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**LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR**

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, JULY 01, 2022	L\$151.9841 /US\$1.00	L\$153.7470/US\$1.00

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

# The New Dawn

**French Version Inside**

# New Dawn

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# Continental News

## Beijing Seeks Mediator Role in Turbulent Horn of Africa

China is offering to help “silence the guns in the Horn of Africa,” an ambitious undertaking given the multiple conflicts in the region, and an indication that Beijing may be moving away from its traditional “non-interference” stance towards more active diplomatic engagement.

China’s special envoy for the Horn of Africa, Xue Bing, made the offer last week at a peace conference organized

by Chinese officials in Addis Ababa. The Chinese government has historically avoided getting involved in foreign disputes, but some observers see the event as evidence that Beijing seeks to rival the U.S. as an international conflict mediator. Others saw it more as a pragmatic move by a major investor in the region to keep its interests safe. The conference itself did not get into specific proposals for resolving several ongoing security crises, but the Chinese envoy said Beijing wants to become more involved.

“This is the first time for China to play a role in the area of security,” said Xue, who was appointed to his position earlier this year, adding that Beijing wants a more important role “not only in trade and investments but also in the area of peace and development.” China has some 400 construction and manufacturing projects worth over \$4 billion in Ethiopia alone, according to the United States Institute of Peace. However, Ethiopia has been mired in vicious ethnic conflict since 2020, with the federal government in Addis Ababa fighting rebel forces in the northern Tigray region.

Peace talks are set to begin soon, but there’s disagreement between the warring factions over who should serve as mediator, the African Union or Kenya.

“As Africa’s largest single-country trade partner, China acknowledges the economic necessity of stability in regional anchor countries such as Ethiopia,” Fonteh Akum, executive director of the Pretoria-based Institute for Security Studies, told VOA.

Much of the rest of the region is also in crisis. Northern neighbor Eritrea has

been murkily involved in the war in Tigray, while Ethiopia’s eastern neighbor, Somalia, has been ravaged by conflict and Islamist insurgency for decades. To the west, South Sudan is navigating a tenuous peace after years of civil war, while Sudan recently underwent a military coup. Just this week, the Sudanese and Ethiopian armies clashed over a disputed border region.

So China has its work cut out for it, and it’s not the first country to try. Washington’s own Horn of Africa envoy, David Satterfield, stayed only three months in the job before quitting earlier this year. President Joe Biden’s

envoy before him, Jeffrey Feltman, lasted less than a year.

The joint statement released at the end of China’s peace conference – which was attended by foreign ministry officials from regional countries and during which no specific conflict was even discussed – was extremely vague. It said only that all parties had agreed to “maintain peace and stability.”

“I think despite the holding of this peace forum it’s not clear what they can offer in terms of mediation to the federal government and the other Ethiopian conflict actors,” said William Davison, senior Ethiopia analyst at International Crisis Group.

“It isn’t clear that there’s the political commitment from Beijing, or the understanding of the political complexities, or the diplomatic capacity to really get involved in talks,” he told VOA.

## Anti-coup protesters shot dead in Sudan - doctors



Protesters take to the streets on Thursday despite efforts to stop them

Doctors in Sudan say six people have been shot dead and a large number injured by the security forces during pro-democracy protests in the capital, Khartoum.

Large crowds have gathered in several cities calling on the military to leave politics.

Bridges in the capital have been blocked and internet services have been cut, in an effort to stop people marching.

Since last October, when military leaders toppled the transitional government in a coup, frequent mass rallies

have been held.

Sudanese security forces have responded violently leaving more than 100 protesters dead.

People are angry at what they see as the reversal of hard won reforms and the return of those loyal to former President Omar al-Bashir, who was ousted in 2019.

On local TV, coup leader Lt-Gen Abdel Fattah Abdelrahman Burhan has said power will be handed over to an elected government.

But there is huge mistrust of the military and the dangerous stand-off between protesters and the security forces goes on with yet more loss of life. BBC

were also suspicious of him, fearing that he was sympathetic to the USSR during the Cold War and some, including the US, plotted to assassinate him. A Belgian policeman, Gerard Soete, was given the job of getting rid of the evidence. It was during that process that

he pocketed the tooth and took it back with him to Belgium.

It was decades later that he revealed that he still had the tooth and only two years ago that a Belgian court ruled that it should be returned to the family.

The Covid pandemic delayed the process but last week it was handed over in Brussels. BBC



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Ethiopia’s Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed is shown the way by Chinese President Xi Jinping before their meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing

## Patrice Lumumba: DR Congo buries tooth of independence hero

The gold-crowned tooth of Democratic Republic of Congo independence hero Patrice Lumumba has been buried more than 60 years after he was assassinated.

It is the only part of his body that exists after his remains were dissolved in acid.

The Belgian policeman who oversaw the disposal took the tooth as a trophy.

It was returned to the family last week and has toured several parts of DR Congo in a coffin.

People have been able to pay their respects ahead of the funeral that took place in the capital, Kinshasa, on a road named in his honour.

President Félix Tshisekedi, Lumumba’s family and other dignitaries were at the private service which took place before the coffin was transferred to a specially built mausoleum.

“May the land of our ancestors be sweet and mild to you,” said the president.

Lumumba was the country’s first prime minister

and one of the leaders of the struggle for independence. He was also seen as one of the most prominent voices in Africa’s anti-colonial movement.

Thursday marks 62 years since the former colonial power Belgium relinquished control of the vast country.

But it viewed Lumumba as a barrier to its efforts to maintain influence as well as hold on to important economic interests.

In a famous speech on independence day in 1960, in front of Belgian dignitaries

including King Baudouin, Lumumba, aged 34, castigated Belgium saying that the Congolese had been held in “humiliating slavery”.

The Belgians were stunned as a black African had never dared speak like this in front of Europeans.

Lumumba was toppled as prime minister just over two months later. Then in January 1961, with the tacit backing of Belgium, he was shot by a firing squad, along with two allies. Other Western powers



Patrice Lumumba’s remains have been buried in a specially built mausoleum

# EDITORIAL

## Stop the blame game President Weah

PRESIDENT GEORGE MANNEH Weah is blaming parents for the increase wave of at-risk youths across Liberia, commonly known here as “zogoos.”

THE PRESIDENT SAYS failure of Liberian parents to take care of their responsibility (children) has contributed to increase of at-risk youths in the country despite government efforts.

BUT WHILE PARENTS do have a share in the increase of wayward youths that have permeated our society, we believe strongly that government too has contributed by its failure to halt trafficking and widespread abuse of substances, which is largely responsible for having our streets flooded with at-risk youth that have become a serious social problem.

PRESIDENT WEAH FAILED to mention weakness of the security forces particularly the Police and the Liberia National Drug Enforcement Agency in vigorously clearing our communities and streets of ghettos that serve as breeding grounds for at-risk youths and criminals.

WHEN THE DRUG law of our country is so weak to an extent that traffickers of narcotics into our country that are arrested can get bail for less than US\$100 then we, collectively as a people, are exposing our youth to harmful practices that would eventually destroy their future and leaves the society vulnerable, as it is now.

WE WONDER WHERE was President Weah when at-risk youths terrorized worshipers returning from a Church crusade in the Borough of New Kru Town last year and left over 40 persons dead in a stampede, majority of them women, children and the elderly without the State making any arrest?

THE GOVERNMENT'S DIRECT failure to act despite the presence of a Police depot right in the borough gave at-risk youths license to create more havocs against peaceful and innocent citizens. And then President Weah is blaming parents for all of this!

SADLY AGAIN, THE President and the ruling Congress for Democratic Change exploited at-risk youths for political gains, dishing out to them 5,000 Liberian dollars each during the 2020 Special Senatorial Election and National Referendum. What message was he sending out to them?

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT fails to create jobs, provide social and rehabilitation programs for the youth that practically ran the campaign for the election of Mr. Weah and his ruling CDC, leaving them in frustrations, what else would they turn to other than drugs or substance abuse to ease their disappointment?

RATHER THAN BLAMING parents, President Weah should rally the entire nation, including schools, churches, mosques, and civil society to lead the campaign to rescue our future leaders if the government does mean well, and is not embarking on another political gimmick ahead of the 2023 elections.

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# COMMENTARY

By Eric Posner

## Why Try Trump?

CHICAGO - Former President Donald Trump's trial in the United States Senate has begun, but already a great deal of confusion has arisen about fundamental questions. Trump's lawyers argue that the Senate is not permitted to hold a trial at all. The Constitution says that, "The President ... shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors." Trump, according to his lawyers, cannot be removed from an office that he no longer occupies.

But the Constitution also states that, "Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States." The House impeachment managers (who act as prosecutors in the Senate trial) note that disqualification can apply only to a former officeholder.

The reason is that removal is automatic upon conviction by the Senate, while disqualification would require a further vote on the fate of the now-former officeholder. A person who is impeached and removed no longer holds office, and yet the Senate would be entitled to vote that he be disqualified.

Because the House voted to impeach Trump while he was president, there can be no credible doubt about the legitimacy of a Senate trial. Imagine a law that says that a police officer found to have abused her authority may be fired and prohibited from being rehired. It would be odd if she could evade the sanction of disqualification simply by resigning - and thus no longer being a police officer - after termination proceedings were launched but before they were completed. The only difference with Trump is that his term expired.

So much for the language of the Constitution. As is nearly always the case, founding-era debates and historical practice provide little additional guidance. While genuflection to the founding text is de rigeur nowadays, the real question is whether a Senate trial leading to disqualification of a former president who had been impeached by the House while still in office would do harm to the US constitutional system.

It is hard to see how it could. Whether the subject of the trial is a president or former president, conviction requires two-thirds of the senators present (after a majority in the House approve articles of impeachment). That threshold is so high that it would be reached only in a case of egregious presidential misconduct.

Is "incitement to insurrection" egregious enough? Unfortunately, under current political conditions, it probably isn't. Impeachment is best understood as a political sanction that will be imposed only when there is sufficient political support for removing a president or, as in this case, disqualifying a former president from holding office in the future. And, despite the January 6 attack on the US Capitol, Americans remain divided about Trump.

Republican senators must weigh the risk of losing votes to challengers in party primaries if they vote to convict Trump against the risk of losing the support of moderates in the general election if they vote to acquit him. Because most conservative states will send Republicans to the Senate, most Republican senators will be warier of primary challenges and vote against conviction.

In fact, those senators would rather not vote at all

- and not be tarnished in the general election - which is why all but six Republicans preferred to vote that the Senate lacks jurisdiction to try Trump. But Democrats may have done them a favor by overreaching in another respect: by alleging in the single article of impeachment that Trump incited an insurrection.

In both ordinary language and legal terms, an insurrection is an uprising against the government. The House managers argue that Trump incited a mob to overthrow the government. In a technical sense, we might call the mob action an insurrection, even though at the time Trump was the head of the government that he supposedly sought to overthrow.

At least some members of the mob hoped to kill, abduct, or intimidate members of Congress and (somehow) prevent Congress from certifying the election. The argument is that Trump not only sparked the mob's march on the Capitol, but also anticipated such a result and deliberately brought it about. Then, once the violence began, he did too little to stop it.

Maybe. But the better reading of events is that Trump was being Trump. By the standards of previous American presidents and virtually all American politicians, he was extraordinarily reckless in insisting for two months that the election was stolen and then in using inflammatory language with the crowd that had gathered to protest the election results.

But he did not directly ask the crowd to engage in violence, and there is no evidence that he anticipated that they would. Trump, like everyone else, must have expected that the police would keep the crowd under control, and would not have expected them to invade the Capitol (something that has not happened since the War of 1812, when British troops occupied Washington).

Moreover, if Trump had been a private citizen, his speech at the rally would have been protected by the First Amendment. Even if he had called for revolution, he would have done nothing illegal, as long as he did not direct a mob to engage in "imminent" violence.

Trump's lawyers argue that the First Amendment protects the president in his official capacity as well. But no one has ever considered the possibility that a president would stir up American citizens to attack Congress. A president with immense influence and reach poses a far greater danger to public order if he tells lies and stirs up anger than an ordinary rabble-rouser who stands on a stump and preaches revolution.

But the claim that Trump incited an insurrection is a stretch, and Republican senators seeking to justify acquitting him will argue that whatever he did, it was not insurrection. The real reason to disqualify Trump is that he is a menace to American institutions whose reckless, power-mad antics almost undermined an election and will sow mischief for years to come. This should be plainly said. Then it's up to the House managers to persuade Senate Republicans - and, more important, the citizens who may vote for them - that this man should not be allowed to run for office ever again.

Eric Posner, a professor at the University of Chicago Law School, is the author, most recently, of *The Demagogue's Playbook: The Battle for American Democracy from the Founders to Trump* (All Points Books, 2020).

O-PED

By Raghuram G. Rajan

# What Should Corporations Do?

**C**HICAGO - With the COVID-19 pandemic reinforcing concerns about economic inequality, left-behind communities, discrimination, and climate change, there is increasing pressure on corporations to do more than sell a good widget at an affordable price. Responding to the changing public mood, the US Business Roundtable declared last year that, "Each of our stakeholders is essential. We commit to deliver value to all of them, for the future success of our companies, our communities, and our country."

But this way of framing the issue is unhelpful. A corporation's stated objectives should help guide its choices. If all stakeholders are essential, then none are. In an attempt to please everyone, the Business Roundtable will probably end up pleasing no one. Recent evidence even suggests that the corporations that signed on to the group's "stakeholder capitalism" statement have been more likely to lay off workers in response to the pandemic, and less likely to donate to relief efforts.

Nevertheless, is the shareholder-centric view propounded by Nobel laureate economist Milton Friedman wrong? Friedman's rationale was that because managers are employed by shareholders, their duty is to maximize profits - and thus the share price - over time. While this approach was widely embraced by corporate executives in the United States and the United Kingdom over the past 50 years, its basic logic was misunderstood. To many observers, the idea that businesses should favor millionaire investors at the expense of long-term workers is appalling.

Yet there is a deeper argument for Friedman's view, based on the recognition that managers will not necessarily squeeze everyone else to favor shareholders. Because shareholders get whatever is left over after debt holders are paid their interest and workers their wages, management can maximize shareholders' "residual claim" only if it expands the size of the corporate pie relative to these prior fixed claims on it. To the extent that management must satisfy everyone else before looking to shareholder interests, it already does maximize value for all those who contribute to the firm.

True, some would counter that the imperative to boost quarterly profits leads to cost cutting in areas like worker training. But if companies want to maximize their shares' value over the long term, they will train workers where needed, encourage sustainable practices from their suppliers when it reduces costs, and foster lasting relationships with customers instead of ripping them off. Put another way, even if CEOs do focus primarily on share prices, that doesn't mean the stock market only rewards actions that boost this quarter's earnings. Amazon showed little profit for years, but is thriving now precisely because it invested so much in its business.

Moreover, when quarterly results do affect share prices, it is often because the short term has been interpreted as a credible reflection of the long term. By the same token, instead of trying to boost short-term profits by sacrificing the long term, corporate managers would do better to explain their strategy and encourage investor patience. And if market analysts do not buy their argument, perhaps they have a point, and new management may be in order. It is up to good corporate boards to decide, without being swayed by meaningless short-term results. They can certainly encourage managers to take a longer-term view. Vacuous statements about serving all stakeholders need never be issued.

To be sure, corporate managers have misused Friedman's original formulation to justify ever-increasing pay denominated in stock, which they claim "aligns" their interests with shareholders'. But this reflects a failure of corporate governance, not fundamental objectives. The real problem with Friedman's formulation is that no matter how correct it is technically, the fact that it is misunderstood makes a difference: Today's idealistic workers and customers refuse to accept it. The ironic implication of this attitudinal shift is that corporations that announce a commitment only to maximizing shareholder value risk driving away key constituencies, which will be reflected adversely in their share price.

This is why, as a recent McKinsey & Company report shows, more corporations are becoming "purpose-driven." Among the benefits they claim are stronger revenue growth (by attracting socially conscious customers), greater cost reduction (such as through energy or water efficiency), and better worker recruitment and motivation (making "doing good" an employment perk).

Of course, none of these targets is at odds with the objective of maximizing shareholder value. Corporate purpose is useful only insofar as it entices critical constituencies. If purpose is meant to please everyone, however, it will introduce an impossible standard and backfire. The key is for management to make clear how it will choose between different constituencies when trade-offs must be made.

For example, when Google withdrew from a US government program to develop artificial intelligence for military purposes, it signaled that its employees' objections were more important than the interests of a large, lucrative client. As a result, Google employees and customers all have a better sense of how the company weighs their interests, and that clarity will be beneficial in the long run, including to its share price.

Some corporations have taken things even further, such as by developing sustainability guidelines for themselves and their suppliers in the absence of state regulations. Collective acts of corporate noblesse oblige are worrisome: guidelines that large players can easily meet may keep out smaller market entrants, and nobly intentioned buyers may form "cartels" to squeeze suppliers. As such, it would be better if corporations pressed elected governments to regulate, rather than acting on their own.

Finally, there is the growing issue of corporate political influence and speech. Many stakeholders now want companies to weigh in on issues such as the restrictions on LGBTQ rights in some US states. These are often the same stakeholders who object to corporate money influencing elections. Generally speaking, interventions outside a company's business interests raise profound questions of legitimacy: Whose views are being represented? Management? But managers were appointed for their competence to run the firm, not for their political views. Stakeholders? Which set and on what basis? Corporations should be careful here. While we have political processes to reward or penalize government actions, and corporate processes to hold managers accountable, we lack robust mechanisms for monitoring and checking businesses that take on traditional government roles. Until we do, corporations that assume public responsibilities risk crossing the limits of public



# Lord, Rofa da lesson number one

Dear Father,

**They say wetin happening in Rofa? I hear say the people say da na small thing going on in the old man backyard oo. Tell me something my son, they say wetin happening there?**

**Aah, dis one too big for my mouth oo. They say da na small flogging, they flogging my Old Man son in Rofa oo. But I hear they say da na small noise they making there too oo. They say they will na sit down there for the people to cheat them.**

**You mean the Old Man from the handshake? Yes oo, Father**

**Ehn? You joking!**

**Um, da na small thing going on there oo. They say the two camps na start celebrating already and da na small noise in the place.**

**But wait oo, my son, what the Old Man people making all the noise for? Whereplay they were er when the children from the Country Giant camp were visiting Rofa eversince?**

**Ehn they were running from one court room to the other one; the same people were cheering them to be wasting their time in court. Wetin they think the people were doing it for?**

**You mind them, Father; instead of them preparing, they were wasting their own time here, running around. Ehn they say they know book, the children da na know book jab them and put their hay together, while they were campaigning bad way in Rofa. This one if da na lesson for them na, then me I na know when they will learn na oo hmmm.**

**No, my son, when they come back, they mon say the people cheat them; so they can be running from place to place again until the big one in 2023 come catch up with them.**

**I wonder they think the children will be waiting for them sef to fini with their cheating palaver before they all start campaigning together, hayaka.**

**Wait let them just be there. They mon na learn. Let them go sit down again as soon as they say voting time reaching then they want start making noise. But you will tell me my son.**

**Um, you mind them. They will waste all their time going to court. Today they will call for the commissioner's hay. The next day they want the commissioner noise and the following day the hands. All that thing they are doing their friend them going from one town and village to another campaigning oo. Let them be there Rofa da lesson number one.**

**Anyway, what kinda joke that Uncle Sam man was giving yesterday so? What do you mean?**

**Oh Father, you didn't hear? The man was telling us how Adam, I na know their second or third President lose to Jefferson after only one term.**

**But da na the one that catch my heart oo. He say Adam not just lose oh, but he lose to Jefferson who was his bitter enemy. And when the man was talking the thing our Prezo was just sitting down right behind him giving him eye linking.**

**No wonder our Prezo na talk plenty sef when he came up because da kinda joke, me myself will not accept it sef. I going to do voting then you telling me story about somebody who went there and only stay one time and lose to his bitter enemy-puah. Da one da na joke oo.**

# UNDP Liberia's Growth Accelerator round one winner use grants to scale up business operations

It's been less than six months since five entrepreneurs won business growth grants of up to US\$40,000. On a monitoring mission in May this year, UNDP found that the winning enterprises are putting the co-financing grants to good use as they begin implementing their business plans.

The entrepreneurs have used first tranche of their grants to acquire new equipment and business facilities, as well as to renovate and expand existing production facilities.

Nimba Venture



Jared K Lankah, 30, founded Nimba Venture in 2019 to address the perennial scarcity of snails during the dry season. The business has used the first payment to purchase a vehicle to help him transport his farming supplies, and equipment including an irrigation machine. He also bought an extra piece of land in Saclepea to expand operations and construct additional snail production structures.

Nimba Venture wants to expand its snail production facility more than 10-fold, from a 27-breeding compartment facility, each of which accommodates 45 snails, to a more than 300 compartment snail breeding enterprise.

The firm will also transition its production system to the green house plant breeding model, which is envisioned to intensify production. In the expanded facility, less than 45 snails will be held in each compartment giving them more space to reproduce faster compared to the intensive clustered method that has been characterized by overcrowding of snails in few compartments limiting their reproduction potential.

"We want to build more than 300 compartments that will enable us to breed and supply over 100,000 snails all year round and move into packaging for supermarkets and possibly for exports," says Lankah.

As a result of the Growth Accelerator grant, Nimba Venture now operates from two locations - Monrovia and Saclepea, and mentors and trains aspiring snail farmers, including the youth, to set up their own snail farms.

Wungko's Farm



In 2016, Paul Wungko, 34, decided to start poultry and piggy farming. He also produces animal feeds and plantain chips. With the Growth Accelerator grant, he

plans to diversify production to include vegetables and goats as part of efforts to expand.

"We have hired agronomists to test run the cultivation of vegetable seedlings and will use the by-product from kernel cake to produce washing soap," Paul noted.

He has already cleared over 25 acres of land to plant additional corn for production of chicken feed. He will also plant 10,000 plantain heads to produce more plantain chips.

He is also acquiring several pieces of equipment including a turbine mixed agricultural water pump, gun irrigation system, palm kernel cracker, palm kernel expeller, power tiller, wooden packaging etc. He has also started the construction of additional housing structures for his animals.

Before the Growth Accelerator, Paul was already a beneficiary of the UNDP Liberia's Livelihood and Employment Creation program, having received a tractor procured through the Ministry of Agriculture.

Redimere Inc.



Joshua Zemah, 27, established Redimere Inc. in 2018 to produce Liberia's first brand of chocolate. He is currently producing chocolate products including chocolate bars in different flavors - honey, coconut, pepper, and plain dark chocolate, as well as cocoa powder, chocolate chips, brownie mix, chocolate liquor, nibs, and cocoa butter. Some of the products can be found in few of the supermarkets in the country.

"My dream is to build a Liberian owned chocolate factory that allows Liberians to purchase and enjoy locally made, high quality chocolate products that are affordable," says Joshua.

He has used the first portion of his grant to order several equipment including a cocoa press, a melanger machine, a tempering machine, and to purchase larger quantities of cocoa beans to expand his chocolatier business. The grant is also being used to locally assemble a cocoa roaster because ordering one is very expensive. The roaster is used to help separate the outer coverings of the cocoa bean from the inner part, which makes cracking and removing the chaff much easier. It also virtually sterilizes the cocoa bean.

The Lunchbox



Christollie Ade Suah, 30, established The Lunchbox in 2019 to prepare, package, sell and/or deliver meals to Monrovia's working class, and caters for weddings and other events.

Before the Growth Accelerator grant, Christollie was operating the Lunch Box from her home. Now she has secured a bigger facility where she can expand her home-based business to a fully-fledged restaurant.

She has also used the first tranche of her grant to procure machines and supplies including a spice grinder, spice filling machines and pouches. Christollie Ade Suah's vision is to also produce locally made Liberian spice that add value to cooking.

She has further renovated the kitchen space and the juice station. She has also since increased her staff from two to ten people and trained them on food safety, standards of performance, and customer service.

"Our dream is to remain on the path of becoming a household name," says Christollie.

Libra Sanitation



Libra Sanitation, Inc. is a Liberia's first privately owned waste management and sanitation company that was established in March 2004. It provides full-service, solid waste management including collection and disposal of non-hazardous solid waste, low-scale recycling, water delivery, land scaling and landfill disposal services to commercial, industrial, municipal and residential customers throughout Liberia.

With the Growth Accelerator grant, the business plans to scale-up compost making using biodegradable wastes. The company is using the first tranche of their grant to construct two compost workstations, compost pits, storage facilities and an office on two lots of land in the Fendal Community in Monrovia. The proprietor Roland Dakagboi displayed two locally built compost bins and assorted materials such as shovels, water pump, helmets, gloves, rain gear, tarpaulin and other supplies purchased to facilitate the expansion of the business.

"Our goal is to produce non-toxic Liberian-made fertilizers," says Roland Dakagboi.

The company will place waste bins at designated areas around Monrovia, including the busy Omega market where a dedicated staff/agent will be situated to encourage and provide guidance to marketeers and those using the bins on how to separate and dispose organic wastes.

Dakagboi informed the monitoring team that the company will soon launch a market assessment survey to attract interested clients.

"We have started engaging bigger companies like Wealla and Mano as well as local farm cooperatives and small-holder farmers who could be interested in our products which will pose no threat of pollution for the environment," Dakagboi noted.

The UNDP Growth Accelerator Liberia grant competition is implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Icampus Liberia.

The second round of the competition is underway. UNDP plans to invest USD 860,000 in seven successful businesses and five agricultural cooperatives in 2022.

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# PFM Reform is an Effective tool for Equitability in public service delivery

**-Deputy Minister Brunson say**

Deputy Minister of Budget and Development Planning Hon. Tanneh G. Brunson has said that the Public Financial Management Reform policy is an effective tool for equitability in public service delivery.

Hon. Brunson made the disclosure on Wednesday June 29, at the 3rd Development Series Dialogue, organized by the Reform Coordination Unit at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning.

The dialogue hosted His Excellency Godfrey A.E.

improving the macroeconomic environment through domestic production especially in the agriculture sectors”

The deputy finance minister however said that the pursuit of structure reform to support systems and institutions, is important to improving public financial management and to ensure transparent utilization of public resources and governance reform from enhancing peace and security.

“With these ongoing

Personnel Information System (IPPIS) of April 2007.

He said the Treasury Single Account (TSA) is a financial policy in use in several countries of the world. I am aware that Liberia has its own version, described in the other way round as Single Treasury Account (STA). In Nigeria, the TSA was proposed by the federal government in 2012 under the former President Goodluck E. Jonathan Administration and was fully implemented by the current President Muhammadu Buhari regime. The TSA has been defined as a public accounting system under which all government revenue, receipts

# MAP Liberia inducts National Steering Committee



The Multi-Actor Platform on Land Governance and Responsible Agricultural Investment in Liberia (MAP Liberia) Land Platform has inducted its National Steering Committee members in Ganta, Nimba County.

MAP Liberia is a land sector coordination platform established to enhance Dialogue on Policies and Practices that will improve Land Governance and Responsible Agricultural Investment.

Mr. Haje L. Paasewe, Communications and Reporting Officer of the MAP Liberia Land Platform said Tuesday, 28 June 2022 that the inducted members of the National Steering Committee include high profile and top - decision making representatives of the various constituencies of the MAP including.

He said they represented the Government, civil society organizations (CSOs), the Private Sector, Academia and local community-based establishments.

The Liberia Land Authority and the Ministry of Agriculture are the government representation on the Steering Committee, he explained.

For the Private Sector, which is also a very key component of the MAP, Local Farm Incorporated in Grand Bassa County and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), Non-State Actors Coalition will serve as members of the steering committee.

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology of the University of Liberia and the William R. Tolbert, Jr., College of Agriculture and Forestry represent the Academia on the National Steering Committee, he added.

The CSO constituency is represented by Sustainable Development Institute (SDI) and the Alliance for Rural Democracy (ARD). Community representation is through a Community Forest Development

Committee (CFDC) of Grand Gedeh, a Union of Community Forest Management Body (NUCFMB) in Nimba County and two Community Land Development Management Committees (CLDMCs) from River Cess and Bomi Counties. Speaking about the role of the committee, Paasewe explained that the Steering Committee is the highest decision - making body of the platform.

According to him, it has the primary responsibilities of making key policy decisions, providing support, guidance, and to ensure that the MAP's outputs and outcomes are achieved.

Mr. Paasewe continued that the steering committee is to help in providing inputs to the MAP processes by defining and helping to achieve expected outcomes.

It is also to help identify and monitor challenges and risks, and to propose and ensure realistic mitigating measures.

Considering tenure limitations, he clarified that the Steering Committee goes for a period of two years, and Steering Committee members will serve not more than two terms except for the Liberia Land Authority.

He emphasized that the Liberia Land Authority (LLA) is the only permanent Steering Committee member, given its statutory mandate on land issues and its co-convening role on the MAP.

Expressing joy over the accomplishment, Paasewe stressed that the Steering Committee's induction is a great milestone which now completes the governance structure of the MAP Platform.

“Now that the Steering Committee is in place, it will further strengthen communication and coordination mechanism between and among the different structures of the MAP Liberia Land Platform,” he concluded.

For more information about the Steering Committee and the MAP Liberia Land Platform generally, you check out at: [www.map-liberia-land-platform.org](http://www.map-liberia-land-platform.org) or reach out via Facebook Multi-Actor Platform Liberia.



Odudigbo fdc, Ambassador Federal Republic of Nigeria to Liberia.

It was about learning from the Nigerian Government experiences on various reforms initiated including good governance, and how their experiences could help Liberia's postwar development efforts.

According to her, to ensure transparency, accountability and quality of services, individuals and institutions must develop a system of government that has the characteristic of openness.

She noted that Liberia has realized that through Nigeria National economic empowerment and development strategy (NEEDS), the government and people of Nigeria are on the rise.

She said: “following the years of economic drought, Nigeria was able to rebound through a comprehensive reform with focus on

reforms processes, it is expected that Nigeria will continue to maintain its convening authority as a major power broker in Africa” she added.

For his part, His Excellency Godfrey A.E. Odudigbo fdc, Ambassador Federal Republic of Nigeria to Liberia said the Federal Republic of Nigeria is reputed as one of the pioneers in the implementation of some contemporary public financial reforms in Africa.

He noted that Nigeria had three major reforms related to the financial sector of Nigeria Bank recapitalization of 2005 called Treasury Single Account (TSA) of 2012, Integrated Payroll and

and income are collected into one single account, usually maintained by the country's Central Bank and all payments done through the account as well.

The ambassador reform dialogue series is a platform developed by the reform coordination unit with the purpose of knowledge sharing from another spectrum of the globe. It provides a platform for other countries to share their experience on the reform process, including challenges and opportunity. It also allows us to take stock of those useful reforms that are essential for improving the system of effective governance in the public financial management system in our country.

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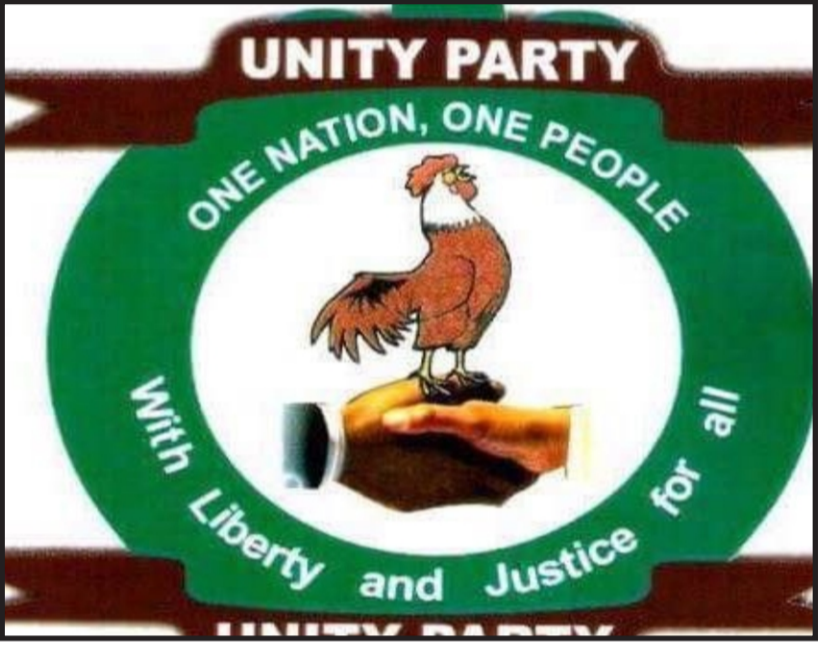
# We've not conceded

**-UP says it remains optimistic of winning Lofa senatorial race**

By Lincoln G. Peters  
 Former ruling Unity Party (UP) says it has not conceded defeat in the just - held Lofa County Senatorial by - election. "The vast majority of those that are remaining are from the Zorzor and Voinjama belt where ... the Unity Party candidate's stronghold. However, based upon that, UP is optimistic that their candidate will win

Commission (NEC) provision results after 83.92 percent of the votes were tallied. UP's candidate Kortima Galakkpai, the closest rival, obtains 33.04 percent of the votes so far. Hours before the NEC announced the provisional results, Unity Party on Thursday, 30 June 2022 extended congratulations and appreciation to the people of Lofa for the kind

results from the by-election once found credible. The Unity Party urged all other political parties and candidates that participated in the Lofa by-election to follow suit. It also called on all its partisans, supporters, and well-wishers to remain calm and peaceful as they await the National Elections Commissions to announce the final results. NEC accredited six candidates who participated in the Lofa Senatorial by-election. The other four are independent candidates Momo Cyrus obtained 4,753 votes, constituting 9.42%; Representative Mariamu Fofana obtained 5,456 votes constituting 10.82%; and Mr. George Samah obtained 1,176 votes constituting 2.33%. People's Unification Party (PUL) candidate Mr. Sumo Kupee obtained 1,908 votes, constituting 3.78%. The NEC said these provisional results announced covered 381 polling places of 454 polling places, constituting 83.92%. Following the announcement of the provision results, UP Secretary General Mohammed Ali said his party's statement is not in any way accepting early defeat.



the election," said Mr. Ali told this paper Thursday, 30 June 2022. Cllr. Joseph Jallah who is backed by the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) is leading official National Elections

and peaceful manner in which they conducted themselves in the senatorial by-election. Through a press statement issued in Monrovia, Unity Party also vowed that it will accept the

# MICAT, UNESCO conduct cultural capacity building training

By Lincoln G. Peters  
 A three - day capacity building and training session for the nomination of World Heritage sites in the African region has opened in Monrovia. The initiative is organized by the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs & Tourism (MICAT), in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Heritage Center (WHC). The program focuses on needs assessment for Liberia's update of tentative list, including East Nimba Natural Reserve (ENNR); Gola Rainforest (Lofa- Mano National Park); and Sapo National Park. The tentative list also includes the Kpatawee Waterfall. The capacity building and training session opened Wednesday, 29 June 2022 at the National Museum, Broad Street which will run until 1 July 2022. Mr. Lance K. Gbagonyon,

Deputy Minister for Cultural Affairs & Tourism, said in 2021, the Government of Japan signed an agreement with UNESCO to support the "Capacity Building Program for Nomination of World Heritage Sites in the Africa Region." While giving the the purpose of the program, Mr. Gbagonyon explained that it aims to support 10 countries in the African region without

inscribed properties (Burundi, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, and Eswatini) to develop strong and credible nomination dossiers. The countries also include Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Sudan. He told the gathering, "This four-year program (June 2021-June 2025) for the nomination of World Heritage sites in the African region aims to build the capacity of African



Instead, Mr. Ali said as a responsible institution, Unity Party is trying to tell its supporters that when you go to process, somebody has to win. He argued that the UP's statement was released prior to NEC announcing results, therefore, it was not in any way a congratulatory message to the

CDC candidate Cllr. Jallah. "Our profound appreciation goes out to the partisans and technical teams who are still working to ensure that the election was free and fair and the enfranchisement of the people of Lofa County was protected," the opposition party said.

# UEFA soccer expert speaks on women's football in Liberia



## UEFA Expert Coach Hesterine De Reus

By Naneka A. Hoffman  
 The Liberia Football Association (LFA) in collaboration with Union of European Football Association (UEFA) has started a four-day capacity building for Grassroots Women's Football in schools. The training runs from June 29 to July 2, 2022. Speaking in an exclusive interview with this paper in Monrovia, UEFA Expert Hesterine De Reus, stressed a need to create opportunities for talented females, adding, "If we can create opportunities for girls who can play football then more girls will come and the Women's Football will get better." The former Australia Coach Hesterine said the purpose of the training is to help coaches, school teachers, volunteers and parents to organize football and allow their kids to play the

game to move Women's Football forward in Liberia. She explained that though she didn't spend much time in Liberia, but knows a little about challenges in Liberian football, which she noted, is quite different from Europe, noting that the next thing in football is "we can organize it everywhere." Coach Hesterine pointed that that economy of Liberia is challenged, saying "When we train children in soccer especially in Africa, we have to provide food and water for them, even at some extent paying for players' academic programs with education for schools, which is a big challenge. All these things are not happening in Europe." Notwithstanding, she said children in Liberia like football a lot so, she will help them. She further observed that sometimes some coaches are

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

heritage experts." Mr. Gbagonyon added that it aims to increase the number of African sites inscribed on the World Heritage list, while ensuring that current and future African World Heritage properties remain in a satisfactory state of conversation. According to Gbagonyon, the main objective of the program is to develop strong nomination dossiers for non-represented State Parties, and to build the capacity of local heritage practitioners in heritage conversation and management. It further aims to train at least three local heritage practitioners to strengthen their capacities in nomination, conversation and management.

Additionally, it seeks to create a national inter-ministerial committee for heritage; update the tentative list of Liberia; and develop a complete and solid nomination file. It will sensitize stakeholders (decision makers, local communities, youth and women) to the value benefits of protecting and promoting their natural and cultural heritage, including their potential world heritage sites. Talking further about the program, Mr. Gbagonyon explained that under the objectives the following activities have been carried out: Local heritage practitioners trained to strengthen their capacities in the nomination, conversation and management.

# Français

## Le Libéria figure parmi les pays qui bénéficieront du programme alimentaire américain

Le président américain Joe Biden a nommé le Libéria et sept autres pays africains en tant que pays qui bénéficieront de subventions alimentaires dans le cadre du programme Feed the Future Expansion du gouvernement américain. Selon l'ambassade des États-Unis près de Monrovia, le président Biden a annoncé l'expansion du programme Feed the Future lors du sommet des dirigeants du G7 en Allemagne.

Les autres pays répertoriés sont la République démocratique du Congo, le Madagascar, le Malawi, le Mozambique, le Rwanda, la Tanzanie et la Zambie.

Le programme s'inscrit dans le cadre de l'initiative mondiale contre la faim et pour la sécurité alimentaire du gouvernement américain visant à atteindre de nouveaux pays et à intensifier les efforts pour traiter directement et atténuer les impacts des récents chocs sur la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition mondiale.

"Ces pays ont été classés par ordre de priorité sur la base d'une combinaison

d'insécurité alimentaire sous-jacente, de pauvreté et de malnutrition, y compris les impacts de l'invasion de l'Ukraine par la Russie, ainsi que l'opportunité - et l'engagement de chaque gouvernement - de s'attaquer à ces problèmes profondément enracinés en partenariat avec nous", a dit l'ambassade des États-Unis dans un communiqué de presse.

Dans ces pays, le gouvernement américain adopte une approche coordonnée de ses investissements et, à son tour,

ouvre la voie à d'autres ressources et investissements d'autres acteurs, tels que le secteur privé, les donateurs et les gouvernements locaux.

Selon le communiqué, les pays déjà sous le choc de l'augmentation de la pauvreté, de la faim et de la malnutrition à la suite du COVID-19, des chocs climatiques, de la grave sécheresse dans la Corne de l'Afrique et des conflits

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Opposition et parti au pouvoir revendiquent la victoire à Lofa

Bien que la Commission électorale nationale n'ait pas encore annoncé officiellement les résultats de l'élection sénatoriale partielle de mardi dans le comté de Lofa, des informations émanant du comté indiquent que la coalition au pouvoir et le parti de l'unité de l'ancien vice-président Joseph Nyumah Boakai revendiquent la victoire et mobilisent leurs supporters pour la célébration.

La présidente de la NEC, Davidetta Browne-Lasanah, s'exprimant depuis Lofa via un téléphone portable sur OK FM le mercredi 29 juin 2022, a félicité les électeurs de tout le comté pour être sortis et avoir exercé leur droit démocratique.

Six (6) candidats, dont cinq hommes et une femme, se sont affrontés dans les urnes, mais les résultats comptés affichés dans les bureaux de vote à travers le comté semblent indiquer qu'il s'agit d'une compétition entre le candidat de l'UP et le candidat

indépendant soutenu par le parti au pouvoir.

Pendant ce temps, la NEC aurait déjà commencé à annoncer les résultats préliminaires officiels hier jeudi. Le dépouillement des votes a débuté le mardi 28 juin 2022 après l'élection partielle dans le comté de Lofa. L'élection vise à pourvoir un siège vacant créé par la condamnation pénale du sénateur élu et ancien ministre de la Défense J. Brownie Samukai.

M. Samukai avait remporté le siège lors de l'élection sénatoriale spéciale du 8 décembre 2020, mais lui et deux autres ont par la suite été inculpés de plusieurs chefs d'accusation, dont notamment vol et corruption. Il est accusé d'avoir détourné l'argent de la pension des soldats, qui s'élevait à plus d'un million de dollars américains, en tant que ministre de la Défense sous l'administration précédente.

Les candidats sont : Momo Tarnuekolle Cyrus (M) candidat indépendant ; Mariamu Beyan Fofana (F)

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## Éditorial

### Arrêtez d'accuser les autres, M. Président Weah

Le président George Manneh Weah accuse les parents de favoriser la prolifération de jeunes à risque dans le pays, communément appelés « zogoes ».

Selon le président, les parents libériens sont incapables de prendre soin de leurs enfants. Ce qui contribue à l'augmentation du nombre de jeunes à risque dans le pays malgré les efforts du gouvernement.

Mais, quoique les parents aient effectivement leur part de responsabilité dans l'augmentation des enfants de la rue, nous croyons fermement que le gouvernement a aussi contribué par son incapacité à mettre fin au trafic et à l'abus généralisé de substances, qui est en grande partie responsable de l'inondation de nos rues de jeunes à risque qui sont devenus une bombe à retardement social.

Le président Weah a omis de mentionner la faiblesse des forces de sécurité, en particulier la police et l'Agence nationale de lutte contre la drogue du Libéria. Ces forces-là ne sont pas à même d'éliminer les ghettos dans nos communautés et dans nos rues, lesquels ghettos servent de terreau aux jeunes à risque et aux criminels.

La législation antidrogue de notre pays est si faible que les trafiquants de stupéfiants sont libérés sous caution en payant moins de 100 dollars américains. Nous, collectivement en tant que peuple, exposons nos jeunes à des pratiques néfastes qui risquent de détruire leur avenir et rendre la société vulnérable, comme elle l'est maintenant.

Nous nous demandons où était le président Weah lorsque des jeunes à risque terrorisaient des fidèles revenant d'une croisade dans l'arrondissement de New Kru Town l'année dernière, faisant plus de 40 morts dans une bousculade, dont une majorité de femmes, d'enfants et de personnes âgées sans que l'État ne fasse une arrestation?

L'incapacité du gouvernement à agir malgré la présence des dépôts de police dans les arrondissements a permis aux jeunes à risque de créer davantage de ravages contre des citoyens pacifiques et innocents. Mais le président Weah s'en prend aux parents en les accusant d'être responsables de tout cela !

Hélas! Encore hélas! Le président et le Congrès pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir a exploité ces jeunes à risque à des fins politiques en donnant 5 000 dollars libériens à chacun d'eux lors de l'élection sénatoriale spéciale et du référendum national de 2020. Quel message leur envoyait-il ?

Quand le gouvernement ne parvient pas à créer des emplois, à fournir des programmes sociaux et de réadaptation pour les jeunes qui ont pratiquement mené la campagne pour l'élection de M. Weah et de son CDC au pouvoir, ils n'ont d'autres choix que de se tourner vers la drogue ou la toxicomanie pour calmer leur déception

Au lieu d'accuser les parents, le président Weah devrait galvaniser toute la nation, y compris les écoles, les églises, les mosquées et la société civile pour mener la campagne pour sauver nos futurs dirigeants.





# Français

## Le Libéria figure parmi les pays qui bénéficieront

prolongés sont désormais confrontés à de nouvelles souffrances en raison de l'invasion non provoquée de l'Ukraine par la Russie.

"Cela étend l'empreinte mondiale de Feed the Future de 12 à 20 pays cibles et respecte l'engagement du président Biden en septembre 2021 de 5 milliards de dollars sur cinq ans pour mettre fin à la faim et à la malnutrition dans le monde et construire des systèmes alimentaires durables et résilients."

Le programme Feed the Future répond au niveau de besoin de chaque pays et exploite le pouvoir de l'agriculture pour stimuler la croissance économique et transformer les systèmes alimentaires du pays et de la région.

Pour répondre à la crise mondiale de la sécurité alimentaire, Feed the Future se concentre sur quatre axes principaux : atténuer la pénurie mondiale d'engrais, accroître les investissements dans la capacité et la résilience agricoles, amortir le choc macroéconomique et son impact sur les pauvres, et maintenir un haut niveau de engagement politique mondial. A en croire le communiqué, en tant que nouveau pays cible de Feed the Future, l'ambassade des États-Unis, par l'intermédiaire de l'USAID/Libéria, contribue à ces efforts en renforçant sa coordination et sa

collaboration avec le ministère de l'Agriculture par le biais d'une assistance technique et d'un soutien politique et en élargissant le programme pour s'attaquer aux principaux moteurs de l'alimentation, l'insécurité en renforçant la résilience des ménages aux chocs et aux facteurs de stress, en améliorant les pratiques agricoles et en soutenant l'accès et l'utilisation des intrants agricoles ainsi que des variétés améliorées, des technologies, des équipements et des infrastructures appropriés.

D'autres initiatives de soutien créent des opportunités pour les entreprises agricoles en co-investissant dans des entreprises prometteuses, en renforçant les services aux entreprises et en investissant dans des entrepreneurs prometteurs et des initiatives pour relever les défis de la sécurité alimentaire du Libéria ; et enfin, investir dans la prochaine génération d'agriculteurs et d'entrepreneurs en élargissant les programmes d'alimentation scolaire en coordination avec le ministère de l'Éducation et en promouvant la formation agricole dans les écoles.

Financé à plus d'un milliard de dollars par an, Feed the Future dispose d'une expertise technique, de programmes et de partenaires dans plus de 35 pays mis à profit pour atténuer les impacts de ce dernier

choc mondial et s'attaquer aux causes profondes de la pauvreté, de la faim et de la malnutrition.

## Opposition et parti au pouvoir

Candidat indépendant ; Joseph Kpator Jallah (M) Indépendant ; et George Beyan Samah (M) candidat indépendant, Galakpai W. Kortimai (M) Unity Party et Sumo G. Kupee (M) People's Unification Party.

Le vote a eu lieu dans les cinq districts du comté, à savoir ; Foya, Kolahun, Voinjama, Zorzor et Quadu Gboni.

Galakpai W. Kortimai (M) et Joseph Kpator Jallah (M) seraient coude à coude selon les résultats provisoires non officiels.

Mariamou Beyan Fofana (F)

et George Beyan Samah (M) sont des législateurs en exercice de la Chambre des représentants, mais ils se sont présentés comme candidats indépendants.

L'élection partielle est clairement entre le CDC du président George Weah et l'UP de l'ancien vice-président Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

M. Boakai a juré de vaincre le président Weah lors du scrutin de 2023. Ainsi, si son candidat remporte les élections à Lofa, cela pourrait marquer sa détermination à y parvenir après avoir perdu face à M. Weah en 2017.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Eric Posner

## Pourquoi juger Trump ?

CHICAGO - Alors que vient de débiter le procès de l'ancien président Donald Trump devant le Sénat américain, une grande confusion règne déjà autour de plusieurs questions fondamentales. Les avocats de Trump considèrent que le Sénat n'est tout simplement pas en droit de mener un procès. La Constitution énonce quant à elle : « Le président [et...] seront destitués de leurs charges sur mise en accusation et condamnation pour trahison, corruption ou autres crimes et délits majeurs ». Selon ses avocats, Trump ne peut être destitué d'un poste qu'il n'occupe plus aujourd'hui.

Mais la Constitution énonce également : « La sentence dans les cas d'impeachment ne pourra excéder la destitution ou l'incapacité de tenir et de bénéficier de toute fonction honorifique, de confiance ou rémunérée relevant des États-Unis ». Les dirigeants de la Chambre partisans de l'impeachment (qui font office de procureurs dans le procès au Sénat) soulignent ainsi que la notion d'incapacité ne peut en l'occurrence s'appliquer qu'à un ancien titulaire de la fonction.

En effet, la destitution est automatique après le prononcé d'une condamnation par le Sénat, tandis que l'incapacité nécessite un nouveau vote sur le sort de l'ancien titulaire de la fonction. Ainsi, alors qu'une personne destituée et disqualifiée n'occupe plus ses fonctions, le Sénat est censé voter l'incapacité de la personne concernée.

La Chambre ayant voté l'impeachment de Trump pendant sa présidence, la légitimité d'un procès devant le Sénat ne fait aucun doute. Imaginez qu'une loi énonce qu'un officier de police ayant abusé de son autorité soit susceptible d'être licencié ou interdit d'exercer ce métier. Il serait étrange que ce policier puisse échapper à la sanction d'une incapacité en se contentant de démissionner - et par conséquent de ne plus être officier de police - après l'ouverture de procédures de destitution inachevées. La seule différence avec Trump, c'est que son mandat a expiré.

Intervient encore et toujours une question d'interprétation de la Constitution. Comme c'est presque systématiquement le cas, les débats autour de l'esprit des fondateurs et des pratiques historiques ne permettent pas réellement d'avancer. Si la primauté du texte fondateur est aujourd'hui de rigueur, la vraie question consiste à déterminer si un procès devant le Sénat, susceptible d'aboutir à la disqualification d'un ancien président destitué par la Chambre pendant son mandat, risque de mettre à mal le système constitutionnel américain.

Cela semble peut probable. Que l'accusé du procès soit un président ou un ancien président, la condamnation exige une majorité de deux tiers des sénateurs présents (après l'approbation des articles de mise en accusation par une majorité à la Chambre). Le seuil est par conséquent si élevé qu'il ne peut être atteint qu'en cas d'inconduite présidentielle grave.

« L'incitation à l'insurrection » constitue-t-elle un acte suffisamment grave ? Malheureusement, dans le contexte politique actuel, rien n'est moins sûr. L'impeachment est davantage perçu comme une sanction politique imposée uniquement en présence d'un soutien politique suffisant à l'appui de la destitution d'un président, ou en l'occurrence d'une incapacité pour un ancien président à occuper cette fonction à l'avenir. Or, malgré l'assaut du 6 janvier au Capitole, les Américains restent divisés sur le cas Trump.

Les sénateurs républicains doivent ainsi mettre en balance le risque de perdre des votes au profit d'adversaires lors des primaires du parti s'ils décident de voter la condamnation de Trump, et celui de perdre le soutien des modérés lors des élections législatives s'ils votent son acquittement. Dans la mesure où les États conservateurs enverront des Républicains au Sénat, la plupart des sénateurs républicains se méfieront sans doute davantage des adversaires aux primaires, et voteront ainsi contre une condamnation.

Ces sénateurs préféreraient en réalité ne pas voter du

tout - pour éviter de ternir leur image dans la perspective des législatives - ce qui explique que tous les Républicains, sauf six, aient décidé de considérer que le Sénat n'était pas juridiquement compétent pour juger Trump. Les Démocrates leur ont toutefois sans doute fait une faveur visant un peu trop haut, c'est-à-dire en faisant valoir dans leur seul article de mise en accusation que Trump avait incité à l'insurrection.

Dans un langage ordinaire et juridique, le terme insurrection s'entend d'un soulèvement contre le gouvernement. Les dirigeants de la Chambre considèrent que Trump a incité un groupe violent à renverser le gouvernement. Techniquement, l'assaut mené par ce groupe peut être qualifié d'insurrection, même si au moment du soulèvement Trump était encore à la tête du gouvernement censé être renversé.

Certains membres au moins de ce groupe violent entendaient tuer, séquestrer ou intimider les membres du Congrès, et empêcher d'une manière ou d'une autre le Congrès de certifier l'élection. Le raisonnement consiste à dire que Trump n'a pas seulement incité cette marche violente jusqu'au Capitole, mais qu'il avait également anticipé cet événement en le promouvant délibérément, puis, une fois les violences apparues, qu'il n'a rien fait pour les stopper.

Peut-être. Mais dans une meilleure lecture des événements, on peut considérer que Trump a tout simplement fait du Trump. Comparé aux autres présidents des États-Unis, et à presque tous les responsables politiques américains, Trump s'est montré extraordinairement irresponsable, en insistant pendant deux mois sur l'idée d'une élection volée, puis en employant un langage incendiaire devant la foule réunie pour contester les résultats de l'élection.

Pour autant, il n'a pas directement ordonné à la foule de commettre des violences, et rien ne prouve qu'il s'attendait à de tels comportements. Comme nous tous, Trump a sans doute supposé que les forces de police maintiendraient la foule sous contrôle, et n'imaginait probablement pas que celle-ci pourrait envahir le Capitole (ce qui n'était pas arrivé depuis la guerre de 1812, lorsque les troupes britanniques avaient occupé Washington).

Par ailleurs, si Trump avait été un citoyen ordinaire, son discours lors du rassemblement en question aurait été protégé par le Premier Amendement. Même s'il avait incité à une révolution, il n'aurait rien commis d'illégal, tant qu'il n'ordonnait pas à la foule de se livrer à des violences « imminentes ».

Les avocats de Trump font ainsi valoir que le Premier Amendement protège également le président dans ses fonctions officielles. Personne n'aurait pu en effet imaginer qu'un président incite des citoyens américains à s'attaquer au Congrès. Un président à l'influence et à la portée considérables représente un danger bien plus grave pour l'ordre public s'il se livre à des mensonges et sème la haine qu'un agitateur ordinaire debout sur une estrade et prêchant la révolution.

L'affirmation selon laquelle Trump aurait incité à l'insurrection est en réalité une déformation, et les sénateurs républicains déterminés à justifier son acquittement feront valoir que quoi qu'il ait fait, il ne s'agissait pas d'une insurrection. La véritable raison pour laquelle Trump doit être incapable, c'est parce qu'il constitue une menace pour les institutions américaines, dont les facéties et imprudences liées au pouvoir ont failli anéantir une élection, et feront perdurer des mensonges pendant plusieurs années encore. C'est tout simplement ça qu'il convient de dire. Il appartient ensuite aux dirigeants de la Chambre de convaincre les Républicains du Sénat - et, plus important encore, les citoyens susceptibles de voter pour eux - que cet homme ne doit plus jamais être en capacité de présenter sa candidature à ce poste.

Traduit de l'anglais par Martin Morel

Eric Posner, professeur à la Law School de l'Université de Chicago, est l'auteur d'un récent ouvrage intitulé *The Demagogue's Playbook: The Battle for American Democracy from the Founders to Trump* (All Points Books, 2020).

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## ALCOD's Eminent Chairman hopeful of dual citizenship bill

-Assures diaspora colleagues

The Eminent Chairman of the All-Liberian Conference on Dual Citizenship (ALCOD), Chairman Emmanuel S. Wettee, has expressed hope to newsmen and women that

House passed its version of the bill without any "limitations" for Liberians of natural birth, but with citizenship of another country.

However, the Senate's version didn't follow suit with

General of the Liberia National Police; (vii) Commissioner General of the Liberia Immigration Service; (viii) heads and deputy heads of [all] autonomous commissions and agencies; (ix)

members have said that they had to agree with the version so that the Senate Plenary could vote on the bill and that all their areas of concerns can be worked on during the Joint Conference Committee.

ALCOD Still Hopeful

Nevertheless, this hiccup, ALCOD isn't discouraged altogether. Nearly all members of the ALCOD delegation that had come to celebrate this milestone, have now left and gone back to their bases in Europe, the Americas and other parts of the world. Even though Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas (ULAA) National President Shiwoh Kamara, Kingston Wreh, ALCOD's Europe Chapter and others have returned, but they asked Eminent Chairman Wettee to stay on the ground and continue the mutual engagements with the Senate and House on the

reconciliation of both versions of the bill.

ALCOD, which includes ULAA, European Federation of Liberian Associations (EFLA), Liberian Advocacy for Change (LAFCA), Federation of Liberia Communities in Australia (FLCA), United Liberian Association of Ghana (ULAG), Liberian Association of Canada (LAC), and Conference of Liberian Organizations in Southwestern United States of America (CLOSUSA), hopes that the joint committee can speedily harmonize the bill and that President George Weah can sign it into law before as part of the July 26 Independence Day celebration. The President is said to be working with members of the Senate and House to resolve this and this has kept the optimism of ALCOD alive.

ALCOD represents more than 500,000 Liberians living in the diaspora.



Eminent Chairman Emmanuel S. Wettee is leaving the Capitol Building after one of his mutual engagements

the Bill on dual citizenship will definitely be passed into law in spite of the hiccups it is facing at the moment.

Notwithstanding Eminent Wettee's optimism, some of his compatriots have expressed frustrations over the slow pace at which the House of Representatives-Senate Joint Conference Committee on the passage of the Dual Citizenship Bill is going about with its work.

According to them, since the Senate passed their version of the Dual Citizenship bill, it has been more than two months and the joint committee of both the Senate and House has met only once and nothing concrete came out of that meeting. The House voted to amend the Alien and Nationality Law on Thursday, November 11, 2021. While the Senate voted on Thursday, May 20, 2022, to concur with the House of Representatives. However, the Senate's version of the bill differs significantly from that of what the House had passed and sent to it for concurrence.

The Act that the House had voted for, was co-sponsored by 30 lawmakers from the House of Representatives. It had been submitted and chiefly sponsored by Rep. Acarous Gray. It was read in the Plenary of the House on November 2, 2021. It sought to amend Part III, Chapter 20, Section 20.1; Chapter 21, Sections 21.30, 21.31, 21.51 & 21.52 and Chapter 22, Sections 22.1, 22.1 & 22.4 of the Aliens and Nationality Law of the Liberian Code of Law Revised, Vol. II. The

the House as it passed its version with several "limitations" for Liberians in that category.

It's for this reason that the leaderships of the Senate and the House had to set up a Joint Conference Committee to work to fine tune the bill so that it can be harmonized and their differences reconciled.

The House's side of the Joint Committee is being led by Gbarpolu County's District #2 Rep. Kanie Wesso, while the Senate's side is led by Grand Cape Mount County Sen. Varney Sherman.

Senate Limits Liberians' Rights

Under Part III Section 1 (Limitation of a Liberian Holding Citizenship of Another Country from Certain Elective Offices) of the Senate's version of the bill, the Senate says, "A Liberian citizen who holds the citizenship of another country shall not be eligible to be elected President of Liberia, Vice President of Liberia, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives and President Pro Tempore of the Liberian Senate, Senator, Representative or to any other elective public office."

Section 2: "A Liberian citizen who holds the citizenship of another country shall not be eligible for appointment to any of the following positions in the Government of Liberia (i) Minister and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, (ii) Minister and Deputy Minister of State for Presidential Affairs; (iii) Minister and Deputy Minister of Finance and Development Planning; (iv) Minister and Deputy Minister of Justice; Minister and Deputy Minister of Defense (v) Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia; (vi) Inspector

Executive Governor and Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Liberia; and (x) heads or deputy heads of [all] public corporations and parastatal."

Senators Who Barred Their Fellow Liberians

The Senate's Plenary had voted on the bill based on the advice and recommendations from members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights, Claims and Petitions, including Senators Atty. J. Emmanuel Nuquay, Numene T. H. Bartekwa, Abraham Darius Dillon, and Atty. Stephen A. H. Zargo. Others are Cllr. Augustine Chea, Cllr. Morris D. Saytumah and Cllr. Varney Gboto-Nambi Sherman.

ALCOD's Discomfort

Notwithstanding, ALCOD, through its Eminent Chairman Wettee, has expressed its discomfort with those sections that limit them from holding certain offices. "We believe in the doctrine that 'Once a Liberian, always a Liberian,'" Eminent Wettee said.

Some Senators Not Happy

Despite the Senate's version of the bill, there are reports that some members of the Senate's Judiciary Committee and the Senate itself have expressed, too, their displeasure with the restrictions on their fellow Liberians. However, these senate

## House to review FGM bill



By Bridgett Milton

The House of Representatives has instructed its committees on Internal Affairs, Gender and Judiciary to review the FGM abolition bill jointly sent to plenary by Deputy Speaker Fonati Koffa, Rep. Rustonlyn Dennis of Monserrado County (D-4) Rep. Richard Nagbe Koon, Rep. Ceebee C.D. Barsheil (D-3), Rep. Isaac Roland of Maryland County (D-3) and Rep. Thomas Goshua of Grand Bassa County. While the committees are reviewing the bill, copies will be sent to each lawmaker to engage their various constituents during July break of the House.

The lawmakers recall that nearly three years ago, when the Legislature formed a bipartisan coalition to pass the Domestic Violence bill, they promised women and children of Liberia to champion a genital mutilation bill.

"Mr. Speaker, even with the recent reversal of the landmark constitutional ruling in the United States of Roe V. Wade, majority of persons living in civilized democracies still believe that a woman's right over her body is a private right and may not be interfered with by the State and or traditional

institutions", the lawmakers noted.

They said it is the responsibility of Liberian democracy to protect the new and the weak, and it is now time to tackle the painful debate of harmful traditional practices especially, female genital mutilation, commonly known as "FGM."

They added that data is abundant and clear, that FGM has enormous psychosocial, social, and political implications far beyond the painful procedure usually practiced by non-medical personnel.

They noted that evidence is overwhelming that costs of traditional practices outweigh the benefits, and invidious discrimination is meted out to one section of the Liberian society.

"Mr. Speaker, it is within the spirit of a right to privacy enshrined in our constitution and the global recognition that harmful traditional practices must be abolished that we lay this piece of legislation before plenary for debate and hopeful passage, so no longer will a Liberian woman or girl live through the trauma of the violation of her privacy or the mutilation of her body", the lawmakers said. **Editing** by Jonathan Browne

# Jallah officially leads Lofa polls

By Lincoln G. Peters

The National Elections Commission (NEC) on Thursday, 30 June 2022 announced pro-government senatorial candidate Cllr. Joseph K. Jallah as the leading candidate after counting 83.92 percent of the vote.

Madam Davidetta Browne - Lansannah, chair of the NEC

announce that eighty three (83.2%) of the results has been tallied," said Madam Browne-Lansannah. NEC accredited six candidates who participated in the Lofa Senatorial by-election. The other four are independent candidates Momo Cyrus obtained 4,753 votes, constituting 9.42%; Representative Mariamu Fofana obtained 5,456 votes

which electoral districts the commission was reporting from.

Responding to our reporter's inquiry about the electoral districts that were covered in the NEC provision results, Madam Browne - Lansannah said "my answer to your question is that we (NEC) conducted election in Lofa County so the results right to you are from Lofa County."

Lofa is a votes - rich county in the northernmost portion of Liberia with six electoral districts.

The six electoral districts are Foya, Kolahun, Salayee, Vahun, Voinjama, and Zorzor. Since the 2008 National Housing and Population Census, Liberia is yet to conduct another census despite constitutional requirement to do so after every 10 years.

During the 2008 census, Lofa County had a population of 270,114, making it the fourth most populous county in Liberia and Voinjama, its capital, with a population of 4,945.

Foya had a population of 1,760 then and these numbers might change dramatically today should there be a census.

NEC chair Madam Browne - Lansannah said the senatorial by-election in Lofa County was conducted in accordance with the joint resolution of the Legislature.

She reported that the polls were peaceful, and the tally

process begun the following day which was 29 June 2022 at NCE's magisterial offices in Kolahun, and Voinjama respectively.

Browne - Lansannah said the

process was carried out in the presence of the parties' agents and independent observers. --

Edited by Winston W. Parley



told a press conference in Monrovia Thursday that Cllr. Jallah 20,482 votes or 40.61%, ahead of his main rival Kortima Galakkpai of Unity Party (UP) who obtains 16,666 votes of (33.04%). She said the provisional results announced covered 381 polling places of 454 polling places, constituting 83.92%.

"We are pleased to

constituting 10.82%; and Mr. George Samah obtained 1,176 votes constituting 2.33%. People's Unification Party (PUL) candidate Mr. Sumo Kupee obtained 1,908, votes, constituting 3.78%.

Releasing provisional results from the just - ended Lofa County senatorial by-elections, Madam Browne - Lansannah refused to specify

citizens", Mr. Weah says President Weah: "The continuous neglect of their plight can rapidly develop into significant truants, not only to society but also to national security; this type of ignorant danger continues to grow in silence in scopes of these potentially VALUABLE human assets."

He adds that this

opportunity will build and improve education and skills of 'At risk youth' by remembering them to have a reasonable chance to really integrate into the larger society as productive self-sufficient and self-sustained citizens."

He notes that these obstacles have contributed to increase 'At-risk youth' with their number put at 130,000

## Weah vows to empower At-risk youth

By Kruah Thompson

President George Weah reaffirms his support to ensuring Liberia's 'At-risk youth' are empowered all through his remaining term in office.

President Weah says this is his top priority and his government need focus in this direction to strengthen, empower and provide a new hope for wayward youth, who pose a national security threat.

In a proclamation on Thursday, June 30, 2022, at the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Ministerial Complex in Congo Town, the President emphasized that there are certain historical and structural lapses within the government processes that have massively affected these youth, causing them to turn

to drugs for mere survival.

He says government, through the ministry of youth and sports has launched a US\$13 million National Fund Drive to build a rehabilitation center for 'At-risk youth'. "This will help transform them into law-abiding



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## US assures Liberia

spared much of the tragedy that the U.S. experienced.

But he cautioned that they still need to continue their vigilance, encourage families and friends to get vaccinated, and listen to the advice of the health experts.

He explained that on COVID the United States assistance to Liberia through this pandemic reflects the importance of a relationship stretching back 200 years.

He said to date, the U.S. has provided more than 1.5 million doses of vaccines, along with research, program support, and expert advisors.

The U.S. diplomat continued that these critical investments build upon a partnership that defeated Ebola, and teamwork that is well prepared for future public health emergencies.

According to Amb. McCarthy, learning about and seeing first-hand the impact of U.S. assistance and partnership in Liberia has been his biggest

reward since he arrival here in January 2021.

He said over the last 18 months, he's proud to have had the opportunity to visit the majority of Liberia's 15 counties, despite the pandemic and West Africa's famous rainy season.

Throughout that travel, he said experiencing the great diversity of Liberia, he also saw the common values that knit this country together and these are values very familiar to him as they are democratic values in common with the United States.

For his part, Liberian President George Manneh Weah congratulated United States on its 246 years of Independence.

He said history has bounded the two nations together in culture, democracy and human rights, adding that Liberia remains proud of that common value.

Mr. Weah added that Liberia will continue to partner with the United States of America. --Edited by Winston W. Parley

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## UEFA soccer expert speaks on

seen as obstacles to the development of players, because they want to teach all aspects of the game at once. She thinks that it is not correct for some grassroots players.

She says for children to develop their minds on football, they need access to opportunity to play for a while when coaches organized the game, which according to her, is a big step forward for Liberian coaches.

The UEFA expert in women's football stated that the primary objective of the training is to create lot of opportunities that will be achievable for grassroots coaches in order to create a space for more girls to play football in Liberia.

She observes that Liberians are loving people, who always want to learn new things, adding though she has not spent longer time in the country, but the two visitations in the development of women's football signifies a cordial relationship that made her to understand that Liberian children want to play football, but it comes with economic challenge which is quite different in Europe. Meanwhile, Coach Hesterine stated that Africa has lot of talents, President George Manneh Weah, who rose from the slum and became Africa and World Best Footballer, is a practical example that speaks to the fact that there are good and talented people in Liberia.

throughout the political subdivisions of Liberia.

He announced an amount of US\$1million as government's initial contribution to the initiative to buttress efforts of the Steering Committee on the national fund drive.

Earlier, Finance and Development Planning Minister Samuel Tweah said the country is dealing with Psychosocial and Psychological distress situations, therefore, the intervention is a step in another approach that government has embarked upon.

As head of the committee set up to probe threats posed by 'At-risk youth' to the country, the minister of youth and sports and head of the steering committee D, Zoegar Wilson, presented a PowerPoint slide, detailing

implementation strategies of the program.

According to him, the programme is in three phases: phase one comprised of structural confrontation and rehabilitation, while phase two involves capacity development, vocational skills training program and social identification. Finally, phase three comprises job creation and packages to business support services in line with the government development roadmap, PAPD.

Meanwhile, development partners of the government, including USAID, UNDP, among others contributed to the fund drive for the rehabilitation process of the 'At-risk youth' in the country. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

# US assures Liberia of its commitment



**Amb. McCarthy,**

By Bridgett Milton

United States Ambassador to Liberia Mr. Michael A. McCarthy has assured Liberians of his country's commitment to the historic partnership between the two countries, as the Embassy celebrates the U.S. 246 years of Independence.

Speaking at the ceremony Thursday, 30 June 2022, Amb. McCarthy said people often describe Liberia and the United States as partners or family.

In families, he said, siblings help each other, they defend each other, they criticize each other, and like the U.S. and Liberia today,

they celebrate together.

"I am proud this afternoon to stand with a fellow republic, a democracy that like us, is required to listen to the people in, a never-ending effort to become a more perfect union," said Amb. McCarthy.

"Both countries lived through terrible civil wars, and I believe, came out the other end as more equal societies."

Because of those years of chaos, the U.S. Envoy said Liberians understand the importance of peace and the value of human rights more than most people.

He said he suspects that awareness is what inspired Liberia's vote at the United Nations calling out the unprovoked and barbaric war instigated by Russia against Ukraine, and fuels Liberia's courageous statements in defense of oppressed people currently imprisoned in concentration camps.

Talking about the global COVID - 19 crisis, Amb. McCarthy noted that Liberia has thankfully been

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