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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2022	L\$152.9592/US\$1.00	L\$154.6222/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

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The New Dawn
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VOL. 12 NO. 153 TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2022 PRICE LD\$40.00

P11

No road, no vote

-Lofians threaten to boycott 2023 elections

P11

Boakai faces dissent

-As DPPL withdraws from DAL for God business

Amb. Boakai Rev. Kiamu

MTN MoMo

MoMo
WAYSAY-WASA!
BIGGER & BETTER!!

Dial *156#

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Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project (IPFMRP-II)

First Floor

Tel: 0886-584-481 Website: www.mfdp.gov.lr

REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS: IPFMRPII/G/RFQ/2.1.1.0

Lot – 1 Double Cabin Pick-up (3 units)

Lot – 2 Motor Bike (20 units)

August 30, 2022

1. The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project-II and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Quotation is issued. This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the shopping procurement method as specified in the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016, revise November 2017 and August 2018 and the procedures described herein.
2. **Preparation of Quotations:** You are requested to quote for the item by completing, signing and returning:
 - the List of Goods and Price Schedule;
 - the List of Goods and Delivery Schedule
 - Adequate technical documentation and catalogue(s) and other pertinent information.
 - the documents confirming your eligibility, as listed below;
3. **Documents Evidencing Eligibility:** You are requested to submit copies of the following documents as evidence of your eligibility.
 - a) Current Business Registration Certificate
 - b) Valid Tax Clearance
 - c) PPCC Vendor Registration Certificate
 - d) Manufacturer Authorization or Distributorship Authorization from a holder of manufacturer's authorization to prove their eligibility

The standard forms in this RFQ may be retyped for completion but the Bidder is responsible for their accurate reproduction.
4. **Validity of Quotations:** The quotation validity required is 60 days.
5. **Sealing and marking of Quotations:** Quotations should be placed in a single sealed envelope, clearly marked with the Reference above, the name of the Bidder and the Implementing Agency.
6. **Submission of Quotations:** Quotations should be submitted to the address below by mail, fax or electronic mail:

Project Procurement Unit (PMU)

1st Floor, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Corner of Broad and Mechlin Streets
Monrovia, Liberia
0770212332/0881154787
Email: vfofana@mfdp.gov.lr / rfully@mfdp.gov.lr

7. The quotation shall be in English language,

8. The deadline for receipt of your quotation is September 13, 2022 at 2:00 p. m.

9. **Supplier** has the option to offer for both lots or any one of the two lots and must quote for all the items in the lot. A partial quote within the lot will not be accepted. If a quotation shows items listed but not priced, their prices shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other items. An item not listed in the quotation shall be assumed to be not included in the quotation.

10. **Evaluation.** All quotations shall be evaluated based on compliance to specifications, price and delivery period. The Purchaser shall award the Contract to the Supplier whose offer has been determined to be the most advantageous offer, provided further that the Supplier is determined to be qualified to perform the contract satisfactorily as per the criteria below:
 - Examine if the quotation conforms substantially to the statement of requirements and delivery schedule.
 - Examine if the Supplier meets the qualification requirements as stated above.
 - Ensuring the Supplier passed both the preliminary and technical compliance examination.
 - Verify any arithmetical errors. For example, if the quotation in figures is different from the quotation in words, the amount in words will prevail. If there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total price that is obtained by multiplying the unit price and quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected;

11. **Prices.** Prices shall be in United States Dollars (USD). Prices quoted in currencies other than United States Dollars (USD) will be evaluated after converting the currency into USD at the exchange rate prevailing at the Central Bank of Liberia on the date of the deadline of quotation submission, or from OANDA Exchange Rates Services at www.oanda.com.

12. **Delivery Schedule.** The item(s) shall be delivered within four weeks after award of contract.

13. **Warranty.** Items offered should be covered by at least 12 months warranty from the date of delivery to the Purchaser. Goods offered shall be new, unused and based on the manufacturer's current and most recent model.

14. **Payment.** Payment shall be made within 30 days against submission of Invoice and supporting documents following delivery and acceptance of the Goods.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Momo K. Lombeh
Deputy Project Manager

EDITORIAL

Government's action leaves room for suspicion

A BILL from the Executive seeking lawmakers' approval to retire all election magistrates across the country is creating room for suspicion and future discontent, if not reconsidered now.

ON TUESDAY, 9 August 2022, President George Manneh Weah requested lawmakers to return from their break to discuss critical national issues for the period of 30 days which began 15 August 2022 and will end Tuesday, 13 September 2022.

AMONG OTHERS, the issues included a request for legislators to pass the amendment of the New Elections Law which calls for the immediate dismissal and retirement of all election magistrates across the country.

THIS IS coming just barely 14 months to Presidential and Legislative Elections next year in which President George Weah is seeking a second term. We wonder what is the motive when the government in similar faction recently amended the Act creating the Liberian Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) and scratched the entire leadership of the Commission even before their tenure is to expire.

THE EVICTION of the entire LACC leadership under Chairperson Cllr. Edwin Kla Martin came after audit conducted by the antigraft institution indicted heads of several government entities for corruption. The audit reports are being swept under the rug by the Executive.

NOW THERE is another push by the Executive, this time around to replace all electoral magistrates, as the nation prepares for elections in 2023. Who are those new magistrates that the Executive wants to bring onboard and what is the motive?

ALREADY, THE leader of one of the opposition political party - Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) Dr. Jeremiah Whapoe is warning against reverting to the country its past dark days. He warns that the bill is a breeding ground for corruption and violence.

HE IS calling on the Liberian Senate to reject the bill because it allegedly aims to allow President Weah's Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) government rig the 2023 presidential and legislative elections, while reminding that such acts of rigging in previous historical elections in Liberia led to war and conflict.

WE TOO are scratching our heads to understand the decision behind current attempt to replace qualified and experience magistrates with new people that may be handpicked for political interest to preside over what supposed to a democratic process.

WE JOIN the VOLT leader and all other Liberians with apprehension on this critical matter to call on both the Executive and Legislature to refrain from amending the Elections Law to replace magistrates across the country on the heels of major elections. We believe that acting in ways that could lead to mistrust and contention could be a recipe for potential violence during and after the polls.

New Dawn
DAILY INDEPENDENT

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Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-0555422200 /

COMMENTARY

By Jayati Ghosh

Curbing Commodity-Market Speculation

NEW DELHI - Primary commodity prices have been on a roller-coaster ride for the past year, and especially for the past six months. In the futures markets, crude oil prices rose by 39% in the month from February 8 to March 8, 2022, from \$89 per barrel to \$124 per barrel, and then fell by 23% in the following month to \$95 per barrel. The price climbed again, to \$122 per barrel, on June 8, but had declined to \$88 per barrel on August 4 - below the level of early February.

Global prices of wheat futures have exhibited similar volatility. The price of soft red winter wheat soared from \$332 per metric ton in January to \$672 per ton in April, but by June had fallen to \$380 - still about 50% higher than a year ago, but well below this spring's crazy peaks.

These dramatic price movements were not triggered by changes in real output and demand. Blaming big commodity-price spikes on supply shortages caused by Russia's war in Ukraine does not capture the full truth. In particular, the large increases in Big Oil and agribusiness firms' profit margins indicate that they raised prices of energy and food, respectively, well beyond any level that could be justified by their own cost increases. But frantic speculative activity, mainly by financial companies like hedge funds that dominate trading, has made matters much worse, as I have noted elsewhere.

For example, a study by Kabir Agarwal, Thin Lei Win, and Margot Gibbs found that investment funds have been hyperactive in the Paris wheat market. These funds' share of long positions in wheat futures increased from 23% in May 2018 to as much as 72% in April 2022, and remained above 50% in May 2022. Another recent study found that trading volumes at the European Union natural gas market's primary gas-pricing hub, the Title Transfer Facility, increased steadily over the past decade from 14 times actual gas consumption in 2011 to more than 114 times in 2020.

The chaos that such speculation can cause was evident in March this year, when a dramatic spike in nickel prices forced the London Metal Exchange to suspend trading and cancel all deals. Over-the-counter (OTC) trades that occur outside the regulated exchange were held partly responsible, and the LME will now require all traders to report their OTC positions on all physically delivered metals each week.

But prices in other commodity derivatives markets remain highly volatile, as hedge funds and other financial firms rush out as rapidly as they piled in. This matters hugely because food, fuel, and basic metals are essential for production and for life itself. Commodity-price volatility affects living standards and the ability to produce goods and services, and is contributing to the stagflation and hunger now stalking most low- and middle-income countries. Some stabilization and regulation of these prices is therefore essential - and not only to curb inflation.

So, why are these swings allowed to occur? Policymakers obviously are aware of the

implications of frenetic financial activity in markets for essential commodities. Something similar happened in 2007-09, when oil and food prices first rose sharply and then declined to earlier levels in the space of 18 months, causing economic devastation. After that experience and in the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis, both the United States (through the Dodd-Frank Act) and the EU sought to regulate commodity derivatives to some extent.

Ideally, the regulations should have prevented speculation by ensuring that all trading occurs on regulated exchanges, not on an OTC basis, and in a transparent manner with full information about the actual players and their bids. Furthermore, exchanges should allow only those with a direct operational interest in commodities to trade them. (For example, an airline company should be permitted to operate in the futures market for aviation fuel, but a hedge fund should not.) And market participants should adhere to limits on the positions that they can hold, depending on their real use, need, or production of that commodity.

US and EU regulations matter most, because these markets largely determine global commodity prices. But the earlier regulatory changes did not go far enough, and have since been watered down.

Existing EU rules help to prevent market abuse on official exchanges by limiting individual traders' positions, but they still allow OTC commodity trading, enabling excessive speculation to continue. The US prohibits OTC trading in most commodities, but financial agents can still enter the market through proxies. And position limits have been kept so high that they do not prevent large bids from influencing prices.

As a result, financial speculation in essential commodities can still play havoc with people's lives and livelihoods. Fortunately, there are signs that regulators are taking notice. At a recent G20 meeting in Indonesia, Klaas Knot, the chair of the Financial Stability Board (a grouping of central bankers, finance ministers, and regulators from G20 countries) called for close monitoring of speculative activity. "The centrality of key energy, metals, and food commodities to the functioning of the global economy," Knot said, "means that any disruptions to the financing of producers or traders in these markets could have an outsized impact."

But mere monitoring will not be enough. The regulatory measures needed to restrict commodity-market speculation are obvious, so the lack of prompt action is striking. It suggests that regulators and policymakers are still putting financial interests above everything else, regardless of the cost to everyone else.

Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, is a member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism.



Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project (IPFMRP-II)

First Floor Annex

Tel: 0881-154-787 Website: www.mfdp.gov.lr



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION S: IPFMRP-II/LBDI/G/RFQ/1.1.3b/2022ADB

August 19, 2022

1. The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the African Development Bank (AfDB) toward the cost of Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP-II) for support to Liberia Bank for Development and Investment and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Quotation is issued. This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the Open National Competitive method contained in the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July, 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), and the procedures described herein.

2. **Preparation of Quotations:** You are requested to quote for the item by completing, signing and returning:
 the List of Goods and Price Schedule;
 the List of Goods and Delivery Schedule

3. **Documents Evidencing Eligibility:** You are requested to submit copies of the following documents as evidence of your eligibility.

- a) Current Business Registration Certificate
- b) Valid Tax Clearance
- c) PPCC Vendor Registration
- d) Manufacturer or Distributor Authorization

The standard forms in this RFQ may be retyped for completion but the Bidder is responsible for their accurate reproduction.

4. **Validity of Quotations:** The quotation validity required is 45 days.

5. **Sealing and marking of Quotations:** Quotations should be placed in a single sealed envelope, clearly marked with the Reference above, the name of the Bidder and the Implementing Agency.

6. **Submission of Quotations:** Quotations should be submitted to the address below:

The Acting Project Manager
Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project (IPFMRP-II)
 1st Floor
 Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
 Corner of Broad and Mechlin Streets
 Monrovia, Liberia
 +231886-425-359/770-154-787
 Emails: yfofana@mfdp.gov.lr
 CC: ctoe@mfdp.gov.lr

7. The quotation shall be in English language.

8. The deadline for receipt of your quotation is September 2, 2022 at 2:00 p. m.

9. **Supplier** must quote for all the items. A partial quote will not be accepted. If a quotation shows items listed but not priced, their prices shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other items. An item not listed in the quotation shall be assumed to be not included in the quotation.

10. **Evaluation.** All quotations shall be evaluated based on compliance to specifications, price and delivery period. The Purchaser shall award the Contract to the Supplier whose offer has been determined to be the most advantageous quote and is substantially responsive to the request for quotation, provided further that the Supplier is determined to be qualified to perform the contract satisfactorily as per the criteria below:

- Examine if the quotation conforms substantially to the statement of requirements and delivery schedule.
- Examine if the Supplier meets the qualification requirements as stated above.
- Ensuring the Supplier passed both the preliminary and detailed examination.
- Verify any arithmetical errors. For example, if the quotation in figures is different from the quotation in words, the amount in words will prevail. If there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total price that is obtained by multiplying the unit price and quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected;

11. **Prices.** Prices shall be in United States Dollars (USD). Prices quoted in currencies other than United States Dollars (USD) will be evaluated after converting the currency into USD at the exchange rate prevailing at the Central Bank of Liberia on the date of the deadline of quotation submission, or from OANDA Exchange Rates Services at www.oanda.com.

12. **Delivery Schedule.** The item(s) shall be delivered within Three-Four Weeks after award of contract

13. **Warranty.** Items offered should be covered by at least 12 months' warranty from the date of delivery to the Purchaser. Goods offered shall be new, unused and based on the manufacturer's current and most recent model.

14. **Payment.** Payment shall be made within 30 days against submission of Invoice and supporting documents following delivery of the Goods.

Yours sincerely,

Vee-Musa Fofana
Project Coordinator

QUOTATION LETTER

Date: _____

RFQ Reference: _____

Attention: PMU Project Manager:

Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project

Having examined the documents regarding the Request for Quotations, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, we, the undersigned, offer to supply and deliver [description of goods and services] in conformity with the said Request for Quotations for the sum of [total bid amount in words and figures] or such other sums as may be ascertained in accordance with the Schedule of Prices attached herewith and made part of Quotation.

We confirm that we are eligible to participate in public procurement and meet the eligibility criteria specified in the Request for Quotations.

The validity period of our quotation is: _____ days/weeks/months.

We confirm that the prices quoted in the List of Goods and Price Schedule are fixed and firm for the duration of the validity period and will not be subject to revision or variation.

The delivery period offered is: _____ days/weeks/months from date of Purchase Order.

The warranty period offered is _____ months.

Quotation authorised by:

Signature: _____ Name: _____

Position: _____ Date: _____

(dd/mm/yy)

Authorised for and on behalf of:

Company: _____

Appendix 2

List of Goods and Delivery Schedule

No	Description of Goods	Quantity	Physical unit	Final Destination (Project Site)	Delivery Date	Bidder's offered Delivery date
1	Laptops	12	Pcs	Liberia Bank for Development & Investment 9 th Street Sinkor	Three Weeks after contract award	
2.	Monitor	12	Pcs	Liberia Bank for Development & Investment 9 th Street Sinkor	Three Weeks after contract award	
3	Heavy duty Printer	3	Pcs	Liberia Bank for Development & Investment 9 th Street Sinkor	Three Weeks after contract award	

Appendix 3 - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

No.	Description	Qty	Supplier's Offered/Statement of Compliance
	Laptop	12pcs	
1	Processor		10th Gen, Intel Core i7-10510U, Intel AX201 2 X2A X+BT or higher
	RAM		16GB LP DDR3 Base
	Hard Disk Drive:		1TB PCIe HDD M 2 2280 NV ME. OP
	Operating System:		Windows 10 Professional
	Graphics		Intel UHD Graphics 620
	Display		14 inches FHD WVA LP, Touch Screen
	Ports		One USB-C 3.1, Thunderbolt 3, USB-A 3.1, HDMI 1.4, RJ45 Ethernet, microSD card reader, Micro-SIM (optional), Smart Card Reader (optional), 3.5 mm audio
	Wireless		Intel Wireless-AC 9560, 802.11ac (2 x 2), Bluetooth 5.0
	Camera		Front-facing 720p, Webcam shutter
	Biometrics		Fingerprint reader, IR camera
	Keyboard		Backlit
	Touchpad		Precision, TrackPoint System
	Battery		50Wh, 65W AC adapter

2.	Printer	3Pcs	
Machine type	Colour A3 Multifunctional (Reader/Printer standard) Available core functions Print, Copy, Scan, Send, and Optional Fax		
Print speed (BW/Colour)	Up to 20/20ppm (A4 single sided) Up to 15/15ppm (A3 single sided) Up to 20/20ppm (A4R single sided) Up to 20/20ppm (A5R single sided)		
Printing method	Colour Laser Beam Printing Wireless printing		
Print resolution	1200 dpi x 1200 dpi, 600 dpi x 600 dpi		
Duplex Printing	Automatic 52 to 220 gsm		
Direct print	Direct printing available from USB memory key, Remote UI and Web Access* Supported file types: JPEG, TIFF, PDF, XPS		
Paper Handling			
Paper input (Standard)	2 x 550-sheet (80 gsm) cassette, 100-sheet (80 gsm) multi-purpose tray		
Paper input (Option)	2 x 550-sheet (80 gsm) cassette (Cassette Feeding Unit-AL1)		
Maximum paper input capacity	2,300 sheets (80gsm)		
Paper output capacity	Output Tray: 250 sheets (80 gsm) -Copy Tray: 100 sheets (80gsm) *Copy Tray attached to the right side of the main unit		
Finishing capabilities	Standard: Collate, Group With optional finishing units: Collate, Group, Offset, Staple, Eco Staple*, Staple-on-demand, Saddle Stitch (*Eco staple supported by Inner Finisher only)		
Supported media types	Cassettes: Thin paper, Plain paper, Recycled paper, Colour paper, Heavy paper, Pre-punched paper, Bond paper, Envelopes		
Multi-purpose tray:	Thin paper, Plain paper, Recycled paper, Colour paper, Heavy paper, Pre-punched paper, Bond paper, Transparency, Labels, Envelopes, Postcards, Tracing paper, Coated paper		
Supported media sizes	Paper cassette 1: A4, Custom sizes (139.7 mm x 182 mm to 297mm x 215.9 mm) Paper cassettes 2, 3 and 4: A4, A4R, A3, A5R, B5, Custom Size: 139.7 mm x 182 mm to 304.8 mm x 457.2 mm		
Copy	First Copy Output Time (FCOT) Black and White: 5.9 sec Colour: 8.2 sec		
Copy resolution	Reading: 600 dpi x 600 dpi Printing: 1200 dpi x 1200 dpi for characters/lines, 600 dpi x 600 dpi for graphics/images Multiple copy: Up to 999 copies		
Reduction/Enlargement	Zoom: 25-400% in 1% increments Fixed Zoom Ratio: 25%, 50%, 70%, 100%, 141%, 200%, 400%		
SCAN			
Optional/Standard	Standard on all models (DADF 100 sheets) A3, A4, A4R, A5, A5R, B5, Custom sizes (W x L): Max. 297 mm x 432 mm Min. 139.7 mm x 128 mm) Single-sided scanning: BW originals: 38 to 128 gsm *Single sheet feed only for 38 to 49 gsm Colour originals : 64 to 128 gsm BW Mixed-size originals : 50 to 128 gsm Colour Mixed-size originals : 64 to 128 gsm		
Supported media size/s & weight/s			
	Double-sided scanning: BW originals: 50 to 128 gsm Colour originals : 64 to 128 gsm BW Mixed-size originals : 50 to 128 gsm Colour Mixed-size originals : 64 to 128 gsm		
Scan resolution	100dpi, 150dpi, 200x100 dpi, 200dpi, 300dpi, 200x400 dpi, 400dpi, 600dpi		
Double sided scanning	2-sided to 2-sided (Automatic)		
Scan speed	Single-sided scanning BW scan : 30ipm (A4, 600dpi×600dpi), 55ipm (A4, 300dpi×300dpi) CL scan : 30ipm (A4, 600dpi×600dpi), 55ipm (A4, 300dpi×300dpi) Double-sided scanning BW scan : 15ipm (A4, 600dpi×600dpi), 27.5ipm (A4, 300dpi×300dpi) CL scan : 15ipm (A4, 600dpi×600dpi), 27.5ipm (A4, 300dpi×300dpi)		
Scan methods	Push Scan: Colour Universal Send functionality is standard. Integration with a range of optional MEAP-based capture software adds powerful workflow and conversion capabilities.		
Warm-up time	34 sec or less from Power ON		
Interface type	USB 2.0 Hi-Speed 2 x USB Host (2.0), 1 x USB port dedicated for connecting USB Device port By connecting Optional USB DEVICE PORT-E4, additional USB Host (2.0) available.		
3	Monitor	12pcs	
	Screen size: 27 inches		
	Resolution: 2560 X 1440 QHD		
	Aspect Ratio: 16:9		
	Panel Technology: In- Plane Switching		
	Refresh Rate: 60Hz		



Specific Procurement Notice

Request for Quotations
Goods

Country: Liberia

Employer: Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

Name of Project: Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP-II)

Project ID: P-LR-K00-014

RFQ Reference No.: IPFMRP-II/LBDI/G/RFQ/1.1.3b/2022AfDB

Contract Title: Procurement of IT Equipment for Liberia Bank for Development and Investment

Issued on: August 19, 2022

- The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the African Development Bank (AfDB) toward the cost of Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP-II) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under the contract for procurement of Laptops, Printers and Monitors.
- The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning through the Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project-II now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply and delivery of Laptops, Printers and Monitors to support the Liberia Bank for Development and Investment as delineated below:

Description	unit	Quantity	Delivery
Supply of Laptops	Pcs	12	3-4 weeks
Supply of Monitor	Pcs	12	3-4 weeks
Supply of Printers (3-in-1)	Pcs	3	3-4 weeks

- Bidding will be conducted through Open National Competitive Procurement Method using Request for Quotation (RFQ) procedures as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers -" July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the Project Management Unit (PMU) 1st Floor Annex, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Monrovia, Liberia; and inspect the bidding document during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours.
- The bidding document (RFQ) in English may be collected at no cost by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before September 2, 2022. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below on September 2, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Mr. Vee-Musa Fofana, Acting Project Manager or Ms. Caroline Hoff Toe, Procurement Officer, 1st Floor Annex, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Monrovia, Liberia; e-mail: vfofana@mfdp.gov.lr and copy ctoef@mfdp.gov.lr and inspect the bidding document during office hours 09:00 to 17:00 hours at the address given below. In addition, the request for quotation document in English will be published on the Executive Mansion website.
- Bidders are required to quote for all the items in the Schedule of Requirements. A partial quote will not be accepted.
- Bidders shall submit Past Performance Record, List of References, Certificates and Achievements from previous Clients and Manufacturer or Distributors Authorization to prove their eligibility.

10. The address referred to above is:

Attn: Mr. Vee-Musa Fofana, Acting Project Manager
Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP-II), Project Management Unit (PMU)
1st Floor Annex, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Broad and Mechlin Streets
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia
Cell #: 0886-425-359/0770-154-787
E-mail: vfofana@mfdp.gov.lr
Cc: ctoef@mfdp.gov.lr



Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project (IPFMRP-II)



First Floor Annex

Tel: 0881-154-787 Website: www.mfdp.gov.lr

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION S: #: IPFMRP-II/LRA/G/RFQ/2.1.21/2022
And 1.3.3.7 /2022 AfDB

August 19, 2022

1. The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the African Development Bank (AfDB) toward the cost of Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP-II) for support to Liberia Revenue Authority & Bureau of State-Owned Enterprise and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Quotation is issued. This procurement process will be conducted in accordance with the Open National Competitive method contained in the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July, 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), and the procedures described herein.

2. **Preparation of Quotations:** You are requested to quote for the item by completing, signing and returning:

- + the List of Goods and Price Schedule;
- + the List of Goods and Delivery Schedule

3. **Documents Evidencing Eligibility:** You are requested to submit copies of the following documents as evidence of your eligibility.

- a) Current Business Registration Certificate
- b) Valid Tax Clearance
- c) PPCC Vendor Registration
- d) Manufacturer or Distributors Authorization

The standard forms in this RFQ may be retyped for completion but the Bidder is responsible for their accurate reproduction.

4. **Validity of Quotations:** The quotation validity required is 45 days.

5. **Sealing and marking of Quotations:** Quotations should be placed in a single sealed envelope, clearly marked with the Reference above, the name of the Bidder and the Implementing Agency.

6. **Submission of Quotations:** Quotations should be submitted to the address below:

The Acting Project Manager
Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project (IPFMRP-II)
 1st Floor
 Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
 Corner of Broad and Mechlin Streets
 Monrovia, Liberia
 Cell#: +231 886-425-359/770-154-787
 Emails: yfofana@mfdp.gov.lr
 CC: ctoef@mfdp.gov.lr

7. The quotation shall be in English language,

8. The deadline for receipt of your quotation is September 2, 2022 at 2:00 p. m.

9. **Supplier** must quote for all the items. A partial quote will not be accepted. If a quotation shows items listed but not priced, their prices shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other items. An item not listed in the quotation shall be assumed to be not included in the quotation.

10. **Evaluation.** All quotations shall be evaluated based on compliance to specifications, price and delivery period. The Purchaser shall award the Contract to the Supplier whose offer has been determined to be the most advantageous quotation and is substantially responsive to the request for quotation, provided further that the Supplier is determined to be qualified to perform the contract satisfactorily as per the criteria below:

- > Examine if the quotation conforms substantially to the statement of requirements and delivery schedule.
- > Examine if the Supplier meets the qualification requirements as stated above.
- > Ensuring the Supplier passed both the preliminary and detailed examination.
- > Verify any arithmetical errors. For example, if the quotation in figures is different from the quotation in words, the amount in words will prevail. If there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total price that is obtained by multiplying the unit price and quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected;

11. **Prices.** Prices shall be in United States Dollars (USD). Prices quoted in currencies other than United States Dollars (USD) will be evaluated after converting the currency into USD at the exchange rate prevailing at the Central Bank of Liberia on the date of the deadline of **quotation** submission, or from OANDA Exchange Rates Services at www.oanda.com.

12. **Delivery Schedule.** The item(s) shall be delivered within three to four weeks after award of contract.

12. **Warranty.** Items offered should be covered by at least 12 months' warranty from the date of delivery to the Purchaser. Goods offered shall be new, unused and based on the manufacturer's current and most recent model.

13. **Payment.** Payment shall be made within 30 days against submission of Invoice and supporting documents following delivery of the Goods.

Yours sincerely,

Vec-Musa Fofana
Acting Project Coordinator

QUOTATION LETTER

Date: _____

RFQ Reference: _____

Attention: PMU Project Manager:

Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project

Having examined the documents regarding the Request for Quotations, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, we, the undersigned, offer to supply and deliver [description of goods and services] in conformity with the said Request for Quotations for the sum of [total bid amount in words and figures] or such other sums as may be ascertained in accordance with the Schedule of Prices attached herewith and made part of Quotation.

We confirm that we are eligible to participate in public procurement and meet the eligibility criteria specified in the Request for Quotations.

The validity period of our quotation is: _____ days/weeks/months.

We confirm that the prices quoted in the List of Goods and Price Schedule are fixed and firm for the duration of the validity period and will not be subject to revision or variation.

The delivery period offered is: _____ days/weeks/months from date of Purchase Order.

The warranty period offered is _____ months.

Quotation authorised by:

Signature: _____ Name: _____

Position: _____ Date: _____

Authorised for and on behalf of: _____ (dd/mm/yy)

Company: _____

Appendix 2

List of Goods and Delivery Schedule

No	Description of Goods	Quantity	Physical unit	Final (Project Site)	Destination	Delivery Date	Bidder's offered Delivery date
1	Laptops	18	Pcs	Liberia Authority	Revenue	Three Weeks after contract award	
2.	Printer	18	Pcs	Liberia Authority	Revenue	Three Weeks after contract award	
3	Projector	2	Pcs	Project Management Unit/ Ministry of Financial Management		Three Weeks after contract award	

Appendix 3

APPENDIX I: TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

No.	Description	Qty	Supplier's Offered/Statement of Compliance
	Laptop	18pcs	
1	Processor	8th Gen, Intel Core i7-8565U, Four cores, Up to 4.60GHz	
	RAM	16GB DDR4-2400MHz, Dual channel	
	Hard Disk Drive:	1TB PCIe SSD	
	Operating System:	Windows 10 Professional	
	Graphics	Intel UHD Graphics 620	
	Display	14 inches, 2560x1440 (WQHD), Dolby Vision HDR, Touch Screen	
	Ports	One USB-C 3.1, Thunderbolt 3, USB-A 3.1, HDMI 1.4, RJ45 Ethernet, microSD card reader, Micro-SIM (optional), Smart Card Reader (optional), 3.5 mm audio	
	Wireless	Intel Wireless-AC 9560, 802.11ac (2 x 2), Bluetooth 5.0	
	Camera	Front-facing 720p, Webcam shutter	
	Biometrics	Fingerprint reader, IR camera	
	Keyboard	Backlit	
	Touchpad	Precision, TrackPoint System	
	Battery	50Wh, 65W AC adapter	
	Processor	8th Gen, Intel Core i7-8565U, Four cores, Up to 4.60GHz	
	RAM	16GB DDR4-2400MHz, Dual channel	
	Hard Disk Drive:	1TB PCIe SSD	
2.	Printer	18Pcs	
	Printing Technology	Monochrome laser	
	Maximum Resolution	1200 x 1200 dpi	
	Print Speed	Up to 35 ppm	
	First Print Out Speed	As fast as 8 seconds	
	Duplex Printing	Automatic	
	Printer Duty Cycle	Recommended: 750 to 3000 pages/month Maximum: 50,000 pages/month	
	Paper Handling		
	Paper-Feed Method	50-sheet multipurpose tray 1, 250-sheet input tray 2, optional 500-sheet tray 3	
	Paper Capacity	Multipurpose Tray 1: 50 sheets Input Tray 2: 250 sheets Optional Tray 3: 500 sheets Output: 150 sheets	
	Paper Types	Paper: Plain, green mode, light, heavy, bond, color, letterhead, preprinted, prepunched, recycled, rough Other: envelopes, labels, transparencies, cardstock Multipurpose Tray 1 - Standard: Letter, Legal, Executive, 8.5 x 13.0" Multipurpose Tray 1 - Custom: 3.0 x 5.0 to 8.5 x 14.0" (7.62 x 12.7 to 21.59 x 35.56 cm) Input Tray 2 - Standard: Letter, Legal, Executive, 8.5 x 13.0" Input Tray 2 - Custom: 4.1 x 5.8 to 8.5 x 14.0" (10.41 x 14.73 to 21.59 x 35.56 cm) Optional Tray 3 - Standard: Letter, Legal, Executive, 8.5 x 13.0" Optional Tray 3 - Custom: 4.1 x 5.8 to 8.5 x 14.0" (10.41 x 14.73 to 21.59 x 35.56 cm)	
	Paper Sizes		
	Maximum Printable Area	8.5 x 14.0" (21.59 x 35.56 cm)	
	Media Weight	Multipurpose Tray 1: 16 to 43 lb (60 to 163 g/m ²) Input Tray 2: 16 to 32 lb (60 to 120 g/m ²) Optional Tray 3: 16 to 32 lb (60 to 120 g/m ²)	
	Connectivity		
	Interface	USB: Hi-Speed USB 2.0, Host USB, Walk-up front-facing USB Network: Gigabit Ethernet 10/100/1000 network	
	Processor	800 MHz	
	Fonts	84 scalable TrueType fonts	
	PostScript Support	Postscript Level 3 emulation	
	Memory	256 MB	
	OS Compatibility	Windows: Windows 7 (32/64-bit), Vista (32/64-bit), XP (32-bit, SP2 or higher), Windows Server 2008 (32/64-bit), Server 2003 (32-bit SP3 or higher) Mac: OS X v 10.5, v 10.6, v 10.7 Linux: Linpus 9.4/9.5, Red Hat 5.0/6.0, OpenSuSE 11.3/11.4, Fedora 14/15, Ubuntu 10.04/10.10/11.04, Debian 5.0/6.0	
3	PROJECTOR	2	
	White Brightness:	3,300 ANSI Lumens	
	Color Brightness:	3,300 ANSI Lumens	
	Resolution:	1024x768	
	Aspect Ratio:	4:3 (XGA)	
	Dynamic Contrast:	15,000:1	
	Dynamic Iris:	Yes	
	Display Type:	0.55" 3LCD Chips	
	Color Processing:	10-bit	
	Video Modes:	720p, 1080i, 1080p/60, 1080p/24, 1080p/30, 1080p/50, 576i, 576p, 480p, 480i	
	Data Modes:	MAX 1920x1080	
	Lamp Type:	210W UHE bulb	
	Lamp Life:	6,000 hours / 12,000 hours (Eco)	
	Lamp Model:	ELPLP97 / V13H010L97	
	Included Lens:	Fixed focal length, manual focus	
	Throw Distance:	3.2' - 36.9'	
	Image Size:	30.01" - 349.9"	
	Throw Ratio:	1.58:1 (D:W)	
	Projector Placement:	For a 100 " diagonal screen, place the projector lens 10'-6" from the screen	
	Digital Zoom:	Yes	
	Digital Keystone:	Horizontal & Vertical	
	Projector Size:	3.20" x 11.90" x 9.30" (HxWxD)	
	Weight:	5.3 lbs	
	Audible Noise:	37 dB / 28 dB (Eco)	
	Internal Speakers:	2.0 Watts Mono	
	Power:	345 Watts 100V - 240V	
	Connection Panel:	HDMI USB VGA In: Dsub-15pin	

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Boakai faces dissent

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia's former Vice President and key opposition leader Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai appears to face dissent from some of his opposition allies,

2022. The Executive Committee of DPPL through its diaspora chapter with the consent of its political leader, Rev. Kiamu, sometime in July this year withdrew from the DAL. DPPL said it was never

"When you ask about that, [they] investigated [you], I can confirm and say yes to you and you are correct. We have finally withdrawn from DAL," Rev. Kiamu disclosed.

Three opposition political parties in Liberia signed up to the new political alliance named the Democratic Alliance of Liberia on 25 May 2022. DPPL's Rev. Kiamu, Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) political leader Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe and the National Democratic Coalition (NDC) of prof. Alaric Tokpa, signed the declaration of intent leading to the formation of the DAL.

Over three months after the signing, Rev. Kiamu told this paper via telephone conversation Monday that his party has withdrawn from the DAL because it wants people that will have the fear of God, love for country, transparent, independent and rational judgment.

He said his party DPPL is built on the principle to bring Liberia back to God because those who founded the country are people of faith.

Kiamu explained that after several assessments of other political parties' vision and political manifestos within the DAL, his party DPPL has discovered that none of them is willing to bring the country back to God on a Christian platform. He cited lack of integrity and transparency as some of the things lacking in the DAL for which DPPL has withdrawn.

"And so, we can do that

because our vision is to see a Liberia running under God, led by God, fearing faith - based people and others who are not and reach out to them and bring them to God," said Rev. Kiamu.

He noted that when the DPPL found out that its principles did not agree with the other party, it pulled out. He complained that all of the parties including the ones in the DAL do not have a vision to bring this country back under the authority of God. Rev. Kiamu noted that the vision of most of the other political parties including the Unity Party, is to fix Liberia, and many other things. But he said the vision to bring Liberia back under the leadership and lordship of God where God - fearing men and

women will be the ones leading public offices with transparency and integrity is lacking.

He noted that former Liberian Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakia is a man of God, but the party he leads, the former Unity Party (UP), does not have a vision to bring Liberia under God.

"DPPL as a party has that vision but the former VP party does not have that, even though he is a good, decent man and God - fearing," said Rev. Kiamu.

Rev. Kiamu noted that the DPPL declared its intention to form part of the alliance, but he is beginning to see what resembles a little bit of lack of transparency on the part of the constituent parties. --*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



judging from one constituent party's withdrawal from a new alliance intended to back his presidential bid.

Democratic People's Party of Liberia (DPPL) political leader Rev. David G. B. Kiamu says his party has withdrawn from the Democratic Alliance of Liberia (DAL) because none of DAL's constituent parties demonstrates willingness to bring Liberia back to God.

"The vision of the DPPL is to see a Liberia now and in the future under one God," Rev. Kiamu told the NewDawn's investigative team Monday, 29 August

informed that the purpose of the formation of DAL was to position it as a fallback for former Vice President Boakai when the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) was breaking apart.

DPPL said this was a big deception on the part of the other political parties within the DAL.

"Yes, it's true that my party has withdrawn its participation in the formation of the Democratic Alliance of Liberia which would declare former Vice President Joseph Boakai as the candidate," said Rev. Kiamu.

CBL to withdraw smaller banknotes from circulation

By Lewis S Teh

The chairperson of the technical committee on currency reform at the Central Bank of Liberia, Musa Kamara says the CBL is set to remove smaller banknotes in circulation and subsequently replace them with a new set of Liberian currency especially, coins.

Mr. Kamara made the disclosure during a regular press briefing held at the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism in Monrovia. He said the change made to the new currency is strategic to reduce mass number of smaller banknotes in the country.

He said the government, through the CBL will shortly launch vigorous awareness as part of efforts to take seized

of the smaller number of local banknotes to substitute them with newly minted coins.

The CBL official noted the one thousand Liberian banknotes was produced to

reduce the smaller number of foreign banknotes in the country. He urged citizens especially business owners and market women to take advantage of various banking institutions across the country



LISGIS decries delay

Starts from back page

capacity with the provision of a new master sample frame for future survey, quality maps and geographic information system (GIS).

The census is also expected to facilitate the mobilization of real estate taxes. The 2022 census will infuse over US\$15 million into the local economy through the procurement of goods and services.

Giving the welcome remark, the Acting Director General of LISGIS, Wilmot F. Smith said the institution is expected to conduct the census this 2022 with the consent and approval of the Legislature.

But he said the Legislature needs to set the census date, adding that LISGIS is hopeful that in the coming days the census date will be set so Liberia can experience its first digital census.

"LISGIS is prepared and ready to conduct the census because we are currently conducting the training of trainers' workshop at our office," he said.

Also speaking on behalf of development partners, USAID Liberia Democracy, Rights and Governance office Director and UNFPA Liberia Project Director, Michael B. Weah expressed excitement and gratitude to form part of the training.

"We call on the Liberian Legislature and strongly recommend that they do the proclamation that determines the census date that will allow your valuable input as we conduct this census," he said.

Speaking on behalf of the University of Liberia, Dr. Julius S. Nelson thanked the team at LISGIS for being on their word, adding that it's good to know the exact population of the country.

to have access to the coins. Mr. Kamara explained that as part of security features on the LRD 1,000 banknote, it contains 16 features which represent the 16 tribes of Liberia. He added that the marks or features represent the national symbols of the country, and that the 5 and 10 Liberian banknotes have been minted into coins but with new types far different from the previous coins that were in circulation prior to the civil conflict.

According to him, the idea is to enable citizens especially business people to handle smaller denomination of currency for change purposes. The CBL in a statement issued August 15, 2022 said consistent with the May 6, 2021, Joint Resolution of the National Legislature, authorizing the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) to print and mint new family of Liberian currency totaling L\$48.734 billion, only L\$5 and L\$10 are being minted in coins.

The Bank in a release said delivery of the coins will begin in the 4th quarter of 2022 and

subsequently infused into the economy through commercial banks. The new coins are smaller, much lighter and easier to carry than the previous coins in circulation.

According to the CBL, the newly minted coins are round, nickel-plated steel, with the L\$5 weighing 3.6 grams and the L\$10 weighing 4.8 grams, respectively. The L\$5 has the image of President Edward James Roye, while the L\$10 has the image of President Joseph Jenkins Roberts. The L\$5 and L\$10 coins are part of the new family of Liberian dollar currency, with the rest of the new currency being the L\$20, L\$50, L\$100, L\$500 and the L\$1,000 banknotes. The L\$1000 is being introduced into the Liberian economy for the first time.

The CBL has reassured the public that the currency reform is well on course and proceeding according to implementation plan.

Meanwhile, the Bank will soon launch a nationwide public education and sensitization campaign on the currency replacement exercise. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Français

Le FMI prévoit un taux de croissance de 5 % au Libéria

Le Fonds monétaire international (FMI) a prédit une croissance économique d'un peu moins de 5% au Libéria cette année, malgré le ralentissement de l'évolution mondiale qui freine le taux de croissance à 3,7%.

La nouvelle intervient alors que le Conseil d'administration du FMI a achevé sa quatrième revue dans le cadre de l'accord de facilité de crédit élargie et a conclu la consultation de 2022 au titre de l'article IV pour le Libéria.

Il a déclaré que les performances quantitatives du programme sont assez solides tandis que la mise en œuvre du programme de réformes structurelles a accusé des retards. L'adoption d'une nouvelle législation anti-corruption a été un bon progrès.

Dans le même temps, le Fonds a observé que la consolidation de la stabilité macroéconomique, la réalisation d'une croissance économique forte et financièrement viable et la résolution des faiblesses de la

gouvernance et des institutions du secteur public restent les principaux objectifs du programme.

La déclaration du FMI :

Washington, DC : Le Conseil d'administration du Fonds monétaire international (FMI) a achevé aujourd'hui les consultations de 2022 au titre de l'article IV et la quatrième revue au titre de la facilité élargie de crédit (FEC) avec le Libéria. L'accord de quatre ans, avec un accès total de 155 millions de DTS (60 % de la quote-part ou environ 214,30 millions de

dollars) a été approuvé par le Conseil d'administration du FMI le 11 décembre 2019. La décision d'aujourd'hui permet un décaissement immédiat de 17 millions de DTS (environ 22,1 millions de dollars américains), portant le total des décaissements au titre de l'accord à 85 millions de DTS (environ 110,7 millions de dollars américains). En achevant la quatrième revue, le Conseil d'administration a accordé une dérogation pour

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Guinée : la Cedeao salue la mise en place d'un « cadre de concertation »

L'ancien président béninois Thomas Boni Yayi a passé presque une semaine à Conakry pour tenter de trouver une issue à la crise politique guinéenne. Le médiateur de la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'ouest (Cedeao) pour la Guinée a achevé samedi 27 août sa deuxième mission de travail, près de deux mois après son premier séjour dans la capitale guinéenne. Arrivé le 21 août, Thomas Boni Yayi a rencontré divers acteurs dans ce pays qui traverse une nouvelle crise institutionnelle à la

suite du coup d'État du 5 septembre 2021.

Au terme de sa visite, dont le but était de faciliter l'opérationnalisation d'un cadre de dialogue inclusif qui devrait permettre le retour à l'ordre constitutionnel, l'ancien président béninois (2006 - 2016) a notamment « salué la mise en place par les autorités de la transition du cadre de concertation inclusif ».

Cet organe, composé d'acteurs politiques et membres de la société civile, a été lancé le 15 avril dernier par le colonel Mamadi Doumbouya, président de la transition, à la tête du

putsch qui a renversé Alpha Condé. Boycotté par certains partis politiques majeurs, tels que le RPG d'Alpha Condé et la coalition du G58 de Cellou Dalein Diallo et de Sidya Touré, ce cadre est censé instaurer des discussions pour sortir de la transition. Ces figures politiques guinéennes exigent toutefois sa supervision par un observateur international.

Cependant, Thomas Boni Yayi « a exhorté les partis politiques n'ayant pas encore pris part au cadre de concertation initié par les autorités, lequel cadre pourrait être actualisé de manière consensuelle, de la faire afin d'assurer une transition apaisée ». Il invite dans ce sens les parties prenantes, à savoir le gouvernement de transition, l'opposition et la société civile, « à trouver des compromis pour rendre le dialogue inclusif et consensuel ».

Selon le communiqué de la Cedeao, ces dernières « ont affirmé leur volonté de poursuivre les discussions afin

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Éditorial

L'action du gouvernement laisse place aux soupçons

L'exécutif demande au pouvoir législatif de voter une loi qui met fin au service de tous les magistrats électoraux du pays pour les remplacer par d'autres. Ce projet de loi crée de la place pour la suspicion et le mécontentement.

Le mardi 9 août 2022, le président George Manneh Weah a demandé aux législateurs d'interrompre les pauses parlementaires pour discuter des questions nationales critiques pendant la période de 30 jours, à compter du 15 août 2022.

Entre autres, les questions comprenaient une demande aux législateurs d'adopter l'amendement de la nouvelle loi électorale qui appelle à la révocation immédiate et à la retraite de tous les magistrats électoraux à travers le pays.

Cela arrive à moins de 14 mois des prochaines élections présidentielle et législatives au cours desquelles le président George Weah briguera un second mandat. Nous nous demandons où le gouvernement veut en venir étant donné que récemment, un amendement de la loi créant la Commission libérienne de lutte contre la corruption (LACC) a littéralement procédé au démantèlement de l'ensemble de la direction de la Commission avant même que leur mandat n'expire.

L'expulsion de l'ensemble de la direction du LACC sous la direction du président Me Edwin Kla Martin est venue après qu'un audit mené par l'institution anti-corruption ait inculpé des chefs de plusieurs entités gouvernementales pour corruption.

Maintenant, il y a une autre poussée de l'exécutif, cette fois-ci pour remplacer tous les magistrats électoraux, alors que la nation se prépare pour les élections de 2023. Qui sont ces nouveaux magistrats que l'exécutif veut embarquer et quel est le motif ?

Déjà, le Dr Jeremiah Whapoe, leader politique de la Vision for Liberia Transformation (VOLT), met en garde contre le retour des jours sombres passés du pays. Il avertit que le projet de loi est un terrain fertile pour la corruption et la violence.

Il appelle le Sénat libérien à rejeter le projet de loi car il viserait à permettre au gouvernement de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) du président Weah de truquer les élections présidentielles et législatives de 2023, tout en rappelant que de tels actes de truquage lors des précédentes élections historiques au Libéria ont conduit à des guerres et conflits.

Nous aussi, nous nous grattons la tête pour comprendre la décision derrière la tentative actuelle de remplacer les magistrats qualifiés et expérimentés par de nouvelles personnes qui peuvent être triées sur le volet par intérêt politique pour présider ce qui est censé être un processus démocratique.

Nous nous joignons au chef de la VOLT et à tous les autres Libériens avec appréhension sur cette question critique pour appeler à la fois l'exécutif et le législatif à s'abstenir de modifier la loi électorale pour remplacer les magistrats à travers le pays avant des élections majeures. Nous pensons qu'agir d'une manière qui pourrait conduire à la méfiance et à la discorde pourrait être une recette pour une violence potentielle pendant et après les élections.

Français

Le FMI prévoit un taux de

non-respect du critère de réalisation quantitatif à fin juin 2021 relatif aux réserves internationales nettes, sur la base des mesures correctives prises par les autorités.

Le Libéria a connu une forte reprise économique en 2021. La croissance devrait ralentir à 3,7 % en 2022, en grande partie en raison des incertitudes mondiales accrues et des chocs sur les prix des matières premières, qui poussent l'inflation à deux chiffres. Le programme de vaccination contre la COVID-19 du Libéria s'est accéléré ces derniers mois, mais les risques liés à la pandémie, y compris une éventuelle épidémie de nouvelles variantes, subsistent. Le cycle politique à venir avec les élections présidentielles et parlementaires, prévues en septembre 2023, est une autre source d'incertitude.

À l'issue de la discussion du Conseil d'administration, M. Bo Li, directeur général adjoint et président par intérim, a fait la déclaration suivante :

Les autorités libériennes continuent de mettre en œuvre des politiques macroéconomiques saines, malgré les retards du programme de réformes à large assise. Les autorités ont réussi à maintenir le programme globalement sur la bonne voie en préservant la stabilité macroéconomique, en assurant une position confortable de réserves internationales et en maintenant la viabilité de la dette.

La loi de finances rectificative pour 2022 vise principalement à atténuer les pressions sur les prix alimentaires et à stabiliser la compagnie d'électricité publique. Pour limiter le creusement temporaire du déficit budgétaire, les autorités ont rationalisé les dépenses non prioritaires, tout en préservant largement l'augmentation significative de l'investissement public par rapport aux années précédentes, rendue possible

par l'utilisation partielle de l'allocation 2021 de DTS du FMI au Libéria.

Les autorités devraient poursuivre les réformes budgétaires structurelles pour rendre les services publics et les entreprises publiques plus efficaces et garantir un espace plus permanent pour des investissements publics adéquats tout en préservant la viabilité de la dette. Les progrès réalisés en matière de mobilisation des recettes intérieures doivent être exploités, notamment en rationalisant les exonérations fiscales. Les efforts visant à remédier aux contraintes de capacité qui entravent la sélection, la préparation et l'exécution des projets d'investissement public doivent être relancés.

La stabilité macroéconomique devrait encore se renforcer avec la modernisation prévue du cadre de politique monétaire du Libéria et le basculement monétaire en cours, à condition que les risques opérationnels soient convenablement atténués.

L'intensification de la lutte contre la corruption reste une priorité absolue. L'adoption récente de la loi amendée sur la Commission libérienne de lutte contre la corruption (LACC), de la nouvelle loi sur la protection des dénonciateurs et des témoins et du code de conduite révisé constitue un progrès notable. Une mise en œuvre rapide est désormais essentielle.

Les autorités renforcent le volet croissance de leur programme de réformes. Outre les réformes budgétaires favorables à la croissance et la lutte contre la corruption, il sera important de mener à bien les plans visant à améliorer le climat des affaires et à permettre un meilleur accès au crédit, notamment en facilitant la résolution des prêts non performants. L'amélioration du niveau d'instruction, l'adaptation au changement climatique et la lutte contre les disparités entre les sexes sont également essentielles.

Guinée : la Cedeao salue la mise en

de convenir d'un calendrier et d'un contenu de transition acceptés de tous ».

Par ailleurs, la fin de séjour du médiateur de cette organisation sous-régionale coïncide à la suspension partielle des appels à manifester du Front national pour la défense de la Constitution (FNDC). Ce

mouvement contestataire, dissous en début août par le gouvernement de transition, est composé de coalition de partis, de syndicats et d'organisations de la société civile.

Malgré sa dissolution, le FNDC continue toujours de mobiliser et avait appelé à manifester ce lundi 29 août et le 4 septembre pour un retour à l'ordre

COMMENTAIRE

Par Jayati Ghosh

Il faut freiner la spéculation sur le marché des matières premières

NEW DELHI - Depuis un an le prix des matières premières fait des montagnes russes, un phénomène qui s'est accentué depuis 6 mois. Ainsi le prix du pétrole brut est passé de 89 à 124 dollars le baril entre le 8 février et le 8 mars, avant de redescendre en avril à 95 dollars. Le 8 juin il a rebondi à 122 dollars, pour chuter à 88 dollars le 4 août - en dessous de son niveau de début février.

Le marché à terme du blé est tout aussi volatil. Le prix de la tonne de blé tendre rouge d'hiver est passé de 332 dollars en janvier à 672 dollars en avril, avant de retomber à 380 dollars en juin - soit 50% de plus qu'il y a un an, mais bien en dessous des records démentiels du printemps.

Ces variations spectaculaires ne sont pas dues à des variations de la production ou de la demande réelle. Les pénuries d'approvisionnement liées à la guerre de la Russie en Ukraine n'expliquent pas tout. Notamment, la forte hausse des marges bénéficiaires des grandes sociétés pétrolières et agroalimentaires montre que l'augmentation de leurs prix dépasse largement celle de leurs coûts. Mais comme je l'ai souligné récemment, la spéculation effrénée (menée principalement par des firmes financières comme les fonds d'investissement qui dominent les échanges) a beaucoup aggravé la situation.

A titre d'exemple, une enquête de Kabir Agarwal, Thin Lei Win et Margot Gibbs conclut que les fonds d'investissement ont été hyperactifs sur le marché du blé de Paris. Leur part en position longue sur les contrats à terme sur le blé est passée de 23 % en mai 2018 à 72 % en avril 2022 ! Et elle est restée supérieure à 50 % en mai 2022. Selon une autre étude récente, le volume d'échanges au principal centre de tarification du gaz du marché du gaz naturel de l'Union européenne, le Mécanisme de transfert de titres, a augmenté régulièrement au cours de la dernière décennie - passant de 14 fois la consommation réelle de gaz en 2011 à plus de 114 fois en 2020.

Une telle spéculation peut engendrer le chaos, comme on l'a vu en mars dernier lorsqu'une flambée spectaculaire du nickel a contraint le marché des métaux de Londres (LME, London Metal Exchange) à suspendre les échanges et à annuler toutes les transactions. Celles qui ont lieu de gré à gré en dehors du marché réglementé ont été jugées en partie responsables, aussi la réglementation du LME exige désormais que les négociants déclarent chaque semaine leur position de gré à gré sur tous les métaux livrés physiquement.

Le prix des matières premières sur les autres marchés dérivés restent très volatil, car les fonds spéculatifs et d'autres firmes financières en sortent aussi vite qu'ils y entrent. Cette situation est lourde de conséquences, les denrées alimentaires, le carburant et les principaux métaux étant essentiels non seulement à la production, mais à la vie elle-même. L'instabilité des prix affecte le niveau de vie, la capacité de production et l'offre de services ; elle contribue aussi à la stagflation et à la faim qui sévissent actuellement dans la plupart des pays à revenu faible ou intermédiaire. Une certaine stabilisation des prix et leur régulation est donc cruciale - pas exclusivement pour combattre l'inflation.

Dans ces conditions, pourquoi les dirigeants

politiques ne font-ils rien contre ces fluctuations, alors qu'ils sont parfaitement conscients des conséquences d'une activité financière frénétique sur le marché des matières premières essentielles. Quelque chose de similaire s'est produit en 2007-2009 : provoquant des ravages sur le plan économique, les prix du pétrole et des denrées alimentaires ont d'abord fortement augmenté, avant de redescendre à leur niveau antérieur en l'espace de 18 mois. Après cet épisode et dans le sillage de la crise financière mondiale de 2008, les USA (avec la loi Dodd-Frank) et l'UE ont cherché à réglementer dans une certaine mesure le marché des produits dérivés.

Dans l'idéal, la réglementation aurait dû empêcher la spéculation en veillant à ce que les transactions se déroulent non pas de gré à gré, mais sur les marchés réglementés, de manière transparente, avec des informations complètes sur les acteurs réels et leurs offres. Et en ce qui concerne les matières premières, devraient être autorisés à intervenir en Bourse exclusivement les acteurs qui ont un intérêt opérationnel direct dans leur négoce. Ainsi les compagnies aériennes pourraient être autorisées à opérer sur le marché à terme du kérosène, mais pas les fonds spéculatifs. Et les acteurs au marché devraient respecter des limites quant aux positions qu'ils peuvent détenir, en fonction de leur utilisation, de leur besoin ou de la production réelle d'une matière première.

La réglementation des USA et de l'UE joue un rôle essentiel, car leurs marchés déterminent en grande partie le prix mondial des matières premières. Mais les premiers changements réglementaires ne sont pas allés assez loin, et ont même été édulcorés.

La réglementation de l'UE contribue à prévenir les abus sur les marchés officiels en limitant la position des traders individuels, mais elle autorise toujours les transactions de gré à gré sur les matières premières, ce qui permet à la spéculation de prospérer. De leur côté, les USA interdisent les transactions de gré à gré sur la plupart des matières premières, mais les agents financiers peuvent toujours entrer sur le marché par le biais de mandataires, et les limites de position sont si élevées qu'elles n'empêchent pas les offres importantes de peser sur les prix.

Dans ce contexte, la spéculation sur le prix des matières premières essentielles peut encore désorganiser la vie et les moyens d'existence de la population. Heureusement, les régulateurs sont attentifs à certains signes. Lors de la réunion récente du G20 en Indonésie, Klaas Knot, le président du Conseil de stabilité financière qui regroupe les responsables des banques centrales, les ministres des Finances et les régulateurs des pays du G20 a appelé à surveiller de près la spéculation : "Le rôle essentiel des principales matières premières dans les secteurs de l'énergie, des métaux et de l'agriculture... fait que tout dysfonctionnement du financement des producteurs ou des traders actifs dans ces secteurs peut avoir un impact démesuré."

Mais la simple surveillance ne suffit pas. Les mesures à prendre pour limiter la spéculation sur le marché des matières premières sont évidentes, ce qui rend d'autant plus frappante la passivité des autorités. Les régulateurs et les responsables politiques continuent-ils à mettre l'intérêt des opérateurs financiers au-dessus de l'intérêt général ?

Traduit de l'anglais par Patrice Horovitz

Jayati Ghosh est professeur d'économie à l'université du Massachusetts à Amherst et membre du Conseil consultatif de haut niveau de l'ONU sur un multilatéralisme efficace.

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LIBERIANS DEBATE

Topic: Students' Politics

By Naneka Hoffman

Ruling Coalition for Democratic Change lawmaker, Representative Solomon George, recently called on President George Weah to place a ban on students' politics at the University of Liberia. He also questioned whether the campus-based Student Unification Party (SUP) at the UL is a political party. But Rep. George received barrage of criticisms from the public for his call against students' politics.

In this random interview, The NEW DAWN asked some residents of Monrovia about their stance on students' politics in the country that the ruling party lawmaker wants the government to purge. Read their responses as compiled below.



Lansana H. Paul

"No, students' politics should not be banned because it is through

politics students advocate for their colleagues on issues that are affecting them on campuses. So, when it is banned, more of our colleagues would not be aware of the issues of the University of Liberia. But the only thing it should be restricted; no violence."



Lewis Toejah Nagbe

"Students' politics should not be banned; it should be restricted, it depends on the route or trend that identical politics wants to take. But if you look at students, students are the future leaders. In order to become the future leaders, they

should also be informed of what is unfolding when it comes to ruling the country. So, it is also important that students should also be part of politics especially, when it comes to the good aspect of politics, not the one that will lead to killings in the country. But if you want to come to students' politics on campuses, there should be some restrictions. But to just ban students' politics at all its means that you will be infringing on the rights of students."

"I don't see it necessary for students' politics to be banned because the first thing is, you can't stop politics from the upper level. Politics always starts from the grassroots; the University of Liberia is one of the universities in the Republic of Liberia, so if you stop politics from the University of Liberia, the national government will not be able to go through any good policy. As for me, I would like for students' politics to be upgraded than the way its look now.



Lansana Manobah

Even our Representative Solomon George said that the government should ban students' politics. I don't see it necessary because he himself passed through the same process before becoming a Representative. If he was not going to pass through students' politics, he would not have been where he is today."

"No, students' politics should not be banned because some people are doing [studying] Political Science. So, if you ban it, how you think they will understand what they are studying? For me, it is necessary to have students' politics because it is a course that is studied at the University of Liberia and other universities around the world. And if the man is not practicing what



Jenkins Sieh

he/she is studying, how will he become somebody in the society?"

"Students' politics can't be banned because students use politics to express their grievances and to enlighten the minds of people, who don't know the attitude of people that are in power. So, if you ban students' politics, that means you are silencing students around the world. Even on campuses and in churches, politics is there. So, students'



Pewee Paye

politics can't be banned so easily."

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Specific Procurement Notice



Request for Quotations
Goods

Country: Liberia

Employer: Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

Name of Project: Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP-II)

Project ID: **P-LR-K00-014**

RFQ Reference No.: IPFMRP-II/ LRA/G/RFQ/2.1.21/2022 and 1.3.3.7 /2022 AfDB

Contract Title: Procurement of Laptops, Printers and Projectors for Liberia Revenue Authority and Bureau of State Own Enterprise

Issued on: August 19, 2022

1. The Republic of Liberia has received Financing from the African Development Bank (AfDB) toward the cost of Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP-II) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under the contract for procurement of Laptops, Printers and Projectors.
2. The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning through the Integrated Public Financial Management Reform Project-II now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply and delivery of Laptops, Printers and Projectors to support the **Liberia Revenue Authority and Bureau of State Own Enterprise** as delineated below:

Item	Description	Quantity	Delivery
1	Supply of Laptops	18	3-4 weeks
2	Supply of Printers (3-in-1)	18	3-4 weeks
3	Supply of Projectors	2	3- 4 weeks

4. Bidding will be conducted through Open National Competitive Procurement Method using Request for Quotation (RFQ) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers -" July, 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the Project Management Unit (PMU) 1st Floor Annex, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Monrovia, Liberia; and inspect the bidding document during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours.
6. The bidding document (RFQ) in English may be collected at no cost by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before September 2, 2022. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below on September 2, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
8. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Mr. Vee-Musa Fofana, Acting Project Manager or Ms. Caroline Hoff Toe , 1st Floor Annex, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Monrovia, Liberia; e-mail: vfofana@mfdp.gov.lr and copy ctoe@mfdp.gov.lr and inspect the bidding document during office hours 09:00 to 17:00 hours at the address given below. The request for quotation document in English will be published on the Executive Mansion website.
9. Bidders are required to quote for all the items in the Schedule of Requirements. A partial quote will not be accepted.
10. Bidders shall submit Past Performance Record, List of References, Certificates and Achievements from previous Clients and Manufacturer or Distributors Authorization to prove their eligibility.
11. The address referred to above is:

Attn: Mr. Vee-Musa Fofana, Acting Project Manager
Public Financial Management Reforms for Institutional Strengthening Project (PFMRISP)/Project Management Unit
1st Floor Annex, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Broad and Mechlin Streets
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia
Cell #: 0886-425-359/0770-154-787
E-mail: vfofana@mfdp.gov.lr
Cc: ctoe@mfdp.gov.lr

"No road, no vote"

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh

Members of a Diaspora-Liberian group, 'Lofa 2023 Project' have threatened to boycott the pending elections if nothing is done about the terrible road condition in their county.

Speaking to the NEW DAWN from the United States on Sunday, August 28, the head of the group, Robert V. Sesay said the people of Lofa in the diaspora seek to collaborate with their kinsmen back home under the banner "Lofa 2023 Project" to create awareness on the importance of paved road connectivity in the county.

Lofa, which was once referred to as the "breadbasket" of Liberia seems to have lost that advantage due to lack of better roads to transport foods and cash crops from the county to the capital, Monrovia.

Since the cessation of civil wars and the inception of a civilian government in 2006 up to the current regime, Lofians' dream of riding on asphalt pavement is but still a dream.

The Gbarnga-Menikoma road project launched by former President

government has paid the money needed to settle those property owners along the road, so we are making all efforts to accelerate this road project," she assured.

Notwithstanding, the debacle of the Lofa road will remain a campaign issue for the people of Lofa in the coming elections, perhaps a campaign to shame politicians who play on the ignorance of the citizenry.

In May 2021, a NEW DAWN's investigation unraveled that the Lofa road project was delayed as a result of the Government of Liberia's alleged failure to meet up with financial obligation through the Ministry of Finance for the implementation of the project.

Minister Ruth Collins, during confirmation hearing recently before the Liberian Senate, confirmed that the government has not met its full obligation to the project in the tone of US\$1.3 million to resettle affected property owners along the road.

Because of this default, one of the four financiers of the project halted



Ellen Johnson Sirleaf along with current President George M. Weah then Senator of Montserrado county has delayed over the years.

The project intends to shame national leaders into taking positive action to pave the Gbarnga-Menikoma highway.

Delay in the project coupled with torrential rains in the county, has left citizens at the mercy of drivers, who hike transport fares at will. Movement in the county especially during the rainy season becomes very difficult, leaving huge amount of goods to damage while enroute to Monrovia. During a recent tour of the project base in Bong County, Public Works Minister Ruth Cooker-Collins told reporters that all issues responsible for slowing the road project have been settled by the government.

Minister Collins said financial settlement of affected property owners that was stalling the project has now been addressed and all is now set to see progress on the road. "The

payment toward the Gbarnga-Salaye project, which played a major role in slowing the entire process, Minister Collins had earlier said when she appeared for confirmation hearing in June.

Bad roads are amongst infrastructural challenges Liberia faces, especially, rural Liberia during the rainy season when floods make movement of vehicles nearly impossible.

Commuters or vehicles plying highways leading to the interior are usually stocked in the mud and constrained to wait days or even weeks to allow the mud to dry before continuing their journey, which is affecting citizens in southeast and northwest Liberia, particularly vote-rich Lofa county.

As the 2023 Presidential and General Elections draw close, the "Lofa 2023 Project", a conglomeration of Lofians both at home and abroad are mobilizing their kinsmen to make road connectivity a key electoral issue. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

LISGIS decries delay of new census date



By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia Institute of Statistic and Geo-information Services (LISGIS) has decried a delay on the part of the Legislature to set a new date for the conduct of census here.

At the climax of a one-day national stakeholders' engagement conference on 26 August 2022, LISGIS called on the Legislature to make a proclamation that determines the date for the conduct of the Census here.

LISGIS says the census is critical for planning, and development, urging the need for coordination and stakeholders' engagement.

"We call on the Liberian Legislature and strongly recommend that they do the proclamation ... The census is critical for planning, and

development and we urge for coordination and stakeholders' engagement," said LISGIS.

LISGIS through the Liberia National Population and Housing Census (NPHC) 2022 in collaboration with international partners over the weekend climaxed a one-day national stakeholders' engagement on the conduct of Liberia's first digital census.

The international partners included the World Bank, United Nations, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Irish Aid and the Embassy of Sweden.

During the national stakeholders' engagement conference held at the Monrovia City Hall, LISGIS reaffirmed its readiness and commitment to conduct the

country's first ever digital census.

The Government of Liberia is leading the Census 2022 through the Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services with technical support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

This year's National Population and Housing Census is being implemented under the theme "Be Counted." The conduct of the census is in accordance with the constitution which calls for the conduct of a census after every ten years.

The conference was graced by the President of the University of Liberia Dr. Julius S. Nelson, who spoke on behalf of the nation's highest institute of learning. Population and housing census is used to determine the current demographic, social, economic and cultural characteristics of the population of the country. It provides small area data, creating sustainability of data collection and analysis in the future through strengthened national

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