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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2022	L\$150.7073 /US\$1.00	L\$152.3686/US\$1

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

Sudan Lifts State of Emergency Imposed Since Coup

Sudan's army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan on Sunday lifted a state of emergency imposed since last year's military coup, the ruling sovereign council said.

Burhan "issued a decree lifting the state of emergency nationwide," the council said in a statement.

The order was made "to prepare the atmosphere for a fruitful and meaningful dialogue that achieves stability for the transitional period," it added.

Sunday's decision came after a meeting with senior military officials recommending the state of emergency be lifted and people detained under an emergency law be freed.

It also came after the latest calls by U.N. special representative Volker Perthes for removing the state of emergency, following the killing of two protesters during anti-coup protests on Saturday.

Sudan has been rocked by mass protests since the coup, which have been met by a violent crackdown that has left

nearly 100 people dead and hundreds wounded, according to pro-democracy medics.

Hundreds of activists have also been rounded up in the clampdown under emergency laws.

On Sunday, military officials also recommended allowing the live TV unit of the Qatar-based network Al Jazeera to resume operations in Sudan, after authorities banned it in January for "unprofessional" coverage of protests.

Sudan has been reeling from deepening unrest since Burhan led the October 25 coup, upending a fragile transition following the 2019 ouster of President Omar al-Bashir.

The military takeover triggered widespread international condemnation and punitive measures, including crucial aid cuts by Western governments pending the resumption of the transition to civilian rule.

Sudan, one of the world's poorest countries, is also

struggling from a plunging economy due to decades of international isolation and mismanagement under Bashir.

The United Nations, along with the African Union and regional bloc IGAD, have been pushing to facilitate Sudanese-led talks to resolve the crisis.

Western governments have backed the UN-AU-IGAD bid and urged Sudanese factions to participate in the process.

Burhan has pledged to free political detainees to set the stage for talks among Sudanese factions.

Last month, Sudanese authorities released several anti-coup civilian leaders arrested in the crackdown. VOA



Protesters, some holding placards, rally outside a court in Sudan's capital of Khartoum, May 29, 2022

Samuel Kanu: Nigeria's Methodist Church leader kidnapped

The head of the Methodist Church in Nigeria, Samuel Kanu, has been abducted along with two other priests on their way back from a church event.

The men were travelling on a major highway on Sunday in the south-eastern state of Abia when they were kidnapped, local police told the BBC.

It is not clear who is responsible, but separatist groups frequently carry out abductions in the region.

Police say they have launched a rescue mission to find the clerics.

"His Eminence, Samuel Kanu, is a peace-loving Christian leader" whose abduction "came as a shock", the Very Rev Nosakhare Nosayaba of Abuja's

Methodist Cathedral of Unity told the BBC.

"We are holding an hourly chain-prayer for him and the other priests he was kidnapped with. He was actually preparing for his retirement later this year." Kidnappings, often for ransom, are common in many parts of Nigeria.

There has also been a resurgence of attacks by armed gangs, including Islamist militant groups in the north, as the country prepares for a general election next year.



Colleagues say Samuel Kanu had been planning to retire later this year

Much of the unrest in Nigeria's south-east region stems from separatists who are demanding a breakaway state.

The government blames the Indigenous People of Biafra (Ipub) movement for many attacks in the region, which Ipub denies. But the group continues to enforce sit-at-home orders on Mondays, which are usually preceded by attacks on Sunday evenings to scare people into complying.

However it is not known who abducted the clergymen on Sunday, and a number of recent

Clashes between Chad gold miners leave 100 dead



Fighting between informal gold miners in a remote part of northern Chad has left around 100 people dead and 40 injured, the government says.

What began as a "mundane dispute between two individuals... degenerated", Defence Minister Daoud Yaya Brahim told the AFP news agency.

The mountainous Kouri Bougoudi district near the Libyan border attracts miners from across Chad and its neighbours.

The clashes occurred last week but details are only emerging now.

Some groups have put the death toll higher than the authorities, and have blamed the security forces for a number of the deaths.

The government sent a mission to the affected area - about 1,000km (620 miles) north-east of the capital, N'Djamena - when news of violence first came through. A large military contingent has restored calm to the area, Gen Brahim is quoted by AFP as saying.

He added that the clashes were between people from Mauritania and Libya.

But last week, Mahamat Nour Ibedou, the head of Chad's National Human Rights Commission, said the soldiers who were sent to intervene "fired on people", AFP quotes him as saying.

He, and an opposition leader, put the death toll at 200, but the authorities deny this and say they were not responsible, AFP reports.

All gold mining activities in Kouri Bougoudi have now been suspended. BBC

violent attacks in the country remain unsolved.

Recently a local MP was kidnapped by unknown gunmen. His headless body was later found.

In April, a male and a female soldier who hoped to get married were beheaded when they travelled to the

region to inform their relatives about their planned wedding.

In a separate incident on Sunday morning, two people were abducted when gunmen entered their home in Lafia, Nasarawa state, near the capital Abuja. One person was shot dead during the attack. BBC

EDITORIAL

Letter to the Liberian Council of Churches

THE ELECTION OF Baptist Preacher Rev. Dr. Samuel Reeves, a summersaulted Clergyman, as President of the Liberian Council of Churches (LCC) alongside Rev. Sanjee Abioseh, a ranking member of the now splintered pressure group, Council of Patriots (CoP) as 2nd Vice President, respectively is not only embarrassing, but seriously mindboggling. The LCC, once revered as the “conscience of the nation”, seems to have lost its steam.

THE ELECTION OF Dr. Reeves to head the LCC is being criticized across the Liberian society because he abandoned the flock that God had placed in his care, suspended the most sacred duty of preaching God’s word in 2017 and became running mate of former Presidential candidate Dr. Mills Jones on the ticket of the Movement for Economic Empowerment (MOVEE).

HOWEVER, AFTER THE poll, he summersaulted, picking up the Holy Bible and returning to the pulpit at the Provident Baptist Church on Broad Street in Monrovia, where he has been up to his election as President of the LCC.

IT IS THIS FLIP-FLOPPING history of Dr. Reeves that has raised public apprehension, and rightly so, about his level-headedness in steering the affairs of the LCC, as the country goes to general and presidential elections in 2023.

MANY LIBERIANS ARE asking whether the LCC, under the presidency of Dr. Reeves, would raise an independent voice in future political issues and gain public trust without his past hunting him. Besides, can 2nd Vice President Rev. Abioseh take on government, while keeping one leg with the CoP?

LIBERIANS WOULD LOVE to see a leadership for the LCC that holds no political ties whether in the past or present so that when it speaks on societal ills, it would do so with an open mind and a free conscience.

WE LONG TO see a LCC like the days of retired Methodist Bishop Dr. Alfred Flomo Kula, late Catholic Archbishop Michael Kpakala Francis, and retired Episcopal Bishop George D. Brown, who were truly consciences of the nation.

THEY SPOKE TO power without fear or favor, and were always on the side of the greater good. Indeed, those days are gone, but we think there is a lot that the post-war LCC can learn from to make Liberia better.

HAVING A LCC president, who has tasted politics to speak on political issues without having his views questioned, is the most notable challenge awaiting Dr. Reeves’ leadership.

HE WOULD ALWAYS have to look over his shoulders before taking a stance on behalf of the entire body. But most importantly, it would be the messenger, not the message that would take the bullets.

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COMMENTARY

By Jayati Ghosh

Employment in the Platform Age

NEW DELHI - One of the most significant socioeconomic changes accelerated by COVID-19 must surely be the rise of digital labor platforms. Of course, platform-based employment had already been growing exponentially before the pandemic. But the combination of lockdowns and stay-at-home orders, and the consequent greater reliance on remote work, has dramatically increased both their spread and intensity of use.

Until recently, there had been relatively little discussion of what the rapid proliferation of digital employment platforms meant for the nature of work and the employment relationship. But an important recent report from the International Labour Organization provides answers to many questions - and raises several more that policymakers and regulators need to address.

What exactly is platform-based work? Platforms are effectively digital marketplaces, connecting producers and consumers of goods and services - and in the case of employment platforms, connecting workers with those who would use their labor.

Digital labor platforms differ significantly from employment exchanges of old, owing to their diffuse and apparently non-hierarchical nature. They also give the impression of hands-off objectivity, by supposedly simply aggregating agents’ desires and responses, although the algorithms used in such aggregation have been shown to generate their own forms of hierarchy and discrimination.

The ILO report focuses on two main types of digital labor platforms. Location-based platforms provide work or services within a specified physical area. They include taxi and delivery services, domestic services like cleaning and repair, and various forms of care provision.

Online web-based platforms, meanwhile, cover tasks that could be performed anywhere in the world. These could be specific short-duration assignments like annotating images or transcribing videos, or involve complex and highly skilled work such as translation, legal or financial services, design and software development, and data analytics.

Both types of platform have expanded dramatically, but people tend to be more aware of location-based platforms because of their near-ubiquity in some places. The ILO estimates that the number of platforms worldwide increased from 142 in 2010 to almost 800 in 2020, with online web-based platforms tripling in number while location-based platforms grew almost tenfold.

Today, all kinds of businesses - from Fortune 500 companies to start-ups and small enterprises seeking people to perform specific tasks - rely on online employment platforms. In general, platforms drastically reduce search costs for both workers and those who would use their services.

Estimates of the number of people who obtain work through these platforms are hard to come by, partly because it is not clear how many regard them as their only source of income. But some surveys suggest that the proportion of the population in Europe that has done some platform work ranges from 9-22%.

Most digital labor platforms operate by accessing and sharing information about workers with those who might use them. Their own employee base tends to be very small compared to the number of workers with whom they deal indirectly. For

example, the freelance work platform PeoplePerHour has only around 50 employees, but as an intermediary it provides work for around 2.4 million skilled workers.

The ILO report provides much new information, based on a global survey of 12,000 platform workers. Workers engaged in location-based platforms generated the bulk of their earnings from that source, and around one-third of online-platform workers (more in developing countries) relied primarily on this employment for their income.

Interestingly, cross-country wage differentials persist on online platforms, even though platforms should confer no geographic disadvantage. The ILO survey found that on freelance platforms, for example, workers in developing countries earned on average 60% less than those in developed countries, even after controlling for basic characteristics like age and education and the types of tasks performed.

The crux of the issue is that those obtaining work through digital labor platforms are effectively self-employed, with the platform itself bearing no responsibility for wages or remuneration, or working hours and conditions. Some location-based platforms, particularly delivery and taxi services, have come under regulatory and legal scrutiny in countries seeking to treat them as employers, but this is still the exception.

Furthermore, platform work - no matter how highly skilled - typically commands piece-rate wages. All the problems facing piece-rate workers since time immemorial are starkly evident: income insecurity, a highly unequal distribution of risk, and a tendency to self-exploitation that undermines any notion of worker autonomy and flexibility.

Then there are the concerns about the platforms’ often opaque algorithms, and the fees and commissions they charge workers, who generally lack redress for any grievance, and often have no real communication with those running the platform. Moreover, their awareness of faceless global competition may intensify their feeling of powerlessness, and subject workers to ever greater downward pressure on the pay rate.

This is truly a brave new world for workers, with some fresh opportunities and numerous challenges. In many advanced economies, platforms are typically associated with the informalization of the workforce. But in developing countries with mostly informal workers, platforms can sometimes be a step to formalization.

How can regulation address this new-old employment relationship that seems so skewed against workers? Clearly, we need to rethink what constitutes an employer, and specify both their responsibilities and workers’ rights in more detail. We also need more extensive and flexible considerations of labor standards that extend to piece-rate work.

Only some of this can be done at the national level. Because digital labor platforms operate across multiple jurisdictions, international policy coordination also is essential. Now that the world is once again recognizing the importance of global dialogue and cooperation, regulation of platform work should be put on the agenda.

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.

O-PED

By Diane Coyle

The Dangers of Data-Based Certainty

CAMBRIDGE - Friends of mine who work in the arts and humanities have started doing something unusual, at least for them: poring over data. This is due to the pandemic, of course. Every day, they check COVID-19 case numbers, how slowly or quickly the R factor is declining, and how many people in our area got vaccinated the day before.

Meanwhile, social media are full of claims and counterclaims about all manner of other data. Is global poverty declining or increasing? What is the real level of US unemployment? The scrutiny, sometimes leading to tetchy arguments, results from people's desire to cite - or challenge - the authority of data to support their position or worldview.

But in other areas where data are used, there is remarkably little focus on its reliability or interpretation. One striking example I have noticed recently concerns the "CAPTCHA" tests designed to protect websites against bots, which ask you to prove your humanity by identifying images containing common features such as boats, bicycles, or traffic lights. If your choice - even if correct - differs from that of the machine system using your selection to train an image-recognition algorithm, you will be deemed inhuman.

In this example, the machine's error is obvious, although there is no appeal against it if you want to access the website it is guarding. But in other cases, it may not be possible to identify what conclusions either machine-learning systems or human analysts are drawing when they put more weight on data than the data can bear.

Economists are rushing to embrace the use of big data in their research, while many policymakers think artificial intelligence offers scope for greater cost-effectiveness and better policy outcomes. But before we entrust more decisions to data-based machine-learning and AI systems, we must be clear about the limitations of the data.

Already, too little attention is paid to the uncertainties inherent in economic data. Although policymakers generally appreciate that even something as basic as GDP growth is subject to large uncertainties and revisions, it seems impossible to stop people from building narratives on weak foundations.

For example, cross-country comparisons of the pandemic's impact on national GDP are fraught with difficulty, owing to differences in economic structure and statistical methodology. But that does not stop claims about which economies are weathering the crisis better or worse.

Or consider the "true" rate of inflation. Seemingly technical disputes about how best to construct a price index mask profound distributional conflicts, such as those between borrowers and bond holders, or workers and employers.

The data we use shape our view of a complex, changing world. But data represent reality from a particular perspective. Data of the kind deployed in policy debates are rarely completely unanchored from the world they describe, but the lens they provide can be sharp or blurry - and there is no escaping the perspective they offer.

One possible reason for the current distrust of economic "expertise" is the growing gap between top-down, technical economic assessments based on familiar data series, and an alternative world of more granular data presenting the bottom-up picture. Standard economic statistics capture average experience, which ceases to be typical when people's fortunes diverge.

In general, advocates of evidence-based policy are aware of the inherent uncertainty of available data. Researchers take great care regarding sampling, the scope for error, and the limitations of the data-collection method used. But the degree of false certainty tends to increase with proximity to policy and political decision-making. Former US President Harry S. Truman is far from the only politician to have expressed impatience with economists who say, "On the one hand..." then, "but on the other."

But the current hunger for data-based certainty is becoming dangerous as we increasingly rely on technocratic decision procedures - including machine-learning systems - for policymaking in areas such as criminal justice, policing, and welfare. Democracies often rely on constructive ambiguity to reconcile conflicting interests, such as those regarding the distribution of returns to an asset, or to address the question of whether law-enforcement authorities should err on the side of imprisoning innocent people or letting criminals walk free. Claims to data-based authority minimize or eliminate the scope of ambiguity, with potentially significant consequences.

I am all in favor of more and better data, which have been essential to governments' efforts to manage the pandemic. But the more we use data to make decisions, the more sensitive we must be to the fact that data paint an expert's- or machine's-eye view, based on categories devised by someone who is themselves a player in society's status game. Otherwise, we will end up with decision processes just like those rogue CAPTCHA tests - insisting that a boat is a bicycle, and leaving other people with no choice but to agree.

Diane Coyle, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge, is the author, most recently, of Markets, State, and People: Economics for Public Policy.

OPINION

By Daron Acemoglu

Biden's Great Tax Rebalancing

BOSTON - US President Joe Biden's spending plans have been grabbing headlines, and rightly so. The administration's relief package and infrastructure plan could remake the US welfare state by bolstering the social safety net and increasing spending on transportation, broadband, and education.

But with US government spending likely to remain high after the COVID-19 pandemic, tax revenues must increase, because additional borrowing can finance only so much. Hence, the Biden administration has proposed the equally sweeping Made in America Tax Plan, which would increase corporations' share of tax revenues.

Raising the corporate tax rate is the best option. In the first decade after World War II, taxes on individual incomes and social insurance receipts made up about 50% of federal tax revenues, while corporate taxes accounted for another 30%. But since then, the former category has increased steadily, reaching about 85% of total federal tax revenues, while the corporate share has fallen below 10%.

Moreover, US corporate profits have never been higher, while the share of national income accruing to labor has declined from about 66% to 58%, indicating that workers have been paying an ever-larger share of total taxes even as they have been getting a diminishing share of the economic pie. My own research finds similarly high imbalances in the effective marginal tax rates on labor (more than 25%) and on capital investments such as software and equipment (5%).

These marginal rates are what guide corporate investment decisions. Under the current US tax structure, corporations have much stronger incentives to pursue excessive automation than to employ, train, and properly pay workers. But automation is not the only technological path open to US businesses. With different incentives, they would instead invest in technologies designed to make workers more productive. All told, the deep imbalances in the current tax structure are costing the US economy not just in terms of employment, but also in decreased productive efficiency and growth.

While the Trump administration's 2017 tax bill slashed the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, the corporate share of total tax revenues has been declining for a half-century. Many businesses have become private partnerships or S-Corporations, which are exempt from corporate income taxes. Another major contributor to this trend has been depreciation allowances, which enable corporations to deduct investment expenditures from their taxable income.

Biden's promise to increase the headline corporate tax rate from 21% to 28% is therefore an important step, but insufficient in itself. It will neither level the playing field between capital and labor, nor stop US-based corporations from engaging in "tax inversions" to flee to other jurisdictions or from shifting their profits to foreign subsidiaries. Footloose corporate profits have been a leading factor in the long-term reduction of tax rates on capital and corporations, and multinationals would still have a full bag of tricks for reducing their reported US profits, such as internal financial transactions to increase their debt obligations in the United States and using foreign subsidiaries to overcharge their US branches (transfer pricing).

Fortunately, the Biden plan includes a second pillar to address precisely this problem: a global minimum corporate tax.

In theory, the idea is simple. Ideally, tax rates would be hiked substantially in Ireland, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Panama, the British Virgin Islands, and other jurisdictions that allow corporations to evade their tax obligations through "arbitrage." If not, a company headquartered in the US and subject to the 21% global minimum corporate tax rate that reports all of its profits in Ireland, where the corporate tax rate is 12.5%, would be assessed additional US taxes equivalent to 8.5% of its profits.

Of course, the policy would be more complicated in practice. Low-tax jurisdictions have come to rely so much on tax-dodging international businesses that they have spurned coordination. Faced with the global minimum tax rate in the US, some may be tempted to relocate their headquarters to such countries (which is why the Biden tax plan also includes provisions to prevent evasive corporate flight). If some of the most notorious tax havens refused to cooperate, any new international framework would fail.

This is where US leadership comes in. The US has incredible fiscal power, not just as the world's largest economy, but also as the regulatory headquarters of the global financial industry. If US policymakers lead with enough conviction, other countries will be forced to follow. Biden's tax plan already contains provisions to prevent tax inversions and includes proposals for limiting tax deductions for multinationals engaged in tax arbitrage. The US can also take legal action against foreign financial institutions involved in tax fraud and systematic innovation, and can work multilaterally to bring greater harmonization to the international taxation of corporate incomes.

If implemented fully, a global minimum corporate tax rate would revolutionize international capital taxation. But even this would not solve America's fiscal problems. To reverse the unfair and inefficient reduction of the corporate tax burden, the Biden administration must also end excessively generous depreciation allowances and broaden the tax base, so that companies cannot avoid taxes simply by changing their legal status.

Greater corporate taxation should be accompanied by other measures to encourage investment and innovation. In addition to subsidizing research and development, the state can do more to help increase the supply of well-trained engineers, scientists, and skilled workers, and to facilitate the diffusion of technological know-how.

With a more level playing field between capital and labor, companies can be induced to develop and adopt new technologies that increase worker productivity, rather than continuing the trend of excessive automation that has shaped the US economy for the past two decades. Part and parcel of this effort will be action to end the dominance of just a few companies in the technology sector.

A fairer tax system would not solve all of America's economic problems on its own. But it would be a significant step in the right direction, helping workers and the economy while also stemming the alarming rise in federal debt.

Daron Acemoglu, Professor of Economics at MIT, is co-author (with James A. Robinson) of Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty and The Narrow Corridor: States, Societies, and the Fate of Liberty.

Ministry of Finance & Development Planning

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES (FIRM) (THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT POLICY AND MANUAL)

(REP No. MFDP/CONS/004/2022)

I. Background

In 2012 Liberia transitioned from line-item budgeting to the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) which interfaced the Public Sector Investment Program (PSIP) and the recurrent portions of the budget.

The PIU has made strides working with relevant stakeholders to improve the development of public projects over the years. Even though there are improvements made in the development of projects and implementation, huge challenges continue to persist in the overall Public Investment Management (PIM). The Public Investment Management Assessment (PIMA) for Liberia published in November 2016 outlined a number of issues associated with Liberia's PIM and recommended strategies to address such issues.

The national development plan of Liberia, The Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD), would most likely become successful through an efficient and coordinated PIM. Given the challenges faced with governance and resource mobilization, it is essential that public investment is guided through a well-structured management system which ensures that all relevant stakeholders are held accountable for the stages from planning, development and implementation of all public projects and programs. According to PIMA (2016), Liberia has been graded relatively poorly in terms of handling of domestically-financed projects in saying "Liberia scores relatively well on the institutions for planning domestically-financed public investment, but externally-financed projects are planned through separate processes."

Considering the PIMA report and the PIU/MFDP's own evaluation, PIM in Liberia is characterized by inadequate policy framework, inconsistent investment priority programs, inefficient data management systems, and inadequate public investment coordination within the management structures. While there are continuous strides to address the issues, the issue of coordination within the management structures remains a huge challenge. It has been resolved that this challenge can only be addressed through coordinated efforts from the relevant stakeholders through a precise policy framework which will clearly outline roles and responsibilities including coordination framework for effective Public Investment Management. The coordination framework is envisioned to allow all stakeholders to understand the stages and parameters for planning, selecting, prioritizing and implementing Public Investment programs and projects. Moreover, the PIMA report has recommended the development of a PIM Framework that takes into consideration planning and preparation for all development projects while prioritizing the creation of a centralized pipeline of projects to inform budget priorities. MFDP seeks to not just amplify the need for a framework as recommended by the IMF but to also develop and explicitly elevate the proposed framework into a binding policy and Procedure manual that should guide public investment management in Liberia.

It is against this backdrop that the services of a consultancy firm are needed to facilitate this Assignment with professional support and finance from GOL.

II. Objectives

The core objective of the Assignment is to develop a Public Investment Management Policy and Procedure Manual containing a policy framework, PIM structure, key stakeholders and their responsibilities, as well as procedures and processes for implementing the policy.

Strategic objectives include the following:

- To improve public investment planning through effective project formulation and delivery maximizing the value of the public assets created by the investments
- To increase public investment cost effectiveness in project selection and resource allocation
- To improve the coordination and implementation of public investment management in Liberia
- To improve the unity of the budget through the MTEF

III. Scope of Work

The Consultant will draw-up a roadmap leading to the development of the PIM Policy Document and an Operational Manual to support policy implementation. The consultant will work closely with the Assistant Minister for Development Planning office and the Public Investment Unit from MFDP and Spending Agencies to accomplish this Assignment.

The scope of work will be segmented as shown below:

- Desk Review**-The consultant will work with the Public Investment Unit to identify all relevant document, mapped-out and compiled a list of stakeholders, review current roles and functions in relation to public investment. A desk review will be done by the consultant and a report will be written and submitted to MFDP.
- Stakeholders' Engagement** - The consultant will conduct stakeholders' engagements and working sessions to gather data and inputs during the policy and procedure manual development.
- Drafting of the PIM policy**-The consultant will facilitate the drafting of the PIM policy liaising with MFDP and relevant stakeholders. The policy will focus on defining the purpose, guidelines, principles and objectives of PIM. It will also identify stakeholders and clearly define the various roles and responsibilities, monitoring, report and other importance aspects of public investment such as projects identification, formulation, appraisal, selection, approval, funding, monitoring and reporting.
- Conduct a validation of the PIM policy** -The consultant will share the draft policy with relevant stakeholders to undergo a peer review process and final validation meeting with all stakeholders to finalize the policy.
- Drafting of the Operational Manual**- The consultant will facilitate the drafting of a PIM Operational Manual detailing how the policy should be carry out, liaising with MFDP and relevant stakeholders.
- Conduct a validation of the PIM Operational Manual** -The consultant will share the draft PIM Operational Manual with relevant stakeholders to undergo a peer review process and final validation meeting with all stakeholders to finalize the manual.
- Produce a final PIM policy and Operational Manual** -The consultant will submit a final copy of the PIM Policy and Operational Manual MFDP through the Assistant Minister for Development Planning office.

IV. Expected Outputs

It is expected that the work will result into the development of a Public Investment Policy and a PIM Operational Manual which will be used to guide public investment management in Liberia.

V. Deliverables and Timeline

The consultant will guarantee the delivery, professional and technical quality of the final product. All deliverables shall be submitted to MFDP in accordance with the following timeline:

Tasks/Outputs	Estimated Duration	Target Due Date
I. Signing and Submitting Work Plan		
Upon signing the Agreement, the consultant is expected to submit a detailed work plan outlining the activities to be undertaken and timelines, in line with the stipulated TOR	3 days	
2. Debriefing and consultative meeting with MFDP and related stakeholders		
Meeting with MFDP and related stakeholders on the specifications of the activities and the appropriateness of the tools	1 day	
Work with MFDP and relate stakeholders to validate and consolidate any technical adjustments to the work plan	5 days	
3. Submission of Desk Review report Draft		
Based on the adjusted technical work plan, the consultant is expected to submit a comprehensive desk review report of the assignment	15 days	
MFDP and other stakeholders' feedback to the initial draft submitted	5 days	
4. Submission of Initial Draft of the Policy Document		

Based on the adjusted technical work plan, the consultant is expected to submit a comprehensive initial draft of the assignment	35 days	
MFDP and other stakeholders' feedback to the initial draft submitted	5 days	
5. Submission of Final Draft of the Policy Document		
Based on feedback, consultant is expected to submit a final draft to MFDP and related stakeholder	5 days	
Team's response to final daft and queries	5 days	
6. Submission of Initial Draft of the Operational Manual		
After the submission and acceptance of the PIM Policy Document, the consultant will develop and submit a detailed operational manual to support the implementation of the PIM Policy	45 days	
MFDP and other stakeholders' feedback to the initial draft submitted	5 days	
7. Submission of Final Draft of the Operational Manual		
Based on feedback, consultant is expected to submit a final draft to MFDP and related stakeholder	10 days	
Team's response to final daft and queries	5 days	
Exit Meeting with the consultant	1 day	

VI. Duration

The Assignment is expected to be finalized in a maximum of one hundred and forty-five (145) working days over a six-calendar month period, excluding weekends and holidays spread between March 1, 2021-October 31, 2022.

VII. Minimum Qualifications of the Consultant

The consultant must be very familiar with the Liberia contest for policy development and resource allocation. S/he must also demonstrate high level of knowledge with the key national planning instruments-the Vision 2030 long term perspective, the PAPD, the MFDP Strategic Plan, and the strategic investment plans of key sectors. The consultant is expected to have the following academic qualifications and professional experiences:

- Recognized advanced degree (preferably PhD level) in social sciences or development studies.
- At least 10 years of relevant experience in policy development and analysis, strategic plans, and national development plans in Africa.
- Recognized degree in statistics, economics or other social sciences.
- Experience with International organizations is an asset.
- Excellent command of English language.

VIII. Criteria for Evaluation of Level of Technical and Financial Compliance of the Consultant

Technical/Financial Criteria	Evaluation	Obtainable Score
Qualification		20%
Experience		50%
Budget/Costing		30%
Total Score		100%

Payment Milestone

IX. The Consultant will be paid based on the following installments:

No.	Output/Deliverables	Payment Schedule	Payment Amount
1	Signing of Agreement and submission of work plan		30%
	Submission of Desk review report/inception report		20%
2	Submission of Draft Policy Document		20%
3	Submission of Final Policy Document and Operational Manual		30%

X. Selection Method

The Firm will be selected using the procedures set out in the 2010 public procurement and Concessions Act (PPCA) of the Republic of Liberia.

Firms that meet the qualification requirements will be short-listed and invited to submit final proposals.

XI. Submission of EOI

The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning anticipated funds from the Government of Liberia FY2022 national Budget and intends to apply part of it to eligible payment to the Provision of consulting service for the Development of Public Investment Management Policy and Manual.

MFDP is seeking a consulting firm for the Development of a Public Investment Management Policy and Manual. The consulting firm will work closely with the Assistant Minister for Development Planning at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP). The Director for Plan Development and Coordination at the MFDP will act as MFDP focal point and will be responsible for a) coordinating b) securing technical assistance, c) organizing the review meetings and stakeholder engagement d) coordinating and providing feedback and guidance to consultants.

The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc). Consulting firms must also provide documentary evidence that they are duly registered under the laws of the Republic of Liberia and are current tax payers.

Interested consulting firms may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 09:00 to 17:00 hours GMT, Mondays through Fridays.

Sealed Expression of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person) by 14:00 hours GMT on or before June 14, 2022. Late EOI will be rejected and returned to consultants unopened.

Express of Interest (EOI) must be submitted in one (1) original set and three (3) copies.

The address referred to is:

Attn: Eric B. Arkoi
Procurement Director
Procurement Unit, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

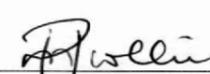
Broad and Mechlin Streets

Monrovia, Liberia

Cell#: (+231) 0886579455 or 0777579455

Email: ebarkoi@mfdp.gov.lr or mvmassallay@liftliberia.gov.lr

Signed  5/30/2022
Director of Procurement

Approved 
Acting Deputy Minister for Administration

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

ECOWAS Radio and the Resident Representative in Liberia Celebrate ECOWAS at 47

In celebration of the 47th Anniversary of the establishment of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on 28th May 1975, the ECOWAS Resident Representative Office in Liberia, headed by Madam

Government of Liberia, Embassies of member states of ECOWAS, as well as members of the diplomatic and consular corps and civil society organizations.

Additionally, the ECOWAS Radio held a live studio discussion with eminent

International Centre (ABIC), Madam Olubanke King Akerele, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Liberia, also Madam Julie Endee, Liberia Cultural Ambassador, Madam Setta Fofana Saah, National Coordinator, Traditional Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia, and Mariama Sheriff, President, Women and Youth Wing ECOWAS Citizen Union of Liberia.

Similarly, there was a live call-in show soliciting views and recommendations on ECOWAS protocols, conventions, and activities.

Recommendations highlighted from the public included among others; the need to strengthen ECOWAS conflict prevention mechanism and reinforce good governance in member states. The public also urged the ECOWAS Commission to ensure that member states adhere to democratic tenets and to renew civil dialogues. Another recommendation proffered was the need to streamline gender parity within ECOWAS' mediation efforts as well as ensure full implementation of decisions emanating from the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice.

-Press release



Josephine Nkrumah and ECOWAS Radio, headed by its Coordinator, Madam Eva Flomo, jointly held series of programs marking the auspicious occasion.

To commemorate the day, the ECOWAS Radio received goodwill messages from the

personalities in Liberia to share their reflections on ECOWAS successes, challenges, and prospects for the sub-region. The personalities featured were Dr. Yvette Chesson Wureh, Establishment Coordinator for the Angie Brooks

Judicial Personnel trained on use of CMIS digital tool

The Liberian Judiciary with support from UNDP/UN Joint Rule of Law Programme has trained and certificated Clerks of Courts & Magistrates on the use of the Case Management Information System (CMIS).

The CMIS is a digital tool used to record, store, track & manage cases for speedy adjudication and to ensure efficiency. Effective use of this system will reduce backlog of cases, detention periods, and will allow easy generation of reports for stakeholders at different levels of the criminal justice system in Liberia.

Speaking at a certification ceremony May 27, 2022, following a two-week intensive training, Chief Justice Francis Korkpor committed the Judiciary to ensuring that the system is sustained and emphasized that the use of the CMIS will strengthen access to justice.

Chief Justice Korkpor urged Clerks of Courts and Magistrates to make

maximum use of the training to improve their work environment and avoid going back to the old ways of doing things. He stressed the need for more capacity development initiatives targeting lower courts as the courts of first instance in the country. "It is imperative that we take a bottom to top approach for such interventions to implement

reforms that achieve meaningful results," Liberia's Chief Justice noted.

Since its Independence in 1847, the Criminal Justice System in Liberia continues to face challenges in the proper management and reporting of cases. For example, in the Magisterial Courts, case records are kept in paper files that are susceptible to tampering, misplacement, or



Women pray for peace



By Kruah Thompson

Liberian women under the banner "Mass Action for Peace" have begun a two-week fast and prayer in Monrovia for the peace of Liberia.

The fast and prayer that began Wednesday May 25, 2022 on the theme "Let's Maintain the Peace", is expected to continue till June 7, 2022.

Seemingly, the process is meant to maintain the peace of Liberia and send early warning of war thereby, calling on all Liberians to disarm their heart.

Giving the demands of the women at the launch of the exercise, the women emphasized that the mass action for peace is committed to working with every citizen to ensure that peace is maintained and not tempered with in Liberia.

The group said it has noted several early warning signs that are most likely to come to reality; therefore, it called on every citizen to join the ongoing national fast and prayer.

"The women mass action for peace has noticed several early warning signs and because we know that sometime early warning signs come to reality, we want every Liberia to join hands with us today, as we fast and pray for Mama Liberia."

The Liberian women mass action for peace is a conglomeration of women from the Christian and Muslim faiths. During the heat of the Liberian civil crisis, they gathered every time at the Airfield Fish Market and prayed for peace, while demanding an end to the fourteen years of civil unrest. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

lost during case trials which hinders the pace of cases and quality of judgments.

"The current Case Management Information System will increase efficiency in case disposal, reduction of case backlog and addressing of pre-trial detention. Therefore, the system will serve to ensure that the Judiciary fosters Liberia's human rights obligations such as the right to personal liberty and the right to a trial within reasonable time," said UNDP Resident Representative Stephen Rodrigues.

In his remarks at the certification program, Mr. Rodrigues reiterated that the efficiency of the criminal justice system can only be enhanced if the relevant institutions can keep track and measure the progress of case disposal.

He noted that digital space is increasingly becoming an everyday public tool for doing business and supporting public service delivery, adding that Liberia needs to embrace this as a current reality which has become inevitable.

Rodrigues stated that, "Going digital enables the judiciary to infinitely store, copy, and distribute data without

depletion, and at very low costs".

He applauded the fact that the CMIS is home grown, in that it was developed by a Liberian and all of the trainers were Liberians. "This demonstrates that Liberia has the human resource and technical capacity required to embrace digital transformation," said UNDP Liberia Resident Representative.

As part of its support to improve the criminal justice system in Liberia, the UN's Joint Rule of Law Programme, has supported the conception, design, development, and roll-out of the online Case Management Information System (CMIS) for the Judiciary, the Prosecution Department of the Ministry of Justice and the Liberia National Police.

The system also uses mobile apps which works both online and offline to ensure use in remote areas where internet connectivity is problematic. It includes security features and GPS functionality to capture locations where offences occur enabling their digital mapping.

As part of the support package, UNDP procured over twenty galaxy tablets and supported the development and printing of training manuals for use by judicial staff.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Audit reports clear LISGIS

By Bridgett Milton

An audit report in the possession of this paper says the management of the Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo - Information Services (LISGIS) is in good financial standing and not a dime was misused or misappropriated, contradicting an accusation made against the entity by a

Representative Richard Koon recently accused the management of LISGIS of allegedly misappropriating US\$1.1 million out of US\$1.8 million intended for the National Census.

Koon wrote the House of Representatives accusing the Director of Census, Eddie Williams, and Senior Administrators at LISGIS of

\$1.8 Million USD deposited into the account of LISGIS by the Liberian government, Director Eddie Williams and LISGIS Management could only account for 700, 000 USD to UNFPA, prompting international partners to withhold their support for the upcoming census.

Despite the allegations from the lawmaker and his quest for forensic audit, the General Auditing Commission and BDO/LLP based in the United Kingdom have conducted a separate audit on LISGIS which proved that the management of LISGIS is in good financial standing.

The auditors indicated that donors' funds were also audited which clear LISGIS of financial malpractices.

This paper also gathered that LISGIS has been audited on the Census project activities both by the GAC under the HSIWA Project and UNFPA/LISGIS HACT Audit done by BDO LLP for the period January 1- December 31, 2021.

The GAC audit report expressed an Unqualified Opinion while the HACT audit report expressed an unmodified opinion.

When this paper contacted the Manager of LISGIS about the allegation from the

lawmaker, he declined to comment officially on grounds that the management of LISGIS is expected to appear before the plenary of the House to provide detailed information.

He said by speaking to the media ahead of appearing before the House of Representatives, it shows some level of disrespect to that August body.

Starts from page 11 We'll never walk

community leave many here to wonder how far their alliances can go, judging from the failure of the Unity Party, Alternative National Congress, All Liberian Party and Liberty Party to make the CPP work.

But Dr. Whapoe suggested that what happened within the CPP can never be repeated by the DAL because the latter has authenticity, vision and objectives.

"The end of a thunder is light. What happened in the CPP was a thunder for the true light to come and redeem our people and country," Whapoe argued.

Dr. Whapoe said what led to the fall of the Collaborating Political Parties was the too much egotism from political leaders, noting that none of them was willing to let go.

"... They all went there with selfish motives and so they could not sacrifice because they believed if it can't be them, then it cannot be anybody," Whapoe criticized the CPP leaders.

"This was the problem with the CPP and I can say we are very far from that because we have love [and] respect for each other. More to that, we are not having ego as the others that fall," Dr. Whapoe noted further.

According to him, leadership does not call for that, and anybody who does that is not a leader because a leader should first be a servant before becoming a leader.

"How can you be in a group that populate competition than you say you should be the ones. Thousands of people can run marathon but at the end only one person can win," Whapoe reminded his fellow opposition leaders.

"Y'all can compete but all you need to do is to guide the process so that fairness and transparency can protect the process. We need to do that so

our people can know our vision and policy so that they can choose who they want," he continued.

The opposition leader observed that all of that never happened in the CPP because nobody wanted to let go.

Unlike the CPP, he said the DAL is genuine and it will do all to make a fruitful decision for the Liberian people because the suffering and hardship in the country is unbearable.

Meanwhile, Dr. Whapoe said he is confident of heading the National Democratic Alliance as its first political leader, adding that he has the policy and program to transform Liberia from economic backwardness through agriculture where all will be able to be self-reliant and productive.

"Before you can know your strength as a politician, there has to be some competition, because it's bad for you to just wake up and say you are a political leader when you do not even know your strength," Whapoe explained.

He said electoral process is about eligibility and likability, saying it means before you call yourself a political leader, there should be a primary, or convention so that you can be tested and vetted by the Liberian people.

The University of Liberia graduate school lecturer noted that looking at the political landscape in Liberia, the oppositions have to come together to condense the space to give the Liberian people better chance to elect a good leader.

According to him, it's the reason behind the formation of the new alliance, DAL.

He concluded that they are currently working on their framework document and they anticipate that other political parties will join the alliance before the 2023 presidential and legislative elections across the country.



lawmaker here. Through a communication before the full plenary of the House of Representatives, Montserrado County Electoral District #11

allegedly tampering with government funds intended to incorporate donors' support for the upcoming census. Rep. Koon said that of the

Sinoe citizens petition Romeo Quioh for House

By: Kruah Thompson

Citizens of Numonpo District, including chiefs, elders, traditional council, women and youth groups have petitioned one of their kinsmen, Thomas Romeo Quioh, to contest for a representative seat in electoral District One.

Reading the petition statement in the county recently on behalf of the citizens, youth leader Ovinton Marlué said their decision is based on Mr. Quioh's tremendous contributions towards the wellbeing of the people of Numonpo and Sinoe at large, when he led the fight for Numonpo gain district status in 2003 under the administration of late transitional president, Charles Gyude Bryant.

Ovinton noted that it was through the supervision of Mr. Quioh that Golden Veroleum Liberia entered Numonpo land, which has created more job opportunities for citizens there. He said while Romeo

served as Development Superintendent and subsequently Superintendent of Sinoe County, the Government of Liberia through the county administration constructed elementary and junior high school building, an administrative building and an 11-room health center with support from the World Bank. He said they are certain that when elected to represent the district, their

interest would be protected.

"We will reach all out in making sure this time you emerge as a winner", the people of Numonpo vowed.

The youth president at the same time called all citizens of district one to join the people of Numonpo District to vote for Mr. Quioh come 2023 to have a better district and Sinoe County at large.

Presenting the petition and a broom to the representative hopeful, which symbolizes a



mantle of authority, traditional council chairman Alex Wahsanwon said, the people of Numonpo have decided to confer on Mr. Romeo the mantle of authority to represent them as their political leader since the demise of the late Oscar J. Quioh, who was the political leader of Numonpo land.

He at the same time urged Mr. Romeo Quioh to lead by example, which will help him to properly represent the district, if elected.

Responding, Mr. Quioh lauded the citizens for their decision to petition him to

contest in District One that is currently represented by Cleton Duncan. He told the citizens to do all in their powers to go from village to village and mobilize all eligible voters to have the dream achieved. He challenged the citizens to translate their petition into action by beginning to campaign now until election day.

"I know this is our district; I know what is lacking and I am capable and prepared to bring every developmental activity here, but I only need your commitment, your time, and cooperation", he said. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Français

L'opposition libérienne exhortée à former un front uni contre le pouvoir

Le président national du Parti populaire démocratique du Libéria (DPPL) appelle l'opposition libérienne à concilier leurs différences pour redonner espoir aux Libériens en vue des élections présidentielle et législatives de 2023.

Me N Dickson R. Tamba s'est dit convaincu que l'opposition ne peut battre la coalition au pouvoir aux prochaines élections que si

elle forme un front uni.

" Notre peuple ne peut plus supporter ce désespoir. Nous devons nous lever et enterrer notre ego individuel et avancer avec une collaboration démocratique ferme pour le bien de notre pays et l'avenir de nos enfants, y compris la génération future »,

Me Tamba a fait cette déclaration lors de la cérémonie de signature d'un accord pour la création d'une nouvelle alliance politique

dénommée Alliance démocratique du Libéria (DAL).

Pour lui, il est impératif que tous les partis politiques de l'opposition et leurs dirigeants redonnent espoir au peuple libérien.

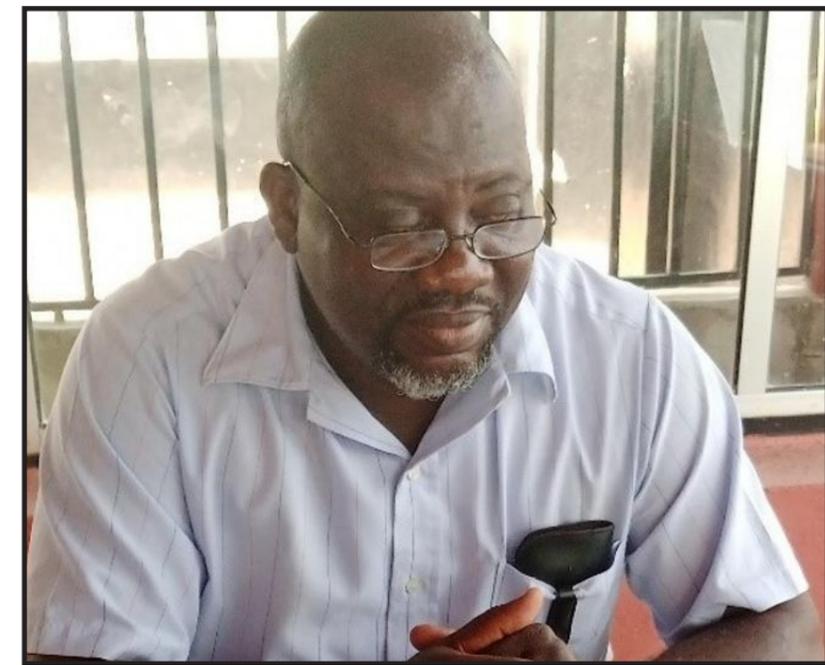
« Nous citoyens, en particulier nous qui soutenons l'opposition, devons être courageux et adopter une position patriotique pour répondre à un appel national de la restauration », a-t-il déclaré.

« Si l'opposition veut vraiment renverser le régime de la Coalition pour Changement Démocratique (CDC), il faut que nous nous unissions tous pour former une force unie », a-t-il ajouté.

Me Tamba a accusé le pouvoir CDC d'avoir imposé une souffrance énorme sur le peuple libérien. Il a fait état d'un manque de médicaments dans les hôpitaux.

« Cela nous attriste en tant que leader politique de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



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

▶ 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

L'opposition libérienne exhortée à

l'opposition. Il y a l'insécurité en plein jour, des corps sans vie de citoyens sont retrouvés dans les rues, des lieux ouverts, y compris les disparitions de citoyens, mais ceux qui nous gouvernent nous demandent d'acheter des caméras de surveillance pour les installer dans nos maisons », a-t-il déploré.

La signature de la déclaration d'intention par les trois partis politiques est un grand jour pour les

Libériens, selon lui. Pour lui, cela marque le début d'une réassurance, « car la DAL que nous sommes sur le point de mettre sur pied vise à mettre fin aux souffrances des citoyens ».

Les partis membres de la DAL sont : National Democratic Coalition (NDC), Vision for Liberia

Transformation (VOLT) et le Parti populaire démocratique du Libéria ou DPPL dirigé par le révérend David Kaimu.

Le procès de Cummings est une chasse à l'oie

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 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'oie 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.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Jayati Ghosh

L'emploi à l'ère des plateformes

NEW DELHI - L'un des principaux changements socio-économiques que la COVID-19 a accéléré est certainement la montée en puissance des plateformes de travail numériques. Bien entendu, les plateformes de travail numériques connaissent déjà une croissance exponentielle avant la pandémie. Mais les consignes de confinement et d'isolement, et le recours accru au télétravail qui en résulte, ont considérablement augmenté à la fois leur diffusion et leur intensité d'utilisation.

Jusqu'à récemment, il y avait eu relativement peu de discussions sur ce que la prolifération rapide des plateformes de travail numériques signifiait pour la nature du travail et la relation de travail. Récemment, un rapport important de l'Organisation internationale du travail a néanmoins apporté des réponses à de nombreuses questions - et en a soulevé plusieurs autres que les décideurs politiques et les régulateurs doivent aborder.

Que sont exactement les plateformes de travail numériques ? Les plateformes sont en fait des marchés numériques, connectant les producteurs et les consommateurs de biens et services - et dans le cas des plateformes d'emploi, connectant les travailleurs à ceux qui désirent recourir à leur main-d'œuvre.

Les plateformes de travail numériques diffèrent considérablement des anciennes bourses à l'emploi, en raison de leur nature diffuse et apparemment non hiérarchique. Elles donnent également l'impression d'une objectivité sans aucune manipulation, en se contentant soi-disant d'agrèger les offres et les réponses des agents - bien qu'il s'avère que les algorithmes utilisés pour cette agrégation génèrent en fait leurs propres formes de hiérarchisation et de discrimination.

Le rapport de l'OIT se concentre sur deux principaux types de plateformes de travail numériques. Les plateformes basées sur la localisation fournissent du travail ou des services dans une zone physique spécifiée. Elles comprennent les services de taxi et de livraison, les services domestiques comme le nettoyage et la réparation, et diverses formes de prestation de soins.

Les plateformes de travail en ligne, quant à elles, couvrent des tâches qui pourraient être effectuées n'importe où dans le monde. Il peut s'agir de missions spécifiques de courte durée telles que l'annotation d'images ou la transcription de vidéos, ou impliquant des travaux complexes et hautement qualifiés tels que la traduction, les services juridiques ou financiers, la conception et le développement de logiciels et l'analyse de données.

Les deux types de plateformes se sont considérablement développés, mais les gens ont tendance à être plus conscients des plateformes basées sur la localisation en raison de leur quasi-ubiquité à certains endroits. L'OIT estime que le nombre de plateformes dans le monde est passé de 142 en 2010 à près de 800 en 2020 - le nombre des plateformes de travail a triplé tandis que celui des plateformes basées sur la localisation a presque décuplé.

Aujourd'hui, toutes sortes d'entreprises - des entreprises du Fortune 500 aux start-ups et petites entreprises à la recherche de personnes pour effectuer des tâches spécifiques - s'appuient sur des plateformes d'emploi en ligne. En général, les plateformes réduisent considérablement les coûts de recherche tant pour les travailleurs que pour ceux qui désirent utiliser leurs services.

Les estimations du nombre de personnes qui obtiennent du travail via ces plateformes sont difficiles à obtenir, en partie parce que l'on ne sait pas combien de personnes les considèrent comme leur seule source de revenus. Mais certaines enquêtes suggèrent que la proportion de la population en Europe qui a déjà effectué un travail via une plateforme varie de 9 à 22%.

La plupart des plateformes de travail numériques fonctionnent en collectant des informations sur les travailleurs et en les partageant avec ceux qui pourraient les utiliser. Leur propre base d'employés a tendance à être très petite par rapport au nombre de travailleurs avec lesquels ils traitent indirectement. Par

exemple, la plateforme de travail indépendant PeoplePerHour ne compte qu'une cinquantaine d'employés, mais en tant qu'intermédiaire, elle fournit du travail à environ 2,4 millions de travailleurs qualifiés.

Le rapport de l'OIT fournit de nombreuses informations nouvelles, basées sur une enquête mondiale menée auprès de 12 000 travailleurs sur des plateformes. D'après cette source, les travailleurs engagés dans des plateformes basées sur la localisation génèrent l'essentiel de leurs revenus à partir de cette source, et environ un tiers des travailleurs des plateformes de travail en ligne (surtout dans les pays en développement) dépendent principalement de cet emploi pour leurs revenus.

Il est intéressant de noter que les écarts salariaux entre pays persistent sur les plateformes numériques, alors que ces dernières ne devraient conférer aucun désavantage géographique. L'enquête du BIT a révélé que sur les plateformes de travail indépendant, par exemple, les travailleurs des pays en développement gagnent en moyenne 60% de moins que ceux des pays développés, même après avoir pris en compte les caractéristiques de base comme l'âge, l'éducation et les types de tâches exécutées.

Le nœud du problème réside dans le fait que les personnes qui obtiennent du travail via les plateformes de travail numériques sont en réalité des travailleurs indépendants, la plateforme elle-même n'assumant aucune responsabilité pour les salaires ou la rémunération, ni les heures et conditions de travail. Certaines plateformes basées sur la localisation, en particulier les services de livraison et de taxi, ont fait l'objet d'un examen réglementaire et juridique dans certains pays qui cherchent à les traiter comme des employeurs, mais cela reste l'exception.

De plus, le travail sur plateforme, aussi hautement qualifié soit-il, exige généralement des salaires à la pièce. Tous les problèmes auxquels sont confrontés les travailleurs à la pièce depuis des temps immémoriaux sont d'une évidence flagrante : insécurité des revenus, répartition très inégale des risques et tendance à l'auto-exploitation qui mine toute notion d'autonomie et de flexibilité des travailleurs.

Ensuite, il y a les préoccupations concernant les algorithmes souvent opaques des plateformes, ainsi que les frais et commissions qu'elles facturent aux travailleurs, qui n'ont généralement aucun recours possible en cas de grief et n'ont souvent aucune communication réelle avec les gestionnaires de la plateforme. De plus, leur conscience d'une concurrence mondiale sans visage peut intensifier leur sentiment d'impuissance et soumettre les travailleurs à une pression à la baisse du taux de rémunération toujours plus forte.

C'est vraiment un nouveau monde pour les travailleurs, présentant de nouvelles opportunités et de nombreux défis. Dans de nombreuses économies avancées, les plateformes sont généralement associées à l'informalisation de la main-d'œuvre. Mais dans les pays en développement avec principalement des travailleurs informels, les plateformes peuvent parfois être une étape vers la formalisation.

Comment la réglementation peut-elle aborder cette nouvelle version d'une ancienne relation de travail qui semble si biaisée contre les travailleurs ? De toute évidence, nous devons repenser ce qui constitue un employeur et préciser à la fois leurs responsabilités et les droits des travailleurs. Nous avons également besoin de considérations plus étendues et flexibles sur les normes du travail capables de s'appliquer y-compris au travail à la pièce.

Seule une partie de cela peut être réalisée au niveau national. Étant donné que les plateformes de travail numériques fonctionnent dans plusieurs juridictions, la coordination des politiques internationales est également essentielle. Maintenant que le monde reconnaît à nouveau l'importance du dialogue et de la coopération au niveau mondial, la réglementation du travail sur plateforme devrait être mise à l'ordre du jour.

Traduit de l'anglais par Timothée Demont

Jayati Ghosh, secrétaire exécutif d'International Development Economics Associates, est professeur d'économie à l'Université du Massachusetts à Amherst et membre de l'Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation.

LIBERIANS DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

The Government of Liberia, thru the 54th National Legislature is amending the Aliens and Nationality Law of Liberia to legislate Due Citizenship that would allow naturalized Liberians in the diasporas maintain their Liberian citizenship, while holding foreign citizenship, including U.S. Green Cards. Debate on this issue is heated, and feelings are mixed, with some seem very optimistic about economic benefits, while others are cautious or apprehensive of being economically or financially disadvantaged.

In this random interview, the New Dawn asks some residents of Monrovia to give their views on the evolving situation that stands to give Liberia a new face after living with a segregated Constitution since independence in 1847.



Joseph 'Jeremiah Testimony' Barclay

"I support dual citizenship; one is investment but the tin line is there must be restriction and limitation."



Sinue Mayah Johnson

"The dual citizenship I think it might be good and bad. The dual citizenship needs to be explained properly to the vast majority of the population. One, because more people don't understand the meaning of dual citizenship; some people think that dual citizenship means that different people coming to Liberia to take over their land. So, it needs to be explained properly to the vast majority of the people, then we will understand what dual citizenship is all about. What I think about it, because some people are saying that

even if Liberians come back home from abroad, I understand that when they come back, they are going to become second class citizens; now if that is the case then I disagree with that. If our brothers and sisters come back from America with American citizenship, he/she (they) should be as same as Liberians, and should be able to contest for any position in Liberia. But I do not know how true it is, some people are saying that when they come back, their citizenship would be restricted and that they can't contest for Presidency or lawmaker's post. I don't know how true is that but if that is the case, I totally disagree with the dual citizenship. It should come clean; once a Liberian always a Liberian."

"The dual citizenship is in the best interest of the Liberian people. Currently, if you look at the 1986 Constitution of Liberia that we are going by, I am a Liberian. I born my children and they were opportune to travel abroad and get another citizenship and their parents came from Liberia and you look at that person and deny that person's rights. This is the reason majority of our

brothers and sisters that are abroad don't want to come down; reason being is that when they come down [home], they would not be able to do certain jobs in Liberia. Some of them have degrees and are qualified and they want to come and give back to their motherland but, because they are thinking that they would be restricted to certain jobs or things and they will be denied their rights. So, the



Tony Johny

government needs to explain about the dual citizenship well, and I am two hundred (200) percent in support of the dual citizenship."



Foday T. Ware

"As for me, as citizen of this country, I welcome the dual citizenship because we have some of our brothers abroad, who went to seek greener pastures as usual, because of the financial situation in

our country. But that doesn't mean that they love other countries more than the Liberia, but they have to meet up with that standard in other to live a better life, and they are still our brothers; they were born here and do everything here. So as for me, I welcome the dual citizenship and it has some benefits in terms of development. The man will be free to come to Liberia and

build and in building, it also benefits his brothers and friends and even the government because whenever he has property here, he would be paying taxes to the government and it will help the government to generate revenue. So, as for me, I welcome the dual citizenship 100%."

"Looking at the dual citizenship, first of all, we need to know what is in the document. I want for the government and legislature to make sure that these documents are really distributed to citizens to know what is in the document because tomorrow if the citizens are not educated, as it relates to the document, tomorrow it would create serious problem. We want an awareness as it relates to the dual citizenship because there are lots of conflicting information when it comes to the dual citizenship; other people are saying that when the document is signed,

people would walk away with money, they wouldn't be investigated. People having money will come and take our land and walk away with no proper investigation and people will be overlooked as it relates to the dual citizenship. Others are saying that dual citizenship would bring investments to Liberia, because we are very poor and we need investments in Liberia. Maybe every one of them might be saying the truth but, we don't really know what is in the document. In order to clear the doubts of the public about this dual citizenship, there is a



Z. Kwaque Coleman

need for government to come in and create awareness in the country and across counties about this dual citizenship by sending teams to engage chiefs and elders in town hall meetings to better explain about the dual citizenship. As for me, it is a dark clock hanging over Liberia."

Outright lies

-Cummings Africa Foundation reacts

The Cummings Africa Foundation (CAF) says it has read with dismay, and declared as outright lies and propaganda that CAF has received US\$ 100,000.00 as grant for the Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT)

community in West Africa. Without any detail as to the date and venue of the fundraising, the newspaper insinuated that the amount was given as "grant to the Liberian based Cummings Africa Foundation Gay Fund, a so-called collective giving

its pay master. The Cummings Africa Foundation has requested the management of this tabloid newspaper to retract the erroneous report or face the full consequences of its action. Cummings Africa Foundation has accordingly alerted its team of Lawyers on the next course of action as



community in Liberia. The fake report published in the Monday, May 30, 2022 edition of the Independent Newspaper, claimed the US\$ 100,000.00 was given by a so-called American businessman identified only as Sandy Edwards for the LGBT

and endowment initiative of Foundation for the LGBT communities in West Africa." The Cummings Africa Foundation describes the report as a fabricated lie, planted in the Independent Newspaper to achieve a sinister political motive by

this erroneous report has the propensity to cast a negative aspersion on its work and with serious repercussions on the political future on its co-founder, Mr. Alexander Cummings who is the prime target of this politically motivated smear campaign.

We'll never walk the path of CPP

By Lincoln G. Peters
Opposition Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) political leader Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe says the newly proposed National Democratic Alliance of Liberia (DAL) will never walk the path of the disintegrated Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) because the DAL has an agenda and goals to accomplish.

Liberia signed up to the new political alliance named the Democratic Alliance of Liberia ahead of the 2023 presidential and legislative elections. The Democratic People's Party of Liberia (DPPL) of Reverend David Kiamu, the National Democratic Coalition (NDC) of Prof. Alaric Tokpa and the Vision of Liberia Transformation (VOLT) of Dr. Jeremiah Whapoe, signed the declaration of intent

Wednesday, 25 May 2022 leading to the formalization of the proposed DAL. The formation of the DAL comes at a time the CPP, another opposition bloc which was formed by four opposition political parties has been broken apart following a prolonged internal political fight which has resulted to ongoing court cases. The distrust and fight for power among political leaders within the opposition

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

"We want our people throughout this country to see this as a beginning of new hope for the country. We are patriots and sons and daughters of this great nation. We will never walk the path of the CPP because we have agenda and goals," Dr. Whapoe told an exclusive interview with the NewDawn newspaper over the weekend. He described the DAL as a genuine establishment that is intended to reawaken the hope and aspiration of the Liberian people which he said have been damaged by the CPP. Last week, three opposition political parties in



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA IMMIGRATION SERVICE (LIS)
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER GENERAL

CONFIRMATION CLEARANCE

This confirms that Madam Pauline K. Korquoi of Ganta, Nimba County, reported to the Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) reference to her lost Liberian passport with number PP0166922 issued in Monrovia. As an attestation, please see (Interpol Confirmation Clearance). We at LIS have inserted said information into our damaged/lost/stolen passport database.

In view thereof, this is for your official information as it constitutes our official attestation of the above mentioned fact and request that you render her any assistance as it relates to her passport.

Given under my hand and seal this 30th day of MAY, 2022, in the City of Monrovia, Republic of Liberia.

COMMISSIONER GENERAL

MONTSERRADO COUNTY) IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT

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

THE PETITION OF SEHKPOR DEE TOWEH PETITIONER, BY AND THRU HIS LEGAL COUNSEL FOR A DECREE FOR A CHANGE OF NAME IN FAVOR OF KNOWN, CALLED AND REFERRED TO AS "SEHKPOR DEE TOWEH".

COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME

The Petitioner by and thru his legal counsel filed before Court requesting this Honorable Court for a decree for a change of name from Arthur Dee Lewis to "Sehkporee Dee Toweh".

During the hearing, the Petitioner testified that THE Change of his name request is intended to reflect his true father's name. After conducting the necessary legal proceedings, the Court observed that the intention is there is no objection to the change of name proposed by him.

The Petitioner having shown with justification and satisfaction that he was born in Lorplay, Nimba County, Republic of Liberia, and he was born unto the union and Mrs. Voynee Sehkporee Toweh, and that the change of his name will suit interest in all of the understandings and help to establish his just identity more met all legal requirements for the Change of his name in this jurisdiction.

The petitioner having been heard, same is hereby ordered granted and we no longer Arthur Dee Lewis be changed to "Sehkporee Dee Toweh" beginning this 4th Day of 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 DE DOCUMENTATIONS within (10) days from this date and also be published in Newspapers operating in the Republic of Liberia within (20) days from this date.

ORDERED.

SEAL

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF HONORABLE COURT, THIS 4TH DAY OF APRIL, A.D. 2022.

J. KENNEDY PEABODY, RESIDENT ASSIGNED CIRCUIT, PRESIDING SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW COURT

REGISTERED ACCORDING TO LAW IN VOLUME 05 PAGE(S) 0001

REGISTRAR, NATIONAL ARCHIVES CENTER/MONT. CO.

SURVEY NOTICE

May 30, 2022

The general public is hereby informed that the undersigned land surveyor has been authorized by Jabra L. Sheriff to survey Zero Point Five nine of (0.59) LUM situated and lying at Omega Community, Paynesville, Montserrado County.

The Survey will commence on Tuesday of May, 31 2022 at 10:30AM.

Therefore, all adjoining property owners, and interests person are requested to present on the day of the survey with copies of their deeds, relevant documents and technical representatives (surveyors) to substantiate their claims.

This notice should claim the immediate attention of the following persons:

1. Jimmy Russell and Clarence's Kanjah
2. Nearest Police Station
3. Community Chairman
4. Who It May Concern

Signed: Scott S. Sheriff, Authorized Surveyor, Cell#: 0777983752/0770787127

Signed: J. Martin Harris, Registered Land Surveyor

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Gov't insists on Princess Family providing own pathologist



The Late Princess Cooper

The Ministry of Justice has reiterated its position for the family of the late Princess Cooper to designate another pathologist with the requisite credentials and qualification from anywhere in the world to conduct the agreed second autopsy. This request stems from the latest position of Dr. Servillano Ritualo, the practitioner from the Phillipines who was initially chosen by the family to carry out the autopsy, that he is unable to travel to Liberia to perform the process as

agreed between the Liberian Government and the late Princess' Family, along with their lawyer Cllr. Tiawon Gongloe and the former President of the Liberia Council of Churches Bishop Kortu Brown.

In his long-awaited email response to Attorney General Frank Musah Dean Jr. - which came after six weeks of delay - Dr. Ritualo cited several issues he deemed concerning, mainly his displeasure with the government's request for a medical license that qualifies him as a

pathologist. He contends that he previously practiced in Liberia, specifically during the Angel Tokpa case; notwithstanding the fact that a medical license is renewed annually by the country in which one practices - in this case The Phillipines. He also cited the outbreak of Monkey Pox in West Africa as a reason for his inability to travel to Liberia.

However, the Ministry of Justice emphasizes that its request for a license is in keeping with the requirements of the Liberia Medical and Dental Council, for the grant of temporary licensure to perform such medical service in the country. With this new development, the Attorney General urges the Liberia Council of Churches, Civil Society Organizations and concerned institutions and individuals to work with and encourage the family to designate a new pathologist as the government remains fully committed to the conduct of a second autopsy to allay all allegations and claims regarding the cause of Princess' death, and bring proper closure to this matter. -Press release

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