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TRULY INDEPENDENT
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LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2022	L\$152.7685/US\$1.00	L\$154.6241/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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More headache for Weah

Pres. Weah **Sen. Johnson** **Mr. Sekou Konneh** **Amb. Schaack**

-As U.S. seeks answers to TRC recommendations

P11

Ellen: I'm not supporting anyone

Former Pres. Sirleaf **CPP Political Leader Cummings** **UP Political Leader Boakai** **Pres. Weah**

MTN MoMo

MoMo
WAYSAY-WASA!
BIGGER & BETTER!!

Dial *156#

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Continental News

Chad Transition Period Extension Worries Experts

The push for democracy in Chad suffered a setback last weekend, when a political forum organized by military rulers postponed elections for another two years. An 18-month political transition led by Mahamat Idriss Deby was supposed to end this month.

Instead, it's been prolonged after a national

"From the outset this was not a national dialogue that met the stated goals of the junta itself, which was to be inclusive and representative of the broadest views of Chadians; it was not that," he said. "So, when it wasn't that it became clear that it was going to essentially reaffirm the junta's position and hold on to power."

Danny Ayida, a senior regional director for the U.S.-based

said this was not a good thing for democracy in Chad.

"We are trying on our side as an international organization supporting the transition to understand what they can do because democracy is important," he said. "Also, Chadians need now more support from the international community to help them deal with this crisis. Now is also time for Chad to deal with some reforms that would allow the country to organize fair and transparent elections." Another decision that came out of the forum now allows Deby to run for president, contrary to what had been talked about when he became interim leader. Deby took over last year after his father and longtime Chadian president Idriss Deby Itno was killed fighting insurgents.

Hudson said Deby is not a lone actor and there could be a number of reasons for that change.

"My understanding is that Deby doesn't just represent the Deby name, the family legacy," he said. "He also represents the Zaghawa tribe which has many, many influential people in power, in business, in government, and in the military.... And to some degree he's captured by that group and under enormous pressure from that group to maintain the status quo and to maintain Zaghawa dominance over the political, economic and security affairs of the country." VOA

National Democratic Institute, said he was concerned that opposition voices in Chad are being left out of the conversation.

"If you take the opposition group in Chad, the political party 'les transformateurs,' it's one of the most important one," he told VOA while on his way to the Chadian capital, N'Djamena. "If you see the ways they mobilized the country, I think they should be part of what's going on." Ayida

dialogue forum last weekend adopted resolutions that push back elections by two years and authorize Deby to run for president.

Cameron Hudson, a senior associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, told VOA he wasn't surprised by the developments but called the conference a missed opportunity to move Chad in a more democratic direction.

Rwanda Court Acquits Reporters Accused of Publishing Fake News

KIGALI —A Rwandan court has acquitted three journalists who had been detained for four years on charges of spreading false information with the intention of inciting violence and tarnishing the country's image.

Rights groups say Rwanda is among the countries in sub-Saharan Africa that has the worst record for jailing journalists, and accuse the government of using authoritarian means to stifle dissent.

The government rejects the accusations, saying it guarantees free speech.

Jean Damascene Mutuyimana, Niyonsenga

Schadrack and Jean Baptiste Nshimiyimana, reporters with the YouTube channel Iwacu TV,

were arrested in October 2018 for, authorities said at the time, causing unrest and spreading rumours.



Rwandan reporters with the YouTube channel Iwacu TV

The terrors of Kenya's school fire epidemic

A school dormitory in western Kenya burned down a few weeks ago and several students were arrested on suspicion of arson - just the latest instance of a devastating criminal pattern that has dominated the country's education system for more than 30 years.

Last year saw a particular spike in the number of boarding school arson attacks by the pupils, which students blamed on an intensified curriculum following time lost to the Covid lockdown.

friend was in the building having a nap. "People were crying, they were traumatised... [I could see] smoke had covered the entire dorm."

They watched as students at Buruburu Girls High School - in the capital Nairobi - began jumping from the windows to escape.

Lillian doesn't know for sure what provoked the arson attack. But she claims that students were deeply unhappy about the amount of academic pressure they were under in the run up to national exams.

"We're usually in class by 4.30am every morning," Lillian told the BBC last November.



Fire officers tackle one of the many arson attacks on Kenyan schools last year

The second half of the year saw an average of three a week. The BBC has spoken to students whose schools have been set on fire to investigate what lies behind the regular attacks. It was about 16:30 on a Sunday afternoon when someone on the school field spotted the fire. At first, Lillian wasn't too worried. It was just the matron burning rubbish, someone said. But before long, screaming students began streaming out of the school building. Smoke was pouring out of Lillian's dorm. Lillian [not her real name], 15 at the time of the attack last October, was terrified. She knew her good

Independent study then continued to 22:00, she said. Boarding schools are the main educators of secondary school-aged children in Kenya - seen as a way of getting good quality subsidised education, and places where children can concentrate on their studies.

Another student, Mary, 16, confirmed that there had been no extra curricular activities last year, and said the academic schedule had been intense. "We had to add more lessons to cover the syllabus in time... it was quite challenging." The terrors of Kenya's school fire epidemic

Her mother confirmed that her daughter had complained of long hours and poor student-teacher relations.

They were repeatedly denied bail before their trial, according to the nonprofit Committee to Protect Journalists.

"There is no evidence to prove that their publication incited violence," said Speciose Nyirabagande, one of the court's three judges.

After their release from Mageragere Prison near the capital Kigali, all three reporters said they would continue to practice journalism.

"I am a journalist, and I was a journalist, and I will always be," Nshimiyimana told Reuters.

The trio's defense lawyer Jean Paul Ibambe said he welcomed the acquittal, but

criticized the length of their pre-trial detention.

"Imagine serving four years in preventive detention, the courts should be quickening the procedures instead of taking this long time," Ibambe told Reuters.

A national prosecution authority spokesman said the body respected the court's decision.

"The relief at the acquittal of the three journalists is overshadowed by the court's failure to stop this sham of a trial earlier," said Lewis Mudge, central Africa director at rights watchdog Human Rights Watch.

"The fact a prosecution took place at all will send a chilling message to others who dare to exercise their right to free expression in Rwanda." VOA

EDITORIAL

Subsidizing rice price is unsustainable

For selfish political reason the Government of Liberia believes that subsidizing the price of rice, the nation's staple, is the best strategy in keeping the commodity available on the market. This is not only highly deceptive, but it is subjecting the population to complete illusion.

Previous administrations had played this game of deception to gain political favor at the expense of a well-defined sustainable policy on agriculture, particularly rice production. The Weah administration believes it can thread the same path safely amid the current global food crisis, exacerbated by the Ukraine-Russia war in Europe. But this is not working, as indicated by the present scarcity in the country that has led to hike in price.

Truth of the matter is government has played lip-service for too long on self-sufficiency in food, mainly rice despite the fact that Liberia is endowed with a very rich soil to grow rice and other crops.

We can record vividly how the late Senator Kerkura Beyan Kpoto of Lofa county, cultivated a very huge rice farm during the Doe regime of so many acres that he was unable to harvest completely up to the outbreak of the civil war in 1989. We're talking about the farm of an individual; in this case, a single official!

Sad to say, but this administration has been unable to drive an aggressive food production campaign that would take citizens along, and do so in dignity. Rather, it focuses on quick fix by spending millions of dollars annually on subsidizing rice importation that it absolutely has no control over.

The government shot itself in the leg by reaching an agreement with importers, who thrive on profit, to import the commodity and keep price low, howbeit unforeseen shocks in the global market.

It is time that Liberians face the reality: We must grow rice that is our staple. If we keep depending on other countries to grow rice for us to buy and eat as a country, we should get prepared for the kind of externalities now confronting us.

Notwithstanding, in the short run, returning to the soil will not remove or address current challenges immediately. There will be sacrifices to pay by working hard and honestly so that we all will enjoy in the future.

Using rice as a political stick is a serious disservice, not only to this present generation, but generations of Liberians to come. Nothing should be difficult in standing up to the fact that we need to grow what we eat than always paying others with scarce cash to feed us when we can feed ourselves if we really mean it.

Unless we decide to do things differently, no amount of dialogue between government and importers will solve the current rice crisis in the country. Subsidy or financial inducement will always be temporary, as it is now. A hint to the wise...

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COMMENTARY

By Daron Acemoglu

Why Businesses Misbehave

BOSTON - Are successful businesspeople more like heroes or villains? In fictional accounts, one can find plenty of examples of each, from Charles Dickens's miserly Ebenezer Scrooge to Ayn Rand's rugged individualist entrepreneur John Galt. In F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Tom Buchanan represents privileged old money, with its ruthlessness and incapacity for empathy, whereas Jay Gatsby is a self-made millionaire with no shortage of sentimentality and idealism.

One finds the same distinctions in social-science depictions of entrepreneurs. Joseph Schumpeter and his followers viewed entrepreneurs as the engines of growth, the heroic figures who delivered "gales of creative destruction." By contrast, Frederick Engels's *The Condition of the Working Class in England* heaped scorn on British industrialists who pushed their workers not just into poverty but into inhumane working and living conditions. But later, he and Karl Marx made the two roles an essential part of their theory of capitalism: ruthless businesspeople exploit workers but also unleash innovation and growth, ultimately transforming society.

These conflicting depictions reflect society's complex views of business. Obviously, it would be naive to expect all businesspeople to be either heroes or villains. Like most of us, they are often both.

Many names that we now associate with philanthropy or higher education originally belonged to the robber barons of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Industrial magnates like John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, and Cornelius Vanderbilt showed no compunction about intimidating and acquiring rivals in order to monopolize their respective markets and increase prices. They were also downright brutal - and sometimes murderous - toward any workers who had the temerity to ask for higher pay or better conditions.

Leland Stanford, the founder of Stanford University, was probably even worse. Not only did he and his associates corner the railway construction industry on the Pacific coast; they also concocted a scheme to get American taxpayers to pay for it. Stanford also savagely exploited migrant workers, especially Chinese, who labored under conditions so harsh, and for pay so low, that very few Americans would work for him.

Stanford then jumped into politics to solidify his gains and benefit further at taxpayers' expense. He strong-armed California's state legislature and municipal governments into issuing bonds that provided more public money for his railroads. And as governor of the state, he organized murderous raids against Native Americans and whipped up hatred against the very Chinese who had been so crucial to his success.

Nowadays, the myth of heroic business no longer has much purchase. Johnson & Johnson, once praised for its proactive product recalls to protect customers, is using a dubious legal maneuver (the "Texas two-step" or "divisional merger") to avoid paying damages for its marketing and sales of contaminated talcum powder. The big oil companies, after decades of denying and sowing disinformation about climate change, are now pretending to be committed to environmental activism. But no one is buying the ruse.

And then, of course, there is the tech industry,

where many entrepreneurs started as idealistic outsiders promising to make the world a better place. Google's motto was "Don't be evil." But now "Big Tech" is synonymous with market domination, consumer manipulation, tax avoidance, and other abuses. (In 2018, Google removed its motto from the preface of its Code of Conduct.)

For years, the sector's biggest players have been acquiring or simply copying new entrants' products to reinforce their own dominance. A telltale example is Facebook's purchase of Instagram, in 2012, and WhatsApp, in 2014. Internal documents have since shown that these acquisitions were motivated by top executives' desire to neutralize potential competitors.

Even more questionable are "killer acquisitions": a company purchases a new technology under the pretense of integrating it into its own ecosystem, only to decommission it entirely. These monopolistic methods come on top of other tried-and-true tactics, such as bundling products to stop users from switching to rival services, as Microsoft did to kill off Netscape, and as Apple has done with its iOS ecosystem.

Last but not least, Big Tech has benefited massively from unbridled data collection, which allows a dominant player to know much more about consumers than potential rivals do, and to mount formidable barriers to market entry. The result is not just market concentration but also the mass manipulation of users, sometimes through misleading product offerings and even more often through digital ads.

Fortunately, businesses do not have some incorrigible tendency to misbehave. From the fin de siècle industrialists to corporate bad actors today, the common denominator has been a system that lacks proper checks against abuse. If we want better behavior and better innovation from companies, we need to provide the right institutional environment and the right type of regulation.

James A. Robinson and I tried to emphasize this point in *Why Nations Fail*, when we compared Bill Gates and the Mexican telecommunications tycoon Carlos Slim. Both men, we argued, had an interest in making as much money with whatever means they could; but Slim could get away with much worse behavior than Gates, owing to the differences between the Mexican and US legal and regulatory regimes.

Looking back, I now think we were too generous to the United States. Though US businesses had a stronger incentive than their Mexican counterparts to innovate, there were plenty of ways that they, too, could get away with misbehavior. Opportunities for exploiting the system were already multiplying by the time Microsoft had become a leading company, and they have since become much more endemic, with colossal costs for the US economy.

The tragedy of villainous business behavior is that it is largely preventable. To create the proper balance of guardrails and incentives, we must both disabuse ourselves of the myth of the heroic entrepreneur and recognize that the gales of creative destruction do not blow automatically. Only with better regulations and stronger institutions can we achieve prosperity and hold the most powerful people in society accountable for their behavior.



Lord, Ehn we long been looking for Prezzo, we will balance

Bussi Quarter na turn to New York, West Point da Miami Beach, Monrovia da Miami, River Gee da Georgia, Bassa da Philadelphia- yor will balance.

De man say he na transformed de entire country-Rehab Community na turn to Sinkor-puaah.

Ehn yor long been looking for President, yor will balance-Yor jus be dere. Jus wait, yor na see development yea sef. RIA na turned to JFK.

Dis time wen you geh in taxi and you going down Broad Street jus tell de driver you are stopping downtown Martin Luther King Avenue-Phew!

Bor wait oo, he forced to lie?

You, yor sef too ya Fahter, how de man will na lie wen da so, so stupid pepo in our village-even de one dem weh living outside our village sef na get sense to know da our village going backward. See dem with their white teeth dem as if dey na get internet-stupid pepo.

Leh be dere believing da Monrovia na turned to New York, wen de once beautiful Bluffing Street and Crown Hill Road na turned to a rundown street, where Kehkeh and Pen-pen boys dem go to wash dem penpen and kehkeh.

Imagine Father, wen de Prezzo can tell pepo in Uncle Sam's Village da he na developed Monrovia to be Miami. Imagine wa he will tell our pepo in de village next time he run dere for campaign. -We inside.

They say no rice in de country, he say don't mind dem, da street talk- rice all over de place they can't see. Only for the pepo from de Traditional Council to call de rice seller dem de next day to ask dem wa going on.

Hmm, da de village we find ourselves in oo Father. We na try book pepo no way. We had one Cigar old man, him woman bisnay wor na easy. Den one Bishop came, him small, small geh bisnay wor na for fun.

Den, we say leh try one soljar man, him owner killing bisnay wor more dan de Ray Hay man who leh war bisnay. We say ok, we tire with de man dem we go bring one Old Lady who wor trying till him pekin came along.

We say, we tired with all de book pepo we going for Kountry Boy. De Kountry boy na come, he pick up lying bisnay again! Damn! Must you!

My son, you sure you listen to dis man good?

Bor Father, de man all over de place on recording. At least, if he wor telling pepo da him trying to make our village look like Miami, or Paris, bor to say he na developed de place-um.

And Mehn da de broad day lie me I can't understand-You force to lie? Buzzi Quarter look leh New York before everyday pupu water all over de place? Even if you say da de slum areas in New York-the Bronx, still pupu water will na be all over de place-ay mehn!

SO dis orther one here, how will yor pepo try to defend you small na?

Anyway, da de Kountry we find ourself in so. Every thin da technique. All de good, good thin we jus hear da technique. We inside nothing spoil. We movin, our village developing leh heh-Hayaka!

O-PED

By Diane Coyle

Liz Truss's Backward Vision of the Future

CAMBRIDGE - What is the government's proper role in an advanced market economy? That is the fundamental question at the heart of the economic debacle in the United Kingdom. So far, the focus has been on Prime Minister Liz Truss's disastrous macroeconomic judgment and the (entirely understandable) reaction of financial markets to her fiscal plan. But Truss and her Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kwasi Kwarteng, got one thing right: the UK's core problem is that long-term growth has ground to a halt.

Few would disagree with Truss and Kwarteng's diagnosis of the UK's economic challenges. The current confluence of global crises has exposed the country's chronically low growth rate and flat-lining productivity. But their proposed remedy - cutting taxes for the rich and undoing economic regulations, thereby unleashing innovation and investment - turned out to be a harder sell. Even financial-market traders (hardly statist left-wingers) do not believe in Truss's vision of a twenty-first-century Hayekian utopia.

When courting rank-and-file Conservative Party members in the contest to replace Boris Johnson, Truss presented herself as Margaret Thatcher redux, copying not only the Iron Lady's radical right-wing policies but many of her outfits and photo ops. But unlike Thatcher, who was elected in 1979 with a popular mandate and ample political capital, Truss became prime minister by winning over 81,326 Conservative Party members - just 21,000 votes more than her rival, Rishi Sunak. The wider British public remained on the sidelines.

Thatcher also commanded a vastly different economy than the one Truss was handed. Unlike the highly inefficient and relatively high-tax economy that Thatcher inherited, today's UK economy is already relatively lightly taxed and regulated, limiting policymakers' scope to cut taxes or deregulate. Moreover, there is no clear correlation across countries between the government's share in the economy and GDP growth. Considering that the UK economy is still less productive than its peers after decades of tax cuts and deregulation, the idea that lowering tax for the wealthy would act as a supply-side stimulus struck most people as wishful thinking at best.

To reinvigorate the UK economy, Truss and her government must look to the future instead of mining the past. The character of advanced economies has changed significantly since the Thatcher era, following a steady worldwide shift toward services and knowledge work, the emergence of sophisticated supply chains that enable greater connectivity within and among economies, and the growing importance of intangible assets. Today's weightless, globalized, high-skill economy requires a different kind of supply-side strategy, whereby governments would have to play a different role.

Some of the classic elements of the "minimal state" are essential to this transition, including the rule of law, contract enforcement, basic infrastructure, and, of course, education. Other widely accepted government functions, like publicly funded basic research and tax support for corporate research and development, are similarly crucial.

But the transition toward digital and green technologies requires governments to take a more active role in shaping markets. Digital markets, for example, must be competitive to encourage new entrants. Several reports in the UK, the European Union, and the United States have outlined steps regulators and competition authorities could take to make today's winner-take-all markets more contestable.

Likewise, the use of data plays an important role in companies' success. Research shows that data-equipped companies are more productive and profitable than other companies in their sectors and pay higher wages on average. This makes national data strategies - defining what should be open, setting the terms on which competitors should be able to access certain data, and establishing adequate safeguards and control for consumers - vitally important.

Lastly, governments today have a critical role to play in setting technical and regulatory standards for emerging technologies. And they must do so in a timely fashion to ensure that markets grow big enough to attract investors. Public procurement and advance-purchase commitments can be powerful tools to incentivize innovation and investment. This was the case with the development and production of COVID-19 vaccines, and it may be the case with clean-energy technologies or biomedical discoveries.

In short, an economy undergoing major structural shifts requires a forward-looking economic strategy. Just as the 1960s-era approach of subsidizing selected "winners" survived well past its expiration date, so has the tax-cutting and deregulatory approach of the past 40 years.

Today's knowledge economy requires an innovative state to provide a long-term framework for investment and set the rules of the game. Unless Truss and Kwarteng stop living in the past, the prospects for the UK economy on their watch look bleak.

Diane Coyle, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge, is the author, most recently, of *Cogs and Monsters: What Economics Is, and What It Should Be* (Princeton University Press, 2021).



USAID
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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-22-000019

2. **ISSUANCE DATE:** October 6, 2022

3. **CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** October 28, 2022, 11:59pm Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia

4. **POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

5. **POSITION TITLE:** Project Management Specialist (Natural Resources)

6. **MARKET VALUE:** USD \$40,344 – \$65,550 FSN- 11

In accordance with **AIDAR Appendix J** and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.

7. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.

8. **PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia with possible travel as stated in the statement of duties.

9. **ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.

10. **SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access

II. STATEMENT OF DUTIES

Basic Function of Position

The Natural Resource Management (NRM) Specialist will be based in the USAID/Liberia's Economic Growth Office (EGO). S/he will participate in the planning, design, and management of new and existing NRM programs and activities as a senior-level advisor and technical expert. S/he will exercise significant independent judgment on matters of policy and technical direction and will make decisions to ensure successful program implementation. The Natural Resource Management Specialist will also represent USAID, as requested and appropriate, at meetings with senior Liberian officials and technical counterparts, donors, non-governmental organizations, and implementing partners.

The Natural Resource Management Specialist must be a proactive, forward-leaning, results-oriented professional. S/he will provide technical expertise and project oversight; engage in project performance monitoring and documentation of program success; and serve as the point of contact on local NRM issues and policies. The NRM Specialist must be able to rapidly assimilate, analyze and respond to rapidly changing circumstances and help guide the implementation of Agency and Mission strategies to achieve optimal results. Cross-cultural communications, cultural sensitivities, and outstanding communication and interpersonal skills are essential for success. The NRM Specialist will work under the supervision of the NRM Team Lead, or as designated by the EGO Director.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

Project Management: 50%

The Natural Resource Management Specialist position serves as a project management specialist on key biodiversity and conservation activities, performing the following functions:

- Undertake duties of Contracting or Agreement Officer's Representative (COR/AOR) or Activity Manager as needed. Provide input/advice regarding all matters pertaining to proposed, planned, and ongoing activities. Provide technical direction to the Implementing Partner (IP) and technical review and concurrence of IP deliverables to the Contracting or Agreement Officer (CO/AO) and keep administrative files and records of these activities.
- Conduct regular site visits to monitor the progress and implementation of natural resource management activities. Provide field trip reports, both written and photographic, as required to monitor progress and to ensure work is progressing in accordance with established agreement requirements and work plans. Monitor the Implementing Partners' adherence to USAID regulations and requirements, including environmental considerations, as well as branding and marking requirements.
- Prepare performance reports, briefing papers, concept papers, and other periodic documentation for the Mission, USAID/Washington, the interagency as required, and coordinate site visits for high-level visits.
- Serve as the primary contact for GoL institutions and organizations, including the Forest Development Authority (FDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other stakeholders implicated in the implementation of USAID biodiversity and conservation programs, updating stakeholders on the implementation and progress of USAID/Liberia activities and soliciting stakeholder feedback and buy-in as appropriate.
- Review and approve all activity reports, invoices, and payment requests related to activities, noting discrepancies in documentation, and reporting such discrepancies to the Economic Growth Office supervisor and/or Mission authorities.
- Attend required meetings, scheduled events, and conferences related to assigned program and project activities. This may involve interacting with national, county, and district community officials regarding project implementation or completion and modification issues, including inspection, security, maintenance, operations, and logistical support requirements. Frequent interactions with high-level government officials may be required.
- Ensure compliance with USAID 118/119 Tropical Forest and Biodiversity Analysis requirements and work closely with the Mission Environmental Officer to ensure that Mission-supported activities are in compliance with Regulation 216 requirements.
- Prepare technical documentation including Request for Applications (RFAs), Request for Proposals (RFPs), Statements of Work, Independent Government Cost Estimates (IGCEs), approval memos, and other project design and procurement documents as required to develop and approve biodiversity and conservation projects and activities, obligate funds, and award grants and contracts in accordance with USAID procurement regulations.
- Serve as the chair or member of various Technical Evaluation Committees (TECs) or Selection Committees to evaluate partner applications and proposals or evaluate potential candidates for employment.

Program Management: 25%

The Natural Resource Management Specialist position serves as an expert on biodiversity and conservation development for the Mission and will incorporate natural resource management considerations into Mission strategy documents and plans, performing the following functions:

- Lead in developing a comprehensive strategy for USAID interventions in biodiversity and conservation.
- Incorporate natural resource management priorities into the Embassy's Integrated Country Strategy (ICS), the USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS), and other UGS strategy documents and agendas to ensure that the Mission is able to accomplish programmatic objectives.
- Work with USAID/Liberia Technical Teams to identify environmental and natural resource management issues, and address these issues in project designs to achieve sector goals.
- Assist in the preparation of the relevant sections of the EGO Portfolio Reviews, Mission Performance Plan and Reports, and the Operational Plans, as well as, other relevant program documents and reports as needed.

Knowledge Management and Relationship Development: 25%

The Natural Resource Management Specialist will also serve as the primary point of contact (POC) for the Mission on biodiversity and conservation -related topics, building relationships with GOL, donor community, and private sector counterparts. As the Mission POC on

biodiversity and conservation sector issues, the Natural Resource Management Specialist will perform the following functions:

- Serve as the Mission's representative on the GOL Steering Committee meetings in the sector and other donor or national dialogues on natural resource management and present USAID activities, priorities, and accomplishments.
- Advise GOL counterparts in the development of Liberian regulatory institutions, as needed, and helps them to effectively carry out their mandate; also provides advice to the GOL on conservation efforts and policy reforms.
- Facilitate dialogues between GOL authorities, USG stakeholders, donors, and partners to reach a consensus on biodiversity and conservation -related activities; prepare and present reports pertinent to performance monitoring and evaluation, identifying, tracking, and monitoring milestones to evaluate progress.
- Manage outreach efforts with USAID's Development Outreach Coordinator and the State Department's Public Affairs Officer which may include public events, press releases, and close coordination with other USG partners.
- Liaisons with other donors and institutions on biodiversity and conservation sector issues, brief USAID and Embassy management on discussions, and prepare necessary documents, including USAID's position, briefers, and talking points for meetings.
- Develop and maintain close professional contacts and active dialogue with biodiversity and conservation sector peers in other country donor agencies, and various GOL offices which engage in the policy reform issues.
- Review policies of the GOL that affect the biodiversity and conservation sector development including planned or proposed protected areas, timber concession agreements, and climate financing agreements or strategies; provide information on the implications of these policies and agreements for Liberia and on the effective implementation of USAID biodiversity and conservation sector programs.

Supervision Controls: Supervision is not contemplated.

Supervisory Relationship: The Natural Resource Management Specialist is directly supervised by the Economic Growth Office Natural Resource Management Team Leader, as delegated by the Economic Growth Office Director.

12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

III. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Education:** A minimum of Bachelor's degree from an accredited university in the field of environmental management, conservation, natural resource management, forestry, ecology, international development, or other related degree is required.
- Prior Work Experience:** A minimum of five (5) years prior project management experience and technical knowledge in the field of natural resource management, conservation, biodiversity, environmental management, or wildlife protection is required. Work experience should include project management positions in the field of natural resource management, environmental management, forestry, conservation, or wildlife protection. The incumbent should have a demonstrated broad understanding of issues related to Liberia's natural resource management sector, biodiversity, and conservation laws and policies is required.
- Work/Residency Permits:** Applicants must have valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia.
- Language Proficiency:** Professional written and oral proficiency in English is required (Level IV for speaking, reading, and writing). Given the nature of the position, effective written and oral communication are critical to performing successfully in this position. The incumbent must be able to communicate effectively and accurately with 1) all categories of Mission employees; 2) local government officials at the Minister level and lower; 3) numerous international and local economic development organizations and donors; 4) USG Agencies and the USAID Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation (DDI), and the USAID Africa Bureau; and 5) the general public.

IV. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

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

1. Selection Process

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

2. Evaluation Factors

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

FACTOR #1: Understanding the Natural Resources Sector

Describe in 500 words or less, critical challenges in the Natural Resources and Environment sector of Liberia. How do you think these challenges can be addressed, when stakeholders' priorities and/or timelines are not synchronized.

FACTOR #2: Impact of National Land Policy on the Natural Resources Sector

Describe in 500 words or less, the types of disputes you foresee resulting in efforts to implement the new national land policy? Would you see these potential land and natural resource related disputes as concerning or impeding forest conservation and livelihood creation if the new national land policy is fully implemented, and why?

FACTOR #3: Experience in the Natural Resources Sector

Describe in 500 words or less your experience managing natural resources projects. This should include managing relationships and coordination with the Government of Liberia and other key donors, international financial institutions, non-government organizations and local stakeholders. Give specific examples of the results you achieved.

3. Basis of Rating

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

Evaluation Factors	40 points
Factor #1	15 points
Factor #2	15 points
Factor #3	10 points
Written Interview	20 points
Interview Performance	40 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's fit for the position as described in the statement of duties.

Total Possible Points 100 points

IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-669-22-000019—Project Management Specialist (Natural Resources)** LiberiaHR@usaid.gov.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

USAID to train 3,500 teacher aspirants

In an effort to provide qualified teachers in Liberian schools, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) discloses plan to train 3,500 aspirants for the teaching profession.

USAID made the disclosure here on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 in commemoration of World Teachers Day, which marks the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 UNESCO Recommendation on the Status of Teachers, setting standards regarding the rights and

in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the National Commission on Higher Education, and eight public, private, and faith-based higher education teacher training institutions, it recently provided the first batch of tuition assistance to 18 talented and dedicated Liberian teacher-aspirants.

“They are the first of 575 Liberians scheduled to receive tuition support from USAID in 2023 to help professionalize Liberia’s teaching workforce”, the statement reads.

It says by the time the

United States has long recognized the importance of helping to provide qualified teachers for Liberian schools, stressing that some of USAID’s very first development projects in Liberia were in teacher professional development.”

USAID specifically names the Zorzor Rural Teacher Training Institute, and the Kakata Rural Teacher Training Institute that were established with funding from the United States Government in 1962 and 1964, respectively.

It says these institutions have trained many current teachers and continue to recruit high school graduates and award them C-certificate after two years of teacher training.

USAID continues that the new teacher training program focused on supporting students to pursue degree granting programs in early childhood and primary education, it is building on the gains of these institutions, while strengthening capacity of higher education teacher training institutions it is partnering with to implement the new program.

It names the partner institutions as the University of Liberia, Cuttington University, Nimba University, Adventist University of West Africa, African Methodist Episcopal University, Bass University, Lofa University, and the Liberian Cooperative Education School System.

The statement says USAID is working these institutions to harmonize the curriculum for early childhood and primary education, provide faculty professional development opportunities and grants to help improve quality of training they provide for teachers specializing in these programs.

Government recommit to TVET program

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh

The Minister of Education D. Ansu Sonii reassures government’s commitment to promoting and investing in Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) in Liberia.

Minister Sonii says government seeks to make Liberia a hub for TVET excellence on the continent.

He continues that this is evidenced by a high level of interest being shown by young Liberians to own residential and other properties constructed by the sector. He is optimistic that the country’s skilled man-power base could be stronger than it is now, once it gets needed support from stakeholders, including

young people. “The government is retooling the entire educational sector, making TVET a central pillar, starting from the basic schools. Technical institutions at the second cycle level are having facelifts and the whole of TVETs are being transformed,” he adds.

Earlier, Presenting the package to Minister Sonii, a member of the Board of Gateway Vocational Training Center, Madam Jocelia Jaywloh Taplah, said the curriculum will serve as regulator and guidance for training programs at the Center. She explained that the curriculum drafted by multi-stakeholders in the TVET sector is designed to provide students international standardized modules of training that will put



responsibilities of teachers for their initial preparation, further education, recruitment, employment, and learning conditions, among others.

The statement notes that this year’s commemoration coincides with a key milestone achieved by USAID’s new teacher training program, Transforming the Education System for Teachers and Students in Liberia or TESTS, for short.

USAID notes that working

TESTS program ends in five years, it would have prepared at least 3,500 teacher aspirants for future classroom success with two-years of tuition assistance, improved curricula, and a practicum as part of an associate degree or a bachelor’s degree program in early childhood and primary education, adding “This support will help address Liberia’s qualified teacher shortage problem.”

It recounts that the



government, development partners, students and other TVET beneficiaries.

The Education boss notes that interest being shown by young Liberians to learn vocational and technical skills is a reason why government prioritizes empowering its youthful population.

He made the observation this week at his office, while receiving Qualification Package, and Curriculum for Electrical, Solar Installations & Plumbing and Pipefitting from the Board of Directors from Gateway Vocational Training Center (GVTC) in Bentol City, Montserrado county. The Minister hails the European Union, and the German Government through its overseas program (GIZ) for tremendous efforts in supporting Liberia’s TVET program, aimed at providing training and empowerment opportunities for disadvantaged youths and other

Liberians on par with other skilled professionals the world over.

The curriculum drafted by the GIZ in partnership with the GVTC and Integration International Management Consultants focuses on three key levels for skills training at the Center, which is under construction in Bentol.

The ceremony was also attended by GIZ Project Director, Johann Lieberich and Madam Kim Turay, a member of the GVTC Board. The board comprises the Association of Liberian Construction Contractors (ALCC), Engineering Society of Liberia (ESOL) and the Liberian Institute of Architects (LIA). The GVTC Board of Directors was inducted on February 8, 2022, to oversee construction and running of the TVET in Liberia. GVTC is a US\$10 million project funded by the EU and the German Government to support Liberia’s TVET program.

Starts from page 6

President Weah Declares Monday October

President George Weah has issued a Proclamation declaring Monday, October 10, 2022 as “World Mental Health Day” and is to be observed throughout the Republic as a Working Holiday.

The Proclamation calls on all international organizations, ministries and agencies concerned to join the Ministry of Health in implementing appropriate programs befitting the occasion.

According to a Foreign Ministry release, the World Federation for Mental Health

has designated the global theme for World Mental Health Day 2022 celebration as: “Make Mental Health & Well-Being for All a Global Priority” and urges the national government and international community to understand the relevant need for greater collaboration between governments, citizens and planners, so that effective processes can be established to deliver mental health and well-being services to the entire population of Liberia. The Proclamation also stated

that the Health Management Information System Report of the Ministry of Health, Republic of Liberia, for service from 2017-2021 shows an estimated number of 170,784 people in the population affected by mental illnesses, epilepsy, and other conditions.

The Proclamation further revealed that close to 1 billion people around the world are living with a mental disorder, and an estimated 100 million people in Africa are affected by mental health disorders. The release also indicates that thousands of Liberians have

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Français

La CBL commence à mettre de nouveaux billets de banque en circulation

La Banque centrale du Libéria a commencé hier de mettre en circulation de nouveaux billets de banque de cinquante (50) et vingt (20) dollars libériens sur le marché à travers les banques commerciales. Il s'agit d'un total d'environ 2 milliards de LRD.

Le gouverneur exécutif de la Banque centrale du Libéria, J. Aloysius Tarlue, a

achevé le contrôle de qualité de ces billets conformément aux spécifications de la CBL. Les pièces sont attendues avant fin octobre 2022.

Nous prévoyons 34 533 500 000,00 L\$, dont les 8 000 000 000 L\$ qui ont été initialement introduits entre novembre 2021 et février 2022 et 462 900 000 L\$ en pièces qui seront mis en circulation d'ici fin 2022. Cela comprendra toutes les coupures

salle de conférence de la CBL à Monrovia le mercredi 5 octobre, le gouverneur Tarlue a révélé que les billets de banque nouvellement imprimés ont été transférés vers les banques commerciales.

Il a demandé aux populations de se rendre dans les différentes banques commerciales pour commencer à échanger les billets anciens ou mutilés actuellement en circulation contre de nouveaux billets.

"Compte tenu des défis auxquels sont confrontées les banques commerciales et le réseau limité de succursales à travers le pays, la CBL travaille sur une stratégie visant à décentraliser l'exercice d'échange via son centre de trésorerie à Gbarnga, dans le comté de Bong et d'autres installations approuvées sous le contrôle et la supervision directs de la Banque, de sorte que toutes les régions du pays soient couvertes.

En plus de leur volonté de procéder à la livraison en temps voulu de la nouvelle monnaie dans le pays, la CBL s'est également efforcée de mettre en place des moyens logistiques et opérationnels nécessaires pour assurer le bon déroulement de l'opération d'échange.

Le gouverneur Tarlue a exhorté les banques à trouver un moyen pour ceux qui n'ont qu'une petite somme d'argent afin de leur faciliter

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



CBL Executive Governor Tarlue

déclaré que les pièces de cinq et dix dollars libériens nouvellement confectionnées arriveront la semaine prochaine et seront mises en circulation en novembre.

La Banque centrale introduit pour la première fois des billets de 1 000 dollars libériens.

« À ce jour, la Banque a reçu près de 2 milliard de L\$ en coupures de 50 et 20 L\$. Ce lot est arrivé entre le 4 et le

existantes, dont la coupure de 1 000 L\$, qui sera mise en circulation pour la première fois. Le montant restant arrivera en 2024. Par souci de transparence, aucune somme d'argent ne sera mise en circulation en 2023. Cependant, l'exercice d'échange se poursuivra avec les billets et les pièces qui seront dans le pays », a expliqué le gouverneur Tarlue.

Lors d'un entretien avec un groupe de journalistes dans la

L'ambassade des États-Unis donne une bouée de sauvetage aux fonctionnaires sanctionnés ?

Les responsables de l'ambassade des États-Unis près de Monrovia semblent avoir donné une bouée de sauvetage aux responsables du gouvernement libérien sanctionnés avant les

élections générales et présidentielle de 2023.

Selon certaines rumeurs, les responsables libériens sanctionnés ne devraient pas être autorisés à participer aux prochaines élections, car cela obligerait les États-Unis à

retirer leur soutien à la Commission électorale nationale si l'une des personnes concernées apparaissait sur les bulletins de vote.

Mais les responsables de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Senator Sherman

Senator Johnson

Mr. Tweway

Mr. McGill

Au-delà de la plus grosse prise de drogue : À qui appartient SONIT Libéria Inc. ?

Le NEW DAWN poursuit son enquête sur la découverte d'une grande quantité de drogue d'une valeur marchande de 100 millions de dollars américains dans les locaux de la société SONIT Liberia Inc située à Topoe Village dans la banlieue de Monrovia.

Le NEW DAWN a appris qu'AJA- Group Holdings, un conglomérat d'ABI Jaoudi & Fresh Frozen Food Inc, a également dans sa chaîne SONIT Liberia Inc qui possède l'entrepôt de Topoe Village.

SONIT Liberia Inc est une entreprise française d'aliments congelés qui a été inactive en raison des difficultés. Sa direction a donc loué ses locaux à Fresh Frozen Food Liberia (FFF) Inc. - une entreprise individuelle d'ABI Jaoudi & Azar Trading Corporation, propriétaires d'ABI Jaoudi Supermarché à Randall Street dans le centre de Monrovia, qui sont tous sous

directeur général de Fresh Frozen Food (FFF), M. Bilal Ibrahim, ont été vains car son téléphone n'a fait que sonner sans relâche.

Duanna Kamara, responsable des relations publiques a déclaré qu'ABI Jaoudi Inc. n'a rien à voir avec les locaux de SONIT Liberia et Fresh Frozen Food (FFF) Liberia.

AJA Group Holdings est une société d'investissement phare, AJA Holding, détenue par la famille Al Nabhan, impliquée dans l'investissement et le développement des intérêts financiers d'Al Nabhan, du nom d'AJA Mountain, dirigé par la famille.

AJA Holding joue un double rôle dans le développement des entreprises financières existantes au sein du groupe et dans la création de nouvelles opportunités d'investissement.

Avec un portefeuille de diverses entreprises de premier plan, AJA Holding exploite les capacités locales et envisage une expansion mondiale, une étape qui renforce sa position en tant



la supervision d'AJA-Group Holdings.

Des sources ont confié à ce journal qu'avant l'arrestation de l'énorme colis de drogues le week-end dernier, il y a eu une série de transactions présumées de drogue au même endroit à Topoe Village où SONIT Liberia Inc. a son entrepôt de produits congelés.

Des sources parlent d'activités clandestines là-bas pendant la nuit. Des camions transportant d'énormes colis y entraient et en sortaient chaque jour.

Certains riverains qui se sont exprimés sur le couvert de l'anonymat ont affirmé que infrastructure était utilisée comme un entrepôt. Il n'y avait pas de produits congelés.

Mais Mohammed Saleem, dont le numéro est sur le site officiel de Fresh Frozen Food Liberia Inc, a nié avoir un lien avec SONIT Liberia Inc.

Les efforts pour joindre le

que société holding diversifiée.

Elle comprend Fresh Frozen Food Liberia, Fresh Frozen Food Conakry, Fresh Frozen Food DR Congo, ABI Jaoudi & Azar Trading Corporation, GBK Motors Inc, Africom, RIA Hotel & Resort et IFT Strategic Purchasing.

Le week-end dernier, des agents de la Liberia Drugs Enforcement Agency (LDEA) et la National Security Agency (NSA), ont arrêté des trafiquants de drogue et confisqué des drogues d'une valeur d'environ 100 millions de dollars.

Selon La LDEA, la capture a été rendue possible grâce à des informations relayées par le gouvernement américain.

Au cours d'un raid, les forces de l'ordre libériennes ont arrêté le suspect Malam Conte, un ressortissant bissau-guinéen de 31 ans. Il fait l'objet d'une enquête approfondie en lien avec le cartel de drogue.

Avec la coopération du gouvernement sierra-léonais, le suspect Issam Makki, un ressortissant libanais qui résiderait au Libéria.

Français

COMMENTAIRE

Par Daron Acemoglu

Les manières peu recommandables d'agir des entreprises

BOSTON - Les hommes d'affaires sont-ils plutôt des héros ou des bandits ? Les exemples de chaque type abondent dans les récits de fiction, de l'avaricieux Ebenezer Scrooge, le protagoniste principal d'Un Chant de Noël de Charles Dickens à l'épique entrepreneur individualiste John Galt du roman La Grève d'Ayn Rand. Dans le roman Gatsby le Magnifique de F. Scott Fitzgerald, Tom Buchanan est le représentant cruel et sans empathie des élites fortunées, tandis que Jay Gatsby est un millionnaire qui a réussi par ses propres moyens et qui ne manque pas d'idéalisme et de sentimentalité.

Les sciences sociales font la même distinction dans les descriptions des entrepreneurs. Pour Joseph Schumpeter et ses disciples, les entrepreneurs sont la force motrice de la croissance économique, les figures héroïques qui donnent naissance à la « tempête perpétuelle de la destruction créatrice ». En revanche, dans son ouvrage La situation de la classe ouvrière en Angleterre, Friedrich Engels dresse un réquisitoire contre les industriels britanniques qui non seulement maintenaient leurs travailleurs dans une abjecte pauvreté, mais leur imposaient en plus des conditions de vie et de travail inhumaines. Ultérieurement, Engels et Karl Marx réunirent toutefois les deux rôles en tant qu'élément essentiel de leur théorie du capitalisme : les hommes d'affaires sans scrupules exploitent certes les travailleurs, mais ils suscitent également l'innovation et la croissance, transformant à terme la société.

Ces représentations antagonistes reflètent l'appréciation complexe qu'a la société du monde des affaires. De toute évidence, il serait naïf de s'attendre à ce que les entrepreneurs soient tous soit des héros, soit des bandits. Comme la plupart d'entre nous, ils sont souvent les deux à la fois.

De nombreux noms propres que nous associons aujourd'hui à la philanthropie ou à l'enseignement supérieur appartenaient à l'origine aux « barons voleurs » américains de la fin du XIXe et du début du XXe siècles. Ces capitaines d'industrie, dont John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie et Cornelius Vanderbilt, n'éprouvèrent aucun scrupule à intimider et à acquérir des entreprises concurrentes pour asseoir leur monopole sur leurs marchés respectifs et pousser le prix à la hausse. Ils se montrèrent également d'une grande brutalité - et parfois meurtriers - à l'égard de la main d'œuvre qui avait la témérité d'exiger de meilleurs salaires ou conditions de travail.

Leland Stanford, le fondateur de l'université Stanford, était sans doute l'un des pires d'entre eux. Lui-même et ses associés n'ont seulement fait mainmise sur l'industrie de la construction des chemins de fer dans l'Ouest des États-Unis, ils mirent au point un stratagème qui obligea les contribuables américains à en assumer les coûts. Stanford exploita aussi sans merci les ouvriers migrants, les Chinois en particulier, qui travaillaient dans des conditions tellement dures, et pour un salaire si bas, que rares étaient les Américains prêts à travailler pour lui.

Stanford se lança ensuite en politique pour consolider ses gains et élargir sa fortune aux dépens des contribuables. Il obligea la législature d'État de la Californie et les autorités municipales à émettre des obligations qui octroyaient des fonds publics supplémentaires à son entreprise ferroviaire. Une fois devenu gouverneur de l'État, il organisa des expéditions meurtrières contre les Amérindiens et incita à la haine contre ces Chinois mêmes qui avaient joué un rôle déterminant dans son succès.

Aujourd'hui, le mythe de l'entrepreneur héroïque a largement perdu de son attrait. Le groupe pharmaceutique Johnson & Johnson, autrefois applaudi pour le rappel préventif de produits dans le but de protéger les consommateurs, envisage aujourd'hui de recourir à un stratagème juridique douteux (la cession d'une partie du groupe en une nouvelle entité dans laquelle elle transférerait toute

responsabilité délictuelle) pour éviter d'avoir à verser les énormes dommages-intérêts liés à la commercialisation de talc pouvant contenir de l'amiante. Les grandes compagnies pétrolières, après des décennies de déni du changement climatique et de diffusion de fausses informations, prétendent aujourd'hui être acquiescentes à la cause environnementale, sans que quiconque soit dupe.

Et bien sûr, nous avons aujourd'hui les entreprises technologiques, qui ont souvent eu pour premiers dirigeants des entrepreneurs idéalistes promettant de rendre le monde meilleur. La devise de Google était *Don't be evil* (littéralement, « Ne soyez pas malveillants »). Mais à l'heure actuelle, les plus grandes sociétés de l'industrie numérique, essentiellement les « GAFAM » (Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon et Microsoft) sont synonymes d'abus de position dominante, de manipulation des consommateurs, d'évasion fiscale et d'autres infractions. (En 2018, Google a supprimé sa devise de la préface de son code de bonne conduite).

Depuis des années, les plus grands acteurs du secteur acquièrent ou copient tout simplement les produits de start-up pour renforcer leur propre domination. Un exemple révélateur est le rachat par Facebook d'Instagram, en 2012, et de WhatsApp, en 2014. Des documents internes ont depuis montré que ces acquisitions étaient motivées par la volonté de la direction du groupe de neutraliser les concurrents potentiels.

Plus contestables encore sont les « acquisitions tueuses », qui consistent pour une entreprise dominante à acquérir une nouvelle technologie au prétexte de l'intégrer dans son propre écosystème, pour ensuite la faire disparaître entièrement. Ces méthodes monopolistiques s'ajoutent à d'autres tactiques qui ont fait leurs preuves, comme l'offre groupée pour empêcher les utilisateurs de se tourner vers des services concurrents, une tactique utilisée par Microsoft pour supplanter Netscape et comme l'a fait Apple avec son système d'exploitation iOS.

Dernier point, mais non des moindres, ces grandes entreprises du numérique ont massivement profité de la collecte effrénée de données, qui permet à un acteur dominant d'en savoir beaucoup plus sur les consommateurs que ses rivaux potentiels, et d'ériger de formidables barrières à l'entrée sur le marché. Il en résulte non seulement une concentration du marché, mais aussi une manipulation généralisée des utilisateurs, parfois par le biais d'offres de produits trompeuses et, plus souvent encore, de publicités numériques.

Fort heureusement, les entreprises n'ont pas une tendance incorrigible à mal se conduire. Des industriels de la fin du XIXe siècle aux mauvais joueurs du numérique actuels, le dénominateur commun a été un système économique qui n'inclut pas de contrôles adéquats pour prévenir les abus. Si nous voulons que les entreprises se comportent mieux et innovent davantage, nous devons créer l'environnement institutionnel et les réglementations appropriés.

James A. Robinson et moi-même avons essayé de souligner ce point dans notre ouvrage *Prospérité, puissance et pauvreté*, lorsque nous avons comparé Bill Gates et le magnat mexicain des télécommunications Carlos Slim. Les deux hommes, disions-nous, avaient intérêt à gagner le plus d'argent possible par tous les moyens à leur disposition, mais Slim pouvait s'en tirer avec un comportement bien pire que celui de Gates, en raison des différences entre les régimes juridiques et réglementaires mexicain et américain.

En rétrospective, je pense que nous avons un point de vue trop généreux sur les États-Unis. Bien que les entreprises américaines aient été davantage incitées à innover que leurs homologues mexicaines, il existait de nombreuses façons pour elles aussi d'échapper aux sanctions en cas de conduite répréhensible. Les possibilités d'exploiter le système se multipliaient déjà au moment où Microsoft était devenue une entreprise de premier plan, et elles sont depuis devenues beaucoup plus endémiques, avec des coûts colossaux pour l'économie américaine.

La CBL commence à mettre de nouveaux

la tâche. Toutefois, il a également encouragé tout le monde à ouvrir des comptes auprès des banques commerciales.

L'opération d'échange en cours est un programme triennal qui a été lancé par le gouvernement pour remplacer les billets mutilés qui sont actuellement en circulation.

Le Gouverneur Exécutif a dit merci aux partenaires internationaux d'avoir travaillé avec la Banque pour réaliser l'impression de nouveaux billets. « Nous sommes également reconnaissants envers nos partenaires extérieurs,

notamment le Fonds monétaire international (FMI), l'Agence américaine pour le développement international (USAID) et l'ambassade des États-Unis, pour leurs soutiens financier, technique et moral. Nous sommes particulièrement reconnaissants envers Kroll & Associates du Royaume-Uni, qui a travaillé avec la Banque tout au long de cette opération, en fournissant une assistance technique à la Banque, avec un financement de l'USAID.

Pour les comtés où il n'y a pas de banques commerciales, le gouverneur Tarlue a déclaré que la CBL collaborera avec les institutions financières rurales pour servir les citoyens là-bas.

L'ambassade des États-Unis donne une bouée

l'ambassade des États-Unis disent que la loi Global Magnitsky par laquelle 3 anciens responsables du gouvernement Weah et deux sénateurs ont été sanctionnés n'est pas au-dessus du pouvoir judiciaire du pays et ne peut donc saper aucune des lois ou du système judiciaire du Libéria.

M. Sean Boda et Kemper Wagner, respectivement responsable des affaires publiques et responsable des affaires politiques de l'ambassade des États-Unis, ont fait cette clarification lors d'une émission radio en direct le mardi 4 octobre 2022.

Les deux diplomates étrangers avaient été invités sur OK FM pour parler des questions concernant les sanctions et leurs implications sur les personnes concernées, et la loi Magnitsky dans le système judiciaire d'États souverains comme le Libéria.

Récemment, trois responsables de l'administration Weah, à savoir l'ancien ministre d'État chargé des des Affaires présidentielles Nathaniel McGill, le directeur général du NPA Bill Tweahway et le solliciteur général Cyrenius Cephus, ont été désignés en vertu de la loi Global Magnitsky.

Les trois ont du démissionner des semaines après. Selon des rumeurs, ces derniers auraient l'intention de se porter candidats aux prochaines élections législatives.

Les spéculations concernant leur intention de se présenter aux élections de 2023 dans leurs comtés respectifs ont déclenché des rumeurs selon lesquelles l'ambassade des États-Unis auraient averti le gouvernement libérien,

comme quoi ils retireraient leur soutien si les personnes sanctionnées se présentaient aux élections.

Cependant, lors de l'émission de mardi, les responsables de l'ambassade ont dit : « Ainsi, le Global Magnitsky Act n'est pas une poursuite, ce n'est pas un tribunal et ce n'est pas un moyen pour les États-Unis d'Amérique d'essayer d'intervenir et d'usurper les droits de tout État souverain de sa propre procédure pénale. Et donc, dans des démocraties comme le Libéria, il existe divers mécanismes permettant aux citoyens de tenir les responsables gouvernementaux responsables, c'est important.

« En tant que nation souveraine, le Libéria a tous les droits de déterminer qui est éligible pour participer aux élections. Cela n'appartient pas aux États-Unis de décider. La loi Magnitsky n'a rien à voir avec vos élections », a déclaré Sean Boda, le responsable des affaires publiques des États-Unis.

Répondant à une question sur ce que le gouvernement américain recherche dans un pays avant d'imposer des sanctions aux responsables gouvernementaux, Wagner a déclaré que la corruption était un indicateur clé car elle fait partie de l'objectif principal du gouvernement américain, qui lutte notamment contre le détournement des deniers publics, le pillage des caisses de l'État, l'abus du pouvoir pour s'enrichir et l'enrichissement illicite.

"Outre la corruption, les violations flagrantes des droits de l'homme sont également prises en compte, notamment les exécutions extrajudiciaires, la répression des personnalités de l'opposition, le trucage des élections, le déni de l'État de droit et de la liberté de la presse, etc.", a-t-il déclaré.

Eminent Emmanuel S. Wettee

Keynote Address

To The Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas (ULAA)

48th General Assembly in Duluth, GA

From September 23rd – 25th, 2022



Let me begin with a quick historic glance back on a critical Diaspora challenge that we are still confronting today.

It was almost exactly 13 years ago, when this our great Union, then under the able leadership of ULAA National Executive President Anthony V. Kesselly, hosted its 35th National General Assembly right in this great State (Georgia), in the City of Decatur, running from September 25 to 27, 2009. Key among resolutions adopted in the 2009 Assembly Resolution were the following: Diaspora Voting & Dual Citizenship and to advocate for a pushing for the enactment of the Liberia Fairness Act to give Liberians on DED permanent residency in the United States of America.

As one who was a delegate at said General Assembly, I am exceedingly pleased to report to this 48th General Assembly being held from September 23 - 25, 2022 in the State of Georgia, 13 years later today, that DUAL CITIZENSHIP is now the law and reality of the Land in Liberia. Hence, we can now proudly proclaim that, "Once A Liberian Always A Liberian." We can also give a sigh of relief that Liberians who were on DED/TPS are qualified to obtain their Green Card, thus entitling them to the enjoyment of permanent residency status in the United States of America.

As we convene at this Assembly we, with our sister Liberian Diaspora organizations around the world, are now submerged in the noble battle for the possibility of having "Out of Country voting" materialize in 2023 or after. And so, I can give you the good tidings that, Georgia, ULAA heard you and ULAA delivered. Let us now summon the needed courage to coalesce forces to ensure that Liberians who are legal residents in other lands, especially with appreciable populations, have the right and are enabled to vote at least in Liberia's presidential election.

These achievements were made possible owing to ULAA's leadership and partnerships with an assortment of other Diaspora organizations, lawmakers in both the United States of America and the Republic of Liberia, as well as the heavy push by President George M. Weah wherever push was needed. And lest I forget, we recognize our local advocates in Georgia and down South in persons such as Madam Mabel Green, Dr. Clarice Ford Kulah, Brother Robert G. Garguah, Sr., Mr. Dennis Jah, Eminent David Flomo among many others.

The current achievements of ULAA in the advocacy for Dual Citizenship for natural born Liberians and their children; and making a Liberian woman to pass on her citizenship over to her child at birth, irrespective of the citizenship or pigmentation of the biological father, as well as making it possible for Liberians on TPS/DED to get Green Card, constitute a continuation of patriotic efforts by ULAA leaders and leadership from the 1970s to abolish the one-party political system, fight corruption and abuse of power in government, and ensure the prevalence of the rule of law.

Today, the current generation of Liberians is enjoying multi-party democracy, thanks to these gallant battles fought by ULAA and its partners. Gone are the days when lawmakers were selected, literarily handpicked, and not elected. Today, in sharp contrast to yester years, the people of Liberia can actively participate in the political process as subject-actors, not mere objects, of history. They now have the leverage to impact the political situation by acknowledging legislative activities; be they good or bad, and move to effect change.

Despite ULAA's achievements in making multi-party democracy possible in Liberia--having Dual Citizenship in Liberia, TPS/DED Liberians now qualified for permanent residency in the United States of America--ULAA as an institution and its partners in civil organizations, student groups, foreign governments and diplomats, foreign institutions or organizations, are still far from declaring victory in the fight against corruption.

Today, we have the theme guiding this 48th National General Assembly as, "DEVELOPING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP THAT WOULD CREAT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND REDUCE POVERTY FOR THE PEOPLE OF LIBERIA." Indeed this is thoughtful theme in a pertinent issue-area of the times.

I am sure you all will agree that economic growth and poverty reduction are not possible, if we fail to win the war against corruption.

Therefore, I have come to speak to you on the topic: "OUR CURRENT FAILED STATE: AN OFFSPRING OF PERPETUAL HISTORICAL CORRUPT ATTRIBUTES OF OUR LEADERS, LEADERSHIPS AND IN SOME CASES ORDINARY LIBERIANS SINCE 1847."

To proceed, let me admonish that we all need to be honest with ourselves and with each other by abandoning the lazy excuse of holding a single government solely responsible for all of our issues.

We have failed (I am using the pronoun we to include myself) and are failing to win the fight against corruption because we as a people and nation, and foreign governments, diplomats, institutions or organizations, are very selective and biased in our fight against corruption in Liberia. Whenever a favorable person or government corrupts the national resources for the enrichment of only family members, justifications such as the

following are made:

➤ Since Liberia is not stable, buying a house in America or Europe will help the person's family to live in the Diaspora and be educated after which they can return to Liberia and help the country develop.

➤ The person used the money to build an edifice which the government is renting, as a result of which the person doesn't have to seek government job, thus resulting into reducing government's payroll expenses.

➤ The person is using his/her money to build houses in Liberia, thereby creating job opportunities for Liberians and helping government solve the problems of unemployment.

➤ The person does not have any house in Liberia, so there is no proof that he or she is corrupt.

➤ There is no law or tools to retrieve stolen money from Liberia, and so how do you know the person is corrupt?

No matter what justifications are given to support or countenance the corruption related to one's associates in Liberia, let me tell you that corruption is a cancerous bug that destroys the pillars and fabrics of national development and human innovation.

Today, in this modern time and age, the distorted nature of our poor transportation and communication infrastructures and platforms, health care and educational systems, city planning, business opportunities and creativities is an offspring of corrupt attributes of government, government leaders, government leadership and, to some extent, ordinary Liberians who encourage corruption; for example: by selling lands to more than one person and using illegal power or opportunities to suppress others since 1847.

As a Liberian saying goes, you should sleep on the bed you make for yourself, or your children should sleep on the bed you make for them. The late famed West African musical icon Prince Nico Mbarga of Rocafil Jazz put it more pointedly, "As you make your bed so shall you lie in it."

As you are pointing one accusatory finger at someone for the very poor conditions in Liberia, three of your fingers are pointing back at you, representing the corrupt behavior of a family member of yours, a friend or you yourself, with God as the only witness.

Let's reflect aloud. Do you ever remember receiving a scholarship to come to United States of America to study solely because of the influence/connection of your family member, friend or yourself? Do you? There is a long list of "do you remember" how you came to America, how you got the scholarship, how you got job, etc.

Also be aware that there is a corresponding long list of victims sayings, "my family was a victim" because of Do you remember?

If we have to win the war on corruption we cannot be selective or biased. We as a people and nation must develop rainbow partnerships with both local and foreign institutions to make sure anyone or everyone who corrupts faces justice in Liberia. Let foreign governments, institutions, organizations and diplomat help us retrieve stolen money from Liberia. We cannot let impunity remain the order of the day.

Let there be punitive measure for corrupt behavior, attributes, policies, practices, for any Liberian who double or triple sells land, unnecessarily and arbitrarily increases the price of goods and services, have selective and discriminatory standard for treating people of same establishment, agents of government and other institutions. Take for a sad example, since 1847 we have not been able to resolve the issue of rice accessibility, availability, stabilization or mass production, all because of corruption.

Since 1847 corruption in Liberia is responsible for people from Bentol, Montserrado County, Voinjama, Lofa County, and Greenville, Sinoe county, as well as other distant parts of Liberia to have to always travel to Monrovia, Montserrado County, for good healthcare, education, employment, and business opportunities.

When Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana was decentralizing the resources and infrastructure of Ghana for national development purposes and helping fight corruption, our leaders at the time were centralizing the country's resources and consolidating power by way of encouraging corruption. Dr. Nkrumah left a solid foundation for current day Ghana, our leaders were busy constructing for us a sinking foundation that is the result of the poor conditions in Liberia today.

To win the war on corruption we as a people and nation must to muster the courage to fight it with all our might and sincerity at all level of society, effecting a drastic change of our mind set, including but not limited to educational institutions, healthcare organizations, family businesses, land purchase, etc. For this gigantic battle I hold that ULAA and other Diaspora organizations need to have physical and permanent representation on the ground through offices in Liberia to help bolster the concerted efforts in this fight.

Now that Dual Citizenship is the law of the land and Once A Liberian Always A Liberian a reality, we all need to return home to help in any way possible to fight corruption for the betterment of our generation and the generations yet unborn.

➤ Liberia is a country, not a workplace or goldmine where one goes fetch ill gotten resources to help you sustain yourself, support your families, relatives and friends to the total disadvantage to the ordinary hardworking residents of the country.

➤ Liberia is a country not a host of your liabilities while your assets are secured far away in foreign countries.

➤ Liberia is a country and not an entity responsible to pay your student loan, car notes, rents or mortgages in the Diaspora

We Liberians, as a people and nation shall win the war or fight against corruptions. After that economic growth and poverty reduction will be possible, leading us to the Promised Land.

May the God of Abraham, Jacobs and Isaac bless Liberia.

May God bless both the United States of America and the Republic of Liberia.

Thank you!

More headache for Weah

By Bridgett Milton

A special envoy of the United States Government is in Liberia to seek clarity on delays in implementing recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released since 2006. The Ambassador-at-large for

and adds that she is also in Liberia to look at corruption, including sanctions announced by the United States against some Liberian officials with impunity becoming widespread.

"Finding way to increase accountability within our system will go a long in the

Liberia to establish a National Palava Hut Forum as a complementary tool for justice and national reconciliation, but that people listed for commission of international crimes should face prosecution in court.

But a resolution issued late last year by the Leadership of the



Pres. Weah

Sen. Johnson

Mr. Sekou Konneh

Amb. Schaack

Global Criminal Justice from the Office of Global Criminal Justice in Washington, DC, Beth Van Schaack, says she is in the country to hear from the Government of Liberia what are the hitches preventing implementation of the TRC report.

According to Ambassador Schaack, she has studied the Liberian system and read the TRC report, which she says was excellent in gathering views of all survivors, and thinks the Commission came up with recommendations that are yet to be implemented.

"One of the reasons for my visit here is to better understand what is happening with the implementation [of] the recommendation from the TRC; as you also know, there has [been] no accountability here, on the criminal side or the civil side for those that were responsible for those crimes and abuses, but instead, we see a number of cases elsewhere and I hope this will reflect the U.S. government's support for accountability because we've done cases in our own system. You may be aware of the name Moses Thomas, who was found liable for his involvement the Lutheran Church Massacre; Chucky Taylor, who is serving a 97-year sentence for torturing people", she recounted here Thursday, 6 October in a news conference held at the Embassy of the United States near Monrovia.

She describes the TRC recommendations as very important to the entire world,

rule of law and make people believe in the rule of law and have faith in the justice system", Ambassador Schaack further underscores.

Earlier, the United States Ambassador to Liberia, Michael A. McCarthy, commended President Weah for his impactful remarks at the 77th United Nations General Assembly last month, where he stood on the global stage and pledged his government's commitment to fostering an environment for the conduct of free, fair, transparent, and inclusive elections in 2023.

Ambassador McCarthy said the U.S. government fully supports this commitment, and looks forward to representatives of every other political party in the country stepping out to issue similar pledges of peace in the pending election cycle.

Among others, the TRC final report released in 2006, recommended for the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia, and listed key actors from the Liberian Civil War, including corporations and institutions for prosecution.

The Commission also recommended names of individuals to be barred from public office for 30 years, including former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, under whose administration the final report of the TRC was released.

It asked the Government of

Liberian Senate vehemently kicked against prosecution or war crimes court. Instead, it called for a transitional justice framework to address issues recommended by the Commission.

The Senate called on President George Weah to establish a Transitional Justice Commission to determine whether the TRC fully complied with its mandate, such as face-to-face meeting with perpetrators of crimes and other offense, and their victims; to examine the effect of the August 2003 Act of the Legislature, which granted general amnesty to all participants from the civil crisis, and to examine the effect of the ratification/ascension of Liberia to the Rome Statue in 2014 (after the end of the civil crisis) on the establishment of a crimes court. The senate also called on the President to consider separation of war crimes court, which it says has international dimension, from the establishment of an economic crimes court that already exists within Liberia's judiciary, and for which prosecution can take place, using domestic law, and to determine why the TRC Recommendations have not been implemented, among others.

Prior to his election, Mr. Weah had promised to implement the TRC recommendations, but after taking power, he has become very reluctant, as he asked before the UN years ago why was his government being pressurized. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Ellen: I'm not supporting anyone

By Winston W. Parley

Former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf has told politicians here ahead of the 2023 elections that she is beyond campaigning for people, but she's available to advise anyone on their vision and strategies.

In a live interview conducted on state broadcaster ELBC Thursday by her former Information Minister Rev. Dr. Laurence Bropleh, Mrs. Johnson-Sirleaf said her strength is not to campaign for one person who wants to be whatever.

"I have gone beyond campaigning for people. Right now I campaign for international issues, global issues. That's where my strength is," said former President Johnson-Sirleaf. Mrs. Johnson-Sirleaf said she will advise anyone who will seek her opinion on their vision and strategies, no matter who they are, or what party they come from.

rather than personalities.

"Politics should be peaceful; that politics should be about issues, not about personalities. Politics should be about those who can have a vision for the improvement of the country," said former President Sirleaf.

She expressed the hope that politics can be about unity, warning that if unity of purpose is lacking, you find fragmentations.

She explained that fragmentations affect the strength of the body in being able to build the popularity to have the support of the partisans and to expand their level. She therefore advised all the politicians here "to get with it," take their message to the people which will help them to win.

Touching the issue of rape, former President Johnson-Sirleaf said rape continues to be a problem in Liberia.

She explained that during her administration, a law was passed making rape a non-bailable offense.

She said so many people were arrested and jailed, but the legal



Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai, her former vice president for two six years presidential terms, is seeking the presidency on the Unity Party ticket.

Mrs. Johnson-Sirleaf peacefully handed power to incumbent President George Manneh Weah in January 2018 after Mr. Boakai lost the run-off election.

At some points there were visible sour relationships between Mrs. Johnson-Sirleaf and Mr. Boakai during and after the 2017 elections amidst claims that she allegedly supported President Weah and his Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC).

During the interview on 6 October 2022, Mrs. Johnson-Sirleaf said she has been deactivated from the Unity Party involuntarily. "I have been deactivated involuntarily, but that's not my problem. That's not my issue. But let it be known to everybody that I have been, I am and I'll always be Unity Partisan. Nobody can change that one," said Mrs. Johnson-Sirleaf.

The former president insisted that she will always be a partisan of UP. Talking generally about the politics in the country, she cautioned that it should be peaceful and issues-based,

system worked so slowly that many of them could not be fully charged and tried to face a penalty.

Due to the legal system, she said there were so many complaints coming up about many people being held in jail beyond the statutory period. "So what it says is that we have to do more," said Mrs. Sirleaf.

Beyond the legal side, she said she thinks when there is a rapist in a community, people should name and shame the culprit and put their photograph on a wall for people to see it.

Former President Johnson-Sirleaf thanked all the women organizations, including the Female Lawyers Association, that have been following all of the rape cases. She appealed that the discussions must continue in the communities.

Talking about free speech, Mrs. Johnson-Sirleaf noted that she believes and promotes free speech. But she suggested that within the confines of free speech, "you can still be a person that can contribute toward the positive image of your country." She cautioned that you can contribute toward doing more and taking more responsibility.

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New Grace Medical Mission Team to provide free medical services



A team of 10 medical practitioners from the United States under the banner New Grace Medical Mission is in the country to carry out free medical outreach. The New Grace Medical Mission which is connected to the New Grace Churches in Liberia, will treat children and adults with differs medical conductions but will not perform surgery. This would be the team second visit to Liberia to render free medical service here. The New Grace Medical Mission Team started its medical mission clinic in Liberia last year

rendering free medical cares to Liberians from various quarters within the country. This visit according to Mrs. Felecia Bestman, a member of the Medical Mission, is a follow up to the previous visit to start a free medical clinic for the people of Liberia. As part of its mission here, the team has planted about 17 churches, a school and in the process of building a health center in the country in the near future. Meanwhile, the team is

expected to start its mobile clinic this Saturday at 10am in Dwazon at the New Grace Mission Church in Margibi. The team will then proceed in Monrovia at the New Grace Mission Church where free medical services will be rendered on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday & Thursday, the team will move to -Boystown- New Grace international academy school. The team will climax its medical mission here on Thursday next following its services in Boystown.

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