President, no vocation jobs in the country; everything’s just turned outside down. Today, our own currency, we can’t get small banknotes in the country; people are just crying all over the place because of change.”



Sherman Gbey



Mohammed Siryon

“For my point of view, I will say No, Liberians should not give President Weah a second term, because there are so many reasons, but I will just outline three: One is insecurity for the citizens, rampant corruption in the government and the wellbeing of citizens in terms of safe drinking water and electricity; these are the three important reasons from my point of view why President Weah should not be given a second term.”



Grace Barcon

“Yes, Liberians on roads development should give President Weah a second term because he is carrying students’ WASSCE fees.”

“I support the second term bid of President Weah, because of the learning development and things that he is carrying on in the country. Examples: roads connectivity and Education. In the line of Education, at least he is trying because he pays WASSCE fees for all high school students and University of Liberia is tuition-free, so he is trying in all aspects.”



Augustine Zulu

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# Gongloe takes anti-Weah gospel to America

Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe has begun spreading his anti-Weah reelection gospel in earnest taking his crusade to America- the home of over half a million Liberians quoting reasons while the former soccer legend should not be given the helm of affairs of tiny west African country in 2023.

Cllr. Gongloe, popularly referred to here as a poor man lawyer has been preaching to a section of Liberians in the diaspora that

support his political ambition ahead of 2023.

He has been holding meetings with various states' chapters of Team Gongloe, Liberian communities and ordinary people on his visit there.

Gongloe during his meetings with diaspora compatriots has maintained that at the moment the country is gradually slipping away.

He argued that it is returning to the ugly past of various regimes where rules

figures of both past and present regimes in Liberia and well-wishers.

Gongloe is said to be on a 3 months tour of the United States and is expected to spread his messages to Liberians and Americans during most of his engagements, among which he intends to boast of his public service record.

He believes that he is not the only qualified person in terms of education, but he is the most suitable person with impeccable character and integrity who Liberians can trust.

The former Liberian Bar Association President also believes that he is the only person who can redeem Liberia from its present predicament mainly whenever it comes to the fight against waste and abuse but most so, corruption and poverty reduction.

Gongloe arrived in the United States on Friday, 13 May, to rally support for his presidential bid ahead of next year's presidential and legislative election which is expected to be tense.

Since his arrival, he has met various groupings or organizations as well as prominent individuals of the Liberian communities in Atlanta, Philadelphia and Ohio who are solely interested in his ambition.

This Friday, 27 and 28 Saturday, May, Gongloe is expected to hold town hall meetings with the Friends of Gongloe, its board of directors and coordinators and also attend the convention of the United Nimba Citizens' Council or UNICCO.

He is also expected to hold a teleconference today (Wednesday, May 25) with the Friends of Gongloe discussing matters of importance which

of law, and law and order were not respected, making the population not knowing who to turn to for redress.

At one of his Town Hall meetings over the weekend, Liberian radicals including human rights campaigners, political activists, and members of Gongloe own Movement for Justice in Africa (MOJA) were all present.

Others represented were from the LPP USA chapters as well as some prominent

a re-election of President George Weah in 2023 will spell doom for Liberia and pave the way for disastrous in term of the continued bad governance in the country.

Gongloe, the presumptive presidential hopeful of the Liberian People's Party (LPP's) is awaiting his party's confirmation at the pending convention scheduled at the end of this year is currently touring the United States. He expects to win hearts and minds of Liberians there to

# AML, GoL draw battle line

By Jonathan Browne

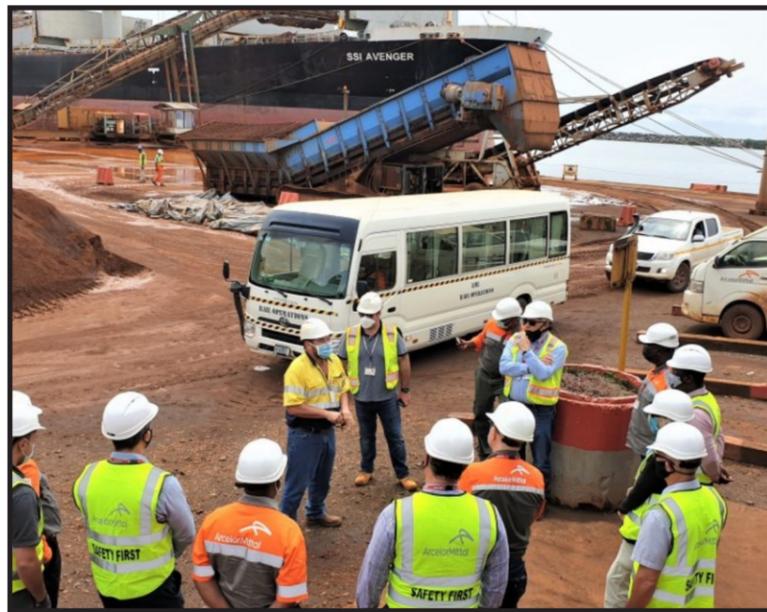
An emerging battle line seems to be emerging between the Government of Liberia and ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) over an amended Mineral Development Agreement that has become a bone of contention with both parties claiming breaches.

The 54th Liberian Legislature recently returned the MDA to the Executive for renegotiation, citing several reservations after citizens in the concession areas complained of lack of social development, including infrastructures.

Barrage of written communications between AML and the Government here appear to indicate that

all sides are holding their separate grounds, going forth and backward with self-interpretations of the MDA.

In its concerns addressed to the Government of Liberia on Friday 22 April 2022, AML's parent body ArcelorMittal, says it has become aware of



are cardinal to his successful electioneering.

On Sunday, 29 May, the Liberian community including their churches will hold intercessory prayer service for the presidential hopeful in Ohio after which there will be a meeting with TEAM GONGLOE of

the North Dakota branch.

From Friday, 10 June to Sunday, 10 July, Gongloe will hold town hall meetings in Minnesota, Philadelphia, Staten Island, Trenton Town, Boston, Washington DC among others before wrapping up his engagement.

Starts from page 7

and gender-based abuses.”

The Liberian Vice President thanks the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Center and the Catholic Relief Services for undertaking the training of Civil Society Organizations and local community leaders about the danger of gender-based violence in the society.

Earlier in welcome remarks, the Commandant of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Center, Major General Francis Ofori, said the training is intended to enhance capacity of local community leaders in order to address high rate of rape in the world,

the existence of certain agreements that the government has sought to conclude with third parties, including licenses that it notes, the Minister of Mines and Energy has purportedly issued to third parties, which it observes that on their face, and based on the limited information presently available, gives rise to breaches of AM's rights under the MDA.

“These apparent violations are at odds with the government's legal obligations towards AM, and if remained undressed, risk bringing about irreparable harm to AM's current operations and future business plan”, the company expresses.

It notes that most importantly, these alleged breaches call into question the government's commitment to its longstanding partnership with AM.

AM reminds that in previous communication with the government thru its letters dated 19 June 2020 and 13 July 2020, respectively, the Government has Mineral Exploration License for iron ore to Solway Mining Incorporated, and contends that under the MDA, it (AM) enjoys “exclusive” right to conduct exploration, development, production and marketing of “iron ore and associated products”, as well as rehabilitation of the associated infrastructure in the Concession Area, citing Article IV(1) of the MDA.

It argues that Solway license is for iron ore and the relevant area is within AM's Concession Area, saying “Accordingly, it is patently clear that the issuance of the Solway License violates AM's exclusive rights under the MDA.”

The company also asserts that over the past 16 years (2005--2022), it has invested more than US\$1.6 billion in

## VP Taylor upset

including the West African region.

He said the workshop is also aimed at enhancing individual skills, shape attitudes while building a sense of team work and collaboration of local actors.

“It is our expectation that you participants will this workshop to strengthening your capacity and add value to your professional life as you continue to fight against gender-based violence in the country”, General Ofori said.

For her part, the Country Manager for the Catholic Relief Service, Dr. Abena Amedormey, notes that gender inequality has critical impact and it intersects with entrenched poverty, vulnerability and injustice.

Liberia and created over 1,000 jobs for Liberians.

However, the government counters that it had adequately addressed AM's concerns about issuance of Mineral Exploration Licenses to Solway Mining Incorporated for iron ore and graphite and other companies.

“Since you appear to be undeniably oblivious of our previous communications which lay clear the legal and technical premises for our decision to issue these licenses, we wish to restate that the issuance of mineral right over the former LAMCO Concession Area by the Ministry of Mines and Energy and the assertion that the affected rights fall within AML's Concession Area were done in line with the definition of the Mineral and Mining Laws of 2000 that clearly created the platform for said discussion”, a Ministry of Mines and Energy's letter dated 23 May 2022 to ArcelorMittal reads.

The letter issued under the signature of Minister Gesler E. Murray's argues that while AML obtained assets of the former LAMCO Concession Area under the MDA of 2005 and subsequent of Amendment of 2006/2007, the company did not automatically acquire any production or exploration areas for the exploration and exploitation of iron ore thereon.

It emphasizes that because AML declared Production Area in 2005 and was issued a Class A Mining License over the declared area (Mts. Tokedeh, Gangra, Yuelliton) on September 1, 2005, its mineral rights over the former LAMCO Concession areas were trimmed and restricted to the Class A Mineral License area, and areas containing the assets and facilities of the former LAMCO for operation. Coming up GoL accuses AML of not living up to 2005/2013 MDA

## Petroleum importers' arrears in millions



Oil which had an arrear of 5,982,251.66. In 2021, it paid 59,540, leaving a balance of 5,922,711.25.

Aminata & Sons had an arrear of 688,982.20; in 2021 it paid 21,064, leaving a balance of 667,918.64. Conex had an arrear of 7,116,278.00; it paid 412,629 in 2021, leaving a balance of 6,703,649.31.

West Oil had -6,132.19 and it paid 274,475, leaving -280,607.65. LPRC had 5,826,829.51 and it did pay 400,000.00 in 2019/ 2020, leaving 5,426,829.51.

In its recent report, the GAC the GAC audit drew specific attention to Table #3 of the NRF financial statement in which Management reported a total of US\$22,212,538.00 as receivables due from petroleum importers for fuel levy charges, but observed a net variance of (US\$6,164,455.01) between the receivables reported in the financial statements and the amount confirmed by petroleum importers.

"Due to the importers' failure to fully confirm the accounts

Following the General Auditing Commission's (GAC's) audit of the National Road Fund (NRF), grading the NRF's financial statements as fair in all material respects, the NewDawn newspaper has seen an Excel spreadsheet that details the arrears of petroleum importers in millions of United States dollars with no payment made from 2019 to 2021 to settle these arrears. Out of a total of 12

petroleum importers listed on the spreadsheet, four did not make any payment towards their arrears.

They include Petro Trade which has an arrear of 603,065.12; NP Liberia with an arrear of 15,820.48; Nexium with 17,075.10 arrears, and Kailondo Petroleum, with an arrear in the tune of 94,886.23.

Other petroleum importers had arrears but they made some payments. They include Srimex Gas and

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